

Spelling Bee: Review of the Soil Orders

Directions: Write a word or phrase to answer each question below.

Questions

1. What type of soils develop under forests and are usually fertile and good for crop production?
2. What type of soils develop over volcanic ash?
3. What type of soils develop in arid climates where it is very dry?
4. What type of soils are very young, weakly-developed, and are very similar to their parent material?
5. What type of soils are found in cold areas where the ground is often frozen?
6. What type of soils are mucky, moist, and are made almost entirely of organic matter?
7. What type of soils are slightly older than entisols, but still slightly resemble the parent material?
8. What type of soils are found under grasslands and have many nutrients, as well as high organic matter contents?
9. What type of soils form under tropical rainforests?
10. What type of soils are usually sandy, light-colored, and lack nutrients?
11. What type of soils are usually found in warm, humid subtropical areas?
12. What soils have high shrink-swell clay content, causing them to churn in place?

Answers

1. alfisols
Alfisols develop in forests as fertile and good for crop production.
2. andisols
Andisols develop over volcanic ash.
3. aridisols
Aridisols develop in arid climates.
4. entisols
Entisols are young and like their parent material.
5. gelisols
Gelisols develop in cold climates with often-frozen ground.
6. histisols
Histisols are moist and made of organic matter.
7. inceptisols
Inceptisols are like the parent material but are more aged than entisols.
8. mollisols
Mollisols develop in grasslands with rich nutrients.
9. oxisols
Oxisols develop in tropical rainforests.

10. spodosols

Spodosols are sandy and lack nutrients.

11. ultisols

Ultisols are found in warm, subtropical climates.

12. vertisols

Vertisols churn in place due to high shrink-swell content.