I was walking down my road one Sunday last April when I saw several boys playing in a garden that was plowed just before a recent heavy rain. Some water was standing in the garden, and the boys were throwing very wet soils (mud) at each other. They were also tackling each other and rolling around in this wet garden mud. They were having a very good old time!

I think this is a much better way to describe the difference between soils and dirt. In the past I have stated dirt is soil where you don’t want it (e.g., when soil is on your hands, clothes, or tracked in the house). It is like a weed—a rose plant is a weed when it is growing in the middle of a nice green lawn. A whole lot of people use that dirty word!