

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—Meigs County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
AgC	Aaron-Gilpin complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
AuC2	Aaron-Upshur complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
BkF	Berks-Westmoreland silt loams, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Chg1AF	Chagrin silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
CkA	Cidermill silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CkB	Cidermill silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CnA	Conotton gravelly loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
CnC	Conotton gravelly loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
CnE	Conotton gravelly loam, 18 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
DeF	Dekalb-Westmoreland complex, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Dol1A1	Doles silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Dp	Dumps, mine	Not prime farmland
DuC	Duncannon silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
EkA	Elkinsville silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Gal2C1	Gallia loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
Gal2D1	Gallia loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
GbA	Gallipolis silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GbB	Gallipolis silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GeD	Germano-Gilpin complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GeE	Germano-Gilpin complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GhB	Gilpin silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GhC2	Gilpin silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Meigs County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
GIR1D1	Gilpin-Rarden silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GIR1D2	Gilpin-Rarden silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
GIR1E1	Gilpin-Rarden silt loams, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GuC	Gilpin-Upshur silt loams, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
GuD	Gilpin-Upshur silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
GuE	Gilpin-Upshur complex, 25 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GwD	Guernsey-Gilpin complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
GwE	Guernsey-Gilpin complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Hay1AF	Haymond silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
KeB	Keene silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
KeC	Keene silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
KnL1AF	Kinnick-Lindside silt loams, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Ky	Kyger loamy sand, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
LaB	Lakin loamy fine sand, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
LaC	Lakin loamy fine sand, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
LaD	Lakin loamy fine sand, 12 to 18 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
LaE	Lakin loamy fine sand, 18 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Lic1B1	Licking silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Lic1C2	Licking silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
Lic1D2	Licking silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
Mel1AF	Melvin silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Mos1AF	Moshannon silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
New1AF	Newark silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
No	Nolin silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Omu1B1	Omulga silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Omu1C1	Omulga silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
Orr1AF	Orrville silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
PnB	Pinegrove coarse sandy loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
PnD	Pinegrove coarse sandy loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
PnF	Pinegrove coarse sandy loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Pop1AF	Pope silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Meigs County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
PpS1AF	Pope-Stokly silt loams, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
PuB	Pinegrove silty clay loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
PuD	Pinegrove silty clay loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
PuF	Pinegrove silty clay loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Px	Pits, gravel	Not prime farmland
Rar1C2	Rarden silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
RcB	Richland silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RdD	Richland loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RdE	Richland loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
SkP1AF	Stokly-Philo silt loams, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
SsE	Steinsburg sandy loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
SsF	Steinsburg sandy loam, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
StF	Steinsburg fine sandy loam, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
TaA	Taggart silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
UbC	Upshur silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
Ud	Udorthefts	Not prime farmland
UgC2	Upshur-Gilpin complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
UgD	Upshur-Gilpin complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
UgE	Upshur-Gilpin complex, 25 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
UpC	Upshur silty clay loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
UsD	Upshur-Steinsburg complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
UsE	Upshur-Steinsburg complex, 25 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
VaC2	Vandalia silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
VaD2	Vandalia silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
VbD	Vandalia-Brookside complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
VcD	Vandalia-Richland complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
VnB2	Vincent silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
VnC2	Vincent silty clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
W	Water	Not prime farmland
WeC	Wellston silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WgD	Westmoreland-Gilpin complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
WgE	Westmoreland-Gilpin complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WgF	Westmoreland-Gilpin complex, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WoB	Woodsfield silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WpB	Woodsfield silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Wya1B1	Wyatt silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Meigs County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
Wya3C2	Wyatt silty clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
Wya3D2	Wyatt silty clay loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
ZnB	Zanesville silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Meigs County, Ohio
 Survey Area Data: Version 10, Sep 19, 2014