

**Supplementary Table S5.** The gradient distribution of land use in 2008

Land use type	Area/proportion	0°–5°	5°–8°	8°–15°	15°–25°	25°–35°	Above 35°	Total
Sloping farmland	km <sup>2</sup>	0.78	1.06	4.18	2.92	0.67	0.01	9.63
	%	1.09	1.48	5.84	4.08	0.94	0.02	13.45
Terrace	km <sup>2</sup>	2.34	4.78	24.06	8.44	0.38	0	39.99
	%	3.27	6.68	33.6	11.79	0.53	0.01	55.85
Forest	km <sup>2</sup>	0.8	1.26	4.69	3.07	1.38	0.19	11.38
	%	1.12	1.76	6.55	4.29	1.93	0.27	15.89
Orchard	km <sup>2</sup>	0.16	0.31	1.23	0.32	0.03	0	2.05
	%	0.22	0.43	1.72	0.45	0.04	0	2.86
Grassland	km <sup>2</sup>	0.1	0.21	1.3	1.82	1.09	0.14	4.66
	%	0.14	0.29	1.82	2.54	1.52	0.2	6.51
Village	km <sup>2</sup>	0.32	0.55	1.82	0.37	0.02	0	3.09
	%	0.45	0.77	2.54	0.52	0.03	0	4.32
Water	km <sup>2</sup>	0.36	0.24	0.19	0.02	0	0	0.81
	%	0.5	0.34	0.27	0.03	0	0	1.13
Total	km <sup>2</sup>	4.87	8.42	37.45	16.95	3.57	0.35	71.6
	%	6.8	11.76	52.3	23.67	4.99	0.49	100

*Supplementary table to the article “Optimization of land use pattern reduces surface runoff and sediment loss in a Hilly-Gully watershed at the Loess Plateau, China”, by Yini Han, Jianzhi Niu, Zhongbao Xin, Wei Zhang, Xilin Wang and Yousong Zhang. Forest Systems Vol. 25 No. 1, April 2016 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.5424/fs/2016251-08016>)*