RUBBLY CALCAREOUS LOAM ON CLAY

(Wiabuna soil)

General Description: Calcareous sandy loam to clay loam overlying rubbly carbonate at

shallow depth, grading to clayey sediments within 120 cm

Landform: Undulating low hills.

Tertiary clay.

No landscape image available

Vegetation:

Substrate:

Type Site: Site No.: EL041

1:50,000 sheet: 6029-4 (Yeelanna) Hundred: Shannon Annual rainfall: 410 mm Sampling date: 26/02/92

Landform: Midslope of low hill with gradient of 2% Surface: Firm with 2-10% calcrete stone (20-60 mm)

Soil Description:

Depth (cm)	Description								
0-10	Dark brown hard moderately calcareous clay loam with moderate subangular blocky structure. Abrupt to:								
10-20	Orange very hard highly calcareous light clay with strong subangular blocky structure. Abrupt to:								
20-38	More than 50% carbonate nodules in a matrix of orange soft very highly calcareous light clay with moderate subangular blocky structure. Clear to:								
38-50	Semi hard carbonate lamellae with a soft reddish yellow very highly calcareous light clay between plates. Clear to:								
50-70	Orange firm very highly calcareous light clay with moderate subangular blocky structure and 20-50% carbonate nodules. Gradual to:								
70-110	Brownish yellow friable very highly calcareous light clay. Diffuse to:								
110-150	Yellowish red friable medium clay with 20-50% fine carbonate segregations.								



Classification: Hypervescent, Pedal, Lithocalcic Calcarosol; medium, slightly gravelly, clay loamy/clayey,

deep

Summary of Properties

Drainage Well drained. Soil rarely remains wet for more than a few days.

Fertility Inherent fertility is moderate to high, as indicated by the exchangeable cation data.

High clay and organic matter content provide ample nutrient retention capacity, although free lime to the surface reduces the availability of some nutrients. However,

all measured elements are in good supply at the sampling site.

pH Alkaline at the surface, strongly alkaline with depth.

Rooting depth 80 cm in pit, but most roots are in the upper 38 cm.

Barriers to root growth

Physical: Although subsoil clay is hard, it does not present a significant physical barrier to root

growth.

Chemical: High pH, sodicity and boron concentrations from 38 cm limit root growth.

Water holding capacity Approximately 100 mm in the root zone.

Seedling emergence: Satisfactory.

Workability: Firm surface is easily worked.

Erosion Potential

Water: Moderately low.

Wind: Low.

Laboratory Data

Depth cm	pH H ₂ O	pH CaC1 ₂	CO ₃	EC1:5 dS/m	ECe dS/m	Org.C	Avail. P	Avail. K	SO ₄ -S mg/kg		Trace Elements mg/kg (DTPA)				CEC cmol	Excl	ESP			
							mg/kg	mg/kg			Cu	Fe	Mn	Zn	(+)/kg	Ca	Mg	Na	K	
0-10	7.8	7.3	11	0.2	1.2	2.3	73	870	-	4.5	0.79	13	7.8	1.3	28.6	24.6	4.1	0.35	3.25	1.2
10-20	7.9	7.7	20	0.1	0.4	0.8	9	400	-	3.9	0.22	15	1.7	0.06	25.7	19.5	5.6	0.45	1.61	1.8
20-38	8.1	7.8	27	0.2	0.6	0.7	8	310	-	5.0	0.33	14	2.3	0.26	24.0	17.1	7.3	0.65	1.41	2.7
38-50	9.3	8.2	56	0.4	1.5	-	-	-	-	16.5	0.38	7.6	1.3	0.13	17.2	3.6	9.7	4.25	1.89	24.7
50-70	9.8	8.4	58	0.7	1.8	-	-	-	-	19.6	0.26	4.4	0.81	0.06	16.2	2.0	6.0	9.67	1.77	59.7
70-110	9.8	8.4	56	0.7	2.0	-	1	- 1	-	21.8	0.27	5.8	1.6	0.06	17.7	2.1	6.7	10.26	2.07	58.0
110-150	9.8	8.8	39	0.8	1.7	-	-	-	-	26.0	0.14	5.8	0.82	0.04	20.8	1.7	5.2	15.58	2.24	74.9

Note: CEC (cation exchange capacity) is a measure of the soil's capacity to store and release major nutrient elements.

ESP (exchangeable sodium percentage) is derived by dividing the exchangeable sodium value by the CEC