## Detailed Soil Survey RM of Blanshard

### **Sheila Meyer**

Agri-Environment Knowledge Centre Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives





Sea Level Metres / Fee 800 / 2.624 50/2.461

50 / 2 132

50 / 1.804 00/1.640 150 / 1.476

350 / 1.148 300 / 984 250 / 820 200 / 656

## Location and Scale

- West of Minnedosa
- Northwest of Brandon
- Townships 13, 14 and 15 of Range 21W and 22W
  - 58,050 hectares
  - 143,433 acres
- Surveyed and mapped at 1:50,000



15-21-W

15-22-W



R23

6

14

## Reports

- Previously mapped
  - Reconnaissance Report No. 6
    - 1956
    - 1:126,720
- Why a new survey?





## Soil Development

- Riding Mountain shale formation
- Glaciers moved rock fragments
  from east and north
  - Included sandstone, shale, limestone and granite
- Resulted in mixed material glacial till
- Glacial parent material determines relief, surface texture, and natural fertility of the soils





- Uniform parent material over study area
- Leads to uniform soil type

Parent material (0 to 100cm)	% of RM
Glacial till	91.1
Lacustrine over glacial till	3.58
Alluvium	2.8
Lacustrine over fluvial over till	0.5
Fluvial	0.2
Lacustrine	0.12
Marsh, water, eroded slope, and unclassified urban area	1.74
Total	100



## **Glacial Till Soils**

 91.1% of study area



	Soil Series developed on Glacial till	% of RM
ſ	Newdale	48.8
Vell Drained	Rufford	10.8
	Cordova	1.0
	Varcoe	18.5
Imperfectly Drained	Angusville	3.6
	Moore Park	0.2
$\int$	Drokan	7.4
Poorly J Drained	Hamiota	0.8
	Penrith	0.03
	Total	91.1

### Newdale Association, developed on glacial till

### Well or moderately well drained

### Rufford

Newdale

#### Imperfectly or poorly drained

## Drokan

Varcoe



## Newdale Soil Series

- Manitoba's Provincial Soil
- Orthic Black
  Chernozem
  - MW to W drained
  - Ah
  - Bm
  - BC(k)
  - Ck
- 48% of study area





## **Soil Interpretations**





## Agriculture Capability

Agricultural Capability Class	% of RM
1	0.00
2	79.60
3	5.95
4	0.18
5	12.59
6	0.00
7	1.46
Water/urban/ unclassified	0.21

- Class 2 dominant
  - 56% 2T
  - 18% 2W
  - 2MT, 2WT, 2TE, 2X
- Class 5
  - 10% 5W
  - 2% 5IW
  - 5M, 5ME, 5TE
- Class 3
  - 3% 3T
  - 2% 3N
  - 3I, 3M, 3TE
- Class 4
  - 4M, 4T, 4TE
- Class 7 W





### Interpretations



Soils of the Newdale Association and their Position in the Landscape



## Interpretations

Degree of Stoniness	% of RM
Non-stony	94.92
Slightly stony	4.88
Moderately stony	0
Very stony	0
Exceedingly stony	0
Excessively stony	0
Water/urban/	
unclassified	0.21

Class of Salinity	% of RM
Non-saline	95.58
Weakly saline	4.22
Moderately saline	0
Strongly saline	0
Water/urban/	
Unclassified land	0.21

Observed Erosion Class	% of RM
Non-eroded or	
minimal	86.9
Slightly	12.04
Moderately	0.86
Severely	0
Overblown or	
overwash	0
Water/urban/	
unclassified	0.21



## Management of Soils in the RM of Blanshard



- Operation of equipment around wetlands
- ALUS project
  - Pay producers
    for
    environmental
    benefit



## Management of Soils in the RM of Blanshard

- Excess water in low areas
  - Recharge vs.
    Discharge
- Can result in surface salinity
  - Draw salts to surface
  - Symptoms
  - Improvement?





# Management of Soils in the RM of Blanshard





- Risk of soil erosion
  - Hilltops
    - Water
    - Wind
    - Tillage
  - Zero/Reduced tillage



## **Questions or Comments?**

