

## 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—Noble County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
AaC2	Aaron silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
AID	Allegheny silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BaB	Barkcamp channery sandy loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
BaF	Barkcamp channery sandy loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
BcC	Berks channery silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BcD	Berks channery silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BcE	Berks channery silt loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BcF	Berks channery silt loam, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BkC	Berks shaly silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BkD	Berks shaly 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
BmB	Bethesda channery loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BmF	Bethesda channery loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BnD	Bethesda silty clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BoB	Bethesda very shaly silty clay loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BoF	Bethesda very shaly silty clay loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BpD	Bethesda clay loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BrC	Brookside silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BrD	Brookside silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BrE	Brookside silt loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BsC2	Brookside silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Noble County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
BsD2	Brookside silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
BtC	Brookside-Vandalia complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BtD	Brookside-Vandalia complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BtD2	Brookside-Vandalia complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
BtE	Brookside-Vandalia complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BtE2	Brookside-Vandalia complex, 25 to 35 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
Ch	Chagrin silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Chg1AF	Chagrin silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
DhC	Dekalb loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
DkE	Dekalb channery loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
DkF	Dekalb channery loam, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
EbD	Elba silty clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
EbD2	Elba silty clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
EbE	Elba silty clay loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
EbE2	Elba silty clay loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
EbF2	Elba silty clay loam, 40 to 70 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
EdD2	Elba-Guernsey silty clay loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
EdE2	Elba-Guernsey silty clay loams, 25 to 35 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
EnB	Enoch shaly silty clay loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
EnD	Enoch shaly silty clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
EnF	Enoch shaly silty clay loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
GdC	Gilpin silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GdD	Gilpin silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GdE	Gilpin silt loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GdF	Gilpin silt loam, 35 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GkD2	Gilpin-Upshur complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GkE2	Gilpin-Upshur complex, 25 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GkF	Gilpin-Upshur complex, 35 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GkF2	Gilpin-Upshur complex, 35 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GmC2	Gilpin-Upshur complex, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
GuB	Guernsey silt loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GuC	Guernsey silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GuD	Guernsey silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GuD2	Guernsey silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
GvC	Guernsey silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
GwD2	Guernsey-Upshur silty clay loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Noble County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
GxD	Guernsey-Upshur complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
He	Hartshorn silt loam	All areas are prime farmland
Hf	Hartshorn silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
KnL1AF	Kinnick-Lindside silt loams, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Lh	Lindside silt loam	All areas are prime farmland
LoC	Lowell silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LoD	Lowell silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LoE	Lowell silt loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LpE2	Lowell silty clay loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	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
LtE2	Lowell-Elba silty clay loams, 25 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
LtF2	Lowell-Elba silty clay loams, 40 to 70 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
LuE	Lowell-Gilpin silt loams, 25 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LuF	Lowell-Gilpin silt loams, 35 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LvD2	Lowell-Upshur silty clay loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
LvE	Lowell-Upshur complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LvE2	Lowell-Upshur silty clay loams, 25 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
LvF2	Lowell-Upshur silty clay loams, 40 to 70 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
LxE	Lowell-Westmoreland complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LxF	Lowell-Westmoreland silt loams, 35 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LyC	Lowell-Westmoreland silt loams, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LyD	Lowell-Westmoreland silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LyE	Lowell-Westmoreland silt loams, 25 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LyF	Lowell-Westmoreland silt loams, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MoB	Morristown silty clay loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MoC	Morristown silty clay loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MoD	Morristown silty clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MoF	Morristown channery clay loam, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MrB	Morristown channery silty clay loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MrD	Morristown channery silty clay loam, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MrF	Morristown channery silty clay loam, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Ne	Newark silt loam, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained
New1AF	Newark silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Ng	Newark silt loam, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
No	Nolin silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
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
OtC	Otwell silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RcD	Richland channery loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Sa	Sarahsville silty clay, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
Sb	Sarahsville silty clay loam, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
Ub	Udorthents	Not prime farmland
Uc	Udorthents-Pits complex	Not prime farmland
UnC	Upshur silty clay loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
UnD	Upshur silty clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
UnD3	Upshur silty clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
UpB	Upshur silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
UpC	Upshur silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
UrC3	Upshur silty clay, 8 to 15 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
UrD3	Upshur silty clay, 15 to 25 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
UrE3	Upshur silty clay, 25 to 40 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
UsB	Upshur silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
VaD2	Vandalia silty clay loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
VaE2	Vandalia silty clay loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
VbC	Vandalia silty clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
VcC2	Vandalia-Guernsey silty clay loams, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
VcD2	Vandalia-Guernsey silty clay loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
VcE2	Vandalia-Guernsey silty clay loams, 25 to 35 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
W	Water	Not prime farmland
WhD2	Wellston silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WkB	Westmoreland silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WkE	Westmoreland silt loam, 25 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WnC	Woodsfield 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
WoD	Woodsfield silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
WpB	Woodsfield silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
WpC2	Woodsfield silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
ZaB	Zanesville silt loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
ZaC	Zanesville silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
ZaC2	Zanesville silt loam, 6 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
ZnB	Zanesville silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland

## Data Source Information

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