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Soil (?cess) samples from Baldock, Herts.

21 soil samples were examined. All contained relatively high levels of phosphate and humic acids. Their pH values ranged from 6.9 to 7.9. All contained high levels of carbonate (chalk?). Unfortunately several samples contained bone fragments and consequently it is not possible to be certain that the high phosphate levels in the remaining samples reflects cess. Tests for uric acid and other organic systems associated with cess all gave negative results. However such negative evidence is not conclusive as these substances can degrade.

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