

Site Code¹ SW73



Location Hills south of Colac, between Christies and Colac/Lavers Hill Roads
Landform Undulating low hills
Geology Paleogene sediments: Dilwyn or Eastern View Formation
Element Waxing upper slope
Slope 5%
Aspect East

View eastwards along pipeline trench sites SW73 to SW74

Horizon	Depth (cm)	Description
A1	0-15	Dark brown (10YR3/3 moist), fine sandy loam; weakly pedal; weak consistence (dry); pH 5.4; boundary to:
A2	15-40	Dark greyish brown (10YR4/2 moist), pale brown (10YR6/3 dry); conspicuously bleached; sandy loam; apedal, massive; very firm consistence (dry); minor (<5%), coarse (5-15 mm) irregular rounded ferruginised sandstone gravel; pH 5.6; abrupt to clear and wavy boundary to:
B21t	40-70	Dark yellowish brown (10YR4/5 dry) with prominent medium (5-15 mm) red (10R4/8 moist) to dark red (2.5YR4/8 moist) to yellowish brown (10YR6/8 moist) mottles in ped interiors, reddest in ped centres; medium clay; coarse prismatic structure; pH 5.8; strong consistence (dry); gradual boundary to:
B22t	70/80-100/110	Dark yellowish brown (10YR4/5 moist and dry) with prominent medium (5-15 mm), red (10R4/8 moist) to dark red (2.5YR4/8 moist) to yellowish brown (10YR6/8 moist) mottles in ped interiors (reddest away from ped face); medium clay; white (2.5Y8/1) clay adjacent to cutans; pH 6; gradual boundary to:
B/C	100/110 +	Weak red to dusky red (10R5/3-3/2); ferruginised sandstone with yellowish and white edges; clay infill and weathering in joints; pH 6.0.



Bleached-mottled, Mesotrophic, Brown CHROMOSOL

Management considerations

Hard setting (dry) and ‘spewy’ (wet) topsoils are characteristic of soils in the district. Soils in this landscape become very waterlogged on the slopes. The swelling properties of the subsoil clay restricts downward drainage and encourages perching of water in the A2 and lateral flow downslope. Topsoil is moderately acidic and would benefit from lime.

¹ Source: MacEwan R, Imhof M (in press) Major Soils and Landscapes along the Southwest Gas Pipeline 1999. DPI

Analytical data²

Site SW73 Horizon	Sample depth cm	pH		EC	NaCl	Ex Ca	Ex Mg	Ex K	Ex Na	Ex Al	Ex Acidity	FC	PWP	KS	FS	Z	C
		H ₂ O	CaCl ₂	dS/m	%	cmolc/kg	cmolc/kg	cmolc/kg	cmolc/kg	mg/kg	cmolc/kg	-10kPa %	-1500kPa %	%	%	%	%
A1	0-10	5.4	4.8	0.17	N/R	5.2	1.1	0.49	0.32	17	15.0	26.5	10.2	23.8	38.4	12.0	13.0
A2	20-40	5.6	4.9	0.1	N/R	0.62	0.91	0.07	0.1	<10	4.8	14.6	4.2.0	24.8	45.9	22.0	6.0
B21	50-65	5.8	5.2	0.11	N/R	1.9	7.4	0.1	0.53	<10	9.4	42.4	27.6	9.0	10.5	7.5	73.5
B22	80-95	6.0	5.2	0.06	N/R	1.5	6.4	0.07	0.4	<10	7.9	36.0	23.6	16.3	12.2	6.5	63.0
B/C	105+	6.0	5.2	<0.05	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R

² Source: Government of Victoria State Chemistry Laboratory.