

## GRADATIONAL CLAY LOAM

**General Description:** *Loam to clay loam grading to a well structured red clay, calcareous with depth*

**Landform:** Undulating rises and gently inclined fans

**Substrate:** Deeply weathered fine grained rock, or fine grained alluvium.

**Vegetation:**



**Type Site:** Site No.: CM907

1:50,000 sheet: 6630-3 (Clare)

Hundred: Upper Wakefield

Annual rainfall: 625 mm

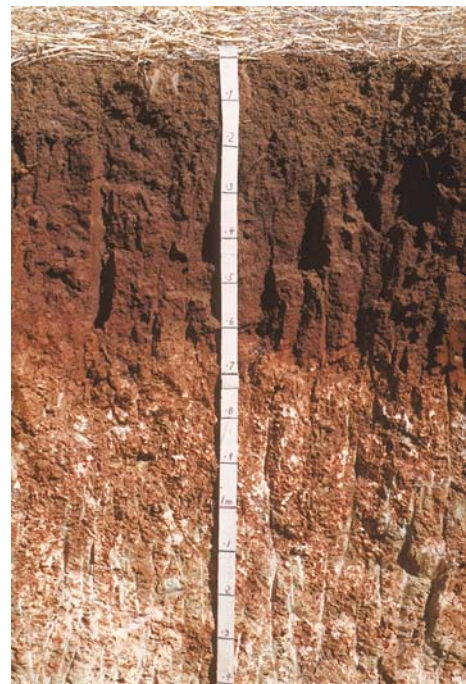
Sampling date: March 1990

Landform: Mid slope of undulating rise, 4% slope

Surface: Firm with no stones

### Soil Description:

<i>Depth (cm)</i>	<i>Description</i>
0-18	Brown firm massive fine sandy clay loam. Clear to:
18-40	Dark reddish brown firm light clay with strong medium prismatic structure. Gradual to:
40-60	Dark reddish brown firm slightly calcareous light clay with strong medium prismatic structure. Gradual to:
60-80	Reddish brown firm highly calcareous medium clay with moderate medium prismatic structure. Gradual to:
80-100	Red firm very highly calcareous weakly structured light clay with more than 50% fine carbonate segregations.



**Classification:** Sodic, Hypercalcic, Red Dermosol; medium, non-gravelly, clay loamy / clayey, deep

## *Summary of Properties*

**Drainage:** Moderately well drained. The soil may remain wet for up to a week following heavy or prolonged rainfall.

**Fertility:** Inherent fertility is high, due to high surface clay content and organic carbon concentration. However, increasing acidity will reduce nutrient retention capacity.

**pH:** Acidic at the surface, alkaline with depth.

**Rooting depth:** 60 cm in pit.

### **Barriers to root growth:**

**Physical:** The coarsely structured subsoil clay restricts root growth to some extent.

**Chemical:** There are no apparent chemical barriers, although root growth is generally poor in very highly calcareous clay (as for 80-100 cm).

**Water holding capacity:** Approximately 100 mm in the potential root zone.

**Seedling emergence:** Satisfactory, although surface soil may set hard, reducing establishment percentages.

**Workability:** Fair to good, depending on condition of surface.

### **Erosion Potential**

**Water:** Moderately low to moderate.

**Wind:** Low.

## *Laboratory Data*

Depth cm	pH H <sub>2</sub> O	pH CaCl <sub>2</sub>	CO <sub>3</sub> %	EC 1:5 dS/m	ECe dS/m	Org.C %	Avail. P mg/kg	Boron mg/kg
0-18	5.2	4.8	0	0.10	-	2.27	28	1.5
18-40	5.7	5.1	0	0.05	-	0.95	7	1.4
40-60	6.5	5.8	3	0.05	-	0.57	2	2.1
60-80	7.5	7.1	6	0.18	-	0.61	3	1.5
80-100	8.3	7.7	42	0.13	-	0.42	2	1.5