Abstract. Soil material from surface mine operations is mapped and classified to a comprehensive soil classification system in the United States. This paper outlines the history, development, and spatial distribution of minesoil mapping in the central part of Appalachia with special emphasis on classification, potential use, and data currently available. Several thematic maps depict spatial distribution and differentiation of modern mapping to date. The classification of minesoils is discussed from an historical perspective to the current, modern-day classification of these important soils. The need for more reliable interpretations is also reviewed.

Additional Key Words: Constructed soils, soil classification.