

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—Greene County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
Ag	Algiers silt loam	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
BbB	Birkbeck silt loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
BcB	Birkbeck silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Bs	Brookston silty clay loam, fine texture, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Bt	Brookston-Urban land complex	Not prime farmland
CaE2	Casco silt loam, 18 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
CbD2	Casco gravelly loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
CcD2	Casco-Eldean loams, 12 to 18 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Farmland of local importance
CdE2	Casco-Rodman loams, 18 to 50 percent slopes, moderately eroded	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
CfB	Celina-Losantville silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
ChB	Celina-Strawn complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
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-Lewisburg silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CsB	Crosby-Lewisburg silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
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
Du	Dumps	Not prime farmland
EdB	Edenton silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Greene County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
EdC2	Edenton silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Farmland of local importance
EdD2	Edenton silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Farmland of local importance
Ee	Eel loam	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
EmA	Eldean silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
EmB	Eldean silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
EmB2	Eldean silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	All areas are prime farmland
EmC2	Eldean silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Farmland of local importance
EnC3	Eldean clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
EoC2	Eldean-Miamian complex, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
EoD2	Eldean-Miamian complex, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
EpC	Eldean-Urban land complex, rolling	Not prime farmland
FaF	Fairmount silty clay loam, moderately deep variant, 25 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FnA	Fincastle silt loam, Southern Ohio Till Plain, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Gn	Genesee loam	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Ko	Kokomo silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Lh	Linwood mucky silt loam, drained	Farmland of local importance
Ln	Linwood muck	Not prime farmland
LuF2	Lumberton silt loam, 25 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MhA	Miamian silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MhB	Miamian silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are 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, moderately eroded	Farmland of local importance
MhD2	Miamian silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Farmland of local importance
MIB3	Miamian clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
MIC3	Miamian clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
MID3	Miamian clay loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
MmD2	Miamian-Casco complex, 12 to 18 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Farmland of local importance
MmE2	Miamian-Casco complex, 18 to 35 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
MoB2	Miamian-Eldean silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	All areas are prime farmland
MoC2	Miamian-Eldean silt loams, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Farmland of local importance
MpE	Miamian and Hennepin soils, 18 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MpF	Miamian and Hennepin soils, 25 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Greene County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
MqE2	Miamian-Thrifton complex, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MqF2	Miamian-Thrifton complex, 25 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MrB	Miamian-Urban land complex, undulating	Not prime farmland
MrC	Miamian-Urban land complex, rolling	Not prime farmland
Ms	Millsdale silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
MtA	Milton silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MtB	Milton silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MtC2	Milton silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Farmland of local importance
MUF	Milton soils, channery variant, 25 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
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
OcB2	Ockley silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	All areas are prime farmland
OdB	Ockley-Urban land complex, undulating	Not prime farmland
OeB	Odell silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Pa	Patton silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
Pg	Pits, gravel	Not prime farmland
Pu	Pits, quarry	Not prime farmland
Ra	Ragsdale silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
RbA	Randolph silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RdA	Raub silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RdB	Raub silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
ReA	Reesville silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RhB	Ritchey silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RhC	Ritchey silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
RhD	Ritchey silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
RhE2	Ritchey silt loam, 18 to 25 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
RkE	Rodman gravelly loam, 18 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RpA	Ross loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
RqA	Ross silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Rs	Ross loam	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
RtA	Rush silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RtB	Rush silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RuA	Russell silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RvB	Russell-Miamian silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RvB2	Russell-Miamian silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	All areas are prime farmland
RwB2	Russell-Xenia silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
SkA	Sligo silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
SIA	Sleeth silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Sn	Sloan silt loam, sandy substratum, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained
So	Sloan silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Sp	Sloan-Fill land complex	Not prime farmland
Sr	Sloan-Urban land complex	Not prime farmland
SuA	Strawn-Crosby complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
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
Ts	Tremont silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
TtA	Treaty silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Ud	Udortheents	Not prime farmland
Ur	Urban land	Not prime farmland
W	Water	Not prime farmland
WaA	Warsaw loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WbA	Warsaw-Fill land complex, nearly level	Not prime farmland
WcA	Warsaw-Urban land complex, nearly level	Not prime farmland
WeB	Wea silt loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WpC3	Wapahani-Miamian clay loams, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
WpD3	Wapahani-Miamian clay loams, 12 to 18 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
Ws	Westland silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
Wt	Westland-Urban land complex	Not prime farmland
XeA	Xenia silt loam, Southern Ohio Till Plain, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
XeB	Xenia silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Greene County, Ohio
 Survey Area Data: Version 11, Sep 18, 2014