

Suspended sediment yield in the Brazilian Amazon drainage basin

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Some experiments was done regarding the budget of suspended sediment in Amazon Basin and some estimations of the suspended sediment yield, was also made. As a conclusion scientists have cited The Amazon River as one of the biggest rivers on world on suspended solids discharge. Concerning this theme, in this paper, a study was done with DNAEE (actually ANEEL) sedimentometric network, that is a Brazilian government agency that operates 60 stations, since 1977. This agency has done more than 2500 samples for TSS.

That data, from ANEEL, makes possible a good assessment of the TSS-total suspended solids transported by rivers on Amazon Basin and a new estimation, of about 600 106 ton.ano⁻¹, was done for the mean annual discharge of suspended sediments at the mouth of the Amazon River. The results reclassified, that big river, as the third one in the world, concerning the sediment yield.

The Solimões and Madeira, rivers that comes from Andes, are the greatest contributors of the Amazon, in terms of suspended solids transportation. They represents 95% of all the TSS transported on the Amazon Basin. This results reinforce the importance of the Andes in the system of suspended sediments transportation on the rivers of the Amazon Basin in Brazil.

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