SOME CAUSES OF SOIL GRANULATION.¹

ELMER O. PIPPIN,
Cornell Experiment Station, Ithaca, N. Y.

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A large part of the management of soils in farm practice is concerned with the proper control of soil structure. By means of tillage, and, to a certain extent, by the use of amendments and fertilizers, the structure of the soil is altered. By that change the relation of the soil to moisture, the circulation of air, absorption of heat, development of organisms, penetration of roots and the availability of plant food constituents is changed. The operation of a soil mulch, for example, is dependent upon that loose, open structure by which loss of moisture from the surface greatly exceeds absorption from below. The top layer becomes practically dry and remains so, in which condition the further loss of water is greatly reduced. Again, we sub-

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