

Land Capability Classification

The land capability classification of map units in the survey area is shown in this table. This classification shows, in a general way, the suitability of soils for most kinds of field crops (United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, 1961). Crops that require special management are excluded. The soils are grouped according to their limitations for field crops, the risk of damage if they are used for crops, and the way they respond to management. The criteria used in grouping the soils do not include major and generally expensive landforming that would change slope, depth, or other characteristics of the soils, nor do they include possible but unlikely major reclamation projects. Capability classification is not a substitute for interpretations designed to show suitability and limitations of groups of soils for rangeland, for forestland, or for engineering purposes.

In the capability system, soils are generally grouped at three levels: capability class, subclass, and unit.

Capability classes, the broadest groups, are designated by the numbers 1 through 8. The numbers indicate progressively greater limitations and narrower choices for practical use. The classes are defined as follows:

- Class 1 soils have slight limitations that restrict their use.
- Class 2 soils have moderate limitations that restrict the choice of plants or that require moderate conservation practices.
- Class 3 soils have severe limitations that restrict the choice of plants or that require special conservation practices, or both.
- Class 4 soils have very severe limitations that restrict the choice of plants or that require very careful management, or both.
- Class 5 soils are subject to little or no erosion but have other limitations, impractical to remove, that restrict their use mainly to pasture, rangeland, forestland, or wildlife habitat.
- Class 6 soils have severe limitations that make them generally unsuitable for cultivation and that restrict their use mainly to pasture, rangeland, forestland, or wildlife habitat.
- Class 7 soils have very severe limitations that make them unsuitable for cultivation and that restrict their use mainly to grazing, forestland, or wildlife habitat.
- Class 8 soils and miscellaneous areas have limitations that preclude commercial plant production and that restrict their use to recreational purposes, wildlife habitat, watershed, or esthetic purposes.

Capability subclasses are soil groups within one class. They are designated by adding a small letter, *e*, *w*, *s*, or *c*, to the class numeral, for example, 2e. The letter *e* shows that the main hazard is the risk of erosion unless close-growing plant cover is maintained; *w* shows that water in or on the soil interferes with plant growth or cultivation (in some soils the wetness can be partly corrected by artificial drainage); *s* shows that the soil is limited mainly because it is shallow, droughty, or stony; and *c*, used in only some parts of the United States, shows that the chief limitation is climate that is very cold or very dry.

In class 1 there are no subclasses because the soils of this class have few limitations. Class 5 contains only the subclasses indicated by *w*, *s*, or *c* because the soils in class 5 are subject to little or no erosion.

Report—Land Capability Classification

Land Capability Classification—Mercer County, Ohio				
Map unit symbol and name	Pct. of map unit	Component name	Land Capability Subclass	
			Nonirrigated	Irrigated
Ble1A1—Blount silt loam, end moraine, 0 to 2 percent slopes				
	85	Blount, end moraine	2w	—
Ble1B1—Blount silt loam, end moraine, 2 to 4 percent slopes				
	85	Blount, end moraine	2e	—
Blg1A1—Blount silt loam, ground moraine, 0 to 2 percent slopes				
	85	Blount, ground moraine	2w	—
Blg1B1—Blount silt loam, ground moraine, 2 to 4 percent slopes				
	85	Blount, ground moraine	2e	—
BnA—Blount loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes				
	85	Blount	2w	—
BoB2—Blount silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded				
	85	Blount	2e	—
Ca—Carlisle muck				
	100	Carlisle	3w	—
DgA—Del Rey silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes				
	85	Del rey	2w	—
DmA—Digby loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes				
	95	Digby	2w	—
DmB—Digby loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes				
	95	Digby	2e	—
Ed—Edwards muck				
	100	Edwards	4w	—
Ee—Eel silt loam				
	95	Eel	2w	—
EIB—Eldean loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes				
	100	Eldean	2e	—

