

ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

February 1986 Newsletter

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Nominations Deadline for State Soil

Anyone wishing to nominate a soil as a candidate for the State Soil of Illinois must submit the name and qualifying information to the Executive Council or a member of the Committee to Select a State Soil by the 1986 ISCA Summer Meeting. The Committee will review and screen the nominations and prepare ballots for all ISCA members to vote for one of the qualified candidates. The selected candidate for the State Soil of Illinois will be announced at the 1987 ISCA Annual Meeting. This two-year effort will complete the first phase of the project. The second phase will be to gain support from other organizations, legislators, students, and the general public. The third and final phase is to have a bill introduced in the State legislative system, reviewed, and signed by the House, Senate, and Governor. The first phase will probably be the easiest to accomplish. The second and third phases will be more difficult, but will give members of ISCA the opportunity to contribute to the project, our organization, and the State of Illinois. If anyone wishes to serve on the Committee to Select a State Soil, contact a member of the committee or the Executive Council.

Soil Survey Horizons Notice

The last Newsletter may have misled some members. To correct a misunderstanding, Full, Associate, Affiliate and Honorary Members are entitled to receive Soil Survey Horizons if all but Honorary Members pay the \$17.50 dues on time. By action of Council the deadline has been extended to 3/1/86. Eligible members who receive a renewal notice should ignore it. The ISCA will pay for your 1986 subscription.



Certified

ARCPACS AFFILIATED



ISCA display booth at ASA in Chicago, 1985

Dues and Certification

Just a reminder, in order to be and remain Certified by ISCA, the soil classifier must also be a member in good standing in ISCA and be current in all dues and certification fees. If you have paid your certification fee of \$5.00, but have not paid your annual dues of \$17.50, you are not "in good standing" according to our bylaws.

Address Changes

Because we are such a mobile organization with people moving constantly, it becomes increasingly important to keep ISCA informed of these changes. If you only send in address changes when you pay annual dues, you will probably miss some important correspondence! Please notify Scott Martin, Secretary-ISCA, USDA, Soil Conservation Service, Storey Village, Box C, R.R. 4, Carmi, IL 62821.

ISCA at ASA, Chicago

President Mike Lilly reports that the ISCA booth was a major success at the 1985 Annual Meetings of the ASA, CSSA, and SSSA in Chicago. Laurie King is to be recommended for putting together an excellent display. The display consisted of a general soil map of Illinois with all of the ISCA members located on it. Our guest book was signed by many of the passers-by at the meetings. We received many favorable comments from members of organizations in other states.

Laurie King from Public Relations and Education extends--a Big THANK-YOU to everyone that sent pictures to be used for the booth at the ASA meetings in Chicago, there was a good selection to choose from. I think that the booth was a big success--we had a lot of great comments on it. Thanks to all of you that spent time sitting in the booth.

We will be setting up the same display for the March 15th Annual Meeting for the benefit of the ISCA members that did not attend the Chicago event. If I still have photos belonging to you, I will return them after that date. If you need them before March 15, please notify Laurie King.

Pictures of the booth are included in this Newsletter on page 2. Starting at the upper left (UL) is President Mike Lilly; (UR) Sam Indorante, Dave Rahe, Mike Lilly, Mr. and Mrs. Klingebiel facing away; (MR) Tonie Endres, Chris Cochran, Wiley Scott and Dave Rahe; (LR) Chris Cochran, Dave Rahe and John Alexander; (LL) board showing area activities. Photos courtesy of John Alexander.

AMQUA Meeting in Illinois

The national organization of the American Quaternary Association is going to have their 9th Biennial Meeting at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 6/2-4/86. The theme of the meeting is on processes and environments near glacier margins. Seminar-style technical sessions

presented by leaders in areas of glaciology, paleoecology, Holocene climatology and other Quaternary studies will be held on Monday through Wednesday. Two field trips will be conducted before the meeting and two afterwards. Meeting registration is \$65.00, including some meals. Field trip fees range from \$37 to \$130. For a 7 page explanation, write to Wayne Wendland, State Water Survey, 2204 Griffith Drive, Champaign, IL 61820.

Soil Professional Legislation

The following paragraph was taken from a recent letter from Jean M. MacCubbin, CPSS, Director/Coordinator of ARCPACS:

"Over the past year we have tried to locate a contact person in each state who could keep us abreast of any legislation (state and local) which may limit or provide opportunities for professionals in Agronomy, Crops, and Soils. Many municipalities currently are enacting guidelines for sewage disposal site evaluations and cite qualifying criteria for soil scientists. In Illinois, the mining regulatory agencies may also have risks regarding professionals conducting reconnaissance surveys, prime farmland investigations, environmental assessments, and the like, which may not be aware of the standards set by ARCPACS or other state licensing/registration groups. If your group could provide us with any information concerning present legislation or proposed legislation regarding use of soils professionals it would be most appreciated."

How about it? Do we know of situations where cities/counties/regional agencies are or should be using soils professionals? Do we know of any recent legislation (local/county/state) that deals with this issue? If you do, please let Mike Lilly, President, or Mark Bramstedt, President-Elect know.

Supreme Court Protects our Wetlands

Millions of acres of marshes, bogs, and prairie potholes are protected by Federal regulations, according to a recent decision by the U.S. Supreme Court. On December 4, the nine justices overturned a decision on the Sixth Circuit Federal Court of Appeals, ruling 9-0 favor of our nation's wetlands.

If the Supreme Court had not reversed the decision of the lower court, many wetlands would not have been protected under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, the nation's primary wetlands protection law. Without the protection of this law, these swamps and other valuable wetlands could be drained and filled. Vital wildlife habitat could be turned into housing projects, shopping centers, and the like. The Supreme Court's decision marks the end of nearly a decade of litigation.

It all began back in 1976, when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers discovered that the developers of Riverside Bayview Homes in Michigan were filling surrounding marshes. Under Section 404, the developers should have applied to the Corps for a permit. But, they hadn't bothered to obtain the

required permit, so the Corps slapped a "ceast and desist" order on their illegal activities.

Riverside Bayview claimed they didn't need a permit and refused to obtain one before filing. The Corps filed suit against the developers and, in January 1977, a Federal district judge banned any further filing.

In turn, Riverside Bayview appealed the case to the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. This court ruled that only frequently flooded land could be considered wetland. If the land was infrequently flooded--and the Riverside Bayview tract had been flooded only a few times since the turn of the century--the court declared it could not be considered a wetland.

Under this narrow definition, nearly half our wetlands--including prairie potholes, Alaskan tundra, and unique highland swamps in the South--were no longer protected under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. In effect, they had no Federal regulatory protection at all. But the ruling of the Sixth Circuit Federal Court of Appeals clashed with the commonly accepted definition of wetlands that had been written by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1977.

That definition identified wetlands as lands that are "inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency or duration sufficient to support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted to life in saturated soil conditions." Because of the discrepancy between the lower court decision and the Corps' regulatory definition, the Department of Justice appealed the decision and the case went on to the highest court in the land.

In writing the opinion of the Supreme Court, Justice Byron R. White said: "The plain language of the regulation refutes the Court of Appeals' conclusion that inundation or 'frequent flooding' by the adjacent body of water is a 'sine que non' of a wetlands under the regulation. Indeed the regulation could hardly state more clearly that saturation by either surface or ground water is sufficient to bring an area within the category of wetlands vegetation."

Our wetlands--all wetlands, even the smallest prairie pothole tucked away on the plains of North Dakota or a hidden Pocusin swamp in North Carolina--are regulated by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. (Reprinted from National Wildlife Federation's "Conservation 85" Vol. 3 No. 19, December 13, 1985. Submitted by Mark Bramstedt.)

Soil Science and Ecosystems

The importance of soil science in ecosystem studies was the subject of a workshop organized by C. V. Cole and D. L. Correll and sponsored by the Ecosystem Studies Program of the National Science Foundation 4/22-24/84. The following opinion was written by W. H. Schlesinger and published in the Bulletin of the Ecological Society of America, V. 66, No. 4, 1985.

During the last decade, widespread application of the watershed approach to nutrient cycling studies and emphasis on nutrient flux measurements in above ground vegetation have acted to separate soil scientists from a prominent role in many ecosystem studies. Now it is clear that an understanding of soil processes is essential for a full appreciation of the movement of such biologically important elements as N, P, and S through ecosystems. This workshop was an attempt to bridge the gap between soil science and ecosystem studies. About 30 soil scientists and ecosystem ecologists gathered to assess the importance of soil science in ecosystem studies and to discuss how to encourage soil scientists to participate in cooperative research efforts at the ecosystem level.

