

# Soil texture:

The way soil feels. (INFORMALLY)

The size of soil particles (FORMALLY)

Sand (biggest)

Silt (medium)

Clay (smallest)



mineral component of soil  
texture is the % of each

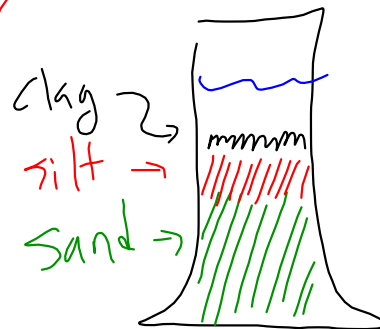
Different amounts of sand/silt/clay have different names

## MEASURING SOIL TEXTURE:

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### Soil settling:

- Larger particle sizes will sink 1<sup>st</sup> in water
- Smaller sizes sink later



### Hand-texturing:

- Different particle sizes feel different
- If you hold soil & think about how it feels, you can estimate the texture

★ we can also look up  
soil texture

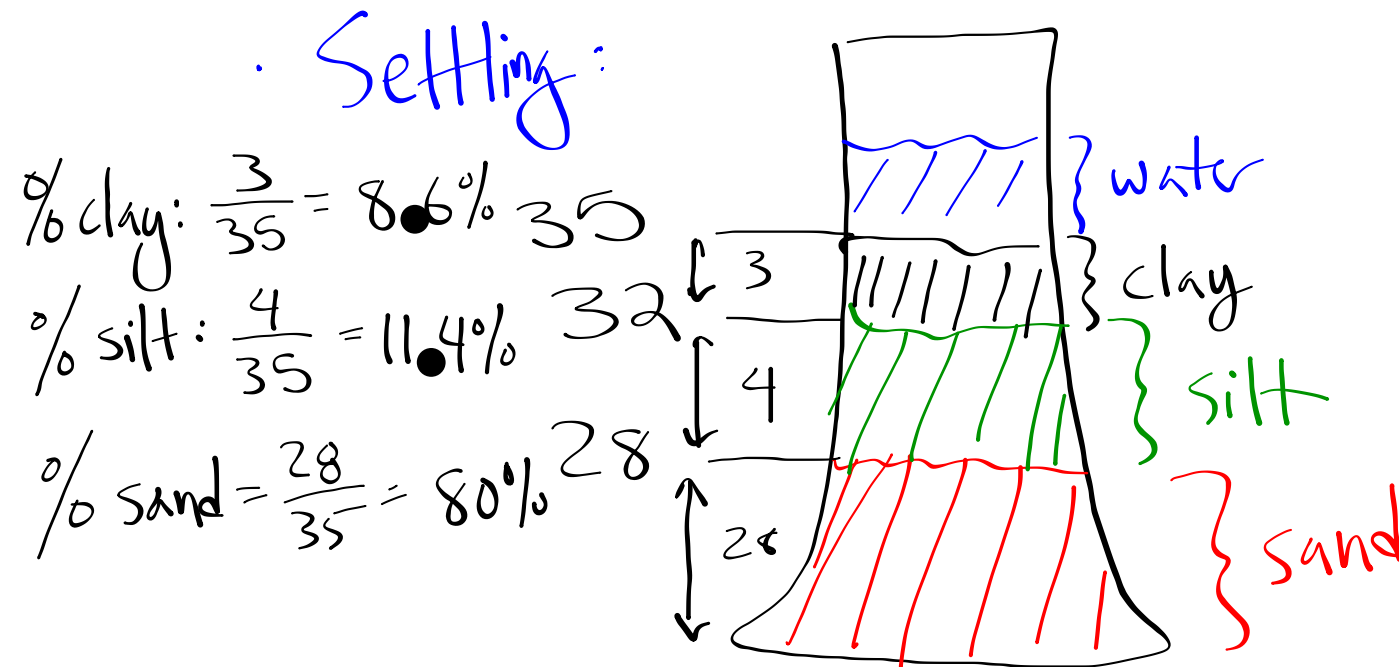
## To measure by settling:

