

The Soil Taxonomy Committee Report
Northeast Cooperative Soil Survey Conference
June 2 – 5, 2008

The committee had a rather large number of proposals for amendments to Soil Taxonomy to consider. It took up the entire time of the committee.

Action on Proposals before the Northeast Taxonomy Committee

The proposals are broken out into the groups they were received in from Craig Ditzler, National Committee Chair.

Proposals:

Group 1

Normal year definition

The committee voted to recommend approval of the change.

Natraquerts

The committee voted to recommend approval of the change.

The Subaqueous Proposal -- All

This proposal was heard in the Subaqueous Soils Committee. The proposal was amended and additional comments have been received. The author will complete the amendments. The committee recommends the Subaqueous Proposal with the amendments.

Group 2

Ashy-skeletal over clayey particle size class

While this item was discussed, it was decided since it did not affect the Northeast Region no opinion would be voted.

The committee voted to take 'no opinion' of this proposal because it does not impact the Northeast Region.

Correction to Temperature limits

The committee voted to recommend approval of the change.

Clarification of Clay Requirement: Paleustalfs, Palexeralfs, and Palexerolls

The committee voted to recommend approval of the change to replace the particle size control section language, but recommends a possible rewording of the clay percentage language for clarity.

Cemented Layer Criteria for Four Great Groups: Durudands, Duricryepts, Durudepts, and Petraquepts

Considerable discussion was held as to the definition of the terms and their use in this amendment.

The committee voted to not recommend approval of the change. It recommends work on the language confirming that the layer is pedogenic and recommends consideration of the terms 'soil', 'horizon', and 'dura' as used in the text.

Micaceous Soils

The committee voted to recommend approval of the change.

Aridic Lithic Subgroups in Some Great Group: Xerolls, Calcixerolls, Argixerolls, and Haploxerolls

The committee voted to recommend approval of the change. The committee recommends that a similar amendment may be needed in the Ustolls suborder, also.

Group 3

Permafrost affected and other Cold Soils:

Changes to the Gelisols Order

The committee was informed that this proposal is being withdrawn for additional work.

The committee voted to take 'no opinion' of this proposal because it does not impact the Northeast Region.

Addition of a Gelic temperature regime

This proposal was reviewed because it had the possibility of affecting the Northeast Region. It appears from data reviewed that it will not.

The committee voted to take 'no opinion' of this proposal because it does not impact the Northeast Region.

Change to the criteria for Histels

The committee voted to take 'no opinion' of this proposal because it does not impact the Northeast Region.

Addition of an Oxyaquic Subgroup to Haplogells

The committee voted to take 'no opinion' of this proposal because it does not impact the Northeast Region.

Addition of an Aquic Subgroup to Gelorthents

The committee voted to take 'no opinion' of this proposal because it does not impact the Northeast Region.

Addition of Turbic Subgroups to 8 Great Groups

The committee voted to take 'no opinion' of this proposal because it does not impact the Northeast Region.

Addition of Folistic Subgroups to 12 Great Groups

This one subpart of the Group 3 amendments affects 11 series in the Northeast.

The committee voted to recommend approval of the change.

Revision to the Gelepts Great Group

The committee voted to take ‘no opinion’ of this proposal because it does not impact the Northeast Region.

Changes to Family Criteria (depth for B.S. and pH)

The committee voted to take ‘no opinion’ of this proposal because it does not impact the Northeast Region.

Group 4

Proposal to Add Humic Great Groups to the Udepts, Ustepts, and Xerepts And to Revise the Current Humic Subgroups in Various Great Groups – All or Parts, Partially from here

The committee voted to recommend approval of the change. It was a close vote with several people not voting. One could not consider this a ‘consensus’. The committee recommends that consideration be taken into the difference in the order of placement of the Greatgroups within the Suborders. It may need to be amended.

Group 5

Jarosite & Suffix j

The committee voted to recommend approval of the change. It may need to be considered whether the last sentence of the amendment is appropriate where it is located. It is valuable information, but perhaps should be recorded elsewhere in Soil Taxonomy.

Kanhapludults

The committee voted to recommend approval of the change.

Paleaquults

The committee voted to take ‘no opinion’ of this proposal because it does not impact the Northeast Region.

Paleudults

The committee voted to take 'no opinion' of this proposal because it does not impact the Northeast Region.

Gypseous Soils

The committee voted to take 'no opinion' of this proposal because it does not impact the Northeast Region.

Anhydritic Mineralogy, Anhydritic Diagnostic Horizon, & Revision to the Aquisalids

The committee voted to take 'no opinion' of this proposal because it does not impact the Northeast Region.