

# AGRICULTURAL GUIDE

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Agriculture  
Information

## Information about Missouri agriculture

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So, you think you might like to come to Missouri and farm. Those of us who already live in Missouri can understand why you are looking with favor on Missouri. We think it is a nice place, populated by friendly, helpful people. We like to think our governmental and educational institutions take special pains to respond to the legitimate requests of both present and prospective Missouri citizens. Our reputation for doing a good job has gotten around, and we get many requests for detailed information about the state or particular areas of the state.

Experience has shown that requests are often for data that is either not available or not readily accessible. Thus we have learned that the most appropriate response usually is to send general information and to invite more specific requests.

### General look at Missouri agriculture

Every year the Missouri Agricultural Statistics Office, in cooperation with the Missouri Department of Agriculture, compiles a book entitled *Missouri Farm Facts 19\_\_\_\_\_*. To get a copy of this book you should write to the Missouri Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 630, Jefferson City, Mo. 65101.

### Good Missouri map

The state highway department annually publishes a new official Missouri road map. The most recent copy can be obtained by writing to Public Information, P.O. Box 270, Jefferson City, Mo. 65102. This map shows county lines, the extent of national forests, the major road networks and has a mileage table. In addition, it lists all the place names in Missouri and gives the grid section in which they may be found.

### Sections of the state

The first thing you need to know is that Missouri is a diverse state. The cotton, corn, soybean and wheat economy of the southeastern lowlands differs from the livestock economy of the northern glaciated plains. Land values vary greatly.

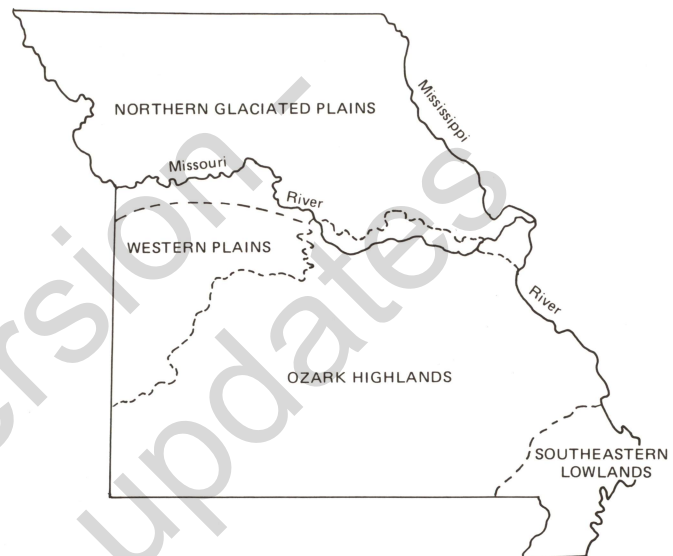


Figure 1. Missouri is a diverse state with varying land values.

So, where do you think your interests lie? That is the first question. The second question is: Do you really want to do it? For that you may find some help from UMC Guide 781, *So You Want To Farm*, available from Extension Publications, 115 South Fifth Street, UMC, Columbia, Mo. 65211.

