

STUDIES ON CEYLON SOILS

XIII. SOME FOREST AND OTHER CHARACTERISTIC SOIL TYPES OF THE WET AND DRY ZONES

A. W. R. JOACHIM, Ph.D., Dip. Agric. (Cantab), F.I.C.,

CHEMIST

AND

S. KANDIAH, Dip. Agric. (Poona),

ASSISTANT IN AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY.

IN paper VI. of the Studies on Ceylon Soils (1), the analytical and profile characteristics of some forest soils of the wet low-country were dealt with. In a subsequent communication to this journal (2), de Rosayro described in greater detail the morphological and profile characteristics of seven groups of forest soils of the Matara, Galle, and Kalutara Districts. No analytical data in respect of these soils were furnished by him. At his request, however, analyses of the soils of four typical forest profiles within the same climatic zone were made in this laboratory. As the samples supplied were insufficient for a complete soil examination, only partial analyses were undertaken; but as they are representative of the soils of the districts specified, the results are included in this paper. The authors are indebted to Mr. de Rosayro for descriptions of the profile characteristics and other features of interest in regard to the soils. In contrast to these wet zone forest soils, are the soils of the dry zone jungle. Four such soils have been studied recently. They consist of (1) a typical dry zone red loam carrying high jungle from Sigiriya, (2) two alluvial sandy loams from areas adjoining the Mahaweli-ganga at Minipe and Manampitiya, and (3) a sandy soil from Kottukachchiya near Puttalam. Included in these studies are three vegetation or topographic soil types of the wet zone low-country, viz., a *bata* (S.) jungle soil, so designated because the *bata* bamboo (*Ochlandra stridula*) is a characteristic feature of the vegetation, and the soils of *deniya* (S.) and *owita* (S.) lands. The word *deniya* is very frequently used for low-lying, marshy ground which, when drained, is capable of growing yams and other annual crops. It is in this sense that the word is used in this paper and not in that indicated in the "Ceylon Glossary of Native, Foreign, and Anglicized words" (3) viz., "a stretch of moderately flat

high ground, as distinguished from low or marshy ground". *Owita* lands, on the other hand, are defined in this publication as "low lands which may be used for the cultivation of paddy without irrigation and also of yams and fine grain". This definition corresponds to that of "*deniya*" land as popularly understood. In this paper the word *owita* refers to a fairly flat, comparatively low-lying, well-drained land, adjacent to, but on a higher level than the paddy field.

In addition to the analytical determinations carried out in previous investigations, the base exchange capacity was determined in certain samples by the method of Olson and Bray (4).

The Wet Zone Forest Soils

The descriptions of the four soil profiles studied are furnished below, and their analytical data presented in Table I. As these soils have a number of features in common as regards their analytical composition they will be considered together.

KELANI VALLEY P. RESERVE

| | | |
|--------------------------|----|--|
| Location | .. | Madawala, to the north-east of Kelani Valley P. R. a short distance south of Kitulgala |
| Elevation and topography | | 700-800 ft. ; fairly flat |
| Vegetation | .. | <i>Beraliya</i> (<i>Doona cordifolia</i>), <i>Dun</i> (<i>Doona zeylanica</i>) <i>Katuboda</i> (<i>Cullenia excelsa</i>), <i>Kirihembiliya</i> (<i>Palaquium grande</i>). |

Profile

| | | | |
|-----|-------------------------|----|--|
| A 1 | 0-9 in. | .. | Surface root matting and leaf litter ; very loose light-brown sandy loam ; nutty ; gravel absent ; roots frequent |
| A 2 | 9 in.-2 ft. 2 in. | .. | Yellowish-brown gravelly loam ; granular with small gravel and occasional layer of concretions and fragments of decomposing rock ; roots fair. |
| C 1 | 2 ft. 2 in.-3 ft. 3 in. | | Reddish brown gravelly loam somewhat clayey in pockets, with prolific fragments of decomposing rock-forming concretions ; roots fair to few |
| C 2 | 3 ft. 3 in.-4 ft. | .. | Slightly heavier dark reddish loam ; roots scarce |

