SUMMARY

SEM micrographs of some authigenic sulphate minerals in salt affected soils are presentd. They include thenardite, anhydrite, barite, celestite, gypsum and hexahydrite. A brief discussion is included on two other, more frequently occuring sulfate minerals - bloedite and jarosite - and published work on these minerals is referred to.

Changes in soil environment may result in conditions un favourable to the presence of some of these minerals. They begin to show dissolution features and examples of these are given. The dissolution may or may not follow crystal symmetry pattern.

Finally the same salt may exhibit several crystal habits and some of these are illustrated. The reasons for different habit are complex and not dwelled upon.