

# Characteristics of Good Soil

Soil should be soft enough and have sufficient organic matter to allow rain water percolates easily.

## Soil contents

Soil should have no more than 0.5 % organic carbon, 100 Kgs of nitrogen, 10 Kgs of phosphorus and 50 Kgs of potash per acre.

The Soil pH should be between pH values of 6.5 and 7.5 so that plants absorb the nutrients. In very high or low pH, soil microbes cannot survive or work efficiently which affects the availability of nutrients absorption, seed germination and crop health.

## Benefits of humus

Humus of the soil is food and shelter for food microbes. High humus content improves the soil structure and enables better soil aeration thus the plant roots and soil microbes get enough oxygen and soil temperature remains under control.

Humus also allows a good volume of rain water to percolate, hence, the availability of soil moisture of the plant improves and the water holding capacity creating healthy soil micro climate which support microbial activity. In the long run plant growth and yields are improved.