

**Soil Survey Laboratory Methods Manual, SSIR #42, Version 4.0**  
**November, 2004**  
**Errata**

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01/16/2007: Replace pages 443 and 444, MINERALOGY CODES, with the following.

**SOIL SURVEY LABORATORY**  
**CODES FOR MINERALS, MINERALOIDS, AND ROCKS**

**Resistant Minerals**

AE = Anatase	MD = Resistant Mineraloids
AN = Andalusite	MG = Magnetite
BY = Beryl	MH = Maghemite
CD = Chalcedony (Chert, Flint, Jasper, Agate, Onyx)	MZ = Monazite
CE = Cobalite	OP = Opaques
CH = Cliachite (Bauxite)	OR = Other Resistant Minerals
CN = Corundum	PO = Plant Opal
CR = Cristobalite	PN = Pollen
CT = Cassiterite	QC = Clay-Coated Quartz
DI = Diatoms	QI = Iron-Coated Quartz
FE = Iron Oxides (Goethite, Magnetite, Hematite, Limonite)	QZ = Quartz
GD = Gold	RA = Resistant Aggregates
GE = Goethite	RE = Resistant Minerals
GI = Gibbsite	RU = Rutile
GN = Garnet	SA = Siliceous Aggregates
HE = Hematite	SL = Sillimanite
HS = Hydroxy-Interlayered Smectite	SN = Spinel
HV = Hydroxy-Interlayered Vermiculite	SO = Staurolite
KK = Kaolinite	SP = Sphene
KY = Kyanite	SS = Sponge Spicule
LE = Lepidocrocite	TD = Tridymite
LM = Limonite	TM = Tourmaline
LU = Leucoxene	TP = Topaz
	ZR = Zircon

**Weatherable Minerals**

AC = Actinolite	CB = Carbonate Aggregates <sup>1</sup>
AF = Arfvedsonite	CC = Coal
AG = Antigorite	CL = Chlorite
AH = Anthophyllite	CM = Chlorite-Mica
AI = Aegerine-Augite	CO = Collophane
AL = Allophane	CY = Chrysotile
AM = Amphibole	CZ = Clinozoisite
AO = Aragonite <sup>1</sup>	DL = Dolomite
AP = Apatite	DP = Diopside
AR = Weatherable Aggregates	DU = Dumortierite
AU = Augite	EN = Enstatite
AY = Anhydrite <sup>1</sup>	EP = Epidote
BA = Barite	FA = Andesite
BC = Biotite-Chlorite	FB = Albite
BE = Boehmite	FC = Microcline
BG = Basic Glass	FD = Feldspar
BK = Brookite	FF = Foraminifera
BR = Brucite	FG = Glass-Coated Feldspar
BT = Biotite	FH = Anorthoclase
BZ = Bronzite	FK = Potassium Feldspar
CA = Calcite <sup>1</sup>	FL = Labradorite

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FM = Ferromagnesium Mineral	NJ = Natrojarosite
FN = Anorthite	NX = Non-Crystalline
FO = Oligoclase	OG = Glass-Coated Opaque
FP = Plagioclase Feldspar	OV = Olivine
FR = Orthoclase	OW = Other Weatherable Minerals
FS = Sanidine	PA = Palagonite
FU = Fluorite <sup>1</sup>	PD = Piemontite
FZ = Feldspathoids	PG = Palygorskite
GA = Glass Aggregates	PI = Pyrite
GC = Glass-Coated Grain	PJ = Plumbjarosite
GG = Galena	PK = Perovskite
GL = Glauconite	PL = Phlogopite
GM = Glassy Materials	PM = pumice
GO = Glaucothane	PR = Pyroxene
GS = Glass	PU = Pyrolusite
GY = Gypsum <sup>1</sup>	PY = Pyrophyllite
HA = Halite <sup>1</sup>	QG = Glass-Coated Quartz
HB = Hydrobiotite	RB = Riebeckite (Blue Amphibole)
HG = Glass-Coated Hornblende	RO = Rhodochrosite
HN = Hornblende	SC = Scapolite
ID = Iddingsite	SE = Sepiolite
IL = Illite (Hydromuscovite)	SG = Sphalerite
JO = Jarosite	SI = Siderite
KH = Halloysite	SM = Smectite
LA = Lamprobolite	SR = Sericite
LC = Analcime <sup>1</sup>	ST = Stilbite <sup>1</sup>
LI = Leucite	SU = Sulphur
LO = Lepidomelane	TA = Talc
LP = Lepidolite	TE = Tremolite
LT = Lithiophorite	TH = Thenardite <sup>1</sup>
MC = Montmorillonite-Chlorite	VC = Vermiculite-Chlorite
ME = Magnesite <sup>1</sup>	VH = Vermiculite-Hydrobiotite
MI = Mica	VI = Vivianite
ML = Melilite	VM = Vermiculite-Mica
MM = Montmorillonite-Mica	VR = Vermiculite
MR = Marcasite	WE = Weatherable Mineral
MS = Muscovite	WV = Wavellite
MT = Montmorillonite	ZE = Zeolite <sup>1</sup>
MV = Montmorillonite-Vermiculite	ZO = Zoisite
NE = Nepheline	

### **Glass Count Minerals and Mineraloids<sup>2</sup>**

Volcanic Glass Grains <sup>3</sup>	Organic Origin Grains <sup>4</sup>	Other Grains
BG = Basic Glass	DI = Diatoms	OT = Other
FG = Glass-Coated Feldspar	PO = Plant Opal	
GA = Glass Aggregates	SS = Sponge Spicule	
GC = Glass-Coated Grain		
GM = Glassy Materials		
GS = Glass		
HG = Glass-Coated Hornblende		
OG = Glass-Coated Opaque		
PA = Palagonite		
PM = Pumice		
QG = Glass-Coated Quartz		

<sup>1</sup>Minerals not included as “weatherable minerals” as defined by Soil Taxonomy (Soil Survey Staff, 1999) - “the intent is to include only those weatherable minerals that are unstable in a humid climate compared to other minerals such as quartz and 1:1 lattice clays, but are more resistant to weathering than calcite”. This group of minerals is not part of the calculation for percent resistant minerals used in the siliceous family mineralogy class or percent weatherable minerals used as criteria for oxic horizon but are included in the calculation of “total resistant minerals” on the SSL mineralogy data sheet. Therefore, the value on the data sheet should be recalculated for strict use in Soil Taxonomy criteria if these minerals (e.g., calcite) are present in the grain count of a selected horizon.

<sup>2</sup>Minerals on this list are identified during the “glass count” procedure of the Soil Survey Laboratory during the quantification of particle size separates in the sand-silt fraction. Minerals in the “OT” category are other weatherable or resistant minerals that would be quantified during a “full grain count”.

<sup>3</sup>Minerals and mineraloids in this column are all considered weatherable according to the Soil Survey Laboratory and are defined in Keys to Soil Taxonomy, Tenth Edition, 2006, as being “volcanic glass”. The percentages of these minerals are summed as “volcanic glass” and used in the criteria for andic soil properties and in other criteria as defined in Soil Taxonomy.

<sup>4</sup>Mineraloids included in this list are regarded as resistant minerals according to the Soil Survey Laboratory and included in the calculation of “total resistant minerals” on the laboratory datasheet.