

## 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--Marion County Area, Florida		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
2	Adamsville sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
3	Anclote sand, depressional	Not prime farmland
4	Anclote-Tomoka complex, depressional	Not prime farmland
5	Apopka sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
6	Apopka sand, 5 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
7	Udalfic Arents, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
8	Udalfic Arents, 15 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
9	Arredondo sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
10	Arredondo sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
11	Pedro-Arredondo complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
12	Arredondo-Urban land complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
13	Astatula sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
14	Astatula sand, 5 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
16	Blichton sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
17	Blichton sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
18	Blichton-Urban land complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
19	Bluff sandy clay, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
20	Boardman loamy sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
21	Boardman loamy sand, 8 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
22	Candler sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
23	Candler sand, 5 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
24	Candler clay, overwash, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
25	Eaton loamy sand	Not prime farmland

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
26	Electra sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
27	Eureka loamy fine sand	Not prime farmland
28	Eureka loamy fine sand, depressional	Not prime farmland
29	Fellowship loamy sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
30	Fellowship loamy sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
31	Fellowship gravelly loamy sand, gravelly subsoil variant, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
32	Fellowship gravelly loamy sand, gravelly subsoil variant, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
33	Flemington loamy sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
34	Flemington loamy sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
35	Gainesville loamy sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
36	Gainesville loamy sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
37	Hague sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
38	Hague sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
39	Hague-Urban land complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
40	Holopaw sand	Not prime farmland
41	Hontoon muck, depressional	Not prime farmland
42	Jumper fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
43	Kanapaha fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
44	Kendrick loamy sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
45	Kendrick loamy sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
46	Lochloosa fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance
47	Lochloosa fine sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
48	Lynne sand	Not prime farmland
49	Martel sandy clay loam	Not prime farmland
50	Micanopy fine sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
51	Micanopy fine sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
54	Paisley loamy fine sand	Not prime farmland
57	Pits	Not prime farmland
58	Placid sand, depressional	Not prime farmland
59	Placid-Pompano-Pomona complex	Not prime farmland
61	Pomona sand	Not prime farmland
62	Pompano sand	Not prime farmland
63	Pompano fine sand, depressional	Not prime farmland
64	Samsula-Martel complex, depressional	Not prime farmland
65	Sparr fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
66	Sparr fine sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
67	Sparr-Urban land complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

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Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
69	Tavares sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
70	Terra Ceia muck, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
71	Tomoka muck, depressional	Not prime farmland
72	Urban land, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
73	Wacahoota loamy sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
74	Wacahoota gravelly sand, gravelly subsoil variant, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
75	Wacahoota gravelly sand, gravelly subsoil variant, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
77	Zuber loamy sand, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
78	Zuber loamy sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
79	Udorthents, excavated	Not prime farmland
80	Shadeville-Otela complex, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
82	Otela-Tavares complex, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
83	Lutterloh-Moriah complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
84	Pedro-Jonesville-Shadeville complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
85	Moriah-Bushnell-Mabel, limestone substratum, complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
86	Levyville-Shadeville complex, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
87	Orlando fine sand, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
88	Orlando fine sand, 5 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
99	Water	Not prime farmland

## Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Marion County Area, Florida

Survey Area Data: Version 10, Sep 21, 2014