BAMBARABOTUWA P. RESERVE

| | | |
|--------------------------|----|---|
| Location | .. | Gerandiella in Bambarabotuwa Reserve |
| Elevation and topography | | 1800 ft. ; fairly steep |
| Vegetation | .. | <i>Katuboda</i> (<i>Cullenia excelsa</i>), <i>Tiniya</i> (<i>Doona congestifolia</i>), <i>Diyana</i> (<i>Mesua thwaitesii</i>), <i>Dun</i> (<i>Doona zeylanica</i>) |

Profile

| | | | |
|-----|--------------------|----|---|
| A 1 | 0-13 in. | .. | Greyish-black light loam with occasional decomposing rock fragments ; no ironstone gravel ; roots prolific |
| A 2 | 13 in.-2 ft. 8 in. | | Greyish-brown loam with gravel and decomposing rock fragments ; small lead shot gravel increasing with depth ; roots fair |
| C | 2 ft. 8 in.-4 ft. | .. | Brownish-red loam interspersed with decomposing rock fragments ; more clayey with depth ; roots scarce |

GILIMALE P. RESERVE

| | | |
|--------------------------|----|---|
| Location | .. | Gilimale P. R. in Ratgama block |
| Elevation and topography | | 800 ft. gradual slope |
| Vegetation | .. | <i>Katuboda</i> (<i>Cullenia excelsa</i>), <i>Kina</i> (<i>Calophyllum tomentosum</i>), <i>Yakahalu</i> (<i>Doona trapezifolia</i>) <i>Welipanne</i> (<i>Anisophyllea cinnamomoides</i>) |

Profile

| | | | |
|-----|--------------|----|--|
| A 1 | 0-10 in. | .. | Brown loam ; little gravel or quartz accumulation ; irregular clod ; roots good |
| A 2 | 10-18 in. | .. | Light-brown gravelly loam with high proportion of ironstone concentrations ; roots fair |
| C | 18 in.-4 ft. | .. | Yellowish-brown gravelly loam ; gravel characteristically shot-like in appearance ; occasional layer of concretions increasing with depth ; roots fair |

BAMBARABOTUWA P. RESERVE

| | | |
|--------------------------|----|---|
| Location | .. | Owala Mahabage in the western corner of the proposed reserve |
| Elevation and topography | | 600 ft. ; fairly steep slope |
| Vegetation | .. | <i>Arida</i> , (<i>Camptosperma zeylanicum</i>), <i>Welipanne</i> (<i>Anisophyllea cinnamomoides</i>) |

Profile

| | | | |
|---|--------------|----|--|
| A | 0-20 in. | .. | Dark-brown sandy loam, with thick root matting on surface ; cloddy ; no gravel ; occasional fragments of decomposing boulders ; root growth good |
| C | 20 in.-4 ft. | .. | Yellowish loam with occasional large ironstone concretions ; root growth good up to 24 in., poor below that. |

It will be noted that in no instance has a typical B horizon been observed in the soil profiles, unless, of course, the ferruginous gravelly horizons (A2 or C1) be considered so. The gravelly subsoil is a characteristic feature of these wet zone soil profiles (1). It governs, to a large degree, the drainage of and root development in these soils. Generally speaking the soils are well drained and carry good stands of forest, the dominant heights varying from 80 to 120 ft. The A 1 horizons of these soils vary in texture from light to medium loams. The C horizons are gravelly, but the soil matrix is generally more clayey in nature. All the soils have fairly high organic matter and nitrogen contents in the A 1 horizons, the former varying from 1.65 to 2.28 per cent. and the latter from 0.08 to 0.1 per cent. These constituents decrease with increasing soil depth and are very low in the C horizons. The carbon-nitrogen ratios vary from 10.3 to 16.8 in the A horizon. As would be expected, owing to the intense leaching, the soils are very poor in replaceable bases and strongly acid in reaction. The pH varies from 4.7 to 5.2, and the total base contents from 0.42 to 1.02 mgm. equivalent per cent. In the foregoing respects, these results agree very closely with what was found previously (1). An examination of the fundamental nature

of the soils was not possible owing to the insufficiency of soil material, but there is little doubt that all the samples are lateritic or laterite in type. They will make only poor agricultural soils and are not normally recommended for the cultivation of annual crops, *e.g.*, grains. They are suitable for the production of such permanent crops as rubber, tea, cinnamon, and to a lesser degree, coconut.

