5. THE VALUE OF THE SOIL SURVEY AS A BASIS FOR
SOIL STUDIES AND SOIL USE

C. IN THE TEACHING OF SOILS IN COLLEGE

Discussion by Firman E. Bear

In teaching the course in Soil Management, which is required of all
students taking the course leading to the B. Sc. degree in the College
of Agriculture of Ohio State University, it has been the policy to
require each student to bring a sample of soil, selected according to
directions furnished him, from his home farm, for purposes of labora-
tory study. In this study, the student determines the percentage
content of nitrogen in his sample of soil; its reaction, and if acid its
probable limestone needs for the cropping system employed; its
nitrifying efficiency, with and without the addition of calcium car-
bonate; its azotobacter content; the soil class to which the sample
belongs; and its probable type as determined by comparison with
typical samples of the various types on display in the laboratory and
from a knowledge of the location from which the sample was secured.

1Paper read as a part of the symposium on “The Utilization of the Soil Survey”
at the meeting of the Society held in Chicago, Ill., November 13, 1923.
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