

# Appendix 2. Soil description sheets

**1. Farm and paddock information**

Farmer:	Paddock history:
Property:	
Paddock:	
Date:	
Inspected by:	
Reason for inspection:	

Sketch a map of site, extra notes etc.

**2. Initial observations**      (i) record depth at which layers/horizons seem to change  
(ii) record some features of any observable horizons in table

Observable horizon depth	Moisture	Colour	Texture	Bleaching	Lime or Gypsum	Cementing	Dispersion (0-16)

Indicate where horizon boundaries occur (if any), and any additional information on profile diagram

**Soil Group** (see introduction chapters for description of soil groups)

Sandhill soil     

Red-brown earth     

Transitional red-brown earth     

Alluvial soil     

Self-mulching clay

**3. Soil surface**

**Structural features of the soil surface** (for each feature, enter notes or simply tick)

Hard-set .....

Crusted .....

Pugged (damage from stock) .....

Cracked .....

Self-mulched .....

Cloddy .....

Friable .....

Cover % (crop, stubble, weeds):

Slaking (0 –4):

Dispersion (0–16):

**4. Soil profile: structural form and rating.** Structural form and rating (sodic soils will generally score <1)

Depth (cm) (%)	Aggregate size (cm)	Ease of fracture	New roots	Aggregate shape	Fracture faces	Peds within aggregates	Porosity (0–2)	Colour of smallest aggregates	Structure score (0–2)

Presence of hard pan?

**5. Conclusions**

What are the main structural features of this soil (if any) that may be restricting maximum plant growth?