

Thistlyhill SERIES

A. SOIL MAP UNIT DESCRIPTION

SOIL CLASSIFICATION

SCOT: Brown forest
soils with gleying
SSEW: Stagnogleyic
brown earths

SOIL ASSOCIATION

TARVES

PARENT MATERIAL

Drifts derived from mixed
acid and basic,
metamorphic and igneous
rocks, and from
intermediate
metamorphic and igneous
rocks.

DRAINAGE CLASS

Imperfect

PERMEABILITY CLASS

Slow

REFERENCES

soil maps —
1:63 360 sheets
66/67 (Banchory/
Stonehaven)
75 (Tomintoul)
76 (Inverurie)
77 (Aberdeen)
85/95 (Rothes/Elgin)
87/97 (Peterhead/
Fraserburgh)

memoirs —

Soils round Aberdeen,
Inverurie and Fraserburgh

LOCATION AND EXTENT

North-east Scotland: from Mintlaw to Inverurie, and
around Alford, Tarland, Banchory, Strathdon and
Cabrach. 105 sq km.

LANDFORM

Undulating lowlands and valley sides with gentle or
strong slopes.

VEGETATION

Arable; ley and permanent pastures; coniferous
plantations.

CLIMATE

	<i>below 180 m</i>	<i>above 180 m, rainfall</i>	<i>above 180 m, rainfall</i>
		<i><1000 mm</i>	<i>>1000 mm</i>
<i>av. ann. rainfall, mm</i>	750-900	900-1000	1000-1100
<i>accum. temperature</i> <i>(day °C above 0°C Jan-Jun)</i>	1060-1230	900-1080	no data
<i>maximum PSMD, mm</i>	110	110	110
<i>growing season, days</i>	215	210	no data
<i>field capacity</i>	mid-Oct to early Mar	mid-Oct to mid-Mar	no data

SOIL DESCRIPTION

	<i>topsoil</i>	<i>subsoil</i>
<i>colour</i>	brown	yellowish brown
<i>texture</i>	sandy silt loam or sandy loam	sandy loam
<i>structure</i>	moderate subangular blocky	weak subangular blocky (platy where indurated)
<i>stone content</i>	slightly stony	slightly or moderately stony
<i>potential rooting depth</i>	usually over 45 cm.	

COMMENT

Indurated subsoils are only local and
usually not so well developed as in
Tarves Series. Distinct rusty mottling in
subsoil, which can have textures as fine as
sandy clay loam or clay loam.

SOIL CHEMISTRY

Subsoil pH medium (5.0-6.5), base saturation variable (20-
90%) and total phosphorus low or medium (60-300 mg
P₂O₅/100 g).

MAP UNIT VARIATION

Some poorly drained soils (Pitmedden Series) in flats and
hollows.