

# Minchmoor SERIES

## A. SOIL MAP UNIT DESCRIPTION

### SOIL CLASSIFICATION

SCOT: Humus-iron  
podzols (Iron podzols  
or peaty podzols on  
early maps)

SSEW: Humo-ferric  
podzols

### SOIL ASSOCIATION

ETTRICK

### PARENT MATERIAL

Greyish brown, stony,  
sandy loam hillside drifts  
and solifluction deposits  
derived from Ordovician  
and Silurian greywackes  
and shales.

### DRAINAGE CLASS

Free

### PERMEABILITY CLASS

Rapid

### REFERENCES

*soil maps* —

1:63 360 sheets

24/32 (Peebles/Edinburgh)

25 (Kelso)

33/34 (Haddington/  
Eyemouth)

*memoirs* —

Soils round Kelso and  
Lauder

Soils round Haddington and  
Eyemouth

### LOCATION AND EXTENT

Eastern Southern Uplands, notably in the Moorfoot and  
Lammermuir Hills. 171 *sq km*.

### LANDFORM

Rounded hills with steep or strong, smooth, convex  
slopes. Altitude: 250-550 m.

### VEGETATION

Dry Atlantic heather moor; some moist Atlantic heather  
moor.

### CLIMATE

<i>av. ann. rainfall, mm</i>	900-1000
<i>accum. temperature</i> <i>(day °C above 0°C Jan-Jun)</i>	1080-1210
<i>maximum PSMD, mm</i>	90-110
<i>growing season, days</i>	215
<i>field capacity</i>	mid-Oct to early Mar

### SOIL DESCRIPTION

	<i>topsoil</i>	<i>subsoil</i>
<i>colour</i>	black	brown
<i>texture</i>	organic matter 5-15 cm thick	sandy loam
<i>structure</i>	subangular blocky	moderate medium subangular blocky
<i>stone content</i>	stoneless	very stony
<i>potential rooting depth</i>	40-65 cm to bedrock or subsoil induration	
<i>COMMENT</i>	Black organic surface layers 5-15 cm thick, undisturbed by cultivation, typify these free-draining, strongly leached soils.	

### SOIL CHEMISTRY

Inherently acid. Base saturation is low and phosphorus  
content in the subsoil is low.

### MAP UNIT VARIATION

Merges into Merrick Series, subalpine soils, at about 600 m.