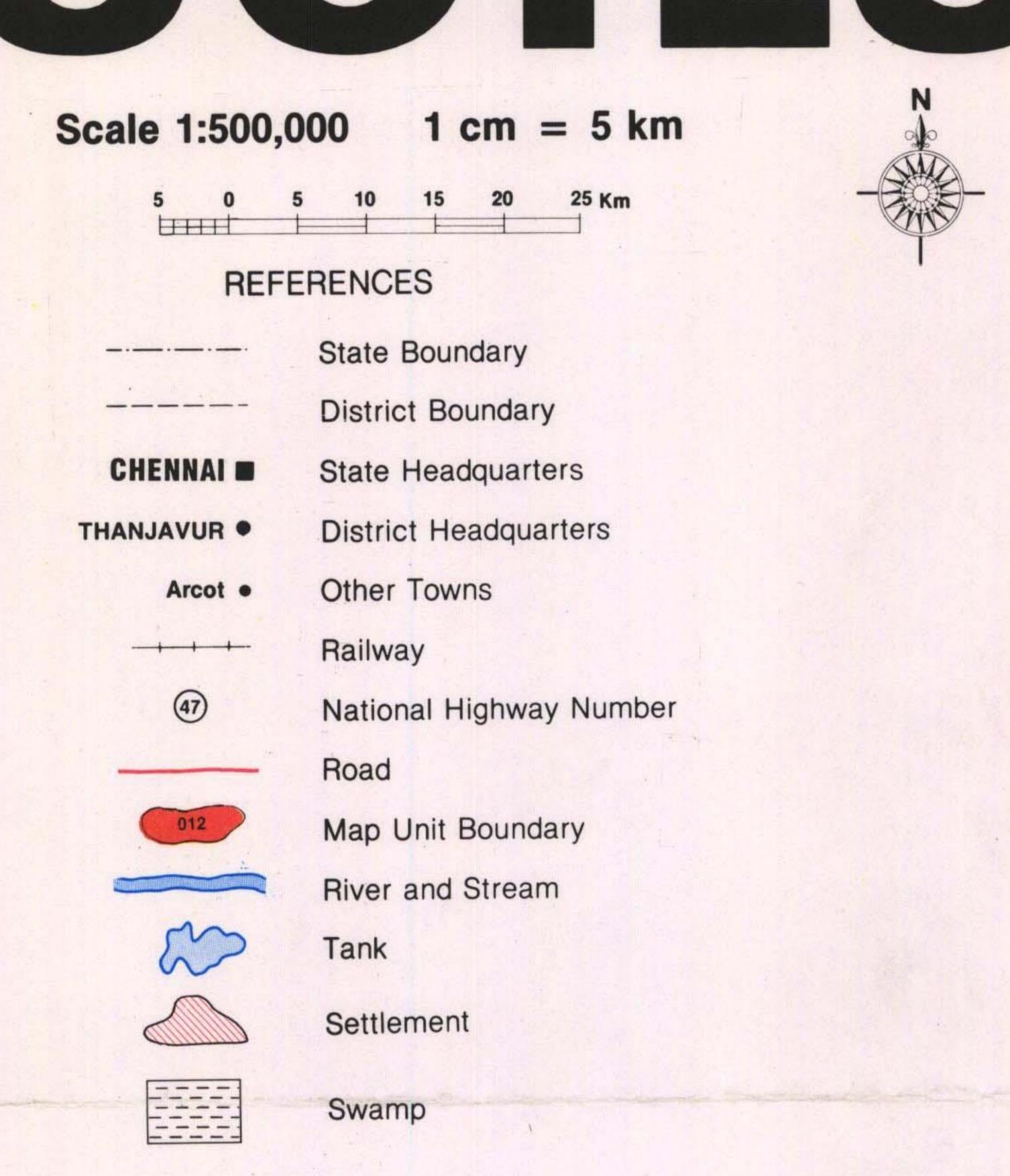
