



IOWA SOIL ASSOCIATIONS OF HIGHWAY GUIDE

Loess-material transported and deposited by wind and consisting of predominately silt-sized particles.

Moraine-a mound, ridge, or other topographic feature consisting of glacial till deposits.

Calcereous-soil containing sufficient calcium carbonate to effervesce visibly when treated with cold diluted hydrochloric acid.¹⁰

Catsteps-the staircase-like features common on hillslopes of the Loess Hills of western Iowa.

Colluvial/Colluvium-soil material deposited in footslope positions by the action of gravity, soil creep, or local wash.

Glacial till-generally unconsolidated and non-stratified material deposited directly by a glacier without subsequent reworking by melt water, and consisting of clay, silt, sand, gravel, stones, and boulders intermingled in any proportion.

Knob and kettle topography-an undulating landscape in which a dispersed assemblage of stream terraces or ridges of glacial till is interspersed with irregular depressions.

Lacustrine sediments-material deposited in lake water and later exposed by receding water levels.

Tazewell glacial till-the earliest advance of the most recent glaciation period in Iowa, considered to be approximately 26 thousand to 40 thousand years before present.

Stream terrace-a steplike surface bordering a valley floor that represents the former position of a floodplain.

Residuum-unconsolidated and partly weathered mineral materials accumulated by disintegration of consolidated rock in place.

Paleosol-a soil that was formed during the geologic past and was buried and preserved by more recent sedimentation. This buried soil is often reexposed on the modern surface by subsequent erosion.

In Cooperation With:

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND LAND STewardSHIP

Iowa Department of Transportation

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY University Extension

USDA NRCS United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service

Glossary of Terms

Iowa Soil Regions

Legend

- Soil Regions
- 1 Loess over glacial till - low rainfall
 - 2 Northwest Iowa Loess
 - 3 Tazewell Glacial Till
 - 4 Loamy Wisconsin Glacial Till
 - 5 Clayey Lake Deposits
 - 6 Iowan Erosion Surface
 - 7 Shallow to Bedrock
 - 8 Loess with Bedrock Outcrops
 - 9 Shallow Loess over Glacial Till
 - 10 Loess Ridges and Sideslopes
 - 11 Loess with exposures of Glacial Till
 - 12 Very Deep Loess
 - 13 Missouri River Bluffs
 - 14 Missouri River Alluvium
 - 15 Loess Ridges/Glacial Till - SW Iowa
 - 16 Loess, Shale, and Glacial Till
 - 17 Loess Ridges/Glacial Till - SE Iowa
 - 18 Eolian Sand
 - 19 Loess - Timbered
 - 20 Alluvium
 - 21 Loess Ridges/Glacial Till Sideslopes
 - 22 Loess Ridges/Clay Paleosol
 - 23 Water

