

Fraserburgh SERIES

A. SOIL MAP UNIT DESCRIPTION

SOIL CLASSIFICATION

SCOT: Brown calcareous soils

SSEW: Typical brown calcareous sands

SOIL ASSOCIATION

FRASERBURGH

PARENT MATERIAL

Windblown shelly sands.

DRAINAGE CLASS

Free

PERMEABILITY CLASS

Rapid

REFERENCES

soil maps —

1:63 360 sheets

5/9 (Kirkcudbright/
Maxwelltown)

24/32 (Peebles/Edinburgh)

33/34 (Haddington/
Eyemouth)

40/41 (Kinross/Elie)

43/44/51/52 (Mull)

96 (Banff)

87/97 (Peterhead/
Fraserburgh)

109/115 (Achentoul/Reay)

110/116 (Latheron/Wick)

1:50 000

Orkney-Hoy

Orkney-Mainland

Orkney-Northern Isles

52 (Ardnamurchan/
Morvern)

memoirs —

Soils round Haddington and
Eyemouth

Soils round Aberdeen,

Inverurie and Fraserburgh

Soils round Banff, Huntly
and Turriff

Compiled by A. Lilly
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Issued December 1989
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LOCATION AND EXTENT

Orkney Islands, in particular Sanday, North Ronaldsay and Westray; East Lothian around Gullane and Dunbar; North-east Scotland around Fraserburgh, Whitehills and Rattray Head and sporadically throughout coastal areas of Scotland. 55 sq km.

LANDFORM

Raised beaches, low stable dunes and machair.

VEGETATION

Permanent and long ley pastures; locally arable; dune pastures and silverweed dune slack.

CLIMATE

	<i>Lothians</i>	<i>North-east</i>	<i>Orkney Islands</i>
<i>av. ann. rainfall, mm</i>	600	700	900-1100
<i>accum. temperature (day °C above 0°C Jan-Jun)</i>	1230-1390	1060-1230	no data
<i>maximum PSMD, mm</i>	166	108	73
<i>growing season, days</i>	225	215	no data
<i>field capacity</i>	mid-Nov to early Mar	mid-Oct to early Mar	no data

SOIL DESCRIPTION

	<i>topsoil</i>	<i>subsoil</i>
<i>colour</i>	dark greyish brown	brown
<i>texture</i>	loamy sand	sand
<i>structure</i>	weak subangular blocky	single grain
<i>stone content</i>	stoneless	stoneless
<i>potential rooting depth</i>	unrestricted	

COMMENT

Shells and shell fragments are very obvious in the profile. Topsoils have a loose consistence, and are often humose when uncultivated. The subsoil colour can vary depending on the origin of the sand grains.

SOIL CHEMISTRY

Topsoil pH is in the range 6.5-8.5 and is inversely proportional to the organic matter content. The soils have free calcium carbonate present and 100 % base saturation. The are deficient in manganese and low in all other trace elements.

MAP UNIT VARIATION

Calcareous regosols are found locally on the less stable dunes and there are occasional wet hollows in the dune slacks.