

Types of Soil



Soils are of different type because of their water absorbing capacity. This is because of the differences in the size of particles in each type of soil.

Sandy soil:

- Contains large coarse particles which we call sand.
- Sand grains form large spaces between the particles which makes sandy soil very porous and cannot hold water for long.
- This soil is mainly found in places with warm climates such as deserts and marshy areas.



Clayey soil:

- Contains fine particles made of clay.
- The soil particles have little air spaces between them.
- Clayey soil is rich in minerals, many of which are used by the plants.
- Soil is very dense and less porous. As a result, clayey soil gets easily waterlogged during the raining season reducing the availability of air between the soil particles, making the soil infertile.
- Paddy and cotton grow well in this type of soil.



Loamy soil:

- Contains an equal amount of sand and silt and lesser amount of clay.
- The soil is well aerated and also contains a lot of organic matter (humus), that support a rich variety of soil organisms which keep the soil fertile.
- It is used to grow vegetables, onion, garlic, pulses, wheat and maize.

Types of Soil



Silty soil:

- Silt particles are smaller than sand but much larger than the clay particle.
- It remains moist for a longer time; silty soil does not get waterlogged easily.
- Silty soil also has a good amount of mineral nutrients and some amount of humus.
- It is used to grow vegetables, fruit bearing trees and pulses.