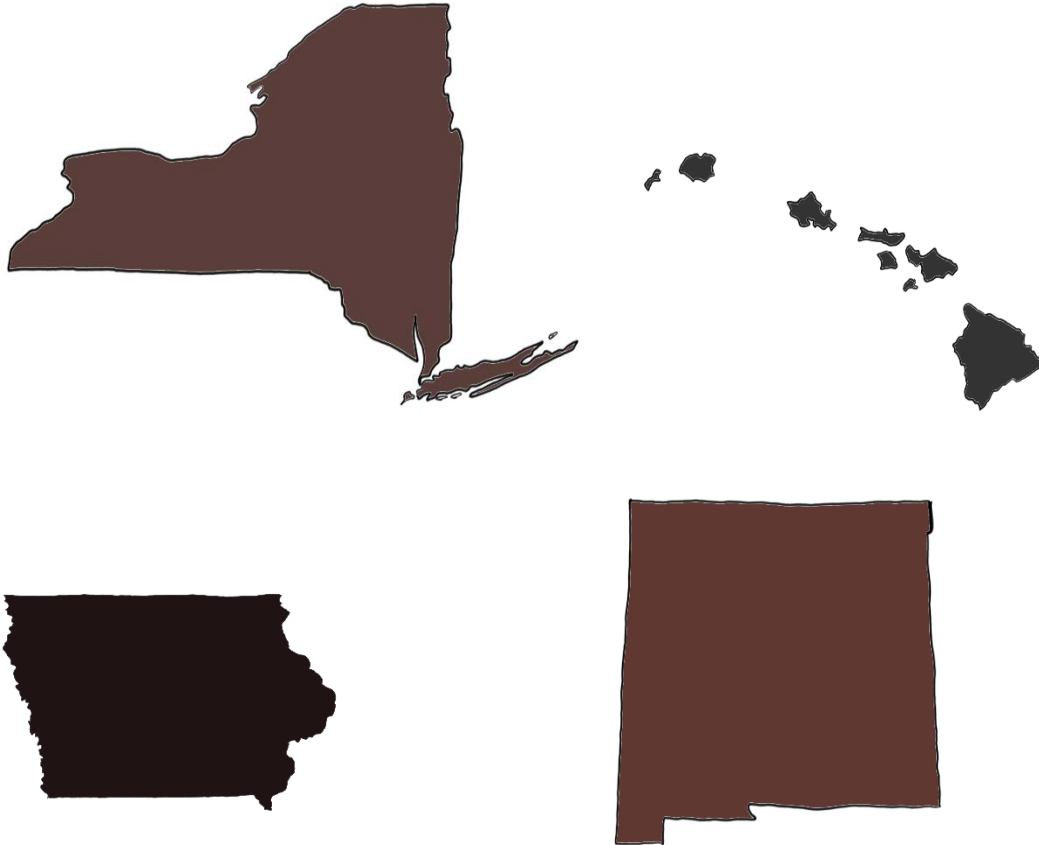


# Soil Match

Many areas of the world have distinctive soils with special characteristics. These soil types are best suited for different plants.

Take a look through the state postcards on the next pages to learn a bit more about each states' soils. Look through the plants and materials on the following pages, and see if you can match each card to a specific state.



## *Extender Activity:*

Take a look through the following link from the Natural Resource Conservation Service about state soils:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/edu/?cid=stelprdb1236841>

Does your state have an official soil? If not, find the closest state to you. What is the soil called? What are its characteristics?



*Soil-utations from*

# HAWAII



Hilo Soil is the Aloha state soil! It is known for a distinctively bright red color, and is formed by volcanic ash. This mineral-rich soil drains well and is ideal for tropical plants.

*Soil-utations from*

# IOWA



Tama soils are found throughout the Hawkeye state. These soils form in wind-blown open fields and contain silty clay that develops under native grasses.



# *Soil-utations from* **New York**

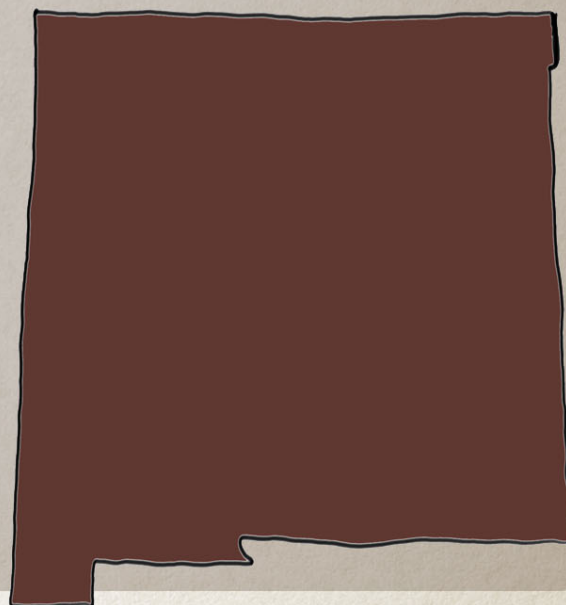
Honeoye is the official soil of New York.

The soil is rich with minerals. It's ideal for farming and supports dense forests. Glaciers helped to form this soil, and trees love all the nutrients Honeoye provides.



# *Soil-utations from* **New Mexico**

Penistaja Soil is found in grasslands of the Land of Enchantment. But perhaps this soil of New Mexico is best known for its colorful clay that can be used to make adobe houses!





## Corn



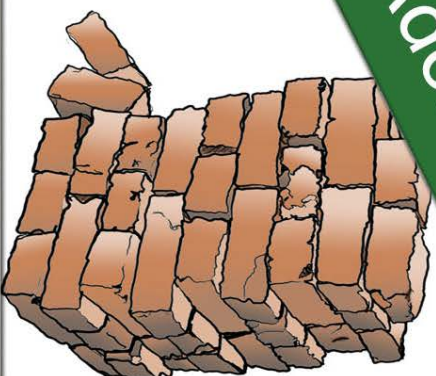
Corn is grown in many open grasslands in North America. This well-known crop has strong roots that do best in soils that include some clay.

## Coffee Tree



The tropical coffee tree loves the rich, volcanic soils. The tree does best with good soil drainage, and is prized for its beans that make a popular beverage.

## Adobe Bricks



These colorful bricks are made from the clay-rich soils of the highland desert. The strong adobe material can also be used to make pottery.

## Apple Tree



This forest tree is prized for its tasty fruit that comes in many varieties. They are common to many regions, but especially love the soil and climate of the Northeast.



## Sugar Maple



This forest tree appears all over the Northeast US. It loves glacial soils and is prized for the flavorful syrup it can produce.

## Desert Sage



This fragrant plant loves open space and dry climates with clay-rich soil. The strong roots help to secure the plant in dry soil. The plant is used in candles and perfumes.

## Taro



This tropical plant does best in mineral-rich soil with good drainage. It has edible roots that are used in cooking.

## Bluegrass



Wind blows the seeds from this grass across large open fields. The roots love soil that has some clay, and the plant helps with building and securing soil.