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Agriculture

NRCS

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

A product of the National
Cooperative Soil Survey,
a joint effort of the United
States Department of
Agriculture and other
Federal agencies, State
agencies including the
Agricultural Experiment
Stations, and local
participants

Custom Soil Resource Report for Montgomery County, Illinois

IBR Boundary



May 3, 2024

Preface

Soil surveys contain information that affects land use planning in survey areas. They highlight soil limitations that affect various land uses and provide information about the properties of the soils in the survey areas. Soil surveys are designed for many different users, including farmers, ranchers, foresters, agronomists, urban planners, community officials, engineers, developers, builders, and home buyers. Also, conservationists, teachers, students, and specialists in recreation, waste disposal, and pollution control can use the surveys to help them understand, protect, or enhance the environment.

Various land use regulations of Federal, State, and local governments may impose special restrictions on land use or land treatment. Soil surveys identify soil properties that are used in making various land use or land treatment decisions. The information is intended to help the land users identify and reduce the effects of soil limitations on various land uses. The landowner or user is responsible for identifying and complying with existing laws and regulations.

Although soil survey information can be used for general farm, local, and wider area planning, onsite investigation is needed to supplement this information in some cases. Examples include soil quality assessments (<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/soils/health/>) and certain conservation and engineering applications. For more detailed information, contact your local USDA Service Center (<https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?agency=nrcs>) or your NRCS State Soil Scientist (http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/contactus/?cid=nrcs142p2_053951).

Great differences in soil properties can occur within short distances. Some soils are seasonally wet or subject to flooding. Some are too unstable to be used as a foundation for buildings or roads. Clayey or wet soils are poorly suited to use as septic tank absorption fields. A high water table makes a soil poorly suited to basements or underground installations.

The National Cooperative Soil Survey is a joint effort of the United States Department of Agriculture and other Federal agencies, State agencies including the Agricultural Experiment Stations, and local agencies. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has leadership for the Federal part of the National Cooperative Soil Survey.

Information about soils is updated periodically. Updated information is available through the NRCS Web Soil Survey, the site for official soil survey information.

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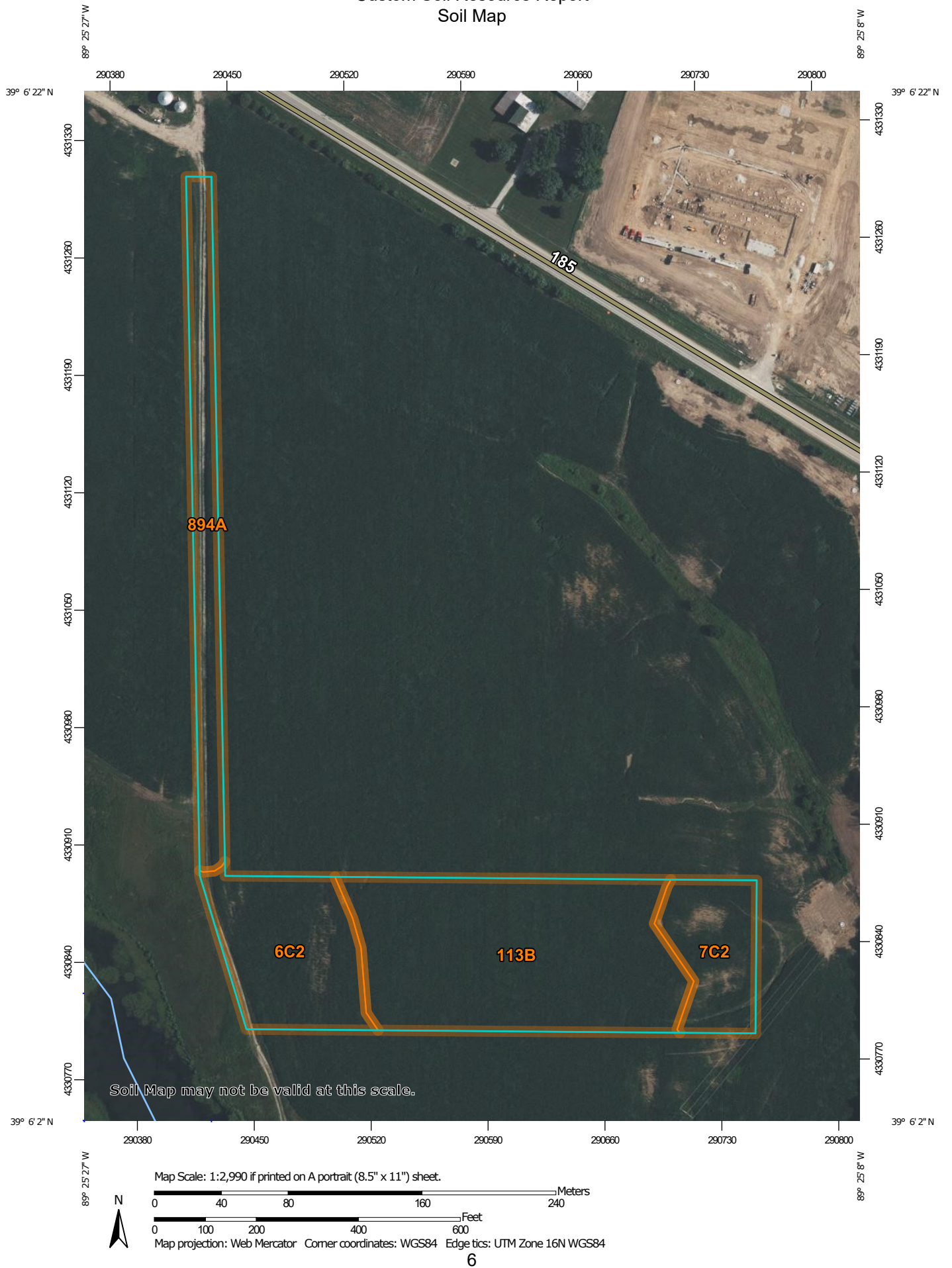
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Soil Map

