

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--Humacao Area, Puerto Rico Eastern Part		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
AcC	Aceitunas silty clay loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Ad	Aguadilla loamy sand	Not prime farmland
Ag	Aguadilla sandy loam, moderately wet	Not prime farmland
AmB	Amelia gravelly clay loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
AmC2	Amelia gravelly clay loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Prime farmland if irrigated
An	Arenales sandy loam	Not prime farmland
Ar	Arenales sandy loam, gravelly substratum	Not prime farmland
Ba	Bajura silty clay, saline	Farmland of statewide importance
Bc	Bajura clay, frequently flooded	Farmland of statewide importance
CaD	Caguabo gravelly clay loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CbD	Caguabo clay loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CbF	Caguabo clay loam, 20 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CdB	Candelero loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
CdC2	Candelero loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of statewide importance
Ce	Cartagena clay	Farmland of statewide importance
Cf	Catano loamy sand	Not prime farmland
CgC2	Cayagua sandy loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of statewide importance
CgD2	Cayagua sandy loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of statewide importance
CIB	Coamo clay loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CIC	Coamo clay loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
Cm	Coastal beaches	Not prime farmland
Cn	Cobbly alluvial land	Not prime farmland
Co	Coloso silty clay loam, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Humacao Area, Puerto Rico Eastern Part		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
Cr	Coloso silty clay	Prime farmland if drained
Cs	Corcega sandy loam	Farmland of statewide importance
CzE	Cristal-Zarzal complex, 5 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
DaC	Daguao silty clay loam, deep variant, 2 to 12 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
DcE2	Daguao clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
DeC2	Descalabrado clay loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
DeE2	Descalabrado clay loam, 20 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
DgF2	Descalabrado and Guayama soils, 20 to 60 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
DrF	Descalabrado-Rock land complex, 40 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
FaC	Fajardo clay, 2 to 10 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
FaC2	Fajardo clay, 2 to 10 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
Fo	Fortuna clay	Farmland of statewide importance
FrA	Fraternidad clay, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
FrB	Fraternidad clay, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
Gm	Guamani silty clay loam	Not prime farmland
GPQ	Gravel, Pits, Quarries	Not prime farmland
GuE2	Guayabota silty clay loam, 20 to 40 slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
GyC2	Guayama clay loam, moderately deep variant, 2 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of statewide importance
HmB	Humacao loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
HmE	Humatas-Zarzal complex, 5 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HtE2	Humatas clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
HtF2	Humatas clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
HuF	Humatas-Stony land complex, 40 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
InE2	Ingenio silty clay loam, 20 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of statewide importance
JaB	Jacana clay, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
JaC2	Jacana clay, 5 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of statewide importance
JgE2	Jagueyes loam, 20 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of statewide importance
JuC	Junquitos gravelly clay loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
Lc	Leveled clayey land	Not prime farmland
LeE2	Limonas silty clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of statewide importance
LoC2	Lirios clay loam, 3 to 10 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
LrE2	Lirios silty clay loam, 20 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of statewide importance
LsD	Los Guineos clay, 12 to 20 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
LsE	Los Guineos clay, 20 to 40 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
LsF	Los Guineos clay, 40 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
LuB	Luquillo-El Verde complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Humacao Area, Puerto Rico Eastern Part		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
LyF	Los Guineos-Yunque-Stony rock land association steep	Not prime farmland
MaB	Mabi clay, 0 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
MaC2	Mabi clay, 5 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of statewide importance
MaD2	Mabi clay, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of statewide importance
McA	Machete loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
McB	Machete loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
Md	Made land	Not prime farmland
Me	Maunabo clay	Farmland of statewide importance
MIC	Mayo loam, 3 to 10 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
MrB	Meros sand, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
MuD2	Mucara silty clay loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of statewide importance
MuE2	Mucara silty clay loam, 20 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
NaE	Naranjito silty clay loam, 20 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
NaF	Naranjito silty clay loam, 40 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
NOTCOM	No Digital Data Available	
NOTPUB	Not Public Information	
PaE2	Pandura loam, 12 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
PaF2	Pandura loam, 40 to 60 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
PaG	Palm-Yunque complex, 40 to 90 percent slopes, extremely stony	Not prime farmland
PcE	Picacho-Ciales complex, 5 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
PdF	Pandura-Very stony land complex, 40 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
PeC2	Parcelas clay, 5 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of statewide importance
PiG	Picacho-Utuado complex, 40 to 90 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
PIB	Paso Seco clay, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
PmD2	Patillas clay loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of statewide importance
PmE2	Patillas clay loam, 20 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
Pn	Pinones silty clay	Farmland of statewide importance
Po	Poncena clay	Prime farmland if irrigated
PrC2	Pozo Blanco clay loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	Prime farmland if irrigated
PrF	Prieto very cobbly clay loam, 20 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Re	Reilly soils	Not prime farmland
Rp	Reparada clay	Not prime farmland
RrB	Rio Arriba clay, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
RrC2	Rio Arriba clay, 5 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland
Rs	Rock land	Not prime farmland
Ru	Rough stony land	Not prime farmland
SaE2	Sabana silty clay loam, 20 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
SaF2	Sabana silty clay loam, 40 to 60 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland

Prime and other Important Farmlands--Humacao Area, Puerto Rico Eastern Part		
Map Symbol	Map Unit Name	Farmland Classification
Sm	Salt water marsh	Not prime farmland
SoE	Sonadora-Caguabo complex, 20 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
SoG	Sonadora-Caguabo complex, 40 to 90 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Ta	Talante soils	Farmland of statewide importance
TeE	Teja gravelly sandy loam, 12 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
Tf	Tidal flats	Not prime farmland
Ts	Tidal swamp	Not prime farmland
Tt	Toa silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland
UpF	Utua-Picacho-Stony rockland association, very steep	Not prime farmland
Va	Vayas silty clay loam, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained
Vc	Vayas silty clay, frequently flooded	Farmland of statewide importance
VeB	Vega Alta silty clay loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
VeC	Vega Alta silty clay loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
VgA	Vega Baja silty clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained
VIC	Via silty clay loam, 3 to 10 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
VmC	Vieques loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
VmE2	Vieques loam, 12 to 40 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
Vs	Vives silty clay loam, high bottom	Prime farmland if irrigated
VvA	Vives clay, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
VvB	Vives clay, 2 to 7 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
Vw	Vivi loam	Prime farmland if irrigated
W	Water	Not prime farmland
Wa	Wet alluvial land	Not prime farmland
YqE	Yunque-Los Guineos-Moteado complex, 5 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
YuF	Yunque-Moteado complex, 20 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
YuF2	Yunes silty clay loam, 20 to 60 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
ZaG	Zarzal very cobbly clay, 40 to 90 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
ZcF	Zarzal-Cristal complex, 20 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Humacao Area, Puerto Rico Eastern Part

Survey Area Data: Version 8, Sep 29, 2015