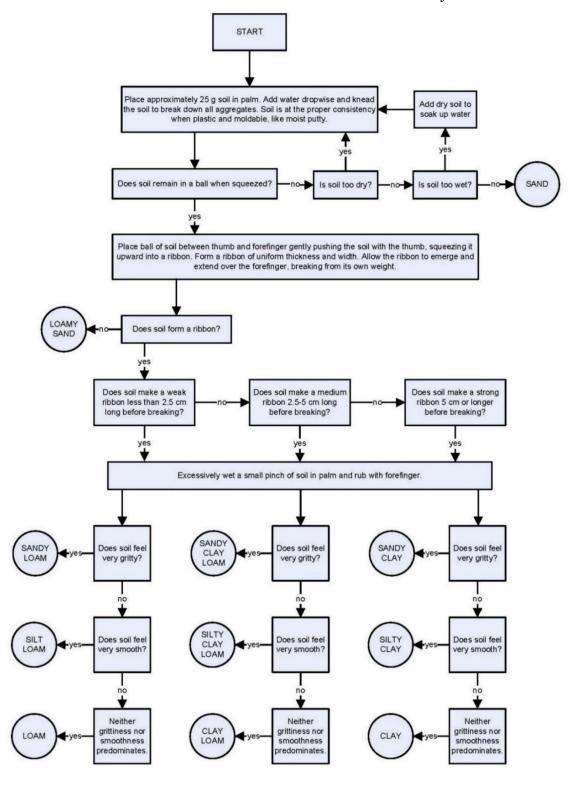
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Soil Texture by Feel - Ribbon Test

Soil Texture: the relative amount of sand, silt, and clay particles in a particular soil. Texture affects a soil's ability to retain nutrients and water and helps regulate air and water movement. Below is a flow chart to determine soil texture by feel.



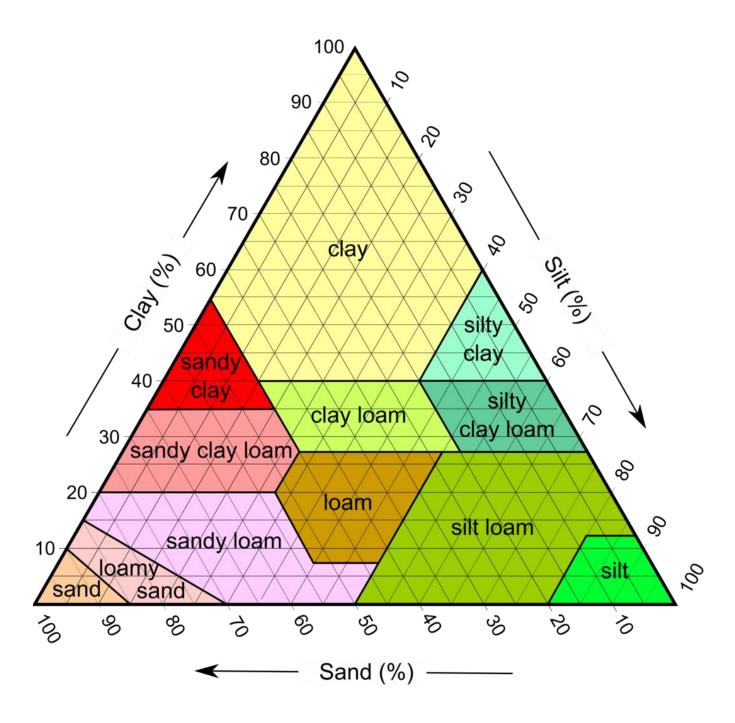
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Soil Texture Triangle

Soil scientists use the soil texture triangle to help determine the texture of a specific soil.



cmglee, Mikenorton, United States Department of Agriculture, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons

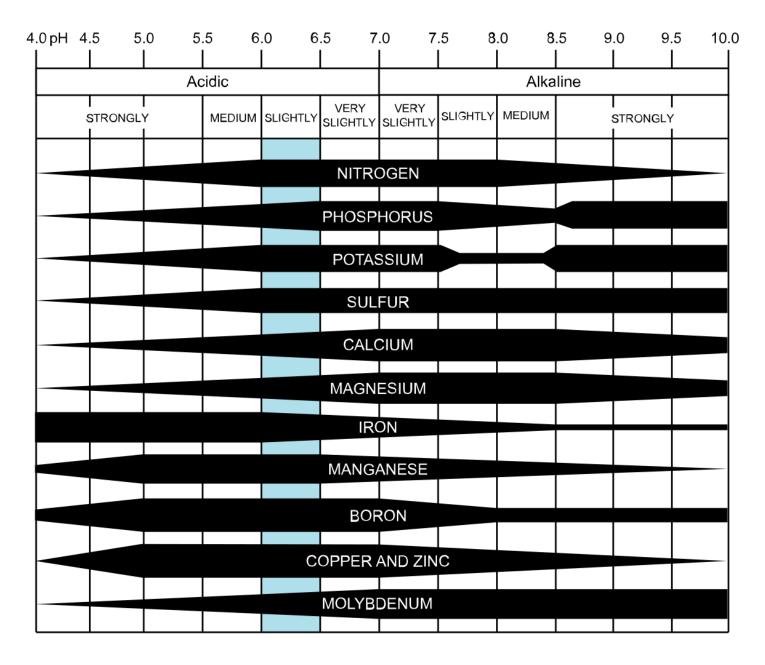
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Soil pH and Nutrient Availability

Soil pH (measure of acidity and alkalinity) affects what nutrients are available for plants to take up and use. The chart below shows how the availability of specific nutrients changes depending on soil pH. The wider the band, the more available the nutrient is to the plant.



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