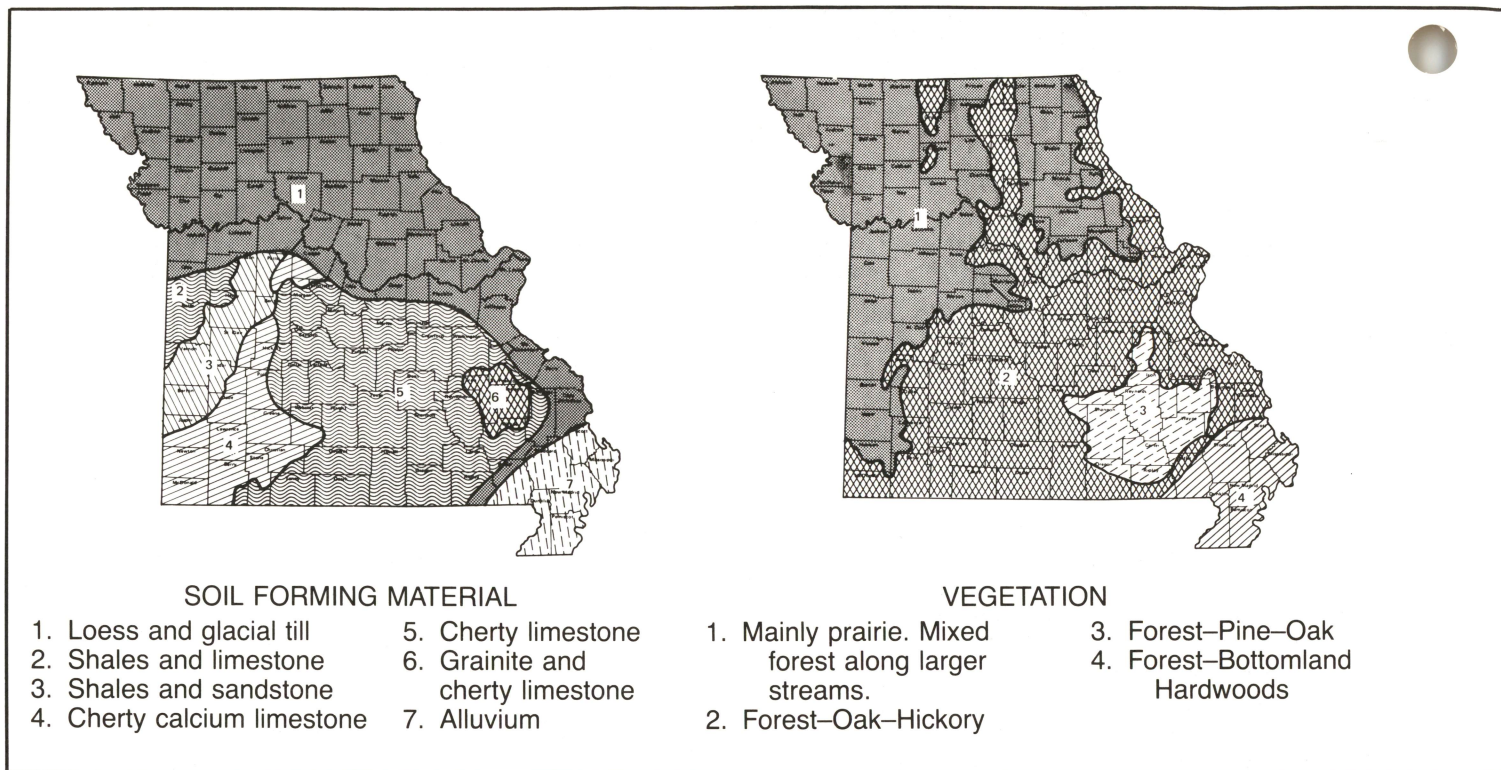
### Realtors

For information on the farmland realtors who operate in the area of the state in which you are interested, write to the Missouri Association of Realtors, 2601 Bernadette Place, Columbia, Mo. 65205. You might also want to ask specifically if there are real estate people in the area of your interest who are members of the Realtors Land Institute, an affiliate of the National Association of Realtors.

### Your local library

At this point in your search for information about the area in which you are interested, you may want to go to your local library and talk to your librarian about what is available. There you may find a good economic atlas. You also may be interested in an atlas of geologic formations. Ask the librarian what is avail-

Figures 2-5. The characteristics of any soil are determined by a complex soil-forming process that is influ



able from the Census of Agriculture and from the Census of Governments. Even if the census reports are not available, there is a good chance the library will have the *County and City Data Book*, published by U.S. Department of Commerce. This will have a wealth of information in easily accessible form.

### Soil characteristics

Soils and climatic characteristics are always an important part of the state in which you have an interest. The maps presented above give some limited information.

There are detailed soils maps of many of the counties of Missouri, but there are also many counties of which such maps have not been made. If you want to know whether the county in which you were interested has been soil mapped, contact the state conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, 555 Vandiver Drive, Columbia, Mo. 65202. You should also inquire of the state conservationist whether the soils maps are still available. If they are available you may order them from Extension Publications, 115 South Fifth Street, Columbia, Mo. 65211.

