

GENESIS OF SANDY DEPOSITS, CAMAÇARI, BAHIA, BRASIL.

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Three representative sandy deposits, which are extensively explored by the civil construction, are analyzed. The more expressive regional geological components in the area are the Lower Cretaceous São Sebastião and Marizal Formations. The massive sand deposits originated by pedogenetic processes gave rise to thick albic horizons (E horizon) and the development of Spodosoil type soils. These processes act first in the fulvic acids, migrated from an organic matter source, which promotes a hydric argil dispersion and the deposition of iron and aluminum chelats forming accumulation horizons. The profiles present two type sequences as follows: A-B-Bs-C or A-E-Bh-C. The organic matter and the iron accumulation horizons are very thick, and where the sandy deposits have been removed, the topographic relief still remain. The selected deposits originated from three different pedogenetic processes: the first one developed a 6m thick E horizon, which formed above an iron accumulate Bs horizon, 2m thick, laid on the top of a less weathering sedimentary rock. The second process gave origin to an E horizon, 6m thick, which is above an organic horizon (0.6m thick), that overlain clayey sediments. The third one formed a 5m thick horizon above a not deformed rock rich in organic matter or above a Duripan type accumulation horizon.