

CHAIX SERIES, THICK SOLUM VARIANT*

The Chaix series, thick solum variant, consists of well-drained soils underlain by weathered gabbrodiorite or gabbrodiorite-like rock. These soils are gently rolling to steep and are on uplands of the middle part of the foothills. Slopes are 5 to 50 percent. The vegetation is open stands of ponderosa pine, digger pine, manzanita, ceanothus, blue oak, live oak, scattered black oak, and grasses. Elevation ranges from 1,300 to 2,400 feet. The annual rainfall is 35 to 55 inches. Summer thundershowers occur infrequently. The average annual air temperature is 55° to 58°F. The frost-free season ranges from 150 to 230 days.

In a representative profile the surface layer is about 8 inches of grayish-brown very stony loam and light brownish-gray loam. Reaction is slightly acid and medium acid. The subsoil is about 26 inches of light brownish-gray heavy loam and pale-olive and light-gray clay loam. Reaction in the subsoil is medium acid. The substratum is 10 inches of variegated sandy loam. Reaction in this layer is medium acid. Weathered gabbrodiorite is at a depth of about 44 inches.

Permeability is moderately slow in these soils. Effective rooting depth is 24 to 48 inches. Available water holding capacity is 4 to 8 inches.

The Chaix variant soils are used for watershed, grazing, and irrigated pasture.

Individual Soil Types	Stone Cover	Runoff	Erosion	Capability Unit	Uses
Chaix very stony loam, thick solum variant, 5 to 15% slopes (CIC)	1 to 3% of surface area	Slow to Medium	Slight – Moderate	IVs-1	Grazing, irrigated pasture, watershed
Chaix very stony loam, thick solum variant, 15 to 30% slopes (CID)	1 to 3% of surface area	Medium to Rapid	High	VIIs-1	Grazing (on less stony soil), watershed
Chaix very stony loam, thick solum variant, 30 to 50% slopes (CIE)	1 to 3% of surface area	Rapid	Very High	VIIs-1	Watershed, limited grazing

*Applies in general to individual soil types