

USDA
TEXTURE
CLASSES
&
ASSOCIATED
PROPERTIES

| | |
|---|---|
| no ribbon - no ball ↓ | no ribbon - forms ball ↓ |
| SAND S single-grain loose consistence | LOAMY SAND LS weak structure very friable consistence |

ABBREVIATIONS:

- S > Sand 2.00 - 0.05 mm
- Si > Silt 0.05 - 0.002 mm
- C > Clay <0.002 mm
- L > Loam

Soil Separates

Adding clay →

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|---|---|
| | 27% C | 40% C | |
| very smooth → | SILT LOAM SiL moderate structure friable consistence | SILTY CLAY LOAM SiCL moderate structure firm consistence | SILTY CLAY SiC strong structure very firm consistence |
| neither gritty nor smooth → | LOAM L moderate structure friable consistence | CLAY LOAM CL moderate structure firm consistence | CLAY C strong structure very firm consistence |
| very gritty → | SANDY LOAM SL moderate struc. friable consist. | SANDY CLAY LOAM SCL moderate structure friable-firm consistence | SANDY CLAY SC strong structure firm-very firm consistence |
| | ↑ 20% C | ↑ 35% C | |
| | <1" ribbon | 1"- 2" ribbon | 2" ribbon |

Adding sand ↓