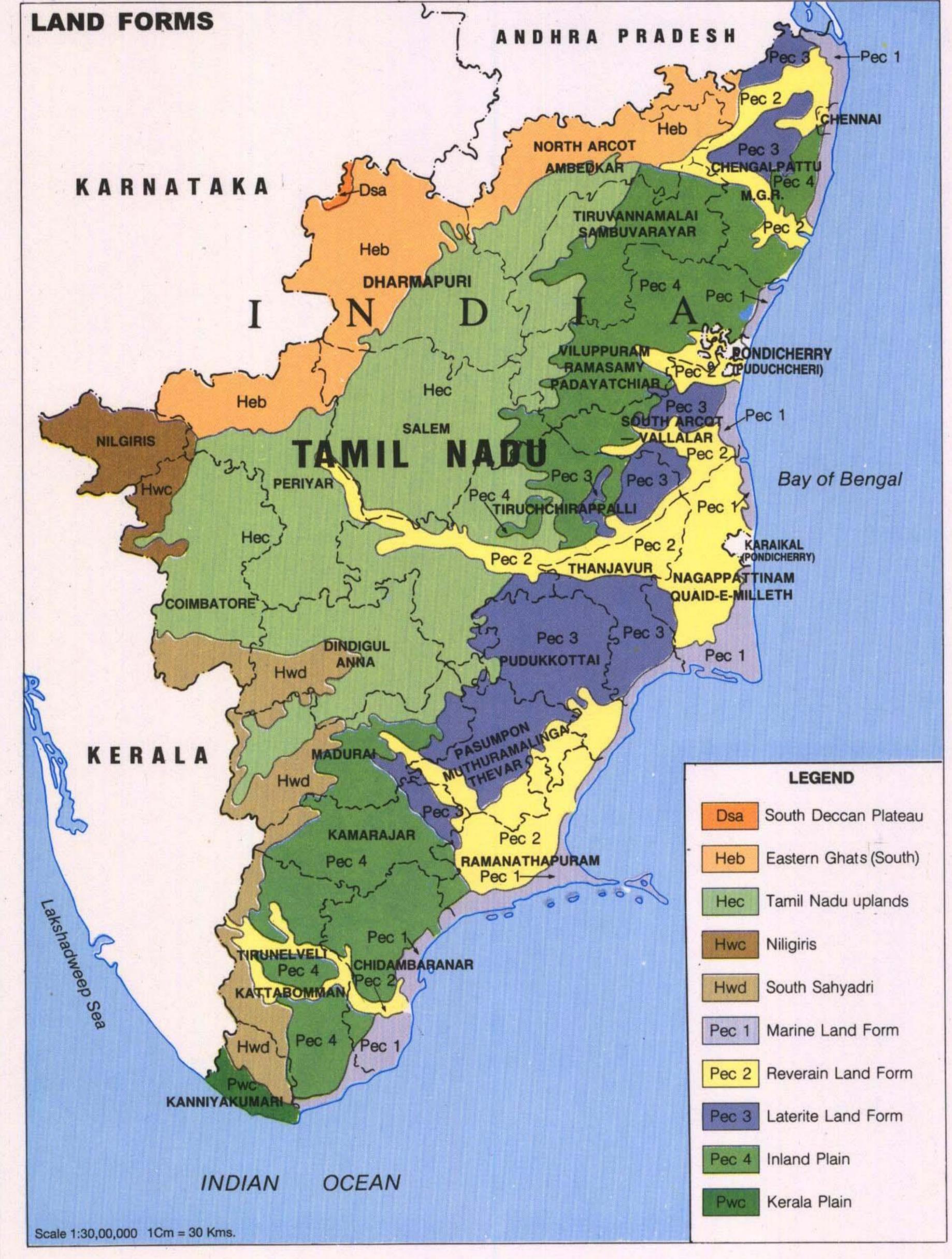
