

SECCA SERIES

The Secca series consists of moderately well-drained soils underlain by metabasic or basic rock. These soils are undulating to steep and are on mountainous uplands. Slopes are 2 to 50 percent. The vegetation is mostly manzanita, ceanothus, blue oak, and grasses and forbs. Scattered digger pine and a few ponderosa pine are also present. Elevation ranges from 1,700 to 3,000 feet. The annual rainfall is 35 to 55 inches, and the average annual air temperature is 57° to 58°F. The frost-free season is 230 to 255 days.

In a representative profile the surface layer is 15 inches of brown and reddish-brown gravelly silt loam. Reaction is medium acid and slightly acid. The subsoil is about 30 inches of yellowish-red cobbly silty clay loam, strong-brown cobbly clay, and light yellowish-brown gravelly light clay. Reaction in the subsoil is slightly acid to milky alkaline. Partly weathered basic rock is at a depth of about 45 inches.

Permeability is slow in these soils. Effective rooting depth is 40 to more than 60 inches, but some plant roots have difficulty penetrating the subsoil and extracting moisture from it. Available water holding capacity is 4 to 6 inches.

The Secca Soils are used for watershed and limited grazing.

Individual Soil Types	Rock Outcrop	Runoff	Erosion	Capability Unit	Uses
Secca-Rock Outcrop Complex 2 to 50% slopes (ScE)	10 – 40%	Medium to Rapid	Slight – High	Vlls-1	Watershed and limited grazing