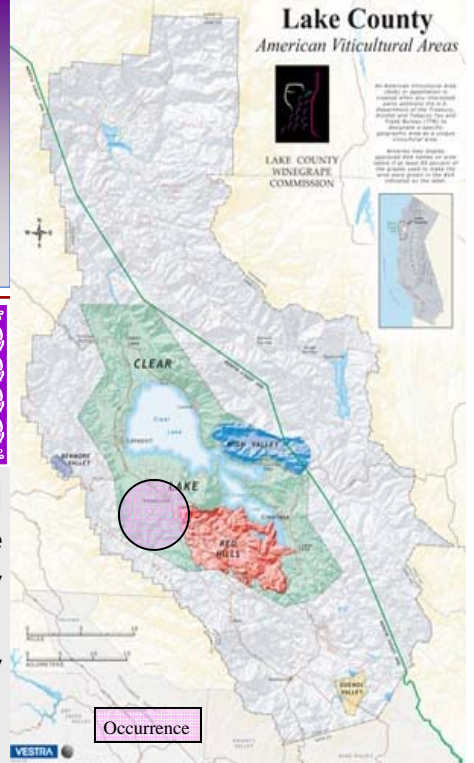




# Lake County, California Soils

## Forbesville



*“...may it be that the land chooses the crop, not otherwise.”*  
- anonymous

**Forbesville soils are very deep soils formed from alluvial sediments under blue oak, brush and grasses. They are mature, somewhat slowly permeable soils of moderate native fertility found on sloping terraces.**



### Forbesville Soil Profile:

- 0 - 1.5 ft: brown and reddish brown loam
- 1.5 - 2 ft: red gravelly clay loam
- 2 - 3.5 ft: red gravelly sandy clay
- > 3.5 ft: reddish brown clay loam



### Fitness for Use in Vineyards:

- **Nutrient Cycling:** these soils respond well to fertilization. Organic amendments or cover crops improve nutrient supply, tilth, and pH. Avoid acid fertilizers. Monitoring of acid-sensitive nutrients such as phosphorus and calcium is helpful.
- **Water Relations:** clay and gravel content limits available water; root penetration can be limited by clay content and mature soil development below 2 feet.
- **Management Considerations:** susceptible to compaction, rutting, and soil erosion on sloped ground; limited root penetration; limited organic matter supply.

Wine grapes growing on Forbesville soils, Holden Reid Vineyards, Kelseyville, California. The scale is in feet.

### Soil Climate and Geography:

**Mean annual precipitation:** 25 to 35 inches  
**Frost-free days:** 160 to 205 days  
**Elevation Range:** 1,350' to 1,550'  
**Slope Range:** typically 2 to 15%  
**Slope Direction:** northwest to north-facing



### Forbesville Soil Properties of Interest:

**Available water-holding capacity:** < 6 inches (0-3.5 ft)  
**Drainage class:** well-drained  
**Permeability class:** moderately slow permeability

**Clay range in profile:** 24 - 38%, increasing with depth  
**Sand range in profile:** 50 - 35%, variable with depth  
**Coarse fragment range:** 5 - 20%, greatest between 1.5-3'

**Soil pH range:** pH 5.7 in upper part, pH 5.3 in lower part