

# Forres SERIES

## A. SOIL MAP UNIT DESCRIPTION

### SOIL CLASSIFICATION

SCOT: Iron podzols  
SSEW: Ferric podzols

### SOIL ASSOCIATION

CORBY

### PARENT MATERIAL

Brown or pale brown sands and gravels, derived mainly from acid rocks with some sandstones.

### DRAINAGE CLASS

Free

### PERMEABILITY CLASS

Rapid

### REFERENCES

*soil maps* —  
1:63 360 sheets  
84 (Nairn)

Compiled by W. Towers  
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SMUDS 2

### LOCATION AND EXTENT

Moray Firth lowlands between Inverness and Forres.  
53 sq km.

### LANDFORM

Fluvioglacial outwash plains, kames and eskers; river terraces and deltas; raised beaches (between 8 and 30 m).

### VEGETATION

Arable; ley and permanent pastures; coniferous plantations.

### CLIMATE

<i>av. ann. rainfall, mm</i>	600-750
<i>accum. temperature</i> <i>(day °C above 0°C Jan-Jun)</i>	1190-1350
<i>maximum PSMD, mm</i>	120-155
<i>growing season, days</i>	220
<i>field capacity</i>	early Nov to early Mar

### SOIL DESCRIPTION

#### *topsoil*

#### *subsoil*

*colour*

dark brown

strong brown or reddish brown

*texture*

gravelly sandy loam or loamy sand

loamy sandy gravel or sandy gravel

*structure*

weak or moderate, medium or fine subangular blocky

weak medium subangular blocky or single grain (occasionally massive and cemented)

*stone content*

moderately or very stony

very or extremely stony

*potential rooting depth*

unrestricted in most soils but limited in some subsoils by cementation or iron pans

COMMENT

Coarse texture, weak structure and rapid permeability make these soils prone to drought and windblow.

### SOIL CHEMISTRY

Readily leached and, under natural conditions, very acid soils. Exchangeable bases are very low. Total phosphorus low or very low. Trace elements, especially cobalt and copper, are low.

### MAP UNIT VARIATION

Man-made topsoils 50 cm thick or more occur sporadically on raised beaches. Some soils of Boyndie Association (developed on sands) can be included.