## Characteristics and Classification of Soils of Northern Telangana Zone of Andhra Pradesh

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**Abstract::** Twelve soils in Northern Telangana of Andhra Pradesh, were studied for their genesis and classification. The soils are very low to low in organic carbon; low in available N and  $P_2O_5$ ; medium to high in available  $K_2O$ , and neutral to slightly alkaline in reaction. The available  $Z_1$ ,  $Z_2$ ,  $Z_3$ ,  $Z_4$ ,  $Z_4$ ,  $Z_4$ ,  $Z_5$ ,  $Z_4$ ,  $Z_4$ ,  $Z_4$ ,  $Z_4$ ,  $Z_5$ ,  $Z_4$ ,  $Z_5$ ,

Northern Telangana Zone comprising Karimnagar, Adilabad, Nizamabad and major parts of Warangal, Khammam and Medak districts spread over 63,350 sq. km (23%) area of Andhra Pradesh. It has great potentialities and hence it is imperative to understand their physicochemical properties and taxonomic classification.

## **MATERIAL AND METHODS**

Geographic Settings: The Northern Telangana semiarid zone lies between 17° 42' and 19° 84' N Lat., and 77° 38' and 81° 16' E Long. at 160 to

620 m above MSL. It has granite-gneiss parent material and is drained by river Godavari, Manjira, Paler and Maner. The soil temperature regime is hyperthermic and moisture regime is Udic. The annual rainfall is 900 to 1150 mm, 86 per cent is received during June to September. The depth of ground water ranges from 5 to 15 m.

Twelve typical pedons were studied for soil site characteristics (Table 1) and morphology (Table 2). The physicochemical properties (Table 3)

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and available nutrients (Table 4) were estimated by standard procedures (Jackson 1967). Soils were classified (Table 5) according to Soil Taxonomy (Soil Survey Staff 1975).

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Morphology of Pedons: Jagtias clay loam (P<sub>1</sub>) is very dark brown in colour, shallow, granular to subangular blocky structure, moderately well drained with good permeability, thickness of solum ranges from 11 to 19 cm.

Adilabad clay (P<sub>2</sub>) is a very deep, very dark gray, imperfectly drained, angular blocky structure throughout the profile.

Mudhol clay (P<sub>3</sub>) is very dark gray brown, deep, angular blocky structure with slicken sides.

Mudhol sandy loam (P4) is dark brown in colour, well drained, clay loam with granular to angular blocky structure.

Aswaraopet sandy loam (P<sub>5</sub>) is a deep red, well drained, with granular to sub angular blocky structure.

Madhira clay loam (P<sub>6</sub>) is deep, imperfectly drained, clay texture upto three layers, hard pan causing im-

peded drainage, 4th horizon is sandy, granular to angular blocky structure in upper horizon and granular in the lower horizons.

Warangal sandy loam (P7) is dark brown in colour, shallow and well drained with good permeability, subangular blocky structure, thickness of the solum ranges from 9 to 11 cm.

Karimnagar sandy loam (P8) is yellowish red to reddish brown in colour, shallow with good drainage and permeability, granular to subangular blocky structure, thickness of the solum varies from 18 to 30cm Malyal sandy loam (P9) is yellowish red to dark red in colour, good drainage and permeability, granular structure, thickness of solum varies from 14 to 43 cm.

Rudrur clay loam (P<sub>10</sub>) is a deep, dark gray with impeded drainage, angular blocky structure throughout the profile, thickness of solum varies from 10-120 cm.

Rudrur sandy clay loam (P<sub>11</sub>) is reddish brown in colour with good drainage, granular to subangular blocky structure, thickness of the solum ranges from 10 to 55 cm.

Zaheerabad sandy clay loam (P<sub>12</sub>)

TABLE 1. General information of studied pedons

| Pedon           | Soil name                     | Phsiographic position with (MSL m)   | Location   |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| -               |                               |                                      |  |
| P <sub>1</sub>  | Jagtial<br>clay loam          | Upper<br>pediplain<br>(259)          | RARS, Jagtial, Dist. Karimnagar. About 18° 48' N latitude and 78° 56' E longitude            |
| P <sub>2</sub>  | Adilabad<br>clay              | Plain land<br>(244)                  | A.R.S., Adilabad, Dist. Adilabad About 19° 20' N latitude and 78° 80' E longitude.           |
| P <sub>3</sub>  | Mudhol<br>clay loam           | Upper pediplain                      | A.R.S., Mudhol, Dist. Adilabad<br>About 18° 80' latitude                                     |
| P <sub>4</sub>  | Mudhol<br>sandy loam          | (355)<br>Upper<br>pediplain<br>(355) | and 77° 55' E longitude.<br>do-  |
| P <sub>5</sub>  | Aswaraopet sandy loam         | Upper pediplain (168)                | H.R.S., Aswaraopet, Dist. Khamman<br>About 17° 14' N latitude<br>and 81° 8' E longitude      |
| .P <sub>6</sub> | Madhira<br>clay loam          | Plain land<br>(189)                  | A.R.S., Madhira, Dist. Khammam<br>About 16° 55' N latitude and 80° 22' E longitude           |
| <b>P</b> 7      | Warangal<br>sandy loam        | Upper<br>pediplain<br>(269)          | A.R.S., Warangal, Dist. Warangal<br>About 17° 58' N latitude and 79° 28' E longitude.        |
| P <sub>8</sub>  | Karimnagar<br>sandy loam      | Upper<br>pediplain<br>(259)          | A,R.S., Karimnagar, Dist. Karimnagar<br>About 18° 30' N latitude<br>and 79° 15' E longitude. |
| <b>P</b> 9      | Malyal<br>sandy loam          | Upper<br>pediplain<br>(269)          | J.V.R.H.R.S., Malyal, Dist. Warangal<br>About 17° N latitude and 80° E longitude.            |
| P <sub>10</sub> | Rudrur<br>clay loam           | Lower<br>pediplain<br>(404)          | RS & RRS, Rudrur, Dist. Nizamabad. About 18° 38' N latitude and 77° 55' E longitude.         |
| P <sub>11</sub> | Rudrur<br>sandy clay loam     | Lower<br>pediplain<br>(404)          | do   |
| P <sub>12</sub> | Zaheerabad<br>sandy clay loam | Upper                                | Zaheerabad, Dist. Medak<br>About 15° N latitude and 77° E longitude.                         |
|                 |                               |                                      |  |

