

SOIL CLASSIFICATION

SCOT: Peaty gleys
SSEW: Cambic
stagnohumic gley soils

SOIL ASSOCIATION

GIFFNOCK

PARENT MATERIAL

Grey or greyish brown
clay loam or clay loam till
derived mainly from
sandstones of
Carboniferous age.

DRAINAGE CLASS

Poor

PERMEABILITY CLASS

Slow

REFERENCES

soil maps —
1:63 360 sheets
23 (Hamilton)
30 (Glasgow)
31 (Airdrie)
40/41 (Kinross/Elie)

LOCATION AND EXTENT

Midland Valley: near Carluke and Coalburn; Fife, at West Lomond and near Loch Glow. 18 sq km.

LANDFORM

Undulating hillsides and upland plateaux with gentle and strong slopes, 250-350 m altitude.

VEGETATION

Flying bent grassland; soft rush pasture; moist Atlantic heather moor; some permanent and long ley pastures.

CLIMATE

Lanarkshire

Fife

av. ann. rainfall, mm

1000-1200

1000

accum. temperature

no data

no data

(day °C above 0°C Jan-Jun)

maximum PSMD, mm

70-90

100

growing season, days

no data

no data

field capacity

no data

no data

SOIL DESCRIPTION

topsoil

subsoil

colour

black

brown or greyish brown

texture

amorphous peat

sandy clay loam

structure

strong coarse
angular blocky

strong very coarse
prismatic

stone content

stoneless

slightly stony

potential rooting depth

40 cm, free rooting in peaty topsoils,
restricted to structure cracks in subsoil

COMMENT

Topsoils are naturally peaty, root development and water movement restricted by the compact subsoils.

SOIL CHEMISTRY

An acid soil; low pH, percentage base saturation and exchangeable bases. Total phosphorus generally low.

MAP UNIT VARIATION

Former organic topsoils and upper mineral layers have been mixed by cultivation in some reclaimed areas, to form very dark greyish brown, humose, sandy silt loam topsoils.