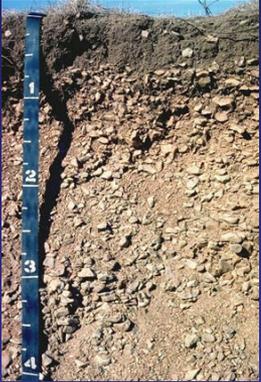


The National Cooperative Soil Survey

Helping People Help the Land through a better understanding of soils

Northeast Region NCSS Conference Elizabethtown, PA 2008

Report of the Taxonomy Committee



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Proposals from Committee

- Amendment to Natural Drainage Classes
- Addition to Horizon Designation Suffix (si)
- Amendment to Texture Modifiers
- Consideration of Buildings and Pavement as a replacement for Urban Land Misc. Area

Natural Drainage Classes

- Committee proposes to amend natural drainage classes to include *Subaqueous* – *where free water is at or above the soil surface having a positive water potential for at last 90 percent of each day*
- *The very poorly drained definition does not take into account this frequency and duration of wet periods*

Horizon Designation Suffix

- Si suffix symbol

This symbol indicates the presence of sulfidic materials in mineral or organic horizons.

The presence of sulfidic materials is a primary characteristic in the classification within Aquents and Wasset suborders.

Texture Modifiers

- The committee proposes an amendment to texture modifiers to include shells and shell fragments fragments:
 - $< 15\%$ no modifier
 - 15 -35% shelly loam
 - 35 -60 % very shelly loam
 - $> 60\%$ extremely shelly

Miscellaneous Areas

- Proposal to add “Buildings and Pavement” to list of Miscellaneous Areas refining “Urban Land”

The committee returned this request due to recent update of NSSH refining Phases of miscellaneous land types.