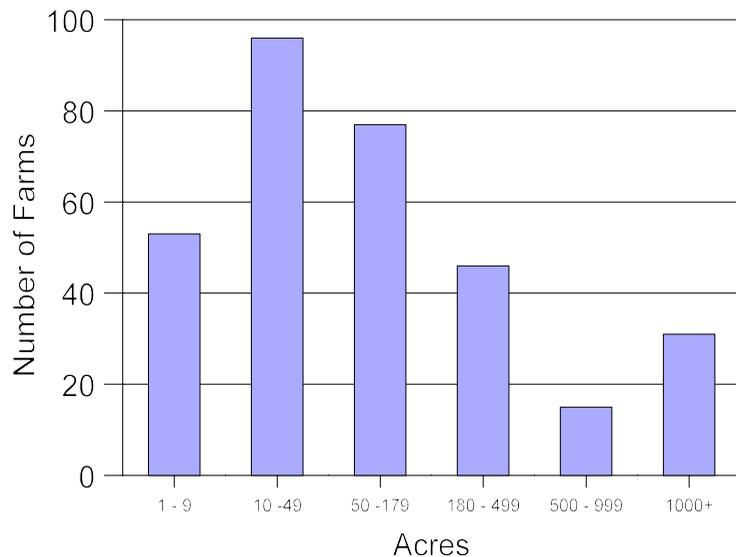
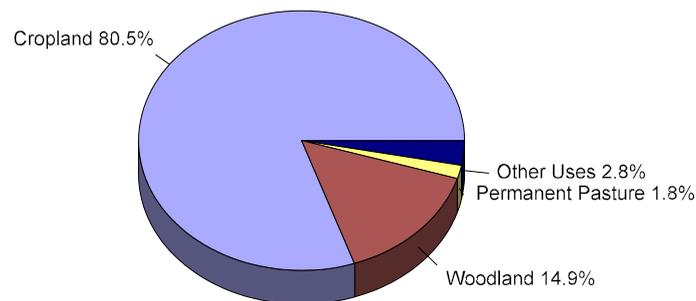


FARMS

Farms by Size



Land in Farms



Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Farming	262
Other	289
Principal operators by sex:	
Male	467
Female	84
Average age of principal operator (years)	56.8
All operators ⁵ by race:	
White	795
Black or African American	-
American Indian or Alaska Native	2
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2
Asian	-
More than one race	1
All operators ⁵ of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	5

Footnotes: 1/ Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with items. 2/ Beginning with 1997, data includes an adjustment for undercoverage. 3/Due to changes in definition and wording of questions, figures for "cropland pasture" and "other pasture" are not always comparable from the Census. Acreage beginning with 1964 refer to pastureland and rangeland, other than cropland and woodland pastured, on farms with sales of agricultural products of \$2,500 and over. 4/ Beginning with 1974, agricultural operations under individual management with annual sales of \$1,000 or more. 5/ Data were collected for a maximum of three operators per farm. NA Not Available. (D) Cannot be disclosed. (Z) Less than 1/2 of the unit shown. See "Census of Agriculture, Vol. 1, Geographic Series" for complete footnotes.



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Revised 2004

TAZEWELL COUNTY

2002 U.S. Census of Agriculture

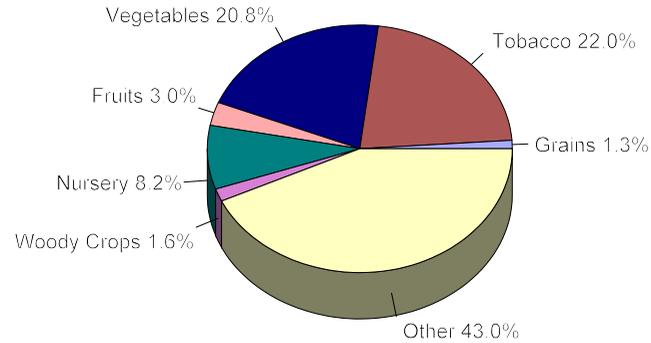


Tazewell County is located in the southwestern part of the Great Valley of Virginia. Formed from parts of Wythe and Russell in 1800, the county was named in honor of Senator Henry Tazewell.

