

Kindeace SERIES

A. SOIL MAP UNIT DESCRIPTION

SOIL CLASSIFICATION

SCOT: Humus-iron
podzols (Podzols on
early maps)

SSEW: Humo-ferric
podzols or
stagnogleyic brown
podzolic soils where
cultivated

SOIL ASSOCIATION

KINDEACE

PARENT MATERIAL

Partially water-sorted or
morainic drift overlying a
reddish brown sandy
loam or sandy clay loam
till derived from Middle
or Upper Old Red
Sandstone sediments.

DRAINAGE CLASS

Imperfect

PERMEABILITY CLASS

Moderate in topsoil
becoming slow in
indurated subsoil.

REFERENCES

soil maps —
1:63 360 sheets
84 (Nairn)
85/95 (Rothes/Elgin)
94 (Cromarty/Invergordon)
103 (Golspie)

Compiled by A.D. Walker
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SMUTS 3

LOCATION AND EXTENT

Easter Ross; Southern Moray Firth lowlands. *About 70 sq km.*

LANDFORM

Undulating lowlands, mainly gentle and moderate slopes.

VEGETATION

Arable; permanent pastures; coniferous plantations;
boreal and Atlantic heather moors.

CLIMATE

Western Drummossie Muir Elsewhere

<i>av. ann. rainfall, mm</i>	800-1100	600-800
<i>accum. temperature (day °C above 0°C Jan-Jun)</i>	1000-1170	1190-1350
<i>maximum PSMD, mm</i>	100-105	120-155
<i>growing season, days</i>	210	220
<i>field capacity</i>	mid-Oct to early Mar	early Nov to early Mar

SOIL DESCRIPTION

topsoil

subsoil

<i>colour</i>	dark greyish brown or dark brown	yellowish brown or brown becoming reddish brown with depth
<i>texture</i>	sandy loam	sandy loam, occasionally loamy sand
<i>structure</i>	weak or moderate medium subangular blocky	moderate, coarse platy, occasionally massive
<i>stone content</i>	slightly stony, occasionally moderately stony	moderately stony, occasionally very stony
<i>potential rooting depth</i>	variable, 20-60 cm, dependent on depth to induration	
COMMENT	Thickness of overlying drift is highly variable. Subsoils are indurated.	

SOIL CHEMISTRY

Under natural conditions soils are very acid. Readily leached
exchangeable bases are usually low and reach a minimum in
the subsoil. Values may rise slightly in the basal horizon. Total
phosphorus usually medium in topsoil otherwise low. Very low
total cobalt and low total copper.

MAP UNIT VARIATION

Some inclusions of small areas of poorly drained surface-water
gleys with a perched water-table due to induration or massive
structure in subsoil or massive structure in subsoil.