Darleith SERIES

A. SOIL MAP UNIT DESCRIPTION

SOIL CLASSIFICATION

SCOT: Brown forest soils
SSEW: Typical brown earths

SOIL ASSOCIATION

DARLEITH

PARENT MATERIAL

Drifts of sandy silt loam texture derived from basalts.

DRAINAGE CLASS

Free; some moderately well drained in wetter areas and on till.

PERMEABILITY CLASS

Moderate

REFERENCES

soil maps —

1:63 360 sheets
7/8 (Girvan/Carrick)
14 (Ayr)
17 (Jedburgh)
18 (Morebattle)
22 (Kilmarnock)
23 (Hamilton)
24/32 (Peebles/Edinburgh)
25 (Kelso)
26 (Berwick-on-Tweed)
31 (Airdrie)
33/34 (Haddington/ Eyemouth)
39 (Stirling)
40/41 (Kinross/Elie)
47 (Crieff)
48/49 (Perth/Arbroath)

memoirs —

Soils of Carrick and round Girvan
Soils round Jedburgh and Morebattle
Soils round Kilmarnock
Soils round Kelso and Lauder
Soils round Haddington and Eyemouth
Soils round Perth, Arbroath and Dundee

Compiled by G. Hudson

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SMUDS 2

LOCATION AND EXTENT

Sporadic, occasionally extensive, throughout the Midland Valley, particularly the Sidlaw, Touch, Campsie and Carrick Hills and in hills north of Stewarton and around Denny and Cambuslang, with low-lying areas near Kinghorn in Fife. *385 sq km.*

LANDFORM

Wide range: lowland to upland, gentle to very steep slopes, non- to moderately rocky.

VEGETATION

Ben–fescue, white bent and crested hair-grass grasslands on hill ground; permanent pastures and some arable on low ground.

CLIMATE	*East Midland Valley*	*Central and west Midland Valley*
*av. ann. rainfall, mm**	700-900	1100-1400
*accum. temperature** *(day °C above 0°C Jan-Jun)*	1180-1410	no data
maximum PSMD, mm	80-110	70-90
*growing season, days**	215-225	no data
*field capacity**	late Sept to early Mar	no data

SOIL DESCRIPTION	*topsoil*	*subsoil*
colour	brown to very dark greyish brown	dark brown to brown or reddish brown
texture	sandy silt loam or fine sandy loam	sandy silt loam or sandy loam; sandy clay loam in till
structure	moderate medium crumb or medium subangular blocky	moderate subangular blocky
stone content	slightly or moderately stony	moderately or very stony
potential rooting depth	up to 90 cm, restricted only by underlying rock or weak induration in the subsoil	

COMMENT Principal features are free drainage, sandy silt loam texture, stoniness and shallowness on rock.

SOIL CHEMISTRY

Percent base saturation and cation exchange capacity are medium to high in the topsoil, increasing with depth. Slight increases in sesquioxide iron are occasionally recorded in subsoils. Total phosphorus is high. Cobalt levels are low.

MAP UNIT VARIATION

Areas with imperfect drainage (Dunlop Series) occur locally on clay loam till in the west. There are areas with rock outcrops included in Darleith Series on maps published prior to 1980.

*Climate data extracted from Meteorological Office publications *Average Annual Rainfall: Northern Britain* and *Climatological Memorandum No 108* and reproduced by permission of the Controller of HMSO.