



Immediate Release

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U.S. FARM NUMBERS VIRTUALLY UNCHANGED FROM 2011

The number of farms and ranches in **Wyoming** in 2011 is estimated at 11,000, according to Steve Gunn with the Wyoming Field Office of USDA NASS. This is unchanged from 2010. A farm is defined as "any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year."

Total land in farms and ranches was 30,200,000 acres, also unchanged from 2010. Wyoming ranks first in the Nation in average size of farms and ranches at 2,745 acres. Montana ranks second at 2,068 acres. In Wyoming, there were 5,200 farms (47 percent) with less than \$10,000 of agricultural sales in 2011, unchanged from last year. This group accounted for 1,300,000 acres or 4 percent of the total land.

UNITED STATES: The number of farms in the United States in 2011 is estimated at 2.2 million, down slightly from 2010. Total land in farms, at 917 million acres, decreased 1.85 million acres from 2010. The average farm size is 420 acres, up 1 acre from the previous year.

Farm numbers and land in farms are broken down into five economic sales classes. Farms and ranches are classified into these "sales classes" by summing their sales of agricultural products and government program payments. Sales class breaks occur at \$10,000, \$100,000, \$250,000, and \$500,000.

Farm numbers increased slightly in the \$10,000-\$99,999, \$250,000-\$499,999, and \$500,000 and over sales classes. Higher commodity prices and larger value of sales contributed to changes in the number of farms within these sales classes. Farm numbers increased 1.3 percent, to slightly over 600,000 farms in the \$10,000 - \$99,999 sales class and 1.9 percent in the \$250,000 - \$499,999 sales class to over 100,000 farms. Meanwhile, the number of farms in the \$500,000 and over sales class increased by 5.9 percent to 133,570 farms.

Land in farms increased in the largest sales class while decreasing in all other sales classes. Land operated by farms in the \$500,000 & over in sales class increased 2.5 percent, to 305.7 million acres. Land operated by farms in both \$1,000-\$9,999 and \$100,000-\$249,999 sales classes decreased by 3.5 percent, to 100.7 million acres and 138.7 million acres respectively.

The average farm size increased 1 acre in 2011 to 420 acres per farm. However, average farm sizes declined in some of the sales classes partially due to smaller farms moving up to higher sales classes.

**NUMBER OF FARMS AND RANCHES AND LAND,
SELECTED STATES AND U.S. 2010-2011 1/**

State	Number of Farms & Ranches		Land in Farms & Ranches	
	2010 2/	2011	2010 2/	2011
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>			
CO	36,400	36,700	31,300	31,300
ID	25,200	24,700	11,400	11,400
MT	29,400	29,300	60,600	60,500
NE	47,200	46,800	45,600	45,500
SD	31,500	31,300	43,700	43,650
UT	16,600	16,600	11,100	11,100
WY	11,000	11,000	30,200	30,200
U.S.	2,192,000	2,181,000	918,840	916,990

1/ A farm is defined as any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would be sold during the year.

2/ Revised.