

# Aberdona SERIES

## A. SOIL MAP UNIT DESCRIPTION

### SOIL CLASSIFICATION

SCOT: Noncalcareous  
gleys (Brown forest  
soils with gleying on  
some maps)

SSEW: Cambic  
stagnogley soils

### SOIL ASSOCIATION

GIFFNOCK

### PARENT MATERIAL

Light brown clay loam or  
clay till derived from  
Carboniferous sandstones  
with some shales, coals  
and limestones.

### DRAINAGE CLASS

Imperfect

### PERMEABILITY CLASS

Slow

### REFERENCES

*soil maps* —  
1:63 360 sheets  
23 (Hamilton)  
39 (Stirling)  
40/41 (Kinross/Elie)

### LOCATION AND EXTENT

West Fife drift plain and Dunfermline low hills (Alloa to  
Cowdenbeath) (105 sq km); East Fife uplands (6 sq km);  
north of Lanark (4 sq km). Total 115 sq km.

### LANDFORM

Gently undulating till plains and lower hill slopes.

### VEGETATION

Arable; permanent pastures; broad-leaved woodlands.

### CLIMATE

*Coastal belt of Fife*

*Inland*

*av. ann. rainfall, mm*

650-900

800-1000

*accum. temperature*

1210-1370

1240-1410

*(day °C above 0°C Jan-Jun)*

*maximum PSMD, mm*

90-110

70-90

*growing season, days*

225

225

*field capacity*

early Nov to early  
Mar

Mid-Oct to early  
Mar

### SOIL DESCRIPTION

*topsoil*

*subsoil*

*colour*

dark reddish brown

light grey to light  
brownish grey

*texture*

sandy silt loam

clay loam or clay

*structure*

moderate angular  
blocky

massive or weak  
coarse prismatic

*stone content*

slightly or  
moderately stony

moderately stony

*potential rooting depth*

generally to about 40 cm, the depth to top  
of till. Can be greater in dry years if  
cracking develops in the till.

COMMENT

Related to other soils developed on tills  
derived from Carboniferous sediments,  
but characterized by till colour and stone  
composition

### SOIL CHEMISTRY

Base saturation high throughout profile. Low total  
phosphorus except in topsoil.

### MAP UNIT VARIATION

Some colour and textural differences related to  
proportions of rocks contributing to parent material.