

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—Liberty County, Florida		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
2	Albany sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
4	Alpin-Foxworth complex, 5 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
5	Rains and Bladen soils	Not prime farmland
6	Blanton sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
7	Blanton sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
8	Brickyard clay loam, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
9	Centenary sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
11	Chiplely-Foxworth complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
12	Rutlege and Plummer soils, depressional	Not prime farmland
13	Dorovan-Pamlico complex, depressional	Not prime farmland
14	Dothan loamy sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
15	Dothan loamy sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
17	Dothan-Fuquay complex, 8 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
24	Goldsboro loamy sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
25	Goldsboro loamy sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
26	Foxworth sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
27	Fuquay loamy sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
30	Ellore, Bibb, and Meggett soils, 0 to 3 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
31	Hurricane and Chiplely soils, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
32	Plummer and Pelham soils	Not prime farmland
34	Lakeland sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
35	Lakeland sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Liberty County, Florida		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
36	Lakeland sand, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
37	Lakeland-Foxworth complex, 15 to 30 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
38	Leefield loamy sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
39	Leon sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
42	Lucy sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
44	Lynchburg loamy sand	Prime farmland if drained
45	Lynn Haven sand	Not prime farmland
46	Hurricane, Leon, and Albany soils	Not prime farmland
47	Torhunta-Lynn Haven-Croatan complex, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
48	Meadowbrook sand	Not prime farmland
49	Meadowbrook sand, slough	Not prime farmland
54	Pelham loamy sand	Not prime farmland
55	Plummer sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
56	Pottsburg-Pottsburg, wet, sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
57	Surrency, Pantego, and Croatan soils, depressional	Not prime farmland
58	Rutlege, Bibb, and Surrency soils, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
59	Hosford mucky coarse sand, 2 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
60	Sapelo sand	Not prime farmland
61	Osier sand	Not prime farmland
62	Scranton loamy sand, slough	Not prime farmland
63	Stilson fine sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
65	Pickney, Dorovan, and Bibb soils, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
66	Wahee and Ochlockonee soils, 0 to 3 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
67	Goldhead sand	Not prime farmland
68	Goldhead-Meadowbrook complex, depressional	Not prime farmland
69	Troup sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
70	Troup sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
71	Pits	Not prime farmland
72	Lakeland sand, 30 to 85 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
73	Foxworth-Hosford-Lucy complex, 8 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
74	Garcon, Ochlockonee, and Ousley soils, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
75	Brantley-Okeelala-Lucy complex, 8 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
78	Lucy-Blanton-Cowarts complex, 8 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
81	Scranton fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
82	Brickyard and Chowan soils, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
83	Plummer, Sapelo, and Pottsburg soils	Not prime farmland
91	Woodington loamy sand	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Liberty County, Florida		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
92	Pamlico-Pickney complex, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
95	Bibb, Rains, and Garcon Soils, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
96	Foxworth-Lakeland complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
97	Foxworth-Lakeland complex, 5 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
98	Leon-Chipley complex	Not prime farmland
99	Water	Not prime farmland
101	Albany-Blanton complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Liberty County, Florida
 Survey Area Data: Version 18, Sep 26, 2014