



TIM O'HARE ASSOCIATES
SOIL & LANDSCAPE CONSULTANCY

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21st February 2023
Our Ref: TOHA/23/7822/3/SS
Your Ref: PO 425095

Dear Sirs

Topsoil Analysis Report: Barnsdale Landscape Grade Topsoil

We have completed the analysis of the soil sample recently submitted, referenced *Barnsdale Landscape Grade Topsoil*, and have pleasure reporting our findings.

The purpose of the analysis was to determine the suitability of the sample for 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 Topsoil (*BS3882:2015 – Specification for Topsoil – Table 1, Multipurpose Topsoil*).

This report presents the results of analysis for the sample submitted to our office, and it should be considered 'indicative' of the topsoil source. The report and results should therefore not be used by third parties as a means of verification or validation testing or waste designation purposes, especially after the topsoil has left the Green-tech Ltd site.

SAMPLE EXAMINATION

The sample was described as a dark reddish brown (Munsell Colour 5YR 3/4), slightly moist, friable, slightly calcareous LOAMY SAND with a weakly developed, fine and occasionally medium granular structure. The sample was slightly stony and contained a moderate proportion of organic fines and occasional woody fragments. No unusual odours, roots or rhizomes of pernicious weeds were observed.

*This appraisal of soil structure was made from examination of a disturbed sample. 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, 20-50mm, >50mm);
- pH and electrical conductivity values;
- exchangeable sodium percentage;
- major plant nutrients (N, P, K, Mg);
- organic matter content;
- C:N ratio;
- heavy metals (As, Cd, Cr, Cu, Pb, Hg, Ni, Se, Zn, B);
- total cyanide and total (mono) phenols;
- speciated PAHs (US EPA16 suite);
- aromatic and aliphatic TPH (C5-C35 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

Detailed Particle Size Analysis and Stone Content

The sample fell into the *loamy sand* texture class, which is usually considered suitable for general landscape applications provided the soil's physical condition is satisfactory.

The sample was virtually stone-free and as such, stones should not restrict the use of the soil for general landscape purposes.

pH and Electrical Conductivity Values

The sample was strongly alkaline in reaction (pH 8.5). This pH value would be considered suitable for general landscape purposes provided species with a wide pH tolerance or those known to prefer alkaline soils are selected for planting, turfing and seeding.

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

The electrical conductivity value by CaSO₄ extract (BS3882 requirement) fell below the maximum specified value (3300 µS/cm) given in BS3882:2015 – Table 1.

Organic Matter and Fertility Status

The sample was adequately to well supplied with organic matter and all major plant nutrients.

The C:N ratio of the sample was acceptable for general landscape purposes.

Potential Contaminants

With reference to BS3882:2015 - Table 1: Notes 3 and 4, there is a recommendation to confirm levels of potential contaminants in relation to the topsoil'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 that affect human health have been assessed for *residential with homegrown produce* 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 (C4SLs) for Assessment of Land Affected by Contamination – Policy Companion Document* (2014).

Of the potential contaminants determined, none was found at levels that exceeded their 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 *BS3882:2015 – Table 1*.

CONCLUSION

The purpose of the analysis was to determine the suitability of the sample for 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 Topsoil (*BS3882:2015 – Specification for Topsoil – Table 1, Multipurpose Topsoil*).

From the soil examination and subsequent laboratory analysis, the sample was described as a strongly alkaline, non-saline, slightly calcareous loamy sand with a weakly developed structure and very low stone content. The sample was adequately to well supplied with organic matter and all major plant nutrients. Of the potential contaminants determined, none exceeded their respective guideline values.

Based on our findings, the topsoil represented by this sample would be considered suitable for general landscape purposes provided species with a wide pH tolerance or those known to prefer alkaline soils are selected and the soil's physical condition is maintained.

The topsoil was also fully compliant with the requirements of the British Standard for Topsoil (*BS3882:2015 – Specification for Topsoil – Table 1, Multipurpose Topsoil*).

