

Land Classification Interpretations
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Prime and Important Farmland

Prime farmland is land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops, and is also available for these uses (the land could be cropland, pastureland, forest land, or other land, but not urban built-up land or water). It has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to economically produce sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed, including water management, according to acceptable farming methods.

In general, prime farmlands have an adequate and dependable water supply from precipitation or irrigation, a favorable temperature and growing season, acceptable acidity or alkalinity, acceptable salt content, and few or no rocks. They are permeable to water and air. Prime farmlands are not excessively erodible or saturated with water for a long period of time, and they either do not flood frequently or are protected from flooding.

This section includes lists of soil survey map units that meet the soil requirements for prime farmland in the county and state. Soils that have limitations, such as a high water table or flooding, may qualify as prime farmland if these limitations are overcome by such measures as drainage or flood control. State important soils are also noted.

This subsection includes:

- **(a) County Prime Farmland List**
- **(b) Missouri's Soil Survey Mapping Units Denoting Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance**

New Madrid County, Missouri
 Prime Farmland

(Only the soils considered prime farmland are listed. Urban or built-up areas of the soils listed are not considered prime farmland. If a soil is prime farmland only under certain conditions, the conditions are specified in parentheses after the soil name.)

Map symbol	Soil name
Ad	Acadia silt loam, loamy substratum, rarely flooded (Prime farmland if drained)
Ag	Alligator silty clay loam, occasionally flooded (Prime farmland if drained)
At	Alligator clay, occasionally flooded
BtA	Bosket fine sandy loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, rarely flooded
BtB	Bosket fine sandy loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes, rarely flooded
Bw	Bowdre silty clay, rarely flooded
ByA	Broseley loamy fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes
Ca	Cairo clay, frequently flooded (Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season)
Cd	Canalou loamy sand, rarely flooded
Ce	Caruthersville very fine sandy loam, frequently flooded
Cm	Commerce silt loam, rarely flooded
Cn	Commerce silty clay loam, rarely flooded
Co	Cooter silty clay, occasionally flooded
Db	Dubbs silt loam
De	Dundee silt loam
Dn	Dundee silty clay loam, rarely flooded
Fa	Farrenburg fine sandy loam, rarely flooded
Fs	Forestdale silt loam, rarely flooded (Prime farmland if drained)
Ft	Forestdale silty clay loam, rarely flooded (Prime farmland if drained)
Gd	Gideon loam, rarely flooded (Prime farmland if drained)
Ge	Gideon clay loam, rarely flooded (Prime farmland if drained)
Lb	Lilbourn fine sandy loam, rarely flooded
Ro	Roellen clay, rarely flooded (Prime farmland if drained)
Sh	Sharkey silty clay loam, rarely flooded (Prime farmland if drained)
Sr	Sharkey clay, rarely flooded (Prime farmland if drained)
St	Sikeston sandy clay loam, frequently flooded (Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season)
Tp	Tiptonville fine sandy loam, rarely flooded
Wr	Wardell loam, rarely flooded (Prime farmland if drained)