

Pitmedden SERIES

A. SOIL MAP UNIT DESCRIPTION

SOIL CLASSIFICATION

SCOT: Noncalcareous
gleys
SSEW: Cambic
stagnogley soils

SOIL ASSOCIATION

TARVES

PARENT MATERIAL

Sandy loam till derived from mixed acid and basic, metamorphic and igneous rocks and, locally, drifts derived from intermediate metamorphic and igneous rocks.

DRAINAGE CLASS

Poor

PERMEABILITY CLASS

Slow

REFERENCES

soil maps —
1:63 360 sheets
35/36/43/44/51/52 (Mull)
56 (Blairgowrie
66/67 (Banchory/
Stonehaven)
75 (Tomintoul)
76 (Inverurie)
77 (Aberdeen)
85/95 (Rothes/Elgin)
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 Mintlaw to Inverurie; from Portsoy to Huntly; around Alford, Tarland and Banchory.
203 sq km.

LANDFORM

Undulating till plain with gentle or moderate slopes; occasionally in low-lying areas within uplands.

VEGETATION

Arable; permanent pastures; occasional rush pastures and white bent grassland.

CLIMATE

	<i>Land below 180 m</i>	<i>Land above 180 m</i>
<i>av. ann. rainfall, mm</i>	850	925
<i>accum. temperature</i> <i>(day °C above 0°C Jan-Jun)</i>	1060-1230	900-1080
<i>maximum PSMD, mm</i>	108	108
<i>growing season, days</i>	215	210
<i>field capacity</i>	mid-Oct to early Mar	mid-Oct to mid-Mar

SOIL DESCRIPTION

	<i>topsoil</i>	<i>subsoil</i>
<i>colour</i>	dark greyish brown	yellowish brown with ochreous and grey mottling
<i>texture</i>	sandy silt loam	sandy loam
<i>structure</i>	moderate subangular blocky	coarse prismatic
<i>stone content</i>	very slightly stony	slightly stony
<i>potential rooting depth</i>	about 45 cm, greater where roots exploit subsoil cracks	
<i>COMMENT</i>	Subsoils often intensely gleyed. High organic matter content and dark colours in topsoils of semi-natural and afforested soils.	

SOIL CHEMISTRY

Subsoil base saturation is generally high (> 50 %); pH is in the range of 5.5-6.6.

MAP UNIT VARIATION

Some areas of water-modified till occur locally. Series shown as TR4 on Sheets 86 (Huntly) and 96 (Banff).