

## Imperial County Important Farmland Metadata

*Originator:* California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program

*Abstract:* Established in 1982, Government Code Section 65570 mandates FMMP to biennially report on the conversion of farmland and grazing land, and to provide maps and data to local government and the public.

*Purpose:* The Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) provides data to decision makers for use in planning for the present and future use of California's agricultural land resources. The data is a current inventory of agricultural resources. This data is for general planning purposes and has a minimum mapping unit of ten acres.

*Publication Date:* Even numbered years, starting in 1984.

*Maintenance and Update Frequency:* Biennial

*Bounding Coordinates:*

*West Bounding Coordinate:* -116.106285169169

*East Bounding Coordinate:* -114.462801178909

*North Bounding Coordinate:* 33.4338427359943

*South Bounding Coordinate:* 32.6184079134667

*Keywords:*

Farmland  
California Farmland  
Farmland Monitoring  
Urbanization  
Land Use  
Agriculture  
Conservation  
Prime Farmland  
FMMP  
Important Farmland  
Imperial

*Place Keywords:*

Southern California  
Imperial

*Access Constraints:* None

*Use Constraints:* This data does not reflect general plan or zoning designations, city limit lines, changing economic or market conditions, or other factors which may be taken into consideration when land use policies are determined. This data is not designed to be used for parcel specific planning purposes due to its scale and

the size of the minimum mapping unit (10 acres). The Department of Conservation makes no warranties as to the suitability of this data for any particular purpose.

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*Hours of Service:* 8am to 5pm PST

*Data Set Credit:* A citation for the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program on any map products, graphic media, or data analyses based on the data is appreciated.

*Native Data Set Environment:* Microsoft Windows 10 Enterprise; ESRI ArcGIS Pro 3.3.1

*Downloadable Data:*

<https://gis.conservation.ca.gov/portal/home/group.html?id=b1494c705cb34d01acf78f4927a75b8f#overview>

*Data Quality Information:* The Important Farmland survey area is based on Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) modern soil surveys covering most non-governmental lands in California; 51 counties are fully or partially surveyed at this time. Soil surveys specific to National Forests or other government land units are not surveyed. Beginning in 2002, SSURGO digital soil information was incorporated into the Imperial County Important Farmland data and the 2016 data began to incorporate the new NRCS Gridded Soil Survey (gSSURGO). Data subsequent to 2002 may have acreage and soil line differences due to incorporation of newer NRCS-SSURGO or gSSURGO editions.

Prior to the availability of SSURGO or gSSURGO, soil information was hand-transferred from the paper soil surveys. Older versions of the data have not been modified. The land use minimum mapping unit of ten acres has not changed, but digital soil units of less than one acre occur in the gSSURGO-enhanced Important Farmland data. The data between 2002 and 2014 incorporates SSURGO and the interaction of land use and soil components resulted in units of less than ten acres for categories such as Other Land (or Nonagricultural and Natural Vegetation). The 2016 data incorporates gSSURGO and will no longer merge resulting polygons less than one acre for any map category. For more information on gSSURGO, contact the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service:

[https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/survey/geo/?cid=nrcs142p2\\_053628](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/survey/geo/?cid=nrcs142p2_053628)

USDA NRCS soil surveys CA681 (Palo Verde area); CA683 (Imperial Valley area); AZ649 (Yuma-Welton area).

*County Boundaries:*

- 1984 to 2006 Important Farmland Series are from the Bureau of Reclamation, California county lines modified by FMMP in 1997 (cty24amod).
- 2008 Important Farmland Series are from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's (Cal Fire) Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) 2004 version (cnty24k97\_1) of California Counties GIS data.
- 2010 to 2016 Important Farmland Series are from the Cal Fire FRAP 2009 version (cnty24k09\_1) of California Counties GIS data.
- 2018 to 2020 Important Farmland Series are from the Cal Fire FRAP 2018 version (cnty 18\_2) of California Counties GIS data.

[<https://frap.fire.ca.gov/mapping/gis-data/>](https://frap.fire.ca.gov/mapping/gis-data/)

*Imagery source by update year:*

Update Year; Source; Date; Format; Scale or Resolution; Notes.

