

YEAR 9 GEO ABIOTIC COMPARISON SHEET

SITE 1	SOIL
Location:  Time & date:  Description:  Vegetation structure classification:  Temp:  Humidity:  Wind speed:  Aspect:  Soil temperature:  Soil pH:	Profile drawing (labelled) & depth:
	Soil texture classification::

What abiotic factors at this location support or encourage the ecosystem type found?

YEAR 9 GEO ABIOTIC COMPARISON SHEET

SITE 2	SOIL
<p>Location:</p> <p>Time &amp; date:</p> <p>Description:</p> <p>Vegetation structure classification:</p> <p>Temp:</p> <p>Humidity:</p> <p>Wind speed:</p> <p>Aspect:</p> <p>Soil temperature:</p> <p>Soil pH:</p>	<p>Profile drawing (labelled) &amp; depth:</p>
	<p>Soil texture classification::</p>

What abiotic factors at this location support or encourage the ecosystem type found?

YEAR 9 GEO ABIOTIC COMPARISON SHEET

SITE 3	SOIL
Location:  Time & date:  Description:  Vegetation structure classification:  Temp:  Humidity:  Wind speed:  Aspect:  Soil temperature:  Soil pH:	Profile drawing (labelled) & depth:
	Soil texture classification::

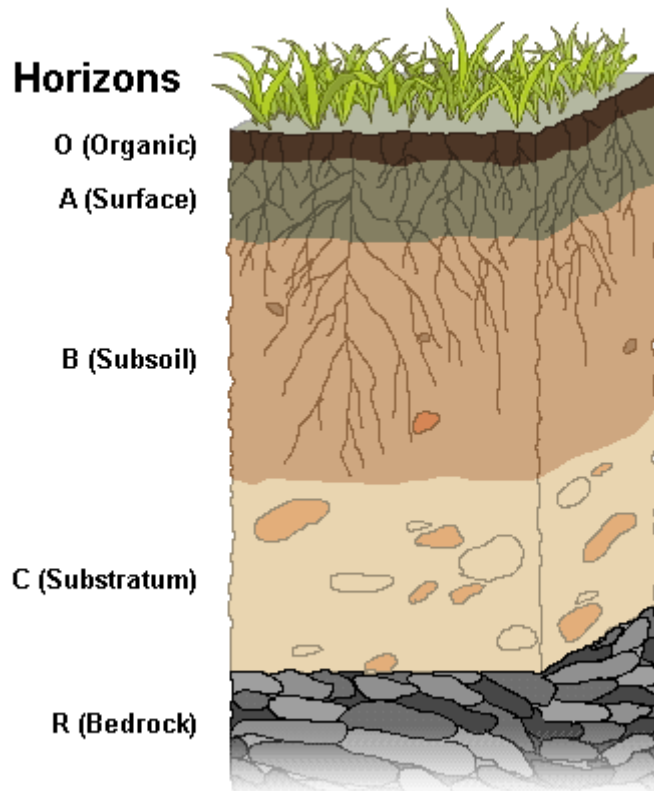
What abiotic factors at this location support or encourage the ecosystem type found?

Table 1: Structural Classification of Vegetation

<b>Projective Foliage Cover of the Tallest Stratum</b>					
<b>Life form of tallest stratum</b>	70-100%	50-70%	30-50%	10-30%	<10%
Trees >30m	Tall Closed Forest	Tall Forest	Tall Open Forest	Tall Woodland	(N/A)
Trees 10-30m	Closed Forest	Forest	Open Forest	Woodland	Open Woodland
Trees <10m	Low Closed Forest	Low Forest	Low Open Forest	Low Woodland	Low Open Woodland
Shrubs >2m	Closed Scrub	Scrub	Open Scrub	Tall Shrubland	Tall Open Shrubland
Shrubs (S) 0.25-2m	Closed Heathland	Heathland	Open Heathland	Shrubland	Open Shrubland
Shrubs (NS) 0.25-2m	(N/A)	(N/A)	Low Shrubland	Low Shrubland	Low Open Shrubland
Shrubs (S) <0.25m	(N/A)	(N/A)	(N/A)	Dwarf Open Heathland	Dwarf Open Heathland
Shrubs (NS) <0.25m	(N/A)	(N/A)	(N/A)	Dwarf Shrubland	Dwarf Open Shrubland
Hummock grasses	(N/A)	(N/A)	(N/A)	Hummock Grassland	Open Hummock Grassland
Tussock grasses	Closed Grassland	Grassland	Grassland	Open Grassland	Very Open Grassland
Sedges	Closed Sedgeland	Sedgeland	Sedgeland	Open Sedgeland	Very Open Sedgeland
Herbs (forbs)	Closed Herbland	Herbland	Herbland	Open Herbland	Very Open Herbland
Ferns	Closed Fernland	Fernland	Fernland	(N/A)	(N/A)

Based on Specht, cited in Recher, H., Lunney, D. & Dunn, I., 1986, *A Natural Legacy: Ecology in Australia*, p. 106

(S)—sclerophyllous (NS)—non-sclerophyllous (N/A)—not applicable (doesn't occur naturally)



O) **Organic matter**: Surficial organic deposit with litter layer of plant residues in relatively non-decomposed form.

