

-Name _____

Date Due: _____

UNIT 2 PLANTS FOR FOOD AND FIBRE **Topic 5: Sustaining the Soil**

1. What is one thing soil gives plants?
2. How is soil like a huge buffet table?
3. What has caused the problem shown in Fig. 2.55 p.149?

How Do Soils Develop?

4. What role do each of the five major factors play in the development of soil?

Parent Material -

Climate

Vegetation

Landscape (water)

5. What are soil horizons?
6. Which is better, lighter topsoil or darker topsoil? _____ Why?

Soil: A Lively Community:

7. What is the job of each of the following decomposers found in soil?

Bacteria:

Fungi including moulds and mushrooms:

Microscopic actinomycetes:

Earthworms:

All You Can Eat:

8. What are six important nutrients that plants need?

9. Which one of the above nutrients is important to make leaves green?

Challenges and Solutions:

10. What is salinization?

11. How does salinization affect soil?

12. What two factors lead to salinization?

1.

2.

Organic Matter and Erosion

13. What is the most serious problem in soils?

14. Because of erosion, what is soil less able to do?

15. IN YOUR NOTEBOOKS, explain the following:

1) zero tillage

2) shelterbelts

3) crop rotation -

4) hydroponics -