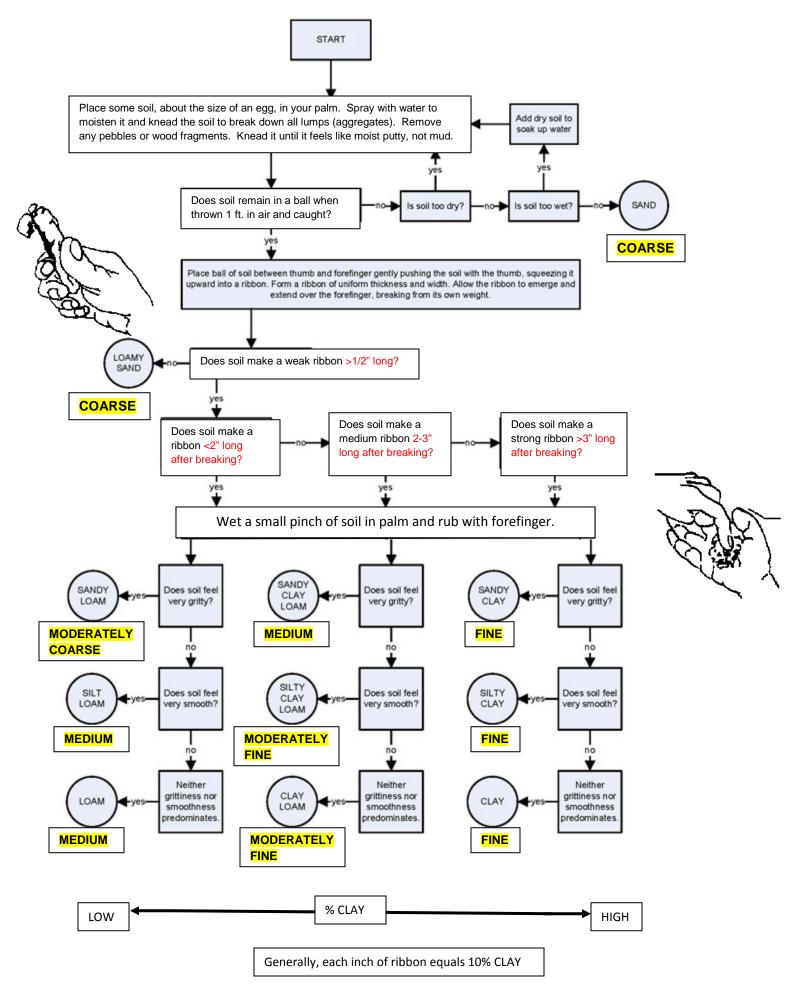
## **GUIDE FOR ESTIMATING SOIL TEXTURE BY FEEL**



## FIELD CRITERIA USED IN DETERMINING MAJOR TEXTURAL CLASSES

TEXTURE CLASS	FEEL	ABILITY TO		SOIL	STICKY	CONSISTENCY	
MAJOR (USDA)	MOIST	FORM STABLE BALL	RIBBON OUT	HANDS	STICKY	MOIST	DRY
COARSE	very	no	no	no	no	loose	loose
(sand)	gritty						
COARSE	very	yes	yes, very weak	yes slight	no	loose	loose
(loamy sand)	gritty		<1/2" long				
MOD. COARSE	gritty	yes, easily	yes, dull surface	yes	no	very	soft
(sandy loam)	gritty	deformed	poorly formed			friable	
MEDIUM	slightly	yes, dull surface	VOC	yes, slight	friable	soft	
(loam)	gritty	yes	poorly formed	yes	to moderate	mable	SUIL
MEDIUM	velvety	yes	yes, dull surface	yes	yes, slight	friable	soft
(silt loam)			poor to well formed		to moderate		
MOD. FINE	velvety	yes	yes, shiny surface	yes	yes	friable	slightly
(silty clay loam)	& sticky	very stable	well formed			to firm	hard
MOD. FINE	slightly gritty	yes	yes, shiny surface	yes	yes	firm	slightly hard
(clay loam)	& sticky	very stable	well formed				to hard
MEDIUM	very gritty	yes	yes, shiny surface	yes	yes	friable	slightly hard
(sandy clay loam)	& sticky	very stable	well formed			to firm	to hard
FINE	very gritty	yes	yes, shiny surface	yes	yes	firm	hard to
(sandy clay)	ext. sticky	very stable	well formed		very		very hard
FINE	ext. sticky &	yes, very resistent	yes, shiny surface	yes	yes	firm to	hard to
(silty clay)	very smooth	to molding	well formed		very	ext. frim	very hard
FINE	ext. sticky &	yes, very resistent	yes, shiny surface	yes	yes	firm to	hard to
(clay)	very smooth	to molding	well formed		very	ext. frim	very hard

