



New York is an Agricultural State

Agriculture is important to New York State. Agricultural production returned over \$3.6 billion to the farm economy in 2005. About 25 percent of the state's land area, or 7.5 million acres are used by the 35,600 farms to produce a very diverse array of food products. Here are some of the items in which New York ranks high nationally:

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Dairy and animal production in New York provided \$2.30 billion to farmers in 2005. That accounts for 63 percent of all cash receipts.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

Milk is New York's leading agricultural product and is produced all across the state. Milk sales account for one-half of total agricultural receipts. Production in 2005 was 11.7 billion pounds with a value of \$1.91 billion. New York is the Nation's 3rd leading producer and Wyoming is the State's leading county.

MEAT PRODUCTION

New York livestock producers marketed 246 million pounds of meat animals during 2005 bringing in \$190 million in cash receipts. Sales from cattle and calves accounted for \$173 million, hogs and pigs returned \$13.0 million, and sheep and lambs provided \$3.67 million.

POULTRY PRODUCTION

The value of New York eggs, ducks, broilers and turkeys plus the value of sales for other chickens totaled \$91.3 million for 2005. Eggs made up \$36.5 million of the total followed by broilers at \$7.61 million. New York ranks 22nd among all egg producing states.

CROP PRODUCTION

Field crops, fruits and vegetables returned \$1.33 billion to New York farmers in 2005.

FRUITS

New York's fruit crop receipts were valued at \$243 million in 2005. Apples and grapes lead New York fruit crops in value.

Apples

New York apple production ranks 2nd nationally with receipts worth about \$184 million in 2005. Three general areas produce most of the apples: along the southern Lake Ontario shore, along the Hudson Valley, and along the upper Lake Champlain Valley. New York's leading varieties are McIntosh, Empire, Rome, Idared, and Red Delicious.

Grapes

Wine and juice grape production place New York 3rd behind California and Washington. The crop was worth \$34.3 million in 2005. Three-fourths of the production was for juice and one-fourth went into wines. The four major producing areas are Lake Erie area, the Finger Lakes, the Hudson Valley and the eastern end of Long Island.

Tart Cherries

Production in New York ranks 4th in the Nation. Production totaled 7.5 million pounds with a value of \$3.24 million.

Pears

Production ranked 4th in the nation with 8,500 tons and had a value of \$4.09 million.

Strawberries

Strawberries are the 3rd most valuable fruit in New York and places New York 7th in national production. Growers harvested 5.20 million pounds in 2005. The crop returned \$8.06 million to growers.

VEGETABLES

The value of vegetables totaled \$461 million in 2005. Fresh market vegetable production ranks 7th and processing vegetable production ranks are 6th among all states. Leading crops in New York are cabbage, sweet corn and onions.

Cabbage

New York produced the 2nd largest crop of cabbage in the Nation. Cabbage is principally grown south of Lake Ontario in Monroe, Genesee, Orleans, Ontario, and Niagara counties. New York cabbage is typically stored for sale as fresh during winter months. Value of the fresh market crop in 2005 totaled \$67.3 million.

Sweet Corn

Produced statewide, sweet corn had a value of \$69.9 million. Concentrations are found in the Lower Hudson Valley and around the Genesee Valley. Production of fresh market sweet corn crop ranked 4th in the nation and was worth \$60.5 million. Production of sweet corn for processing ranked 5th in the nation and was worth \$9.34 million.

Onions

An important crop with receipts of \$49.0 million in 2005. Onions are grown in New York's muck soils in Orange, Orleans, Oswego, Madison and Wayne counties. The state ranked 6th in production for 2005.

Snap Beans

Grown in the Central and Western regions for fresh and processing. The 2005 fresh market and processing crop was valued at \$35.8 million. Fresh production accounted for 64 percent of the total value. New York ranks 5th in fresh market production and 2nd in the nation for production of snap beans for processing.



Other Vegetables

Production of **tomatoes** ranked 13th nationally with a value of \$21.5 million. Production of **pumpkins** ranked 6th nationally with a value of \$21.9 million. Production of **cucumbers** ranked 5th nationally with a value of \$15.3 million. Production of **squash** ranked 5th nationally with a value of \$29.1 million. Production of **green peas for processing** ranked 4th nationally with a value of \$11.4 million. Production of **cauliflower** ranked 3rd nationally with a value of \$3.35 million.

FIELD CROPS

New York produces a variety of field crops largely in support of its dairy industry. Corn, oats and wheat are most widely grown with soybeans steadily increasing in importance. New York ranks 3rd in corn silage production with a value of \$227 million. Production of grain corn ranked 19th with a value of \$117 million. Soybean production was valued at \$43.5 million. The state placed 10th in oat production, 32nd in wheat and 24th for soybeans production. Hay production put New York 22nd and was valued at \$282 million in 2005. Most hay is used on farms and its value is realized through sale of milk and livestock. Fall potatoes reached a value of \$40.3 million in 2005 and made New York the 11th leading producer.

MAPLE SYRUP

At \$7.04 million, New York ranks 2nd behind Vermont in value and 3rd with 245,000 gallons produced behind Vermont and Maine in 2005.

FLORICULTURE CROPS

In 2005, New York floriculture products were valued at \$200 million. Bedding and garden plants top the list of commodities. The wholesale value of New York's floriculture output ranks 5th nationally at \$200 million. A variety of crops are produced in 24.5 million square feet of covered area and on 963 acres of open ground. Christmas trees provide about \$21.3 million of sale.