

Land Capability Classification

The land capability classification of map units in the survey area is shown in this table. This classification shows, in a general way, the suitability of soils for most kinds of field crops (United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, 1961). Crops that require special management are excluded. The soils are grouped according to their limitations for field crops, the risk of damage if they are used for crops, and the way they respond to management. The criteria used in grouping the soils do not include major and generally expensive landforming that would change slope, depth, or other characteristics of the soils, nor do they include possible but unlikely major reclamation projects. Capability classification is not a substitute for interpretations designed to show suitability and limitations of groups of soils for rangeland, for forestland, or for engineering purposes.

In the capability system, soils are generally grouped at three levels: capability class, subclass, and unit.

Capability classes, the broadest groups, are designated by the numbers 1 through 8. The numbers indicate progressively greater limitations and narrower choices for practical use. The classes are defined as follows:

- Class 1 soils have slight limitations that restrict their use.
- Class 2 soils have moderate limitations that restrict the choice of plants or that require moderate conservation practices.
- Class 3 soils have severe limitations that restrict the choice of plants or that require special conservation practices, or both.
- Class 4 soils have very severe limitations that restrict the choice of plants or that require very careful management, or both.
- Class 5 soils are subject to little or no erosion but have other limitations, impractical to remove, that restrict their use mainly to pasture, rangeland, forestland, or wildlife habitat.
- Class 6 soils have severe limitations that make them generally unsuitable for cultivation and that restrict their use mainly to pasture, rangeland, forestland, or wildlife habitat.
- Class 7 soils have very severe limitations that make them unsuitable for cultivation and that restrict their use mainly to grazing, forestland, or wildlife habitat.
- Class 8 soils and miscellaneous areas have limitations that preclude commercial plant production and that restrict their use to recreational purposes, wildlife habitat, watershed, or esthetic purposes.

Capability subclasses are soil groups within one class. They are designated by adding a small letter, *e*, *w*, *s*, or *c*, to the class numeral, for example, 2*e*. The letter *e* shows that the main hazard is the risk of erosion unless close-growing plant cover is maintained; *w* shows that water in or on the soil interferes with plant growth or cultivation (in some soils the wetness can be partly corrected by artificial drainage); *s* shows that the soil is limited mainly because it is shallow, droughty, or stony; and *c*, used in only some parts of the United States, shows that the chief limitation is climate that is very cold or very dry.

In class 1 there are no subclasses because the soils of this class have few limitations. Class 5 contains only the subclasses indicated by w, s, or c because the soils in class 5 are subject to little or no erosion.

Report—Land Capability Classification

Land Capability Classification—Lane County Area, Oregon				
Map unit symbol and name	Pct. of map unit	Component name	Land Capability Subclass	
			Nonirrigated	Irrigated
1A—Abiqua silty clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes				
	85	Abiqua	1	1
1B—Abiqua silty clay loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes				
	85	Abiqua	2e	2e
11D—Bellpine silty clay loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes				
	85	Bellpine	3e	—
11E—Bellpine silty clay loam, 20 to 30 percent slopes				
	85	Bellpine	4e	—
34—Courtney gravelly silty clay loam				
	85	Courtney	4w	4w
43E—Dixonville-Philomath-Hazelair complex, 12 to 35 percent slopes				
	35	Dixonville	4e	—
	30	Philomath	6s	—
	20	Hazelair	4e	—
45C—Dupee silt loam, 3 to 20 percent slopes				
	85	Dupee	3e	—
78—McAlpin silty clay loam				
	85	McAlpin	2w	2w
89E—Nekia silty clay loam, 20 to 30 percent slopes				
	85	Nekia	4e	—
89F—Nekia silty clay loam, 30 to 50 percent slopes				
	85	Nekia	6e	—
99H—Ochrepts and Umbrepts, very steep				
	45	Ochrepts	6e	—
	40	Umbrepts	6e	—

Land Capability Classification--Lane County Area, Oregon				
Map unit symbol and name	Pct. of map unit	Component name	Land Capability Subclass	
			Nonirrigated	Irrigated
100—Oxley gravelly silt loam				
	85	Oxley	3w	3w
118—Salem gravelly silt loam				
	85	Salem	2s	2s
W—Water				
	100	Water	8	—

Data Source Information

Soil Survey Area: Lane County Area, Oregon
 Survey Area Data: Version 14, Sep 19, 2017