

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—Lorain County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
AkA	Allis loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
AIA	Allis silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
AmA	Allis-Urban land complex, nearly level	Not prime farmland
BgA	Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
BgB	Bennington silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
BsA	Bogart sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
BtA	Bogart loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
BtB	Bogart loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CdB	Cardington silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CdC2	Cardington silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
Cg	Carlisle mucky silt loam	Not prime farmland
Ch	Chagrin silt loam	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
CIA	Chili loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CIB	Chili loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CID2	Chili loam, 6 to 18 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
CmC2	Chili gravelly loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
CmE2	Chili gravelly loam, 12 to 25 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
CmF2	Chili gravelly loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
CnB	Chili-Urban land complex, gently sloping	Not prime farmland
CoB	Conotton gravelly loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CoC	Conotton gravelly loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Cp	Condit silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Lorain County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
Cq	Condit silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Cz	Udorthents	Not prime farmland
DkB	Dekalb very channery loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
DsB	Del Rey silt loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
EkE2	Ellsworth silt loam, 12 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
EkF	Ellsworth silt loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
EIB	Ellsworth silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
EIB2	Ellsworth silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
EIC2	Ellsworth silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
EID2	Ellsworth silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
EIF2	Ellsworth silt loam, 18 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
EnA	Elnora loamy fine sand, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FcA	Fitchville silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FcB	Fitchville silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FdA	Fitchville silt loam, low terrace, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FeA	Fitchville-Urban land complex, nearly level	Not prime farmland
FuA	Fulton silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FuB	Fulton silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FvA	Fulton silt loam, sandy substratum, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HsA	Haskins loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HsB	Haskins loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HtA	Haskins-Urban land complex, nearly level	Not prime farmland
Hy	Holly silt loam	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
HzA	Hornell silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HzB	Hornell silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
JsA	Jimtown sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
JtA	Jimtown loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
JtB	Jimtown loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
JuA	Jimtown-Urban land complex, nearly level	Not prime farmland
La	Lobdell silt loam, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Lb	Lobdell silt loam	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
LcB	Lockport silty clay loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Ln	Lorain silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
Ls	Lorain silty clay loam, sandy substratum	Prime farmland if drained
Lu	Luray silt loam	Prime farmland if drained

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Lorain County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
Ly	Luray silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
MgA	Mahoning silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
MgB	Mahoning silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
MgB2	Mahoning silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	Prime farmland if drained
MhA	Mahoning silt loam, sandstone substratum, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
MkA	Mahoning-Tiro silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
MkB	Mahoning-Tiro silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
MmA	Mahoning-Urban land complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MnB	Mentor silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MnC	Mentor silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MnE	Mentor silt loam, 12 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Mo	Mermill loam	Prime farmland if drained
Mr	Miner silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Ms	Miner silty clay loam, shale substratum, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
MtA	Mitiwanga silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
MtB	Mitiwanga silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
MvB	Mitiwanga channery loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
MxB	Mitiwanga-Urban land complex, gently sloping	Not prime farmland
Om	Olmsted fine sandy loam	Prime farmland if drained
On	Olmsted loam, sandstone substratum	Prime farmland if drained
Or	Orrville silt loam	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
OtA	Oshtemo sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
OtB	Oshtemo sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
OtC	Oshtemo sandy loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Qu	Quarries	Not prime farmland
RdA	Rawson loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RdB	Rawson loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RdC2	Rawson loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
Sb	Sebring silt loam	Prime farmland if drained
Sd	Sebring silt loam, sandstone substratum	Prime farmland if drained
Se	Senecaville silt loam	Prime farmland if drained
SkA	Shinrock silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
SkB	Shinrock silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Sw	Stafford fine sandy loam	Not prime farmland
Tg	Tioga fine sandy loam	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
TrA	Trumbull silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Lorain County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
TyB	Tyner loamy sand, 1 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
TyC	Tyner loamy sand, 6 to 12 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
UpC	Upshur silt loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
UpF	Upshur silt loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
W	Water	Not prime farmland
WeB	Weikert channery fine sandy loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Lorain County, Ohio
 Survey Area Data: Version 13, Sep 19, 2014