News and Announcements

Kansas Adopts Harney Silt Loam as Its Official Soil

Orville W. Bidwell

With Governor Mike Hayden’s signature on Apr. 12, 1990, Harney silt loam became the official state soil of Kansas after more than 5 yr of sustained effort by countless members of a state-soil coalition headed by the Kansas Association of Professional Soil Classifiers. Senate Bill 96 had passed the Kansas Senate, 35 to 5, on Mar. 2, 1989, and the House of Representatives, 96 to 26, on Mar. 30, 1990.

The Kansas Association of Professional Soil Classifiers recommended the Harney because its properties typify prairie soils, of which Kansas has more acres than any other state, and because its nearly 4 million acres in 25 west-central counties were the most of any of Kansas’s 300 soils.

In addition to demonstrating the unusual properties of a prairie soil, the Harney will be used in the classroom to demonstrate the effects of management and erosion on soil properties and as a model to which other soils may be compared.

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Florida Association of Professional Soil Classifiers Holds Annual Meeting

The Florida Association of Professional Soil Classifiers held its annual meeting on 20 July 1990. Past President Frank Watts inducted the following officers for 1990–1992—President Howard Yamataki; President-elect Lou Carter; Vice President Frank Sodek III; and Secretary-Treasure Ken Morgan.

A Hydric Soils of Florida Handbook has been published. The cost is $15.00 which includes postage and handling. For your copy contact: Dr. Victor W. Carlisle, Professor Emeritus; Soil Science Department; 2169 McCarty Hall; University of Florida; Gainesville, FL 32611-0151.