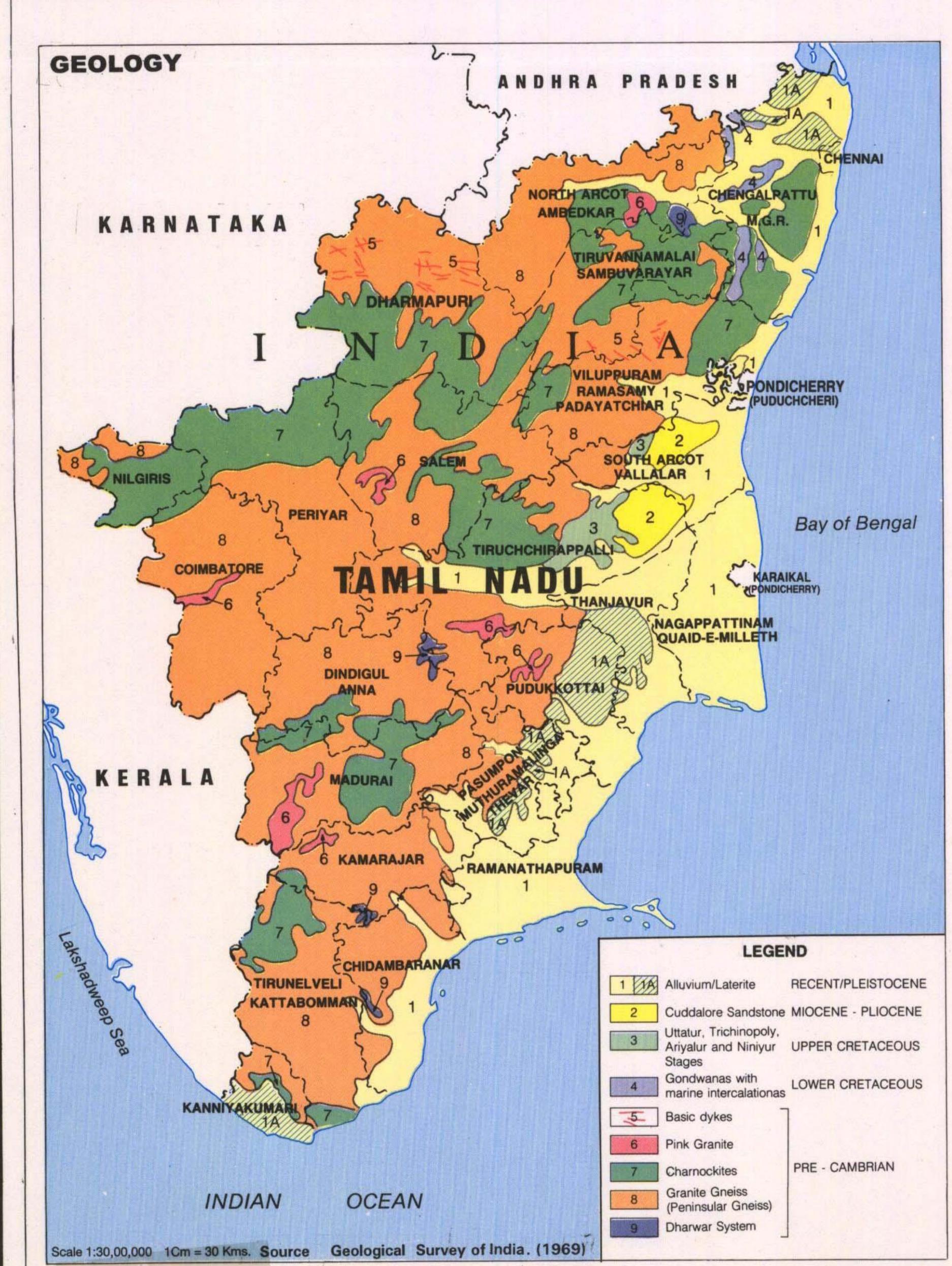
Tamil Nadu