- 1984 NASA-Ames Research Center; 1982; False color infrared; Scale unknown; Flight #82-021.  
NASA-Ames Research Center; 1983; True color; 1:56,000; Flight #83-130.  
NASA-Ames Research Center; 1984; False color infrared; 1:16,000; Photos at UC Riverside.
- 1986 NASA-Ames Research Center; May 28, 1985; False color infrared; 1:130,000; Flight #85-104.
- 1988 USDA-Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS); June 1989; True color.
- 1990 NASA-Ames Research Center; July 1990; False color infrared; 1:130,000.
- 1992 USDA-Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS); May 1992; True color.
- 1994 USDA-Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS); May 1994; True color; 1:7,820.
- 1996 USDA-Consolidated Farm Service Agency (CFSA); May 1996; True color; 1:7,820.
- 1998 USDA-Consolidated Farm Service Agency (CFSA); 1997; True color.
- 2000 USDA-Farm Service Agency (FSA); 1998; True color.  
USGS Landsat 7 Enhanced Thematic Mapper Plus; May 3, 2000; False color infrared; 30 meter resolution; Satellite imagery.  
SPOT Image Corporation; 2000; Black and White; 10 meter resolution; Satellite imagery.
- 2002 USDA-Farm Service Agency (FSA); Date unknown, True color.  
USGS Landsat 7 Enhanced Thematic Mapper Plus; May 25, 2002; False color infrared; 30 meter resolution; Satellite imagery.

USGS Landsat 7 Enhanced Thematic Mapper Plus; July 21, 2002; False color infrared; 30 meter resolution; Satellite imagery.

- 2004 NASA-Ames Research Center; August 8, 2003; False color infrared; 1:130,000; Flight #03-951.  
NASA-Ames Research Center; July 28, 2004; False color infrared; 1:130,000; Flight #04-943.  
USGS Landsat 7 Enhanced Thematic Mapper Plus; Date unknown; False color infrared; 30 meter resolution; Satellite imagery.
- 2006 USDA Farm Service Agency - National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP); Summer 2005; True color; 1 meter resolution.  
USGS Landsat 7 Enhanced Thematic Mapper Plus; Summer 2005; False color infrared; 30 meter resolution; Satellite imagery.
- 2008 USGS; Summer 2008; True color; 6 inch and 1 foot resolution.
- 2010 USDA Farm Service Agency - National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP); Summer 2009; True color; 1 meter resolution.  
USDA Farm Service Agency - National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP); Summer 2010; True color; 1 meter resolution.  
Google Incorporated; Various dates; True color; Google Maps and Streetview.
- 2012 USDA Farm Service Agency - National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP); Summer 2012; True color; 1 meter resolution.  
Google Incorporated; Various dates; True color; Google Maps and Streetview.  
Bing; Various dates; True color; Bing Maps.
- 2014 USDA Farm Service Agency - National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP); Summer 2014; True color; 1 meter resolution.  
Google Incorporated; Various dates; True color; Google Maps and Streetview.
- 2016 USDA Farm Service Agency - National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP); Summer 2016; True color; 1 meter resolution.  
Google Incorporated; Various dates; True color; Google Maps and Streetview.
- 2018 USDA Farm Service Agency - National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP); Summer 2018; True color; 1 meter resolution.  
Google Incorporated; Various dates; True color; Google Maps and Streetview.
- 2020 USDA Farm Service Agency - National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP); Summer 2020; True color; 1 meter resolution.  
Google Incorporated; Various dates; True color; Google Maps and Streetview.

