



Status of Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition: Caribbean

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AND AGRICULTURE





Recent marine
and
freshwater
sediments

Low-lying
terrain with
flat
topography
High activity
fine textured
clay soils

Pre-
Quaternary
marine and
freshwater
sediments

Best soils in
the Region for
agriculture
Occur on flat
terrain
Loam to clay
texture

Older
freshwater
sediments

Occur on flat
terrain with
high rainfall
High degree of
profile
development
Sand/ silt
surface, clay
subsoil

Calcareous
materials: Soft

Occur on
gently to
steeply sloping
terrain
High activity
fine textured
clay soils

Calcareous
materials:
Indurated

Shallow profile
Low chemical
activity
Low water and
nutrient
retention

Volcanic
parent
materials

Structurally
stable
Increased
content of
organic matter
Increased
resilience to
erosion
Leached and
nutrient poor

Residual soils

Occurs mainly
on steep
sloping terrain
Varying
fertility linked
to acid or
basic parent
material
Shallow profile



Soil Fertility Status



Low Organic Matter



Low Macronutrients



Wide pH Range



Shallow Profile



Poor Physical Condition



Adequate 2° and Micro-nutrients



Limited Soil Data and Information



Limited Knowledge and Capacity



THANK YOU

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