Initial discussions were frustrating. Soil scientists traditionally follow reductionist approaches, with infrequent interaction among their own subdisciplines of microbiology, chemistry, and physics. Despite the widespread recognition of Hans Jenny's contributions, which view soils as components of ecosystems and document patterns of soil processes at the landscape level, the soil scientists at this meeting were skeptical of the value of questions asked or addressed at the global or regional level.

In a provocative position paper, George Innis discussed the history of the systems analysis approach and its application in various disciplines of science. The reductionist approach was not being disavowed, but rather the expertise of soil scientists was a needed component in most attempts to understand problems at the ecosystem level.

Arts-and-sciences biologists have often overlooked the sophistication that exists in many of the traditional disciplinary areas of soils research, by regarding agricultural colleges as a haven of intellectual rednecks. Perhaps soil-oriented faculty also belong in departments such as biology, botany, or geology? In the end, the meeting showed that both groups must appreciate new approaches and new faces if we are to make the most rapid progress in solving many environmental problems.

Several ancillary issues emerged from group discussion. Falling enrollments and graduate student quality in soil sciences threatens the continued vitality of the discipline at a time when demand is increasing as a result of faculty retirements. Can soil science supply trained personnel for its continued development as well as for a larger, new role in interdisciplinary studies?

For the soil scientists and biologists at this meeting, our discussions were slow to develop, but enlightening in the final session. Hopefully the message will travel outside the workshop environment, for the Ecosystem Studies Program (NSF) appears anxious to include soils research in its arena of funding. (Submitted by Randy Timmons.)

ISCA Member News

Dr. Robert Darmody will be serving as Acting Head of the Pedology section in the Agronomy Department at the University of Illinois from January through August 1986. Dr. Ivan Jansen will be on sabbatical during this time. He plans to remain in Urbana-Champaign and continue his research.

James W. Hiser (new member). Jim is a Student Member of ISCA and served as a Teaching Assistant for Soils 101 at the University of Illinois in 1985. Jim attended Urbana Sr. High School and presently lives in Urbana. He was involved in the student Activities Subdivision of the American Society of Agronomy. He now is employed by the United Agriseeds Co. in Savoy.

Roger T. Risley (new member). Roger was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and attended the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point. He worked as county soil scientist for Jasper County and presently is working on the Crawford County soil survey. Roger is an Associate Member of ISCA and also a member of ASA and SSSA.

Pamela J. Thompson (new member). Pamela is a Student Member of ISCA who received her M.S. degree from the University of Illinois in August of 1985. She was born in Rapid City, South Dakota and received her B.S. degree from North Dakota State University. Pamela is also a member of the Soil Science Society of America. She now is employed by the Army Construction Engineering Research Lab in Champaign.

Biography of Wells F. Andrews

Wells F. Andrews, soil scientist on the SCS state office technical support staff, retired in April 1984, after 30 years of service. Wells received his B.S. degree in agriculture from the University of Missouri--Columbia. He was a farm manager on a farm near Booneville, Missouri for a couple of years before he began his SCS career in California. He moved to Iowa in 1968 and was survey leader in Grundy County. He then became survey leader in Boone County in 1972. While working full time he attended Iowa State University and earned his M.S. degree in Soils. He came to the state staff in Illinois in the fall of 1976.

While in Illinois, Wells assisted the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Research lab develop ratings criteria for the suitability of soils for recreational vehicles. That later became the soil interpretations for offroad motorcycle trails in the national system. He went on to work with CERL to develop a system for storage and retrieval of interpretative soils data on computers. Wells also helped guide the selection, purchase, installation, and usage of word processing equipment in the state office. He was involved with the technical review of 23 soil survey manuscripts in 26 counties. Twelve of those soil surveys have been published.

Wells and his wife, Jean, recently moved to Olathe, Kansas, near Kansas City. He remains active in soil consulting work, and is maintaining his membership and certification with ISCA. (Submitted by Wiley Scott and Les Bushue.)

Biography of John D. Alexander

John D. Alexander, Associate Professor of Pedology at the University of Illinois, retired August 31, 1985, after 38 years of service on the faculty.

A native of Illinois, he received a B.S. in Agriculture in 1947 and a M.S. in Pedology in 1951, both degrees from the University of Illinois. He joined the Department of Agronomy at the University of Illinois in 1947. He was active in the soil survey program at the University, participating in the Henderson, Will, and Williamson county soil surveys and as leader of the La Salle county and Champaign-Urbana area surveys.

Research interests of Professor Alexander have included soil-root interactions, zirconium content of loess and till mineralogy, cadmium and lead content of soils, soil-water table relationships, soil color-organic matter correlations, and soil genesis. He taught the soil conservation and land appraisal courses in the Department of Agronomy for many years.

He was involved for many years with the foreign student--USAID--summer course program at the University of Illinois and served on a shortterm assignment in India relating soil survey information to crop yield prediction.

For over 25 years, he was active in student soil judging activities on local, regional, and national levels, and has served and chaired the ASA Soil Judging committee.

Professor Alexander is a member of the American Society of Agronomy, Soil Science Society of America, International Society of Soil Science, and a charter member of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association. (Submitted by Bob Darmody.)

Food for Thought

One of the forecasts considered the most thought provoking by the World Future Society recently, is this forecast about soil erosion by members of the society:

"Another worrisome agricultural problem lurks to hit consumers in the wallet: Soil erosion. By the year 2020, most of the soil in southern Iowa will be severely eroded and each acre will require 30 additional pounds of fertilizer and 38 percent more fuel for tilling."

Reprinted from "The Classifier", the quarterly newsletter produced by the Soil Classifiers Association of Michigan. (Winter 1984-85)

Scholarship Award in Soil Science in Memory of Burton W. Ray

A scholarship award sponsored by the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association will be given to an outstanding student in soil science. Applicants and nominees who have (1) participated at least twice in the Local Soil Judging Contest sponsored by the University of Illinois Field and Furrow Agronomy Club and (2) have completed one soils course for each year the student has been enrolled in any college or university in Illinois will be considered. The selection will be upon scholarship and soil judging performance in a 100 point system.

For scholarship, the applicant will be scored on overall grade point average (GPA) and GPA improvement comparing the student's initial year in college with the most recent. Points up to a maximum of 40 will be based on overall GPA at the end of the calendar year preceding the awards banquet and up to 10 points will be given for GPA improvement.

The remaining 50 points of the scoring will be based on the applicant's participation in the Local Soil Judging Contest sponsored each fall by the University of Illinois Field and Furrow Agronomy Club. The two most recent contest scores will be used and will be based on percent correct answers.

The award will be presented at the annual Field and Furrow Club Awards Banquet in April and consists of a personal plaque, a \$30.00 award and the awardee's name will be engraved on a permanent plaque that will be displayed in the student lounge in Turner Hall at the University of Illinois.

Send qualifying material to:

Dr. R. G. Darmody
N-409 Turner Hall
University of Illinois
1102 South Goodwin Ave.
Urbana, IL 61801

Name _____ Address _____

University, college, or
Junior College attending _____ Date enrolled _____

Advisor's name and address _____

Advisor's signature _____ Date _____

Number of semesters (quarters) completed _____

List of soils courses taken for credit _____

Overall GPA at end of calendar year _____ Initial year GPA _____

Contest 1 Score _____ % correct _____ Date _____

Contest 2 Score _____ % correct _____ Date _____

History of soil surveys in Illinois

In Illinois, Soil Survey work began in 1902 and at that time, it was estimated that the cost would be about \$4 per square mile or \$220,000. (This is just over one-half cent per acre.) This early work was a cooperative effort between the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station and the USDA Bureau of Chemistry and Soils.

There was little existing knowledge regarding soil units or soil classifications during the 1902 field season. However, the first soil survey work began in Tazewell, Clinton, St. Clair and Clay counties and was completed by four men. By 1903, mapping was completed in Johnson, Knox, McLean, Sangamon and Winnebago counties. It was soon realized that the first maps had inclusive soil units and did not provide the information needed. Therefore, mapping was discontinued until early 1904 and the Agricultural Experiment Station began a mapping program which separated soils based on color of the surface layer. In addition, certain kinds of subsoils and contrasting underlying materials were used as differentiating criteria. By the end of the 1909 season, 27 counties had been mapped and classified according to 14 great soil areas which were later referred to as "geological areas".

During the period 1910-1920, soil mapping began to accelerate. By 1915, there were 28 mappers and work was underway in 5 counties at the same time. This work resulted in mapping completed on 16,960,000 acres in 46 counties in the state. At the end of 1920, 73 counties had been completed within the state. The final county (Jasper) was not completed until 1928.

Unfortunately, publication of soil reports lagged far behind mapping and 45 counties were being considered for re-mapping. It was during this time that the soil survey became recognized as an ongoing program.

In 1929, Illinois adopted a system based on the concept of soil as a natural body and made up of layers (known as soil horizons). Also, the naming of soils needed to be changed because of the number of soils being discovered. This change greatly improved the uniformity in classifying, naming and interpreting soils.



