

## **Stoniness**

Stoniness is the relative proportion of stones on the soil surface. Stones are, by definition, coarse fragments 25 to 60 cm in diameter (Table 1). The number, size and spacing of these coarse fragments on the surface represent constraints for the use of the soil and farming practices. Stoniness affects tillage, selection of type of machinery and crop selection.

**Table 1. Definition of stoniness classes**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Spacing between stones* (m)</b>	<b>Area (%)</b>
Not stony	≥30	97.7
Slightly stony	10-30	1.6
Moderately stony	2-10	0.5
Very stony	1-2	0.2

\*Fragments > 25 cm in size  
Day and McMenamin 1983

The region is virtually homogeneous: 97.7% of the soils included in the study were rated not stony. Only 1.6% of them were found to be slightly stony (e.g. Longueuil (LGmp) series) and 0.7% moderately stony (e.g. Montarville series) to very stony (e.g. Du Mont series). The latter soils occur mainly on Mount Saint-Bruno and Mount Rougemont and on some glacial deposits (till and glaciofluvial materials) in the Montreal plain.