TABLE 2. Morphological characteristics of soils of Telangana

|            | Depth   | Colour                                |                  | Struc-    |      | sistenc | •        | Cracks-       | Pores        | Roots           | Boun |
|------------|---------|---------------------------------------|------------------|-----------|------|---------|----------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|------|
| zon        | (cm)    | (moist)                               | ture             | ture      |      | Moist   |          | width<br>(cm) |              |                 | dary |
| (1)        | (2)     | (3)                                   | ( <del>4</del> ) | (5)       | (6)  | (7)     | (8)      | (9)           | (10)         | (11)            | (12) |
| Pedon      | 1       |                                       |                  |           |      |         |          |               |              |                 |      |
| Ap         | 0-11    | Very dark<br>brown<br>(10YR 2/2)      | Scl              | f1 gr-sbk | dl   | mſr     | WS<br>WP | & 1           | few,<br>fine | few,<br>fine    | CS   |
| <b>B</b> 1 | 11-30   | Very dark<br>brown<br>(10YR 2/2)      | C1               | f2 abk    | d1   | mrf     | WS<br>WP | &             | few,<br>fine | few,<br>fine    | CW   |
| C          | 30 +    | Very dark<br>gray brown<br>(10YR 2/2) | C1               | f2 abk    | dh   | mfr     | WS<br>WP | &             | few,<br>fine | ·               | CS   |
| Pedon      | 2       |                                       |                  |           |      |         |          |               |              |                 |      |
| Ap         | 0-14    | Very dark<br>gray<br>(10YR 3/1)       | C                | m3 abk    | dh   | mfr     | WS<br>WP | & 1           | few,<br>fine | Plenty<br>thick | CS   |
| A1         | 14-47   | Very dark<br>gray brown<br>(10YR 3/2) | С                | m3 abk    | dh . | mfr     | WV<br>WV | S & 2-3<br>P  | few,<br>fine | few,<br>fine    | CS   |
| A11        | 47-73   | Very dark<br>gray<br>(10YR 3/2)       | С                | m3 abk    | dh   | mfr     | WV<br>WV | S & 2-3<br>P  | few,<br>fine |                 | CS   |
| A12        | 73-102  | Very dark<br>gray<br>(10YR 3/1)       | С                | m3 abk    | dh   | mfr     | WV<br>WV | S & 2<br>P    | few,<br>fine |                 | CS   |
| A13        | 102-132 | Very dark<br>gray<br>(10YR 3/1)       | С                | m3 abk    | dh   | mfr     | WV<br>WV | S & 0.2<br>P  | few,<br>fine |                 | CS   |
| A14        | 132-153 | Dark brown (10YR 3/3)                 | C                | m2 abk    | dh   | mfr     | WV<br>WV | S & 0.2<br>P  | few,<br>fine |                 | CS   |
| <b>C</b> . | 153+    | Dark brown<br>(10YR 3/3)              | С                | m2 abk    | dh   | mfr     | WS<br>WP | & 0.2         | few,<br>fine |                 | CS   |
| Pedor      | 13      |                                       |                  |           |      |         |          |               |              |                 |      |
| Ap         | 0-19    | Very dark<br>gray brown<br>(10YR 3/2) | C                | m2 abk    | dh   | mſr     | WV<br>WV | S & 1-2<br>P  | few,<br>fine | plenty<br>fine  | CS   |

| (1)        | (2)    | (3)                                   | (4)    | (5)       | (6) | (7)       | (8) (9)          | (10)           | (11)            | (12) |
|------------|--------|---------------------------------------|--------|-----------|-----|-----------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|------|
| A1         | 19-51  | Very dark<br>gray brown<br>(10YR 3/2) | C      | m3 abk    | dh  | mfr       | WVS & 1<br>WVP   | few,<br>fine   |                 | CS   |
| A2 .       | 51-105 | Very dark<br>gray brown<br>(10YR 3/2) | C      | m3 abk    | dvh | mfr       | WVS & 1<br>WVP   | few,<br>fine   |                 | CW   |
| C          | 105+   | Calcareous r                          | nurrur | n         | -   | -         |                  | -              | -               | -    |
| Pedor      | ı 4    |                                       |        |           | ,   |           |                  |                |                 |      |
| Ap         | 0-22   | Dark brown<br>(7.5YR 4/2)             | Cl     | m2 gr-abk | dl  | mfr<br>WP | WS & 0.5         | few,<br>fine   | plenty<br>fine  | CW   |
| B1         | 22-133 | Reddish<br>brown<br>(5YR 4/4)         | sl     | f1        | dl  | mfr       | WNS &<br>WNP     | plenty<br>fine | -               | CW   |
| C          | 113+   | Calcareous r                          | nurrui | n         | -   | -         |                  | -              | =               | -    |
| Pedor      | n 5    |                                       |        |           |     |           |                  |                |                 |      |
| Ap         | 0-15   | Dark red (2.5YR 3/6)                  | sl     | m2 gr     | dl  | mvfr      | WNS &<br>WNP     | few, fine      | plenty,<br>fine | CW   |
| B1 .       | 15-40  | Dark red<br>(2.5YR 3/6)               | scl    | m2 gr-abk | dl  | mfm       | WSS &<br>WSP     | few,<br>fine   | '               | ·CW  |
| B2         | 40-95  | Red<br>(2.5YR 4/8)                    | scl    | m2 gr-sbk | ds  | mvfm      | WS &<br>WP       | few,<br>finc   |                 | CW   |
| Pedor      | 1 6    |                                       |        |           |     |           |                  |                |                 |      |
| Ap         | 0-26   | Very dark<br>gray brown<br>(10YR 3/2) | C .    | m2 gr-abk | dh  | mfr       | WSS & 1<br>WSP   | few,<br>fine   | plenty,<br>fine | CS   |
| B1         | 26-89  | Very dark<br>gray brown<br>(10YR 3/2) | C      | m3 abk    | dh  | mfr       | WVS & 0.5<br>WVP | few,<br>fine   |                 | CS   |
| C ca       | 89-154 | Dark gray<br>brown<br>(10YR 4/2)      | С      | massive   | dh  | mfr       | WVS &<br>WVP     |                |                 | CS   |
| <b>C</b> , | 154+   | Dark brown<br>(10YR 3/3)              | S      | f1 gr     | dh  | mfr .     | WNS &<br>WNP     |                |                 | CS   |
| Pedor      | a 7    |                                       |        |           |     |           |                  |                |                 |      |
| Ap         | 0-9    | Dark brown<br>(7.5YR 4/4)             | Sl     | f1 gr-sbk | dl  | mfr       | WSS &<br>WNP     | few<br>fine    | few thick       | CS   |

