

# Forest Value Groups (VT)

Bennington County, Vermont

[These ratings are based on the report "Forest Value Groups and Forest Soil Potential Study for Vermont Soils", revised December 12, 2003, by the USDA-NRCS. This report is available in the Statewide folder under Soils Information in Section II of the Vermont electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG). Website [www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg/](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg/)]

Map symbol	Soil map unit name	Vermont Forest Value Group	Relative value
3A	Copake gravelly fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	1	100
3B	Copake gravelly fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	1	100
3C	Copake gravelly fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	1	100
3D	Copake gravelly fine sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	2	83
3E	Copake gravelly fine sandy loam, 25 to 60 percent slopes	3	74
9	Pits-Dumps complex	7	0
10D	Glebe-Stratton-Londonderry complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very rocky	7	0
10E	Glebe-Stratton-Londonderry complex, 25 to 60 percent slopes, very rocky	7	0
11F	Taconic-Hubbardton-Rock outcrop complex, 25 to 70 percent slopes, very stony	6	31
18B	Windsor loamy fine sand, 0 to 8 percent slopes	2	83
18C	Windsor loamy fine sand, 8 to 15 percent slopes	2	83
18E	Windsor loamy fine sand, 15 to 60 percent slopes	3	74
21A	Limerick silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	6	31
23A	Adrian and Saco soils, 0 to 2 percent slopes	7	0
24A	Carlisle mucky peat, 0 to 2 percent slopes	7	0
25B	Belgrade silt loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	3	74
26A	Raynham silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	6	31
27B	Udipsamments and Udorthents, gently sloping	7	0
28A	Udifluvents, loamy-skeletal	7	0
29A	Occum fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	2	83
34A	Pootatuck fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	2	83
35B	Hartland silt loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes	1	100
40B	Galway-Nellis-Farmington complex, 3 to 8 percent slopes, rocky	3	74
40C	Galway-Nellis-Farmington complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes, rocky	3	74
40D	Galway-Nellis-Farmington complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes, rocky	3	74
41C	Galway-Farmington complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very rocky	4	63
41D	Galway-Farmington complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very rocky	5	51
41E	Galway-Farmington complex, 25 to 50 percent slopes, very rocky	5	51
42C	Macomber-Taconic complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes, rocky	4	63
42D	Macomber-Taconic complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes, rocky	6	31
42E	Macomber-Taconic complex, 25 to 60 percent slopes, rocky	6	31
43C	Taconic-Macomber complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very rocky	5	51
43D	Taconic-Macomber complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very rocky	6	31
43E	Taconic-Macomber complex, 25 to 60 percent slopes, very rocky	6	31
44B	Dutchess channery loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	3	74
44C	Dutchess channery loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	3	74
44D	Dutchess channery loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	3	74
47C	Dutchess channery loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	3	74
47D	Dutchess channery loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	4	63
47E	Dutchess channery loam, 25 to 60 percent slopes, very stony	5	51
48B	Pittstown loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	2	83
48C	Pittstown loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	2	83
48D	Pittstown loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	2	83
49C	Pittstown loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	2	83

# Forest Value Groups (VT)

Bennington County, Vermont

Map symbol	Soil map unit name	Vermont Forest Value Group	Relative value
49D	Pittstown loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	2	83
50B	Brayton loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes	5	51
51B	Brayton loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes, very stony	5	51
52A	Mansfield mucky silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, very stony	7	0
64B	Stockbridge loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	3	74
64C	Stockbridge loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	3	74
64D	Stockbridge loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	3	74
65C	Stockbridge loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	3	74
65D	Stockbridge loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	4	63
66A	Georgia loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	3	74
66B	Georgia loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	3	74
66C	Georgia loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	3	74
66D	Georgia loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	3	74
67B	Georgia loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	3	74
67C	Georgia loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	3	74
68A	Massena silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	4	63
68B	Massena silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	4	63
69A	Massena silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, very stony	4	63
69B	Massena silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	4	63
70A	Groton gravelly fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	2	83
70B	Groton gravelly fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	2	83
70C	Groton gravelly fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	2	83
70D	Groton gravelly fine sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	3	74
70E	Groton gravelly fine sandy loam, 25 to 60 percent slopes	3	74
71A	Hero gravelly fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	1	100
71B	Hero gravelly fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	1	100
72A	Fredon fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	5	51
84B	Nellis silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	1	100
84C	Nellis silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	1	100
84D	Nellis silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	2	83
85B	Nellis silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	2	83
85C	Nellis silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	2	83
85D	Nellis silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	3	74
85E	Nellis silt loam, 25 to 50 percent slopes, very stony	3	74
86A	Amenia silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	1	100
86B	Amenia silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	1	100
86C	Amenia silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	1	100
87B	Amenia silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	2	83
87C	Amenia silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	2	83
90C	Berkshire fine sandy loam, 3 to 15 percent slopes, extremely stony	4	63
90E	Berkshire fine sandy loam, 15 to 50 percent slopes, extremely stony	5	51
93B	Pittsfield fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	2	83
93C	Pittsfield fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	2	83
93D	Pittsfield fine sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	3	74
94B	Pittsfield fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	3	74
94C	Pittsfield fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	3	74

