



## ***HARFORD COUNTY 2002 AGRICULTURAL PROFILE***

Harford County, in Northeastern Maryland, lies between Pennsylvania and the Chesapeake Bay. It borders Baltimore County on the west and Cecil County on the east. Land area is approximately 281,839 acres. The northern four-fifths of the county lies in the Piedmont Plateau and has an elevation of 200 to 750 feet above sea level. The southern one-fifth is part of the Coastal Plain and is 40 to 200 feet above sea level. Thirty-three percent or just over 94,000 acres of the county is devoted to agriculture.

A population increase in the past ten years to 218,590 in 2000, has created many obvious pressures for agriculture. Although people reside throughout the county, population is concentrated in and around the three incorporated towns in the southeastern coastal plain and northward to the central section of the county.

Harford's agriculture industry includes traditional and nontraditional farming. Traditionally livestock and fluid milk were major income producers. Cash grain acreage, both corn and soybeans, has increased over the past 10 years as well as hay and straw production. Fruit and vegetable production has increased because of market demand in the county and nearby Baltimore City. Specialty products such as cut flowers, containers flowers, hanging baskets, wine, honey and Christmas trees have entered the agriculture market in Harford County.

## ***HARFORD 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>	22,600	164.2	3,710,000
	<b>2001</b>		22,900	104.5	2,393,000
	<b>2002</b>		22,500	88.9	2,000,000
<b>Corn for Silage</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Tons.</b>	4,700	21.7	101,900
	<b>2001</b>		5,200	17.3	90,000
	<b>2002</b>		5,000	14.0	70,000
<b>Soybeans</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Bu.</b>	9,600	41.0	394,000
	<b>2001</b>		10,400	36.0	374,000
	<b>2002</b>		10,900	31.6	344,600
<b>Wheat</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Bu.</b>	4,300	58.9	253,100
	<b>2001</b>		3,700	61.1	226,000
	<b>2002</b>		3,500	54.6	191,000
<b>Hay</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Tons.</b>	13,500	3.0	41,000
	<b>2001</b>		14,000	2.7	38,000
	<b>2002</b>		14,000	2.9	40,000
<b>Barley</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Bu.</b>	800	82.0	65,600
	<b>2001</b>		900	80.3	72,300
	<b>2002</b>		900	82.2	74,000

<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	5
Wheat	15	Barley	12	Hogs	9
Hay	5	Soybeans	14	Sheep	3
				Milk Cows	4 <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		758	695	651
Average Size	<i>(acres)</i>	132	140	145
Land in Farms	<i>(acres)</i>	99,948	97,312	94,112
<b><i>Livestock (Number on Farms)</i></b> <sup>1</sup>				
Cattle Inventory		19,515	18,992	17,433
Hog Inventory		1,294	1,238	3,190
Sheep Inventory		3,510	3,019	2,824
<b><i>Value of Sales</i></b> <sup>1</sup>			<b><i>(\$1,000)</i></b>	
All Products		24,500	28,735	38,807
Crops		8,669	12,302	16,299
Livestock, Poultry, and Poultry Products		15,831	16,433	22,508
Average Number of Milk Cows		<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
		4,800	5,000	5,000
Milk Production - 1,000 lbs		86,000	82,000	84,000
<b><i>Equine, 2002</i></b>				
	<i>Equine Inventory</i>	<i>Value of Equine Inventory</i>	<i>Number of Equine Places</i>	
		<i>1,000 dollars</i>		
	7,390	73,115	1,360	
<b>Cash Rents</b>				
		<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
Cropland	<i>dollars per acre</i>	63.73	68.04	75.21

<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.