**Geography.** The Sugar Creek watershed occupies central Garrard County. The land is in the hills of the bluegrass subregion of the Bluegrass physiographic region, characterized by hilly terrain, very rapid surface runoff, and slow groundwater drainage. Parts of the watershed lie over interbedded shales and limestones (these are 20% limestone; water conduction is poor because of the clay content of the shale). Other areas are underlain by interbedded limestones and shales (>20% limestone, allowing groundwater flow where the clay content is low enough).

**Waterways.** Sugar Creek empties into the Kentucky River due north of Lancaster. Among the creeks that feed it are Scotch Fork and the East, Middle, and West Forks of Sugar Creek.

**Land and water use.** Land in the watershed is mainly agricultural; about 6% is rural and wooded. No businesses or organizations hold permits for discharges into the creeks. See the 2000 Assessment Report for full details.

**Agency data assessment.** No creek segments were assessed in this watershed.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Watershed Restoration Ranking</th>
<th>Watershed Protection Rank</th>
<th>Overall Watershed Rank</th>
<th>Framework Mobilization Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Observed Impacts</td>
<td>Potential Impacts</td>
<td>Combined Rank</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Watershed Highlights

Watershed covers 42 square miles.
Part of source water protection zones 1, 2, and 3 for the
Lancaster water system.
discharges treated sewage into the watershed.
Livestock density is substantially higher than the basin average.
Watershed is in PRIDE service region. PRIDE identified 60
straight pipes or failing septic systems in the watershed.

See the color map of this region on p. 133.