

United States Department of Agriculture Soil Survey of Sonoma County 1972

Goldridge Series:

The Goldridge series consists of moderately well-drained fine sandy loams that have a sandy clay loam subsoil. At a depth of 40 or more than 60 inches the soils are underlain by coarse-grained, weakly consolidated sandstone. These soils are on the uplands. They occur along the coast from the Freestone-Sebastopol area north to the vicinity of Annapolis. Slopes are 2 to 50 percent. Elevation ranges from 500 to 2,000 feet. Annual rainfall is 30 to 45 inches, annual temperature is 52 to 56 degrees F., and the frost-free season is 220 to 240 days. In most places the vegetation is chiefly redwood, Douglas-fir, baywood, oaks and some small shrubs and grasses. Much of the area of the soils in the southern part of the county has been cleared and is used for orchards. The Goldridge soils are associated with the Blucher, Cotati, Sebastopol, and Steinbeck soils.

In a typical profile the surface layer is light brownish-gray, very strongly acid and strongly acid fine sandy loam about 24 inches thick. The subsoil is light-gray, pale-yellow, and mottled very pale brown and light yellowish-brown, very strongly acid fine sandy loam and sandy clay loam. The substratum, to a depth of 72 inches, is very pale-brown very strongly acid sandy clay loam.

Goldridge soils are used mainly for apple or orchards and for timber. Scattered grasses area are used for range and pasture.