

READING GUIDE*

Entisols

see Buol et al. (2011), Chapter 11, p. 283-292

OBJECTIVE: *To understand the nature and properties of soils classified as Entisols, to know the potential uses and limitations of these soils, and to recognize the taxa associated with Entisols in Soil Taxonomy.*

1. What is the central concept for soils classified as Entisols?
2. What distinguishes Entisols from nonsoil materials?
3. In what soil forming environments are Entisols most commonly found?
4. Explain why Entisols are found in each of the following settings. Be sure to specify the pedogenic processes that occur (or do not occur) to promote the occurrence of Entisols. (a) arid climates, (b) steep slopes, (c) flood plains, (d) inert parent materials, (e) resistant parent materials, (f) saturated materials, (g) young materials, (h) disturbed sites.
5. What percentage of the land area of the planet is occupied by Entisols?
6. While Entisols lack development of pedogenic horizons, what properties may be associated with Entisols?
7. What types of land use problems may be associated with soils classified as Entisols? Explain why land use practices may be limited. Be specific.
8. What land use practices are commonly supported by soils classified as Entisols?
9. Which diagnostic horizons may be found in soils classified as Entisols?
10. What suborders are identified for soils classified as Entisols? What are the diagnostic properties of each?
11. What properties are used to distinguish the great groups of soils classified as Entisols?
12. What are examples of areas where intense human activity has created soils classified as Entisols?

SYNTHESIS:

13. Where in West Virginia are soils classified as Entisols likely to be found? What are the suitabilities and limitations of these soils for various land uses?

* Questions in plain type represent basic facts and concepts. Questions in **bold** type are those that are answered in the text but require more careful consideration. The Synthesis questions at the end help you apply the facts and concepts to a relevant issue.