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Fundamentals of Soil Science

#### 4.6. Effect of *Na* on Soil *pH*

Sodium is released from the weathering of minerals. In the humid regions leaching readily removes the sodium because of the weak attraction of sodium for cation exchange sites. In the arid regions the sodium may accumulate as sodium carbonate and the sodium will tend to occupy some of the exchange positions. The hydrolysis of sodium carbonate and exchangeable sodium produces a very strong base, *NaOH*. When the soil is 15 percent or more sodium saturated or a significant amount of sodium carbonate exists in the soil, the *pH* value may be between 8.5 and 10.

*NaOH*

*pH*

**References**

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