Since 1902 a series of soil surveys have been undertaken in Illinois. Each resulted in more precise classification of the various types of soil in the state. Here a surveyor takes a 6" sample from a field of soybean stubble near LeRoy in 1934 for acidity and phosphate tests.

In 1933, the Soil Erosion Service was established and Bruce B. Clark became its first soil survey party leader. In 1935, the agency's name was changed to the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) and Mr. Clark became the first State Conservationist for that agency in Illinois.

Little or no mapping was carried on during World War II. About this time, SCS introduced slope and erosion phases into the soil mapping process. The soil classification system in use at this time had evolved over the years and was published in the 1938 Yearbook of Agriculture.

By 1951, the 1938 system began to show weaknesses. New research and broader experience showed that more precise categories were needed in order to make more quantitative and reliable interpretations for soil surveys. Work was started on a new classification system by SCS and after seven approximations during the next 14 years, the system, known as Soil Taxonomy, was put into effect January 1, 1965.

Soil Surveys continued under the leadership of the Experiment Station until about 1960. The demand for both farm and non-farm soils in-

formation had increased to the extent that the Station could not meet the need. The Soil Conservation Service initiated a county-wide mapping and publication program. The first report was published for Wabash County in 1964. In 1965, there was such a need for soils information in urban planning and some counties were willing to share in the cost of accelerating the soil survey. Lake County's survey was one of the first and was published in 1970 with both farm and non-farm interpretations.

By the 1970's, demands for soil information had increased because of state and federal legislation. In 1980, the State saw the need to accelerate soil surveys and have shared in the cost of each new survey since that time. Today, the Department of Agriculture administers the state funds used in the soil survey and makes extensive use of the information.

Today's target for once-over mapping of the soils is 1991. However, because new soil knowledge is constantly becoming available and research continually shows the need for more refined soil information, soil surveys will never be completed.

In order to allow for more involvement of the membership in the activities of ISCA the form below gives the opportunity to each member to participate. Please check the space by the committee on which you are willing to serve and print your name and address in the space provided. Return the form at the Annual Meeting to a member of the Executive Council or mail it to: Mark Bramstedt, 25 Central Dr., Newton, Illinois 62448.

Standing Committees

Constitution and By-Laws

Finance

Ethics, Certification,
and Membership

Newsletter

Nominations

ad hoc Committees

Public Relations and
Education

Program

Select a State Soil

Name

Address

Phone

Annual Meeting Plans

The 11th Annual Meeting of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association will be held Saturday, March 15, 1986, at the Holmes Student Center, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb. Northern is located in DeKalb, Illinois about 65 miles west of Chicago on Illinois Route 5, the East-West Tollway, and about 35 miles southeast of Rockford. A map of the campus and area will be sent to those who register by mail or phone.

A Council meeting will convene at 11:00 a.m. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. and followed by a ISCA business meeting from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. For the program, we will go to Davis Hall and visit their Laboratory for Cartography and Spatial Analysis. Dr. Donald E. Luman will make a presentation on "The Application of an integrated microcomputer system for environmental assessment."

Dr. Luman is an Associate Professor of Geography at NIU and is part of the Laboratory for Cartography and Spatial Analysis. His teaching and research interests are focused in remote sensing, computer-assisted cartography, and geographic information systems (GIS). Dr. Luman is particularly interested in the use of microcomputers for a variety of real-world applications which require remote sensing and GIS input. He has also had experience in applying low cost, microprocessor-based technology to the third world in such areas as Kenya, Thailand and Iraq.

For those who would like to stay overnight in DeKalb, rooms are available in the Holmes Student Center Guest Rooms at about \$25.00 for a single and \$30.00 for a double. Call 815-753-1444 for a reservation; be to mention the program you are attending.

The cost of the conference is \$10.00 and this fee includes lunch. checks payable to Northern Illinois University. The deadline for tration is March 7. To register by phone, call 815-753-0277. For more nation about the program, call Deborah Booth at 815-753-6913.



ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

April 1986 Newsletter

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Annual Meeting News

The 11th Annual Meeting was held March 15, 1986 at Holmes Student Center, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb. President Mike Lilly opened the business meeting with 40 members and guests in attendance. Secretary Scott Martin and Treasurer Wiley Scott read their reports. On March 15 the treasury had a balance of \$2,522.07.

In other business, Earl Voss read a motion to nominate Dr. Joe Fehrenbacher as an Honorary Full Member. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

President Mike Lilly read a statement honoring John D. Alexander, a charter member of ISCA, on his retirement from the University of Illinois.

At the end of the meeting, the election results were announced:

President-Elect - Tonie Endres
Vice President - Bill Kreznor

President Lilly passed the gavel to incoming President Mark Bramstedt. President Bramstedt announced the appointment of the following committee chairmen:

Constitution and By-Laws - Mark Matusiak
Ethics, Certification, and Membership - Wilbur Chrudimsky
Public Relations - Laurie King
Newsletter - Robert Darmody
Program - Les Bushue
State Soil - Roger Windhorn

In addition, John Doll and Don Wallace were appointed to the Certification Board for a three year term replacing Dave Rahe and Wells Andrews. The other members of the board are Earl Voss, Mike Walker, and Bill Kreznor.



ISCA Officers and Council Members for 1986 are:

President - - - - Mark Bramstedt
Vice-President - - Bill Kreznor
Secretary - - - - Scott Martin
Treasurer - - - - Wiley Scott
President-Elect - Tonie Endres
Past-President - - Mike Lilly

After the meeting, a tour of Dr. Donald Luman's Laboratory for Castography and Spatial Analysis was held.

Message from President Mark Bramstedt

LOYALTY
(Author unknown)

If you are part of an organization, in Heaven's name work for it; speak well of it and stand by the principles it represents.

Remember - an ounce of loyalty is worth a pound of cleverness.

If you must growl, condemn, and eternally find fault - then resign your position and when you are on the outside, damn to your heart's content - but as long as you are part of the organization do not condemn it; if you do, the first high wind that comes along will blow you away, and probably you will never know why.

* * * * *

When prospective members are approached to join any organization the most common question heard is, "What do I get"? When a person joins ISCA he/she receives a certificate and a years subscription to the Newsletter and Soil Survey Horizons. For some members this may be enough. They rarely attend any of the meetings or field trips, contribute articles to the Newsletter, serve on a committee, or volunteer to run for office. But, I believe that most of our membership is not content just to hang a

certificate on the wall. They feel, appropriately; that what they "get" from their organization is equal to what they contribute. The more time and energy they give to supporting ISCA activities (field trips, Annual Mtgs., committee membership, etc.) the more they receive in terms of professional dignity, communion with fellow soil scientists, and knowledge of soil forming processes, soil morphological characteristics, and geology. We must constantly remind ourselves of why we became involved in the first place, and then ask the question, "Are we really contributing"?

The next few years will offer an opportunity for a large number of ISCA members to become involved beyond our normal scope of operations as we proceed to propose a State Soil of Illinois. We can contribute to our organization by submitting soils for nomination, voting for the best nomination, supporting the elected soil, contacting local and statewide organizations for support, developing an advertising campaign, logo, or promotional material, and finally, communicating with local and state politicians. A variety of personalities and talents is needed to accomplish this goal.

Besides the needs of the State Soil project, we have the continuous needs of running and maintaining our organization. We need people and their talents to maintain and improve the Constitution and By-Laws, to promote and review membership applications and maintain the "Standards of Certification of Professional Soil Classifiers," to promote ISCA at universities and through the news media, to prepare budgets and review our financial situation, to encourage others to run for office, to submit articles to our Newsletter to keep it a viable publication, and to plan our meetings and activities.

You may be asked to contribute your time and talents to the State Soil project or to the maintenance and promotion of our association, but why wait to be asked? VOLUNTEER!!!

Notes from your Newsletter Committee

As the former chairman of the Newsletter Committee was fond of saying, your newsletter is only as good as the information submitted. Please submit anything that you feel will be of interest to the membership.

The Newsletter Committee members for 1986 are: Robert Darmody, Leon Follmer, John Tandarich and Les Bushue. Send your articles to any of them, preferably in publishable condition.

Intercollegiate Soil Judging News

The Region III soil judging contest was held at Licking County, Ohio last October. University of Wisconsin-Platteville took first place, University of Illinois second, and Ohio State University finished third.

These three teams will represent our region at the National Soil Judging Contest in Fort Collins, Colorado on April 18. The coach and members of the University of Illinois team would like to thank the ISCA for their support. Wish us luck in Colorado.