The soil map section includes the soil map for the defined area of interest, a list of soil map units on the map and extent of each map unit, and cartographic symbols displayed on the map. Also presented are various metadata about data used to produce the map, and a description of each soil map unit.

Custom Soil Resource Report Soil Map



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MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI)

 Area of Interest (AOI)

Soils

 Soil Map Unit Polygons

 Soil Map Unit Lines

 Soil Map Unit Points

Special Point Features

 Blowout

 Borrow Pit

 Clay Spot

 Closed Depression

 Gravel Pit

 Gravelly Spot

 Landfill

 Lava Flow

 Marsh or swamp

 Mine or Quarry

 Miscellaneous Water

 Perennial Water

 Rock Outcrop


 Saline Spot

 Sandy Spot

 Severely Eroded Spot

 Sinkhole

 Slide or Slip

 Sodic Spot

 Spoil Area

 Stony Spot

 Very Stony Spot

 Wet Spot

 Other

 Special Line Features

Water Features

 Streams and Canals

Transportation

 Rails


 Interstate Highways

 US Routes

 Major Roads

 Local Roads

Background

 Aerial Photography

MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:12,000.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service
Web Soil Survey URL:
Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Montgomery County, Illinois
Survey Area Data: Version 20, Aug 28, 2023

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Apr 1, 2020—Oct 1, 2020

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
6C2	Fishhook silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes, eroded	1.8	20.9%
7C2	Atlas silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes, eroded	1.1	12.6%
113B	Oconee silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	4.3	48.7%
894A	Herrick-Biddle-Piasa silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	1.6	17.7%
Totals for Area of Interest		8.8	100.0%

Map Unit Descriptions

The map units delineated on the detailed soil maps in a soil survey represent the soils or miscellaneous areas in the survey area. The map unit descriptions, along with the maps, can be used to determine the composition and properties of a unit.

A map unit delineation on a soil map represents an area dominated by one or more major kinds of soil or miscellaneous areas. A map unit is identified and named according to the taxonomic classification of the dominant soils. Within a taxonomic class there are precisely defined limits for the properties of the soils. On the landscape, however, the soils are natural phenomena, and they have the characteristic variability of all natural phenomena. Thus, the range of some observed properties may extend beyond the limits defined for a taxonomic class. Areas of soils of a single taxonomic class rarely, if ever, can be mapped without including areas of other taxonomic classes. Consequently, every map unit is made up of the soils or miscellaneous areas for which it is named and some minor components that belong to taxonomic classes other than those of the major soils.

