

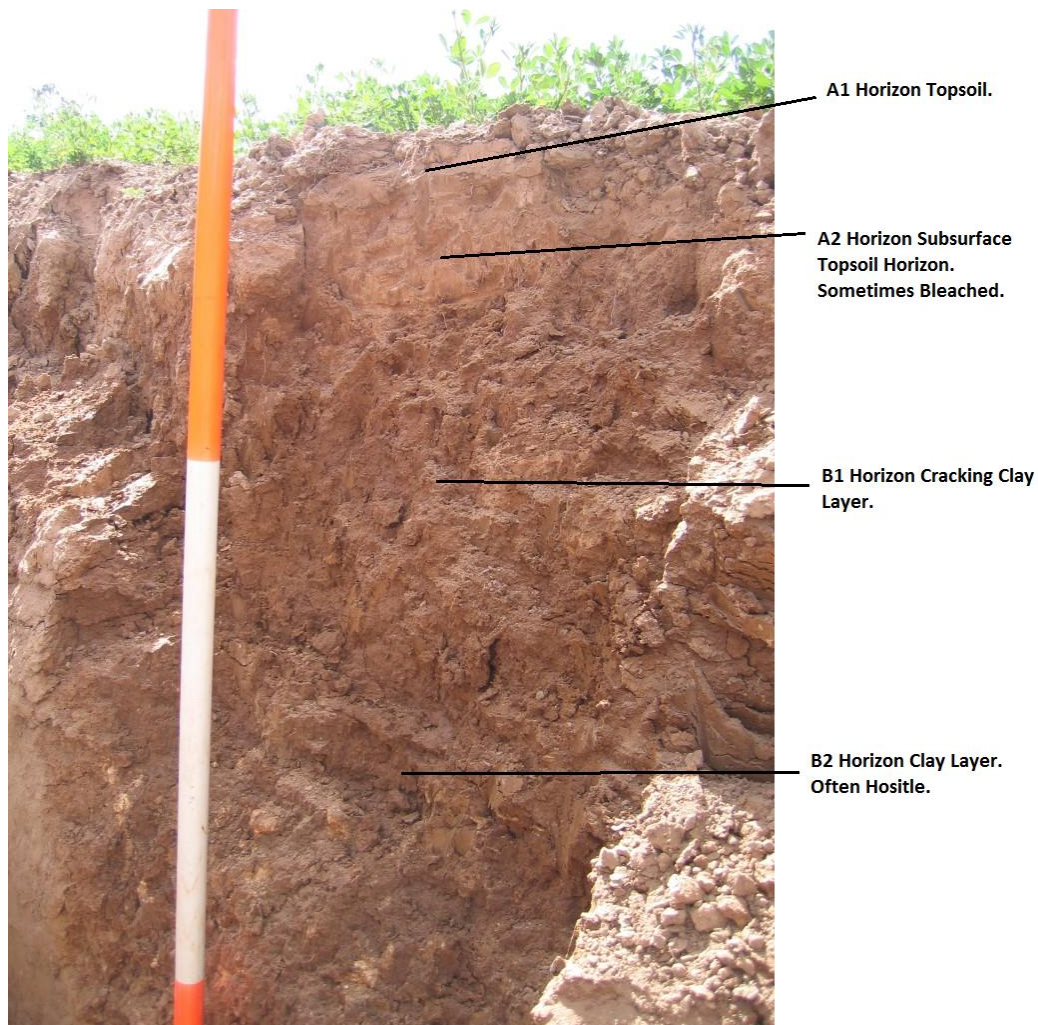
MURRAY DAIRY - AUTUMN START-UP WORKSHOPS.

Technical Note: SOIL HORIZON DIFFERENTIATION & DESCRIPTION.

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Soil profile characteristics and their identification are essential for a sound understanding of how a soil functions and how crops and pastures are likely to perform under specific conditions. Problem identification starts with exposing the soil profile and identifying the physical and chemical impediments to root growth, nutrient availability and available water. Management strategies for improving productivity can be developed and prioritised based on field evidence.

To describe the process of soil identification, the figure below shows the horizons of a Shepparton Fine Sandy Loam soil profile in the Goulburn Valley used for Lucerne production. Horizons are delineated in accordance with the details provided.



Soil horizons of a Shepparton Fine Sandy Loam soil profile from the Goulburn Valley.