

SOIL CLASSIFICATION

SCOT: Humus-iron
podzols (Iron podzols
on early maps)
SSEW: Humo-ferric
podzols, or typical
brown podzolic soils or
typical brown earths;
where uncultivated

SOIL ASSOCIATION

ORDLEY

PARENT MATERIAL

Reddish brown sandy silt
loam drift derived from
Old Red Sandstone
sediments and
argillaceous schists.

DRAINAGE CLASS

Free

PERMEABILITY CLASS

Moderate

REFERENCES

soil maps —
1:63 360 sheets
76 (Inverurie)
86 (Huntly)
87/97 (Peterhead/
Fraserburgh)
96 (Banff)

memoirs —
Soils round Banff, Huntly
and Turriff
Soils round Aberdeen,
Inverurie and Fraserburgh

LOCATION AND EXTENT

North-east Scotland; from Pennan to Fyvie and the Howe
of Auchterless; around Cotton Hill, Kirktown of Deskford
and sporadically between the Hill of Noth and Lumsden.
85 sq km.

LANDFORM

Gentle or moderately undulating till plain; some hills with
strong slopes.

VEGETATION

Arable; permanent pastures.

CLIMATE

Land below 180 m

Land above 180 m

av. ann. rainfall, mm
accum. temperature
(day °C above 0°C Jan-Jun)
maximum PSMD, mm
growing season, days
field capacity

850
1060-1230

108
215
mid-Oct to early
Mar

925
900-1080

108
210
mid-Oct to mid-
Mar

SOIL DESCRIPTION

topsoil

subsoil

colour

dark brown

strong brown

texture

sandy silt loam

fine sandy loam

structure

weak, medium
subangular blocky

very weak medium
subangular blocky

stone content

slightly stony

slightly stony

potential rooting depth

generally greater than 45 cm depending
on depth to induration

COMMENT

The subsoil often has a bright orange cast
except where weak induration occurs
immediately below the topsoil, in which
case it is reddish brown sandy loam.
Stone content often increases with depth.

SOIL CHEMISTRY

Subsoil base saturation is less than 50%; soils are
inherently low in copper.

MAP UNIT VARIATION

The soils are shown as OD2 and OD3 on Sheets 86/96. On
these sheets the map unit contains imperfectly drained
soils locally.