

## 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—Harrison County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
AaB	Aaron silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
AbC2	Aaron silty clay loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
AcC	Aaron silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BeC	Berks channery silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BkC	Berks channery silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
BkD	Berks channery silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BkE	Berks channery silt loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BkF	Berks channery silt loam, 35 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BmC	Berks-Aaron complex, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BnC	Berks-Guernsey complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BnD	Berks-Guernsey complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
BnE	Berks-Guernsey complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BpB	Bethesda channery silty clay loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BpD	Bethesda channery silty clay loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BpF	Bethesda channery silty clay loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BsD	Brookside silty clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BsE	Brookside silty clay loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Ca	Canadice silty clay loam	Farmland of local importance
CcA	Caneadea silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
CnB	Coshocton silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CnC	Coshocton silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
CnD	Coshocton silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
CrD	Coshocton-Guernsey silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
CrE	Coshocton-Guernsey silt loams, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
DbC	Dekalb channery loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
DkC	Dekalb channery loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Dm	Dumps, mine	Not prime farmland
EaC2	Elba silty clay loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
FaB	Fairpoint silty clay loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FaD	Fairpoint silty clay loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FaE	Fairpoint silty clay loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FbB	Fairpoint gravelly clay loam, 0 to 8 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
GeC	Germano fine sandy loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
GeD	Germano fine sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
GmC	Gilpin silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GnB	Gilpin silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GnC	Gilpin silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
GnD	Gilpin silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
GoC	Gilpin-Coshocton complex, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
GoD	Gilpin-Coshocton complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
GpC	Gilpin-Lowell complex, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
GpD	Gilpin-Lowell silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
GsB	Glenford silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GsC	Glenford silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GtC	Guernsey silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
GuD2	Guernsey silty clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
GuE2	Guernsey silty clay loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
GwC	Guernsey silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GwD2	Guernsey silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
HaF	Hazleton channery loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes, stony	Not prime farmland
HeD	Hazleton channery sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HeE	Hazleton channery sandy loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HeF	Hazleton channery sandy loam, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HgD	Hazleton channery loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
KeB	Keene silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
LnC	Lowell silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LoD2	Lowell silty clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of local importance
LoE2	Lowell silty clay loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
LrE	Lowell-Westmoreland silt loams, 25 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
LrF	Lowell-Westmoreland silt loams, 35 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Me	Melvin silt loam, ponded	Not prime farmland
MnB	Morristown silty clay loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MnD	Morristown silty clay loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MoB	Morristown channery silty clay loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes, stony	Not prime farmland
MoD	Morristown channery silty clay loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes, stony	Not prime farmland
MoE	Morristown channery silty clay loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes, stony	Not prime farmland
MpC	Morristown silty clay loam, 3 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MrF	Morristown channery silt loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes, bouldery	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
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
Omm1B1	Omurga silt loam, mixed substratum, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Omm1C1	Omurga silt loam, mixed substratum, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Or	Orrville silt loam, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained
OsB	Oshtemo loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Pe	Peoga silt loam, rarely flooded	Prime farmland if drained
RcB	Richland silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RcC	Richland silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RgD	Rigley loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RgE	Rigley loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Tg	Tioga silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Ua	Udorthents	Not prime farmland
Uc	Udorthents-Pits complex	Not prime farmland
UpC2	Upshur silty clay loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
UpD2	Upshur silty clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
W	Water	Not prime farmland
WhC	Westmoreland silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WhD	Westmoreland silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
WhE	Westmoreland silt loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WmE	Westmoreland-Coshocton complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WnE	Westmoreland-Dekalb complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WnF	Westmoreland-Dekalb complex, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WoF	Westmoreland-Dekalb complex, 25 to 70 percent slopes, extremely bouldery	Not prime farmland
WpC	Westmoreland silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
WrD	Westmoreland-Guernsey silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WtD	Westmoreland-Coshocton silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

## Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Harrison County, Ohio  
Survey Area Data: Version 12, Sep 18, 2014