

# Mendocino

Vineyard Soils

## Boontling

**Boontling** soils are very deep soils formed in mixed alluvium under a cover of annual grasses, forbs, and scattered oak. They are moderately permeable soils of moderate native fertility, situated on established river terraces and scarps.



#### Geography and Soil Climate:

Acres of Boontling in Mendocino Co.: 2,075 acres

Acres of Boontling soil under vines: over <u>369 acres</u> in Anderson Valley

Annual precipitation: 40-50 inches Frost-free days: 175 to 250 days Elevation Range: 200' to 450'

Slope Range: 2 to 30%

#### Typical Profile:

0-2.5 ft.: dark brown Loam

2.5-3.5 ft.: olive brown Clay Loam

3.5-5 ft.: olive brown gravelly Clay Loam

### Soil Properties of Interest:

Available water-holding capacity (0 - 5 feet)	9.3 inches
Drainage class:	Somewhat Poorly Drained
Permeability class:	Moderately Slow
Clay range in profile:	18 to 45% Maximum clay at 3'
Sand range in profile:	35 to 41% Decreasing with depth
Coarse fragments in profile:	Up to 30% below 3.5'
Soil pH range:	5.6 to 7.3 Increasing with depth

#### Fitness for Use in Vineyards:

- <u>Nutrient Cycling</u>: These soils will respond well to fertilization; however, a seasonal water table can leach mobile nutrients. Cover crops and organic amendments build fertility, tilth, and soil biology.
- Water Relations: Roots may be limited by a seasonal water table in un-drained areas, and by a clay increase in the subsoil. Gravelly subhorizons can slow the free drainage of overlying clay-rich horizons. Available moisture is fairly evenly distributed through the profile.
- <u>Management Considerations</u>: Soils are susceptible to compaction, soil erosion on sloped ground, and soil rutting when moist.
- Suitable Winegrape Varieties:

Coastal: Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Pinot gris,

Sauvignon blanc, Gewürztraminer

