

**Technical note:**

**Procedures for the definition and description  
of soils types for agriculture and animal  
husbandry purposes<sup>1</sup>**

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**Abstract**

A procedure is proposed, expressed as a model that is based on the systems theory, which permits a definition of soil types in a simple form, in such a way that they can be identified easier both by the agricultural technician and experienced farmers. The procedure is based on the description of the relevant attributes, which are easy to be identified by any user that is not necessarily a soil specialist, with the objective of describing the different types of soils that can exist in a specific area. The model consists of three kinds of data flow diagrams (DFD): context, analysis and expanded DFD. The validity of this procedure will allow one to come to the conclusion that soil studies can be undertaken over shorter periods of time and at a lower cost in comparison to conventional agrological surveys. Nevertheless this validated model is not aiming to replace the conventional agrological surveys, which are based on standards, and procedures that are universally accepted, generating valid and accurate information.

**Key words:** soil classification, soils types, land use types, model, data flow diagram, information systems.

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