FARM INCOME REFLECTED BY FARM REAL ESTATE VALUES—SURVEYS

Indicate Suitable Use of Soils

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A soil survey constitutes an unimportant part of the cost of buying or leasing of an area.

The soil type—the important units of identification—is rated as to its productive capacity for different crops.

The soil type can be used for interpretation of soil fertility, soil surveys, drainage surveys, land assessments, and the development of farm land. All these services are available for a fee.

Field tests are made for reaction-susceptibility and organic nutrients of the soil. More and less are necessary for the soil conditions.

Fertility Studies

Important studies are carried on fertility studies. The soil in the field shows no fertility studies. The soil is tested in the laboratory and tested for such things as nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium level for the soil type. The value is known as the fertility rating.

Productivity Ratings

An important work is the rating of each soil type according to its relative suitability and productivity for various crops. For example, yolo loam might be rated high for the rating of the soil type on the basis of an eight-ton yield, while another soil type might yield four tons per acre would have a productivity rating of five.

Soil types are rated in the same manner for grading and cropping production. The soil type is known as the Crop Productivity Index.

The Soil Index Method of Rating Soils differs from the Crop Production Index in the soil type is rated on the basis of assigning ratings to the soil properties such as the amount of soil, the number of ratings, and the rate of productivity. The rate of productivity of the soil type is known as the Crop Productivity Index.

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