The Dry Zone Soils

The analytical characteristics of these soils are indicated in Table II. These and the profile characteristics of each soil will be considered in three separate groups.

DRY ZONE RED LATERITIC LOAM.

| | | |
|----------------------|----|---|
| Location | .. | Sigiriya |
| Elevation | .. | 800 ft. |
| Climate | .. | Rainfall : 76 in. ; temperature : 82°F. |
| Geological origin | .. | Bintenne gneiss |
| Mode of formation | .. | Residual |
| Topographic position | .. | Very slightly undulating |
| Drainage | .. | Good |
| Vegetation | .. | Low jungle |

Profile

| | | | |
|---|--------------|----|--|
| A | 0-10 in. | .. | Dark-brown loam ; small accumulation of " mull " layer on the surface ; compact but friable ; root growth very good |
| B | 10-42 in. | .. | Reddish gravelly loam ; hard compact gravel with plenty of ironstone nodules—angular in shape ; yellow markings ; root growth good |
| C | Below 42 in. | .. | Reddish heavy loam ; free from gravel ; compact ; minute particles of shining mica present ; root growth good |

The Sigiriya red lateritic soil is a gravelly loam of about a foot depth, well supplied with organic matter and nitrogen if allowance for the gravel content is made, overlying an even more gravelly loam. This latter may be considered a typical B horizon in which hydrated iron and aluminium oxides from the C horizon below have been deposited. The two lower soil horizons are low in nitrogen and organic matter. The total replaceable base contents of the soils are high (10-15.3 mgm. equiv.) in all three horizons, and the soils are accordingly neutral or slightly alkaline in reaction. The readily available phosphoric acid is low in all three soil layers. In nature, the soil is lateritic, with a silica/alumina ratio of 1.72. This soil profile bears a resemblance, as would be expected, to the Habarana reddish brown loam described in paper X of this series (5). The latter soil discloses, however, the marked influence of limestone on its composition. These dry zone soils are well suited for annual crops, such as chillies, cotton, and dry grains, but manuring, particularly with nitrogenous manures, will have to be resorted to if continued good yields are to be secured.

MANAMPITIYA SANDY LOAM

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Location | .. Galela, near Manampitiya |
| Elevation | .. About sea level |
| Climate | .. Rainfall probably about 70 in. ; temperature 82°F |
| Geological origin | .. Recent |
| Mode of formation | .. Sedimentary, alluvial |
| Topographic position | .. Flat |
| Drainage | .. Good |
| Vegetation | .. Jungle and tobacco |

Profile

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| A 1 0-5 in. | .. Brown sandy loam ; loose and friable |
| A 2 Below 5 in. | .. Light-brown sand ; single grain structure ; loose |

THE MINIPE SANDY LOAM

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Location | .. Minipe |
| Elevation | .. 370 ft. |
| Climate | .. Rainfall about 90 in. ; temperature 82°F |
| Geological origin | .. Recent |
| Mode of formation | .. Sedimentary, alluvial |
| Topographic position | .. Flat |
| Drainage | .. Good |
| Vegetation | .. Jungle |

Profile

| | |
|-----------|--|
| A 0-4 ft. | .. Brownish-yellow sandy loam ; compact but friable ; uniform ; granular to nut ; root growth good |
|-----------|--|

