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Our Ref: TOHA/20/9380/SS
Your Ref: see below

Dear Sirs

Subsoil Analysis Report: Nuffield Subsoil

We have completed the analysis of the soil sample recently submitted, referenced *Nuffield Subsoil*, and have pleasure reporting our findings.

The purpose of the analysis was to determine the suitability of the sample for use as subsoil in general landscape purposes (trees, shrubs, amenity grass). In addition, this sample has been assessed to determine its compliance with the requirements of the British Standard for Subsoil (*BS8601:2013 – Specification for subsoil and requirements for use – Table 1, Multipurpose Subsoil*), including analysis of potential contaminants.

This report presents the results of analysis for the sample submitted, and it should be considered 'indicative' of the subsoil source. The report and results should therefore not be used by third parties as a means of verification or validation testing, especially after the subsoil has left the Bourne Amenity Ltd site.

SAMPLE EXAMINATION

The sample was described as a yellowish brown (Munsell Colour 10YR 5/6), slightly moist, friable, non-calcareous SAND with a single grain structure*. The sample was virtually stone-free and no unusual odours, deleterious materials, roots or rhizomes of pernicious weeds were observed.

*This appraisal of soil structure was made from examination of a disturbed sample(s). Structure is a key soil characteristic that may only be accurately assessed by examination in an in-situ state.

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ANALYTICAL SCHEDULE

The sample was submitted to a UKAS and MCERTS accredited laboratory for a range of physical and chemical tests to confirm the composition and fertility of the soil, and the concentration of selected potential contaminants. The following parameters were determined:

- detailed particle size analysis (5 sands, silt, clay);
- stone content (2-20mm, 20-75mm, >75mm);
- saturated hydraulic conductivity;
- pH and electrical conductivity values;
- exchangeable sodium percentage;
- organic matter content;
- heavy metals (Sb, As, B, Ba, Be, Cd, Cr, Cr(VI), Cu, Pb, Hg, Ni, Se, V, Zn);
- total cyanide and total (mono) phenols;
- elemental sulphur, acid volatile sulphur and water soluble sulphate;
- speciated PAHs (US EPA16 suite);
- aromatic and aliphatic TPH (C5-C44 banding);
- benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene (BTEX);
- asbestos screen.

The results are presented on the attached Certificate of Analysis and an interpretation of the results is given below.

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Particle Size Analysis and Stone Content

The sample fell into the *sand* texture class and would be described as light in texture. Such soils typically have good aeration and drainage properties, but can possess poor water retention capacities. As a consequence they often have a greater risk of drought, particularly during prolonged dry periods, and additional irrigation should be considered.

Further detailed particle size analysis revealed the sample to have a sufficiently narrow particle size distribution and a predominance of *medium sand* (0.25-0.50mm) and *coarse sand* (0.50-1.0mm). This is acceptable for subsoil in general landscape applications as porosity levels are maintained in a compacted state and the risk of particle interpacking is minimised. The subsoil represented by this sample would be described as 'free-draining'.

The stone content of the sample was low and, as such, stones should not restrict the use of the soil for use as subsoil in general landscape purposes.

Saturated Hydraulic Conductivity

The saturated hydraulic conductivity result (64 mm/hr) recorded for the sample indicates that the material would demonstrate satisfactory drainage performance for subsoil in general landscape applications.

pH and Electrical Conductivity Values

The sample was acid in reaction (pH 5.7), with a pH value that would be suitable as subsoil for general landscape purposes providing species with a wide pH tolerance or those known to prefer acid soils are selected for planting.

The electrical conductivity (salinity) value (water extract) was very low, which indicates that soluble salts were not present at levels that would be harmful to plants.

Organic Matter Content

The organic matter content was low (0.7%) and compliant with *BS8601:2013 – Table 1*.

Potential Contaminants

With reference to *BS8601:2013 – Section 4.2: Note 2*, there is a recommendation to confirm levels of potential contaminants in relation to the subsoil's proposed end use. This includes human health, environmental protection and metals considered toxic to plants. In the absence of site-specific assessment criteria, the concentrations of selected potential contaminants that affect human health have been assessed for the concentrations that affect human health have been assessed for *residential* end-use against the Suitable For Use Levels (S4ULs) presented in the LQM/CIEH S4ULs for Human Health Risk Assessment (2015) and the DEFRA SP1010: Development of Category 4 Screening Levels for Assessment of Land Affected by Contamination – Policy Companion Document (2014).

Of the potential contaminants determined, none exceeded their respective guideline values.

Phytotoxic Contaminants

Of the phytotoxic (toxic to plants) contaminants determined (copper, nickel, zinc), none was found at levels that exceeded the maximum permissible levels specified in *BS8601:2013 – Table 1*.

CONCLUSION

The purpose of the analysis was to determine the suitability of the sample for use as subsoil in general landscape purposes (trees, shrubs, amenity grass). In addition, this sample has been assessed to determine its compliance with the requirements of the British Standard for Subsoil (*BS8601:2013 – Specification for subsoil and requirements for use – Table 1, Multipurpose Subsoil*), including analysis of potential contaminants.

From the soil examination and subsequent laboratory analysis, the sample was described as an acid, non-saline, non-calcareous sand with a single grain structure and low stone content. The organic matter content was low and consistent with subsoil. Of the potential contaminants determined, none exceeded their respective guideline values.

To conclude, based on our findings, the soil represented by this sample would be considered suitable as subsoil for general landscape purposes (trees, shrubs and amenity grass), provided species with a wide pH tolerance or those known to prefer acid soils are selected and the physical condition of the soil is satisfactory.

The sample was largely compliant with the requirements of the British Standard for Subsoil (*BS8601:2013 – Specification for subsoil and requirements for use – Table 1, Multipurpose Subsoil*) with the exception of the high sand content (92%) which exceeded the maximum specified sand content.

On this occasion, this non-compliance is considered minor and insignificant when reviewed in the context of all the other results and considering the proposed end-use of this soil.

Soil Handling Recommendations

Reference should be made to Section 6.0 of *BS8601:2013* with regard to the handling and management of the subsoil:

“Soils generally lose strength and become less resistant to damage as they become wetter; therefore, it is essential that they are stripped, handled and trafficked only in the appropriate conditions of weather and soil moisture, and with suitable machinery. If sustained heavy rainfall (e.g. >10 mm in 24 h) occurs during soil stripping operations, work should be suspended and not restarted until the ground has had at least one dry day or until a suitable moisture content has been reached. A soil can be considered to have a suitable moisture content for stripping and handling if the whole thickness of the subsoil layer being stripped and/or handled is at a moisture content below the plastic limit as determined in accordance with BS 1377-2:1990 (incorporating Amendment No. 1).

Machinery should be selected and routed to minimise soil compaction.”

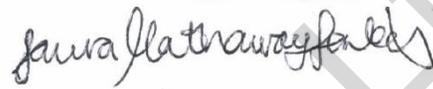
Further guidance is provided in Clauses 6.1–6.5.

We hope this report meets with your approval and provides the necessary information. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned if we can be of further assistance.

Yours faithfully



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