

## 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—Defiance County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
BhA	Bixler loamy sand, clayey substratum, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
BkB	Blount loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
BmB	Belmore loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
BnA	Blount loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Bp	Bono silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
BrB	Bronson sandy loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
BsB	Boyer loamy sand, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BsC	Boyer loamy sand, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BuE2	Broughton silty clay loam, 18 to 35 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
BvE	Broughton silt loam, 12 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BwC3	Broughton clay, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
BwD2	Broughton clay, 12 to 18 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
BxC3	Broughton silty clay, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
Ca	Carlisle muck	Not prime farmland
Cm	Colwood loam	Prime farmland if drained
Db	Defiance silty clay loam, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
DdA	Del Rey loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
DeA	Del Rey silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
DfA	Del Rey silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
DgA	Del Rey Variant silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
DmA	Digby loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
Ee	Eel loam	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Fc	Flatrock silt loam, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
FrA	Fulton loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FsA	Fulton loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FtA	Fulton silty clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FuA	Fulton silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FuB	Fulton silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FvA	Fulton silty clay loam, loamy substratum, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Ge	Genesee loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Gf	Gilford fine sandy loam	Prime farmland if drained
GwB	Glynwood loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GwB2	Glynwood loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
GwC2	Glynwood loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
GwD2	Glynwood loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
Gx	Granby loamy sand, clayey substratum	Not prime farmland
HaB	Haney loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
HbA	Haney loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
HcA	Hoytville silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HhA	Haskins loamy sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HkA	Haskins fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HmA	Haskins sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HnA	Haskins loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HoA	Hoytville clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HpA	Haskins loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HvA	Hoytville clay, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
KfA	Kibbie loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Kn	Knoxdale silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Lb	Landes fine sandy loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Lc	Latty silty clay	Prime farmland if drained
Lf	Lenawee silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
LwB	Lucas silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
LwC2	Lucas silty clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
LwD2	Lucas silty clay loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
Mc	Medway silt loam	All areas are prime farmland
Md	Merrill loam	Prime farmland if drained
Me	Merrill clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
Mg	Millgrove clay loam	Prime farmland if drained

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Defiance County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
Mh	Millgrove loam	Prime farmland if drained
MrD2	Morley clay loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
NmA	Nappanee loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
NmB	Nappanee loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
NnA	Nappanee loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
NpA	Nappanee silty clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
NrA	Nappanee silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
OrC	Oshtemo loamy sand, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
OsB	Oshtemo sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
OtB	Ottokee loamy fine sand, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Pa	Paulding clay, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Pm	Pewamo silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
Pt	Pits, gravel	Not prime farmland
RkC	Rawson loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RmB	Rawson sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RmC	Rawson sandy loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RnA	Rimer loamy fine sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RoA	Rimer loamy sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RpA	Rimer loamy fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RrA	Roselms loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RsA	Roselms silty clay, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RtA	Roselms silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RtB	Roselms silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Ru	Ross silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
RvA	Roselms loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RwA	Roselms silty clay, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RwB	Roselms silty clay, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
SaB	St. Clair loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
SbB2	St. Clair silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	All areas are prime farmland
SbC2	St. Clair silty clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
SbE	St. Clair silty clay loam, 18 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
ScD3	St. Clair clay, 12 to 18 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
ScE3	St. Clair clay, 18 to 35 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
SdB	Seward loamy fine sand, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
SeB	Seward loamy fine sand, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
SfE3	St. Clair silty clay, 12 to 25 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
SfF3	St. Clair silty clay, 25 to 45 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Defiance County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
Sh	Shoals silt loam, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
So	Sloan silty clay loam, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
TdA	Tedrow loamy fine sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Tn	Toledo silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
To	Toledo silty clay	Prime farmland if drained
TsB	Tuscola very fine sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
TtC2	Tuscola loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
Ud	Udorthents, rolling	Not prime farmland
Ur	Urban land	Not prime farmland
W	Water	Not prime farmland
Wa	Wabasha silty clay loam, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Wc	Wallkill Variant silty clay loam	Not prime farmland
Wd	Wallkill Variant silty clay	Not prime farmland
Wf	Wauseon fine sandy loam	Prime farmland if drained

## Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Defiance County, Ohio  
 Survey Area Data: Version 13, Sep 18, 2014