The Manampitiya soil sample was taken from land immediately adjoining the Mahaweli-ganga while the Minipe sample was taken at some distance inland. Both are deep sandy loams containing very high proportions of fine sand, *viz.*, 67 and 69 per cent. respectively. The Manampitiya top soil is of a darker colour and contains more organic matter, nitrogen, available phosphate, and replaceable bases than the Minipe sample. It is slightly alkaline, while the Minipe soil is somewhat acid in reaction. The base exchange capacities of the two soils are also very different, the Minipe soil being only about half as reactive as the Manampitiya soil in this respect. This may be explained partly by the higher organic matter and partly by the lower degree of maturity of the latter soil (7). Both soils are lateritic in nature. This is only to be expected considering their common origin. The Manampitiya soil is of higher fertility than the Minipe soil as it is enriched each year with deposits of silty material from the highlands during the monsoonic rains. The soil is mainly cultivated with cigar tobacco, but sugarcane and food crops could also be grown. The Minipe soil, because of its freedom from inundation will, in addition, be suitable for fruit. These soils are somewhat similar to the Kiliveddi sandy loams described in an earlier article (6).

KOTTUKACHCHIYA SAND

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Location | .. Kottukachchiya near Puttalam |
| Elevation | .. Sea level |
| Climate | .. Rainfall about 40 in. ; temperature 82°F |
| Geological origin | .. Pleistocene or recent |

| | | |
|----------------------|----|---------------------|
| Mode of formation | .. | Aeolian or alluvial |
| Topographic position | .. | Flat |
| Drainage | .. | Good |
| Vegetation | .. | High jungle |

Profile

| | | | |
|-----|----------|----|--|
| A 1 | 0-72 ft. | .. | Light sandy loam ; loose and friable ; horizon boundary indistinct |
|-----|----------|----|--|

This is a light-brown sand, containing as much as 62 per cent. of fine sand. The top 5 inches of soil are well-supplied with organic matter (3.9 per cent.) and nitrogen (0.14 per cent.). The sub-soil has much lower percentages of these constituents. In reaction the soil and sub-soil are mildly alkaline and acid respectively. Despite its sandy nature, the soil carries a stand of good jungle. This is a good illustration of the fact that high jungle is not necessarily associated with soils containing large reserves of mineral and organic plant food. What is more important for its development is soil depth, good drainage and other favourable physical conditions. This soil is suited for a variety of crops, *e.g.*, fruit, tobacco, and food crops, but irrigation will be required for some of them.

The Wet Zone Vegetation and Topographical Soil Types

The analytical data of the three soils included under this heading, *viz.*, the *bata* jungle, *deniya*, and *owita* soils, are presented in Table III.

BATA JUNGLE SANDY LOAM

| | | |
|----------------------|----|---|
| Location | .. | Experiment Station, Horana |
| Elevation | .. | 100 ft. |
| Climate | .. | Rainfall 96.8 in. ; temperature 80°F |
| Geological origin | .. | Charnokite |
| Mode of formation | .. | Residual |
| Topographic position | .. | Hilly—samples taken on hill slope |
| Drainage | .. | Good |
| Vegetation | .. | <i>Bata</i> (<i>Ochlandra stridula</i>), <i>Weraniya</i> (<i>Hedyotis fruticosa</i>), <i>Peratambala</i> (<i>Gaertnera koenigii</i>), <i>Godapara</i> (<i>Dillenia retusa</i>), <i>Goraka</i> (<i>Garcinia cambogia</i>), <i>Hedawaka</i> (<i>Chaetocarpus coriaceus</i>) |

Profile

| | | | |
|-----|--------------|----|--|
| A 1 | 0-7 in. | .. | Dark-brown loam ; loose and friable ; horizon boundary indistinct ; root growth good |
| A 2 | 7-13 in. | .. | Light-brown loam ; loose and friable ; small boulders of rock ; root growth good |
| C | Below 13 in. | .. | Yellow brown to yellow loam, above decomposing rock ; loose and friable ; root growth good |

