

HOWARD COUNTY 2003 AGRICULTURAL PROFILE

<i>Farm Numbers</i> ¹	<i>1992</i>	<i>1997</i> ³	<i>2002</i>
<i>Number of Farms</i>	382	369	346
<i>Average Size (acres)</i>	117	112	109
<i>Land in Farms (acres)</i>	44,623	41,501	37,582

<i>Livestock Inventory</i> ¹	<i>1992</i>	<i>1997</i> ³	<i>2002</i>
<i>Cattle</i>	8,203	6,409	4,266
<i>Hogs</i>	1,730	1,266	263
<i>Sheep</i>	1,081	599	780

<i>2002 Value of Sales</i> ¹			
<i>All Products (\$1,000)</i>			21,661
<i>Nursery & Greenhouse (\$1,000)</i>			11,537
<i>Grains & Oilseeds (\$1,000)</i>			²
<i>Milk (\$1,000)</i>			2,419

<i>Demographic Data</i> ¹	<i>1992</i>	<i>1997</i> ³	<i>2002</i>
<i>Average Age of Operator</i>	55.9	56.4	56.5
<i>Percent Female Operators</i>	17.0	19.2	28.9

<i>2002 Equine Census</i>			
<i>Number of Equine Places</i>			1,200
<i>Equine Inventory</i>			5,190
<i>Value of Equine Inventory</i>			\$61,265,000

<i>Crop Production Acres</i> <i>Rank among Maryland Counties, 2002</i> ¹			
<i>Corn for Grain</i>	17	<i>Soybeans</i>	20
<i>Barley</i>	11	<i>Vegetables</i>	19
<i>Forage</i>	12	<i>Wheat</i>	17

<i>Livestock & Poultry Inventories</i> <i>Rank among Maryland Counties, 2002</i> ¹			
<i>Beef Cattle</i>	12	<i>Milk Cows</i>	12
<i>Broilers</i>	19	<i>Sheep</i>	10
<i>Hogs</i>	18		

¹ Source: Census of Agriculture, NASS.

² Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

³ Revised.

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<i>Crop</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Acreage Harvested</i>	<i>Yield</i>	<i>Total Production</i>
<i>Corn for Grain (bushels)</i>	<i>2001</i>	6,200	119.8	743,000
	<i>2002</i> ³	7,200	87.7	631,200
	<i>2003</i>	5,500	122.9	676,000
<i>Corn for Silage (tons)</i>	<i>2001</i>	700	17.1	12,000
	<i>2002</i>	1,000	13.0	13,000
	<i>2003</i>	800	9.0	7,200
<i>Soybeans (bushels)</i>	<i>2001</i>	3,400	40.0	136,000
	<i>2002</i> ³	3,800	30.1	114,300
	<i>2003</i>	2,500	38.0	94,900
<i>Wheat (bushels)</i>	<i>2001</i>	2,000	60.0	120,000
	<i>2002</i> ³	2,100	67.0	140,800
	<i>2003</i>	1,500	41.0	61,500
<i>Hay (tons)</i>	<i>2001</i>	6,000	2.2	13,000
	<i>2002</i> ³	5,600	2.2	12,200
	<i>2003</i>	5,000	2.6	13,200
<i>Barley (bushels)</i>	<i>2001</i>	600	77.8	46,700
	<i>2002</i> ³	700	76.9	53,800
	<i>2003</i>	600	66.2	39,700

³ Revised.

* Acreage too small to publish.

	2001	2002	2003
<i>Cropland Cash Rents (per acre)</i>	\$51.67	\$50.58	\$49.52

The Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service is an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture working cooperatively with the Maryland Department of Agriculture in the collection of statistical data for Maryland agriculture. Most data collection results from the voluntary cooperation of Maryland's farmers and other industry representatives. All published results are available through contact with the Maryland Agricultural Statistics office in Annapolis or through their website. Any questions or comments should be directed to Norman Bennett, State Director.

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