Sulfocrept Search

Dr. Del Fanning of the University of Maryland is on temporary assignment with John Witty at the S.C.S. and is in search of soils he would like to call Sulfocrepts. These are soils--usually developed in mine spoils--that have sulfuric horizons within 50 cm of the surface. A sulfuric horizon has a pH < 3.5 and jarosite mottles (2.5Y or yellow, chroma >6). He is coming through Illinois in early May and would like to see any soils that might meet their criteria for Sulfocrepts. He can be reached at the University of Maryland (301/454-3721) or at John Witty's office (202/382-1812) or at home (301/345-5177).

Short Course Announcement

The short course described here is an opportunity for soil scientists to become better acquainted with glacial processes and deposits--all in one day!

GLACIAL SEDIMENTARY ENVIRONMENTS

SEPM SHORT COURSE #16

Sponsored by the Geomorphology Interest Group at The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

8:30 - 17:00

Friday, May, 30, 1986

Room W-109 Turner Hall University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Lecturers

Gail M. Ashley

John Shaw

Norman D. Smith

This course is designed to be an up-to-date review of the physical processes and deposits of glacial sedimentary environments. The complex processes of erosion, transportation, and deposition by ice will be described from present-day glaciers and by interpretation of modern and Pleistocene sediments. In particular, the role of meltwater in the immediate glacial environment will be discussed.

Registration Fee: \$30.00 (students) \$60.00 (professionals)
This includes lecture course notes, and refreshments.

To Register: Send fee (checks payable to: "Glacial Sedimentary Environments") NO LATER THAN MAY 15 with name and address to:

Gail M. Ashley
Dept. Geological Sciences
Rutgers University
New Brunswick, NJ 08903

This course is given in conjunction with the meeting of the American Quaternary Association on the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign campus, 2-4 June 1986. For further information call John Tandarich at 217-333-9635. A detailed course outline is available.

ISCA
MEMBERSHIP LIST AND MAILING ADDRESSES
APRIL 1986

(* Home phone, # Office phone)

Acker, Mr. Lawrence L. 1710 N. Summer Hill Rd. Polo, IL 61064 * (815)946-3001 # (815)987-4249	Brooks, Mr. Thomas C. 607 E. Peabody Drive, Room 99 Champaign, IL 61820 * (217)344-7759 # (217)333-6560
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Late Breaking News

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Soil Judging Team placed eighth at the recent National Contest held at Ft. Collins, Colorado. Seventeen team were entered in the contest. Auburn won the top spot. Actually, Illinois tied for seventh, but lost the tie-breaking coin flip to Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Again, the coaches and members of the team thank the ISCA for their support.

**Scientists may drill
6-mile hole in Illinois**

*we have
problems
going 6 ft.!*

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. (AP) — Scientists outlined plans Wednesday for drilling a hole six miles deep in southeastern Illinois that would take geologists 600 million years back in geologic time.

More than 120 scientists from around the nation gathered at the University of Illinois this week to discuss plans for the hole, possibly in Gallatin or Hardin counties.

"Although we have explored 3 billion miles in outer space, we know very little about the eight miles beneath our feet," Arthur Barber, president of the National Science Foundation's continental crust project, said.

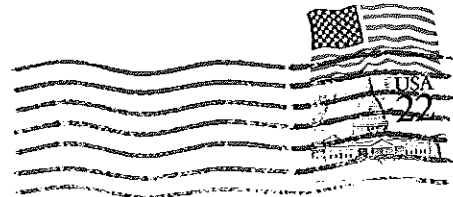
*will you recalculate
T for soil erosion?*

*Sounds like a final
field review*

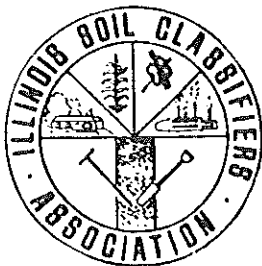
*what do you know
about the first
8 inches?*

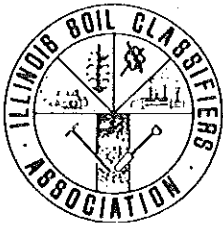
*we have these problems
too, especially after
a hard rain.*

Robert G. Darmody, Newsletter Editor
N-409 Turner Hall
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Mr. Mark W. Bramstedt
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ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

July 1986 NEWSLETTER

Newsletter Contents

Summer Meeting Plans
State Soil Selection
Biography of Jim Steinkamp

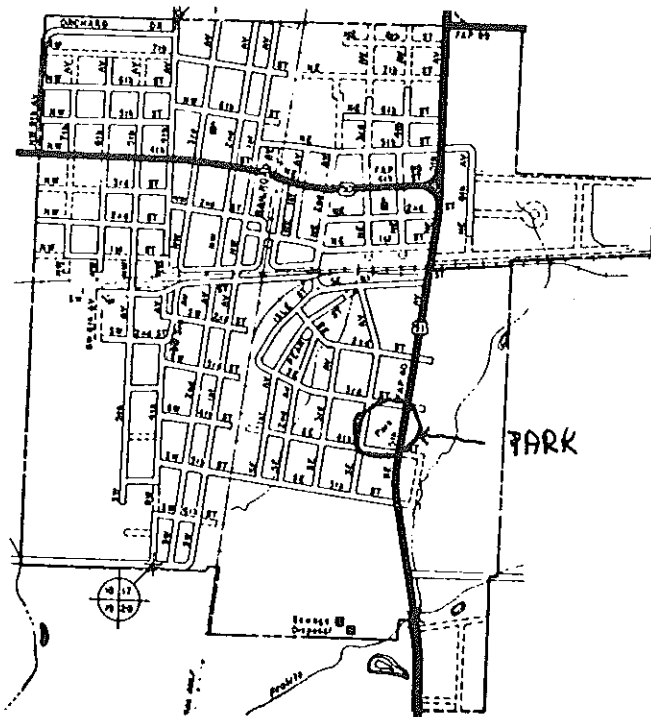
ISCA Takes a Stand
Soil Scientist's Bookstore
Soil Poetry Corner

SUMMER MEETING PLANS

The ISCA will hold its summer meeting on September 27, beginning at 10:30 A.M. with a council meeting. A potluck lunch will begin at 11:30 followed by a general membership meeting at 12:30 P.M. At 1:00 there will be a soils tour led by the Marion County Soil Survey Staff to a nearby site to examine soils damaged by oil brine spills. Management problems, soil properties, and revegetation projects will be discussed.

The meeting will be held at Sandoval Park which is located along U.S. 51 in the town of Sandoval in Marion County. The park is south of the B&O railroad tracks and just south of an IGA food store. See enclosed map.

The Marion County Survey crew promise us an interesting tour and good weather. Be there!



STATE OF ILLINOIS
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
BUREAU OF LOCAL ROADS AND STREETS
MUNICIPAL STREET MAP
OF
SANDOVAL
MARION COUNTY

800 0 SCALE IN FEET 800 1600 2400



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STATE SOIL SELECTION UPDATE

In this Newsletter are published two more nominations for State Soil of Illinois. We now have a total of four, those being Cisne, Saybrook, Sable, and Ipava. Let's try to at least double this number by the deadline date of the 1986 Summer ISCA meeting. Don't wait for someone else to nominate your favorite soil. Also, following is a reprint of an earlier Newsletter article that explains some suggested criteria to consider when nominating a soil.

Listed below are the criteria that the members of the ad-hoc "Committee to Select a State Soil of Illinois" have agreed upon.

1. Since Illinois is the "Prairie State" the state soil should reflect the prairie influence. (Mollisol or, at least, Mollic subgroup).
2. The soil should be highly productive to represent Illinois' agriculture. It should be "Prime Farmland."
3. The soil should be extensive in Illinois.
4. The soil should have originated in Illinois and Illinois should have the type location.
5. The soil should have a firm classification and be supported by lab data.
6. The soil should have a history of mapping and classification and have been in use for a long period. (35 years was suggested).
7. The soil name must be easily recognized, spelled, and pronounced and relatively well-known by the non-soil scientist (farmers, realtors, land appraisers, etc.) as well as the soil scientist.
8. The soil should reflect, in some way, the major parent material in Illinois - loess.

Other criteria that the Committee is considering are:

1. The soil should be interesting morphologically and genetically.
2. The soil should have formed in loess and till to recognize the two major parent materials in the state.
3. The soil should have formed in loess and Illinolan-age till since this age till better represents the state of Illinois than Wisconsinan-age till. (By name and extent).
4. The soil should be well or moderately well drained so that it is well suited to engineering uses to represent urban areas.
5. The soil should have multi-use qualities (ag, woodland, recreation, engineering).
6. Soils with special studies, national, or international recognition should be considered.
7. Somewhat poor or poorly drained soils fit the concept of flat, wet prairie for which Illinois is known.

If anyone has other suggestions for criteria for a state soil, send them to Mark Bramstedt or Roger Windhorn.

Nomination of Sable Silty Clay Loam For Illinois State Soil.

