

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—Henry County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
Ad	Adrian muck, drained, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
ArB	Arkport fine sand, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
ArC	Arkport fine sand, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
AsA	Aurand fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
AtA	Aurand loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
BcA	Bixler loamy fine sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Ca	Clay pits	Not prime farmland
Ch	Cohoctah fine sandy loam	Prime farmland if drained
Ck	Colwood fine sandy loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Cm	Colwood loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Cn	Colwood loam	Prime farmland if drained
Co	Colwood silt loam	Prime farmland if drained
CoB	Colonie fine sand, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CoC	Colonie fine sand, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CoD	Colonie fine sand, 12 to 18 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Cu	Cut and fill land	Not prime farmland
DeA	Del Rey loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
DfA	Del Rey silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
DuA	Digby fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
DyA	Digby loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
DzA	Digby loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Ee	Eel loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
FsA	Fulton loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FsB	Fulton loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FuA	Fulton silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FuB	Fulton silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FvA	Fulton loam, sandy subsoil variant, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
GaA	Galen fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GaB	Galen fine sand, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GbB	Galen loamy fine sand, 1 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Gm	Genesee loam	All areas are prime farmland
Go	Gilford fine sandy loam	Prime farmland if drained
Gr	Granby loamy fine sand	Not prime farmland
Gv	Gravel pits	Not prime farmland
HaA	Haney fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
HaB	Haney fine sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
HcA	Hoytville silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HdA	Haney loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
HdB	Haney loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
HeC	Haney and Rawson loams, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HkA	Haskins fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HIA	Haskins loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HIB	Haskins loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HnA	Haskins fine sandy loam, stratified substratum, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HoA	Hoytville clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
KeA	Kibbie loamy fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
KfA	Kibbie fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
KIA	Kibbie loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
La	Latty clay	Prime farmland if drained
Lb	Latty silty clay	Prime farmland if drained
Le	Lenawee loam	Prime farmland if drained
Lf	Lenawee silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
LwB2	Lucas silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	All areas are prime farmland
LwC2	Lucas silty clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
LxC3	Lucas silty clay, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
LxE3	Lucas silty clay, 12 to 45 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
Mb	Mermill-Aurand complex, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Mc	Mermill silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
Md	Medway silt loam	All areas are prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Henry County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
Me	Merrill loam	Prime farmland if drained
Mf	Merrill clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
Mg	Merrill loam, stratified substratum	Prime farmland if drained
Mh	Millgrove loam	Prime farmland if drained
Mk	Millgrove clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
NaA	Nappanee loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
NaB	Nappanee loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
NtA	Nappanee silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
NtB	Nappanee silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
NtB2	Nappanee silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Prime farmland if drained
OaC	Oakville fine sand, 2 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
ObB	Oakville fine sand, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
ObC	Oakville fine sand, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
OsB	Oshtemo sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
OtB	Ottokee fine sand, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
OuB	Ottokee fine sand, 0 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
OzB	Ottokee-Spinks loamy fine sands, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Pa	Paulding clay, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Pt	Pits, quarry	Not prime farmland
RaB	Rawson sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RdB	Rawson loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
ReB	Rawson fine sandy loam, stratified substratum, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RfA	Rimer loamy fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RgA	Rimer loamy fine sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RhB	Rimer and Tedrow, till substratum, loamy fine sands, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RmA	Rimer loamy fine sand, stratified substratum, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RoA	Roselms silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RrA	Roselms silty clay, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Rs	Ross loam	All areas are prime farmland
SaE3	St. Clair clay, 18 to 35 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
SbB2	St. Clair silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	All areas are prime farmland
SbC2	St. Clair silty clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
SbD2	St. Clair silty clay loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
SbE2	St. Clair silty clay loam, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
ScC3	St. Clair silty clay, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
ScD3	St. Clair silty clay, 12 to 18 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
ScE3	St. Clair silty clay, 18 to 25 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
ScF3	St. Clair silty clay, 25 to 45 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
SdB	Seward loamy fine sand, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
SdC	Seward loamy fine sand, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
SdD	Seward loamy fine sand, 12 to 18 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
SeB	Seward loamy fine sand, stratified substratum, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
SeC	Seward loamy fine sand, stratified substratum, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
SfA	Shinrock silt loam, sandy subsoil variant, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Sh	Shoals silt loam	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Sm	Sloan silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Sn	Sloan loam, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained
So	Sloan silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
SpB	Spinks fine sand, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
SpC	Spinks fine sand, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
SpD	Spinks fine sand, 12 to 18 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
TdA	Tedrow loamy fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
TeA	Tedrow loamy fine sand, silty subsoil variant, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
To	Toledo silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
TsA	Toussaint silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Tt	Toledo silty clay	Prime farmland if drained
TuB2	Tuscola loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	All areas are prime farmland
TuC2	Tuscola loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
Ud	Udorthents, rolling	Not prime farmland
Ur	Urban land	Not prime farmland
VaA	Vaughnsville loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
W	Water	Not prime farmland
Wa	Wabasha silty clay	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Wc	Warners muck	Not prime farmland
Wf	Wauseon fine sandy loam	Prime farmland if drained
Wg	Wauseon loamy fine sand, stratified substratum	Prime farmland if drained

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Henry County, Ohio
Survey Area Data: Version 10, Sep 18, 2014