Soil Series Names.

There is submitted herewith a list of names of the soil series that have been definitely established in the progress of the soil survey in various parts of the world. Series names are included from Alaska, Australia, British Isles, Canada, Canal Zone (Panama), Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Haiti, India, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Palestine, Philippine Islands, Porto Rico and the United States. Soil survey work is now under way in other countries, particularly in China and in Russia, and in the former, at least, series names will be used with the same meaning as those in most of the countries quoted in this list.

The term "soil series" has been defined as a category of soils having the same character of profile (the same general range in color, structure, consistence, density, composition, reaction and other features of each horizon and the same sequence of horizons), the same general conditions of relief and drainage, and usually a common or similar origin and mode of formation; differing only in the texture of the surface soils. This meaning of the soil series and its use in this sense is consistent throughout the surveys in Alaska, Australia, British Isles, Canada, Canal Zone, Haiti, India, Palestine, Mexico, Philippine Islands, Porto Rico and United States. In the surveys of Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador and Nicaragua the series are in some cases rather more inclusive than the definition would indicate, as these surveys were made on a very broad reconnaissance scale. In nearly every case, however, the characteristics of the series name have been closely defined and although the mapping is on a rather inclusive basis, the series will probably stand as definite entities. The use of the series categories in New Zealand is not entirely clear. Surveys in this country are as yet limited, but the types within the series as named bear distinct names, as for instance, on the soil map of the Maniototo Survey District the Vincent series is indicated as including Drybread stony loam, Dunstan stony loam, Idaburn stony loam, Lauder stony loam, Naseby stony loam and Ranfurly stony loam. It is evident that the series name connotes a different group of soils than does the series as used elsewhere.

It will be noted that the list of names includes 29 duplications as compared with 7 duplications in 1928 when the first list was published.

The list has been compiled in an effort to avoid such duplications of name for different kinds of soil. With the extension