



FIGURE 1 / PHYSIOGRAPHIC PROVINCES OF KENTUCKY: MISSISSIPPI EMBAYMENT (ME), INTERIOR LOW PLATEAUS (IP), AND APPALACHIAN PLATEAUS (AP).

(Jones 2005)

The Appalachian Plateau has mixed mesophytic forests. These forests are mostly composed of rich overstory that provides trees such as; American beech, cucumber magnolia, oaks (northern red, white), sugar maple, tuliptree, white ash, and eastern hemlock. Big-leaf and umbrella magnolias are often found in the understory. There are a few tree associations found in this region including; red maple-black gum, hemlock, oak-beech, oak-hickory, maple-basswood-buckeye, and oak-pine. (Jones 2005)

The Interior Plateau is predominantly Oak-Hickory forests. These forests are mostly composed of oaks (black, northern red, southern red, and white) and hickories (bitternut, pignut, and shagbark), as well as American elm, American basswood, black cherry, black walnut, and white ash. This area having a large amount of limestone present within the soil is appealing to calciphiles such as; bur oak, chinkapin oak, Kentucky coffeetree, and rock elm. (Jones 2005)

Citations

Jones, Ronald L. Plant Life of Kentucky : An Illustrated Guide to the Vascular Flora. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2005. Print.