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SOIL SURVEYS IN KENTUCKY

July, 1971

H. H. Bailey and R. L. Blevins

Soil surveys are a scientific inventory of the soil and land resources of an area. They locate the different kinds of soils and provide information as to their physical and chemical properties. The survey reports also contain tables and charts showing the use of the soils for agriculture, engineering, community development, recreational areas, woodland, and wildlife.

Today there is some type of soil survey activity in every county of Kentucky. The University of Kentucky has cooperative soil survey arrangements with the USDA Soil Conservation Service and the U.S. Forest Service.

Thirty-two Kentucky counties have been surveyed and the results published. using the classification schemes of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. These counties and their survey dates are: Adair (1961), Barren (1969), Bath (1959), Caldwell (1962), Calloway (1937), Christian (1912), Clark (1961), Elliott (1961), Fayette (1931 and 1968), Fulton (1961), Garrard (1921), Graves (1941), Harrison (1968), Henderson (1963), Jefferson (1962), Jessamine (1915), Logan (1919), McCracken (1905), McCreary-Whitley (1970), Madison (1905), Marshall (1938), Mason (1903), Mercer (1930). Metcalfe (1962), Muhlenberg (1920), Nelson (1971), Rockcastle (1910), Scott (1903), Shelby (1916), Union (1902), and Warren (1904).

The maps and reports on Adair, Barren, Bath, Caldwell, Calloway, Clark, Elliott, Fulton, Graves, Harrison, Henderson, Jefferson, Logan, McCreary-Whitley, Marshall, Mercer, Metcalfe, and Nelson counties are still available (June 1971) from the Agronomy Department, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky 40506. The other reports listed above are out of print, but copies may be viewed at the College of Agriculture Library at the University of Kentucky, or at other public libraries. In addition, 14 counties (Bell, Breathitt, Clay, Floyd, Johnson, Harlan, Knott, Lawrence, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Perry, Pike) in eastern Kentucky were mapped in 1961 (Reconnaissance-type survey) as a part of the development program for that area. This report is also available through the Agronomy Department.

The Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station surveyed Franklin (1915), Graves (1915), and Webster (1912) counties using a different system of nomenclature. These reports are now out of print.

Modern detailed soil surveys of Boone-Campbell-Kenton, Calloway-Marshall, Daviess-Hancock, Estill-Lee, Grayson, Logan, Pulaski, Madison, and Menifee-Rowan counties have been completed and the reports are being prepared.

Progressive soil surveys are in progress in 12 other survey areas, namely: Allen-Monroe, Ballard-McCracken, Bourbon-Nicholas, Boyd-Greenup, Carroll-Gallatin-Owen, Christian, Hardin-Larue, Henry-Oldham-Trimble, Hopkins, Jessamine-Woodford, Laurel-Rockcastle, McLean-Muhlenberg. Soil surveys of individual farms are also being made in other counties as they are needed for farm planning purposes.

ATTEND AGRONOMY FIELD DAY, SPINDLETOP FARM, LEXINGTON
July 29, 1971