

## 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—Holmes County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
AmE	Amanda loam, 18 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
AwB	Amanda-Wooster complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
AwC2	Amanda-Wooster complex, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
AwD2	Amanda-Wooster complex, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
BeF	Berks silt loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BkD	Berks silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
BkE	Berks silt loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
BkF	Berks silt loam, 35 to 70 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
BID	Bethesda channery loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BIF	Bethesda channery loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BmF	Bethesda channery clay loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BnB	Bethesda very channery clay loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BnC	Bethesda very channery clay loam, 8 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BnF	Bethesda very channery clay loam, 20 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BoB	Bogart gravelly loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are 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
BvD	Brownsville channery silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BvE	Brownsville channery silt loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BvF	Brownsville channery silt loam, 35 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
ByF	Brownsville-Rock outcrop complex, 35 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BzE	Brownsville-Westmoreland complex, 18 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BzF	Brownsville-Westmoreland complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Holmes County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
CdA	Canfield silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CdB	Canfield silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CdC	Canfield silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
CdC2	Canfield silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
Ce	Carlisle muck	Not prime farmland
CgB	Centerburg silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CgC2	Centerburg silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
CkC	Chili gravelly loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CkD	Chili gravelly loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CkE	Chili gravelly loam, 18 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CkF	Chili gravelly loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CnA	Chili loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CnB	Chili loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CnC2	Chili loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
CnD2	Chili loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
CnE	Chili loam, 18 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CnF	Chili loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CoE	Chili-Amanda complex, 18 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CpA	Cidermill silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CpB	Cidermill silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CrD	Chili and Conotton gravelly loams, 12 to 18 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CrE	Chili and Conotton gravelly loams, 18 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CsC	Chili-Wooster complex, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CsD	Chili-Wooster complex, 12 to 18 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CtB	Coshocton silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CtC2	Coshocton silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
CtD	Coshocton silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CtD2	Coshocton silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
CtE	Coshocton silt loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CuD	Coshocton silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
CvD	Coshocton silt loam, 12 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
CwD	Coshocton-Guernsey silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CwE	Coshocton-Guernsey silt loams, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CxD	Coshocton-Guernsey very stony silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CzD	Coshocton-Westmoreland complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
EuA	Euclid silt loam, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained
FaB	Fairpoint silt loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Holmes County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
FaC	Fairpoint silt loam, 8 to 20 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
FcB	Farmerstown silt loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
FcC	Farmerstown silt loam, 8 to 20 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
FhA	Fitchville silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FhB	Fitchville silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
GeB	Gilpin silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GeC	Gilpin silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GhB	Gilpin silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GhC	Gilpin silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
GnA	Glenford silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GnB	Glenford silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GnC2	Glenford silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
GpC	Glenford silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HeC	Hazleton channery loam, 8 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
HkF	Hazleton channery sandy loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes, very bouldery	Not prime farmland
HtC	Hazleton loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HtD	Hazleton loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HtE	Hazleton loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HvF	Hazleton loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes, very bouldery	Not prime farmland
KeB	Keene silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Kk	Killbuck silt loam, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Lo	Lobdell silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
LvB	Loudonville silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
LvC	Loudonville silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
LvD	Loudonville silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
LvE	Loudonville silt loam, 18 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Ly	Luray silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
McC	Mechanicsburg silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
McC2	Mechanicsburg silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
McD	Mechanicsburg silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
Md	Melvin silt loam, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Mg	Melvin silt loam, ponded	Not prime farmland
Or	Orrville silt loam, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Holmes County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
Pg	Pits, gravel	Not prime farmland
Pu	Pits, quarry	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
RfB	Rigley sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RfC	Rigley sandy loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RgB	Rigley sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RgC	Rigley sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
RgD	Rigley sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
ScD	Schaffemaker loamy sand, 12 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Se	Sebring silt loam	Prime farmland if drained
Tg	Tioga loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Tk	Tioga fine sandy loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Ud	Udorthents, loamy	Not prime farmland
Up	Udorthents-Pits complex	Not prime farmland
W	Water	Not prime farmland
Wa	Walkkill silt loam	Not prime farmland
WdC	Westmoreland silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WeC2	Westmoreland silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
WeD	Westmoreland silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WeD2	Westmoreland silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
WeE	Westmoreland silt loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WgC2	Westmoreland-Coshocton complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
WgD2	Westmoreland-Coshocton complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
WkC	Westmoreland-Guernsey silt loams, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WkD	Westmoreland-Guernsey silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WsB	Wooster silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WsC	Wooster silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
WsC2	Wooster silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
WsD2	Wooster silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
WsE	Wooster silt loam, 18 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WtB	Wooster-Chili complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WtC2	Wooster-Chili complex, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
WtD2	Wooster-Chili complex, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance

## Data Source Information

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