

New York is an Agricultural State



Agriculture is important to New York State. Agricultural production returned over \$3.4 billion to the farm economy in 2006. About 25 percent of the state's land area, or 7.50 million acres are used by the 35,000 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 \$1.98 billion to farmers in 2006. That accounts for 57 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 2006 was 12.1 billion pounds with a value of \$1.61 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 228 million pounds of meat animals during 2006 bringing in \$172 million in cash receipts. Sales from cattle and calves accounted for \$157 million, hogs and pigs returned \$11.4 million, and sheep and lambs provided \$2.59 million.

POULTRY PRODUCTION

The value of New York eggs, ducks, broilers and turkeys plus the value of sales for other chickens totaled \$92.4 million for 2006. Eggs made up \$39.5 million of the total followed by broilers at \$11.3 million. New York ranks 22nd among all egg producing states.

CROP PRODUCTION

Field crops, fruits and vegetables returned \$1.50 billion to New York farmers in 2006.

FRUITS

New York's fruit crop receipts were valued at \$333 million in 2006. Apples and grapes lead New York fruit crops in value.

Apples

New York apple production ranks 2nd nationally with receipts worth about \$197 billion in 2006. 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 \$37.0 million in 2006. 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 10.4 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 \$6.69 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 2006. The crop returned \$7.48 million to growers.

VEGETABLES

The value of vegetables totaled \$554 million in 2006. Fresh market vegetable production ranks 5th 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 2006 totaled \$64.1 million.

Sweet Corn

Produced statewide, sweet corn had a value of \$84.5 million. Concentrations are found in the Lower Hudson Valley and around the Genesee Valley. The 2006 fresh market crop worth \$75.6 million, placed 3rd nationally and the processing crop valued at \$8.91 million ranked 5th.

Onions

An important crop with receipts of \$46.2 million in 2006. Onions are grown in New York's muck soils in Orange, Orleans, Oswego, Madison and Wayne counties. The state ranked 6th in production for 2006.

Snap Beans

Grown in the Central and Western regions for fresh and processing. The 2006 crop was valued at \$48.1 million. Fresh production accounted for 76 percent of the total value. New York ranks 3rd in fresh market production and 2nd in the nation for production of snap beans for processing.

Other Vegetables

Production of **tomatoes** ranked 8th nationally with a value of \$30.8 million. Production of **pumpkins** ranked 3rd nationally with a value of \$18.8 million. Production of **cucumbers** ranked 4th nationally with a value of \$26.4 million. Production of **squash** ranked 4th nationally with a value of \$28.3 million. Production of **green peas for processing** ranked 4th nationally with a value of \$13.4 million. Production of **cauliflower** ranked 3rd nationally with a value of \$2.81 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 \$228 million. Production of grain corn ranked 18th with a value of \$89.0 million.

Soybean production was valued at \$47.2 million. The state placed 6th in oat production, 27th in wheat and 22nd for soybeans production. Hay production put New York 23rd and was valued at \$314 million in 2006. Most hay is used on farms and its value is realized through sale of milk and livestock. Fall potatoes reached a value of \$67.6 million in 2006 and made New York the 14th leading producer.

MAPLE SYRUP

At \$8.02 million, New York ranks 2nd behind Vermont in value and 3rd with 224,000 gallons produced behind Vermont and Maine in 2006.

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.

