



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Nebraska Field Office • Lincoln, Nebraska



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FARM NUMBERS CONTINUE DECLINE

Lincoln, Neb., January 31, 2006 -- Nebraska's number of farms and ranches declined during 2005, continuing the downward trend, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. The number of farms and ranches in the State is 48,000, down 300 or less than 1 percent from 2004. Numbers of farms and ranches in Nebraska with less than \$100,000 in agricultural sales declined by 800, while operations with more than \$100,000 saw a 500 farm increase. "Strong farm income during 2005 continued to move Nebraska farms into higher sales categories, but overall farm size in acres showed one of the smallest increases in the last 5 years," said Mark Harris, director of the Nebraska Field Office.

Land in farms and ranches in Nebraska declined to 45.7 million acres. The average size of operation increased to 952 acres, up 4 acres from a year earlier.

Access the National publication for this release at:
<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/other/zfl-bb/fnl00106.pdf>

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