

SUMMARY OF SOIL STANDARD AND ROCK PROFILE DESCRIPTION TERMINOLOGY

STANDARD DESCRIPTIONS USED IN SOIL PROFILING

MOISTURE CONDITION		2. COLOUR			
Term	Description				
Dry		The Predominant colours or colour			
Slightly moist	Requires addition of water to reach optimum moisture content for compaction	combinations are described including secondary coloration described as banded,			
Moist	Near optimum content	streaked, blotched, mottled, speckled or			
Very Moist	Requires drying to attain optimum content	stained.			
Wet	Fully saturated and generally below water table				
	3. CON	SISTENCY			
	3.1 Non-Cohesive Soils	3.2 Cohesive Soils			
Term	Description	Term	Description		
Very Loose	Crumbles very easily when scraped with geological pick	Very soft	Easily penetrated by thumb. Sharp end of pick can be pushed in 30 - 40mm. Easily moulded by fingers.		
Loose	Small resistance to penetration by sharp end of geological pick	Soft	Pick head can easily be pushed into the shaft of handle. Moulded by fingers with some pressure.		
Medium Dense	Considerable resistance to penetration by sharp end of geological pick	Firm	Indented by thumb with effort. Sharp end of pick can be pushed in up to 10mm. Can just be penetrated with an ordinary spade.		
Dense	Very high resistance to penetration to sharp end of geological pick. Requires many blows of hand pick for excavation.	Stiff	Penetrated by thumbnail. Slight indentation produced by pushing pick point into soil. Cannot be moulded by fingers. Requires hand pick for excavation.		
Very Dense	High resistance to repeated blows of geological pick. Requires power tools for excavation	Very Stiff	Indented by thumbnail. Slight indentation produced by blow of pick point. Requires power tools for excavation.		
	4. STRUCTURE	5. SOIL TYPE			
		5.1 Particle Size			
Term	Description	Term	Size (mm)		
Intact	Absence of fissures or joints	Boulder	>200		
Fissured	Presence of closed joints	Pebbles	60 – 200		
Shattered	Presence of closely spaced air filled joints giving cubical fragments	Gravel	60 - 2		
Micro shattere	d Small scale shattering with shattered fragments the size of sand grains	Sand	2 - 0,06		
Slickensided	Polished planar surfaces representing shear movement in soil	Silt	0,06 - 0,002		
Bedded Foliated	Many residual soils show structures of parent rock.	Clay	<0,002		





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6	. ORIGIN	5.2 Soil Classification
6.1 Ti	ansported Soils	
Term	Agency of Transportation	
Colluvium	Gravity deposits	
Talus	Scree or coarse colluvium	
Hillwash	Fine colluvium	
Alluvial	River deposits	
Aeolian	Wind deposits	100
Littoral	Beach deposits	y
Estuarine	Tidal – river deposits	
Lacustrine	Lake deposits	SAND 40 CLAY 70
6.2	Residual soils	SLIGHTLY SLIGHTLY
•	n situ weathering of rocks and are s e.g. Residual Shale	60 SANDY SLIGHTLY CLAY 70 SANDY SLIGHTLY CLAY SILTY CLAY SILTY CLAY 30
6.3	3 Pedocretes	SANDY SILTY 20 CLAYEY SAND CLAYEY SANDY CLAYEY SANDY
	orted and residual soils etc. nanganocrete and ferricrete.	100 SULT SULT SULT 0 100 0 100 100 0 100 100 0 100 100 10



SUMMARY OF DESCRIPTIONS USED IN ROCK CORE LOGGING

		1.	. WEATHERING			
Term	Symbol	1		nostic Features		
Residual Soil	W5	Rock is discoloured and completely changed to a soil in which original rock fabric is completely destroyed. There is a large change in volume.				
Completely Weathered		Rock is discoloured and changed to a soil but original fabric is mainly preserved. There may be occasional small corestones.				
Highly Weathered		Rock is discoloured, discontinuities may be open and have discoloured surfaces, and the original fabric of the rock near the discontinuities may be altered; alternation penetrates deeply inwards, but corestones are still present.				
Moderately Weathered		Rock is discoloured, discontinuities may be open and will have discoloured surfaces with alteration starting to penetrate inwards, intact rock is noticeably weaker than the fresh rock.				
Slightly Weathered		Rock may be slightly discoloured, particularly adjacent to discontinuities, which may be open and will have slightly discoloured surfaces, the intact rock is not noticeably weaker than the fresh rock.				
Unweathered	W1	Parent rock showing	no discolouration, l	oss of strength or any oth	ner weathering effects.	
	2. H	ARDNESS		3. C	OLOUR	
Classification	Fiel	d Test	Compressive Strength Range MPa			
Extremely Soft Rock	Easily peeled with a knife		<1			
Very Soft Rock	Can be peeled with a knife. Material crumbles under firm blows with the sharp end of a geological pick.		1 to 3	The predominant combination are secondary colourabanded, streaked, b		
Soft Rock	Can be scraped with a knife, indentation of 2 to 4 mm with firm blows of the pick point.		3 to 10			
edium Hard Rock	Cannot be scraped or peeled with a knife. Hand held specimen breaks with firm blows of the pick.		10 to 25			
Hard Rock	Point load tests must be carried out in order to distinguish between		25 - 70			
	these classifications					
ery Hard Rock	These results may be verified by uniaxial compressive strength tests		70 - 200			
	on selected samples.					
Extremel y Hard Rock			>200			
4. FABRIC						
4.1 Grain Size 4.2 Discor			Discontinuity Spacing			
Term	Size (mm)	Description for: Bedding, foliation, laminations		Spacing (mm)	Descriptions for joints, faults, etc.	
Very Coarse	>2,0	Very Thic	ckly Bedded	> 2000	Very Widely	







Coarse	0,6 - 2,0	Thickly Bedded 600 - 2000		Widely	
Medium	0,2 - 0,6	Medium Bedded	200 - 600	Medium	
Fine	0,06 - 0,2	Thinly Bedded 60 - 200		Closely	
Very Fine	< 0,06	Laminated 3 - 60		Very closely	
		Thinly Laminated	<3		
5. ROCK NAME			6. STRATIGRAPHIC LAYER		
Classified in terms of origin:					
IGNEOUS	Granite, Diorite, Gabbro, Syenite, , Dolerite, Trachyte, Andesite, Basalt.		Identification of rock type in terms of stratigraphic layers.		
METAMORPHIC	Slate, Felsite, Gneiss, Schist, Quartzite				
SEDIMENTARY	•	e, Siltstone, Sandstone, Dolomite, nerate, Tillite, Limestone.	5 d g. ap		