Illinois is in the middle of one of the world's richest prairie soil areas - the Midwest Corn Belt. The major parent material in the area, from which many productive prairie soils have developed, is loess. The Sable series is a typical, highly productive, deep loess prairie soil.

Sable soils are prime farmland and are among the most productive soils in the state, averaging 156 bushels of corn per acre. It is a nearly level soil on 0 to 2 percent slopes. It has a high level of natural fertility and available water capacity.

Sable silty clay loam is very extensive in Illinois. It is major soil in the broad, deep loess areas throughout the Northwest and Central parts of the state. Of all the prairie soils which originated in Illinois and for which the type location is in this state, the Sable series is mapped in more counties than any other.

Sable soils were first mapped in Illinois as "Black Clay Loam." It was known later in several surveys as the Grundy series. In 1941, the name was changed to the Sable series.

Sable soils developed in thick loess deposits. They have a Mollic epipedon of 12 to 24 inches. The classification is fine-silty, mixed, mesic, Typic Haplaquoll. The type location is in Warren County.

Nomination of Ipava Silt Loam for State Soil of Illinois:

Loess represents one of the major parent materials of Illinois. Its qualities include medium texture, moderate bulk density and permeability, and balanced mineral contents. The extent of loess throughout the State is the major reason for the high agricultural productivity of Illinois soils. Ipava soils reflect these characteristics, being formed in > 60 inches of loess, and they are found on the gently rolling ridges and swales of the Illinois prairies.

Ipava silt loam is a fine, montmorillonitic, mesic Aquic Argiudoll. It holds the highest productivity index in Illinois and is considered to be "prime" farmland. Ipava is very extensive in central and west-central Illinois. The type location for Ipava silt loam is Knox County, Illinois.

Ipava soils were originally mapped as "Brown silt loam on clay" until this older mapping became obsolete. In the early 1930's this soil became Grundy silt loam, a somewhat poorly drained soil, formed in 50-60 inches of loess with free carbonates present at 40-60 inches. This was used until 1934 when the name Sable silt loam was given to the Grundy soils to show similarities between these soils, and the Sable silty clay loam soil. The name Sable silt loam was used until 1946, when the soil first became known as Ipava silt loam--a dark colored somewhat poorly drained soil formed in > 60 inches of loess. Ipava silt loam was originally

established in Christian County.

In addition to its use as farmland, the Ipava soils are becoming more widely used in urban communities as well. The use of city sewers, and footings and foundations designed to overcome the shrinking and swelling problems, allow for homesites on this soil. Roads and streets are also possible through the use of drainage and a suitable base material. In conjunction with urban communities, Ipava is also suitable for parks, picnic areas, nature paths and trails, and wildlife habitat.

BIOGRAPHY OF JIM STEINKAMP

Jim Steinkamp, Soil Survey Leader in Tazewell County, retired September 3, 1985 after 30 years of service as a soil scientist with the Soil Conservation Service.

Jim received his B.S. in Agriculture in June of 1953 from the University of Illinois. He began working for SCS in 1955 in Quincy employee. In September of 1957, Jim returned to the U. of I and began work on an advanced degree. After receiving his M.S. degree, he worked as a soil scientist in Hillsboro until April of 1962 when he had the privilege of moving to Washington, D.C. to work with the World Soil Geography Unit on the "World Soil Map."

When Jim returned, he again moved to Quincy and worked on the Adams County Soil Survey. While in Quincy Jim worked with several archeologists digging at the Koster Archeological Site, and provided them with soil interpretations on their deep soil borings. Jim also helped train many new soil scientists while serving as the area trainer. Jim contributed a great deal to the Adams County Soil Report, especially in the General Soils Map and Series Descriptions sections.

In June of 1973, Jim became the Area Soil Scientist in Lincoln and also Survey Leader for Sangamon County. When mapping was completed in Sangamon, he assumed soil survey responsibility for the entire 14 county area. Jim once again served as soils trainer for the area and also assisted in numerous high school land judging contests.

In July of 1981, Jim became the Soil Survey Leader for Tazewell County and remained in this position until his retirement.

Jim was a member of the Soil Conservation Society of America, American Society of America, and was a charter member of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association.

We'd like to thank Jim for all his contributions to soil science in Illinois and wish him the best in his retirement.

Submitted by Roger Windhorn

ISCA TAKES A STAND

In early April the Executive Council received word that an Area Conservationist from Wisconsin was selected as State Soil Scientist for Wisconsin. After gathering more information from a reliable source in Wisconsin, we found that the selected candidate had been a soil mapper and Area Soil Scientist early in his career, but he had not been a survey leader and had not performed many of the tasks associated with that position. Also, he had not been directly involved in the soil survey program in the last 12 years. As a result of a special meeting of the Executive Council we felt that immediate action should be taken. The Council decided that a letter to the selecting official (Cliffton Maguire, Wisconsin State Conservationist) was the appropriate action.

After receiving Maguire's reply the Executive Council convened another special meeting, this time with John Eckes, Illinois State Conservationist. We wanted to learn more of Maguire's feelings and to restate our original purpose and intent. From this meeting we learned that a panel of best qualified candidates was put together from all who had applied for this position. The panel was established in the National Headquarters in Washington. Any of the candidates on that panel were considered to be fully qualified to perform the duties of State Soil Scientist and Maguire was free to choose anyone from that panel. Eckes understood our intent and offered his assistance if we wanted to pursue the issue of strengthening the qualifications for State Soil Scientist.

The Council reconvened after a short recess and decided to send a follow-up letter to Maguire to restate our original purpose and intent and to apologize for any misunderstandings. We also decided to pursue the strengthening of qualifications for all positions in the Soil Science series, grades GS-12 through GS-15. We are in the process of drafting a letter to Mr. John Peterson, Deputy Chief of Administration for SCS, to include a statement in the qualifications for these grades which would require recent experience in soil science. More information about this will be available later.

As an epilogue to the recent events I feel that all the information stated in our original letter was factual. I also feel that the State Soil Scientist is looked upon as the leader and the major source of technical soils information. Anyone who is in that position should be technically sound and up-to-date in soils. It is unfortunate that our intent was overshadowed by misunderstandings in the SCS administration since we did not follow proper channels and procedures. Hopefully, our follow-up letter will "clear the air" and we can proceed to have the qualifications strengthened. We did receive positive comments and support from other state soil associations and soil scientists. Some were enthused that we had taken a stand. The correspondence on this issue follows. If you are unclear about what occurred or have comments, questions, or strong feelings (positive or negative) about this issue, contact me or another member of the Executive Council.

Submitted by Mark Bramstedt, ISCA President



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Soil
Conservation
Service

4601 Hammersley Road
Madison, Wisconsin 53711

ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

25 Central Drive
Newton, Illinois 62448
April 14, 1986



Cliffton A. Maguire, State Conservationist
USDA Soil Conservation Service
4601 Hammersley Rd.
Madison, Wisconsin 53711

Dear Mr. Maguire,

The Illinois Soil Classifiers Association is gravely concerned with the recent appointment of an Area Conservationist to fill the position of State Soil Scientist in Wisconsin. We understand that the selected candidate was a soil mapper early in his career, but he has not been a survey leader, has not written a soil survey manuscript, has not conducted a soil survey field review, has not participated in a soil survey correlation, has not performed many of the technical tasks associated with the soil survey program, nor has he been directly involved with soil science in approximately the last 12 years.

It is one of the objectives of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association to protect the public welfare by maintaining high standards of technical competence and ethical conduct. We feel that a person in the position of State Soil Scientist should meet more than the basic requirements for a field soil scientist. Not only is this position a managerial position, it also is a highly technical position. This person should be one who by his/her knowledge of the physical, chemical, and biological aspects of soils and the principles of soil correlation, formation, and morphology qualify him/her to practice soil classification. This person should also have practiced soil classifying in a responsible position in recent years. Finally, this person should have the qualifications to be certified as a professional soil classifier by a state association of professional soil scientists or by the American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy, Crops, and Soils (ARCPACS). We feel that anyone who cannot meet these requirements cannot provide sound technical guidance and leadership to the National Cooperative Soil Survey.

Sincerely,

Mark W. Bramstedt
President ISCA

cc: B.M. Ferguson, Assistant Chief
R.W. Arnold, Director, Soil Survey Division
R.F. Harner, Head, Soils Staff MNTC
State Conservationists Midwest Region
ARCPACS
Editor, Soil Survey Horizons
Association of Women Soil Scientists

April 27, 1986

Mark W. Bramstedt
President ISCA
Illinois Soil Classifiers Association
25 Central Drive
Newton, Illinois 62448

Dear Mr. Bramstedt:

Your letter of April 14, 1986 contains some very serious allegations. It is rather disturbing that an Association with membership of professionals would write a letter without full knowledge of the situation. This information includes the qualifications of the individual and the responsibilities of this position.

