



## ***CAROLINE COUNTY 2002 AGRICULTURAL PROFILE***

Located on Maryland's Eastern Shore, Caroline County is ideally situated between surrounding metropolitan areas and the beaches of the Delmarva Peninsula. It is open country-side with scattered towns and villages, unspoiled and uncomplicated in its topography. The salt waters of the Chesapeake Bay mingle with the Choptank River, which winds a full 60 miles inland into the northern reaches of the county, affording some of the best bass fishing anywhere in the United States.

Of Caroline's total land area of 204,898 acres, 54 percent is used for agricultural purposes. Industries are largely agricultural and employ many of the county's 29,772 inhabitants. Points of interest include 91 historical land-marks including Linchester Mill, which supplied flour for Washington's troops during the Revolutionary war.

Ranking first in the state in 2002 for vegetable acreage; Caroline has earned the name "The Green Garden County of Maryland". The county ranked first in the state in the production of barley, second in wheat, fourth in soybeans, and sixth for corn. Caroline introduced the state's first comprehensive agricultural directory for its farmers entitled "The Agri-directory of Caroline County".

## CAROLINE AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

<i>Crop</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Acreage Harvested</i>	<i>Average Yield</i>	<i>Total Production</i>
<b>Corn for Grain</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Bu.</b>	20,500	175.0	3,588,000
	<b>2001</b>		22,500	175.8	3,955,000
	<b>2002</b>		25,000	80.0	2,000,000
<b>Corn for Silage</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Tons.</b>	1,700	22.1	37,500
	<b>2001</b>		1,600	19.4	31,000
	<b>2002</b>		2,000	12.0	24,000
<b>Soybeans</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Bu.</b>	60,700	41.0	2,489,000
	<b>2001</b>		57,500	36.0	2,070,000
	<b>2002</b>		52,000	17.6	914,000
<b>Wheat</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Bu.</b>	23,400	62.6	1,465,700
	<b>2001</b>		19,500	60.3	1,175,000
	<b>2002</b>		20,900	68.3	1,427,000
<b>Hay</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Tons.</b>	3,000	3.3	10,000
	<b>2001</b>		3,000	3.0	9,000
	<b>2002</b>		4,000	2.3	9,100
<b>Barley</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Bu.</b>	8,300	81.0	671,900
	<b>2001</b>		8,700	72.8	633,400
	<b>2002</b>		7,700	81.3	626,000

<i>Crop Production</i>				<i>Livestock Inventories</i>	
<i>Rank among MD. Counties, 2002</i>				<i>Rank among MD. Counties, 1997 <sup>1</sup></i>	
Corn	6	Oats	3	Cattle	15
Wheat	2	Barley	1	Hogs	4
Hay	13	Soybeans	4	Sheep	17
				Milk Cows	8 <sup>5</sup>

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<b><i>Farm Number &amp; Size</i></b> <sup>1</sup>	<b>1987</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1997</b>
Number of Farms	636	588	525
Average Size	( <i>acres</i> ) 209	216	212
Land in Farms	( <i>acres</i> ) 132,804	126,981	111,316
<b><i>Livestock (Number on Farms)</i></b> <sup>1</sup>			
Cattle Inventory	4,966	4,794	3,168
Hog Inventory	8,883	7,395	6,098
Sheep Inventory	172	391	244
<b><i>Value of Sales</i></b> <sup>1</sup>		<b>(<i>\$1,000</i>)</b>	
All Products	72,343	85,053	95,120
Crops	16,245	26,898	28,719
Livestock, Poultry, and Poultry Products	56,098	58,155	66,401
Average Number of Milk Cows	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
	1,500	1,500	1,500
Milk Production - 1,000 lbs	28,000	27,000	28,000
<b><i>Equine, 2002</i></b>			
<b><i>Equine Inventory</i></b>	<b><i>Value of Equine Inventory</i></b>	<b><i>Number of Equine Places</i></b>	
	<b><i>\$1,000 dollars</i></b>		
1,310	7,290	260	
Cash Rents			
	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
Cropland	<b><i>dollars per acre</i></b>	65.58	62.48
		61.00	

<sup>1</sup> Source: Census of Agriculture, NASS.

<sup>2</sup> Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

<sup>3</sup> Unranked - Data not published.

<sup>4</sup> Revised.

<sup>5</sup> 2002.

\* Acreage too small to publish.