### Farmland prices

The only regularly published data on farmland prices is published by the United States Department of Agriculture in a publication called *Agricultural Land*

*Values and Markets*. Write to Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 20402 to buy the publication.

### Still more questions?

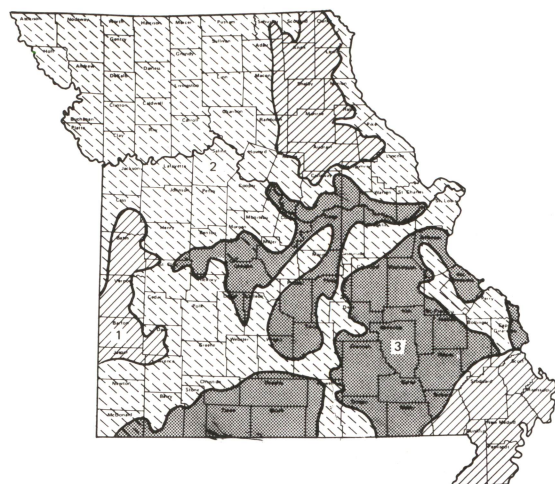
If after you have done your own research and consulted the information sources already suggested you still have unanswered questions, the University of Missouri College of Agriculture will help you get specialized information. Address your inquiries to Associate Dean for Extension, College of Agriculture, 2-4 Agriculture Building, University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo. 65211.

A UMC Guide index and a list of all University of Missouri publications are available from: Extension Publications, 115 South Fifth Street, UMC, Columbia, Mo. 65211.

For answers to even more specific questions, the local University of Missouri Extension Service office is a good source. There is a University of Missouri Extension Center in most Missouri counties. Usually the center is in the county seat.

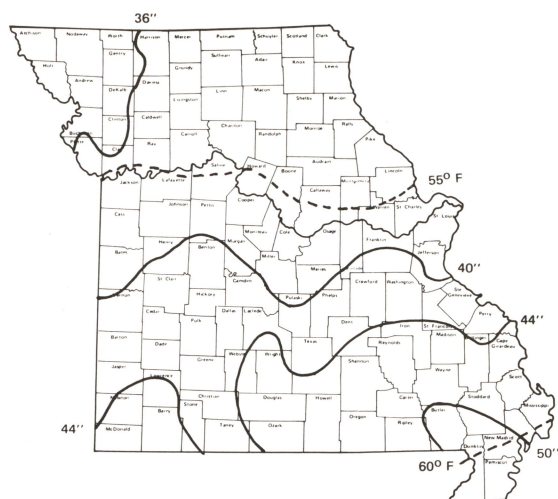
Written inquiries from outside Missouri should be directed to the regional director of the region in which you are interested. Missouri is divided into nine regions, each containing several counties. A map (see back page) and the addresses of the regional directors follow.

influenced by the variables shown in these single-factor maps.



GENERAL TOPOGRAPHY

1. Nearly level
2. Rolling to hilly
3. Hilly



AVERAGE ANNUAL RAINFALL  
AND TEMPERATURE

Rainfall in inches  
Temperature  
in degrees Fahrenheit

## Missouri Regional Extension Centers

(See map on back page.)

### Region 1

4525 Downs Drive  
St. Joseph, Mo. 64507

### Region 2

2820 S. Highway 291  
Independence, Mo. 64057

### Region 3

833 N. Boonville Ave.  
Springfield, Mo. 65802

### Region 4

Room 105, Building T26  
University of Missouri-Rolla  
Rolla, Mo. 65401

### Region 5

Southeast Missouri State University  
530 North Pacific  
Cape Girardeau, Mo. 63701

### Region 6

212 Penney Building  
8001 Natural Bridge Road  
St. Louis, Mo. 63121

### Region 7

431 A Lewis Hall  
University of Missouri-Columbia  
Columbia, Mo. 65211

### Region 8

Room 21, Courthouse  
Palmyra, Mo. 63461

### Region 9

P.O. Box 160  
Portageville, Mo. 63873



University of Missouri  
Extension Regions

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