

Prime and other Important Farmlands

This table lists the map units in the survey area that are considered important farmlands. Important farmlands consist of prime farmland, unique farmland, and farmland of statewide or local importance. This list does not constitute a recommendation for a particular land use.

In an effort to identify the extent and location of important farmlands, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, in cooperation with other interested Federal, State, and local government organizations, has inventoried land that can be used for the production of the Nation's food supply.

Prime farmland is of major importance in meeting the Nation's short- and long-range needs for food and fiber. Because the supply of high-quality farmland is limited, the U.S. Department of Agriculture recognizes that responsible levels of government, as well as individuals, should encourage and facilitate the wise use of our Nation's prime farmland.

Prime farmland, as defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops and is available for these uses. It could be cultivated land, pastureland, forestland, or other land, but it is not urban or built-up land or water areas. The soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply are those needed for the soil to economically produce sustained high yields of crops when proper management, including water management, and acceptable farming methods are applied. In general, prime farmland has an adequate and dependable supply of moisture from precipitation or irrigation, a favorable temperature and growing season, acceptable acidity or alkalinity, an acceptable salt and sodium content, and few or no rocks. The water supply is dependable and of adequate quality. Prime farmland is permeable to water and air. It is not excessively erodible or saturated with water for long periods, and it either is not frequently flooded during the growing season or is protected from flooding. Slope ranges mainly from 0 to 6 percent. More detailed information about the criteria for prime farmland is available at the local office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

For some of the soils identified in the table as prime farmland, measures that overcome a hazard or limitation, such as flooding, wetness, and droughtiness, are needed. Onsite evaluation is needed to determine whether or not the hazard or limitation has been overcome by corrective measures.

A recent trend in land use in some areas has been the loss of some prime farmland to industrial and urban uses. The loss of prime farmland to other uses puts pressure on marginal lands, which generally are more erodible, droughty, and less productive and cannot be easily cultivated.

Unique farmland is land other than prime farmland that is used for the production of specific high-value food and fiber crops, such as citrus, tree nuts, olives, cranberries, and other fruits and vegetables. It has the special combination of soil quality, growing season, moisture supply, temperature, humidity, air drainage, elevation, and aspect needed for the soil to economically produce sustainable high yields of these crops when properly managed. The water supply is dependable and of adequate quality. Nearness to markets is an additional consideration. Unique farmland is not based on national criteria. It commonly is in areas where there is a special microclimate, such as the wine country in California.

In some areas, land that does not meet the criteria for prime or unique farmland is considered to be *farmland of statewide importance* for the production of food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. The criteria for defining and delineating farmland of statewide importance are determined by the appropriate State agencies.

Generally, this land includes areas of soils that nearly meet the requirements for prime farmland and that economically produce high yields of crops when treated and managed according to acceptable farming methods. Some areas may produce as high a yield as prime farmland if conditions are favorable. Farmland of statewide importance may include tracts of land that have been designated for agriculture by State law.

In some areas that are not identified as having national or statewide importance, land is considered to be *farmland of local importance* for the production of food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. This farmland is identified by the appropriate local agencies. Farmland of local importance may include tracts of land that have been designated for agriculture by local ordinance.

Report—Prime and other Important Farmlands

Prime and other Important Farmlands—Clinton County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
BhA	Birkbeck silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
BhB	Birkbeck silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Bln3A	Blanchester silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CaD2	Casco silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
CaE2	Casco silt loam, 18 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
CbB	Celina silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CbB2	Celina silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
CcA	Celina-Crosby silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CeB	Celina-Losantville silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CeB2	Celina-Losantville silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
Cle1A	Clermont silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CpA	Coblen loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, rarely flooded	All areas are prime farmland
CrB	Corwin silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CtA	Crosby-Celina silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CtB	Crosby-Celina silt loams, 2 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CuC2	Crouse-Miamian silt loams, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
CuD2	Crouse-Miamian silt loams, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
DhA	Dunham silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, overwash	Prime farmland if drained
DuA	Dunham silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
EgB	Eldean silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
EkC2	Eldean gravelly loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
FgA	Fincastle silt loam, Southern Ohio Till Plain, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FgB	Fincastle silt loam, 2 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
FnA	Fox silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
FnB	Fox silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
FnC2	Fox silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
HkD2	Hickory silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
HkE2	Hickory silt loam, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
HkF2	Hickory silt loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
HnE2	Hickory-Morrisville silt loams, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
JoR1A1	Jonesboro-Rossmoyne silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
JoR1B1	Jonesboro-Rossmoyne silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
JrC2	Jonesboro-Rossmoyne silt loams, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
KnA	Kokomo silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
KoA	Kokomo silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
LbA	Libre silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
LbB	Libre silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
LbC2	Libre silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
LoC2	Loudon silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
LuA	Lumberton silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
LuB	Lumberton silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
LuC2	Lumberton silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
LuD2	Lumberton silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
LuF2	Lumberton silt loam, 25 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MhB2	Miamian silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
MhC2	Miamian silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MhD2	Miamian silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MnE2	Miamian-Thrifton complex, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MnF2	Miamian-Thrifton complex, 25 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MoE2	Miamian-Crouse silt loams, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MoF2	Miamian-Crouse silt loams, 25 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MvD2	Morrisville silty clay loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MvE2	Morrisville silty clay loam, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
NhC2	Nicely silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
OcA	Ockley silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
OcB	Ockley silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
OdA	Ockley silt loam, till substratum, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
OdB	Ockley silt loam, till substratum, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
OdC2	Ockley silt loam, till substratum, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
OeA	Odell silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Pg	Pits, gravel	Not prime farmland

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
Pk	Pits, quarry	Not prime farmland
RcA	Randolph silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
ReA	Reesville silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
ReB	Reesville silt loam, 2 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RnA	Ross loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
RoA	Ross silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
RsA	Rossburg silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, rarely flooded	All areas are prime farmland
RuB2	Russell-Xenia silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
SaA	Sardinia silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
SaB	Sardinia silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Sec1A	Secondcreek silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, overwash	Prime farmland if drained
Sec3A	Secondcreek silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
ShA	Shoals silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained
SmA	Sligo silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
SnA	Sloan silt loam, sandy substratum, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained
SrA	Stringley-Sligo loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
TaA	Taggart silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
TpA	Treaty silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, overwash	Prime farmland if drained
TrA	Treaty silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Ud	Udorthents, loamy	Not prime farmland
W	Water	Not prime farmland
WaC3	Wapahani-Miamian clay loams, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
WaD3	Wapahani-Miamian clay loams, 12 to 18 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
WmA	Williamsburg silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WmB	Williamsburg silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WsS1A1	Westboro-Schaffer silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
WsS1B1	Westboro-Schaffer silt loams, 2 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
XaA	Xenia silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
XaB	Xenia silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
XaB2	Xenia silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Clinton County, Ohio
 Survey Area Data: Version 14, Dec 17, 2013