This type of vegetation is a feature of the low-country wet zone, *e.g.*, the Ratnapura and Kalutara districts, and is the ecological succession to high forest or *mukalana* cut down for *chena* cultivation. It derives its name from the fact that *bata* bamboo (*Ochlandra stridula*) is the characteristic vegetation species. The soils of these areas are fairly deep, well-drained

sandy loams, which have been protected from erosion by the natural vegetation which is speedily established under the heavy rainfall and high temperature conditions prevalent. The A1 horizon has fair contents of organic matter and nitrogen; the lower horizons have lower percentages of these constituents. The soils are acid in reaction, the acidity increasing with depth. Their replaceable base contents are very low and they are also deficient in available phosphoric acid. The base exchange capacity of the surface soil is not high. This is only to be expected considering that, on the basis of the silica/alumina ratio of the clay fraction, it is of a laterite type. These soils are best suited for permanent crops such as rubber and cinnamon, but with cultivation, liming, and manuring, annual crops can be grown fairly successfully.

THE DENIYA SOILS

| | | |
|-------------------|----|--|
| Location | .. | Near Ambalangoda |
| Elevation | .. | Sea level |
| Climate | .. | Rainfall 73 in. ; temperature 80°F |
| Geological origin | .. | Recent |
| Mode of formation | .. | Alluvial ; cumulose |
| Topography | .. | Flat |
| Drainage | .. | Bad ; water at about one foot from surface |
| Vegetation | .. | Grass ; ferns, &c. |

Profile

| | | | |
|-----|-----------|----|---|
| A 1 | 0-10 in. | .. | Dark grey humic sand ; compact but loose and friable ; root growth poor ; water at one foot |
| A 2 | 10-15 in. | .. | White sand |
| | > 3 ft. | .. | White clay ; kaolinitic in nature |

The *deniya* soils are low-lying, ill-drained, dark-grey sands of shallow depth. The subsoil is bleached sand, which in turn overlies a kaolinitic clay. The soil is fairly well supplied with organic matter and nitrogen, but its replaceable base and phosphoric acid contents are low. As would be expected, the soil is very acid in reaction and of low base exchange capacity. On the basis of its silica/alumina ratio, it is lateritic. This is due, in some measure, to the leaching out of the iron and aluminium hydrated oxides by the organic acids formed under the water-logged conditions. The low iron oxide content of the clay fraction is striking. These soils with drainage and occasional liming will be suitable for vegetables, yams and other shallow-rooted crops.

THE OWITA HEAVY CLAY LOAM

| | | |
|-------------------|----|-------------------------------------|
| Location | .. | Nagoda, Galle district |
| Elevation | .. | Above sea level |
| Climate | .. | Rainfall 73 in. ; temperature 80°F |
| Geological origin | .. | Recent |
| Mode of formation | .. | Sedimentary, alluvial |
| Topography | .. | Flat |
| Drainage | .. | Good |
| Vegetation | .. | Sugarcane, rubber, coconut and yams |

Profile

- A 0-8 ft. .. Deep, uniform, yellow-brown heavy clay loam ;
 crumb structure ; loose and friable ; root
 growth good

The sample of *owita* soil examined was taken from an area bordering a river and was, in consequence, regularly subjected to floods. It can therefore be considered a typical *alluvial silt* in respect of its origin and an *owita* soil in respect of its topographical position. It is a deep, heavy clay loam, which, in spite of its very high clay content (54 per cent.), is very well drained. This is due to the nature of the clay. Its organic matter and nitrogen contents are high, but it is low in available bases and phosphoric acid. In reaction it is acid, but not markedly so. Its base exchange capacity, considering its clay content, is low. This, again, is accounted for by the nature of the clay fraction, which, on the basis of the silica/alumina ratio, is of the laterite type.

SUMMARY

In this paper the morphological and analytical characteristics of eleven soil profiles, consisting of four wet zone forest soils, four dry zone jungle soils, and three vegetation and topographical soil types of the wet zone, are described. The data obtained in regard to the wet zone forest soils confirm what has been previously found (1). Apart from textural differences, these soils differ from the dry zone jungle soils in being markedly acid in reaction and having much lower exchangeable base contents. A comparison of the *bata*, *deniya*, and *owita* soils indicate that while they vary markedly in texture and, to a lesser degree, in their contents of organic matter and nitrogen, they are, in common with all wet zone soils, acid in reaction, of low available base content and capacity and lateritic or laterite in nature. The available phosphoric acid contents of all the soils examined except the Manampitiya sandy loam are low.

