### Summary Table: Characteristics of the Ecoregions of Illinois

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ecoregion</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Vegetation</th>
<th>Land Use and Land Use Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Driftless Area</strong></td>
<td>Glaciated, undulating to rolling, Nearly level floodplains and low terraces: Lawson, Beaucoup, Darwin, Haymond, Grape, and Honey Creek.</td>
<td>big bluestem, Indian grass, and gama grass.</td>
<td>Mostly urbanized.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Southeastern Wisconsin Till Plains</strong></td>
<td>Unglaciated, rolling hills.</td>
<td>maple–basswood forest.</td>
<td>Agriculture is found on the uplands, mainly consisting of grasslands and hardwood forests.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Central Corn Belt Plains</strong></td>
<td>Forests are extensive, but some mesic prairies occurred (containing hickories, white ash, basswood, sugar maple, black walnut) and, in the early 19th century, savanna, prairie, oats grama. On floodplains: forests dominated by silver maple, water oak, shagbark hickory and tuliptree.</td>
<td>mesic prairies (dominants: big bluestem, Indian grass, and gama grass).</td>
<td>Agriculturally used for corn, soybeans, and wheat are the major crops.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mississippi Alluvial Plain</strong></td>
<td>Bottomlands: forests dominated by silver maple, cottonwood, elm, and water oak.</td>
<td>forests.</td>
<td>Forests are typically good to excellent.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Driftless Area
- **Physiography**: Glaciated, undulating to rolling, Nearly level floodplains and low terraces: Lawson, Beaucoup, Darwin, Haymond, Grape, and Honey Creek.
- **Geology**: Quaternary deposits in Illinois, thin to thick loess, residuum, and on side slopes and some mesic prairies occurred.
- **Climate**: Mean annual rainfall (inches) 34-36, Frost Free period 60-84 days.
- **Soils**: Alfisols (Hapludalfs), Mollisols (Hapludolls, Endoaquolls), Inceptisols (Endoaquepts).

### Southeastern Wisconsin Till Plains
- **Physiography**: Unglaciated, rolling hills.
- **Geology**: Thin to thick Quaternary loess, residuum, and on side slopes and some mesic prairies occurred.
- **Climate**: Mean annual rainfall (inches) 36-38, Frost Free period 64-84 days.
- **Soils**: Alfisols (Hapludalfs), Mollisols (Hapludolls, Endoaquolls), Inceptisols (Endoaquepts).

### Central Corn Belt Plains
- **Physiography**: Forests are extensive, but some mesic prairies occurred (containing hickories, white ash, basswood, sugar maple, black walnut) and, in the early 19th century, savanna, prairie, oats grama. On floodplains: forests dominated by silver maple, water oak, shagbark hickory and tuliptree.
- **Geology**: Thin to thick Quaternary loess, residuum, and on side slopes and some mesic prairies occurred.
- **Climate**: Mean annual rainfall (inches) 36-38, Frost Free period 80-120 days.
- **Soils**: Alfisols (Hapludalfs), Mollisols (Hapludolls, Endoaquolls), Inceptisols (Endoaquepts).

### Mississippi Alluvial Plain
- **Physiography**: Bottomlands: forests dominated by silver maple, cottonwood, elm, and water oak.
- **Geology**: Quaternary deposits in Illinois, thin to thick loess, residuum, and on side slopes and some mesic prairies occurred.
- **Climate**: Mean annual rainfall (inches) 36-38, Frost Free period 140-160 days.
- **Soils**: Alfisols (Hapludalfs), Mollisols (Hapludolls, Endoaquolls), Inceptisols (Endoaquepts).