

Gemological map of the State of Bahia, Brazil

COUTO, P. and VIANNEY, G. – CPRM Geological Survey of Brazil, Salvador, Brazil.

The Gemological Map of the State of Bahia was prepared not only to show the distribution of the gemological resources of the state but also to stimulate new discoveries and business enhancement.

The gemological resources of the state are found almost exclusively in ancient terrains, of Archaean and Proterozoic ages. An exception are some gem-mineral concentrations locally found in Cenozoic sediments.

Currently, there are two main areas of "garimpagem" in activity: one of emerald in Carnaíba and an other of aquamarine in Pedra Azul/Água Fria, situated in Pindobaçu and Vereda counties, respectively in the northeastern and in the southern portions of the state.

About 700 occurrences are shown on the map, including important emerald, aquamarine, amethyst, diamond and rock crystal as well as apatite, andalusite and fluorite deposits.