The Chester soils make up one of the most important and extensive series in the Piedmont region of Pennsylvania. The surface soils are typically of brown or yellowish-brown color, and the subsoils yellow, though the subsoil of the heavier types is quite reddish and often grades into a red clay loam or clay within the three-foot section. This variety of material, however, represents a phase condition.

The Chester soils are found in every county in the Piedmont section of the State, but are most extensively and typically developed in Chester and Delaware Counties. The soils are derived from igneous and metamorphic rocks, principally from gneiss and mica schists, with considerable areas from gabbro and other granitic rocks. The soils occupy rolling to hilly country, with some areas in the more northern counties that approach the mountainous in character.

In Northampton County the Chester soils occur in one area in Williams Township, occupying a rough, hilly section of the eastern extension of South Mountain. The stony loam and rough stony land make up the larger part of the area, though there are some small occurrences of the loam. As a rule the soils are well drained, and in many places the run-off is so rapid that gullies are formed. Not over one-half of the area can be tilled, the remainder being too steep or too stony for cultivation. The soils are devoted to general farming and pasture, with some fruit growing. The fruit industry could well be extended, as the soils are well adapted to the production of apples. Land values vary widely, ranging from $20 to $75 an acre. Lands suitable for farming are held at an average price of about $50 an acre.

Upland Glacial Soils
DUTCHESS SOILS

The Dutchess soils are derived from the glaciation of the shales and shaly sandstones that normally give the Berks soils, and are made up partly of glacial till and partly of the weathered shale material, the former usually forming the larger part of the surface soil, and the latter, especially in the loam and shale loam types, most of the subsoil.

The soils typically have a yellowish-brown or grayish-brown surface soil, from six to ten inches deep, with a yellow, grayish-yellow, or yellowish-brown silty clay or clay loam subsoil, usually containing considerable shale fragments and grading into loose broken shale at from two to four feet.

Besides the rough stony land, three types were encountered—the stony loam, loam, and shale loam.

The Dutchess soils occupy the eastern end of Northampton County, extending from the Blue Mountain south to Belvidere and from the