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Our Ref: TOHA/24/1206/8/SS  
Your Ref: see below

Dear Sirs

**Subsoil Analysis Report: Bury Hill Horsham Yard – Washed Tree Pit Subsoil (E)**

We have completed the analysis of the soil sample recently submitted, referenced *Washed Tree Pit Subsoil (E)*, and have pleasure reporting our findings.

The purpose of the analysis was to determine the suitability of the sample for use as a free-draining subsoil for tree planting in hard landscape situations.

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

**SAMPLE EXAMINATION**

The sample can be described as a brownish yellow (Munsell Colour, 10YR 6/8), moist, friable, non-calcareous SAND with a single grain structure. The sample was stone free and no unusual odours, deleterious materials, roots or rhizomes of pernicious weeds were observed.

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*Plate 1: Washed Tree Pit Subsoil (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 of the soil. The following parameters were determined:

- detailed particle size analysis (5 sands, silt, clay);
- stone content (2-20mm, 20-75mm, >75mm);
- saturated hydraulic conductivity;
- pH and electrical conductivity (1:2.5 water extract);
- exchangeable sodium percentage
- calcium carbonate.
- organic matter content;
- california bearing ratio (CBR);
- visible contaminants;
- heavy metals (Sb, As, B, Ba, Be, Cd, Cr, Cu, Pb, Hg, Ni, Se, V, 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.

## **RESULTS OF ANALYSIS**

### **Particle Size Analysis and Saturated Hydraulic Conductivity**

The sample fell into the *sand* texture class. The grading of the sand indicates a narrow particle size distribution with a predominance of *medium sand* (0.25-0.50mm). As such, the soil should maintain sufficient porosity levels in a compacted state and the risk of particle interpacking is minimised.

The permeability of the sample when in a compacted state (Standard Compaction) was very high (621 mm/hr) and indicates that the sand would demonstrate satisfactory drainage performance for tree planting in hard landscape situations.

### **Stone Content**

The sample was stone-free and, as such, stones should not restrict the use of the soil for use as subsoil in general landscape purposes.

### **pH and Electrical Conductivity Values**

The sample was slightly alkaline in reaction (pH 7.4), with a pH value that would be suitable for general landscape purposes.

The electrical conductivity (salinity) value (water and CaSO<sub>4</sub> extracts) were low, which indicates that soluble salts were not present at levels that would be harmful to plants.

### **Organic Matter Content**

The organic matter content was low (<0.5%), which is suitable for use as a subsoil.

### **California Bearing Ratio**

A re-compacted California Bearing Ratio (CBR) was completed as part of the engineering testing undertaken on the sample. The sample was re-compacted using the 2.5kg rammer at the as received moisture content and the sample returned a minimum CBR of 10%. Assuming that the in-situ compaction method selected during installation provides similar levels of compaction to that of the laboratory test, the in-situ performance of the material should be able to achieve a similar result, provided it is compacted at the same moisture content (8%).

As the performance of the soil will be linked to the moisture content at time of compaction, further work may be required in order to correlate the change in engineering performance of the material over the range of moisture contents at which the soil is likely to be placed and compacted.

We recommend a more conservative approach with the performance of the material, and, as opposed to a CBR of 10%, we would quote "should achieve a CBR in excess of 5%..." The 5% CBR is important as this is the lower limit for the sub-grade for the minimum construction thickness.

### **Potential Contaminants**

In the absence of site-specific assessment criteria, the concentrations of selected potential contaminants that affect human health have been assessed for the concentrations that affect human health have been assessed for *residential* end-use against 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 for Assessment of Land Affected by Contamination – Policy Companion Document (2014).

Of the potential contaminants determined, none exceeded their respective guideline values.

### **Phytotoxic Contaminants**

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

## CONCLUSION

The purpose of the analysis was to determine the suitability of the sample for use as a subsoil for tree planting in hard landscape situations provided a free-draining subsoil is acceptable.

From the soil examination and subsequent laboratory analysis, the soil represented by this sample was described as a slightly alkaline, non-saline, non-calcareous, sand with a single grain structure. The sample was stone free and the organic matter content was low and consistent with subsoil. The permeability rate of the sample was high. Of the potential contaminants determined, none exceeded their respective guideline values.

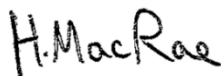
Based on our findings, the sand represented by this sample would be considered suitable for use as a subsoil for tree planting in hard landscape situations.

The suitability of the drainage rate and need for any further geotechnical tests in relation to use of the material as a load bearing substrate should be confirmed by the engineer for the recipient site as necessary.

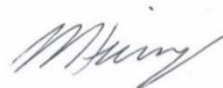
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We hope this report meets with your approval and provides the necessary information. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned if we can be of further assistance.

Yours faithfully



**Harriet MacRae**  
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Graduate Soil Scientist



**Matthew Heins**  
BSc (Hons) MSoilSci  
Senior Soil Scientist

For & on behalf of Tim O'Hare Associates LLP

