Texture-by-Feel Analysis of Soil

Start

- Place approximately 25 g soil in palm. Add water dropwise and knead the soil to break down all aggregates. Soil is at proper consistency when plastic and moldable, like moist putty.

Yeast

- Add dry soil to soak up water

No

- Is soil too dry?

Yeast

- Is soil too wet?

No

- Does soil remain in a ball when squeezed?

Yeast

- Place ball of soil between thumb and forefinger, gently pushing the soil with the thumb, squeezing it upward into a ribbon. Form a ribbon of uniform thickness and width. Allow the ribbon to emerge and extend over the forefinger, breaking from its own weight.

Yeast

- Does soil form ribbon?

Yeast

- Does soil make a weak ribbon less than 2.5 cm long before breaking?

Yeast

- Does soil make a medium ribbon 2.5-5 cm long before breaking?

Yeast

- Does soil make a strong ribbon 5 cm long or longer before breaking?

Loamy Sand

- Does soil feel very gritty?

Sandy Loam

- Does soil feel very smooth?

Silt Loam

- Neither grittiness nor smoothness predominates.

Clay

- Does soil feel very gritty?

Sandy Clay

- Does soil feel very smooth?

Silty Clay

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Loam

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