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TABLE I.
Forest Soils

| | Madawala | | | Gerandiella | | | Gilimale | | | Owala Mahabage | | |
|--|------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|----------------|------------|---------------|
| | A1 | A2 | C1 | C2 | A1 | A2 | C1 | A1 | A2 | C1 | A | C |
| | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. |
| Gravel and stones | 3.1 | 26.6 | 23.6 | 15.6 | 12.7 | 37.4 | 8.8 | 9.6 | 66.3 | 60.9 | 3.2 | 22.6 |
| Coarse sand | 65.6 | 59.8 | 52.7 | 47.2 | 41.5 | 35.0 | 35.7 | 29.5 | 27.6 | 24.3 | 36.5 | 35.2 |
| Fine sand | 13.0 | 13.7 | 13.7 | 15.2 | 37.2 | 36.3 | 33.4 | 34.7 | 30.9 | 26.6 | 33.9 | 31.6 |
| Silt .. | 5.0 | 8.1 | 6.1 | 7.3 | 4.9 | 4.7 | 5.6 | 5.5 | 7.2 | 8.9 | 6.6 | 6.8 |
| Clay .. | 13.1 | 15.2 | 24.2 | 27.1 | 13.5 | 20.7 | 22.4 | 23.8 | 29.6 | 35.3 | 18.2 | 22.5 |
| Undetermined | 1.9 | 1.6 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 3.2 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 2.4 | 1.6 |
| Moisture | 1.4 | 1.6 | 2.1 | 1.9 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.4 | 3.3 | 3.1 | 3.6 | 2.4 | 2.3 |
| Texture index number | 12.4 | 14.3 | 22.3 | 25.0 | 12.5 | 19.6 | 20.6 | 22.4 | 27.9 | 33.5 | 17.1 | 21.1 |
| Soil type | Light loam | Gravelly light loam | Gravelly loam | Gravelly loam | Light loam | Gravelly loam | Loam | Loam | Gravelly loam | Gravelly loam | Light loam | Gravelly loam |
| Mechanical Analysis | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loss on ignition | 6.98 | 11.0 | 11.14 | 11.65 | 7.24 | 7.98 | 11.40 | 11.36 | 11.16 | 12.08 | 8.13 | 7.33 |
| Combined water | 4.70 | 9.54 | 9.88 | 10.53 | 5.59 | 7.35 | 10.91 | 8.88 | 9.80 | 11.30 | 6.41 | 6.20 |
| Organic matter | 2.28 | 1.46 | 1.26 | 1.12 | 1.65 | 0.63 | 0.49 | 2.48 | 1.36 | 0.78 | 1.72 | 1.13 |
| Carbon | 1.35 | 0.85 | 0.75 | 0.66 | 0.96 | 0.36 | 0.29 | 1.44 | 0.79 | 0.45 | 0.99 | 0.66 |
| Nitrogen | 0.080 | 0.048 | 0.032 | 0.031 | 0.093 | 0.047 | 0.038 | 0.099 | 0.082 | 0.068 | 0.089 | 0.074 |
| Carbon/nitrogen ratio | 16.8 | 17.6 | 23.5 | 21.1 | 10.3 | 7.7 | 7.5 | 14.5 | 9.6 | 6.7 | 11.2 | 8.9 |
| Total replaceable bases (m.e. per 100 gm.) | 0.71 | 0.62 | 0.67 | 0.70 | 0.82 | 0.61 | 0.46 | 1.02 | 0.78 | 0.48 | 0.81 | 0.78 |
| Replaceable Calcium | 0.56 | 0.49 | 0.52 | 0.54 | 0.71 | 0.56 | 0.39 | 0.86 | 0.67 | 0.39 | 0.72 | 0.69 |
| Reaction (pH) | 4.7 | 5.1 | 4.9 | 5.0 | 4.7 | 5.3 | 5.1 | 4.7 | 5.1 | 5.2 | 4.8 | 5.3 |
| Chemical Analysis | | | | | | | | | | | | |

