

Major Land Resource Area 055A Northern Black Glaciated Plains

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Ecological site keys

MLRA 55A Ecological Site Key

A. Wooded site (Aspen overstory or Bur Oak and Green Ash)

I Site has dark colored soil surface >7" (Mollisol) with a mix of Bur Oak and Green Ash

II Site is in the Turtle Mountains or Pembina Gorge area. Soil has a thin albic horizon, uncoated sand grains, or grayish silt coats on ped surfaces. Aspen overstory with beaked hazel understory ... F055AY058ND – Upland Hardwood Forest

B. Water table is less than 6 feet from the surface. Sites occur in depressions on uplands or floodplains and drainageways.

I Site on lowland with EC>8 and/or visible salts and/or salt tolerant vegetation present ... R055AY042ND – Saline Lowland

II Site has strong to violent effervescence throughout the subsoil ... R055AY040ND – Limy Subirrigated

III Site is typically located in depressions, early growing season ponding, and is poorly drained ... R055AY055ND – Wet Meadow

IV Soil is somewhat poorly drained and redoximorphic features visible 18-30 inches from the soil surface ... R055AY048ND – Subirrigated

V Soil is very poorly drained, and usually ponded into mid-summer and has high organic matter content ... R055AY054ND – Shallow Marsh

VI Soil surface texture is fine sandy loam to loamy sand ... R055AY049ND – Subirrigated Sands

C. Bedrock and/or >15% of gravel is < 20 inches from soil surface

I Soil with >15% coarse sand or gravel at depths <14 inches ... R055AY053ND – Very Shallow

II Soil depth is 9-20 inches to bedrock

a Soil depth is 10-20" to weathered bedrock, shale, or strongly cemented silcrete ... R055AY057ND – Shallow Loamy

b Soil substratum contains up to 10-60% gravel and/or 25-75% sand ... R055AY046ND – Shallow Gravel

D. Sand content is >45% in the surface texture

I Site is located on dunes with >15% slope ... R055AY051ND – Choppy Sands

II Site has a sodic, dense claypan layer within 6-18" of surface and fine sandy loam or silt loam soil surface texture ... R055AY056ND – Sandy Claypan

III Fine sandy loam and sandy loam soil surface textures ... R055AY044ND – Sandy

IV Loamy fine sand to fine sand soil surface textures ... R055AY043ND – Sands

E. Clay content is >35% in soil surface texture

I Silty clay to clay soil surface texture and no root restrictive layer ... R055AY038ND – Clayey

II Soil has a dense, root-restrictive, claypan layer <6” from the surface ... R055AY050ND – Thin Claypan

**III Soil has dense, root-restrictive, claypan layer at 6-14” from the surface and a clay loam to clay soil surface texture ...
R055AY039ND – Claypan**

F. All other sites

I Site is in a floodplain or swale and fine sand loam or loam soil surface texture ... R055AY041ND – Loamy Overflow

**II Site located on shoulder slopes, convex rises, and summits. Strong to violent effervescence immediately below the surface layer ...
R055AY052ND – Thin Loamy**

III All other sites ... R055AY047ND – Loamy