| (1)   | (2)    | (3)                                  | (4)   | (5)       | (6) | (7) | (8) (        | 9)             | (10)         | (11)         | (12) |
|-------|--------|--------------------------------------|-------|-----------|-----|-----|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|------|
| B11   | 9-20   | Dark brown<br>(10YR 4/3)             | Sl    | f1 sbk    | dl  | mfr | WSS &<br>WNP |                | few,         |              | ·CS  |
| B12   | 20-31  | Dark brown<br>(10YR 4/3)             | SI    | massive   | dl  | mfr | WSS &<br>WNP |                |              |              | CS   |
| C     | 31 +   | Calcareous r                         | nurru | m         | -   |     | -            | -              | -            |              | -    |
| Pedor | n 8    |                                      |       |           |     |     |              |                |              |              |      |
| Ap    | 0-18   | Reddish<br>brown<br>(5YR 4/6)        | Sl    | f1 gr-sbk | dl  | mſr | WSS &<br>WSP |                | few,<br>fine | few,<br>fine | CS   |
| B11   | 18-65  | Reddish<br>brown<br>(5YR 4/3)        | SI    | f1 gr-sbk | dl  | mſr | WSS &<br>WSP |                | few,<br>finc | few,<br>fine | CS   |
| B12   | 65+    | Yellowish<br>red<br>(5YR 4/6)        | Sl    | f1 gr     | dľ  | mſr | WSS &<br>WSP | - <del>-</del> | few,<br>fine |              | CS   |
| Pedor | n 9    |                                      |       |           |     |     |              |                |              |              |      |
| Ap    | 0-22   | Dark red-<br>dish brown<br>(5YR 3/4) | Sl    | f1 gr     | dl  | mfr | WSS &<br>WSP |                | few,<br>fine | few,<br>fine | CS   |
| B11   | 22-36  | Dark red-<br>dish brown<br>(5YR 3/4) | SI    | f1 gr     | dl  | mfr | WSS &<br>WSP |                | few,<br>fine | few,<br>fine | CS   |
| B12   | 36-61  | Dark red (2.5YR 3/6)                 | Sl    | f1 gr     | dl  | mſr | WSS &<br>WSP |                | few,<br>fine |              | CS   |
| B13   | 61-79  | Yellow-<br>ish red<br>(5YR 5/8)      | Sl    | f1 gr     | dl  | mfr | WSS &<br>WSP |                | few,<br>fine |              | CS - |
| B14   | 79 +   | Reddish<br>brown<br>(5YR 4/4)        | SI    | f1 gr     | dl  | mfr | WSS &<br>WSP |                | few,<br>fine | **           | CS   |
| Pedor | n 10   |                                      |       |           |     |     |              |                |              |              |      |
| Ap    | 0-10   | Dark gray<br>(10YR 4/1)              | C     | m2 abk    | dh  | mfm | WS &<br>WP   | 2              | few,<br>fine | few,<br>finc | CS   |
| C11   | 10-130 | Dark gray<br>(10YR 4/1)              | C     | m3 abk    | dh  | mfm | WS &<br>WP   | 2-3            | few,<br>fine | few,<br>fine | CS   |
| C12   | 130+   | Gray brown<br>(10YR 5/2)             | C     | m3 abk    | dh  | mfm | WS &<br>WP   | 2              | few,<br>fine | <b></b> ,    | CS   |

| (1)  | (2)    | (3)                                    | (4) | (5)       | (6) | (7)    | (8) (        | 9) | (10)         | (11)         | (12) |
|------|--------|--|-----|-----------|-----|--------|--------------|----|--------------|--------------|------|
| Pedo | n 11   |  |     |           |     | - 1117 |              |    |              |              |      |
| Ap . | 0-10   | Reddish<br>brown<br>(5YR 4/3)          | Scl | f1 gr     | dl  | mſr    | WSS &<br>WSP |    | few,<br>fine | few,<br>fine | CS   |
| B1   | 10-60  | Dark red-<br>dish brown<br>(5YR 3/4)   | Scl | f1 sbk    | dh  | mfr    | WSS &<br>WSP |    | few,<br>fine |              | CS   |
| B21  | 60-115 | Reddish<br>brown<br>(5YR 4/4           | Scl | m2 sbk    | dh  | mſr    | WS &<br>WP   |    | few,<br>fine |              | CS   |
| B22  | 115+   | Dark brown<br>(10YR 4/3)               | Scl | m2 sbk    | dh  | mfm    | WS &<br>WP   |    | few,<br>fine |              | CS   |
| Pedo | n 12   | • -                                    |     |           |     | . •    |              |    |              |              |      |
| Ap   | 0-8    | Dark red-<br>dish brown<br>(2.5YR 3/4) | Scl | m1 gr-sbk | dsh | mfr    | WS &<br>WP   |    | few,<br>fine | few,<br>fine | CS   |
| B1   | 8-22   | Dark red (2.5YR 3/6)                   | Scl | m2 gr-sbk | dh  | mfm    | WS &<br>WP   |    | few,<br>finc | few,<br>fine | CS   |
| B2   | 22+    | Dark red<br>(2.5YR 3/6)                | Scl | m2 gr-sbk | dh  | mfm    | WS &<br>WP   |    | few,<br>fine |              | CS   |

