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–Fayette County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	**Map Unit Name**	**Farmland Classification**
Ag	Algiers silt loam	Prime farmland if drained
Bs	Brookston silty clay loam, fine texture, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CaB2	Cana silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	All areas are prime farmland
CaC2	Cana silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
CdC2	Casco and Rodman soils, 2 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
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, moderately eroded	All areas are prime farmland
CgB	Celina-Losantville silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CgB2	Celina-Losantville silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
CoB	Corwin silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CrA	Crosby silt loam, Southern Ohio Till Plain, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CrB	Crosby silt loam, Southern Ohio Till Plain, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CsA	Crosby-Celina silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CsB	Crosby-Celina silt loams, 2 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CtA	Crosby-Lewisburg silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CtB	Crosby-Lewisburg silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
ElB	Eldean silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
FmC2	Fox loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
FnA	Fox silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
FnB	Fox silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
FnB2	Fox silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	All areas are prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands–Fayette County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	**Map Unit Name**	**Farmland Classification**
FnC2	Fox silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
FoC3	Fox and Casco soils, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
FrE2	Fox, Casco, and Rodman soils, 12 to 25 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
Gn	Genesee silt loam	All areas are prime farmland
Go	Gessie silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Gp	Gravel pits	Not prime farmland
HaE	Hennepin-Miamian silt loams, 18 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HaF	Hennepin-Miamian silt loams, 25 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HeA	Henshaw silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HkA	Henshaw silt loam, dark variant, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
KeB	Kendallville silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
KeB2	Kendallville silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	All areas are prime farmland
KeC2	Kendallville silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
KlC3	Kendallville clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
KlD3	Kendallville clay loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
Ko	Kokomo silt loam, overwash	Prime farmland if drained
Kp	Kokomo silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
LeB	Lewisburg-Celina silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Md	Medway silt loam	All areas are prime farmland
Me	Medway silt loam, moderately shallow variant	All areas are prime farmland
MlB	Miamian silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MlB2	Miamian silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
MlC	Miamian silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MlC2	Miamian silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
MlD2	Miamian silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
MmB3	Miamian clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
MmC3	Miamian clay loam, shallow to dense till substratum, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
MmD3	Miamian clay loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
MnC2	Miamian-Kendallville silt loams, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MpE2	Miamian and Hennepin silt loams, 18 to 25 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
MpF2	Miamian and Hennepin silt loams, 25 to 35 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
MrF3	Miamian and Hennepin soils, 18 to 35 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
Ms	Millsdale silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
MtB	Milton silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MtB2	Milton silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	All areas are prime farmland

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Map Symbol	**Map Unit Name**	**Farmland Classification**
MtC2	Milton silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
OdA	Odell silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Pa	Patton silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
Pc	Patton silty clay loam, overwash	Prime farmland if drained
Qu	Quarries	Not prime farmland
RcB	Randolph silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RmC	Ritchey and Romeo silt loams, 2 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RmF2	Ritchey and Romeo silt loams, 12 to 35 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
Rs	Ross silt loam	All areas are prime farmland
SlA	Sleeth silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Sr	Sloan silt loam, sandy substratum, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained
St	Sloan silty clay loam, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained
Su	Sloan silty clay loam, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
ThB	Thackery silt loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
TkC3	Thrifton clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
TkD3	Thrifton clay loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
TkE3	Thrifton clay loam, 20 to 35 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
TrA	Treaty silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Ud	Udorthents	Not prime farmland
W	Water	Not prime farmland
WaC3	Wapahani-Miamian clay loams, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
WaD3	Wapahani-Miamian clay loams, 12 to 18 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
We	Warners muck	Not prime farmland
WrB	Warsaw silt loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WsA	Wea silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Wt	Westland clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
Wu	Westland silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
Wv	Westland silty clay loam, overwash	Prime farmland if drained

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Fayette County, Ohio
Survey Area Data: Version 11, Sep 18, 2014