

Table1: Information on soil types as desired by HP State Biodiversity Board

Soil type	Colour & texture	Other features	Major interventions for sustainability	Crops suitable	Flora & Fauna	Associated TK	Location (districts)
Low hill soils (up to 650 m altitude)	Greyish to yellowish brown and Loamy sand to sandy loam, embedded with pebbles	Mostly neutral and Low to medium in OC, CEC & WHC	Adoption of recommended i) Integrated nutrient management approach ii) Soil and water conservation technology/ Watershed Management Technology	Wheat, Maize, Paddy, Gram, Mustard, Potato, Sugarcane, etc.	Different trees, shrub and grass species		Una and Hamirpur and parts of Bilaspur, Kangra, Mandi, Sirmaur, Solan & Chamba
Mid hill soils (altitude from 651 to 1800 m)	Dark Yellowish brown to dark brown and Loam to clay loam	Slightly to moderately acidic and medium to high in OC, CEC & WHC		Wheat, Maize, Barley, Black Gram, Beans, Paddy, Ginger, etc, and suitable for quality seed production of temperate vegetables like cauliflower and root crops. Plantation crop: Tea			Parts of Sirmaur, Solan, Bilaspur, Kangra, Mandi, & Chamba
High hill soils (altitude from 1801 to 2200 m)	Light to dark brown, sandy loam to silt loam with varying percentage of gravels	Slightly to moderately acidic and medium in OC, CEC & WHC		Wheat, maize, Barley, Pseudo-cereals , Potato etc. and suitable for quality seed production of potato and temperate vegetables.			Shimla, Kullu and some parts of Solan, Chamba, Mandi, Sirmaur and Kangra districts
Mountainous soils (altitude more than 2200m)	Loamy sand to sandy loam with varying percentage of gravels and Light to dark yellowish brown	Neutral to slightly alkaline and low to medium in OC, CEC & WHC		Wheat, Barley, Pseudo-cereals (Buck wheat and Amaranthus) and suitable for quality seed production of temperate and European vegetables			Lahaul -Spiti , Kinnaur and Pangi district of Chamba

Note: OC=Organic carbon, CEC=Cation Exchange Capacity, WHC=Water Holding Capacity