

Potential Agricultural Land

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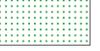
Lincoln Agricultural Commission

Lincoln, MA

December 2013

Total Current Agricultural Land: 493 Acres
 Total Potential Agricultural Land: 1435 Acres

Agricultural Land Legend

-  Protected Lands *
-  Potential Agricultural Land +
-  Prime Farmland **
-  Current Agricultural Land ++

Information as of September, 2013 based on best available data.

+ Potential agricultural is defined as open land that falls under one of the following land use categories: brushland, cropland, low density residential, open land, orchard, pasture, or very low density residential and is not currently being farmed.

++ Current agricultural land is defined as land that is currently being farmed under one of the following production categories: hayfield, horticulture/viticulture, pasture, tilled.

* Protection is defined as permanently protected for conservation purposes through a deed or state-certified restriction document including at least one of the following: an Agricultural Preservation Restriction, Conservation Deed, Conservation Restriction, or Chapter 61 based on the records of the Town of Lincoln.

** "Prime farmland, as defined by the USDA, is land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops, and is also available for these uses (the land could be cropland, pastureland, rangeland, forest land, or other land, but not urban built-up land or water). It has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to economically produce sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed, including water management, according to acceptable farming methods. In general, prime farmlands have an adequate and dependable water supply from precipitation or irrigation, a favorable temperature and growing season, acceptable acidity or alkalinity, acceptable salt and sodium content, and few or no rocks. They are permeable to water and air. Prime farmlands are not excessively erodible or saturated with water for a long period of time, and they either do not flood frequently or are protected from flooding. Examples of soils that qualify as prime farmland are Palouse silt loam, 0 to 7 percent slopes; Brookston silty clay loam, drained; and Tama silty clay loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes.

Sources: MassGIS and GIS from the Town of Lincoln

