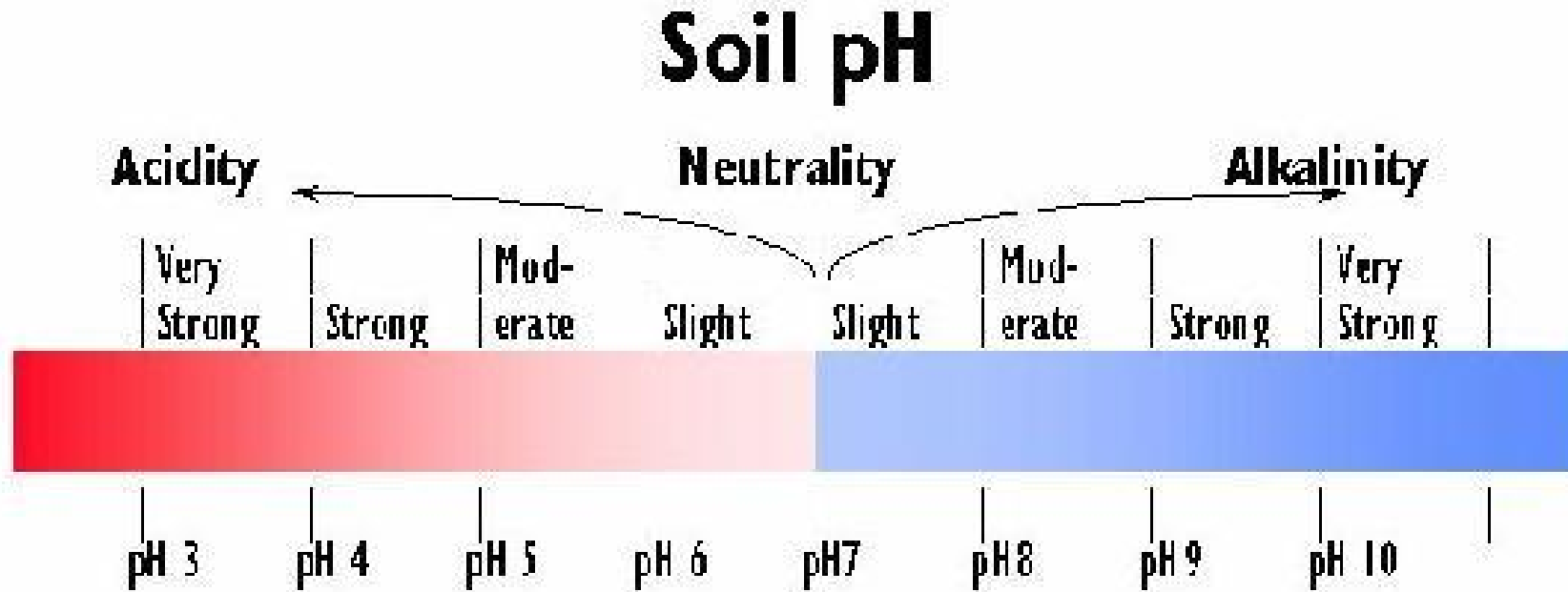


Soil Chemical Properties

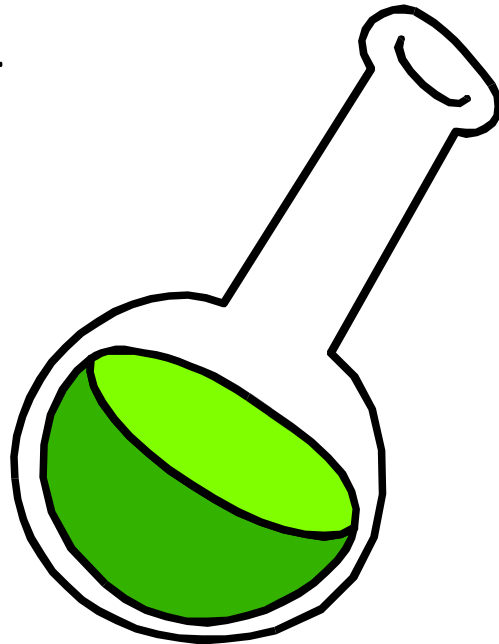
- Acidity/alkalinity: “pH”
 - Affects many other soil chemical properties
 - Large effect on nutrient availability (solubility)
 - Optimum range (most plants): 5.5-6.5

Soil pH



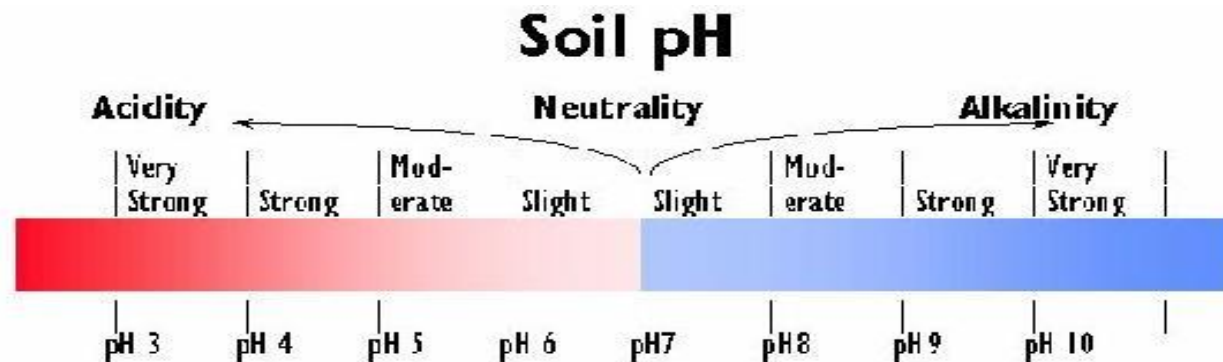
Soil pH – definition

- A numeric designation of the acidity or alkalinity in soils
- A measure of the H^+ ion activity in soils
- On a scale of 0 to 14



Soil pH - classes

- Very strongly acid: 4.5 to 5.0
- Strongly Acid: 5.1 to 5.5
- Moderately Acid: 5.6 to 6.0
- Slightly Acid: 6.1 to 6.5
- Neutral: 6.6 to 7.3
- Slightly Alkaline: 7.4 to 7.8
- Moderately Alkaline: 7.9 to 8.4



Soil pH

- pH influences nutrient availability, rate of biological and chemical processes, the amount and types of plants and microorganisms present, and the corrosion potential of concrete or steel structures in the soil
- You can alter the soil pH by incorporating compounds in to the soil. The most common is to add lime (calcium carbonate, CaCO_3) to increase the pH

Soil pH-nutrient availability