## Forest Value Groups (VT)

Bennington County, Vermont

Map symbol	Soil map unit name	Vermont Forest Value Group	Relative value
94D	Pittsfield fine sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	4	63
94E	Pittsfield fine sandy loam, 25 to 50 percent slopes, very stony	5	51
95C	Houghtonville fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	3	74
95D	Houghtonville fine sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	4	63
95E	Houghtonville fine sandy loam, 25 to 60 percent slopes, very stony	5	51
96D	Hogback-Rawsonville-Rock outcrop complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	6	31
96F	Hogback-Rawsonville-Rock outcrop complex, 25 to 70 percent slopes, very stony	6	31
100B	Wilmington fine sandy loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	6	31
102B	Mundal fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	1	100
102C	Mundal fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	1	100
104B	Colton gravelly loamy sand, 3 to 8 percent slopes, extremely stony	4	63
104C	Colton gravelly loamy sand, 8 to 15 percent slopes, extremely stony	4	63
104E	Colton gravelly loamy sand, 15 to 50 percent slopes, extremely stony	5	51
105B	Monadnock fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	3	74
105C	Monadnock fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	3	74
105D	Monadnock fine sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	4	63
105E	Monadnock fine sandy loam, 25 to 50 percent slopes, very stony	5	51
106B	Berkshire fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	3	74
106C	Berkshire fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	3	74
106D	Berkshire fine sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	4	63
106E	Berkshire fine sandy loam, 25 to 50 percent slopes, very stony	5	51
108B	Peru fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	3	74
108C	Peru fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	3	74
108D	Peru fine sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	4	63
109C	Tunbridge-Berkshire complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes, rocky	3	74
109D	Tunbridge-Berkshire complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes, rocky	4	63
109E	Tunbridge-Berkshire complex, 25 to 50 percent slopes, rocky	5	51
111C	Rawsonville-Houghtonville complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes, rocky	4	63
111D	Rawsonville-Houghtonville complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes, rocky	5	51
111E	Rawsonville-Houghtonville complex, 25 to 60 percent slopes, rocky	5	51
112C	Rawsonville-Hogback complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very rocky	5	51
112D	Rawsonville-Hogback complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very rocky	5	51
112E	Rawsonville-Hogback complex, 25 to 60 percent slopes, very rocky	6	31
113B	Cabot silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	5	51
114B	Mundal fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	2	83
114C	Mundal fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	2	83
114D	Mundal fine sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	3	74
115B	Peru fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	2	83
115C	Peru fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	2	83
115D	Peru fine sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	3	74
116D	Lyman-Tunbridge-Rock outcrop complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	6	31
116F	Lyman-Tunbridge-Rock outcrop complex, 25 to 70 percent slopes, very stony	6	31
117B	Berkshire fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	2	83
117C	Berkshire fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	2	83
117D	Berkshire fine sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	3	74
118C	Tunbridge-Lyman complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very rocky	4	63