A national vacancy announcement was prepared and distributed throughout the Soil Conservation Service. The respondents were evaluated by the National Headquarters and I was provided with a panel of the best qualified candidates. The selection was made from this list.

Sincerely,

Cliffton A. Maguire
State Conservationist

cc: B.M. Ferguson, Assistant Chief, SCS, Wash., DC
R.W. Arnold, Dir., Soil Survey Div., SCS, Wash., DC
R.F. Harner, Head, Soils MNTC, SCS, Lincoln, NE
State Conservationists Midwest Region
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Editor, Soil Survey Horizons
Association of Women Soil Scientists



The Soil Conservation Service
is an agency of the
Department of Agriculture



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ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

25 Central Drive
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May 14, 1986

Cliffon A. Maguire, State Conservationist
USDA Soil Conservation Service
4601 Hammersley Road
Madison, Wisconsin 53711

Dear Mr. Maguire,

The Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Executive Council met with John Eckes, Illinois State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service to discuss the ramifications of our letter to you of April 14, 1986 and to learn of your concerns. After receiving your letter of April 27, 1986 and after meeting with Mr. Eckes, we felt that a follow-up letter was needed to clear any misunderstandings that may have developed and to restate our original purpose and intent.

We had sent the letter of April 14 to you because you were the selecting official for the position of State Soil Scientist in Wisconsin, but we had overlooked a crucial step in the selection process. You had been provided by the National Headquarters in Washington, D.C. a panel of the best qualified candidates who, according to the evaluation system, were all qualified to perform the duties of that position. As the selecting official you were allowed to choose any of the candidates on that panel.

Our original intent of that letter was to make a position statement on the qualifications for State Soil Scientist and not to attack your integrity or abilities as State Conservationist. Again, we feel that the position of State Soil Scientist should be held by a person who has qualifications above the basic qualifications of a soil mapper. This person should be one who by his/her knowledge of the physical, chemical, and biological aspects of soils and the principles of soil correlation, formation, and morphology qualify him/her to practice soil classification. This person should also have practiced soil classifying in a responsible position in recent years and have the qualifications to be certified as a professional soil classifier by a state association of professional soil scientists or by the American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy, Crops, and Soils (ARCPACS).

We are now pursuing a course, through proper channels, to have the qualifications for the position of State Soil Scientist and all other positions in the Soil Science series, grades GS-12 through GS-15, strengthened. We want to thank you for expressing your views in your letter of April 27 and we apologize for any misunderstandings that may have developed from our letter of April 14.

Sincerely,
Mark W. Bramstedt
Mark W. Bramstedt
President ISCA

cc: B.M. Ferguson, Assistant Chief
R.W. Arnold, Director, Soil Survey Division
R.P. Harner, Head, Soils Staff NHTC
State Conservationists Midwest Region
State associations of professional soil scientist, Midwest Region
ARCPACS
Association of Woman Soil Scientists
Editor, Soil Survey Horizons

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SOIL SCIENTIST BOOKSTORE

Hot Off the Press (Almost)

As this issue of the newsletter goes to press, a publication of interest to soil scientists, glacial geologists, etc. is also going to press. The publication is:

Fehrenbacher, J.B., I.J. Jansen, and K.R. Olson. 1986. Loess thickness and its effect on soils in Illinois. Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin 782.

Single copies requested are free, additional copies are \$2 each. Make check payable to University of Illinois. Use this order form to reserve your copy(s).

Please send _____ copy(s) of Bulletin 782 to:
Name _____
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Send this form to:

Office of Agricultural Communications
54 Mumford Hall
University of Illinois
1301 W. Gregory Dr.
Urbana, IL 61801
Allow 5-6 weeks for delivery.

SOIL POETRY CORNER

Final Comment on Soil Landscape Dynamics

Five things influence soil landscapes;
Biota, climate, terrain shapes
Initial stuff and human kind.
A blend of these may loose or bind
The land skin of hills and dales;
Here turns soil dark, and elsewhere pales;
Leaches it poor or makes it rich,
Defining each natural niche,
Erodes or catches soil debris,
Changing the landscape endlessly.

from Soil Landscape Analysis, p. 143,
by Francis D. Hole and James B.
Campbell, Rowan and Allenheld (pub.),
1985.

People in the News

I. J. Jansen received a certificate of appreciation from the Better Reclamation With Trees Conference in recognition of his outstanding research in crop production on reclaimed surface mined lands.

K. R. Olson attended the 1986 North Central Soil Survey Conference in Columbus, Ohio. He was appointed Vice-Chairman of Committee 6 (Soil Erosion-Productivity Relations). He also serves as Secretary of NC-174 (Soil Erosion-Productivity) and was asked to coordinate the exchange of information between committees.

An M.S. degree was awarded to Susan Mravik (**R. G. Darmody**, advisor).
HOMAMORI!

Submitted by Bill Kreznor



ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER 1986 NEWSLETTER

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State Soil Selection

Enclosed are the three final soil nominations for the State Soil of Illinois. The Hoyleton, Drummer, and Flanagan printed here join the already nominated Sable, Cisne, Ipava, and Saybrook soils. A ballot will appear in our next Newsletter with full instructions on how to vote.

Submitted by Roger Windhorn

NOMINATION OF HOYLETON SILT LOAM AS STATE SOIL OF ILLINOIS

Hoyleton silt loam consists of deep, somewhat poorly drained, slowly permeable soils. These soils formed under prairie grasses on nearly level to gently sloping till plains. Hoyleton silt loam is extensive in southern Illinois. It is a major component of Soil Association 6, Hoyleton - Cisne - Huey Soils, on the General Soil Map of Illinois. This association covers about 1,508,600 acres, or 4.2 percent of the state's land.

Hoyleton soils formed in 30 to 50 inches of loess and in the underlying silty or loamy deposits. The loess is late Wisconsinan Peoria loess. The deposits are a mixture of wash from the Sangamon paleosol and the Roxana loess, which is an early Wisconsinan loess. Hoyleton soils are underlain by a strongly weathered paleosol (Sangamon soil) in Illinoian till at depths of about 5 to 7 feet.

The presence of this paleosol at relatively shallow depths has had a significant influence on the genesis of Hoyleton silt loam. The slowly or very slowly permeable paleosol created a wet soil climate in the overlying loess. This wet climate led to increased mineral weathering and a stronger expression of soil development. Hoyleton silt loam has a dark colored surface layer (mollic intergrade), an



Certified

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albic horizon (E horizon), and an argillic horizon. The argillic horizon is characterized by moderate or strong prismatic and angular blocky structure with dark colored clay films on the structural faces. It typically has prominent mottles with reddish hues which reflects the prairie influence.

Hoyleton silt loam is classified as a fine, montmorillonitic, mesic Aquollic Hapludalf. The Hoyleton series was established in 1927 in Washington County, Illinois. The type location for this soil is in Shelby County, Illinois.

Most areas of Hoyleton silt loam are used for cultivated crops, mainly corn, soybeans and small grain. This soil is considered to be Prime Farmland and is one of the more productive soils in Illinois, averaging 116 bushels of corn per acre. This soil is also used for dwellings, septic tank absorption fields, and local roads and streets, although special planning or designs are needed to overcome wetness and shrink-swell limitations.

In summary, Hoyleton silt loam is a prairie soil, just like Illinois is the "Prairie State". The major use of Hoyleton silt loam is to produce corn and soybeans, the same crops that have established Illinois as a major agricultural state. Hoyleton silt loam also has wetness and drainage limitations, limitations that are common on the broad, flat prairies of Illinois.

Submitted by Tonie J. Endres
President-Elect, ISCA

NOMINATION OF FLANAGAN SILT LOAM AS STATE SOIL OF ILLINOIS

Flanagan silt loam consists of deep, somewhat poorly drained, moderately slowly permeable soils. These soils formed under prairie grasses on nearly level to gently sloping till plains of Wisconsinan age.

Flanagan silt loam is extensive in central, east central, and north central Illinois. It is a significant component of Soil Association 9, Catlin - Flanagan - Drummer Soils, on the General Soil Map of Illinois. This association has a total area of about 2,104,600 acres or 5.9 percent of the state's land.

Flanagan silt loam is classified as a fine, montmorillonitic, mesic Aquic Argiudoll. It formed in 40 to 60 inches of loess and in the underlying calcareous till. Flanagan silt loam has a mollic epipedon that is 11 to 18 inches thick. This soil was established in 1937 in DeWitt County, Illinois. The type location for Flanagan silt loam is in Champaign County, Illinois.

The Morrow Plots at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, is on an area of Flanagan silt loam. Established in 1876, the Morrow Plots are the oldest continuous experiment fields in the United States.

