

Prime farmland is one of several kinds of important farmland defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It 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 qualities, 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. It 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.

A recent trend in land use in some parts of the survey area 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.

The map units in the survey area that are considered prime farmland are listed in the following table. This list does not constitute a recommendation for a particular land use. On some soils included in the list, 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. The extent of each listed map unit is shown in the "Acres and Proportionate Extent of Soils" table. The location is shown on the detailed soil maps. The soil qualities that affect use and management are described in other tables in this document."

Map symbol	Mapunit name	Farmland Classification
007FA	Farnum fine sandy loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
077KR	Kirkland-renfrow clay loams, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
077PC	Pond creek silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
077SB	Shellabarger fine sandy loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
077SE	Shellabarger fine sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
077SF	Shellabarger fine sandy loam, 3 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
077SG	Shellabarger fine sandy loam, 3 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
077SH	Stoneburg fine sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
151CN	Clark fine sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
151CO	Clark-ost clay loams, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
151ND	Naron fine sandy loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
151NF	Naron fine sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
151OC	Ost clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
151OS	Ost clay loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
151SE	Shellabarger fine sandy loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
173MA	Milan loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
173RA	Renfrow silty clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
173TA	Tabler silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
191RA	Renfrow-grainola complex, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
1004	Albion sandy loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
1005	Albion sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
1011	Albion-shellabarger sandy loams, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
1359	Clark-ost loams, 3 to 7 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
1728	Funmar and farnum loams, 3 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
2390	Kaskan loam, 0 to 1 percent, rarely flooded	All areas are prime farmland
2948	Nalim loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
3051	Ost loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
3052	Ost-clark loams, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
3170	Penalosa silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
3171	Penalosa silt loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
3445	Shellabarger sandy loam, 3 to 7 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
3510	Saltcreek-funmar-farnum complex, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
3533	Shellabarger sandy loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
3534	Shellabarger sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
3535	Shellabarger-nalim complex, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Ba	Blanket silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Bb	Blanket silt loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Bc	Blanket silty clay loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
Ca	Canadian fine sandy loam, rarely flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Cc	Case-clark clay loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Ce	Clark clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Cf	Clark clay loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Fa	Farnum sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Fb	Farnum loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Fc	Farnum loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Fd	Farnum loam, 3 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Fe	Farnum clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
Ka	Kaski loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Ma	Mclain silt loam, rarely flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Na	Nashville silt loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Pa	Pond creek silt loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Ra	Renfrow clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Rb	Ruella clay loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Sb	Shellabarger sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Sc	Shellabarger sandy loam, 3 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Sd	Shellabarger sandy loam, 3 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
Wa	Waldeck fine sandy loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Za	Zenda clay loam, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
Aa	Albion sandy loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
Ab	Albion sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated