

Ocilla Series

The Ocilla series consists of somewhat poorly drained, nearly level and gently sloping soils on uplands and stream terraces. These soils formed in Coastal Plain and alluvial sediment. A seasonal high water table is at a depth of about 2 ½ feet. Gray mottles are within the zone affected by the high water table.

In typical profile, the surface layer is loamy fine sand about 22 inches thick. The surface layer dark gray in the upper part and is pale brown in the lower part. The subsoil is about 47 inches thick and is friable sandy clay loam. The upper part of the subsoil is yellow and is mottled with brownish yellow. The lower part is brownish yellow and is mottled with gray. Below the subsoil and extending to a depth of about 75 inches is gray sandy clay loam mottled with light yellowish brown.

Natural fertility, the content of organic matter, and available water capacity are all low. Permeability is moderate, and shrink-swell potential is low. In areas that have not received lime, reaction is strongly acid or very strongly acid.

The Ocilla soils in Pitt County are moderately important for farming. The seasonal high water table is the major limitation to their use. Most of the acreage is cultivated or in pasture, and the rest is in forest or in housing developments or other nonfarm uses. In areas that are farmed, crops respond well to applications of fertilizer and lime.

Representative profile of Ocilla loamy fine sand, 0 to 4 percent slopes, one-third mile south of Hanrahan, 660 feet west of Seaboard Coastline Railroad, 20 feet west of a field path, and 42 feet southwest of telephone pole No. 602:

- Ap-0 to 8 inches, dark-gray (10YR 4/1) loamy fine sand; weak fine, granular structure; very friable; many small roots; medium acid; abrupt, smooth boundary.
- A2-8 to 22 inches, pale brown (10YR 6/3) loamy fine sand; weak, fine, granular structure; very friable; few small and medium roots; few medium root channels filled with material from the Ap horizon; medium acid; gradual, wavy boundary.
- B1-22 to 28 inches, yellow (10YR 7/6) sandy clay loam; few, fine, distinct, brownish-yellow mottles; weak, medium subangular blocky structure; friable, slightly sticky and slightly plastic; few medium roots and root channels; few, thin, patchy clay films on faces of peds; very strongly acid; gradual, wavy boundary.
- B2t-28 to 69 inches, brownish-yellow (10YR 6/6) sandy clay loam; common, medium, distinct, gray (10YR 6/1) mottles; weak, medium, subangular blocky structure; friable, slightly sticky and slightly plastic; few medium root channels in upper half of horizon; few, thin, patchy clay films on faces of peds; very strongly acid; gradual, wavy boundary.
- Cg – 69 to 75 inches, gray (10YR 6/1) sandy clay loam; few coarse lenses of loamy sand and sand; few, medium, distinct, light yellowish-brown (10YR 6/4) mottles; massive; friable, slightly sticky and slightly plastic; very strongly acid.

Thickness of the solum is 60 inches or more. Thickness of the A horizon is 20 to 40 inches. The Ap or A1 horizon is gray, dark gray, or dark grayish brown, and the A2 horizon is pale brown to light yellow brown. The B horizon is yellow to brownish yellow sandy clay loam to sandy loam. Gray mottles are within 30 inches from the surface. Thickness of the B horizon ranges from 20 to more than 40 inches. The C horizon has a grayish color. Texture of the C horizon ranges from loamy sand to sandy clay but is dominantly sandy clay loam.

Ocilla loamy fine sand, 0 to 4 percent slopes (Ocb) – This is a somewhat poorly drained soil on broad flats and smooth side slopes in the uplands and on stream terraces. It occurs in areas of irregular shape that are less than 4 acres to as much as 20 acres in size. The surface layer is loamy fine sand about 22 inches thick. It is dark gray in the upper part and is pale brown in the lower part. The subsoil is about 47 inches thick and is friable sandy clay loam. The upper part of the subsoil is yellow and is mottled with brownish yellow. The lower part is brownish yellow and is mottled with gray.

Included with this soil in mapping were small areas of soils that have a similar profile but that have a surface layer of loamy sand. Also included were small areas of moderately well drained and somewhat poorly drained soils in draws and depressions. Other inclusions consist of areas of Lynchburg and Rains soils.

Infiltration is rapid. Runoff is slow.

This soil is fairly easy to keep in good tilth and can be satisfactorily worked throughout a wide range of moisture content. Most of the acreage is cultivated or in pasture, and the rest is chiefly in forest and in housing developments or other nonfarm uses. Wetness is a severe limitation, but this soil is suited to most of the locally grown crops. Artificial drainage is needed for most crops. Capability unit IIIw-1; woodland suitability group 3w2.