

## 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—Taylor County, Florida		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
3	Clara and Osier fine sands	Not prime farmland
5	Chaires fine sand	Not prime farmland
6	Leon fine sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
8	Meadowbrook fine sand	Not prime farmland
9	Sapelo fine sand	Not prime farmland
10	Mandarin-Hurricane complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
12	Ortega fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
13	Hurricane fine sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
14	Chipley-Lynn Haven, depressional-Boulogne complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
15	Ridgewood fine sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
16	Lutterloh-Ridgewood complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
17	Ousley-Leon-Clara complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
19	Otela-Ortega-Lutterloh complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
20	Melvina-Mandarin complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
21	Kershaw fine sand, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
22	Ocilla sand	Not prime farmland
23	Melvina-Moriah-Lutterloh complex	Not prime farmland
24	Albany sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
25	Pottsburg fine sand	Not prime farmland
26	Resota-Hurricane complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
27	Plummer-Plummer, wet, fine sands, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Taylor County, Florida		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
28	Surrency, Starke, and Croatan soils, depressional	Not prime farmland
29	Albany-Surrency, depressional, complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
30	Dorovan and Pamlico soils, depressional	Not prime farmland
33	Wesconnett, Evergreen, and Pamlico soils, depressional	Not prime farmland
34	Clara and Bodiford soils, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
35	Tooles, Meadowbrook, and Wekiva soils, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
37	Tooles and Meadowbrook soils, depressional	Not prime farmland
38	Clara and Meadowbrook soils, depressional	Not prime farmland
40	Lutterloh fine sand, limestone substratum	Not prime farmland
41	Tooles-Meadowbrook complex	Not prime farmland
45	Chaires fine sand, limestone substratum	Not prime farmland
46	Pits	Not prime farmland
48	Wekiva-Tennille-Tooles complex, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
49	Seaboard-Bushnell-Matmon complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
51	Tooles-Nutall complex, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
52	Clara, depressional-Clara-Meadowbrook complex, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
53	Bayvi muck, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
54	Meadowbrook-Tooles-Clara, depressional, complex	Not prime farmland
55	Arents, moderately wet, rarely flooded	Not prime farmland
57	Sapelo fine sand	Not prime farmland
58	Leon mucky fine sand	Not prime farmland
59	Arents, sanitary landfill	Not prime farmland
60	Chaires, limestone substratum-Meadowbrook, limestone substratum, complex, rarely flooded	Not prime farmland
61	Wekiva-Tooles, depressional-Tennille complex, rarely flooded	Not prime farmland
62	Tooles-Tennille-Wekiva complex, depressional	Not prime farmland
63	Steinhatchee fine sand	Not prime farmland
64	Tooles-Wekiva complex	Not prime farmland
65	Yellowjacket and Maurepas mucks, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
67	Yellowjacket and Maurepas mucks, depressional	Not prime farmland
68	Matmon-Wekiva-Rock outcrop complex, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
69	Eunola, Goldhead, and Tooles fine sands, commonly flooded	Not prime farmland
70	Chiefland-Chiefland, frequently flooded, complex	Not prime farmland
71	Leon fine sand, rarely flooded	Not prime farmland
72	Chaires fine sand, rarely flooded	Not prime farmland
73	Chipleys sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
74	Mascotte sand	Not prime farmland
99	Water	

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Taylor County, Florida		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
100	Waters of the Gulf of Mexico	

### Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Taylor County, Florida  
Survey Area Data: Version 12, Sep 24, 2014