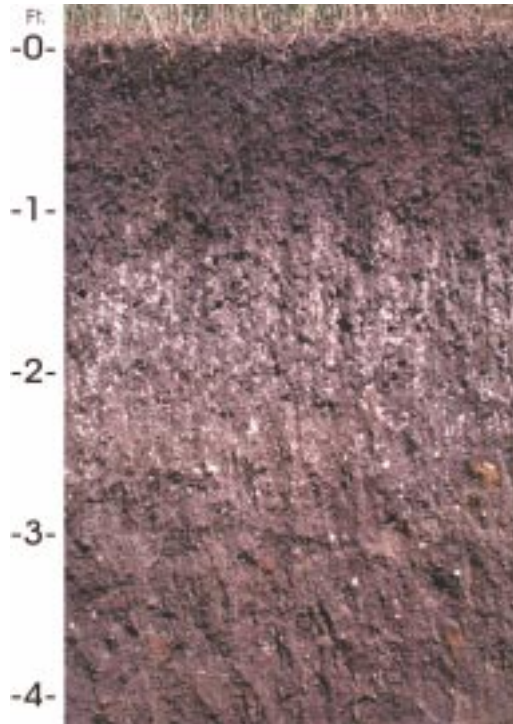


HOUDEK -- SOUTH DAKOTA STATE SOIL



Houdek Soil Profile

Surface layer: dark grayish brown loam
Subsoil - upper: dark grayish brown clay loam
Subsoil - middle: grayish brown clay loam
Subsoil - lower: light olive brown clay loam
Substratum: light yellowish brown clay loam

The Houdek soil, a deep, well drained, loamy soil, represents many soils formed in South Dakota under the influence of prairie grass. The dark color of the surface layer is a result of decayed plants and other materials that have been deposited over thousands of years.

The Houdek soil is of major economic importance to South Dakota because it is often used as cropland or rangeland. Small grain, corn, sunflowers, and soybeans are commonly grown crops. Alfalfa and grass-alfalfa mixtures provide hay and pasture for grazing livestock. Large areas of the Houdek soil are in native range. Crops and grasses grown on the Houdek soil also provide habitat for wildlife.

The Houdek soil was designated as the South Dakota State Soil by the 1990 State Legislature. The soil has been mapped on about 600,000 acres. The average annual precipitation is 22 inches, and the average annual air temperature is about 48 degrees F.



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (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 to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

 **NRCS** Natural Resources Conservation Service
Helping People Help the Land