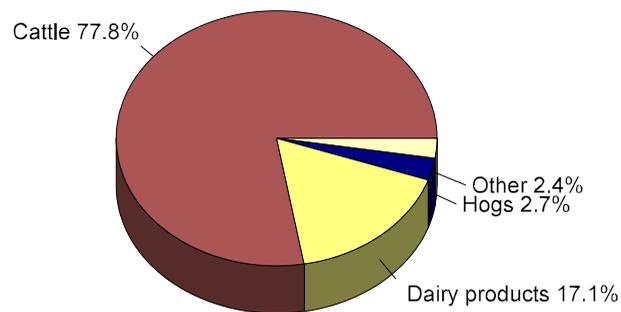
The topography of Tazewell consists of valleys ranging from 1,900 to 2,700 feet above sea level and mountain ridges varying in height from 2,500 to 4,700 feet. Burkes Garden, an unusual oval valley in the county that is 3,100 feet above sea level, contains approximately 20,000 acres of very fertile land and is noted for production of fine cattle and sheep. More than half of Tazewell's area is wooded, and part of the Jefferson National Forest is located in the county. Temperatures in the area average nearly 32 degrees in January and 67 degrees in July. The frost-free growing season is roughly 135 days, usually extending between May 15 and September 27. Total annual precipitation averages 42 inches, with the heaviest rainfall occurs during June, July, and August. The driest months are October and November.

Highlights	2002	1997
Number of Farms	551	618
Land in Farms (acres)	138,977	142,843
Average size of farm	252	231
Market Value of Production		
County Total	\$17,733,000	\$14,509,000
Average per farm	\$32,182	\$23,478
Government Payments	\$252,000	\$74,000

Crops



Livestock & Poultry



Ranked Items among the 98 state counties and 3,078 US Counties, 2002

Commodity	Quantity	State Rank	Universe 1/	US Rank	Universe 1/
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	15	87	95	2,694	2,871
Tobacco	253	25	43	357	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	15	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	239	32	95	1,290	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	35	64	93	1,735	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	94	75	95	2,099	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	18	47	76	999	1,774
Other crops and hay	494	47	97	1,907	3,046
Poultry and eggs	40	40	94	1,517	2,918
Cattle and calves	12,897	11	97	810	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	2,835	24	83	861	2,493
Hogs and pigs	451	17	90	1,067	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	232	6	93	383	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	73	54	94	2,056	3,014
Aquaculture	44	25	44	719	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	13	32	87	1,704	2,727
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Cattle and calves	37,446	12	97	844	3,059
Sheep and lambs	4,456	4	93	246	2,867
All Goats	1,336	4	95	320	2,971
Layers 20 weeks old and older	1,137	32	96	1,294	2,983
Horses and ponies	1,027	25	97	1,245	3,065
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	21,523	23	97	1,034	3,059
Corn for silage	934	37	87	1,133	2,307
Corn for grain	619	61	96	1,918	2,592
Tobacco	79	24	43	357	563
Barley	(D)	(D)	73	(D)	1,246

FARM DATA & LAND USE

YEAR	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Avg. Value Per Acre For Land & Buildings	LAND USE					
				Cropland			Other Pasture 3/	Woodland	
				Harvested	Other	Pasture		Pasture	Not Pastured
				Number	Acres	Dollars	-Acres-		
1940	1,622	207,932	47	36,097	2,424	74,777	NA	NA	NA
1945	2,236	241,669	74	42,664	1,104	51,794	86,259	13,463	41,009
1950	1,712	216,617	89	32,060	11,100	23,110	87,844	15,474	40,186
1954	1,531	193,861	99	28,636	2,107	23,513	86,254	16,143	32,030
1959	912	169,381	105	23,215	1,870	5,968	85,859	16,772	31,117
1964	843	165,815	102	22,210	1,707	7,073	61,148	NA	NA
1969	632	159,790	162	17,683	2,289	29,968	55,115	10,328	20,405
1974 4/	537	146,776	284	19,554	2,306	27,209	41,438	NA	NA
1978	471	150,432	627	17,685	1,204	21,705	61,170	14,818	26,591
1982	494	142,015	647	16,904	1,651	22,414	55,479	14,008	26,710
1987	488	137,093	709	17,452	4,221	23,504	48,151	16,560	23,271
1992	494	138,531	898	17,270	1,083	25,967	45,024	18,830	23,615
1997 2/	618	142,843	1,029	18,543	865	35,342	36,912	15,483	32,445
2002	551	138,977	1,561	22,563	1,922	22,914	47,392	16,818	23,426

See footnotes on back.