

# Soil Shake Jar Test

## Steps on How to Test the Soil Texture of Your Soil

Materials: 32 Oz. screw top jar, shovel, ruler

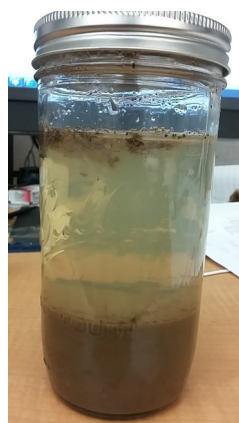
### Preparation and Doing the Test

1. Pick several spots in the garden and dig 8" down
2. Fill half the jar with soil samples
3. Fill the rest with water
4. Shake for 3 minutes
5. Let settle for a week



### Analyzing The Test

- Sand will settle first on the bottom, followed by silt, then clay, then organic matter (floating on top).
- Measure each of the 3 layers and divide each layer height by the total height. Then multiply by 100 to find the percentage of sand, silt and clay.
- Note: Any dark colored material floating in suspension in the water is organic. You will have to estimate how much.



*Due to the clay nature of Clark County soil, the jar might take 48 hours to fully settle. **Adding 2 teaspoons of Borax to your shaker jar will help the clay settle faster... two days instead of a week!***