Soil texture: S-Sand; Sl-Sandy loam; Scl-Sandy clay loam; Cl-clay loam; SC-Sandy clay; C-Clay

Soil structure: M-Medium; f-fine; 1-weak; 2-moderate; 3-strong; gr-granular; abk-angular blocky; sbk-subangular blocky

Soil consistence: dl-loose; ds-soft; dsh-slightly hard; dh-hard; dvh-very hard; mvfr-very friable; mfr-friable; mfm-firm; mvfm-very firm; WNS-non-sticky; WSS-slightly sticky; WS-sticky; WVS-very sticky; WNP-non-plastic; WSP-slightly plastic; WP-plastic; WVP-very plastic Boundary: C-clear; d-diffuse; S-smooth; W-Wavy.

is shallow with well drained, dark red in colour, angular to sub-angular blocky structure, thickness of the solum ranges from 8 to 14 cm.

Physico-Chemical properties of soil: The soils are shallow to deep, imperfectly drained to well drained, sandy loam to clay loams. The clay content of soils varies from 17.4 of 54.1 per cent at surface layers. The variation in texture are due to variation in weathering as influenced by land scape position, soil environment and translocation of clay. Topography and high rainfall of the zone are respons-

TABLE 3. Physico-chemical properties of soils of Telangana

| Hori-<br>zon | Sand<br>(%) | Silt<br>(%) | Clay<br>(%)   | BD<br>g cc <sup>-1</sup> | CEC<br>(cmol(<br>kg | pH<br>+) | EC<br>dS m <sup>-1</sup> | OC<br>(%) | CaCO <sub>3</sub><br>(%) |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------------|----------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| (1)          | (2)         | (3)         | (4)           | (5)                      | (6)                 | (7)      | (8)                      | (9)       | (10)                     |
| Pedon 1      |             |             |               |                          |                     | <u>-</u> | ·                        |           |                          |
| Ap           | 50.5        | 5.5         | 44.0          | 1.58                     | 9,9                 | 6.7      | 0.15                     | 0.31      | 8.5                      |
| Bı           | 73.1        | 4.6         | 22.3          | 1.44                     | 8.6                 | 6.6      | 0.09                     | 0.29      | 10.0                     |
| C            | 75.6        | 3.2         | 21.2          | 1.27                     | 8.4                 | 7.9      | 0.33                     | 0.38      | 4.5                      |
| Pedon 2      |             |             |               |                          |                     |          |                          |           |                          |
| Ap           | 45.9        | 14.6        | 39.5          | 1.39                     | 37.3                | 7.9      | 0.03                     | 0.33      | 4.5                      |
| A1           | 40.9        | 11.1        | 48.0          | 1.44                     | 38.5                | 8.1      | 0.05                     | 0.26      | 1.0                      |
| A11          | 26.4        | 14.8        | 58.8          | 1.36                     | 39.9                | 8.3      | 0.05                     | 0.35      | 20.5                     |
| A12          | 25.2        | 15.2        | 59.6          | 1.41                     | 40.2                | 8.5      | 0.05                     | 0.23      | 5.0                      |
| A13          | 26.6        | 20.9        | 58.5          | 1.40                     | 40.1                | 8.8      | 0.06                     | 0.32      | 10.0                     |
| A14          | 38.1        | 17.4        | 44.5          | 1.49                     | 39.3                | 8.9      | 0.05                     | 0.34      | -                        |
| C            | 35.5        | 19.5        | 45.2          | 1.52                     | 38.1                | 9.0      | 0.08                     | 0.27      | -                        |
| Pedon 3      |             |             |               |                          |                     |          |                          |           |                          |
| Ap           | 35.9        | 12.2        | 51.9          | 1.36                     | 43.0                | 8.0      | 0.04                     | 0.27      | 5.0                      |
| Αĺ           | 26.9        | 16.2        | 56.9          | 1.37                     | 40.2                | 8.0      | 0.02                     | 0.06      | 7.0                      |
| A2           | 21.1        | 14.8        | 54.1          | 1.44                     | 42.1                | 8.0      | 0.01                     | 0.01      | 8.4                      |
| Pedon 4      |             |             |               |                          |                     |          |                          |           |                          |
| Ap           | 55.9        | 9.6         | 34.5          | 1.41                     | 14.2                | 6.9      | 0.03                     | 0.31      | 4.0                      |
| вi           | 33.4        | 17.1        | 49.5          | 1.39                     | 15.7                | 7.4      | 0.06                     | 0.31      | -                        |
| C            | 58.4        | 12.1        | 29.5          | 1.60                     | 15.3                | 7.7      | 0.04                     | 0.13      | -                        |
| Pedon 5      |             |             |               |                          | •                   | ·        |                          |           |                          |
| Ap           | 41.1        | 4.8         | 54.1          | 1.64                     | 16.2                | 6.7      | 0.01                     | 0.11      | _                        |
| B1           | 33.4        | 9:1         | 57.5          | 1.52                     | 15.9                | 5.5      | 0.01                     | 0.28      | -                        |
| B2           | 29.7        | 5.6         | 64.7          | 1.39                     | 17.1                | 4.9      | 0.01                     | 0.36      | -                        |
| Pedon 6      |             |             |               |                          |                     |          |                          |           |                          |
| Ap           | 36.1        | 9.8         | 54.1          | 1.38                     | 12.2                | 8.1      | 0.02                     | 0.20      | 2.5                      |
| B1           | 25.9        | 9.7         | 64.4          | 1.43                     | 15.5                | 8.2      | 0.03                     | 0.26      | 2.5                      |
| C ca         | 23.4        | 17.2        | 59.4          | 1.35                     | 14.2                | 8.4      | 0.04                     | 0.20      | 2.5                      |
| C            | 45.9        | 7.2         | 46.9          | 1.39                     | 13.8                | 9.2      | 0.05                     | 0.15      | 15.5                     |
| Pedon 7      |             |             |               |                          |                     |          |                          |           |                          |
| Ap           | 65.3        | 7.2         | 27.5          | 1.44                     | 11.3                | 6.8      | 0.02                     | 0.40      | 4.0                      |
| B11          | 60.3        | 7.2         | 32.5          | 1.44                     | 11.9                | 6.9      | 0.15                     | 0.22      | 5.0                      |
|              | 00.5        | , .~        | 1 / Aur 4 1 / | , ,                      | = • • •             | · -      |                          |           |                          |

