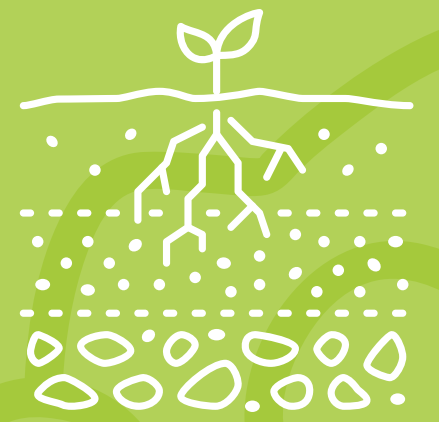


Soil Types



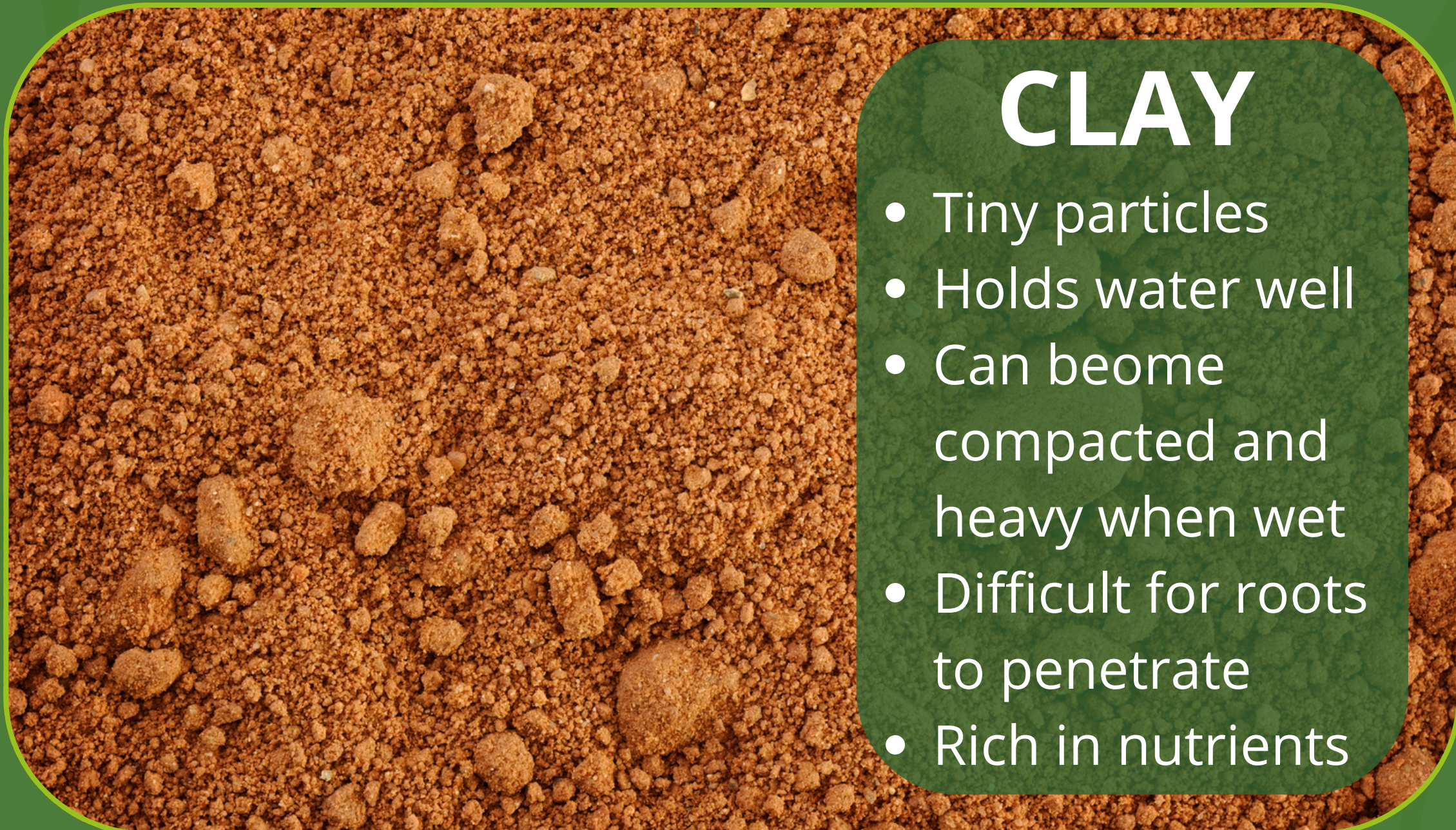
SAND

- Large particles
- Drains water quickly
- Doesn't retain much moisture
- Less nutrients



CLAY

- Tiny particles
- Holds water well
- Can become compacted and heavy when wet
- Difficult for roots to penetrate
- Rich in nutrients



SILT

- Medium sized particles
- Moderate drainage
- Often has nutrients
- Holds water well



LOAM

- Ideal for growing food
- Balanced mix of sand, silt and clay.
- Good drainage, water retention and nutrient content.



Plant Nutrients



Nitrogen

A key element for plant growth, nitrogen is a primary component of proteins and chlorophyll, and is involved in photosynthesis. It helps plants produce and use carbohydrates.



Other needed nutrients include:

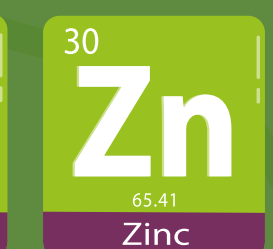
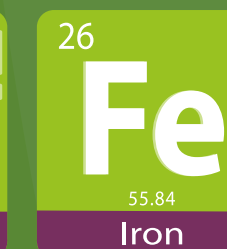
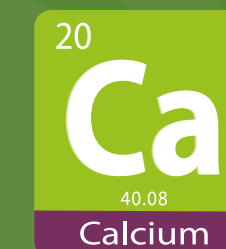
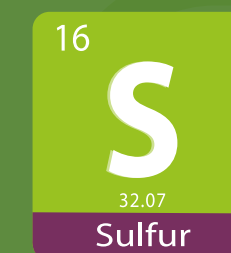
Sulfur, Magnesium, Calcium, Iron, Boron, Copper, Manganese, & Zinc

Phosphorus

An essential part of DNA and RNA, phosphorus is involved in cell membrane function and integrity. It's also a component of the ATP system, which is the "energy currency" of plants and animals.

Potassium

Helps plants form sugars, starches, and carbohydrates, and is involved in protein synthesis and cell division. It also helps plants adjust their water balance, improves stem rigidity, and enhances the flavor and color of fruit and vegetables.



- pH measures the acidity or alkalinity which is the concentration of hydrogen ions (H⁺).
- Soil pH affects the availability of nutrients and chemicals in soil water, which in turn affects plant growth.

