

## 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--Franklin County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
AdB	Alexandria silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
AdC2	Alexandria silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
AdD2	Alexandria silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
AdE2	Alexandria silt loam, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
Ag	Algiers silt loam	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
BeA	Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
BeB	Bennington silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
BfA	Bennington-Urban land complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BfB	Bennington-Urban land complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Ble1A1	Blount silt loam, end moraine, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Ble1B1	Blount silt loam, end moraine, 2 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CaB	Cardington silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CaB2	Cardington silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
CaC2	Cardington silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
CbB	Cardington-Urban land complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CbC	Cardington-Urban land complex, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Cc	Carlisle muck	Not prime farmland
CeA	Celina silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CeB	Celina silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CeB2	Celina silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
CeC2	Celina silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
CfB	Celina-Urban land complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Cn	Condit silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CpA	Crane silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CrA	Crosby silt loam, Southern Ohio Till Plain, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CrB	Crosby silt loam, Southern Ohio Till Plain, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CsA	Crosby-Urban land complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CsB	Crosby-Urban land complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
DAM	Dam	Not prime farmland
Ee	Eel silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
EIA	Eldean silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
EIB	Eldean silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
EIC2	Eldean silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
EID2	Eldean silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
EmA	Eldean-Urban land complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
EmB	Eldean-Urban land complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Gn	Genesee silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Gwd5C2	Glynwood clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
Gwe5B2	Glynwood clay loam, end moraine, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
HeE2	Hennepin and Miamian loams, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
HeF2	Hennepin and Miamian loams, 25 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
KeA	Kendallville silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
KeB	Kendallville silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
KeC2	Kendallville silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
Ko	Kokomo silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Ku	Kokomo-Urban land complex	Not prime farmland
LbF	Latham-Brecksville complex, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LeB	Lewisburg-Crosby complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Mh	Medway silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
MkB	Miamian silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MIB2	Miamian silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
MIC2	Miamian silty clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MID2	Miamian silty clay loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MmC3	Miamian clay loam, shallow to dense till substratum, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
MnC	Miamian-Urban land complex, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Mnl3A	Minster silty clay loam, till substratum, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
MoB	Milton silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MoC2	Milton silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Franklin County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
MpB	Milton-Urban land complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MpC	Milton-Urban land complex, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MrB	Mitiwanga silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
OcA	Ockley silt loam, Southern Ohio Till Plain, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
OcB	Ockley silt loam, Southern Ohio Till Plain, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
OcC2	Ockley silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
Pm	Pewamo silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
Pn	Pewamo-Urban land complex	Not prime farmland
Pt	Pits, quarry	Not prime farmland
RdF2	Rarden silt loam, 20 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
RhB	Ritchey silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RhD2	Ritchey silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
Rs	Ross silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Sh	Shoals silt loam, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained
SIA	Sleeth silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
SmA	Sleeth-Urban land complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
So	Sloan silt loam, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
ThA	Thackery silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
ThB	Thackery silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Up	Udorthents, loamy, rolling	Not prime farmland
Ur	Udorthents, loamy, sloping	Not prime farmland
Us	Udorthents, loamy, steep	Not prime farmland
Ut	Udorthents-Urban land complex, gently rolling	Not prime farmland
Uu	Urban land-Bennington complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Uv	Urban land-Celina complex, 2 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Uw	Urban land-Genesee complex, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
Ux	Urban land-Ockley complex, 0 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
W	Water	Not prime farmland
WdA	Warsaw silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WdB	Warsaw silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WeA	Wea silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WeB	Wea silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Wt	Westland silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained

## Data Source Information

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