| (2)  | (3)  | (4)  | (5)  | (6)   | (7)  | (8)   | (9)  | (10)   |
|------|--|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| 58.1 | 11.9   | 35.0   | 1.41   | 12.0  | 6.9  | 0.02  | 0.31   | 6.5  |
|      |  | •  |  |   |  |   |  |  |
| 64.1 | 7.0  | 28.9   | 1.68   | 9.2   | 7.3  | 0.10  | 0.23   |  |
| 66.1 | 6.9  | 27.0   | 1.46   | 9.0   | 7.1  | 0.11  | 0.22   | -  |
| 61.1 | 5.8  | 33.1   | 1.43   | 9.4   | 7.0  | 0.12  | 0.14   | <b>-</b>   |
|      |  | ,  |  |   | •  | •   |  |  |
| 51.5 | 7.7  | 40.8   | 1.48   | 9.7   | <b>7.8</b>   | 0.40  | 0.29   | 1.25   |
| 46.5 | 8.7  | 44.8   | 1.34   | 9.9   | 7.7  | 0.50  | 0.27   | 1.25   |
| 55.3 | 12.2   | 32.5   | 1.31   | 10.1  | 7.7  | 0.66  | 0.19   | 0.50   |
| 57.2 | 11.9   | 30.9   | 1.39   | 9.3   | <b>7.7</b>   | 0.91  | 0.21   | 0.75   |
| 51.2 | 12.1   | 36.7   | 1.40   | 9.5   | 7.7  | 0.66  | 0.14   | 1.50   |
| l    |  |  |  |   |  |   |  |  |
| 46.8 | 8.2  | 45.0   | 1.30   | 10.3  | 6.9  | 0.79  | 0.32   | 0.75   |
| 38.2 | 9.8  | 52.0   | 1.30   | 35.1  | 7.8  | 2.38  | 0.26   | 4.20   |
| 42.1 | 8.1  | 49.8   | 1.34   | 36.3  | 8.1  | 8.35  | 0.17   | 10.30  |
|      |  |  |  |   |  | •   |  |  |
|      | 6.4  | 26.8   | 1.52   | 13.6  | 7.3  | 0.23  | 0.27   | <b>.</b>   |
|      | 15.5   | 27.8   |  | 13.9  |  | 0.31  | 0.24   | -  |
| 57.8 | 14.1   | 27.8   | 1.43   | 13.9  | 7.3  | 0.21  | 0.19   | -  |
| 56.7 | 55.5   | 27.8   | 1.30   | 13.4  | 7.7  | 0.35  | 0.14   | 0.50   |
|      |  |  |  |   |  |   |  |  |
|      | 8.4  | 17.4   | 1.59   | 8.2   | 6.4  | 0.08  | 0.45   | _  |
|      | 9.1  |  |  |   |  |   |  |  |
| 78.2 | 7.9  |  |  |   |  |   |  |  |
|      | 58.1<br>64.1<br>66.1<br>61.1<br>51.5<br>46.5<br>55.3<br>57.2<br>51.2<br>46.8<br>38.2<br>42.1<br>66.8<br>56.7<br>57.8 | 58.1 11.9  64.1 7.0 66.1 6.9 61.1 5.8  51.5 7.7 46.5 8.7 55.3 12.2 57.2 11.9 51.2 12.1  46.8 8.2 38.2 9.8 42.1 8.1  66.8 6.4 56.7 15.5 57.8 14.1 56.7 55.5 | 58.1       11.9       35.0         64.1       7.0       28.9         66.1       6.9       27.0         61.1       5.8       33.1         51.5       7.7       40.8         46.5       8.7       44.8         55.3       12.2       32.5         57.2       11.9       30.9         51.2       12.1       36.7         46.8       8.2       45.0         38.2       9.8       52.0         42.1       8.1       49.8         66.8       6.4       26.8         56.7       15.5       27.8         57.8       14.1       27.8         56.7       55.5       27.8         74.2       8.4       17.4 | 58.1       11.9       35.0       1.41         64.1       7.0       28.9       1.68         66.1       6.9       27.0       1.46         61.1       5.8       33.1       1.43         51.5       7.7       40.8       1.48         46.5       8.7       44.8       1.34         55.3       12.2       32.5       1.31         57.2       11.9       30.9       1.39         51.2       12.1       36.7       1.40         46.8       8.2       45.0       1.30         38.2       9.8       52.0       1.30         42.1       8.1       49.8       1.34         66.8       6.4       26.8       1.52         56.7       15.5       27.8       1.38         57.8       14.1       27.8       1.43         56.7       55.5       27.8       1.30         74.2       8.4       17.4       1.59 | 58.1       11.9       35.0       1.41       12.0         64.1       7.0       28.9       1.68       9.2         66.1       6.9       27.0       1.46       9.0         61.1       5.8       33.1       1.43       9.4         51.5       7.7       40.8       1.48       9.7         46.5       8.7       44.8       1.34       9.9         55.3       12.2       32.5       1.31       10.1         57.2       11.9       30.9       1.39       9.3         51.2       12.1       36.7       1.40       9.5         46.8       8.2       45.0       1.30       10.3         38.2       9.8       52.0       1.30       35.1         42.1       8.1       49.8       1.34       36.3         66.8       6.4       26.8       1.52       13.6         56.7       15.5       27.8       1.38       13.9         57.8       14.1       27.8       1.43       13.9         56.7       55.5       27.8       1.30       13.4         74.2       8.4       17.4       1.59       8.2 | 58.1       11.9       35.0       1.41       12.0       6.9         64.1       7.0       28.9       1.68       9.2       7.3         66.1       6.9       27.0       1.46       9.0       7.1         61.1       5.8       33.1       1.43       9.4       7.0         51.5       7.7       40.8       1.48       9.7       7.8         46.5       8.7       44.8       1.34       9.9       7.7         55.3       12.2       32.5       1.31       10.1       7.7         57.2       11.9       30.9       1.39       9.3       7.7         51.2       12.1       36.7       1.40       9.5       7.7         46.8       8.2       45.0       1.30       10.3       6.9         38.2       9.8       52.0       1.30       35.1       7.8         42.1       8.1       49.8       1.34       36.3       