

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—Morgan County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
AaC2	Aaron silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
AgC2	Aaron-Gilpin complex, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
BaF	Barkcamp channery sandy loam, 20 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BdF	Berks channery silt loam, 35 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BeF	Berks-Westmoreland complex, 35 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BfF	Berks-Westmoreland complex, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BkF	Bethesda channery loam, 20 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BrD	Brookside silty clay loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
BrE	Brookside silty clay loam, 20 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BtE	Brookside silty clay loam, 15 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CcB	Chavies loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CeB	Chavies loam, 0 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CgC	Claysville-Guernsey complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
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
CoB	Conotton gravelly loam, 0 to 6 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
CoC2	Conotton gravelly loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
Ds	Dumps, mine	Not prime farmland
EbE2	Elba silty clay loam, 20 to 35 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
EuA	Euclid silt loam, rarely flooded	Prime farmland if drained
GdC2	Gilpin silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GeE2	Gilpin-Upshur complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
GhD2	Gilpin-Upshur complex, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Morgan County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
GhE2	Gilpin-Upshur complex, 20 to 35 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
GhF	Gilpin-Upshur complex, 35 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GnB	Glenford silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GsD2	Guernsey-Upshur complex, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
GtC2	Guernsey-Upshur silty clay loams, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
GtD2	Guernsey-Upshur silty clay loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
Hay1AO	Haymond silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
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
Lck1BO	Licking silt loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Ld	Lobdell silt loam, channery substratum, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Le	Lobdell loam, channery substratum, occasionally flooded	All areas are 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
LoD2	Lowell silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LpD2	Lowell silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
LrE2	Lowell-Gilpin complex, 20 to 35 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
LrF	Lowell-Gilpin complex, 35 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LsE2	Lowell-Gilpin complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
LsF	Lowell-Gilpin complex, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MaD2	Markland silty clay loam, 12 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
Md	Melvin silt loam, ponded	Not prime farmland
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
MnB	Morristown silty clay loam, 0 to 6 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
MnD	Morristown silty clay loam, 6 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MnE	Morristown silty clay loam, 20 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MoB	Morristown silty clay loam, 1 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MoD	Morristown silty clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MpB	Morristown channery clay loam, 0 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MpD	Morristown channery clay loam, 6 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MrF	Morristown channery clay loam, 20 to 70 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
MtF	Morristown channery silty clay loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Ne	Newark silt loam, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Morgan County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
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, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Np	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	Not prime farmland
Pg	Pits, gravel	Not prime farmland
RvE	Richland-Vandalia complex, 20 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
StF	Steinsburg loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Ud	Udorthents	Not prime farmland
UpC2	Upshur silty clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
UpD2	Upshur silty clay loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
VaE2	Vandalia silt loam, 20 to 35 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
VbD2	Vandalia-Brookside complex, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
W	Water	Not prime farmland
WeB	Wellston silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WeC2	Wellston silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WfB	Westgate silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WfC2	Westgate silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
WgD2	Westmoreland-Guernsey complex, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
WgE2	Westmoreland-Guernsey complex, 20 to 35 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
WgF	Westmoreland-Guernsey complex, 35 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WhD2	Westmoreland-Guernsey silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
WhE2	Westmoreland-Guernsey silt loams, 25 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
WnC2	Westgate silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
WyB	Woodsfield silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WyC2	Woodsfield silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
ZnB	Zanesville silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
ZnC2	Zanesville silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance

Data Source Information

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