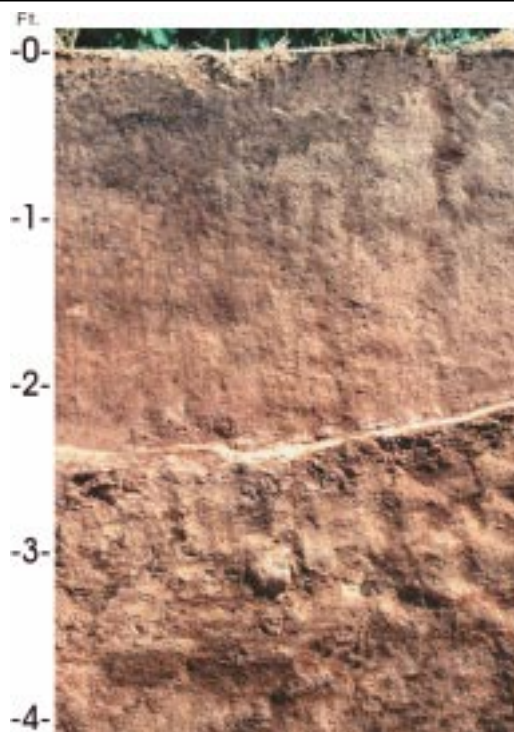


SAN JOAQUIN -- CALIFORNIA STATE SOIL



San Joaquin Soil Profile

Surface layer: brown loam

Subsoil - upper: brown loam

Subsoil - lower: brown clay

Substratum: light brown and brown, indurated duripan
with 70 to 90 percent silica-sesquioxide cementation

California's Great Central Valley has more than 500,000 acres of San Joaquin soils, named for the south end of that valley. This series is the oldest continuously recognized soil series within the State. It is one of California's Benchmark Soils, and a profile of it is displayed in the Netherlands World Soil Museum.

The San Joaquin series became the Official State Soil in 1997, the result of efforts by students and teachers from Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School in Madera, natural resource professionals, the Professional Soil Scientists Association of California, legislators, and various state universities.

These soils are used for irrigated crops, such as wheat, rice, figs, almonds, oranges, and grapes, and for pasture and urban development. San Joaquin soils formed in old alluvium on hummocky topography. A cemented hardpan a few feet beneath the surface restricts roots and water percolation.



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