

## 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--Muskingum County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
AaB	Aaron silt loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
AaC2	Aaron silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
AaD2	Aaron silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
AcB	Aaron-Upshur complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
AfB	Alford silt loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
AfC2	Alford silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
BeB	Berks channery silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BeD	Berks channery silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BeD2	Berks channery silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
BeE	Berks channery silt loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BfF	Bethesda channery loam, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BgB	Berks channery silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BhB	Bethesda channery loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BhD	Bethesda channery loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BhF	Bethesda channery loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BkF	Berks-Westmoreland complex, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BoB	Bethesda shaly silt loam, 1 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BoD	Bethesda shaly silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BpF	Bethesda flaggy silt loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BrE	Brownsville channery silt loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BrF	Brownsville channery silt loam, 35 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BsC2	Brookside silty clay loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
BsE	Brookside silty clay loam, 15 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Muskingum County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
Cb	Chagrin loam, rarely flooded	All areas are prime farmland
CcA	Chavies loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CcB	Chavies loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CeA	Chili loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CeB	Chili loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CfA	Chili loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CfB	Chili loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CfC2	Chili loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
ChA	Chili gravelly loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
ChB	Chili gravelly loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
ChC	Chili gravelly loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
CkA	Cidermill silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CnB	Cincinnati silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CnC2	Cincinnati silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
CpC2	Clarksburg silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
CrC	Claysville-Guernsey silty clay loams, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CsC2	Coshocton silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
CsD	Coshocton silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
CtE	Coshocton-Westmoreland silt loams, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Ds	Dumps and Pits, mine	Not prime farmland
FaB	Fairpoint silty clay loam, 1 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FaD	Fairpoint silty clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FaE	Fairpoint silty clay loam, 25 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FbF	Fairpoint channery silty clay loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FcA	Fitchville silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FcB	Fitchville silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FdB	Fairpoint loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FdD	Fairpoint loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FdE	Fairpoint loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FfB	Fairpoint silty clay loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FfD	Fairpoint silty clay loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FkB	Frankstown variant-Mertz complex, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
GcB	Gilpin silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GdB	Gilpin silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GdC	Gilpin silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GdC2	Gilpin silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GeD2	Gilpin-Upshur complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GeE2	Gilpin-Upshur complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Muskingum County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
GfA	Glenford silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GfB	Glenford silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GfC2	Glenford silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GnD	Guernsey silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GpD	Guernsey silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GpD2	Guernsey silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
GsC	Guernsey-Upshur complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
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	Farmland of local importance
HaC2	Homewood silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
HaD2	Homewood silt loam, 15 to 20 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
Hay1AO	Haymond silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
HoC2	Homewood silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
HoD2	Homewood silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
JtA	Jimtown loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
KeB	Keene silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
KeC2	Keene silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
KfC	Keene silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not 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
Km	Killbuck silt loam, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained
LaC	Lakin loamy fine sand, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LbB	Lakin loamy sand, 1 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LcD	Lakin-Alford complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Lk	Lindside silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Lm	Lobdell loam, channery substratum, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Lo	Lorain silty clay	Prime farmland if drained
LpC	Lowell silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LpC2	Lowell silt loam, moderately wet, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LpD	Lowell silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LpD2	Lowell silt loam, moderately wet, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LrE2	Lowell-Gilpin complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
LrF	Lowell-Gilpin complex, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Lu	Luray silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
LwF	Lowell-Westmoreland silt loams, 35 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MaB	Markland silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MbC2	Markland silty clay loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
McD2	Markland-Glenford complex, 15 to 35 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
MdA	McGary silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Me	Melvin silt loam, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
MkD	Mertz very cherty silt loam, 15 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MoB	Morristown silty clay loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MrB	Morristown shaly silty clay loam, 1 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MrD	Morristown shaly silty clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MrF	Morristown shaly silty clay loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MsB	Morristown silty clay loam, 1 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MsC	Morristown silty clay loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MsD	Morristown silty clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MsE	Morristown silty clay loam, 25 to 50 percent slopes	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
Nn	Nolin silt loam, rarely flooded	All areas are prime farmland
No	Nolin silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
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
RaB	Rawson silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RfC	Rigley loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
RgD	Rigley channery loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
RhE	Rigley-Coshocton complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RoF	Rodman gravelly sandy loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Se	Sebring silt loam	Prime farmland if drained
St	Stonelick loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Ta	Tioga fine sandy loam, rarely flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Tf	Tioga fine sandy loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Ud	Udorthents, loamy, hilly	Not prime farmland
Ug	Udorthents, sandy, rolling	Not prime farmland
Uh	Udorthents, sandy-skeletal, steep	Not prime farmland
Uk	Udorthents-Pits complex	Not prime farmland
UsB	Urban land-Glenford complex, 2 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
UtA	Urban land-Nolin complex, rarely flooded	Not prime farmland
UvB	Urban land-Watertown complex, 1 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
UwC	Urban land-Wellston complex, 5 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Muskingum County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
W	Water	Not prime farmland
WaB	Watertown sandy loam, 1 to 8 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
WaC	Watertown sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
WbB	Watertown sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
WbC	Watertown sandy loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
WhB	Wellston silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WhC	Wellston silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WhC2	Wellston silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WmB	Westgate silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WmC2	Westgate silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
WnB	Westmore silt loam, 1 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WnC	Westmore silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WoB	Woodsfield silt loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WoC	Woodsfield silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WrF	Westmoreland-Berks complex, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WtC	Westmoreland silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WtC2	Westmoreland silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
WtD	Westmoreland silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WtD2	Westmoreland silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WtE	Westmoreland silt loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WuC2	Westmoreland-Guernsey silt loams, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
WuD2	Westmoreland-Guernsey silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
WuE2	Westmoreland-Guernsey silt loams, 25 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
WvD	Westmoreland-Urban land complex, 15 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
ZmC	Zanesville silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
ZnB	Zanesville silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
ZnC2	Zanesville silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance

## Data Source Information

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