Most areas of Flanagan silt loam are used for corn, soybeans, or small grain. Its capability class is I. This soil is considered to be Prime Farmland and is one of the most productive soils in Illinois, averaging 162 bushels of corn per acre. Flanagan silt loam is also well suited to pasture and hay, and to openland wildlife habitat. It is also used for dwellings, septic tank absorption fields, and local roads and streets, although special planning or designs are needed to overcome wetness and shrink-swell limitations.

In summary, Flanagan silt loam is an extensive, very productive and well-known soil in Illinois. It represents the prairie heritage of Illinois and the state's high agricultural productivity.

Submitted by Tonie J. Endres
President-Elect, ISCA

Nomination of Drummer silty clay loam as state soil of Illinois.

Drummer soils are the most extensive in the state according to the 1967 and 1982 soil resource inventory, and the more recent statewide Land Evaluation inventory. They are almost double their nearest competitor according to Bulletin 735 Soil Type Acreages for Illinois.

Illinois differs from the remainder of the prairie states by being flatter and wetter. Instead of having so many brown soils, Illinois is known for its "black dirt." Much of this "black dirt" is the Drummer soils.

The Drummer series consists of deep, poorly drained soils formed in 40 to 60 inches of Peoria loess and in the underlying stratified outwash sediments. These soils are on nearly level or slightly depressional parts of outwash plains and till plains associated with the Wisconsin Stage of continental glaciation. They occur throughout most of central and northern Illinois.

These soils formed under a luxuriant growth of marsh grasses and sedges. They had a water table at or near the surface during most of the spring months each year, and some areas had water standing on the soil surface. This combination of high natural fertility and lush vegetation produced a high level of organic matter that darkened the surface layer, and in some places the upper part of the subsoil, to a depth of 10 to 24 inches. These soils developed to a depth of 42 to 65 inches, and in all places the development extends into the stratified outwash. Slope gradients range from 0 to 2 percent. Drummer soils have moderate permeability and high available water capacity.

The Drummer series was established in 1929 in Ford County, Illinois. The type location is currently in Champaign County. Drummer soils have been correlated in Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin. There are more than one million acres of Drummer soils correlated to date in Illinois, and the projected acreage is 1,572,000 acres. Drummer silty clay loam is a Fine-silty, mixed, mesic Typic Haplaquoll in Soil Taxonomy.

Most areas of Drummer soils in Illinois are cultivated intensively. Corn and soybeans are the principal crops. They must be drained to lower the water table before they are cropped. Most drainage is done by subsurface tile drains. These soils are prime farmland where drained, and are among the most productive soils in Illinois.

The Drummer series is nominated by Wiley Scott and Lester Bushue.

ISCA Summer Meeting

The 11th Annual Summer Meeting was well attended and the site of the second annual texture guessing contest. Once again experience showed through with Wiley Scott in first place. Second place was taken by Scott Martin and Jeff Steiner took third -- congratulations!

After the picnic and contest the Marion County Soil Survey Staff led a tour of oil brine damaged land. No bridge was provided by the field folks so the office folks had to get black gold (or at least the associated brine) on their loafers.

Executive Council Meeting

The next ISCA Executive Council Meeting will be on January 10, 1987, place to be determined later.

ISCA Takes a Stand II

ISCA Efforts to Strengthen Qualification Standards

Establishing and maintaining high standards of technical competence and ethical conduct in the profession of soil classifying is the first objective listed in the Constitution and By-Laws of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association. Recent activities of the Executive Council have pursued this objective by asking John W. Peterson, SCS Deputy Chief of Administration to consider strengthening the qualification standards for soil science positions in grades GS-12 through GM-15 (see following letter). A draft copy of this letter was sent to 35 state soil scientist organizations. These organizations are all those that are currently affiliated with ARCPACS. We asked these groups to review and comment on the Peterson letter. We also asked that if they supported our efforts to send a similar letter to Peterson between October and November. The response we received was somewhat disappointing. Out of 35 organizations we

received comments from 5. The West Virginia and Idaho organizations have sent similar letters to Peterson and, although the Iowa, Wisconsin, and North Carolina organizations thought high standards were important, they didn't feel that their organization should comment on the subject. Phone calls to the South Dakota, Washington, Michigan, California, and Alabama organizations showed that most of these groups have taken no action and appear to be apathetic, although Michigan and California gave favorable comments and would follow-up in their next meetings. It is difficult to understand the apathy that these organizations have when it comes to supporting high standards. Why would an organization not want the best standards for those in soil science? Why shouldn't their organization support strengthening of standards? Do they want less than the best? I think not! Yet, their "no action" attitude reflects that they will be satisfied with mediocrity. I am hoping that some organizations which don't meet very often have not yet discussed this issue and will still take action and send a letter supporting this issue to Mr. Peterson. The need for higher standards can be summed-up in the response we received from Jean MacCubbin, Director/Coordinator of ARCPACS when she wrote: "In a time when professional competence is greatly needed, as soil survey has grown far beyond the initial purposes of 'crop suitability and yield data', strengthening of requirements is of the utmost importance. In a time, also, when progressive soil survey has continuously been a receiver of budget cuts, a strong, technically competent, and supporter of soil survey is needed in these higher-level soil science series positions. I, as a Certified Professional Soil Scientist and former soil mapper, agree whole-heartedly with the proposal to strengthen these requirements."

Submitted by Mark Bramsted
ISCA President



ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

409 Sutherland Ave.
Paris, Illinois 61844
September 30, 1986

John W. Peterson, Deputy Chief
of Administration
United States Department of Agriculture
Soil Conservation Service
P.O. Box 2890
Washington, D.C. 20013

Dear Mr. Peterson,

The Illinois Soil Classifiers Association would like to express its views and offer suggestions for strengthening the qualification standards for Soil Science positions in grades GS-12 through GS-15. This letter comes as a direct result of a recent appointment of an area conservationist to a state soil scientist position. We understand that while the selected candidate had met the minimum requirements for the soil science series, his professional experience in the past 12 years had not been directly involved with soil science.

It is one of the objectives of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association to protect the public welfare by maintaining high standards of technical competence and ethical conduct. We feel that the qualification standards for soil science positions in grades GS-12 through GS-15 should be strengthened. For example, the candidates should have one or more years of experience in the soil science series at the next lowest grade level to which the candidate is applying. Also, the candidates should have the qualifications to be certified as a professional soil classifier by a state association of professional soil scientists or by the American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy, Crops, and Soils (ARCPACS). The Illinois Soil Classifiers Association requires applicants for Certified Professional Soil Classifier to have actively practiced soil classifying in a responsible position at least three of the preceding four years. Candidates who meet similar requirements could best provide sound technical guidance to the National Cooperative Soil Survey.

The Illinois Soil Classifiers Association would like you to consider these suggestions and would be interested in your point of view.

Sincerely,

Mark W. Bramsted
President, ISCA

National Lobby for Private Consultants

A group concerned with the laws and opportunities affecting private soil consultants is forming a lobbying organization based in Washington, D.C. This group, The National Council of Consulting Soil Scientists, is in its infancy and needs the support of private consultants nation-wide. For more information contact: James Brown, Pedologues Inc., P. O. Box 761, Auburn, Alabama 36831-0761.

Submitted by Mark Bramsted

SOME GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE 41st ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE SOIL CONSERVATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA

The Soil Conservation Society of America (SCSA) held its 41st annual meeting August 3-6, 1986, in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Among the technical papers presented were two authored by ISCA members. ISCA member, Ken Olson, presented "Agronomic Use of Scrubber Sludge and Soil as Amendments to Lake Springfield Sediment Dredgings", a paper he and U. of I. Professor Robert Jones coauthored. Bob Dunker, U. of I. agronomist presented a paper he and ISCA member Ivan Jansen coauthored entitled: Rowcrop Response to Topsoil Replacement and Irrigation on Surface-Mined Land in Western Illinois.

The theme of the meeting was "New Challenges for Conservation Partners". Dr. Maurice Cook, SCSA President-elect, concluded the final general session by emphasizing the need for planning, performance, and persistence of the Society and its members if progress on soil and water conservation issues is to be maintained. In his address, Dr. Cook discussed the importance of education; not the educational needs solely of the Society and its members, but among the other "conservation partners" as well. These partners include federal, state, and local agencies, landowners, farm operators, scholars, students, and the lay public. ISCA could also be considered among the partners.

Is there a role for ISCA relative to Dr. Cook's remarks? How might we address the challenges of doing more work with less resources? I would propose that we as an organization explore closer ties with the local (Illinois) chapter of SCSA. Many members of ISCA probably already know one or more members of SCSA on a professional level. I believe ISCA could satisfy some of the educational needs of the SCSA Illinois chapter. This could be accomplished, for example, by inviting SCSA members to our meetings, particularly those meetings presenting information relative to erosion, soil interpretations, and water quality. This interaction with SCSA members would also provide them a vehicle to better acquaint our membership with local and regional conservation issues. As SCSA Past-president Joe Nichols wrote, effective involvement and interaction of conservation partners in upcoming conservation decisions and programs will be the key in promoting the wise utilization of the soil resource.

