



Farm & Native Plant Nursery

Proud to be 100% NY Native!

New York Natives for Clay Soils

Finding plants that will grow in clay soils can be tough, but it is not impossible. The following native plants are a good start.

Wildflowers

- AQUILEGIA CANADENSIS Wild Columbine
- ASCLEPIAS INCARNATA Swamp Milkweed
- HELIOPSIS HELIANTHOIDES Ox-eye Sunflower
- IRIS VERSICOLOR Blue Flag
- LIATRIS SCARIOVA VAR. NOVAE-ANGLIAE
New England Blazing Star
- LOBELIA SIPHILITICA Blue Lobelia
- MONARDA FISTULOSA Wild Bergamot
- PENSTEMON DIGITALIS Tall White Beardtongue
- POLEMONIUM REPTANS Jacobs Ladder
- POLYGONATUM COMMUTATUM Solomon's Seal
- RUDBECKIA LACINIATA Cutleaf Coneflower
- SENNA HEBECARPA Wild Senna
- SYMPHYOTRICHUM LAEVE Smooth Aster
- SYMPHYOTRICHUM NOVAE-ANGLIAE
(formerly ASTER NOVAE-ANGLIAE) New England Aster
- VERBENA HASTATA Blue Vervain
- VERONICASTRUM VIRGINICUM Culvers Root
- VERNONIA NOVEBORACENSIS NY Ironweed
- ZIZIA AUREA Golden Alexander

Grasses and Ferns

- ANDROPOGON GERADII Big Bluestem
- ATHYRIUM FILIX-FEMINA Lady Fern
- SCHIZACHYRIUM SCOPARIUM Little Bluestem

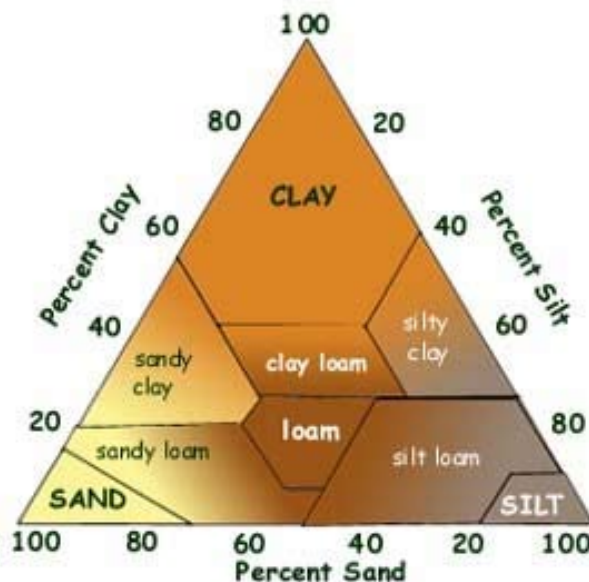
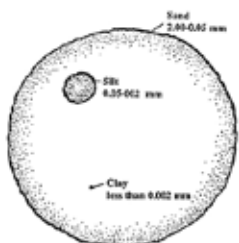
Shrubs

- CEPHALANTHUS OCCIDENTALIS Buttonbush
- CORNUS RACEMOSA Gray Dogwood
- HAMAMELIS VIRGINIANA Witchhazel
- ILEX VERTICILLATA Winterberry
- SAMBUCUS CANADENSIS Common Elderberry
- VIBURNUM OPULUS VAR. AMERICANUM
(formerly VIBURNUM TRILOBUM) Highbush Cranberry

How do you know what your soil texture is?

A hand-texturing test is one method for determining the texture of your soil. First, add water to a small amount of dry soil, and form it into a ball if you can. Knead the soil between your fingers to form a flat ribbon. Keep pushing the soil out into the ribbon until it breaks off. To determine the texture of your soil, measure the ribbon.

- If your ribbon measures less than 1 inch long before breaking, you have loam or silt.
- If your ribbon measures 1 to 2 inches long before breaking, you have clay loam.
- If your ribbon measures more than 2 inches long before breaking, you have clay.



So if you have clay, now what? It's next to impossible to change your soil texture - instead what you should do is work on your soil structure. To improve clay soil add in as much organic matter (leaves, lawn clippings, compost, manure) as you can and get it as deep as possible.