

USDA Textural Triangle

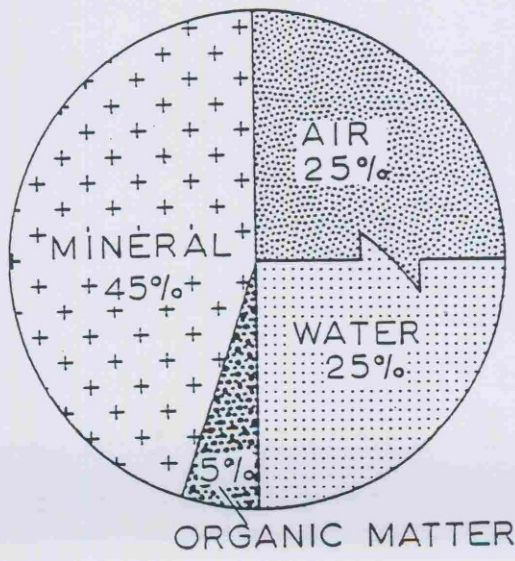
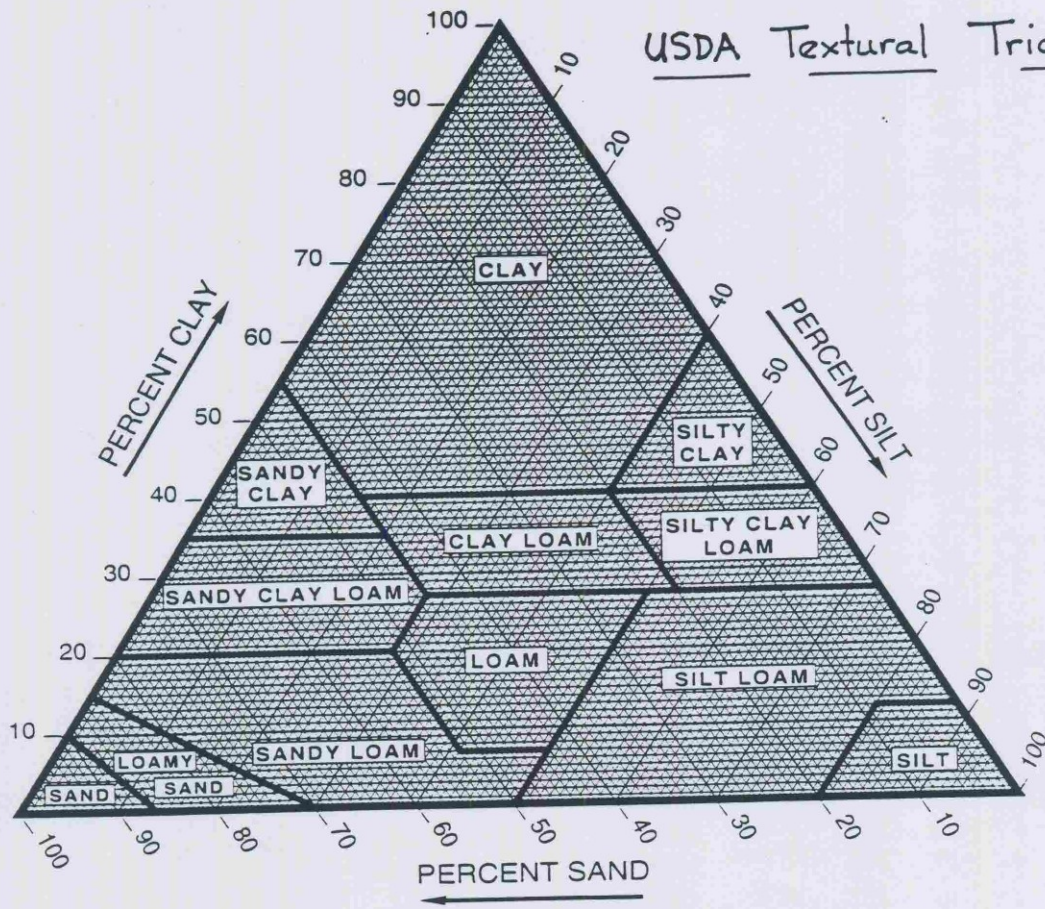


