

**Table 4.4-1  
SOIL CAPACITY GROUPING**

Capability Class	Designation	Capability Subclass	Designation	Capability Unit	Designation
I	Few limitations to restrict agricultural use.	e	Erosion as the primary risk or limitation.	0.	Poor root penetration due to sand and gravel substratum.
II	Moderate limitations that reduce plant choice and/or require conservation measures.	w	High water content as the primary risk or limitation.	1.	Erosion hazard.
III	Severe limitations that reduce plant choice and/or require conservation measures.	s	Shallow, droughty or stony soil conditions as the primary risk or limitation.	2.	Poor drainage or flooding.
IV	Very severe limitations that reduce plant choice and/or require special management.	c	Excessively cold or dry climate as the primary risk or limitation.	3.	Slow permeability of the subsoil or substratum.
V	Soils with limitations which limit their use largely to pasture, range, woodland, or wildlife habitat.			4.	Coarse texture or excessive gravel.
VI	Soils with severe limitations that are generally unsuitable for cultivation.			5.	Fine or very fine surface texture.
VII	Soils with very severe limitations which are largely unsuitable for cultivation.			6.	Excessive salt or alkali.
VIII	Soils and land forms unsuitable for commercial plants.			7.	Excessive cobbles, stones or rocks.
				8.	Impervious bedrock or hardpan within rooting depth.
				9.	Low fertility or toxicity.

Source: Soil Conservation Service, 1980