

FURTHER CLASSIFICATION OF *BORALU* SERIES IN LOW COUNTRY WET ZONE OF SRI LANKA

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Soils of the *Boralu* series have developed from both khondalite and vijayan rocks. Therefore, *Boralu* series can occur in areas where both khondalite and vijayan rocks are found, but much more extensive on the latter. Soils of the *Boralu* series are intensively and widely used for homestead gardens, coconut, rubber, paddy and no extensive new land development can be considered. There is scope for increasing the quality and yield of agricultural production by introducing improved techniques of land use. Therefore, detailed information regarding the *Boralu* series is an urgent need. This study attempted to identify soil phases of *Boralu* series. A detailed medium intensity soil survey was conducted in Negombo, Mirigama and Minuwangoda divisions which represent all landforms, flat, undulating, rolling and hilly, where the *Boralu* series occur. Soils of one series can differ in texture of the surface soil, stoniness or other characteristics that affect on different uses. On the basis of such differences, a soil series was divided into phases. The name of the soil phase indicates a feature that affects management. In this study six soil phases have been identified in *Boralu* series, namely; *Boralu*-shallow, *Boralu*-deep, *Boralu*-level, *Boralu*-undulating, *Boralu*-rolling and *Boralu*-hilly. GIS software (ILWIS) was used to prepare phase level soil maps. These subdivisions facilitate land suitability evaluations for the improvement of the agricultural and other land uses.

Key words: *Boralu* series, Phases of *boralu*