North Idaho Regional Soil and Land Evaluation Event
Host - Grangeville Agriculture Program
September 30, 2008

Practice Pit  
Site A  
Site B

Site C  
Site D  
Great pits!

Photos by Anita Falen and Eileen Rowan
Examples: Slope Determination

Using a Transect & Pole – accurate

Standing halfway between the stakes. Using your hand/arm as a level, site from one stake with arm extended and move arm across to the other stake. Stakes are 4’. If your hand is the same level as the other stake, then the slope is less than 1%. If hand is one stake above the stake, the slope is 4%. On level slopes, it pays to step back in the field and look from a distance at the tops of the stakes.

Use your clip board as a marker or level. All stakes are 4’. (1) Put clip board at the top of the stake and site to the other stake; (2) Use the clip board and pencil to make a level device and site to other stake; (3) Stand behind the stake with clip board, hold above stake and site to the other stake. All of these methods take practice. Determine the actual slope with a clinometer to fine tune your method of determining slope at each site.
Site is located at the toe of a slope on a level area next to the grain bins. Slope is 4 %. Surface texture is a silt loam and subsoil texture is a silty clay loam.
Practice Site – Depth Clarification

(Person is standing in the pit to give a visual for the pit depth.)
Site A – Soil and Land Evaluation

Site is located on a gentle side slope to the left of the practice pit. Slope is 7%. Surface texture is a silt loam and the subsoil texture is a silty clay.

Photos by Anita Falen
Site A – Depth Clarification
(Person is standing in the pit to give a visual for the pit depth.)
Site B – Soil and Land Evaluation

Site is located on a shoulder mid slope. Slope is 5%. The surface texture is a silt loam and the subsurface texture is a silty clay.

Photos by Anita Falen

Field No. B

Original Depth of 20 in.
Present Depth of 2nd white nail

Climate:
Annual Precipitation 25 in.
Frost Free Season 110 days

Soil Analysis:

- pH 6.8
- Nitrogen (NO₃N) 45 ppm
- Phosphorus (P) 8 ppm
- Potassium (K) 90 ppm
- Zinc (Zn) 0.7 ppm

Other:
Depth of soil 3rd white nail
0 M Available
Water in root zone 10 weeks
Site B – Depth Clarification
(Person is standing in the pit to give a visual for the pit depth.)
This site is located at the top of the hill on a flat area. Slope is 0.2 %. Surface texture is a silt loam and subsurface texture is a silty clay.
Site C – Depth Clarification
(Person is standing in the pit to give a visual for the pit depth.)
This site is located on the side hill to the right of the practice pit and is an irrigated site. Slope is 2%. Surface texture is a silt loam and subsurface texture is a clay loam.
Site D – Depth Clarification
(Person is standing in the pit to give a visual for the pit depth.)