



FREDERICK COUNTY 2002 AGRICULTURAL PROFILE

Frederick County is located in the central, Piedmont area of Maryland. It's 424,283 acres make it the second largest county in the state. A total of 215,927 acres of land is devoted to agriculture; this represents about 51 percent of the county's land. The topography in the county varies from gently rolling hills in the southern part of the county to near mountain-like conditions in the northern part of the county.

Frederick County has a very diverse crop and livestock agriculture, but it's forte' is dairy. It ranks first in the state in milk production. In 2002 there were 25,000 head of milk cows in the county producing 388 million pounds of milk. Fruits and vegetables produced in the county are commodities well known for excellent quality.

Frederick County's proximity to Washington, D.C. and Baltimore and their suburbs has resulted in an ever growing population. The 2000 census showed a total of 195,277 people.

FREDERICK 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.	26,000	144.5	3,757,000
	2001		23,500	90.1	2,117,000
	2002		24,000	87.5	2,100,000
Corn for Silage	2000	Tons.	22,600	21.2	478,600
	2001		24,000	13.5	324,000
	2002		26,000	12.1	314,000
Soybeans	2000	Bu.	25,600	41.2	1,055,000
	2001		25,900	35.4	918,000
	2002		24,000	34.0	816,000
Wheat	2000	Bu.	12,800	62.0	793,600
	2001		12,000	65.4	785,000
	2002		12,900	59.0	761,000
Hay	2000	Tons.	48,500	3.5	171,500
	2001		44,000	2.3	100,000
	2002		46,400	2.3	106,400
Barley	2000	Bu.	5,700	74.3	423,500
	2001		5,500	71.7	394,400
	2002		5,200	80.8	420,000

<i>Crop Production</i>				<i>Livestock Inventories</i>	
<i>Rank among MD. Counties, 2002</i>				<i>Rank among MD. Counties, 1997¹</i>	
Corn	5	Oats	3	Cattle	1
Wheat	6	Barley	2	Hogs	6
Hay	1	Soybeans	6	Sheep	1
				Milk Cows	1 ⁵

FREDERICK AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

<i>Farm Number & Size</i> ¹		1987	1992	1997
Number of Farms		1,439	1,346	1,304
Average Size	<i>(acres)</i>	164	166	166
Land in Farms	<i>(acres)</i>	236,350	222,768	215,927
<i>Livestock (Number on Farms)</i> ¹				
Cattle Inventory		78,537	73,252	65,359
Hog Inventory		6,929	2,811	5,117
Sheep Inventory		3,245	2,625	3,297
<i>Value of Sales</i> ¹			<i>(\$1,000)</i>	
All Products		94,647	109,197	101,660
Crops		9,034	18,139	17,497
Livestock, Poultry, and Poultry Products		10,044	91,058	84,162
Average Number of Milk Cows		2000	2001	2002
		27,000	26,000	25,000
Milk Production - 1,000 lbs.		405,000	388,000	398,000
<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>		
	8,290	47,310	2,180	
Cash Rents				
Cropland		<i>dollars per acre</i>	2000	2001
			51.14	53.03
				2002
				59.97

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.