

Table 3.1

SIZES AND SURFACE AREA OF SOIL MINERAL PARTICLES

Soil type	Particle diameter (mm)		Surface area per gram (sq cm)
	USDA system	International Soil Science Society system	
very coarse sand	2.0–1.0	—	11
coarse sand	1.0–0.5	2.0–0.2	23
medium sand	0.5–0.25	—	45
fine sand	0.25–0.10	0.20–0.02	91
very fine sand	0.10–0.05	—	227
silt	0.05–0.002	0.02–0.002	454
clay	below 0.002	below 0.002	8,000,000

Source: Adapted from Foth 1978, p. 26.