The Colorado State Soil

The Colorado State Soil is the Seitz soil; this is a very stony loam textured soil. This soil is mainly found in the mountains, southwestern and central areas of Colorado. This soil is in general only useful for recreational areas, forests, and native pastureland. Native vegetation for this soil is typically evergreen trees and sparse grasses/forbs. This soil is in regions with a mean annual air temperature of about 34 degrees F and receives a mean annual precipitation of about 18 inches.

How is this soil formed? This soil is the result of parent material that consists of granite, gneiss, mica schist, rhyolite, andesite, trachyte, sandstone, shale or basalt. This parent material was broken down as a result of non-calcareous colluvium or slope alluvium occurrences to form this soil. Non-calcareous colluvium is the result of material (such as granite) that has accumulated at the foot of a slope. Slope alluvium is the movement of parent material that has moved due to the slope (a mountain has a lot of slope) and water movement (alluvium generally indicates a stream of water has had an impact).