



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
P.O. Box 1458  
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October 1, 2002

## FIELD OFFICE TECHNICAL GUIDE NOTICE ND-24

This notice announces the release of "Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in the United States, Guide for Identifying and Delineating Hydric Soils, Version 5.0, 2002". This publication was developed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, various Regional, State, and local agencies, universities, and the private sector. Included are the hydric soil indicators approved for use by the NRCS and the National Technical Committee for Hydric Soils when identifying, delineating, and verifying the presence of hydric soils in the field. This publication is to be used for implementation of all USDA programs requiring the field identification of hydric soils, it supercedes and replaces all previous versions of Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in the United States. This publication is also available on CD-ROM.

Field indicators are not intended to replace the definition of a hydric soil. The field indicators are designed to be regionally specific. The Land Resource Regions (LRRs) or the Major Land Resource Areas (MLRAs) in which each regional indicator can be used is specified. The geographic extent of LRRs and MLRAs are defined in USDA Agriculture Handbook 296 (USDA, SCS, 1981). The list of regional indicators is considered to be dynamic; annual changes and additions are anticipated. Proposals to modify the regional indicators must be submitted to the National Technical Committee for Hydric Soils. A basic knowledge of soil landscape relationships and soil survey procedures is necessary to properly use indicators.

You may access the electronic version 5.0 of "Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in the United States," in the eFOTG by clicking on Section I, Table of Contents, List of Soils References, Field Indicators of Hydric Soils. The Web site address is <http://www.statlab.iastate.edu/soils/hydric/>

### **Filing Instructions:**

Remove "Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in the United States," Version 4.0, dated March 1988.

When received insert hard copies of the "Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in the United States," Version 5.0, dated 2002 in the Soils section of your FOTG Reference Library.

If you have any questions contact the State Soil Scientist at (701) 530-2025.

/s/

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Distribution: FOTG

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