Most minor soils have properties similar to those of the dominant soil or soils in the map unit, and thus they do not affect use and management. These are called noncontrasting, or similar, components. They may or may not be mentioned in a particular map unit description. Other minor components, however, have properties and behavioral characteristics divergent enough to affect use or to require different management. These are called contrasting, or dissimilar, components. They generally are in small areas and could not be mapped separately because of the scale used. Some small areas of strongly contrasting soils or miscellaneous areas are identified by a special symbol on the maps. If included in the database for a given area, the contrasting minor components are identified in the map unit descriptions along with some characteristics of each. A few areas of minor components may not have been observed, and consequently they are not mentioned in the descriptions, especially where the pattern was so complex that it was impractical to make enough observations to identify all the soils and miscellaneous areas on the landscape.

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The presence of minor components in a map unit in no way diminishes the usefulness or accuracy of the data. The objective of mapping is not to delineate pure taxonomic classes but rather to separate the landscape into landforms or landform segments that have similar use and management requirements. The delineation of such segments on the map provides sufficient information for the development of resource plans. If intensive use of small areas is planned, however, onsite investigation is needed to define and locate the soils and miscellaneous areas.

An identifying symbol precedes the map unit name in the map unit descriptions. Each description includes general facts about the unit and gives important soil properties and qualities.

Soils that have profiles that are almost alike make up a *soil series*. Except for differences in texture of the surface layer, all the soils of a series have major horizons that are similar in composition, thickness, and arrangement.

Soils of one series can differ in texture of the surface layer, slope, stoniness, salinity, degree of erosion, and other characteristics that affect their use. On the basis of such differences, a soil series is divided into *soil phases*. Most of the areas shown on the detailed soil maps are phases of soil series. The name of a soil phase commonly indicates a feature that affects use or management. For example, Alpha silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is a phase of the Alpha series.

Some map units are made up of two or more major soils or miscellaneous areas. These map units are complexes, associations, or undifferentiated groups.

A *complex* consists of two or more soils or miscellaneous areas in such an intricate pattern or in such small areas that they cannot be shown separately on the maps. The pattern and proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas are somewhat similar in all areas. Alpha-Beta complex, 0 to 6 percent slopes, is an example.

An *association* is made up of two or more geographically associated soils or miscellaneous areas that are shown as one unit on the maps. Because of present or anticipated uses of the map units in the survey area, it was not considered practical or necessary to map the soils or miscellaneous areas separately. The pattern and relative proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas are somewhat similar. Alpha-Beta association, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is an example.

An *undifferentiated group* is made up of two or more soils or miscellaneous areas that could be mapped individually but are mapped as one unit because similar interpretations can be made for use and management. The pattern and proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas in a mapped area are not uniform. An area can be made up of only one of the major soils or miscellaneous areas, or it can be made up of all of them. Alpha and Beta soils, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is an example.

Some surveys include *miscellaneous areas*. Such areas have little or no soil material and support little or no vegetation. Rock outcrop is an example.

Montgomery County, Illinois

6C2—Fishhook silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes, eroded

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: y5bd

Elevation: 350 to 1,020 feet

Mean annual precipitation: 37 to 45 inches

Mean annual air temperature: 48 to 57 degrees F

Frost-free period: 180 to 200 days

Farmland classification: Farmland of statewide importance

Map Unit Composition

Fishhook and similar soils: 90 percent

Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Fishhook

Setting

Landform: Hillslopes on ground moraines

Landform position (two-dimensional): Shoulder

Landform position (three-dimensional): Head slope

Down-slope shape: Convex

Across-slope shape: Linear

Parent material: Loess over paleosol formed in till

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 6 inches: silt loam

H2 - 6 to 32 inches: silty clay loam

H3 - 32 to 51 inches: clay loam

H4 - 51 to 80 inches: clay loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 5 to 10 percent

Depth to restrictive feature: 20 to 39 inches to densic material

Drainage class: Somewhat poorly drained

Runoff class: Very high

Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately low to moderately high (0.06 to 0.20 in/hr)

Depth to water table: About 12 to 24 inches

Frequency of flooding: None

Frequency of ponding: None

Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 10 percent

Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: Low (about 5.0 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified

Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 3e

Hydrologic Soil Group: C/D

Ecological site: F115XC005IL - Loess Upland Forest

Hydric soil rating: No

7C2—Atlas silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes, eroded

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: 2tp1z

Elevation: 330 to 840 feet

Mean annual precipitation: 38 to 46 inches

Mean annual air temperature: 54 to 58 degrees F

Frost-free period: 180 to 195 days

Farmland classification: Farmland of statewide importance

Map Unit Composition

Atlas, eroded, and similar soils: 90 percent

Minor components: 10 percent

Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Atlas, Eroded

Setting

Landform: Till plains

Landform position (two-dimensional): Shoulder, backslope

Landform position (three-dimensional): Head slope, side slope

Down-slope shape: Concave

Across-slope shape: Concave

Parent material: Loess over paleosol formed in till

Typical profile

Ap - 0 to 7 inches: silt loam

2Btg1 - 7 to 29 inches: silty clay loam

2Btg2 - 29 to 79 inches: silty clay loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 5 to 10 percent

Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches

Drainage class: Somewhat poorly drained

Runoff class: Very high

Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Low to moderately low
(0.01 to 0.06 in/hr)

Depth to water table: About 6 to 18 inches

Frequency of flooding: None

Frequency of ponding: None

Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 5 percent

Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 2.0 mmhos/cm)

Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum: 2.0

Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: Moderate (about 8.5 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified

Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 3e

Hydrologic Soil Group: D

Ecological site: F114XB502IN - Wet Till Upland Forest

Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Ava, eroded

Percent of map unit: 10 percent
Landform: Hillslopes, ridges
Landform position (two-dimensional): Backslope, shoulder, summit
Landform position (three-dimensional): Side slope, interfluvium
Down-slope shape: Convex
Across-slope shape: Linear, convex
Ecological site: F113XY910IL - Fragic Backslope Woodland
Hydric soil rating: No

113B—Oconee silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: 2tp7z
Elevation: 360 to 840 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 37 to 46 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 50 to 57 degrees F
Frost-free period: 170 to 200 days
Farmland classification: All areas are prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Oconee and similar soils: 90 percent
Minor components: 10 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Oconee

Setting

Landform: Till plains
Landform position (two-dimensional): Summit
Landform position (three-dimensional): Interfluvium
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Parent material: Loess

Typical profile

Ap - 0 to 8 inches: silt loam
E - 8 to 16 inches: silt loam
Bt - 16 to 58 inches: silty clay loam
C - 58 to 79 inches: silty clay loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 2 to 5 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches
Drainage class: Somewhat poorly drained
Runoff class: Medium
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately low to moderately high (0.06 to 0.20 in/hr)

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Depth to water table: About 6 to 24 inches
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum: 5.0
Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: High (about 9.8 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 2e
Hydrologic Soil Group: C/D
Ecological site: R114XB901IN - Sodium Affected Uplands
Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Cowden

Percent of map unit: 10 percent
Landform: Flats
Landform position (two-dimensional): Summit
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Ecological site: R114XB902IN - Wet Upland Prairie
Hydric soil rating: Yes

894A—Herrick-Biddle-Piasa silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: 2tbs1
Elevation: 330 to 820 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 38 to 46 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 54 to 58 degrees F
Frost-free period: 180 to 195 days
Farmland classification: Farmland of statewide importance

Map Unit Composition

Herrick and similar soils: 45 percent
Biddle and similar soils: 30 percent
Piasa and similar soils: 25 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Herrick

Setting

Landform: Ground moraines
Landform position (two-dimensional): Summit
Landform position (three-dimensional): Interfluve, tal
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Parent material: Loess over silty pedisediment

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Typical profile

Ap - 0 to 13 inches: silt loam
Btg - 13 to 39 inches: silty clay loam
Bt - 39 to 60 inches: silty clay loam
2C - 60 to 79 inches: silt loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 0 to 2 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches
Drainage class: Somewhat poorly drained
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high (0.20 to 0.60 in/hr)
Depth to water table: About 12 to 24 inches
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 10 percent
Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to very slightly saline (0.0 to 2.0 mmhos/cm)
Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum: 10.0
Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: High (about 10.6 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 2w
Hydrologic Soil Group: C/D
Ecological site: R114XB902IN - Wet Upland Prairie
Hydric soil rating: No

Description of Biddle

Setting

Landform: Ground moraines
Landform position (two-dimensional): Summit
Landform position (three-dimensional): Interfluve
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Parent material: Loess over drift

