

Mr John Coles
Bury Hill Landscape Supplies Ltd
The Estate Office
Old Bury Hill
Westcott
Nr Dorking
Surrey, RH4 3JU

9th December 2022 Our Ref: TOHA/22/7685/4/SS

Your Ref: see below

Dear Sirs

Soil Analysis Report: Bury Hill Horsham Yard - Rain Garden Soil (E)

We have completed the analysis of the sample recently submitted, referenced *Rain Garden Soil (E)* and have pleasure reporting our findings.

The purpose of the analysis was to determine the suitability of the sample for use as a topsoil for rain gardens. Rain gardens are typically small features that are less engineered than full bioretention systems that use specialist, high permeability rootzones. For rain gardens, a sandy topsoil with normal levels of fertility is usually preferred.

This report presents the results of analysis for the sample submitted to our office, and it should be considered 'indicative' of the soil source. The report and results should therefore not be used by third parties as a means of verification or validation testing or waste designation purposes, especially after the soil has left the Bury Hill Landscape Supplies Ltd site.

SAMPLE EXAMINATION

The sample was described as a dark yellowish brown (Munsell Colour 10YR 3/4), slightly moist, friable, non-calcareous SAND with a single grain structure. The sample was very slightly stony and contained a moderate proportion of organic fines and occasional woody fragments. No unusual odours, deleterious materials, roots or rhizomes of pernicious weeds were observed.



Plate 1: Rain Garden Soil (E) Sample

ANALYTICAL SCHEDULE

The sample was submitted to a UKAS and MCERTS accredited laboratory for a range of physical and chemical tests to confirm the composition, drainage rate and fertility of the rootzone, and the concentration of selected potential contaminants. The following parameters were determined:

- detailed particle size analysis (5 sands, silt, clay);
- stone content (2-20mm, 20-50mm, >50mm);
- saturated hydraulic conductivity;
- pH and electrical conductivity values;
- calcium carbonate;
- exchangeable sodium percentage;
- major plant nutrients (N, P, K, Mg);
- organic matter content;
- C:N ratio;
- heavy metals (Sb, As, B, Cd, Cr, Cu, Pb, Hg, Ni, Se, Zn);
- total cyanide and total (mono) phenols;
- speciated PAHs (US EPA16 suite);
- aromatic and aliphatic TPH (C5-C35 banding);
- benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene (BTEX);
- asbestos screen.

The results are presented on the attached Certificate of Analysis and an interpretation of the results is given below.

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RESULTS OF ANALYSIS

Particle Size Analysis and Stone Content

The sample fell into the sand texture class. Further detailed particle size analysis revealed the sample to have a narrow particle size distribution and a predominance of *medium sand* (0.25-0.50mm), followed by *coarse sand* (0.50-1.0mm). This particle size distribution would be considered suitable for topsoil in a rain garden environment.

The sample was very slightly stony, and as such stones will not restrict the use of the soil.

Saturated Hydraulic Conductivity

The saturated hydraulic conductivity rate (23mm/hr) recorded under a degree of consolidation would be described as moderate and would be considered suitable for a rain garden environment provided it meets the specific drainage performance for the respective scheme.

pH and Calcium Carbonate Values

The sample was strongly alkaline in reaction (pH 8.4) and non-calcareous (CaCO₃ <1%).

The main source of the 'alkalinity' is likely to be the potassium ions from the compost in the sample. As such, this pH value would be considered suitable for most plant species, including those that are intolerant of calcareous (chalky) soils.

Electrical Conductivity Values

The electrical conductivity (salinity) values (water and CaSO₄ extracts) were moderate, which indicates that soluble salts should not be present at levels that would be harmful to plants.

Organic Matter and Fertility Status

The sample was adequately supplied with organic matter and all major plant nutrients.

The C:N ratio of the sample was acceptable for general landscape purposes.

Potential Contaminants

In the absence of site-specific assessment criteria, the concentrations that affect human health have been compared with the *residential with homegrown produce* land use in the Suitable For Use Levels (S4ULs) presented in *The LQM/CIEH S4ULs for Human Health Risk Assessment* (2015) and the DEFRA SP1010: Development of Category 4 Screening Levels (C4SLs) for Assessment of Land Affected by Contamination – Policy Companion Document (2014).

Of the potential contaminants determined, none was found at levels that exceeded their guideline values.

Phytotoxic Contaminants

Of the phytotoxic (toxic to plants) contaminants determined (copper, nickel, zinc), none was found at levels that exceeded the maximum permissible levels.

CONCLUSION

The purpose of the analysis was to determine the suitability of the sample for use as a topsoil for rain gardens.

From the soil examination and subsequent laboratory analysis, the sample was described as a strongly alkaline, non-saline, non-calcareous sand with an adequate structure and very low stone content. The sample was adequately supplied with organic matter and all major plant nutrients. Of the potential contaminants determined, none exceeded their respective guideline values.

Based on these results, the soil represented by this sample would be considered suitable for use as topsoil within a 'rain garden' landscape provided the drainage rate meets the requirements of the respective scheme.

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Soil Handling Recommendations

It is important to maintain the physical condition of the soil and avoid compaction during all phases of soil handling (e.g. stockpiling, respreading, cultivating, seeding or turfing). As a consequence, soil handling operations should be carried out when soil and the underlying ground is sufficiently dry and stable.

