

## 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—Columbiana County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
AmF	Amanda loam, 35 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BkB	Berks channery silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
BkC	Berks channery silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BkD	Berks channery silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BkE	Berks channery silt loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BmB	Berks-Urban land complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BmC	Berks-Urban land complex, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BmD	Berks-Urban land complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BpF	Bethesda very channery silt loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BsC2	Bogart loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
BtA	Bogart silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
BtB	Bogart silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
BtC	Bogart silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BtF4F1	Bethesda and Fairpoint channery silt loams, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CaA	Calcutta silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CcB	Canfield silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CcC	Canfield silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CcD	Canfield silt loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CcE	Canfield silt loam, 20 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CeA	Carlisle muck, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CfD2	Chili loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
ChA	Chili silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
ChB	Chili silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
ChC	Chili silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CmB	Conotton gravelly loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CmC	Conotton gravelly loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CoB	Coshocton silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CoC	Coshocton silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CoD	Coshocton silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
DAM	Dam	Not prime farmland
DgA	Doles silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
ErC	Ernest silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
ErD	Ernest silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FbB	Fairpoint very channery silt loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FbD	Fairpoint very channery silt loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FbF	Fairpoint very channery silt loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FcB	Fairpoint silty clay loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FcD	Fairpoint silty clay loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FdA	Fitchville silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FdB	Fitchville silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FeA	Fluvaquents, silty, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
FnC2	Fredericktown gravelly loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
FnD2	Fredericktown gravelly loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
FoB	Fredericktown silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Fpt4B1	Fairpoint channery silt loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Fpt4D1	Fairpoint channery silt loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FrA	Frenchtown silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
GaB	Gavers silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
GeC	Germano fine sandy loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GeD	Germano fine sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GnB	Gilpin silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GnC	Gilpin silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GnD	Gilpin silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GoC	Gilpin-Coshocton silt loams, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GoD	Gilpin-Coshocton silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GpC	Gilpin-Coshocton-Urban land complex, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GrB	Glenford silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GrC	Glenford silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GuC	Guernsey silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GuC2	Guernsey silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Columbiana County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
GuD	Guernsey silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HeB	Hazleton channery loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
HeC	Hazleton channery loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HeD	Hazleton channery loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HeE	Hazleton channery loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HfF	Hazleton-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HgF	Hazleton-Westmoreland channery loams, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HkA	Holly silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
HIB	Homewood silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
HmA	Homeworth loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HmB	Homeworth loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HoA	Homeworth silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HoB	Homeworth silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
JwA	Jimtown silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
JwB	Jimtown silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
KeB	Keene silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
KnB	Kensington silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
KnC	Kensington silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
KnD	Kensington silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LbA	Lobdell silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
LnA	Lorain silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
McB	Mechanicsburg silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
McC	Mechanicsburg silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MnB	Morristown silty clay loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MnD	Morristown silty clay loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MoB	Morristown channery silty clay loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MoD	Morristown channery silty clay loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
OdA	Olmsted and Valley soils, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
OmB	Omulga silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
OmC	Omulga silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
OrA	Orrville silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained
Pg	Pits, gravel	Not prime farmland
RaB	Rainsboro silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RaC2	Rainsboro silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
RbC	Rainsboro silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, stony	Not prime farmland
ReA	Ravenna silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
ReB	Ravenna silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
RhD	Richland silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, stony	Not prime farmland
RhE	Richland silt loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes, stony	Not prime farmland
RsB	Rittman silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RsC	Rittman silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RsD2	Rittman silt loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
TeB	Teegarden silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
TeC	Teegarden silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
TeC2	Teegarden silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
ToA	Tioga loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Ua	Udorthents, loamy, 2 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Ub	Udorthents, refuse substratum, 2 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Uc	Udorthents-Pits complex, 0 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
UkC2	Upshur-Berks complex, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
UkD2	Upshur-Berks complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
UkE2	Upshur-Berks complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
Ur	Urban land, 0 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
UtB	Urban land-Canfield complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
UtC	Urban land-Canfield complex, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
UvB	Urban land-Chili complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
VaA	Valley silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
VbA	Valley silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
VcA	Valley-Lorain silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
VnB	Vandergrift silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
VnC	Vandergrift silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
W	Water	Not prime farmland
WaA	Wadsworth silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
WaB	Wadsworth silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
WkE	Westmoreland-Berks complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WkF	Westmoreland-Berks complex, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WmC	Westmoreland-Coshocton silt loams, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WmD	Westmoreland-Coshocton silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WoA	Wick silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
ZeA	Zepernick silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained

## Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Columbiana County, Ohio  
Survey Area Data: Version 12, Sep 18, 2014