



Studying soil samples on South Penquite Farm

1. Start in the north of the farm in Stepfield. Be careful as this is near the river and is quite steep. Gradually work southwards through Crooked Park, Broad Lane, Harper's Down, Long Park, Bounda Park and Town Meadow. You will be doing a transect across the farm.
2. Stop every 50 metres and record information about the soils on the following table:



Collect soil samples at each site. Scoop up some soil- a level trowelful is plenty- and put in a freezer bag. Seal the bag to prevent loss of moisture. Write identification details on the outside in marker pen.

Site no.	Slope angle and shape	Vegetation and land use	Depth of soil (measured with auger)	Colour of soil & how it changes with depth	Texture of soil Is it stony, sandy or clay?	Organic matter How much humus is in the soil?
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						



Q1. How does the slope angle affect the soil depth?
Are the soils deeper on the gentler slopes?



Q2. Is the soil deeper where the plant cover is more dense?



Q3. How have people affected the depth of the soil?



Q4. Does the soil change in colour and texture from the surface downwards?