

IMPLEMENTATION POLICY FOR NOTE, PEDON, AND TRANSECT NAMING FORMAT

This policy is intended for Notes, Pedons, and Transects that are the responsibility of the Temple MLRA Office and the Texas State Soil Scientist. The policy for completion of all future Notes, Pedons, and Transects is as follows:

All new Notes, Pedons, and Transects recorded and/or uploaded to NASIS must use the new guidance.

Should you or your staff find any inconsistencies or errors in this document, please contact James Gordon.

Subject:

Texas standard operating procedure for naming lab, pedon, site, and transect IDs

Rationale:

The primary purpose for the format is to ensure standardized and unique lab, pedon, site, and transect IDs. Additionally, this format allows querying by year, state, survey area, describer, or any combinations of those. Since the format closely follows the NASIS Pedon Thunderbook, the state guidance may not require any change for many users. Many current lab, pedon, site, and transect IDs contain information that can be queried (MLRA, author, soil name as sampled, correlated soil name, etc.). The types of queries are more reliably done by selecting from the NASIS data elements instead of from the IDs.

Benefits:

A set of sequential numbers permits simplistic management for the large number of pedon observations that will be recorded. By keeping the ID simple, potential errors could also be avoided. For example, the pedon is correlated to another soil, but the soil name used in the ID is not changed.

Background:

The naming format will be used for all future lab, pedon, site, and transect IDs. At a later date, previous lab, pedon, site, and transect IDs will be converted to the naming format. The naming format will provide consistency among MLRAs as well as uniformity in NASIS and the new TXPED program forth coming.

Pedon_PC:

The program automatically populates the MLRA, state, county, quad name, and coordinates.

QC/QA:

- Project Leader will review all future lab, pedon, site, and transect IDs.
- Project Leader validates that all future lab, pedon, site, and transect IDs conform to the naming format.
- SDQS will provide quality assurance for lab, pedon, site, and transect IDs during QA reviews.

TXPED:

The TXPED program is limited to 12 characters with no spaces or dashes. TXPED uses the Site ID and Lab ID in the pedon description to link.

User Pedon ID:

P/yr/ssaid/pedon# example: P08TX3771000, P08TX3771001, P08TX3771002, etc...

If there are three Soil Scientist in the office,
 Soil Scientist #1 would use P08TX3771000 to P08TX3771999
 Soil Scientist #2 would use P08TX3772000 to P08TX3772999
 Soil Scientist #3 would use P08TX3773000 to P08TX3773999

P — Denotes pedon

yr — Denotes the year by the last two digits

ssaid — Denotes the soil survey area number including state code (in upper case).

Note: The ssaid is not necessarily the county FIPS code.

Pedon # — Each describer would have a set of numbers 1000s, 2000s, 3000s... The number would reset at the beginning of each year. This would allow 1000 unique pedon IDs per describer per year. **Note:** On details, the Project Leader could subset the sequence. Soil Scientist #1 would use 1000 to 1200. Soil Scientist #2 would use 1201 to 1400. Soil Scientist #3 would use 1401 to 1600, etc. The number sequence could be determined by the number of assigned pedons for the detail.

S/yr/ssaid/pedon# example: S08TX3771000

'S' has traditionally been used for pedons sampled for the NSSL. The number of pedons sampled for lab analysis will be increasing dramatically in the coming years. In keeping with tradition and needing an easy way to readily identify pedons that have lab data, 'S' will be used to denote any pedon that has lab data whether it be from NSSL, cooperators (TAMU, TTU, etc.), or local lab.

The number sequence will stay the same.

Example: P08TX3771000, S08TX3771001, P08TX3771002, etc...

All pedon IDs using the 'P' or 'S' will have all minimum data populated to classify a soil, site tables populated, plant tables populated where applicable, and diagnostic horizons populated.

Notes:

N/yr/ssaid/pedon# example: N08TX0010001

N — Denotes note. Some kind of note other than the minimum data needed to classify a pedon.

yr — Denotes the year by the last two digits

ssaid — Denotes the soil survey area number including state code (in upper case).

Note: The ssaid is not necessarily the county FIPS code.

note# — Each describer would have a set of numbers 1000s, 2000s, 3000s... The number would reset at the beginning of each year. Soil Scientist #1 would use 1000 to 1999. Soil Scientist #2 would use 2000 to 2999. Soil Scientist #3 would use 3000 to 3999, etc. This would allow 1000 unique note IDs per describer per year. **Note:** On details, the Project Leader could subset the sequence. Soil Scientist #1 would use 1000 to 1200. Soil Scientist #2 would use 1201 to 1400. Soil Scientist #3 would use 1401 to 1600, etc. The number sequence could be determined by the number of assigned notes for the detail.

Lab ID:

Same as User Pedon ID.

User Site ID:

Same as User Pedon ID.

User Transect ID:

T/yr/ssaid/transect# example: T08TX3771000, T08TX3771001, T08TX3771002, etc...

T — Denotes transect

yr — Denotes the year by the last 2-digits

ssaid — Denotes the soil survey area number including state code (in upper case).

Note: The ssaid is not necessarily the county FIPS code.

transect # — Each describer would have a set of numbers 1000, 2000, 3000... The number would reset at the beginning of each year. Soil Scientist #1 would use 1000 to 1999. Soil Scientist #2 would use 2000 to 2999. Soil Scientist #3 would use 3000 to 3999, etc. **Note:** On details, the Project Leader could subset the sequence. Soil Scientist #1 would use 1000 to 1025. Soil Scientist #2 would use 1026 to 1050. Soil Scientist #3 would use 1051 to 1075, etc. The number sequence could be determined by the number of assigned transects for the detail.

Summary:

Each staff member would be responsible for keeping up with:

1. Pedon #
2. Note #
3. Transect #

This is something each individual should be doing anyway when they report quarterly progress.

Pedons/sites/transects will be uploaded at least every quarter when they are reported.