Submitted by Bill Kreznor

Soil Judging News

The Region III soil judging contest was held at Tomahawk, Wisconsin on October 18. University of Wisconsin-Platteville students took the top five individual positions, as well as the first place team award. Ohio State took second, Stevens Point third, and the University of Illinois was fourth, behind by 10 points out of 2260. The coach of the U. of I. team (and your editor) would like to thank the ISCA for its support of soil judging.

Soil Poetry Corner

Overheard on the S5 tour bus at the National American Society of Agronomy Meetings in New Orleans was this poem:

An Ode to Felicity (a Louisiana soil series)

There once was a soil from New Orleans,
 Who's water table was so high that it seems,
 that people would cry -
 "we'd rather be dry"
 But they always had mud on their blud jeans!

Author Unknown

People in the News

Mark Bramstedt completed Jasper County and started Edgar County. **Laura Craft** transferred to the Livingston County soil survey from McDonough County. **Gary Hamilton** completed Coles County and started Clinton County. **Mike Lilly** has accepted a position on the area staff at Hannibal, Missouri, and will transfer around the first of the year. We wish Mike good luck. **Mark Matusiak** was recently married. Congratulations Mark! **Allan Pasteris** is now employed by the Winnebago County SWCD. **John Pearse** converted to a soil conservationist position after the completion of field work in Vermilion County. He is now located at Eureka in Woodford County. **Roger Risley** is now a county soil scientist in Crawford County. **Larry Sabata** was married last summer. Congratulations Larry! **John Tandarich** was the recipient of the newly established Odell Fellowship at the University of Illinois. **Carl Wacker** has completed the Vermilion County soil survey, and will soon start the survey in Hancock County. **Steve Zwicker** recently completed soil surveys in Bureau and Putnam counties, and has begun the survey in Stark County.

Submitted by J. Wiley Scott

Soil Folk Term Request

Ever since I started in the profession I have been intrigued by the "common man's (or woman's)" perception of soils and landscapes. While most people take the soil resource for granted, many people are perceptive of it, at least in some way. For example, farmers in the Eastern Shore of Maryland, where I did some research, recognize Bhm horizons of Aquods and call them "Indian Hearths" and closed depressions in the area are called "Whale Wallows." Similar features in other parts of the country may have different names and soil mappers are in a unique position to know about such local soil folk terms.

What I am asking the membership of ISCA, and any other interested soil scientist, is to send to me any soil folk term used in their area or that they know about. I will, if the response is great enough, publish an article in Soil Survey Horizons about the folk terms. Please use the enclosed form or a postcard. Thanks for your help.

SOILS-LANDSCAPE FOLK TERMS REQUEST

COLLECTOR _____

TERMS	WHEN/WHERE COLLECTED	"SCIENTIFIC TERM"
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Send to: Dr. Robert G. Darmody
 Editor ISCA Newsletter
 1102 S. Goodwin Avenue
 Urbana, Illinois 61801

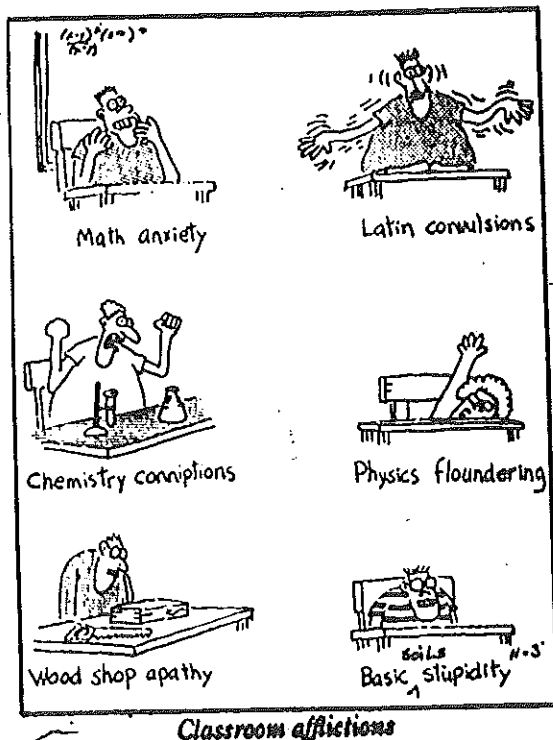
ORIGIN OF PRAIRIE SUBJECT OF GUEST LECTURE

The prairie is a topic which has captivated the imagination of humans since North America was first settled thousands of years ago. It has been a dominant force in the European peopling of the United States. Where and how did the prairie originate? One researcher has data that suggests that the prairie was forming more than 10 million years ago. Dr. Greg Retallack of the University of Oregon has spent much of his career examining fossil soils and associated plant and animal remains to reconstruct the environments of the past. Dr. Retallack at age 35 has gained international fame in pedological, geological and paleoecological circles for his pioneering work in using soils to reconstruct past environments. One area of interest to Dr. Retallack has been the prairie.

Before intelligent decisions regarding the preservation and maintenance of America's breadbasket can take place, we must have an understanding of the processes which formed the prairie. The prairie's response to climatic changes over time, as recorded in fossil soils, can help us predict the effects of human activities on this ecosystem.

Dr. Retallack will be speaking to these concerns in a public lecture entitled "The Origin of the North American Prairie" on Thursday, February 5, 1986, at 7:30 PM in the Foellinger Auditorium on the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign campus. All are welcome. This lecture is sponsored by the George A. Miller Committee of the University of Illinois and a coalition of 18 departments, student and community organizations, and state agencies.

Submitted by John Tandarich



From The Far Side, with apologies to Gary Larson.

Geological Science Field Trips

The Illinois State Geological Survey conducts occasional field trips throughout the state. Trips are free and are designed to acquaint individuals with the geology and mineral resources of Illinois. Call the Survey at (217) 344-1481 for more information.

A final word from your editor.

This Newsletter is only as good as the information the members of ISCA send in. One member saw this article in the National Wildlife Federation publication "The Leader," and thought of the ISCA Newsletter editor. It's this kind of thoughtfulness that makes the ISCA Newsletter what it is.

A Reminder To Editors

Publishing this newspaper is no picnic.

If we print jokes or cartoons, people say we are silly or disrespectful. If we don't, they complain that we are too serious, and they don't understand all the ecology in the articles.

If we reprint material from other sources, we are too lazy to write it ourselves. If we don't, then we are too fond of our own ideas and writings.

If we don't publish contributions, then we don't appreciate true genius. If we do print them, the newsletter is full of junk.

If we make a change in the other person's writing, then we are too critical. If we don't, we are asleep.

Now, likely as not, someone will say we swiped this from another publication.

We did.

(Reprinted with permission from the June 1986 issue of *The Balance Wheel*, published by the Association For Conservation Information.)

1987 MEMBERSHIP DUES NOTICE

It is time again to renew membership in the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association. Annual dues are payable by January 1 upon receipt of this notice. ISCA has seven classes of membership:

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>DUES</u>
Full	\$ 17.50
Associate	\$ 17.50
Affiliate	\$ 17.50
Out-of-State	\$ 5.00
Retired	\$ 5.00
Student	\$ 3.00
Honorary	---

Article II, Section 2. b. (2) of the By-Laws states: "Any member shall be listed as "delinquent" if dues remain unpaid for sixty (60) days after the due date, and he/she shall be dropped from the membership rolls of the Association if the dues remain unpaid ninety (90) days after the due date. The request of such person for readmission must be accompanied by the dues for the current year plus any reinstatement fee which the Council shall prescribe."

At the March, 1986 meeting the Council established the fees for reinstatement of lapsed membership of Full Members and Associate Members as follows:

During First Year: \$5.00 in addition to membership dues.

During Second Year: Membership dues and reinstatement fee for the first year plus an additional \$10.00 plus membership dues for the second year.

Lapsed two (2) or more years: Shall not be reinstated, but must submit a new application to become a member of the Association.

At the September, 1986 meeting the Council decided to request that all renewals of membership and certification be channelled through the ISCA Secretary. There are several reasons for that. Firstly, the Secretary can keep a more accurate and current record of Association membership. Secondly, current membership in the Association is a prerequisite to being certified by ISCA. Thirdly, it is more convenient for members who are certified to pay both the membership and certification renewals by one check. Therefore, when the Secretary receives the renewal fee, he will check the membership class and record that the dues have been paid. He will notify the secretary of the Certification Board that members who are certified have paid their dues and certification fee for the current year. The Secretary will then forward all fees to the Treasurer so he can record the account of each member and deposit the funds.

Please complete the renewal form below and return it with your proper fees to Scott Martin by January 1, 1987.
