

Soil Stoniness - Specific Sites

202-53

Garretson Ridge, Belleaye Mtn. 5/15/03

These are all eye estimates, NOT folding ruler measurements!

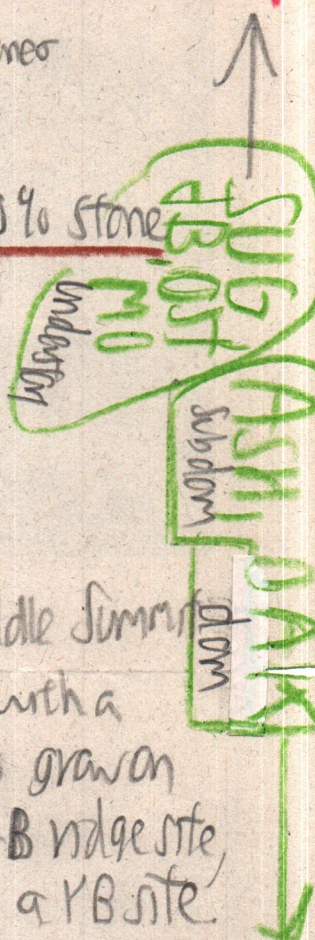
At #6 pit for charcoal, freshly eroded upper cut: 25 to 33% stones
in B horizon, median may be 30.

Above #4 on Lost Cove Trail, under an oak log dunned: <20% stone

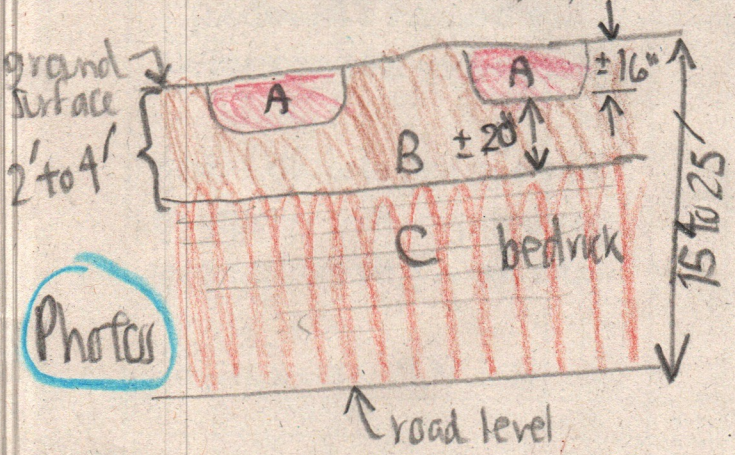
On steep pitch along trail, trail is m cut at 2600' level:
Trail eroded with 25 to 30% stone

#4 charcoal pit - about 25% stoner

"Pancake" ^{of YB} exposed several years prior, along trail W of Middle Summit
of Belleaye, on N maybe 50' in elev. below. YB dom, with a
few sub to SH. Polytrichum & Dicranella has had time to grow on
the exposed mineral soil. 20 to 25% stone - This is a BC-B ridge site,
not really a YB site.



Access road for ski slopes, cut ca. 1995, SE end.



A = channer pockets, local, 12" to 20" thick,
maybe 10 to 20 ft in diameter. >80% stone

B = less stony till beneath the channers,
in some places reaching the surface
Stoner only 20 to 25%.

Hypothesis: Postglacially before afforestation,
fines were washed away by rains leaving
piles of stones, as in a stream bed.

5/17/03 Little Red Kill Road, stoniness estimate
by eye: 20 to 25% in sub dominance

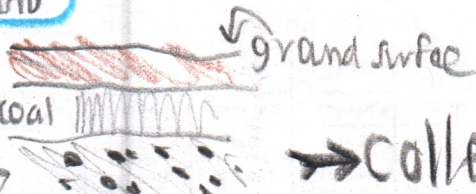
Belleayre Charcoal Flats: Humus Accumulation 202-54

#6. About 25 ft. across **Photo**

O_i: 0 to 2" thick oak litter

O_e: 0 to 1/2" humus w/ charcoal

O_a: charcoal in humus



Some charcoal chunks are large, several inches long sitting on the surface & some are on top surface of humus. Most are under ± 1/2" of humus, and begin 1 1/2 to 2" under the surface.

#3. Nil charcoal anywhere but most < 5mm across
O_i 1" thick, then O_e, then O_a with charcoal.

Photo

#3 About 50 ft off trail.

#5. 1" of O_i, 1" O_e, then O_a with nil charcoal.

Litter & humus variable in thickness. In some places mineral B horizon is under litter with nil humus. In other places, especially at upper side of flat, O_i & O_e accumulate to 2 or 3" thick each over O_a.

#2 is 100 paces from trail & about 30" across. A dunned 16" DBH ASH lies across it. Most charcoal along lower berm < 1" down

Ice Storm Damage = On Garnettan Ridge MO & Beech below Leanto, very local, several areas down to Pine Hill - Lost Cove Trail Jc.

Jan. 2003.

CHARCOAL IS BEECH
I.D. 8/9/03

Photos 5/15/03

On ascent 2 or 3 of Channer pockets on ascent.

1 just above of another Channer pocket

ERYTHRCLAY in fl. SE of tower site

2 of charcoal flats

2 of till cut on descent. Backpack for scale

SS over shale photo

General Conclusion:
In > 100 years, humus has not built up in any quantity. Decay rate ≈ accumulation rate
Charcoal is NOT deeply buried

Bedrock joints: Most Sandstone exposures on the Belleayre skt access road have wide horizontal AND vertical joints, making groundwater percolation easy. Only a few strata are nearly jointless & impermeable. Springs appear sometimes in ledge and sometimes in till; often at ledge bases.

In bogs, organic humus DOES accumulate so that decay rate cannot keep up.