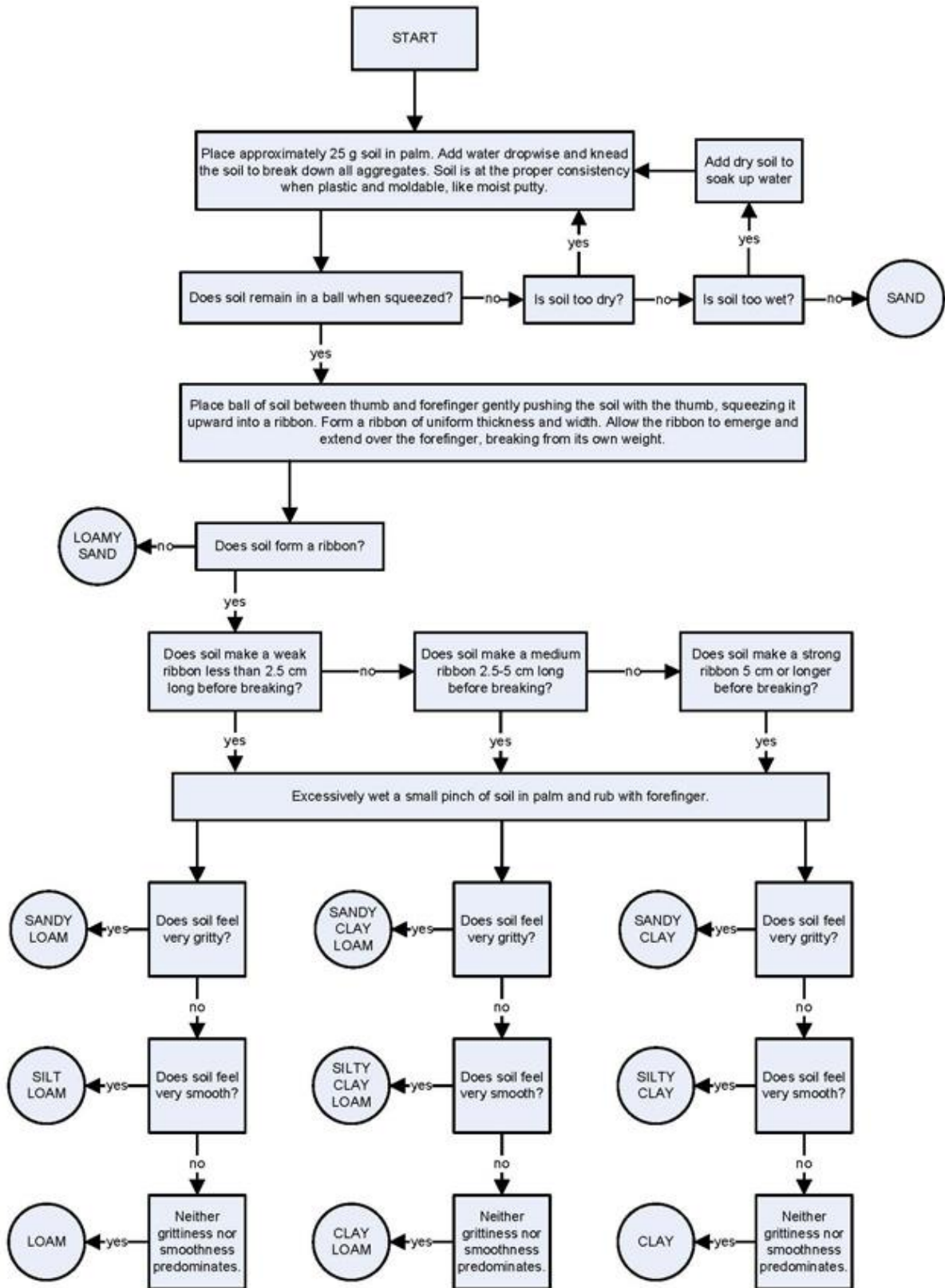
A) **Surface soil**: Organics mixed with mineral matter. This layer of mineral soil contains the most organic matter accumulation and **soil life**. This layer eluviates (is depleted of) **iron, clay, aluminium**, organic compounds, and other soluble constituents. When **eluviation** is pronounced, a lighter colored "E" subsurface soil horizon is apparent at the base of the "A" horizon. A-horizons may also be the result of a combination of soil **bioturbation** and surface processes that winnow fine particles from biologically mounded **topsoil**. In this case, the A-horizon is regarded as a "biomantle".

B) **Subsoil**: Subsurface layer reflecting chemical or physical alteration of parent material. This layer accumulates iron, clay, aluminium and organic compounds, a process referred to as **illuviation**.

C) **Parent rock**, also known as substratum: The parent material in sedimentary deposits. Layer of large unbroken rocks. This layer may accumulate the more soluble compounds .

R) **Bedrock**: The parent material in bedrock landscapes. This layer denotes the layer of partially weathered bedrock at the base of the soil profile. Unlike the above layers, R horizons largely comprise continuous masses of hard rock that cannot be excavated by hand. Soils formed *in situ* will exhibit strong similarities to this bedrock layer. These areas of bedrock are under 50 feet of the other profiles.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Soil\\_horizon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Soil_horizon)



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