

## 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—Seneca County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
AdA	Adrian muck, drained, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BdB	Belmore loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
BfF2	Belmore-Morley complex, 18 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
BgA	Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
BgB	Bennington silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
BgB2	Bennington silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	Prime farmland if drained
BhA	Bixler loamy fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Ble1A1	Blount silt loam, end moraine, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Ble1B1	Blount silt loam, end moraine, 2 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Blg1A1	Blount silt loam, ground moraine, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Blg1B1	Blount silt loam, ground moraine, 2 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Bp	Bono silty clay, loamy substratum	Prime farmland if drained
BrA	Blount-Houcktown complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
BsA	Blount-Urban land complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
BtA	Bogart loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Ca	Carlisle muck	Not prime farmland
CdB2	Cardington silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, moderately eroded	All areas are prime farmland
CdC2	Cardington silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, moderately eroded	Not prime farmland
Ch	Chagrin silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
CnA	Channahon silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CnB	Channahon silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Co	Colwood silt loam	Prime farmland if drained
Cp	Colwood fine sandy loam	Prime farmland if drained

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Seneca County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
CvA	Cygnets loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
DeA	Del Rey silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
DmA	Digby loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
DnA	Digby loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
DpB	Dunbridge loamy fine sand, 1 to 4 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
DrB	Dunbridge sandy loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
DsB	Dunbridge-Spinks, deep to limestone, loamy fine sands, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FbA	Fitchville silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
FcA	Fitchville silt loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
GaA	Gallman loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GaB	Gallman loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Ge	Genesee silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
GfA	Gilford mucky loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
GhB	Glenford silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GmA	Glynwood loam, limestone substratum, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
GwA	Glynwood silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Gwd5C2	Glynwood clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
Gwe1B1	Glynwood silt loam, end moraine, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Gwe5B2	Glynwood clay loam, end moraine, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
Gwg1B1	Glynwood silt loam, ground moraine, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Gwg5B2	Glynwood clay loam, ground moraine, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
Gwg5C2	Glynwood clay loam, ground moraine, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
HaA	Haney loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
HaB	Haney loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
HaC2	Haney loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
HbB	Haskins sandy loam, 1 to 4 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
HkB	Haskins loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HmB	Haskins-Seward complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HnB	Houcktown loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
HoA	Hoytville clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
HyA	Hoytville-Urban land complex, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
JtA	Jimtown loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
KbA	Kibbie fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
KcA	Kibbie-Blount complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Seneca County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
Le	Lenawee silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
Lw	Linwood muck	Not prime farmland
LzB	Lykens-Milton silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MbA	Merrill loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
MdA	Merrill-Urban land complex, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Me	Merrill loam	Prime farmland if drained
Mf	Millgrove loam	Prime farmland if drained
Mg	Millgrove silt loam	Prime farmland if drained
Mh	Milford silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
MkA	Millsdale silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
MlA	Milton loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Mm	Millsdale silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
MnA	Milton silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MnB	Milton silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MoA	Milton variant loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MoB	Milton variant loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MpA	Morley loam, limestone substratum, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MrD2	Morley silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MrF2	Morley silt loam, 18 to 50 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
MsB	Morley, limestone substratum-Milton complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
NaA	Nappanee loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
NoA	Nappanee silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
NpA	Nappanee silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
NpB	Nappanee silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
NrA	Nappanee silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
NsA	Nappanee-Urban land complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
OnC2	Oshtemo fine sandy loam, 6 to 18 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
OnE	Oshtemo fine sandy loam, 18 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
OpB	Oshtemo sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Pa	Pandora silt loam	Prime farmland if drained
Pb	Pandora silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
Pm	Pewamo silty clay loam	Prime farmland if drained
PnA	Pewamo silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
PoA	Pewamo-Urban land complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Pt	Pits, quarries	Not prime farmland
RaA	Randolph loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RbA	Randolph silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Seneca County, Ohio		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
RmB	Rawson loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RnB	Rimer loamy fine sand, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RoA	Rimer loamy sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
RpB	Ritchey silt loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
RsB	Ritchey loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Ru	Ross silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Rw	Rosburg silt loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Sb	Sebring silt loam	Prime farmland if drained
SdA	Seward loamy fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
SdB	Seward loamy fine sand, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
SeB	Shawtown loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Sg	Shoals silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained
Sh	Shoals silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
SkA	Sloan silt 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
SoB	Spinks fine sand, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
SpB	Spinks loamy sand, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
TrA	Tiro silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
TrB	Tiro silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
Ua	Udorthents, loamy	Not prime farmland
Ur	Urban land	Not prime farmland
W	Water	Not prime farmland

## Data Source Information

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