*Spatial Reference Information:*

*Map Projection Name:* **Albers Conical Equal Area**

*Standard Parallel:* 34.000000  
*Standard Parallel:* 40.500000  
*Longitude of Central Meridian:* -120.000000  
*Latitude of Projection Origin:* 0.000000  
*False Easting:* 0.000000  
*False Northing:* -4000000.000000

*Planar Coordinate Information:*

*Planar Coordinate Encoding Method:* coordinate pair

*Coordinate Representation:*

*Abscissa Resolution:* 0.000512

*Ordinate Resolution:* 0.000512

*Planar Distance Units:* meters

*Geodetic Model:*

Update years 1984 to 2012

*Horizontal Datum Name:* **North American Datum of 1927**

*Ellipsoid Name:* Clarke 1866

*Semi-major Axis:* 6378206.400000

*Denominator of Flattening Ratio:* 294.978698

Update years 2014 and beyond

*Horizontal Datum Name:* **North American Datum of 1983**

*Ellipsoid Name:* GRS 1980

*Semi-major Axis:* 6378137.000000

*Denominator of Flattening Ratio:* 298.257222

*Entity Label:* Important Farmland Categories

*Definition:* Technical ratings of the soils and current land use information are combined to determine the appropriate map category.

*Source:* Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program

*Attribute:* OBJECTID

*Definition:* Internal feature number.

*Source:* ESRI

*Domain Values:* Sequential unique whole numbers that are automatically generated.

*Attribute:* Shape

*Definition:* Feature geometry.

*Source:* ESRI

*Domain Values:* Coordinates defining the features.

*Attribute:* POLYGON\_TY

*Definition:* Identifies the mapping categories used by the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program.

*Source:* Definitions were developed by the USDA-NRCS as part of their nationwide Land Inventory and Monitoring (LIM) system and modified for California.

*Attribute Domain Values:*

**Prime Farmland (P):** Prime Farmland has the best combination of physical and chemical features able to sustain long-term agricultural production. This land has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high yields. Land must have been used for irrigated agricultural production at some time during the four years prior to the mapping date.

**Farmland of Statewide Importance (S):** Farmland of Statewide Importance is similar to Prime Farmland but with minor shortcomings, such as greater slopes or less ability to store soil moisture. Land must have been used for irrigated agricultural production at some time during the four years prior to the mapping date.

**Unique Farmland (U):** Unique Farmland consists of lesser quality soils used for the production of the state's leading agricultural crops. This land is usually irrigated, but may include nonirrigated orchards or vineyards as found in some climatic zones in California. Land must have been cropped at some time during the four years prior to the mapping date.

**Farmland of Local Importance (L):** Unirrigated and uncultivated lands with Prime and Statewide soils.

**Grazing Land (G):** Grazing Land is land on which the existing vegetation is suited to the grazing of livestock.

**Urban and Built-Up Land (D):** Urban and Built-up Land is occupied by structures with a building density of at least 1 unit to 1.5 acres, or approximately 6 structures to a 10-acre parcel. Common examples include residential, industrial, commercial, institutional facilities, cemeteries, airports, golf courses, sanitary landfills, sewage treatment, and water control structures.

**Other Land (X):** Other Land is land not included in any other mapping category. Common examples include low density rural developments, brush, timber, wetland, and riparian areas not suitable for livestock grazing, confined livestock, poultry, or aquaculture facilities, strip mines, borrow pits, and water bodies smaller than 40 acres. Vacant and nonagricultural land surrounded on all sides by urban development and greater than 40 acres is mapped as Other Land.

**Water (W):** Perennial water bodies with an extent of at least 40 acres.

**Area not Mapped (Z):** Area which falls outside of the NRCS soil survey. Not mapped by the FMMP.

*Attribute:* POLYGON\_AC

*Definition:* The acreage of the polygon feature.

*Source:* Computer calculated.

*Attribute:* COUNTY\_NAM

*Definition:* County name identified by a three-letter abbreviation.

*Source:* FMMP

*Attribute Domain Values:* Imperial County is abbreviated as "imp".

*Attribute:* UPD\_YEAR

*Definition:* The year the data was captured.

*Source:* FMMP

*Attribute Domain Values:* Biennially on even numbered years.

*Attribute:* SHAPE\_LEN

*Definition:* Perimeter of the polygon feature in meters.

*Source:* Computer calculated.

*Attribute Domain Values:* Positive real numbers that are automatically generated.

*Attribute:* SHAPE\_AREA

*Definition:* Area of feature in meters squared.

*Source:* Computer calculated.

*Attribute Domain Values:* Positive real numbers that are automatically generated.