Typical profile

Ap - 0 to 14 inches: silt loam
Bt - 14 to 28 inches: silty clay loam
Btng - 28 to 73 inches: silty clay loam
2Cg - 73 to 79 inches: silt loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 0 to 2 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches
Drainage class: Somewhat poorly drained
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately low to moderately high (0.06 to 0.20 in/hr)
Depth to water table: About 12 to 24 inches
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 10 percent
Maximum salinity: Nonsaline to slightly saline (0.0 to 4.0 mmhos/cm)
Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum: 10.0
Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: High (about 9.6 inches)

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Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 2w
Hydrologic Soil Group: C/D
Ecological site: R114XB901IN - Sodium Affected Uplands
Hydric soil rating: No

Description of Piasa

Setting

Landform: Ground moraines, depressions
Landform position (two-dimensional): Summit, toeslope
Landform position (three-dimensional): Interfluvium, talus, dip
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Parent material: Loess over silty pediment

Typical profile

Ap - 0 to 8 inches: silt loam
Eng - 8 to 12 inches: silt loam
Btng - 12 to 48 inches: silty clay loam
2BCng - 48 to 79 inches: silt loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 0 to 2 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: 11 to 14 inches to natric
Drainage class: Poorly drained
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Low to moderately low
(0.01 to 0.06 in/hr)
Depth to water table: About 0 to 12 inches
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: Frequent
Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 30 percent
Maximum salinity: Very slightly saline to slightly saline (2.0 to 4.0 mmhos/cm)
Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum: 20.0
Available water supply, 0 to 60 inches: Very low (about 2.6 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 3w
Hydrologic Soil Group: D
Ecological site: R114XB901IN - Sodium Affected Uplands
Hydric soil rating: Yes

Soil Information for All Uses

Suitabilities and Limitations for Use

The Suitabilities and Limitations for Use section includes various soil interpretations displayed as thematic maps with a summary table for the soil map units in the selected area of interest. A single value or rating for each map unit is generated by aggregating the interpretive ratings of individual map unit components. This aggregation process is defined for each interpretation.

