

# Forfar SERIES

## A. SOIL MAP UNIT DESCRIPTION

### SOIL CLASSIFICATION

SCOT: Humus-iron  
podzols (Podzols or  
iron podzols on early  
maps)  
SSEW: Humo-ferric  
podzols, or  
stagnogleyic brown  
earths where cultivated

### SOIL ASSOCIATION FORFAR

### PARENT MATERIAL

Sandy loam or loamy  
sand water-modified  
material, more than 60 cm  
thick, overlying reddish  
brown sandy silt loam or  
sandy clay loam till  
derived mainly from Old  
Red Sandstone  
sandstones with some  
erratics of Dalradian  
schist.

### DRAINAGE CLASS Imperfect

### PERMEABILITY CLASS Moderate

### REFERENCES

*soil maps* —  
1:63 360 sheets  
46 (Crieff)  
48/49 (Perth/Arbroath)  
56 (Blairgowrie)  
57 (Forfar)  
66/67 (Banchory/  
Stonehaven)  
  
*memoirs* —  
Soils round Perth, Arbroath  
and Dundee

Compiled by J.H. Gauld  
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SMUDS 2

### LOCATION AND EXTENT

Widespread throughout Vale of Strathmore (200 sq km);  
small areas near Glenalmond (1 sq km), Muthill (1 sq km),  
Stonehaven (1 sq km) and near Buchylvie (2 sq km). Total  
205 sq km.

### LANDFORM

Undulating lowland and lower slopes of foothills; gentle  
or moderate slopes.

### VEGETATION

Arable; permanent pastures; broad-leaved and coniferous  
woodlands.

### CLIMATE

	<i>Eastern Scotland</i>	<i>West Perthshire</i>
<i>av. ann. rainfall, mm</i>	735 on coast, 900 inland	1100-1200
<i>accum. temperature</i> <i>(day °C above 0°C Jan-Jun)</i>	1120-1350	1250-1420
<i>maximum PSMD, mm</i>	100-150	100
<i>growing season, days</i>	215-225	215-225
<i>field capacity</i>	late Oct to early Mar on coast, early Oct to early Mar inland	early Oct to early Mar

### SOIL DESCRIPTION

	<i>topsoil</i>	<i>subsoil</i>
<i>colour</i>	dark greyish brown to dark reddish brown	brown to greyish brown
<i>texture</i>	sandy loam or sandy silt loam	sandy loam or loamy sandy overlying sandy clay loam or sandy silt loam
<i>structure</i>	moderate subangular blocky	weak angular blocky to subangular blocky; massive at depth
<i>stone content</i>	slightly or moderately stony	moderately stony
<i>potential rooting depth</i>	60-100 cm, depending on thickness of water-modified material	

COMMENT Underlying till and/or induration restricts water  
movement, resulting in the imperfect natural internal drainage status.

### SOIL CHEMISTRY

High percentage base saturation; values increase with depth.  
Total phosphorus is medium throughout the profile.

### MAP UNIT VARIATION

The water-modified material is occasionally replaced by  
colluvial or alluvial deposits.