General Landscape Environments

Rootballed Trees

The most demanding planting environment is semi-mature, pit planted trees. Trees of this size and age have grown accustomed to optimum growing conditions in the nursery, and these need to be replicated when the rootballed or containerised tree is planted in the pit. In particular, aeration and drainage around the rootball are critical. Without these properties, trees will very quickly suffer and possibly die during their first few growing seasons after planting.

The topsoil can be used as backfill in tree pits to a maximum depth of 400mm, provided the topsoil is kept dry and non-plastic during planting.

Shrubs

Containerised shrubs are generally more tolerant of a wider range of soil-types, and they require less topsoil to root into than trees. The topsoil would be suited to a range of shrubs typically used in commercial and domestic landscaping.

Forestry Stock

Less demanding planting habitats include indigenous woodland planting, planted as small whips and feathered trees. The topsoil would be suitable for such planting environments.

Amenity Grass

This soil would be considered suitable for amenity grass seeding and turfing

Sports Pitches

This soil is suited for sports pitch construction given its high sand content. However, all materials to be used for sports pitch construction, including topsoil, should be carefully considered in relation to the required performance and standard of the sports pitch.

Domestic Gardens

The horticultural properties of the soil would be suitable for domestic garden applications. In addition, of the potential contaminants determined, none was found at levels that would be considered elevated. However, permissible levels for potential contaminants do vary from site to site. Therefore, the suitability of topsoil represented by this sample for any particular project or development should be confirmed by comparing the results against the site's specific assessment criteria.

Soil Handling Recommendations

It is important to maintain the physical condition of the soil and avoid structural damage during all phases of soil handling (e.g. stockpiling, respreading, cultivating, planting, seeding or turfing). As a consequence, soil handling operations should be carried out when soil is sufficiently dry to be non-plastic (friable) in consistency.

It is important to ensure that the soil is not unnecessarily compacted by trampling or trafficking by site machinery, and soil handling should be stopped during and after heavy rainfall and not continued until the soil is friable in consistency. If the soil is structurally damaged and compacted at any stage during the course of soiling or landscaping works, it should be cultivated appropriately to relieve the compaction and to restore the soil's structure prior to any planting, turfing or seeding.

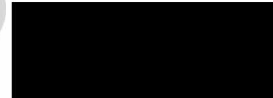
Further details on soil handling are provided in Annex A of *BS3882:2015*.

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



Zoe Duffin
MBiol
Graduate Soil Scientist



Aaron Cross
BSc MSc
Soil Scientist

For & on behalf of Tim O'Hare Associates LLP



Client:	Green-tech Ltd
Project	Barnsdale Landscape Grade Topsoil
Job:	Topsoil Analysis - BS3882:2015
Date:	21/02/23
Job Ref No:	TOHA/23/7822/3/SS

Sample Reference		Accreditation
Clay (<0.002mm)	%	UKAS
Silt (0.002-0.05mm)	%	UKAS
Very Fine Sand (0.05-0.15mm)	%	UKAS
Fine Sand (0.15-0.25mm)	%	UKAS
Medium Sand (0.25-0.50mm)	%	UKAS
Coarse Sand (0.50-1.0mm)	%	UKAS
Very Coarse Sand (1.0-2.0mm)	%	UKAS
Total Sand (0.05-2.0mm)	%	UKAS
Texture Class (UK Classification)		UKAS
Stones (2-20mm)	% DW	GLP
Stones (20-50mm)	% DW	GLP
Stones (>50mm)	% DW	GLP

pH Value (1:2.5 water extract)	units	UKAS
Electrical Conductivity (1:2.5 water extract)	uS/cm	UKAS
Electrical Conductivity (1:2 CaSO ₄ extract)	uS/cm	UKAS
Exchangeable Sodium Percentage	%	UKAS
Organic Matter (LOI)	%	UKAS
Total Nitrogen (Dumas)	%	UKAS
C : N Ratio	ratio	UKAS
Extractable Phosphorus	mg/l	UKAS
Extractable Potassium	mg/l	UKAS
Extractable Magnesium	mg/l	UKAS