TABLE II.
Mechanical Analysis

| | Sigiriya. | | | Minipe. | Manampitiya. | | Kottukachchiya. | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | A Per cent. | B Per cent. | C Per cent. | A Per cent. | A Per cent. | C Per cent. | A Per cent. | C Per cent. |
| Stones and gravel .. | 20.2 | 67.3 | 8.5 | Nil | Nil | Nil | 3.7 | 1.4 |
| Coarse sand .. | 23.0 | 30.0 | 24.2 | 4.5 | 3.6 | 7.1 | 24.7 | 27.2 |
| Fine sand .. | 31.1 | 19.3 | 26.5 | 66.5 | 69.3 | 75.4 | 61.6 | 59.9 |
| Silt .. | 3.1 | 3.9 | 15.5 | 5.4 | 7.5 | 4.8 | 1.9 | 2.2 |
| Clay .. | 24.2 | 41.1 | 28.9 | 17.2 | 15.1 | 10.3 | 9.7 | 9.2 |
| Loss by solution .. | 5.9 | 1.5 | 0.6 | 4.2 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| Moisture .. | 2.7 | 3.8 | 4.3 | 2.2 | 3.8 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.3 |
| Texture index number .. | 22.4 | 37.4 | 27.7 | 16.5 | 14.9 | 10.1 | 9.4 | 8.0 |
| Soil type .. | Gravelly loam | | | Gravelly loam | Heavy Sandy loam | Sandy loam | Sand | Sand |

Chemical Analysis

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Loss on ignition .. | 6.92 | 7.01 | 7.08 | 3.72 | 6.01 | 3.66 | 5.33 | 1.82 |
| Organic matter .. | 3.41 | 0.75 | 0.56 | 1.61 | 2.89 | 1.72 | 3.91 | 1.59 |
| Combined water .. | 3.51 | 6.25 | 6.52 | 2.11 | 3.12 | 1.94 | 1.42 | 0.23 |
| Carbon .. | 1.97 | 0.44 | 0.323 | 0.93 | 1.68 | 1.09 | 2.26 | 0.92 |
| Nitrogen .. | 0.159 | 0.048 | 0.031 | 0.087 | 0.108 | 0.060 | 0.141 | 0.067 |
| Carbon/nitrogen ratio .. | 12.4 | 9.1 | 10.5 | 10.8 | 15.6 | 18.1 | 16.1 | 13.7 |
| Reaction (pH) .. | 7.1 | 6.9 | 7.2 | 6.3 | 7.3 | 7.1 | 7.2 | 6.8 |
| Base exchange capacity (m.e. per 100 gm.) .. | — | — | — | 6.11 | 13.05 | — | — | — |
| Total replaceable bases (m.e. per 100 gm.) .. | 14.57 | 9.97 | 15.28 | 5.36 | 12.55 | 8.08 | — | — |
| Replaceable calcium (m.e. per 100 gm.) .. | 11.74 | 8.11 | 10.63 | 4.20 | 9.62 | 6.62 | — | — |
| Readily available phosphoric acid (mgm. per 100 gm.) .. | 0.74 | 1.11 | 1.46 | — | — | — | — | — |

Clay Analysis

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---|---|-----------|-----------|---|---|---|
| Loss on ignition .. | 20.33 | — | — | 21.35 | 29.29 | — | — | — |
| Silica (SiO ₂) .. | 42.14 | — | — | 43.76 | 41.68 | — | — | — |
| Sesquioxides (R ₂ O ₃) .. | 53.57 | — | — | 51.02 | 54.85 | — | — | — |
| Alumina (Al ₂ O ₃) .. | 41.62 | — | — | 39.06 | 38.43 | — | — | — |
| Iron oxides (Fe ₂ O ₃) .. | 11.95 | — | — | 11.94 | 16.42 | — | — | — |
| SiO ₂ /Al ₂ O ₃ (molecular) .. | 1.72 | — | — | 1.89 | 1.84 | — | — | — |
| SiO ₂ /Fe ₂ O ₃ (molecular) .. | 1.45 | — | — | 1.58 | 1.45 | — | — | — |
| Soil type .. | Lateritic | | | Lateritic | Lateritic | — | — | — |

