Sorn SERIES

A. SOIL MAP UNIT DESCRIPTION

SOIL CLASSIFICATION

SCOT: Noncalcareous gleys

SSEW: Cambic stagnogley soils

SOIL ASSOCIATION

SORN

PARENT MATERIAL

Till of clay loam or sandy clay loam texture derived from Lower Carboniferous sediments and Upper Old Red Sandstone sediments and lavas.

DRAINAGE CLASS

Poor

PERMEABILITY CLASS

Slow

REFERENCES

soil maps —

1:63 360 sheets

14 (Ayr)
22 (Kilmarnock)
23 (Hamilton)
24/32 (Peebles/Edinburgh)
30 (Glasgow)
31 (Airdrie)
39 (Stirling)

memoirs —

Soils round Kilmarnock

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SMUDS 4

LOCATION AND EXTENT

Mainly in central Ayrshire north of Sorn and south-east of Ayr; other scattered occurrences throughout the Central Lowlands, particularly near Dumbarton, west of Lesmahagow and west of Douglas Water. *About 50 sq km.*

LANDFORM

Undulating lowlands with drumlins, some hillsides, with gentle slopes; below 250 m altitude.

VEGETATION

Permanent pastures with some arable; rush pastures and sedge mires.

CLIMATE

	Ayrshire/Dunbartonshire	*Lanarkshire/Stirlingshire*
av. ann. rainfall, mm	1000-1200 generally, rising to 1400 on the flanks of the Campsie Hills	
accum. temperature (day °C above 0°C Jan-Jun)	1250-1450	1090-1220
maximum PSMD, mm	82-128	80-90
growing season, days	225-255	215
field capacity	early Oct to early Mar	early Oct to early Mar

SOIL DESCRIPTION

	topsoil	*subsoil*
colour	greyish brown	reddish brown or reddish grey
texture	clay loam	clay loam or clay
structure	weak medium subangular blocky	massive or moderate coarse prismatic
stone content	slightly stony	moderately stony
potential rooting depth	rooting largely restricted to topsoil (25-30 cm) but some limited rooting to about 50 cm especially along structure cracks	
COMMENT	Moderately fine or fine subsoil textures, slow permeability and surface wetness are typical features.	

SOIL CHEMISTRY

Slightly acid, high percentage base saturation in subsoil and parent till.

MAP UNIT VARIATION

Very red subsoils are associated with a high proportion of Old Red Sandstone sandstones, clayey subsoils with a high proportion of Carboniferous sedimentary rocks.