THE NATURE AND PROPERTIES OF PEATS IN NEW JERSEY

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Abstract

The results of a survey of the peat-land resources of New Jersey are presented. The peats of the state cover about 8% of the total surface area. They vary greatly in depth, origin, chemical composition, and utilization. Of the four major types of peat, moss peat is entirely absent, although sphagnum is growing on the surface of many peat areas in the state. The sedge and reed, or lowmoor peats, predominate in the northern or glaciated areas, whereas forest peats and salt marshes predominate in the southern or coastal plain areas. The utilization of the peat depends upon its nature, drainage condition, and geographical location.