Total Arsenic (As)	mg/kg	MCERTS
Total Cadmium (Cd)	mg/kg	MCERTS
Total Chromium (Cr)	mg/kg	MCERTS
Hexavalent Chromium (Cr VI)	mg/kg	MCERTS
Total Copper (Cu)	mg/kg	MCERTS
Total Lead (Pb)	mg/kg	MCERTS
Total Mercury (Hg)	mg/kg	MCERTS
Total Nickel (Ni)	mg/kg	MCERTS
Total Selenium (Se)	mg/kg	MCERTS
Total Zinc (Zn)	mg/kg	MCERTS
Water Soluble Boron (B)	mg/kg	MCERTS
Total Cyanide (CN)	mg/kg	MCERTS
Total (mono) Phenols	mg/kg	MCERTS

Naphthalene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Acenaphthylene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Acenaphthene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Fluorene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Phenanthrene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Anthracene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Fluoranthene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Pyrene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Benzo(a)anthracene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Chrysene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Benzo(b)fluoranthene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Benzo(a)pyrene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Benzo(g,h,i)perylene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Total PAHs (sum USEPA16)	mg/kg	MCERTS

Aliphatic TPH >C5 - C6	mg/kg	MCERTS
Aliphatic TPH >C6 - C8	mg/kg	MCERTS
Aliphatic TPH >C8 - C10	mg/kg	MCERTS
Aliphatic TPH >C10 - C12	mg/kg	MCERTS
Aliphatic TPH >C12 - C16	mg/kg	MCERTS
Aliphatic TPH >C16 - C21	mg/kg	MCERTS
Aliphatic TPH >C21 - C35	mg/kg	MCERTS
Aliphatic TPH (C5 - C35)	mg/kg	MCERTS
Aromatic TPH >C5 - C7	mg/kg	MCERTS
Aromatic TPH >C7 - C8	mg/kg	MCERTS
Aromatic TPH >C8 - C10	mg/kg	MCERTS
Aromatic TPH >C10 - C12	mg/kg	MCERTS
Aromatic TPH >C12 - C16	mg/kg	MCERTS
Aromatic TPH >C16 - C21	mg/kg	MCERTS
Aromatic TPH >C21 - C35	mg/kg	MCERTS
Aromatic TPH (C5 - C35)	mg/kg	MCERTS

Benzene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Toluene	mg/kg	MCERTS
Ethylbenzene	mg/kg	MCERTS
p & m-xylene	mg/kg	MCERTS
o-xylene	mg/kg	MCERTS
MTBE (Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether)	mg/kg	MCERTS

Asbestos Screen	ND/D	ISO 17025
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LS = LOAMY SAND

Visual Examination

The sample was described as a dark reddish brown (Munsell Colour 5YR 3/4), slightly moist, friable, slightly calcareous LOAMY SAND with a weakly developed, fine and occasionally medium granular structure. The sample was slightly stony comprising stones up to 11mm in size and contained a moderate proportion of organic fines and occasional woody fragments. No unusual odours, roots or rhizomes of pernicious weeds were observed.

Results of analysis should be read in conjunction with the report they were issued with

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Landscape Grade Topsoil

9
13
10
14
32
10
12
78
LS
1
0
0

8.5
1112
3100
3.8
5.7
0.27
12
67
1450
216

3
0.2
7
< 1.8
24
16
< 0.3
6
< 1.0
39
1.2
< 1.0
< 1.0

< 0.05
< 0.05
< 0.05
< 0.05
< 0.05
< 0.05
< 0.05
0.05
0.08
< 0.05
< 0.05
< 0.1
< 0.05
< 0.05
< 0.05
< 0.05
< 0.05
< 0.80

< 0.001
< 0.001
< 0.001
< 1.0
< 2.0
< 8.0
< 8.0
< 10
< 0.001
< 0.001
< 0.001
< 1.0
< 2.0
< 10
< 10
< 10

< 0.005
< 0.005
< 0.005
< 0.005
< 0.005
< 0.005

Not Detected



Zoe Duffin
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Graduate Soil Scientist