

SOIL PROFILE PREPARATION



Sample collection

An intact soil cores is extracted using a mobile drill rig. Cores for this purpose were taken to a depth of 1m and 10cm diameter.

The soil core is removed from the drill rig and transferred to PVC pipe which is then taped up and labelled for transport back to the lab.

Back to the lab.

Once back in the lab, soil cores are cut out of their PVC pipe carriers and a profile description is written. This can be seen in the profile display case.

The cores can be very fragile, especially the sandy soils, so must be treated very carefully.



Picking back

The soil core is then carefully picked back until only half the original core remains in the PVC pipe.

Picking back exposes the soils undisturbed profile and structure

Soil testing

A sample of soil from each horizon in the profile is bagged and sent to a soil testing lab. for analysis.

Each sample is analysed for pH, Electrical Conductivity (salinity), texture, exchangeable cations (Ca, Na, Mg, K and Al)



Setting the profile

Once the profile has been picked back and any loose soil brushed away the profile is sprayed with liquid PVC to seal it.

This process is repeated over several weeks, allowing the glue to dry in between. Once the profile is saturated with glue the process is complete!