## Forest Value Groups (VT)

Bennington County, Vermont

Map symbol	Soil map unit name	Vermont Forest Value Group	Relative value
118D	Tunbridge-Lyman complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very rocky	5	51
118E	Tunbridge-Lyman complex, 25 to 60 percent slopes, very rocky	5	51
221F	Tunbridge-Berkshire association, very steep, rocky	5	51
403B	Cabot-Carlisle association, undulating, very stony	6	31
405D	Berkshire-Tunbridge association, hilly, very stony	5	51
413D	Peru-Berkshire-Cabot association, hilly, very stony	5	51
702E	Rawsonville-Hogback association, very hilly, very rocky	6	31
703C	Mundal-Houghtonville association, rolling, very stony	3	74
705D	Rawsonville-Houghtonville-Mundal association, hilly, rocky	5	51
715D	Houghtonville-Rawsonville association, hilly, rocky	4	63
902F	Hogback-Rawsonville-Rock outcrop association, very steep, very stony	6	31
903C	Mundal-Wilmington association, rolling, very stony	4	63
905D	Houghtonville-Monadnock association, hilly, very stony	4	63
913E	Glebe-Stratton association, very hilly, very rocky	7	0
923B	Wilmington-Mundal association, undulating, very stony	5	51
W	Water	7	0

## Forest Value Groups (VT)

This table shows, for the map units in this survey area, the Vermont Forest Value Groups and relative values for woodland production and management. These groups are intended to provide information for planners and decision makers about the relative potential of individual soils for woodland management. Forest Value Group ratings do not constitute a recommendation for land use.

The potential for producing and harvesting timber is very high in Forest Value Group 1, high in Forest Value Group 2, moderate in Forest Value Group 3, moderately low in Forest Value Group 4, low in Forest Value Group 5, and very low in Forest Value Group 6. Forest Value Group 7 has very limited potential for commercial forestry.

The Forest Value Groups are based on index numbers called "relative values." These numbers do not represent dollar net returns for a given forestry use. They do not show the absolute profitability of woodland production on a specific map unit, but they can be used to compare the potential profitability of woodland production on different soils.

A forest soil potential study led by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and detailed in the report "Forest Value Groups and Forest Soil Potential Study for Vermont Soils" formed the basis for the development of the Forest Value Groups and relative values. This study determined the relative costs associated with overcoming various soil limitations as applied to woodland productivity and management. The criteria used in the study include the following:

- Sugar maple was used as the indicator species for northern hardwoods on most of the map units.
- For soils that formed in glaciofluvial deposits (generally sandy and/or gravelly soils), eastern white pine, which tends to dominate northern hardwoods, was used as the indicator species.
- Several hundred map units were considered to have very limited potential for commercial forestry. These map units were given a relative value of 0 and were assigned to Forest Value Group 7. When necessary, the potential of these map units should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The map units with a relative value of 0 are made up primarily of:

Organic soils (Histosols);  
Soils with a cryic soil temperature regime (generally above an elevation of 2,500 to 3,000 feet);  
Miscellaneous areas (e.g., urban land, quarries, sand pits, and gravel pits);  
Very poorly drained mineral soils; and  
Soils with slopes of more than 60 percent.

- The forest soil potential ratings are based on the integration of numerous data derived from the literature and from the technical expertise of specialists in the field of silviculture in Vermont. Some of these data are estimates. Potential yields on specific map units are examples of estimates used in the report. The forest soil potential ratings are only as accurate as the estimates used to derive them. The estimates and the ratings are subject to change as more precise data become available.
- Monetary benefits and costs associated with potential yields and corrective measures can change as a result of inflation, fluctuations in market value, or technological advances. Such changes can affect the forest soil potential ratings and thereby warrant an update of the study.

The Forest Value Group designations can be used for many resource management activities, including:

- Design and implementation of Forest Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (FLESA) systems;
- Evaluation of primary and secondary forest soils under criterion 9C of Vermont's Land Use and Development Law, Act 250;
- Rating of forest soils for appraisal under Vermont's Use Value Program of Agricultural and Forest Land;
- Assessment of forest soils by private land trusts, landowners, bankers, and real estate agents; and
- Broad resource planning by State agencies and town and regional planning commissions.

With the exception of broad planning activities, onsite investigations are recommended when the information in this table is used. These investigations are needed:

- to identify variations in site conditions (e.g., stoniness, aspect, rock outcrops, and wetness) within a map unit delineation that may affect tree growth;
- to identify areas within a map unit that may be unsuitable for timber harvesting because they have slopes of 25 to 60 percent;
- to identify the unique landscape characteristics of a map unit delineation. For example, there are numerous delineations of Lyman-Tunbridge complex, 3 to 8 percent slopes, throughout the State. In some instances, however, these delineations may be inaccessible because of irregular slope patterns or because of large streams and drainageways. These site characteristics can result in small, inefficient tract sizes; may hamper the use of logging equipment; and can make a site poorly suited to forestry without expensive land shaping.