

# Terrain Classification Form

Site: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Surveyor: \_\_\_\_\_

## GROUND CONDITION

Diagnostic topsoil type	Clay content (%)	Moisture		
		dry	moist	wet
Humic	0-15	2	2	3
Orthic	16-35	1	3	4
Melanic and Vertic	36-50	1	4	5
	51+	1	5	5
Topsoil Clay Content	0-8	4	3	2
	09-15	3	2	3
	16-35	1	2	4
	36-50	1	3	5
	51+	1	4	5
	All	1	4	5

- Legend**
1. Very good
  2. Good
  3. Moderate
  4. Poor
  5. Very poor

**Notes :**  
 a) If the topsoil depth is <10 cm, then use subsoil clay content.  
 b) Soil forms which will always have a ground strength rating = 5: Katspruit, Westleigh and Champagne

## GROUND ROUGHNESS

Note: Always move from the top-left of the table towards the bottom right in a step-wise fashion when using table. See page two for help in this section.

Height class				Ground Roughness Class	
H20	H40	H60	H80+		
Infrequent	Isolated			1	Smooth
Moderately Frequent	No other classes represented				
Frequent	Infrequent	Isolated		2	Slightly Uneven
	No other classes represented				
Moderately Frequent	Moderately Frequent	Infrequent	Isolated	3	Uneven
	Frequent	Frequent	Infrequent		
Frequent	Frequent	Infrequent	Infrequent	4	Rough
All surfaces with ground roughness more difficult than that of Class 4					
Height class limits (m)				5	Very Rough

Height class limits (m)	H20	H40	H60	H80+
	0.10 - 0.29	0.30 - 0.49	0.50 - 0.69	>0.70

	Distance between obstacles (m)	Number of obstacles per ha
Isolated	>16.0	<40
Infrequent	5.0 - 16	40 - 400
Moderately frequent	2.2 - 5.0	400 - 2000
Frequent	<2.2	>2000

**Ground roughness:** \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

## SLOPE CONDITION

Gradient assessed over horizontal distances in the direction of maximum inclination (ie. perpendicular to the contours).

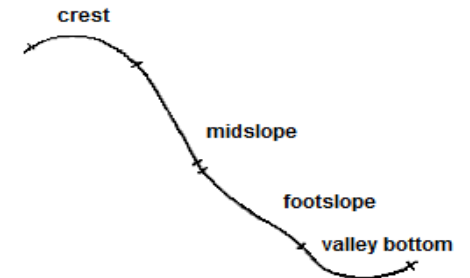
In valley bottoms, the slope will be that of the actual drainage line and not valley side.

Min slope (%)	Max slope (%)	Designation	Slope class
0	11	Level	1
<11	20	Gentle	2
<20	30	Moderate	3
<30	35	Steep 1	4
<35	40	Steep 2	5
<40	50	Steep 3	6
<50		Very steep	7

## SLOPE SHAPE/TYPE

Note: Terraced slope does not include man-made . Slope Shape/Type assessed for slope unit, not overall slope.

- R Regular
- U Undulating slope
- T Terraced slope
- V Concave slope
- X Convex slope



Idealised topographical cross-section depicting the major slope units

**Slope condition:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Slope shape:** \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ground condition:** \_\_\_\_\_

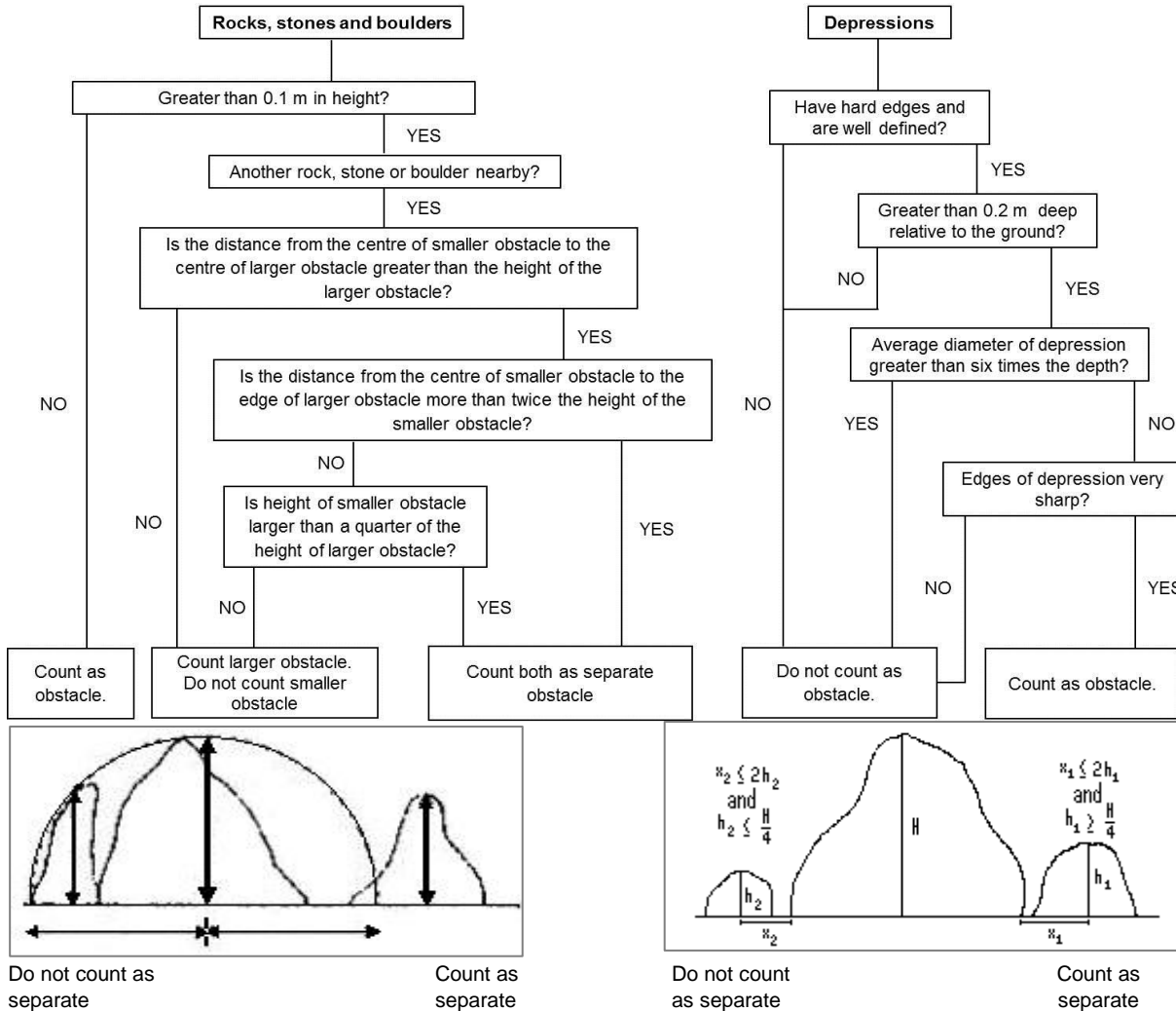
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Terrain Classification:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Ground condition.ground roughness.slope condition.slope shape)

# Terrain Classification Form, page 2

Note: Height/depth of obstacle is determined from the highest/lowest point relative to the ground.  
 Stumps and logging residues are not classified as obstacles according to the terrain classification system.  
 Terraces and mounds resulting from land shaping and land preparation operations are not classified as obstacles.



## Obstacle Tally Sheet

H20 0.10 - 0.29 m	
H40 0.30 - 0.49 m	
H60 0.50 - 0.69 m	
H80+ >0.70 m	

## Extreme Values

The extreme classes present in the case of roughness or slope should be recorded where this contributes to the understanding of the nature of the terrain and where it is likely to influence management or operational decisions. Only a single extreme value per class should be shown in order to keep terrain units as pure as possible at the scale of mapping.

The extreme value is noted in brackets immediately following the category classification provided it comprises more than 10% of the area. A further notation to the extreme would indicate whether the extreme condition is concentrated in a single locality "C" or scattered throughout the terrain unit "S". For example, a terrain classification 223.2(3C).3(4S).T means: 223 = ground conditions at different moisture states (dry, moist, wet) 2(3C) = slightly uneven surface with >10% of the area uneven, concentrated in a single locality

3(4S).T = moderate slope of terraced form with more than 10% of the area of value steep 1 and this is scattered throughout the terrain unit.

Where an extreme is shown as concentrated, an asterisk (\*) or several asterisks, depending on the relative size of the area, should be noted on the map depicting the locality of extreme conditions within the terrain unit.

**Figure 1.** An obstacle whose centre is closer to that of an adjacent larger obstacle than the height of the larger

**Figure 2.** An obstacle from which the distance from its centre to the edge of a larger obstacle is less than twice its height and it is greater than a quarter of the height of the larger obstacle.