

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—Preble County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
CeA	Celina silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CeB	Celina silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CeB2	Celina silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
CoA	Corwin silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CtA	Crosby-Celina silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CtB	Crosby-Celina silt loams, 2 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CvA	Crosby-Lewisburg silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CyA	Cyclone silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
DaA	Dana silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
DaB	Dana silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
EeA	Eel silt loam, gravelly substratum, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
EgA	Eldean gravelly loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
EgB	Eldean gravelly loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
EgB2	Eldean gravelly loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
EhC3	Eldean gravelly clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
EhD3	Eldean gravelly clay loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
EkA	Eldean loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
EkB	Eldean loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
EkB2	Eldean loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
FcA	Fincastle silt loam, Southern Ohio Till Plain, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FdA	Fincastle silt loam, bedrock substratum, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
FmA	Fox silt loam, till substratum, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
FmB	Fox silt loam, till substratum, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
FmB2	Fox silt loam, till substratum, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
HeF2	Hennepin-Miamian silt loams, 25 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
HwE2	Hennepin-Wynn silt loams, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
HwF2	Hennepin-Wynn silt loams, 25 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
KeC2	Kendallville-Eldean silt loams, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
KeD2	Kendallville-Eldean silt loams, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
KnA	Kokomo silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
KoA	Kokomo silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
LeB	Lewisburg-Celina silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
LfB2	Lewisburg-Celina clay loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
LgC3	Lewisburg clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
LpA	Lippincott silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
MaA	Medway silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
MbB2	Miami silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
McE2	Miami-Kendallville silt loams, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
McF2	Miami-Kendallville silt loams, 25 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MdC2	Miami loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MdD2	Miami loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MeC	Miamian silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MeC2	Miamian silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MeD2	Miamian silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MfB	Miamian-Celina silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MfB2	Miamian-Celina silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
MgE2	Miamian-Kendallville silt loams, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MgF2	Miamian-Kendallville silt loams, 25 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MhC3	Miamian-Losantville clay loams, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
MhD3	Miamian-Losantville clay loams, 12 to 18 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
MmE2	Miamian-Hennepin silt loams, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MnE3	Miamian-Hennepin clay loams, 18 to 25 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
MpA	Milford silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
MrA	Milford silty clay loam, gravelly substratum, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
MsA	Millsdale silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
MtA	Millsdale silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
MuA	Milton silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Preble County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
MuB	Milton silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MuB2	Milton silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
MuC2	Milton silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MuD2	Milton silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MuE2	Milton silt loam, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MwA	Morningsun silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MxA	Morningsun-Xenia silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MxB	Morningsun-Xenia silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MxB2	Morningsun-Xenia silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
MyA	Mahalasville silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
OcA	Ockley silt loam, Southern Ohio Till Plain, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
OcB	Ockley silt loam, Southern Ohio Till Plain, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Pg	Pits, gravel	Not prime farmland
Pq	Pits, quarry	Not prime farmland
PtB	Plattville silt loam, moderately wet, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RaA	Rainsville silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RaB	Rainsville silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RaB2	Rainsville silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
RcA	Randolph silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RcB	Randolph silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RnE2	Rodman gravelly loam, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
RnF2	Rodman gravelly loam, 25 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
RoE2	Rodman-Kendallville complex, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
RoF2	Rodman-Kendallville complex, 25 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
RpA	Rosburg silt loam, moderately wet, sandy substratum, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
RuB	Russell-Miamian silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RuB2	Russell-Miamian silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
SeA	Savona silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
SnA	Sloan silt loam, sandy substratum, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
StA	Stonelick loam, gravelly substratum, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
SvA	Sugarvalley silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
SwA	Sugarvalley-Fincastle silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
ThA	Thackery silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
ThB	Thackery silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Ud	Udorthents	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Preble County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
W	Water	Not prime farmland
WbA	Warsaw loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WnA	Westland silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
WyB	Wynn silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WyB2	Wynn silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
WyC2	Wynn silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
WyD2	Wynn silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
XeA	Xenia silt loam, Southern Ohio Till Plain, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
XeB	Xenia silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
XeB2	Xenia silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
XfB	Xenia silt loam, bedrock substratum, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland

Data Source Information

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