

soils

How do you define soil?

soil equilibrium

- natural equilibrium

- humans have had trouble maintaining equilibrium

Soil components

- mineral matter

- organic matter

Soil Properties

- properties
 - texture, structure, moisture, organic matter, acidity

Soil Texture

- dependent on material it came from

- what's the importance of texture?

Soil Triangle

- Soil sample:
 - Total weight=50 g
 - silt = 10 g
 - clay =10 g

Soil Structure

- How soil clumps together

Soil moisture

- provides nutrients

- clays
- sands

- why loam is good

Acidity/Alkalinity

Organic Matter

- almost all soils have

- greater OM

- where does organic material come from?

Organic matter

Organisms

- critical to fertility of a soil

- earthworms, small mammals impt

- micro-organisms

- active in:

Organic matter

- importance

stages of soil formation

Soil horizons

- tend to have distinct layers

- usually more horizons with time

- Eluviation

- illuviation

Possible horizons

- O horizon

- A horizon

- E horizon

- B horizon

- C horizon

Determining texture