Table 1. Field characteristics of the major soil textural classes

Soil Textural Class	Feel (Moist)	Ability to Form Stable Ball	Ability to Ribbon Out	Sticks to Your Hands	Plastic Property	Consistency (WET) Sticky	Consistency (MOIST)	Consistency (DRY)
SAND	Very gritty	Nb	Nb	Nb	Nb	Nb	Loose	Loose
LOAMY SAND	Very gritty	Nb	Nb	Yes (slight)	Nb	Nb	Loose	Loose
SANDY LOAM	Gritty	Yes (easily deformed)	Yes (dull surface; poorly formed)	Yes	Nb	Nb	Very Friable	Soft
LOAM	Gritty	Yes	Yes (dull surface; poorly formed)	Yes	Yes (slight)	Yes (slight to moderate)	Friable	Soft
SILT LOAM	Velvety	Yes	Yes (dull surface; poorly formed)	Yes	Yes (slight to moderate)	Yes (slight to moderate)	Friable	Soft
SILTY CLAY LOAM	Velvety and sticky	Yes (very stable)	Yes (shiny surface; well formed)	Yes	Yes (moderate)	Yes	Friable to Firm	Slightly Hard
CLAY LOAM	Gritty and Sticky	Yes (very stable)	Yes (shiny surface; well formed)	Yes	Yes (moderate)	Yes	Firm	Slightly Hard to Hard
SANDY CLAY LOAM	Very gritty and sticky	Yes (very stable)	Yes (shiny surface; well formed)	Yes	Yes (moderate)	Yes	Friable to Firm	Slightly Hard to Hard
SILTY CLAY	Extremely sticky and very smooth	Yes (very resistant to molding)	Yes (very shiny surface; well formed)	Yes	Yes (strong)	Yes (very sticky)	Firm to Extremely Firm	Hard to Very Hard
CLAY	Extremely sticky with slight grittiness	Yes (very resistant to molding)	Yes (very shiny surface; well formed)	Yes	Yes (strong)	Yes (very sticky)	Firm to Extremely Firm	Hard to Very Hard

NATURAL SOIL DRAINAGE CLASSES

Excessively Drained - no mottling above 40 inches, very rapid permeability, sands.

Somewhat Excessively Drained - no mottling above 40 inches, rapid permeability, loamy sands.

Well Drained - no mottling above 40 inches.

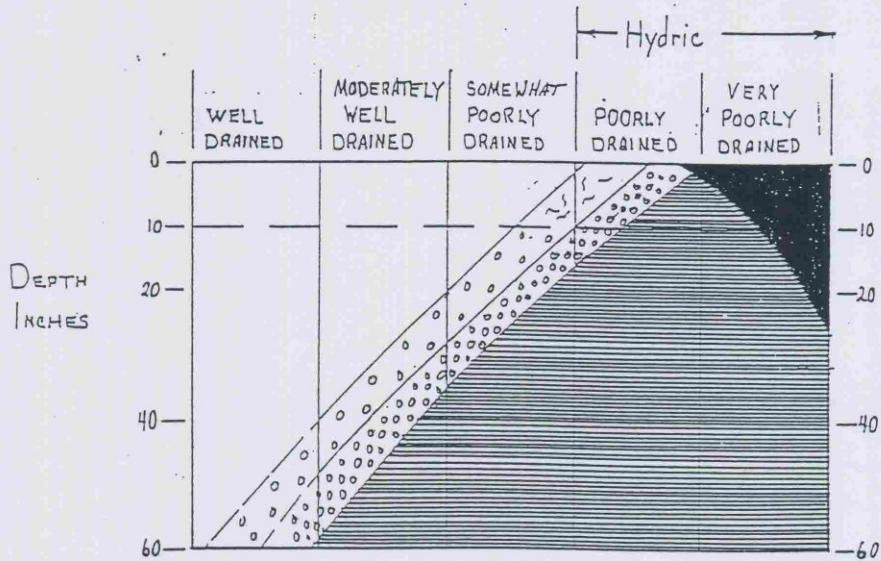
Moderately Well Drained - gray mottles between 20 to 40 inches.

Somewhat Poorly Drained - gray mottles between 10 to 20 inches.

Poorly Drained - gray colors and/or red mottles within upper 10 inches, predominantly gray (>60%) below 10 inches.

Very Poorly Drained - very dark or black surface, gray subsoils.

NATURAL SOIL DRAINAGE CLASSES
For AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES



■ - HIGH ORGANIC MATTER, O-horizon

▨ - GLEYED > 90% GRAY

◻ (with dots) - MOTTLED - PREDOMINANTLY GRAY ≥ 60%

◻ (with red and gray dots) - MOTTLED - (RED and GRAY)