



PHYSICAL CLASSIFICATION OF SOILS

Relative Texture Gradings of soil

CATEGORY	GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF DRY STATE	BEHAVIOURS OF MOIST BOLUS
1.0 SAND	Consists almost exclusively of sand grains. Flows easily through the fingers.	Coherence nil to very slight. Cannot be moulded; single grains adhere to fingers.
1.5 SAND/LOAM	Sand particles predominate. Ill-defined crumbs from surface, off which sand is easily rubbed.	Only slightly coherent but very sandy to touch. Will roll out or form a ribbon of about 10-15mm. Larger sand grains visible to the naked eye.
2.0 LOAM	Heterogeneous. Loam alternates with sand. Not uniform in compactness.	Rather spongy and coherent. Smooth feel with no obvious sandiness. The presence of much organic matter makes the soil feel rather greasy. Sample will form a ribbon of approximately 20-25mm.
2.5 LOAM/CLAY	Not quite homogeneous powder. Compact-crumbly but not so hard.	Coherent and plastic. Smooth to manipulate, forming a ribbon 45-50mm.
3.0 CLAY	Fine homogeneous powder. Very compact. Forms very hard crumbs.	Plastic, smooth and easy to work. Forms a ribbon of 60-65mm.
3.5 VERY HEAVY CLAY	Fine homogeneous powder. Very compact. Forms very hard crumbs.	Very smooth and plastic. Handles like plasticine. Can be moulded and rolled out in a ribbon of 80mm or more.