

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—Paulding County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
BeB	Belmore loam, till substratum, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
BkA	Bixler loamy sand, clayey substratum, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
BrB2	Broughton silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
BrC2	Broughton silty clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
BrD2	Broughton silty clay loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
BrE2	Broughton silty clay loam, 18 to 35 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
BsC3	Broughton silty clay, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
BsD3	Broughton silty clay, 12 to 18 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
Db	Defiance silty clay loam, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained
Dc	Defiance silty clay loam, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
Fb	Flatrock silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Fc	Flatrock silt loam, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
FtA	Fulton loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FuA	Fulton silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FuB2	Fulton silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	Prime farmland if drained
FxA	Fulton silty clay loam, loamy substratum, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FxB	Fulton silty clay loam, loamy substratum, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Gr	Granby loamy sand, clayey substratum	Not prime farmland
HaA	Haskins loamy sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HcA	Hoytville silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HkA	Haskins loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Paulding County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
HkB	Haskins loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HtA	Hoytville silty clay, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Kn	Knoxdale silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
La	Landes loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Lb	Latty silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
Lc	Latty silty clay	Prime farmland if drained
LtA	Lucas silt loam, loamy substratum, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
LuB2	Lucas silty clay loam, loamy substratum, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
LuC2	Lucas silty clay loam, loamy substratum, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
Md	Medway silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Me	Mermill loam	Prime farmland if drained
Mg	Millgrove loam, till substratum	Prime farmland if drained
NnA	Nappanee loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
NpA	Nappanee silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
NpB	Nappanee silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
NpB2	Nappanee silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	Prime farmland if drained
OsB	Oshtemo sandy loam, till substratum, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
OtB	Ottokee loamy sand, 0 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Pc	Paulding clay, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Pt	Pits, quarry	Not prime farmland
RkA	Rimer loamy sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RkB	Rimer loamy sand, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RmA	Rimer-Fulton complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RnA	Roselms loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RoA	Roselms silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RoB	Roselms silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RpA	Roselms silty clay, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RpB2	Roselms silty clay, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
Rt	Rosburg silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Sb	Saranac silty clay loam, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained
Sh	Shoals silt loam, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained
Sk	Shoals silt loam, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
StB2	St. Clair silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
StC2	St. Clair silty clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
StD2	St. Clair silty clay loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Paulding County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
StE2	St. Clair silty clay loam, 18 to 35 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
SuC3	St. Clair silty clay, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
SuE3	St. Clair silty clay, 12 to 25 percent slopes, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
TeA	Tedrow loamy sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Tn	Toledo silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
To	Toledo silty clay	Prime farmland if drained
Uc	Udorthents, clayey, hilly	Not prime farmland
W	Water	Not prime farmland
Wb	Wabasha silty clay loam, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
WhA	Whitaker loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Paulding County, Ohio
 Survey Area Data: Version 12, Sep 19, 2014