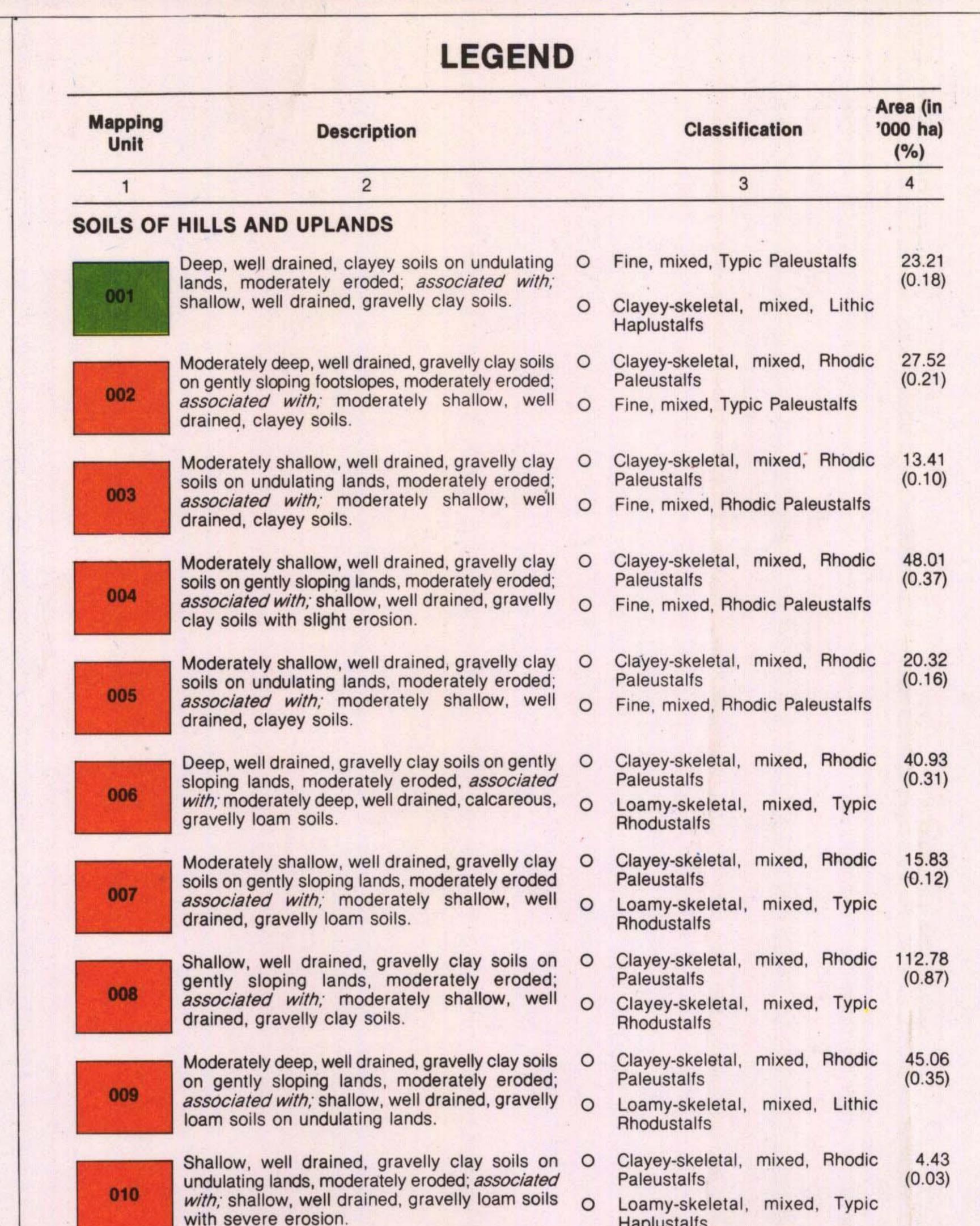


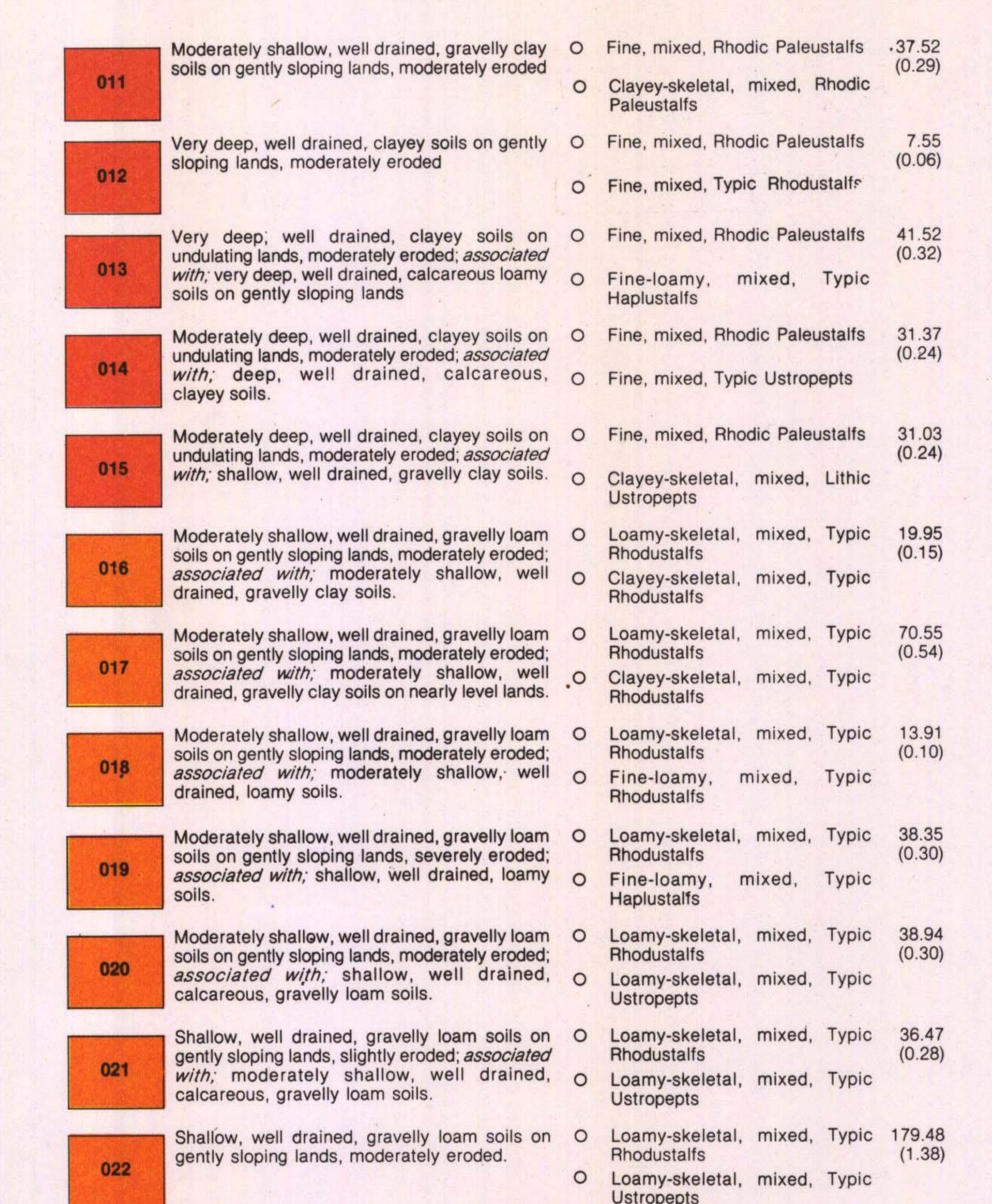


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of Surveyor General of India.

measured from the appropriate base line.





HOW TO READ THE SOIL MAP

The Soil Map for Tamil Nadu is published on 1:500,000 scale in four sheets. The Index Map (given on sheet 1) provides the location of districts in the state.

In order to know the soils of an area, first locate with the help of index map, the respective sheet (1, 2, 3 or 4) in which the area of one's interest falls. After locating the area on the relevant sheet, see the soil map unit numbers appearing in that area. The details of each soil map unit is given in the legend. The soil map unit is an association of soil families with dominant phases (if any). The legend provides brief description of the dominant and the associated (subdominant) soil families within a particular map unit, highlighting the soil depth, drainage, texture, slope, erosion, salinity, etc. The taxonomy of soils, as per USDA System of classification, and the extent of the area covered by each mapped unit along with its percentage of the total area of the state are given in separate columns. The dominant soils occupy 40 percent or more, whereas the subdominant soils occupy more than 20 percent but less than 40 percent area of the unit.

The methodology adopted in the preparation of the soil map is given in NBSS publication 13 (Sehgal et al., 1987, 2nd edition). The soil mapped units have been coloured at subgroup level to give a broad idea of major soils and their distribution pattern in the state.

The general information on landform, geology, rainfall and agro-ecological subregions has been presented in the inset Maps.

The soil map is accompanied by a soils bulletin (Executive Summary; NBSS Publ. 46-b) containing salient features of the mapped soils and information about their potential and problems which can be of great value for land users and planners. A comprehensive account of soils has been given in the Detailed version of Soils Bulletin (NBSS publ. 46-a) which contain detailed descriptions of physical features, climate, physical and chemical soil properties, landform and soil relationship, interpreted information on alternative land uses, etc. The third publication on the soils is databases on soil-site characteristics of all the soil profiles, auger-holes and other observations, which are

given in NBSS Publ. 46-c.

