



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

Cooperating with the New York Department of Agriculture and Markets  
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## NEW YORK DAIRY FARMS EXAMINED BY AGE OF PRINCIPAL OPERATOR

The 2007 Census of Agriculture found the average age of principal dairy farm operators in 2007 to be 52.5 years old for the state of New York, according to Steve Ropel, Director of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, New York Office. Operators between the ages of 50 to 54 represented the largest concentration at 889 out of a total of 5237 operators. The second largest age category of operators with 849 was in the 35 to 44 age group. All age groups declined from 2002 with the exception of the 65 to 69 age group which increased slightly. The largest decrease was displayed in the 35 to 44 age group declining from 1,520 operators in 2002 to 849 in 2007. The average age of New York dairy farmers increased by 1.5 years from 2002 to 2007.

The Census, which is conducted every five years, provides facts and figures on virtually every aspect of U.S. agriculture, including number and types of farm operations, the economic aspects of farm production and the demographics of U.S. farm operators.

Details on this and other Census data can be found on-line through the New York NASS web site: [www.nass.usda.gov/ny/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ny/). U.S., State and County tables are available in PDF, Text, and CSV files. Printed copies will be available along with the CD-ROMS and a searchable database. For further information or assistance, please call the New York office at 800-821-1276 or send an e-mail to: [nass-ny@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-ny@nass.usda.gov).

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