

**ABSTRACT**

The geochemistry of the elements in soils of Sri Lanka as studied in the Central and Sabaragamuwa provinces, is markedly different in the different climatic zones. Most elements are leached out with A horizon due to heavy erosion, caused by rainfall and high level altitude as seen in the wet zone while they appear to be concentrated in soils of the dry zone. Elements which show resistance to leaching out tend to get concentrated in soils of the wet zone.

Most elements are enriched in soil types which have high base saturation, high cation exchange capacity and clay minerals having high absorption capacity. These soil types correlate well with the climatic factors. In geochemical distribution of elements in soils, climate takes precedence over the chemistry of the parent materials