



# **Devon & Cornwall Soils Alliance: Understanding Soils**

**Richard Smith  
Environment Agency**



The European Agricultural Fund  
for Rural Development: Europe  
investing in rural areas





**Soils and runoff**



Incidents







- Law ?
- Cause ?
- Solution ?





**BROWN SOILS –**  
naturally well drained



**GLEYSOILS –**  
naturally poorly drained



A photograph showing two red tractors working in a field. The tractor in the foreground is pulling a red moldboard plow, turning over dark, moist soil. The tractor in the background is pulling a different implement, possibly a harrow or a second plow. The field is a mix of dark brown soil and lighter brown, straw-covered areas. The sky is overcast and grey. In the bottom left corner, there is a semi-transparent grey box containing the text "Soil moisture".

Soil moisture





**Timeliness**



A green John Deere tractor with large yellow wheels is pulling a red Everstad planter through a field of harvested corn. The planter has a large red hopper and various mechanical components. The field is covered in brown soil and corn stalks. The sky is overcast with grey clouds.

**Soil bearing strength**





Perched water?





Sandy lands





Clay lands





**Moorland**





# Case study





Soil survey



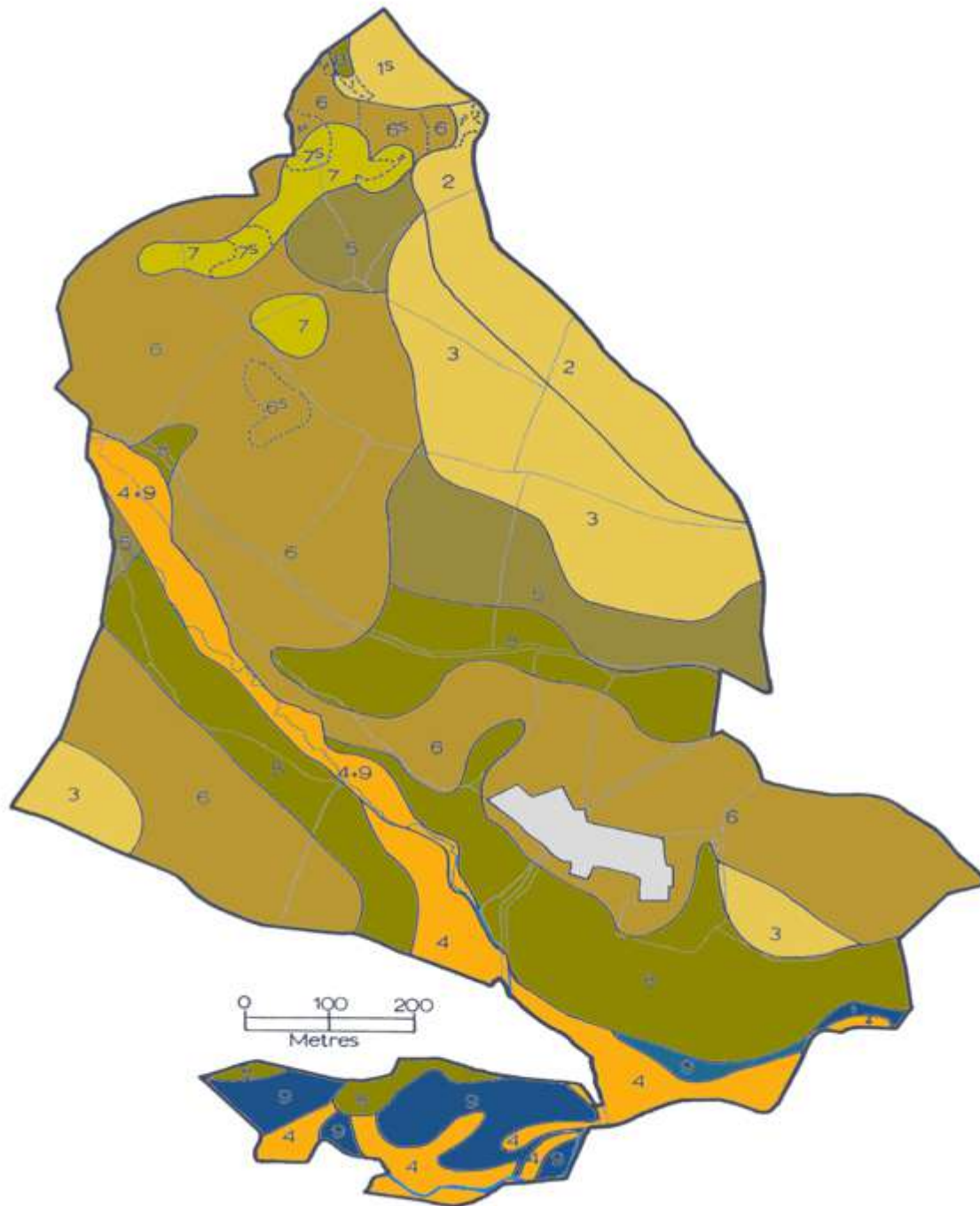
## Soil Series

### Freely draining

1. Berstead
2. Atrim
3. East Keswick
4. Teme

### Poorly draining

5. Hopsford
6. Whimple
7. Worcester
8. Brockhurst
9. Fladbury











Subsoiling





Grassland





**Field  
margin**

**Late  
drilled**

**Early  
drilled**

**Hedge  
soil**