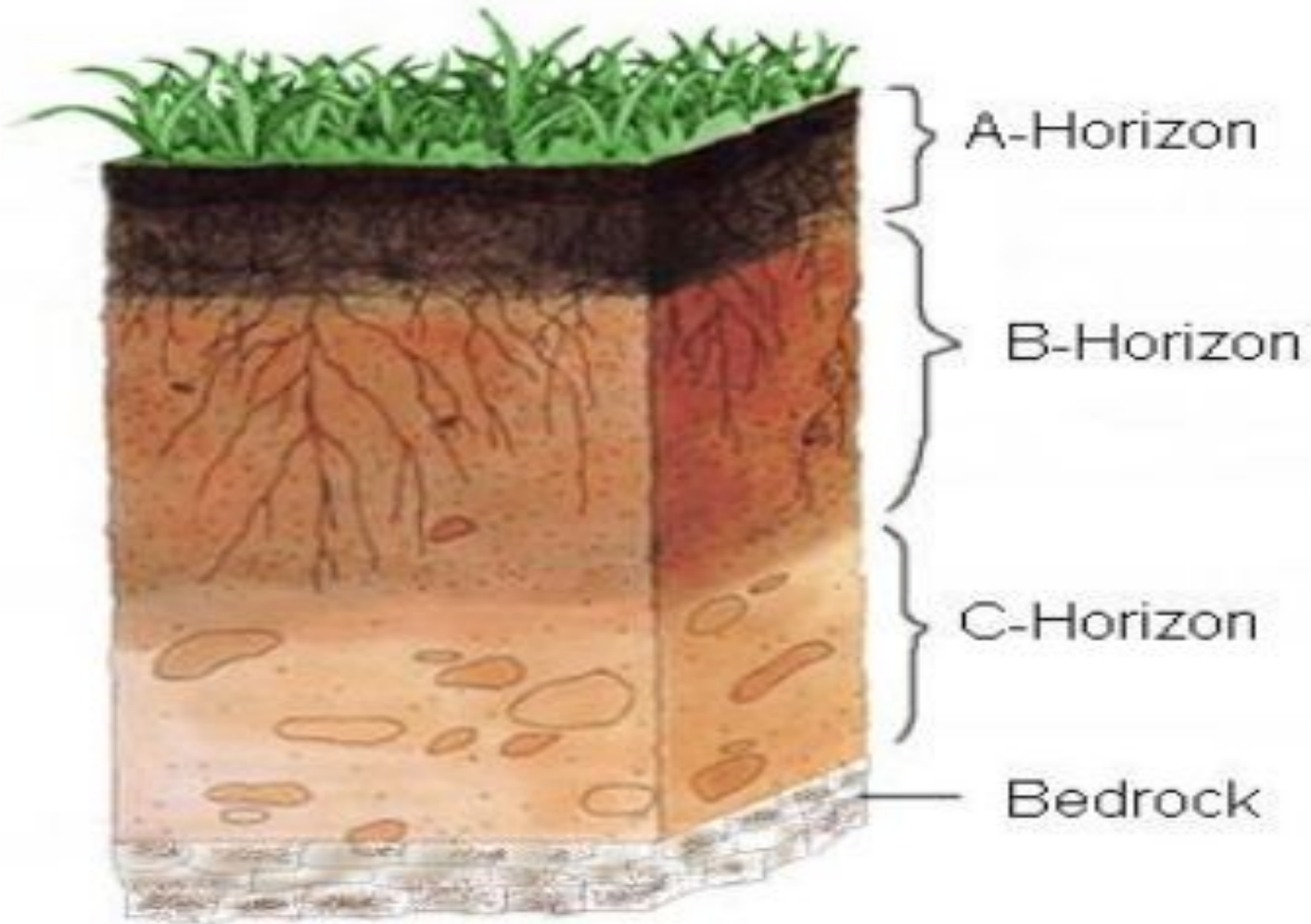


SOIL PROFILE

- A vertical section of the soil which depicts all the layers of the soil is called soil profile
- The layers of the soil can be seen if we dig deep through it like while creating a well or while laying the foundation of a building.

- **Parent Rock -**

The nature of the soil that is its texture and availability of minerals depends upon the rock from which it is formed. This rock is often called as the Parent Rock.



Soil Profile

DIFFERENT LAYERS OF SOIL

- Horizon A
- This is the topmost horizon and also called as topsoil.
- Contains large amount of humus and minerals.
- Topsoil is soft and porous.
- Capacity of water retention of this soil is more.
- Hold the roots of the plants entirely.
- House of many living organisms such as worms, rodents, moles and beetles.

Horizon B or the Middle Layer

- It is the next layer of the soil which does not contain much humus.
- The minerals are found in large quantities in this layer.
- This layer has a hard texture, light colour and is more compact than the topsoil.

Horizon C or Third Layer

- The third layer of the soil consists of small rocks with cracks in them.
- These rocks are partly weathered.

Bedrock

- The last layer of the soil is called the Bedrock.
- It contains large pieces of rocks that are not weathered or exposed to any winds or water.
- Bedrock cannot be dug with the help of a spade. It is very hard in texture.

PLENARY

Q. It is necessary to ban the use of polythene bags and plastics. Do you agree? If yes, why?

A. Polythene bags and plastics pollute the soil as they kill the organisms living in the soil.

That's why, it is necessary to ban the use of polythene bags and plastics.

ASSESSMENT / EVALUATION

Q. List the substances which pollute the soil.

A. The substances which pollute the soil are polythene bags, plastics, waste products, chemicals, pesticides, etc.

Q. The soil is said to be inseparable part of our life. Why?

A. Soil is one of the most important natural resources. It is the uppermost layer of earth's crust which is blackish-brown in colour. Major functions of the soil are:

- **It supports plant growth by holding the roots firmly and supplying water and nutrients to the plants.**
- **It acts as a natural habitat for many organisms like earthworm, fungi, bacteria, ants, etc.**
- **It is also essential for agriculture which provides us food, clothing and shelter for all.**
- **It supplies water and nutrients to plants.**

Therefore, we can say that the soil is inseparable part of our life.