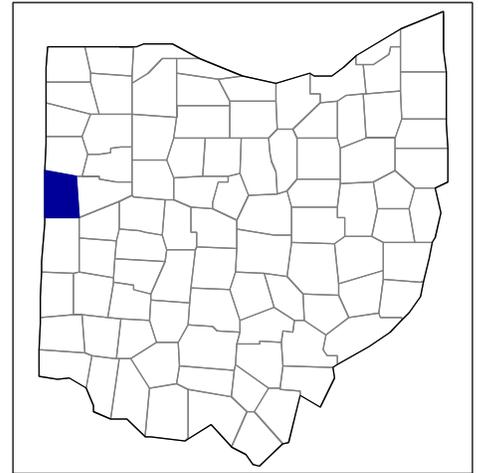




2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile

Mercer, Ohio



Number of farms

1,268 farms in 2002, 1,330 farms in 1997, down 5 percent.

Land in farms

268,569 acres in 2002, 265,191 acres in 1997, up 1 percent.

Average size of farm

212 acres in 2002, 199 acres in 1997, up 7 percent.

Market Value of Production

\$277,372,000 in 2002, \$288,508,000 in 1997, down 4 percent.

Crop sales accounted for \$35,228,000 of the total value in 2002.

Livestock sales accounted for \$242,144,000 of the total value in 2002.

Market Value of Production, average per farm

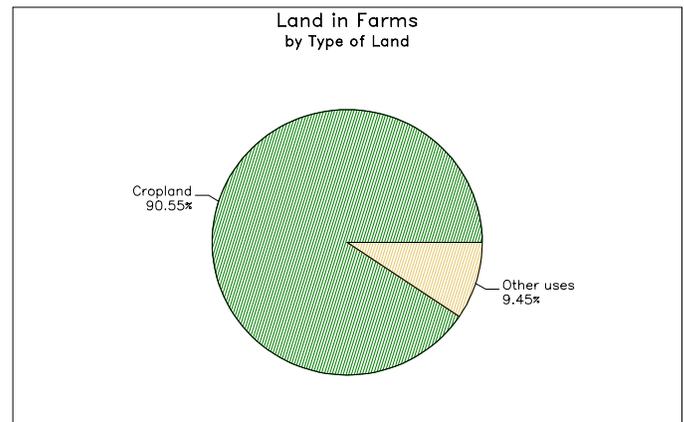
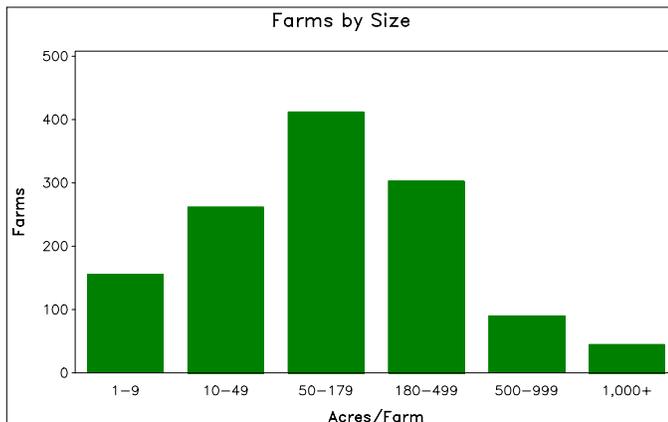
\$218,747 in 2002, \$216,924 in 1997, up 1 percent.

Government Payments

\$7,060,000 in 2002, \$3,636,000 in 1997, up 94 percent.

Government Payments, average per farm receiving payments

\$9,451 in 2002, \$4,174 in 1997, up 126 percent.



**2002 Census of Agriculture
County Profile
United States Department of Agriculture, Ohio Agricultural Statistics Service**

Mercer, Ohio

Ranked items among the 88 state counties and 3,078 U.S. counties, 2002

Item	Quantity	State Rank	Universe ¹	U.S. Rank	Universe ¹
MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)					
Total value of agricultural products sold	277,372	2	88	89	3,075
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	35,228	26	88	740	3,070
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	242,144	2	88	56	3,070
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	33,887	15	88	423	2,871
Tobacco	-	-	24	-	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	-	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	(D)	(D)	88	(D)	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	95	58	88	1,279	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	433	73	87	1,489	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	(D)	(D)	81	(D)	1,774
Other crops and hay	735	59	88	1,553	3,046
Poultry and eggs	144,141	2	88	27	2,918
Cattle and calves	13,856	4	88	756	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	38,249	3	87	118	2,493
Hogs and pigs	45,277	1	88	55	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	67	53	88	1,069	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	60	82	88	2,228	3,014
Aquaculture	14	19	39	913	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	480	9	88	287	2,727
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Layers 20 weeks old and older	7,856,601	2	88	2	2,983
Turkeys	1,067,971	1	81	23	2,328
Hogs and pigs	174,049	1	88	75	2,926
Cattle and calves	50,539	3	88	566	3,059
Broilers and other meat-type chickens ³	(D)	(D)	85	(D)	2,599
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Soybeans	102,592	15	88	238	2,076
Corn for grain	70,396	10	88	348	2,592
Corn for silage	24,860	2	87	30	2,307
All Wheat for grain	20,948	11	88	445	2,517
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	18,376	27	88	1,184	3,059

Other County Highlights

Economic Characteristics	Quantity	Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales		Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Less than \$1,000	120	Farming	833
\$1,000 to \$2,499	83	Other	435
\$2,500 to \$4,999	65		
\$5,000 to \$9,999	118	Principal operators by sex:	
\$10,000 to \$19,999	126	Male	1,223
\$20,000 to \$24,999	47	Female	45
\$25,000 to \$39,999	91		
\$40,000 to \$49,999	49	Average age of principal operator (years)	50.8
\$50,000 to \$99,999	132		
\$100,000 to \$249,999	183	All operators ² by race:	
\$250,000 to \$499,999	125	White	1,809
\$500,000 or more	129	Black or African American	-
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	228,717	American Indian or Alaska Native	1
Average per farm (\$)	180,092	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
		Asian	-
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	61,345	More than one race	-
Average per farm (\$)	48,303	All operators ² of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	29

(D) Cannot be disclosed. (Z) Less than half of the unit shown. See "Census of Agriculture, Volume 1, Geographic Area Series" for complete footnotes.

¹ Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with item.

² Data were collected for a maximum of three operators per farm.

³ Items with a rank that cannot be disclosed are separated by a blank line, position in table does not indicate rank.