- In pairs, fill up a cylinder to about 30/40 mL with soil - then add water to about 50 mL and a pinch of Borax
- Let sit for 5 minutes
- Stir gently - wait 2-3 minutes
- Record height of soil
- Shake for 2 minutes
- Wait for 2 minutes and record height of sand
- Wait for 30 minutes and record height of sand+silt
- Label your cylinder and set on back counter

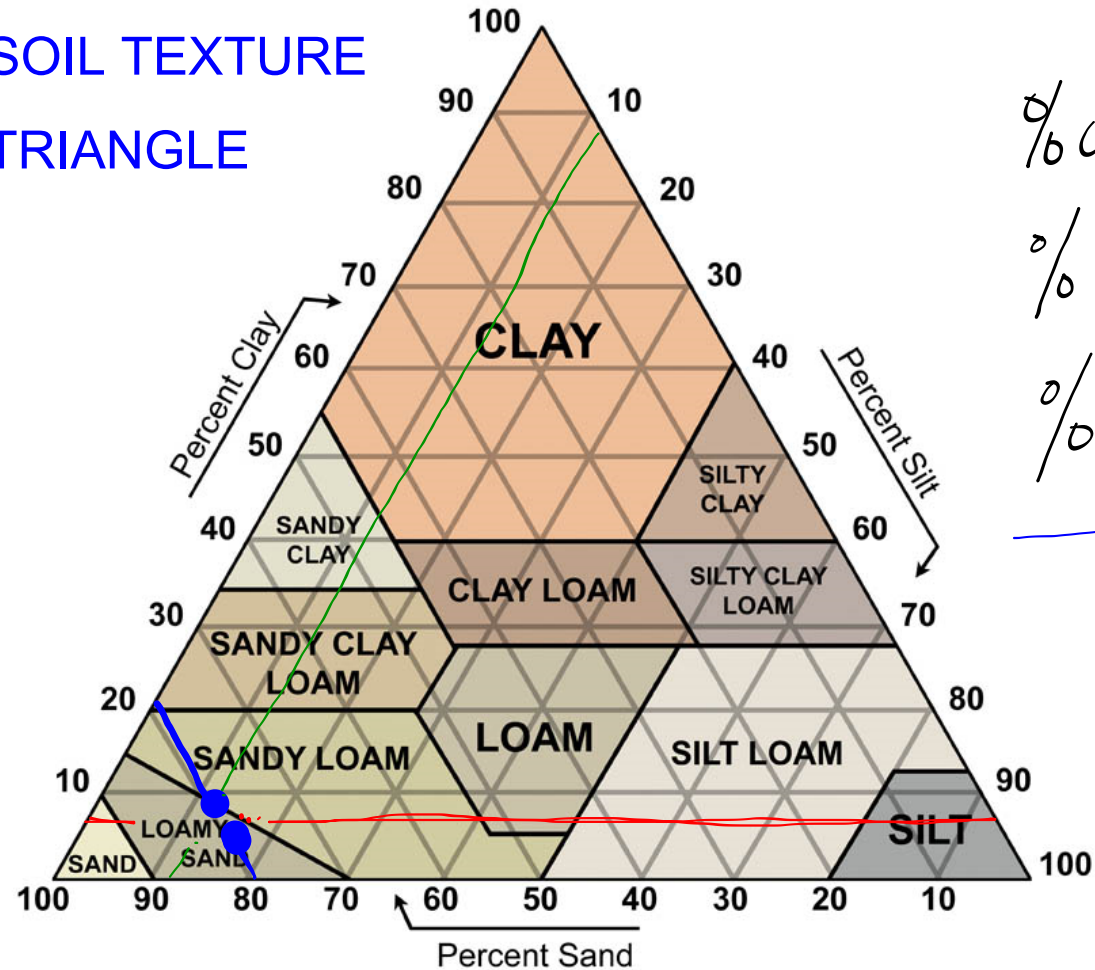
## Hand-texturing:

- You and your partner should follow the flowchart
- Record the soil name(s)
- All soil (except in cylinders) back in the bucket
- Clean everything thoroughly
- Record info on Socrative (99851)

# Calculations from Soil Settling (Cylinders):



# SOIL TEXTURE TRIANGLE



## 4 Pieces of Info.

height soil • #

ex.  
33

height sand • #

25

height sand+silt: #

31

name from hand texture:

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Sandy clay