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si·er·o·zem  (sī-ěr ə-zēm', sē-ěr'ə-zhôm)

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n.

Any of a group of soils found in cool to temperate arid regions that is brownish gray at the surface with a lighter layer below and is based in a carbonate or hardpan layer.

[Russian *serozēm* : *serýĭ*, gray (from Proto-Slavic **šěrŭ*; probably akin to Old Irish *cíar*, dark, and Old English *hār*, hoary) + Old Russian *zemĭ*, earth; see **dhghem-** in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.]

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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