8.1         66.8       6.4       26.8       1.52       13.6       7.3         57.8       14.1       27.8       1.43       13.9       7.3         56.7       55.5       27.8       1.30       13.4 <td< td=""><td>58.1       11.9       35.0       1.41       12.0       6.9       0.02         64.1       7.0       28.9       1.68       9.2       7.3       0.10         66.1       6.9       27.0       1.46       9.0       7.1       0.11         61.1       5.8       33.1       1.43       9.4       7.0       0.12         51.5       7.7       40.8       1.48       9.7       7.8       0.40         46.5       8.7       44.8       1.34       9.9       7.7       0.50         55.3       12.2       32.5       1.31       10.1       7.7       0.66         57.2       11.9       30.9       1.39       9.3       7.7       0.91         51.2       12.1       36.7       1.40       9.5       7.7       0.66         46.8       8.2       45.0       1.30       10.3       6.9       0.79         38.2       9.8       52.0       1.30       35.1       7.8       2.38         42.1       8.1       49.8       1.34       36.3       8.1       8.35         66.8       6.4       26.8       1.52       13.6       7.3       0.23     <!--</td--><td>58.1     11.9     35.0     1.41     12.0     6.9     0.02     0.31       64.1     7.0     28.9     1.68     9.2     7.3     0.10     0.23       66.1     6.9     27.0     1.46     9.0     7.1     0.11     0.22       61.1     5.8     33.1     1.43     9.4     7.0     0.12     0.14       51.5     7.7     40.8     1.48     9.7     7.8     0.40     0.29       46.5     8.7     44.8     1.34     9.9     7.7     0.50     0.27       55.3     12.2     32.5     1.31     10.1     7.7     0.66     0.19       57.2     11.9     30.9     1.39     9.3     7.7     0.91     0.21       51.2     12.1     36.7     1.40     9.5     7.7     0.66     0.14       46.8     8.2     45.0     1.30     10.3     6.9     0.79     0.32       38.2     9.8     52.0     1.30     35.1     7.8     2.38     0.26       42.1     8.1     49.8     1.34     36.3     8.1     8.35     0.17       66.8     6.4     26.8     1.52     13.6     7.3     0.23     0.27</td></td></td<> | 58.1       11.9       35.0       1.41       12.0       6.9       0.02         64.1       7.0       28.9       1.68       9.2       7.3       0.10         66.1       6.9       27.0       1.46       9.0       7.1       0.11         61.1       5.8       33.1       1.43       9.4       7.0       0.12         51.5       7.7       40.8       1.48       9.7       7.8       0.40         46.5       8.7       44.8       1.34       9.9       7.7       0.50         55.3       12.2       32.5       1.31       10.1       7.7       0.66         57.2       11.9       30.9       1.39       9.3       7.7       0.91         51.2       12.1       36.7       1.40       9.5       7.7       0.66         46.8       8.2       45.0       1.30       10.3       6.9       0.79         38.2       9.8       52.0       1.30       35.1       7.8       2.38         42.1       8.1       49.8       1.34       36.3       8.1       8.35         66.8       6.4       26.8       1.52       13.6       7.3       0.23 </td <td>58.1     11.9     35.0     1.41     12.0     6.9     0.02     0.31       64.1     7.0     28.9     1.68     9.2     7.3     0.10     0.23       66.1     6.9     27.0     1.46     9.0     7.1     0.11     0.22       61.1     5.8     33.1     1.43     9.4     7.0     0.12     0.14       51.5     7.7     40.8     1.48     9.7     7.8     0.40     0.29       46.5     8.7     44.8     1.34     9.9     7.7     0.50     0.27       55.3     12.2     32.5     1.31     10.1     7.7     0.66     0.19       57.2     11.9     30.9     1.39     9.3     7.7     0.91     0.21       51.2     12.1     36.7     1.40     9.5     7.7     0.66     0.14       46.8     8.2     45.0     1.30     10.3     6.9     0.79     0.32       38.2     9.8     52.0     1.30     35.1     7.8     2.38     0.26       42.1     8.1     49.8     1.34     36.3     8.1     8.35     0.17       66.8     6.4     26.8     1.52     13.6     7.3     0.23     0.27</td> | 58.1     11.9     35.0     1.41     12.0     6.9     0.02     0.31       64.1     7.0     28.9     1.68     9.2     7.3     0.10     0.23       66.1     6.9     27.0     1.46     9.0     7.1     0.11     0.22       61.1     5.8     33.1     1.43     9.4     7.0     0.12     0.14       51.5     7.7     40.8     1.48     9.7     7.8     0.40     0.29       46.5     8.7     44.8     1.34     9.9     7.7     0.50     0.27       55.3     12.2     32.5     1.31     10.1     7.7     0.66     0.19       57.2     11.9     30.9     1.39     9.3     7.7     0.91     0.21       51.2     12.1     36.7     1.40     9.5     7.7     0.66     0.14       46.8     8.2     45.0     1.30     10.3     6.9     0.79     0.32       38.2     9.8     52.0     1.30     35.1     7.8     2.38     0.26       42.1     8.1     49.8     1.34     36.3     8.1     8.35     0.17       66.8     6.4     26.8     1.52     13.6     7.3     0.23     0.27 |