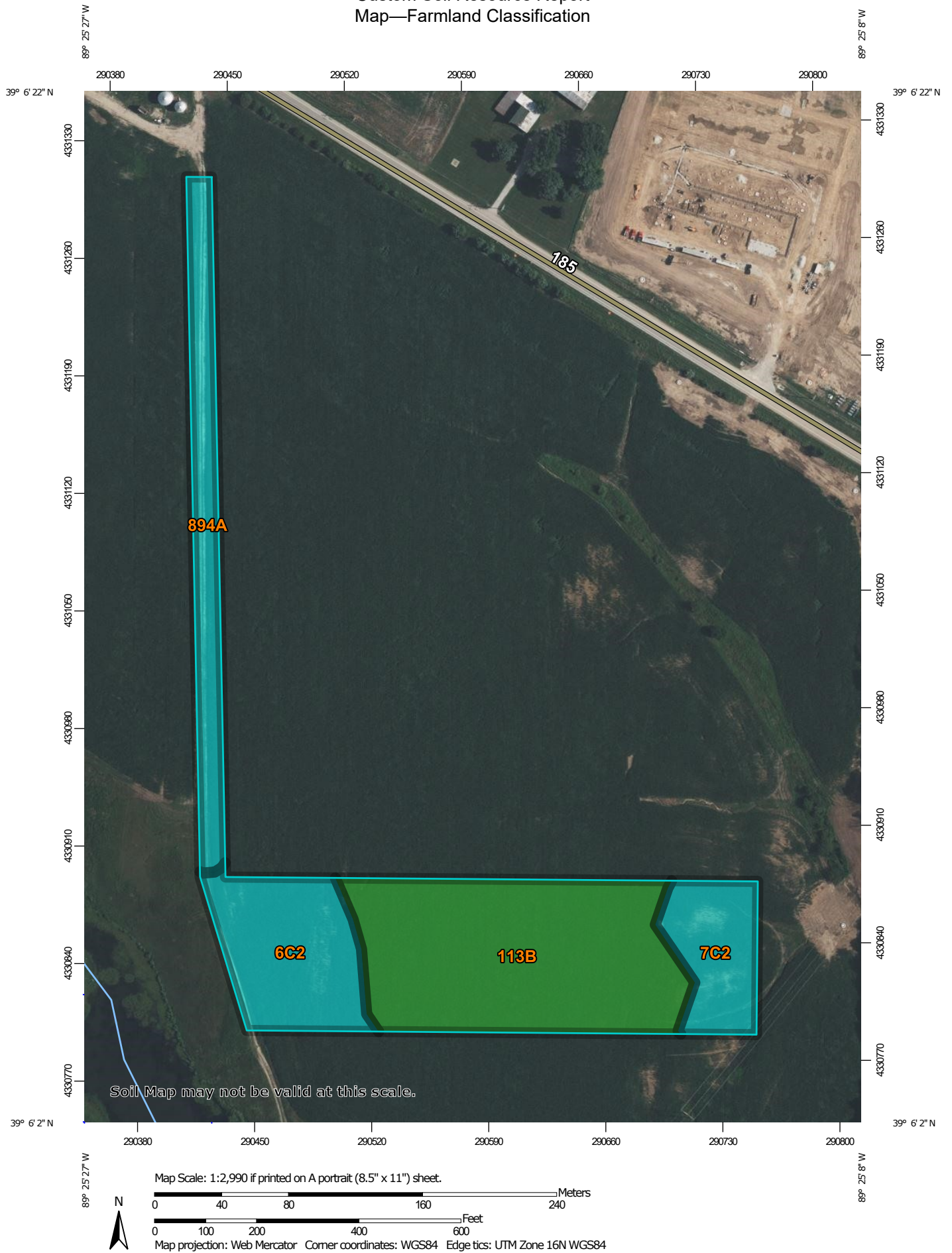
Land Classifications

Land Classifications are specified land use and management groupings that are assigned to soil areas because combinations of soil have similar behavior for specified practices. Most are based on soil properties and other factors that directly influence the specific use of the soil. Example classifications include ecological site classification, farmland classification, irrigated and nonirrigated land capability classification, and hydric rating.

Farmland Classification

Farmland classification identifies map units as prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, farmland of local importance, or unique farmland. It identifies the location and extent of the soils that are best suited to food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. NRCS policy and procedures on prime and unique farmlands are published in the "Federal Register," Vol. 43, No. 21, January 31, 1978.


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Map—Farmland Classification



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MAP LEGEND








Area of Interest (AOI)






 Area of Interest (AOI)








Soils



Soil Rating Polygons

-  Not prime farmland
-  All areas are prime farmland
-  Prime farmland if drained
-  Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated
-  Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season









-  Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
-  Farmland of statewide importance
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if drained
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated

-  Farmland of statewide importance, if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and drained
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60

-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if thawed
-  Farmland of local importance
-  Farmland of local importance, if irrigated