TABLE III.
Mechanical Analysis

| | Bata Jungle Sandy Loam. | | | Deniya Sand. | | Owita Heavy Clay Loam. |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| | A1 Per cent. | A2 Per cent. | C1 Per cent. | A1 Per cent. | A2 Per cent. | A Per cent. |
| Stones and gravel .. | 3.1 | 8.4 | 19.8 | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Coarse sand .. | 52.7 | 53.3 | 52.8 | 58.6 | 60.7 | 1.8 |
| Fine sand .. | 25.2 | 23.2 | 23.1 | 30.5 | 30.8 | 12.5 |
| Silt .. | 2.9 | 4.2 | 4.1 | 2.5 | 2.6 | 20.7 |
| Clay .. | 16.1 | 17.1 | 18.2 | 6.4 | 4.9 | 53.9 |
| Loss by solution .. | 1.2 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 1.2 | 0.7 | 5.5 |
| Moisture .. | 1.9 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 5.6 |
| Texture index number .. | 15.1 | 16.0 | 16.8 | 6.2 | 5.0 | 50.5 |
| Soil type .. | Sandy loam | | | Sand | Sand | Heavy clay loam |

Chemical Analysis

| | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Loss on ignition .. | 5.15 | 4.61 | 4.43 | 3.39 | 0.90 | 11.68 |
| Organic matter .. | 2.37 | 1.19 | 0.94 | 1.90 | 0.87 | 2.73 |
| Combined water .. | 2.78 | 3.42 | 3.49 | 1.49 | 0.03 | 8.95 |
| Carbon .. | 1.37 | 0.694 | 0.544 | 1.10 | 0.502 | 1.58 |
| Nitrogen .. | 0.104 | 0.071 | 0.061 | 0.076 | 0.046 | 0.123 |
| Carbon/nitrogen ratio .. | 13.1 | 9.7 | 9.0 | 14.5 | 10.9 | 12.8 |
| Reaction (pH) .. | 6.2 | 5.7 | 4.9 | 5.6 | 5.1 | 6.3 |
| Base exchange capacity (m.e. per 100 gm.) .. | 5.57 | — | — | 4.51 | — | 7.47 |
| Total replaceable bases (m.e. per 100 gm.) .. | 0.84 | 0.68 | 0.55 | 0.91 | 0.81 | 1.03 |
| Replaceable calcium (m.e. per 100 gm.) .. | 0.76 | 0.49 | 0.46 | 0.81 | 0.53 | 0.91 |
| Readily available phosphoric acid (mgm. per 100 gm.) .. | 1.06 | 1.03 | 0.94 | 1.08 | 0.83 | 1.01 |

Clay Analysis

| | | | | | | |
|---|----------|---|---|-----------|---|----------|
| Loss on ignition .. | 42.07 | — | — | 53.15 | — | 24.36 |
| Silica (SiO ₂) .. | 33.02 | — | — | 46.32 | — | 38.14 |
| Sesquioxides (R ₂ O ₃) .. | 66.55 | — | — | 53.20 | — | 61.35 |
| Alumina (Al ₂ O ₃) .. | 47.85 | — | — | 47.89 | — | 43.99 |
| Iron oxides (Fe ₂ O ₃) .. | 18.70 | — | — | 5.31 | — | 17.36 |
| SiO ₂ /Al ₂ O ₃ (molecular) .. | 0.84 | — | — | 1.47 | — | 1.05 |
| SiO ₂ /Fe ₂ O ₃ (molecular) .. | 0.71 | — | — | 1.35 | — | 0.89 |
| Soil type .. | Laterite | | | Lateritic | — | Laterite |