Land Capability Classification--Mercer County, Ohio				
Map unit symbol and name	Pct. of map unit	Component name	Land Capability Subclass	
			Nonirrigated	Irrigated
EIC2—Eldean loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded				
	100	Eldean	3e	—
EoB—Elliott silt loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes				
	95	Elliott	2e	—
GaB—Gallman sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes				
	100	Gallman	2e	—
GbB—Gallman loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes				
	100	Gallman	2e	—
Gn—Genesee silt loam				
	95	Genesee	2w	—
Gwd5C2—Glynwood clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded				
	85	Glynwood	4e	—
Gwe1B1—Glynwood silt loam, end moraine, 2 to 6 percent slopes				
	85	Glynwood, end moraine	2e	—
Gwe1B2—Glynwood silt loam, end moraine, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded				
	85	Glynwood, end moraine	2e	—
Gwg1B1—Glynwood silt loam, ground moraine, 2 to 6 percent slopes				
	85	Glynwood, ground moraine	2e	—
Gwg1B2—Glynwood silt loam, ground moraine, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded				
	85	Glynwood, ground moraine	2e	—
Gwg5C2—Glynwood clay loam, ground moraine, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded				
	85	Glynwood	3e	—
Gwg5C3—Glynwood clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded				
	85	Glynwood	4e	—
GwM5C3—Glynwood-Mississinewa clay loams, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded				
	70	Glynwood	4e	—
	15	Mississinewa	4e	—
HnA—Haskins loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes				
	95	Haskins	2w	—

Land Capability Classification--Mercer County, Ohio				
Map unit symbol and name	Pct. of map unit	Component name	Land Capability Subclass	
			Nonirrigated	Irrigated
HnB—Haskins loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes				
	95	Haskins	2e	—
McA—McGary silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes				
	95	Mcgary	3w	—
McB—McGary silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes				
	95	Mcgary	3e	—
Mf—Millgrove clay loam				
	85	Millgrove	2w	—
Mg—Millgrove silty clay loam				
	100	Millgrove	2w	—
Mh—Millsdale silty clay loam				
	100	Millsdale	3w	—
Mnl3A—Minster silty clay loam, till substratum, 0 to 1 percent slopes				
	85	Minster, till substratum	3w	—
Mns3A—Minster silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes				
	90	Minster	3w	—
MrD2—Morley silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, moderately eroded				
	100	Morley	4e	—
MrE2—Morley silt loam, 18 to 25 percent slopes, moderately eroded				
	100	Morley	6e	—
MsD3—Morley clay loam, 9 to 18 percent slopes, severely eroded				
	100	Morley	4e	—
OcA—Ockley loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes				
	100	Ockley	1	—
OcB—Ockley loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes				
	100	Ockley	2e	—
On—Olentangy mucky silt loam				
	100	Olentangy	3w	—
Pm—Pewamo silty clay loam				
	100	Pewamo	2w	—

Land Capability Classification--Mercer County, Ohio				
Map unit symbol and name	Pct. of map unit	Component name	Land Capability Subclass	
			Nonirrigated	Irrigated
Pn—Pewamo silty clay loam, ponded				
	100	Pewamo	5w	—
Po—Pewamo silty clay				
	100	Pewamo	2w	—
Ps—Pits, gravel				
	100	Pits	—	—
Qu—Quarries				
	100	Quarries	—	—
RmB—Rawson loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes				
	97	Rawson	2e	—
Sac3AF—Saranac silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded				
	90	Saranac, brief duration	3w	—
SaS3AF—Saranac-Spencerville silty clay loams, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded				
	65	Saranac, brief duration	3w	—
	25	Spencerville	3w	—
Sho1AO—Shoals silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded				
	85	Shoals	2w	—
Sho3AF—Shoals silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded				
	85	Shoals	2w	—
Slo3AF—Sloan silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded				
	90	Sloan, brief duration	3w	—
So—Sloan silty clay loam				
	100	Sloan	3w	—
Ud—Udorthents, loamy				
	100	Udorthents	—	—
W—Water				
	100	Water	—	—
Wg—Wabasha silty clay loam				
	100	Wabasha	3w	—
Wh—Wabasha silty clay				
	100	Wabasha	3w	—

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Mercer County, Ohio
Survey Area Data: Version 12, Sep 19, 2014