

LAND RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

Land resource assessment is an essential prerequisite for selecting and managing soils for any proposed land use. It is the process of characterising soil and land attributes and mapping the soils to show their spatial distribution.

Soil characterisation involves the identification and differentiation of soils based on their site and profile features. In the field, soil pits are excavated to depths of at least 1m, so as to allow detailed description of profile characteristics and the collection of soil samples for laboratory analysis so as to assess chemical, mineralogical and physical properties. Backhoes or excavators are commonly used to dig pits on open terrain. **Soil mapping** (also called soil surveying) is carried out using either a free survey or grid survey technique. The free survey method is normally used for medium and large-scale surveys, particularly in non-forested terrain where landforms and other topographic features are readily observable. The grid survey method is mainly used in detailed surveys where more accurate information on soil distribution is required.

Soil Professionals Pty Ltd is able to provide soil characterisation and soil mapping services at detailed or broad scales over a wide range of terrain in temperate, subtropical and tropical regions.

