Natchez -- Mississippi State Soil

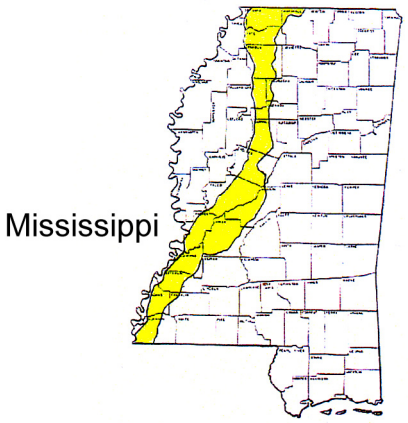
Natchez Soil Profile
Surface layer: dark grayish brown silt loam
Subsurface layer: brown silt loam
Subsoil: yellowish brown silt loam
Substratum: yellowish brown silt loam

Natchez soils are along the bluffs of the Mississippi Delta and are throughout the full length of the state.

In 1988, the Professional Soil Classifiers Association of Mississippi selected Natchez silt loam to represent the soil resources of the state. Natchez soils occur on 171,559 acres in Mississippi.

Natchez soils formed in very deep loess under a woodland environment and a climate that was warm and humid. These soils are used mostly for woodland and pasture. They are fertile and have a site index of 90 to 100 for loblolly pine and 105 for cherrybark oak, ash, and sweetgum. In less sloping areas, pasture and row crops are grown and the soils are very productive when good management is applied.

The Natchez series was designated the official state soil of Mississippi by the State Legislature on March 13, 2003.



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). *USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

USDA NRCS
Natural Resources Conservation Service