



CARROLL COUNTY 2002 AGRICULTURAL PROFILE

Carroll County is located in the north central piedmont area of Maryland. Its 287,458 acres makes it the 9th largest county in the state. Over 156,000 acres, or 54 percent of the land area is devoted to agricultural uses. The topography is primarily rolling terrain with year round fresh water streams.

In 2000 Carroll County had a population of 150,987 with about 33,664 residing in the county seat of Westminster. Points of interest to visitors would include the Francis Scott Key birthplace near Keymar; Union Mills Homestead in Union Mills and the Carroll County Farm Museum in Westminster.

Carroll County has a very important and diverse grain and livestock agriculture. It ranked third in the state for milk production in 2002. Carroll County is a leading table egg producing area in the state. Fruit and vegetable production is increasing due to more available markets in the nearby metropolitan areas as well as the increasing value of the county's farmland. Carroll County's proximity to Baltimore is a distinct advantage in marketing its agricultural commodities.

CARROLL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

<i>Crop</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Acreage Harvested</i>	<i>Average Yield</i>	<i>Total Production</i>
Corn for Grain	2000	Bu.	32,000	168.8	5,401,000
	2001		30,300	89.9	2,723,000
	2002		33,000	78.8	2,600,000
Corn for Silage	2000	Tons.	9,800	19.4	190,400
	2001		10,500	15.7	165,000
	2002		11,000	10.0	110,000
Soybeans	2000	Bu.	20,700	39.7	821,000
	2001		20,300	30.0	609,000
	2002		19,300	29.0	559,700
Wheat	2000	Bu.	9,800	62.1	608,200
	2001		8,500	63.5	540,000
	2002		8,300	60.8	505,000
Hay	2000	Tons.	33,000	3.9	129,500
	2001		30,000	2.3	70,000
	2002		28,000	2.3	65,500
Barley	2000	Bu.	4,200	88.7	372,700
	2001		4,300	77.5	333,300
	2002		4,200	83.3	350,000

<i>Crop Production</i>				<i>Livestock Inventories</i>	
<i>Rank among MD. Counties, 2002</i>				<i>Rank among MD. Counties, 1997¹</i>	
Corn	3	Oats	3	Cattle	3
Wheat	9	Barley	4	Hogs	3
Hay	3	Soybeans	8	Sheep	4
				Milk Cows	3 ⁵

CARROLL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

<i>Farm Number & Size</i> ¹	1987	1992	1997
Number of Farms	1,238	1,080	1,041
Average Size	(<i>acres</i>) 135	146	154
Land in Farms	(<i>acres</i>) 166,745	157,505	160,180
<i>Livestock (Number on Farms)</i> ¹			
Cattle Inventory	36,833	33,700	30,584
Hog Inventory	10,115	9,077	9,434
Sheep Inventory	3,838	2,320	2,645
<i>Value of Sales</i> ¹		(<i>\$1,000</i>)	
All Products	55,899	66,966	71,272
Crops	16,138	21,737	25,776
Livestock, Poultry, and Poultry Products	39,761	45,229	45,496
Average Number of Milk Cows	2000	2001	2002
	9,700	9,500	9,500
Milk Production - 1,000 lbs	219,000	210,000	215,000
<i>Equine, 2002</i>			
<i>Equine Inventory</i>	<i>Value of Equine Inventory</i>	<i>Number of Equine Places</i>	
	<i>\$1,000 dollars</i>		
5,730	31,735	1,290	
Cash Rents			
	2000	2001	2002
Cropland	<i>dollars per acre</i>	59.66	59.05
			57.68

¹ Source: Census of Agriculture, NASS.

² Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

³ Unranked - Data not published.

⁴ Revised.

⁵ 2002.

* Acreage too small to publish.