



# WORKING WITH SOIL

*setting standards in soil science*



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The British Society of Soil Science (BSSS) launched the **Working with Soil** scheme in 2011 to help define professional standards in practical, applied soil science. The professional competency documents are now being translated into an integrated training programme.

**Working with Soil** has three objectives:

- An active, sustainable professional soil science community recruiting high-quality young scientist and engineers,
- A larger market place for professional soil science skills,
- Greater recognition of the value of soil science as a profession and career by society, governments and industry

Our starting point for the **Working with Soil** training programme has been the fundamental skills involved in examining and interpreting individual soils profiles and then soil variability in the field.

## Introduction to Soil Classification

This two day training course offers a unique opportunity to build your confidence and precision in characterising and describing the soil beneath your feet by introducing you to the principles of soil classification. Building on our *Exposing and Describing a Soil Profile* course, it covers more of the *Working with Soil* Foundation Skills and is the only course currently available in the UK that covers soil classification and introduces the World Reference Base and UK soil classification schemes.

By the end of this two day course, you will have learnt:

- how different soil classifications are structured and designed
- how national UK soil classifications relate to the World Reference Base that is used across Europe and the wider world
- how key diagnostic features relate to soil processes and functions

As well as taught sessions, you will go out in the field to work on a range of real soils. You will also receive a training pack including a detailed, comprehensive course book, soil description forms for future use and a hand lens. A course certificate will also be provided.

This two day course carries CPD points for various professional practice schemes.

Whilst there are no formal prerequisites for this course, you should already be familiar with soil description (e.g. recognising different soil horizons) and key soil properties (e.g. texture and colour).

**For more details: [www.soils.org.uk](http://www.soils.org.uk)**