It is important to ensure that the soil is not unnecessarily compacted by trampling or trafficking by site machinery, and soil handling should be stopped during and after heavy rainfall and not continued until the ground has dried out. If the soil is compacted at any stage during the course of soiling or landscaping works, it should be decompacted appropriately.

We hope this report meets with your approval and provides the necessary information. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned if we can be of further assistance.

Yours faithfully

Harriet MacRae

BSc MSc Graduate Soil Scientist

H.MacKae

For & on behalf of Tim O'Hare Associates LLF

Matthew Heins BSc (Hons) MISoilSci Senior Soil Scientist

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Sample Reference			Rain Garden Soil (E)
oumpie Reference		Accreditation	Num our don (L)
Clay (<0.002mm)	%	UKAS	4
Silt (0.002-0.05mm)	%	UKAS	0
Very Fine Sand (0.05-0.15mm)	%	UKAS	1
	%	UKAS	5
Fine Sand (0.15-0.25mm)			
Medium Sand (0.25-0.50mm)	%	UKAS	43
Coarse Sand (0.50-1.0mm)	%	UKAS	35
Very Coarse Sand (1.0-2.0mm)	%	UKAS	12
Total Sand (0.05-2.0mm)	%	UKAS	96
Texture Class (UK Classification)		UKAS	S
Stones (2-20mm)	% DW	GLP	2
Stones (20-50mm)	% DW	GLP	0
Stones (>50mm)	% DW	GLP	0
Saturated Hydraulic Conductivity	mm/hr	A2LA	23
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pH Value (1:2.5 water extract)	units	UKAS	8.4
Calcium Carbonate	%	UKAS	< 1.0
Electrical Conductivity (1:2.5 water extract)	uS/cm	UKAS	921
Electrical Conductivity (1:2 CaSO ₄ extract)	uS/cm	UKAS	3128
Exchangeable Sodium Percentage	%	UKAS	4.7
Organic Matter (LOI)	%	UKAS	6.3
Total Nitrogen (Dumas)	%	UKAS	0.21
C : N Ratio	ratio	UKAS	17
Extractable Phosphorus	mg/l	UKAS	55
Extractable Potassium	mg/l	UKAS	915
			999
Extractable Magnesium	mg/l	UKAS	99
Total Associa (As)		MOESTS	
Total Arsenic (As)	mg/kg	MCERTS	3
Total Cadmium (Cd)	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.2
Total Chromium (Cr)	mg/kg	MCERTS	6
Hexavalent Chromium (Cr VI)	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 1.8
Total Copper (Cu)	mg/kg	MCERTS	12
Total Lead (Pb)	mg/kg	MCERTS	10
			< 0.3
Total Mercury (Hg)	mg/kg	MCERTS	
Total Nickel (Ni)	mg/kg	MCERTS	4
Total Selenium (Se)	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 1.0
Total Zinc (Zn)	mg/kg	MCERTS	27
Water Soluble Boron (B)	mg/kg	MCERTS	1
Total Cyanide (CN)	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 1.0
Total (mono) Phenols	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 1.0
	133		
Naphthalene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.05
Acenaphthylene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.05
Acenaphthene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.05
Fluorene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.05
Phenanthrene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.05
Anthracene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.05
Fluoranthene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.05
Pyrene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.05
Benzo(a)anthracene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.05
Chrysene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.05
Benzo(b)fluoranthene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.05
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.05
Benzo(a)pyrene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.05
Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.05
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.05
Benzo(g,h,i)perylene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.05
Total PAHs (sum USEPA16)	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.80
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Aliphatic TPH >C5 - C6	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.001
Aliphatic TPH >C6 - C8	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.001
Aliphatic TPH >C8 - C10	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.001
Aliphatic TPH >C10 - C12	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 1.0
Aliphatic TPH >C12 - C16	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 2.0
Aliphatic TPH >C16 - C21	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 8.0
Aliphatic TPH >C21 - C35	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 8.0
Aliphatic TPH (C5 - C35)	mg/kg	MCERTS	<10
Aromatic TPH >C5 - C7	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.001
Aromatic TPH >C7 - C8		MCERTS	< 0.001
	mg/kg		< 0.001
Aromatic TPH > C8 - C10	mg/kg	MCERTS	
Aromatic TPH >C10 - C12	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 1.0
Aromatic TPH >C12 - C16	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 2.0
Aromatic TPH >C16 - C21	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 10
Aromatic TPH >C21 - C35	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 10
Aromatic TPH (C5 - C35)	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 10
(======			
Benzene	malka	MCERTS	< 0.001
	mg/kg	MCERTS	
Toluene	mg/kg		< 0.001
Ethylbenzene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.001
p & m-xylene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.001
o-xylene	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.001
MTBE (Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether)	mg/kg	MCERTS	< 0.001
			
Asbestos	ND/D	ISO 17025	Not-detected .

S = SAND

Client: Project: Job: Date:

Job Ref No:

Visual Examination

The sample was described as a dark yellowish brown (Munsell Colour 10YR 3/4), slightly moist, friable, non-calcareous SAND with a single grain structure. The sample was very slightly stony and contained a moderate proportion of organic fines and occasional woody fragments. No unusual odours, deleterious materials, roots or rhizomes of pernicious weeds

Results of analysis should be read in conjunction with the report they were issued with

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H.MacRae

Harriet MacRae BSc MSc Graduate Soil Scientist