-  Farmland of unique importance
-  Not rated or not available

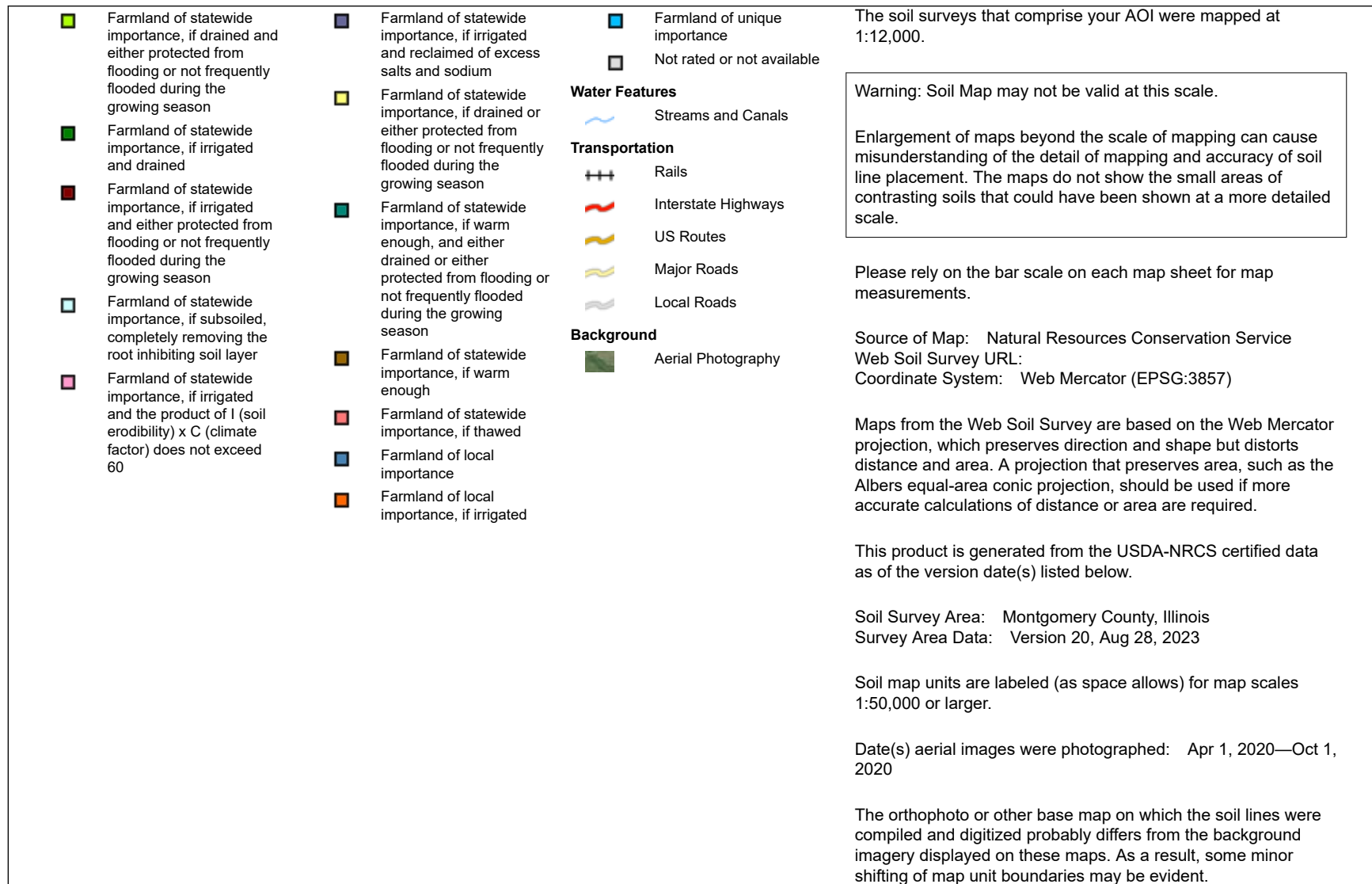
Soil Rating Lines

-  Not prime farmland
-  All areas are prime farmland
-  Prime farmland if drained
-  Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated
-  Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season

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	Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer		Farmland of statewide importance, if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium		Farmland of unique importance		Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and drained		Farmland of statewide importance, if drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season	Soil Rating Points			Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60
	Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Not prime farmland		Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
	Farmland of statewide importance		Farmland of statewide importance, if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer		Farmland of statewide importance, if thawed		Prime farmland if drained		Farmland of statewide importance
	Farmland of statewide importance, if drained		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60		Farmland of local importance		Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if drained
	Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season				Farmland of local importance, if irrigated		Prime farmland if irrigated		Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
	Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated						Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated

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Table—Farmland Classification

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
6C2	Fishhook silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of statewide importance	1.8	20.9%
7C2	Atlas silt loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of statewide importance	1.1	12.6%
113B	Oconee silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	4.3	48.7%
894A	Herrick-Biddle-Piasa silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	1.6	17.7%
Totals for Area of Interest			8.8	100.0%

Rating Options—Farmland Classification

Aggregation Method: No Aggregation Necessary

Aggregation is the process by which a set of component attribute values is reduced to a single value that represents the map unit as a whole.

A map unit is typically composed of one or more "components". A component is either some type of soil or some nonsoil entity, e.g., rock outcrop. For the attribute being aggregated, the first step of the aggregation process is to derive one attribute value for each of a map unit's components. From this set of component attributes, the next step of the aggregation process derives a single value that represents the map unit as a whole. Once a single value for each map unit is derived, a thematic map for soil map units can be rendered. Aggregation must be done because, on any soil map, map units are delineated but components are not.

For each of a map unit's components, a corresponding percent composition is recorded. A percent composition of 60 indicates that the corresponding component typically makes up approximately 60% of the map unit. Percent composition is a critical factor in some, but not all, aggregation methods.

The majority of soil attributes are associated with a component of a map unit, and such an attribute has to be aggregated to the map unit level before a thematic map can be rendered. Map units, however, also have their own attributes. An attribute of a map unit does not have to be aggregated in order to render a corresponding thematic map. Therefore, the "aggregation method" for any attribute of a map unit is referred to as "No Aggregation Necessary".

Tie-break Rule: Lower

The tie-break rule indicates which value should be selected from a set of multiple candidate values, or which value should be selected in the event of a percent composition tie.