

FAO/Unesco, WRB	Characteristics	Parent material	Environment	USDA, Soil Taxonomy
Acrisols	characterized by accumulation of low activity clays in an argic subsurface horizon and by a low base saturation level.	found on acid rocks, mostly of Pleistocene age or older.	old land surfaces with hilly or undulating topography	Ultisols
Alisols	strongly acid soils with accumulated high activity clays in their subsoils.	wide variety of parent materials having high-activity clay minerals such as vermiculite or smectite.	in old land surfaces with a hilly or undulating topography, in humid (sub-)tropical and monsoon climates.	Ultisols
Cambisols	soils with beginning horizon differentiation evident from changes in colour, structure or carbonate content;	medium and fine-textured materials derived from a wide range of rocks, mostly in colluvial, alluvial or aeolian deposits.	level to mountainous terrain in all climates and under a wide range of vegetation types.	Inceptisols
Ferralsols	red and yellow tropical soils with a high content of sesquioxides	strongly weathered material on old, stable geomorphic surfaces; more in weathering material from basic rock than in siliceous material.	level to undulating land of Pleistocene age or older; less common on younger, easily weathering rocks.	oxisols