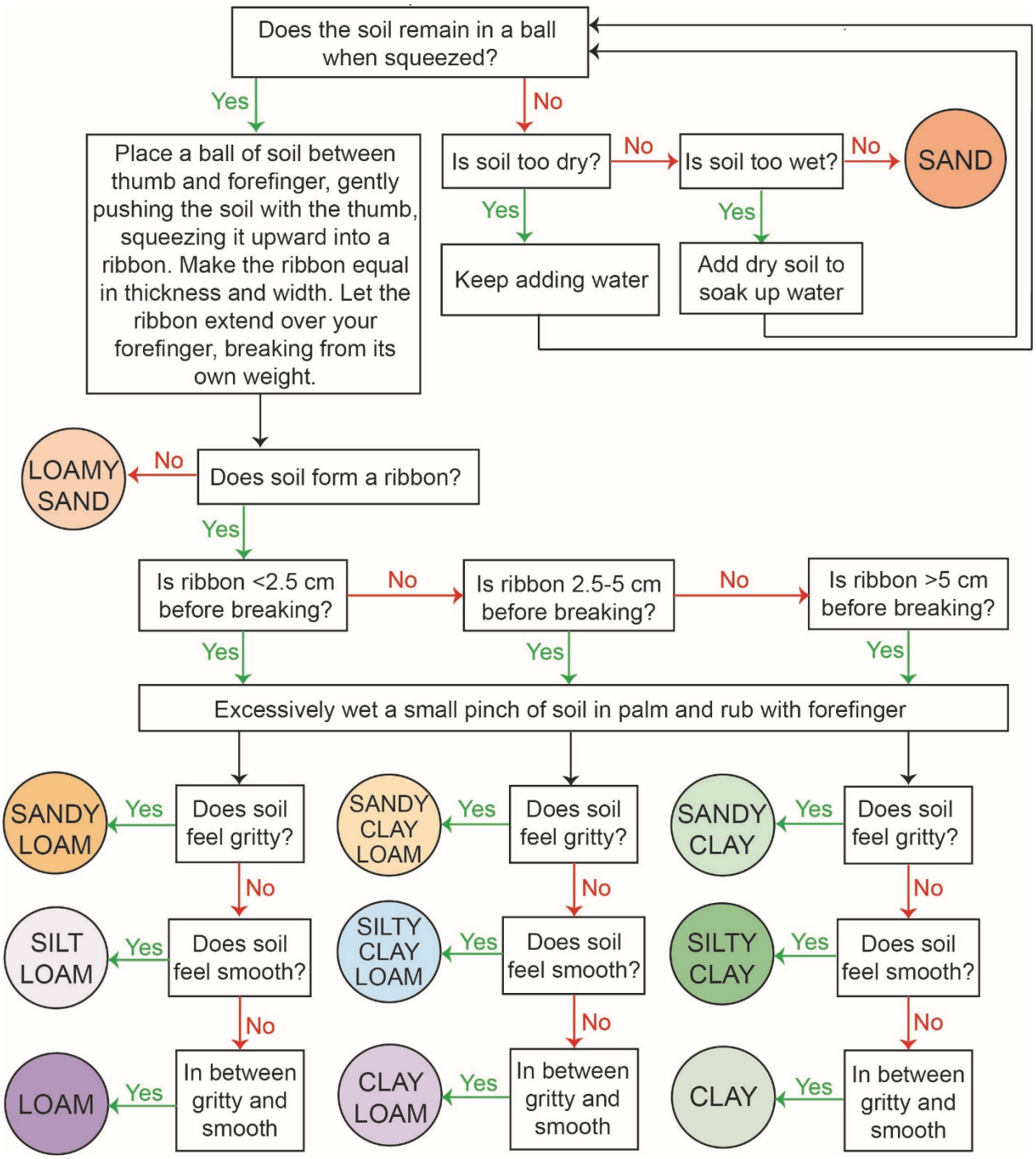
Does the soil remain in a ball when squeezed?
Yes
No
Place a ball of soil between thumb and forefinger, gently pushing the soil with the thumb, squeezing it upward into a ribbon. Make the ribbon equal in thickness and width. Let the ribbon extend over your forefinger, breaking from its own weight.
Is soil too dry?
No
Is soil too wet?
No
SAND
Yes
Keep adding water
Yes
Add dry soil to soak up water
LOAMY SAND
No
Does soil form a ribbon?
Yes
Is ribbon <2.5 cm before breaking?
No
Is ribbon 2.5-5 cm before breaking?
No
Is ribbon >5 cm before breaking?
Yes
Yes
Yes
Excessively wet a small pinch of soil in palm and rub with forefinger
SANDY LOAM
Yes
Does soil feel gritty?
No
SILT LOAM
Yes
Does soil feel smooth?
No
LOAM
Yes
In between gritty and smooth
SANDY CLAY LOAM
Yes
Does soil feel gritty?
No
SILTY CLAY LOAM
Yes
Does soil feel smooth?
No
CLAY LOAM
Yes
In between gritty and smooth
SANDY CLAY
Yes
Does soil feel gritty?
No
SILTY CLAY
Yes
Does soil feel smooth?
No
CLAY
Yes
In between gritty and smooth