ible for accumulation of clay in the 'B' horizon in some of the pedons. Enrichment of clay in 'B' horizon may be due to clay migration and may be also due to advance stage of weathering under the prevailing climatic conditions (Sehgal 1986). The bulk density of pedons upper horizon ranged from 1.30 to 1.68 g cc<sup>-1</sup>. The

pH of surface soils ranged from 6.4 to 8.1, EC from 0.01 to 0.79 dSm<sup>-1</sup> and CEC from 6.2 to 43.0 cmol kg<sup>-1</sup> at surface layer. The organic carbon pH, EC and CEC of pedons do not follow a regular trend with depth. CaCO<sub>3</sub> ranged from 0 to 8.5 at surface horizon. The fertility status indicates that the soils are highly deficient in

Table 4. Available nutrients in soil of Telengana

| Hori-   | Major i | nutrients (k                  | g ha <sup>-1</sup> ) | Micronutrients (ppm) |      |      |     |  |
|---------|---------|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------|------|-----|--|
| zon     | N       | P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> | K <sub>2</sub> ()    | Zn                   | Cʻu  | Fe   | Mn  |  |
| (1)     | (2)     | (3)                           | (4)                  | (5)                  |      | (7)  | (8) |  |
| Pedon 1 |         |                               |                      |                      |      |      |     |  |
| Ap      | 9.4     | 6.5                           | 291                  | 1.01                 | 1.14 | 45.0 | 172 |  |
| B1      | 98      | 6.0                           | 224                  | 0.91                 | 1.07 | 40.1 | 124 |  |
| C       | 98      | 6.2                           | 224                  | 0.83                 | 1.52 | 25.2 | 108 |  |
| Pedon 2 |         |                               |                      |                      |      |      |     |  |
| Ap      | 87      | 16.0                          | 627                  | 2.04                 | 3.39 | 46.8 | 163 |  |
| ΑÌ      | 80      | 14.1                          | 313                  | 1.98                 | 3.16 | 40.1 | 158 |  |
| A11     | 67      | 10.2                          | 201                  | 1.02                 | 2.98 | 38.2 | 141 |  |
| A12     | 60      | 9.1                           | 358                  | 1.53                 | 1.48 | 36.2 | 151 |  |
| A13     | 60      | 6.9                           | 358                  | 1.36                 | 2.01 | 39.0 | 138 |  |
| A14     | 71      | 6.0                           | 403                  | 0.93                 | 1.02 | 31.2 | 98  |  |
| C       | 39      | 4.0                           | 381                  | 0.87                 | 1.01 | 26.1 | 82  |  |
| Pedon 3 |         |                               |                      |                      |      |      |     |  |
| Ap      | 102     | 16.4                          | 403                  | 2.15                 | 2.85 | 46.4 | 175 |  |
| Αİ      | 106     | 8.0                           | 246                  | 1.98                 | 2.14 | 42.1 | 169 |  |
| A2      | 109     | 5.1                           | 179                  | 1.43                 | 1.63 | 28.0 | 133 |  |
| Pedon 4 |         |                               |                      |                      |      |      |     |  |
| Ap      | 110     | 8.5                           | 403                  | 1.15                 | 2.47 | 23.9 | 25  |  |
| ві      | 102     | 4.4                           | 381                  | 1.05                 | 2.32 | 19.5 | 25  |  |
| C.      | 55      | 3.2                           | 358                  | 1.01                 | 2.30 | 19.0 | 24  |  |
| Pedon 5 |         |                               |                      |                      |      |      |     |  |
| Ap      | 91      | 8.2                           | 358                  | 1.25                 | 1.40 | 30.0 | 160 |  |
| ві      | 123     | 5.1                           | 246                  | 1.21                 | 1.36 | 24.1 | 149 |  |
| B2      | 118     | 2.1                           | 179                  | 0.98                 | 1.27 | 22.1 | 136 |  |
| Pedon 6 |         |                               |                      |                      |      |      |     |  |
| Ap      | 112     | 8.5                           | 381                  | 1.18                 | 1.98 | 22.7 | 181 |  |
| Ві      | 90      | 5.8                           | 381                  | 1.06                 | 1.87 | 21.2 | 169 |  |
| C ca    | 59      | 4.0                           | 314                  | 0.98                 | 1.40 | 18.1 | 150 |  |
| C       | 57      | 3.0                           | 201                  | 0.89                 | 1.32 | 17.1 | 139 |  |
| Pedon 7 |         |                               |                      |                      |      |      |     |  |
| Ap      | 116     | 6.0                           | 224                  | 1.07                 | 1.56 | 39.0 | 126 |  |
| BI1     | 115     | 4.8                           | 314                  | 0.98                 | 1.44 | 43.0 | 111 |  |
| B12     | 125     | 3.2                           | 246                  | 0.87                 | 1.32 | 31.0 | 98  |  |

