

SOIL TESTING LAB



Purpose

- You will determine:
 1. Soil composition
 2. Soil pH
 3. Soil Macronutrients

HYPOTHESIS



How healthy do you think
your soil is?

Key Concepts

- **Macronutrients:** Nitrate, Potassium, and Phosphate → needed in large amounts

Key Concepts

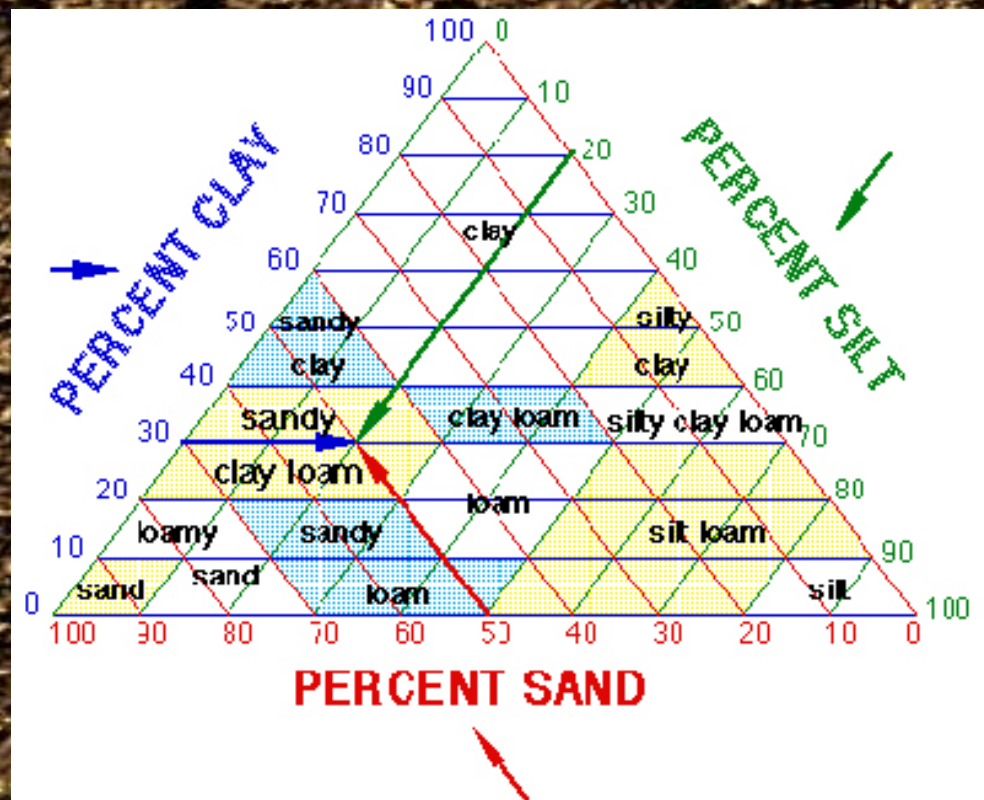
- pH Scale: 0-6 → acid, 7 neutral, 8-14 → base
- Lime (Calcium Carbonate) added to decrease acidity.

The pH Scale



Key Concepts

- Soil Texture Chart determines soil composition.



Procedure Pt 1: Soil Composition

1. Dry out soil on paper towel, remove twigs and leaves.
2. Get 50 mL of soil and place in 100 mL grad. Cylinder.
3. Add water until at 100 mL mark.
4. Cover top with wrap, invert mucho!
5. Let sit
6. Determine volume of each layer: clay, silt, and sand.

Procedure Pt 2 and 3: Soil pH and Macronutrients

- Follow instruction in soil test kit to get soil pH, NO_3 , PO_4 , and K.
- Record data!
- Throw away when done [not down the sink].



CLEAN UP

- Wipe down table you are working at with Lysol...the entire thing.
- Clean out the sink so there is no soil in there.
 - Put all kits back together.

