



Manaaki Whenua
Landcare Research

North Island Soilscales

Title

North Island Soilscales

Creator

Landcare Research NZ Ltd

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Description

Soilscales are defined as "a landscape unit including a limited number of soil classes that are geographically distributed according to an identifiable pattern". These first approximation soilscales are derived from legacy data and expert knowledge.

Source

Soilscales for the North Island were based in a map of 'erosion terrains' derived from the NZ Land Resource Inventory (NWASCO, 1979). Although originally intended for erosion studies, the erosion terrains efficiently stratified soil patterns and rock types relevant to soilscales mapping. Soilscales for the South Island were based on the earlier map of 'soil sets' for the South Island similar in concept to 'land systems' (Soil Survey Staff 1968). Soilscales were arranged in a hierarchy of 6 levels; level 1, land province - major climate, geologic terrains and landscape units, level 2, land region - major physiographic units, level 3, lithology - major rock and cover material types, level 4, climate, level 5, altitude, and level 6, slope and landforms. For the national scale Digital Soil Mapping (DSM) we used soilscales at level 5 for the South Island and soilscales at level 3 for the North Island. Climate (level 4) and altitude (altitude level 5) were not used for the North Island because these factors were less variable and were of less significance than in the South Island. Level 6 landform and slope attributes was not used because they stratified finer scale variations considered more relevant for local rather than national planning. This provided for analysis 193 soilscales nationally (52 for the North Island and 141 for the South Island).

Coverage

-41.636376 172.610195 -34.265225 178.891547

Format

Shapefile

Identifier

<https://iris.scinfo.org.nz/layer/48125-north-island-soilscales/>

Type

vector

Language

en

Subject

Environment

Subject

| Farming
Subject
| Geoscientific Information
Subject
| Biota
Subject
| Soil
Subject
| Soilscape
Subject
| Lithology
Subject
| Land system
Subject
| geoscientificInformation
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| biota