| (1)      | (2) | (3)     | (4)  | (5)       | (6)    | (7)   | (8) |
|----------|-----|---------|------|-----------|--------|-------|-----|
| Pedon 8  |     |         |      |           |        |       |     |
| Ap       | 88  | 8.0 390 | 0.70 | 2.23 98.5 | 102    |       | ~~  |
| B11      | 69  | 7.3     | 289  | , 0.83    | 2.11   | 87.1  | 98  |
| B12      | 70  | 4.2     | 258  | 0.69      | 1.98   | 63.1  | 86  |
| Pedon 9  |     |         |      |           |        |       |     |
| Ap       | 85  | 9.2     | 342  | 0.83      | 3.96   | 67.3  | 202 |
| B11      | 79  | 8.4     | 359  | 0.79      | 3.55   | 61.2  | 187 |
| B12      | 78  | 5.2     | 298  | 0.98      | 2.99   | 58.1  | 166 |
| B13      | 60  | 4.3     | 281  | 0.79      | 3.11   | 43.2  | 143 |
| B14      | 59  | 2.9     | 214  | 0.76      | 2.76   | 28.2  | 136 |
| Pedon 10 |     |         |      |           |        |       |     |
| Ap       | 92  | 8.7     | 372  | 2.11      | 3.20   | 44.() | 24  |
| Cİ1      | 87  | 6.2     | 289  | 1.98      | 3.02   | 43.0  | 22  |
| C12      | 51  | 4.2     | 250  | 1.87      | 2.11   | 38.0  | 19  |
| Pedon 11 |     |         |      |           |        |       |     |
| Ap       | 87  | 7.2     | 382  | 2.89      | 2.53   | -59.0 | 22  |
| BÎ       | 72  | 6.3     | 299  | 2.11      | 2.42   | 48.0  | 19  |
| B21      | 69  | 4.1     | 259  | 1.17      | 1.98   | 42.0  | 18  |
| B22      | 54  | 3.2     | 243  | 1.08      | 1.19   | 39.9  | 15  |
| Pedon 12 |     |         |      |           | -      |       |     |
| Ap       | 78  | 8.5     | 625  | 2.18      | 8.19   | 59.9  | 157 |
| В1       | 69  | 7.8     | 582  | 2.03      | · 7.12 | 48.1  | 148 |
| B2       | 52  | 4.2     | 442  | 1.98      | 6.43   | 46.2  | 139 |

available nitrogen and P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, medium to high in available K<sub>2</sub>O, and very low to low in organic carbon. The zinc, copper, iron and Manganese ranged from 0.70 to 2.89, 1.14 to 8.19, 22.7 to 98.5 and 22 to 202 ppm, respectively at the surface layers.

Soil classification: The pedons P<sub>1</sub>, P<sub>6</sub>, P<sub>7</sub>, P<sub>8</sub> and P<sub>9</sub> qualify for Inceptisols

due to few diagnostic features at order level and characterized by ochrepts. Owing to the presence of thin, light coloured surface horizons with little organic matter and further classified as Ustochrepts at great group level due to ustic soil moisture regimes. The pedons P4, P5 and P11 are characterized by argillic horizon

Table 5. Classification of soils of Telangana region

| Pec<br>on | l- Or       | der Subord | er Great groupFa | mily Series  |            |
|-----------|-------------|------------|------------------|--|------------|
| 1         | Inceptisols | Ochrepts   | Ustochrepts      | Fine, loamy, mixed<br>Udic Ustochrept                  | Jagtial    |
| 2         | Vertisols   | Usterts .  | Chromusterts     | Very fine, montmo-<br>rillonitic, Udic<br>Chromusterts | Adilabad   |
| 3         | Vertisols   | Usterts    | Chromusterts     | Very fine, montmo-<br>rillonitic, Udic<br>Chromusterts | Mudhole    |
| 4         | Alfisols    | Ustalfs    | Haplustalfs      | Finc, loamy, mixed,<br>Udic Haplustalfs                | Mudhole    |
| 5         | Alfisols    | Ustalfs    | Rhodustalfs      | Fien, lomay, mixed,<br>Udic Rhodustalfs                | Aswaraopet |
| 6         | Inceptisols | Ochrepts   | Ustochrepts      | Fine, loamy, mixed,<br>Udic Ustochrepts                | Madhira    |
| 7         | Inceptisols | Ochrepts   | Ustochrepts      | Fine, loamy, mixed,<br>Udic Ustochrepts                | Warangal   |
| 8         | Inceptisols | Ochrepts   | Ustochrepts      | Fine, loamy, mixed,<br>Udic Ustochrepts                | Karimnagar |
| 9         | Inceptisols | Ochrepts   | Ustochrepts      | Fine, loamy, mixed,<br>Udic Ustochrepts                | Malyal     |
| 10        | Vertisols   | Usterts    | Chromusterts     | Very fine, montmo-<br>rillonitic, Udic<br>Chromusterts | Rudrur     |
| 11        | Alfisols    | Ustalfs    | Paleustalfs      | Fine, loamy, mixed,<br>Udic Paleustalfs                | Rudrur     |
| 12        | Entisols    | Orthent    | Ustorthent       | Fine, loamy, mixed,<br>Udic Ustorthent                 | Zahirabad  |

<sup>\*</sup> Temperature family hyperthermic is common upto 11 pedon. Pedon 12 has isohyperthermic family.

and are classified as Alfisols and these were further classified as Ustalfs due

to more than 90 cumulative dry days. Pedon 4 belong to Haplustalfs.

They are well drained soils and absence of fragipan, duripan and other characteristics. Pedon 5, Rhodustalfs due to agrillic horizon colour redder than 5 YR and Pedon 11 as Paleustalfs due to presence of thick dense agrillic horizon. The pedons P2, P3 and P10 qualify for Vertisols due to high in dark swelling and shrinking clays, deep and wide cracks when soil dry and characterized by usterts due to cracks open more than 90 cumulative days in the year and chromusterts at great group level by high chroma of 1.5 or more in some horizon with in 20 cm. The pedon P<sub>12</sub> is characterized

by orthents due to shallow, clay loam texture over hard rock and therefore keyed out as Entisols which showed little profile development and further classified as Ustorthents at great group level due to Ustic soil moisture regimes.

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