

Table 7: Soil management groups for New York State agricultural soils.

Potassium recommendations for field crops in New York depend on soil management group. The soil management group is a measure of the potassium supplying power of the soil. It is dependent upon the clay content, the soil rooting depth and the soil structure. A clayey or silty clay loam soil with deep rooting would have a soil management group of 1 and a sandy soil would be a group 5. Most of the silt loam soils of the central plains are group 2's and the silt loam soils of the southern tier are groups 3's. See Table 1 (Cornell Soils Database) to determine the soil management groups of a specific New York soil.

Soil Management Group	General Description
1	Fine-textured soils developed from clayey lake sediments and medium- to fine-textured soils developed from lake sediments.
2	Medium- to fine-textured soils developed from calcareous glacial till and medium-textured to moderately fine-textured soils developed from slightly calcareous glacial till mixed with shale and medium-textured soils developed in recent alluvium.
3	Moderately coarse textured soil developed from glacial outwash and recent alluvium and medium-textured acid soil developed on glacial till.
4	Coarse- to medium-textured soils formed from glacial till or glacial outwash.
5	Coarse- to very coarse-textured soils formed from gravelly or sandy glacial outwash or glacial lake beach ridges or deltas.
6	Organic or muck soils with more than 80% organic matter.

Modified from: Cornell Field Crops & Soils Handbook, Cornell Cooperative Extension, 1987).