Elgin SERIES

A. SOIL MAP UNIT DESCRIPTION

SOIL CLASSIFICATION

SCOT: Humus-iron podzols

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

SOIL ASSOCIATION

ELGIN

PARENT MATERIAL

Sandy loam drifts derived from Upper Old Red Sandstone sandstones. On hill ridges bedrock can occur close to the surface.

DRAINAGE CLASS

Free

PERMEABILITY CLASS

Moderate

REFERENCES

soil maps —
1:63 360 sheets
85/95 Rothes/Elgin

Compiled by R.E.F. Heslop

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SMUDS 2

LOCATION AND EXTENT

Elgin area, Morayshire. *33 sq km.*

LANDFORM

Undulating lowlands and hills with gentle or strong slopes.

VEGETATION

Arable; ley and permanent pastures; oak and birchwood.

CLIMATE	*Coastal lowlands*	*Inland*
av. ann. rainfall, mm	650-800	800-900
accum. temperature (day °C above 0°C Jan-Jun)	1190-1350	1000-1170
maximum PSMD, mm	155	110
growing season, days	220	210
field capacity	early Nov to early Mar	mid-Oct to early Mar

SOIL DESCRIPTION	*topsoil*	*subsoil*
colour	dark brown	strong brown
texture	sandy loam	sandy loam
structure	moderate subangular blocky	weak subangular blocky
stone content	slightly stony	slightly or moderately stony
potential rooting depth	20-50 cm dependent on depth to induration, compact till or bedrock	
COMMENT	Induration, weakly or moderately developed, is common in the subsoil. Semi-natural soils have a surface layer of humus over dark grey sandy loam or loamy sand, subsoils as above.	

SOIL CHEMISTRY

Acid; subsoils have a pH about 5. Base saturation is less than 25 % and total phosphorus is low.