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Shallow landslide prediction in the Serra do Mar, Paulo, Brazil

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Abstract. Various methods are currently used in order to predict shallow landslides within the catchment scale. Among them, physically based models present advantages associated with the physical description of processes by means of mathematical equations. The main objective of this research is the prediction of shallow landslides using TRIGRS model in a pilot catchment located at Serra do Mar mountain range, São Paulo, southeastern Brazil. Susceptibility scenarios have been simulated taking into account different mechanical and hydrological values. These scenarios were analysed based on a landslide scars map from the January 1998 event, upon which two indexes were applied: Scars Concentration Index (SCI – ratio between the number of cells with scars, in each class, and the number of cells with scars within the catchment) and Landslide Potential (LP – ratio between the number of cells with scars, in each class, and the total number of cells in that same class). The results showed a significant agreement between the simulated scenarios and the scar's map. In unstable areas ($SF \leq 1$), the SC values exceeded 50% in all scenarios. Based on the results, the use of this model should be considered as an important tool for shallow landslide prediction, especially in areas where the mechanical and hydrological properties of the materials are not well known.

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