

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—Gadsden County, Florida		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
2	Albany-Blanton complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
3	Albany-Ousley-Pelham complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
5	Blanton sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
6	Blanton sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
9	Bonifay-Alpin complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
10	Bonifay-Albany-Centenary complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
11	Troup-Bonifay-Fuquay complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
12	Bonneau-Leafield-Norfolk complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
14	Cowarts-Dothan-Fuquay complex, 5 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
16	Cowarts-Nankin complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
18	Dothan-Fuquay complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
19	Dothan-Fuquay complex, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
21	Dothan-Fuquay-Cowarts complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
23	Fuquay-Lucy-Orangeburg complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
24	Fuquay-Bonifay complex, 5 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
27	Goldsboro loamy fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
28	Goldsboro loamy fine sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
29	Grady fine sandy loam, depressional	Not prime farmland
30	Lakeland sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
31	Lakeland sand, 5 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
32	Leafield-Bonifay-Dothan complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
33	Leon-ChIPLEY complex	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Gadsden County, Florida		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
35	Lucy-Troup complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
36	Lucy-Orangeburg-Cowarts complex, 15 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
40	Cowarts-Dothan-Fuquay complex, 15 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
41	Norfolk loamy fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
42	Norfolk loamy fine sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
43	Ocilla sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
45	Orangeburg loamy sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
46	Orangeburg loamy sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
47	Orangeburg-Norfolk-Tifton complex, 5 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
48	Fuquay-Orangeburg-Norfolk complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
49	Orangeburg-Norfolk complex, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
51	Plummer sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
52	Rains fine sandy loam	Not prime farmland
58	Tifton loamy fine sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
59	Troup-Lakeland-Lucy complex, 2 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
60	Troup sand, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
61	Troup-Nankin complex, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
63	Troup-Nankin complex, 15 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
65	Udorthents, reclaimed	Not prime farmland
66	Pickney, Dorovan, and Bibb soils, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
69	Lucy-Bonifay-Orangeburg complex, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
71	Cowarts-Nankin complex, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
72	Goldsboro-Ocilla complex, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
73	Norfolk loamy fine sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
77	Bonifay-Fuquay complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
78	Chiple, Leon, and Foxworth soils, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
79	Hurricane and Chiple soils, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
80	Foxworth-Lakeland complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
82	Chiple-Foxworth complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
83	Foxworth-Lakeland complex, 5 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
85	Bonifay-Leon-Chiple complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
86	Leon, Clara, and Pickney soils, commonly flooded	Not prime farmland
87	Ousley, Rutlege, and Pickney soils, commonly flooded	Not prime farmland
88	Rutlege, Bibb, and Surrency soils, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
89	Bibb-Rains-Garcon complex, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
90	Hosford and Plummer mucky sands, 2 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
91	Pits	Not prime farmland
92	Telogia sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
93	Foxworth-Blanton-Chipley complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
94	Albany-Garcon-Bibb complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
96	Pelham sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
97	Eunola, Garcon, and Ousley soils, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
98	Rutlege and Plummer soils, depressional	Not prime farmland
99	Water	Not prime farmland
101	Albany-Ocilla-Chipley complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
104	Urban land-Orangeburg-Norfolk complex, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
105	Urban land-Orangeburg-Norfolk complex, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
106	Plummer-Leon-Sapelo complex	Not prime farmland
107	Fuquay-Bonifay complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
108	Troup-Lakeland complex, 15 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
109	Dothan-Cowarts-Fuquay complex, 15 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
113	Leefield fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
115	Faceville loamy fine sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
116	Faceville loamy fine sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
117	Cowarts-Hosford complex, 8 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
118	Cowarts-Nankin complex, 15 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
119	Wahee and Ochlockonee soils, 0 to 3 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
120	Hardin Heights-Telogia complex, 5 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Gadsden County, Florida
 Survey Area Data: Version 20, Sep 26, 2014