



## ***MONTGOMERY COUNTY 2002 AGRICULTURAL PROFILE***

With a land area of 316,527 acres and contiguous with Washington, D.C. and the Potomac river, Montgomery County is frequently referred to as the "bedroom of Washington". The 2000 population for Montgomery county was 873,341 a 15 percent increase from the 757,027 in 1990 and the most popular county in Maryland. The county's ties to the federal government are not only residential, but it's commerce also is heavily influenced by the federal government. Agencies such as the National Institute of Health, the National Bureau of Standards and Department of Energy are located in Montgomery County. Bioscience, technology, law, finance and other dynamic industries make it a major Maryland business center.

The remaining one-third of the land area is still basically rural, agricultural, and open space. Aided by the new technology such as no-tillage farming and a farmland preservation program, the agriculture sector continues to thrive. Approximately 45 percent of the 526 farmers are full time, but over one-half of the 77,266 acres of farmland is owned by non-farm people.

The county's agriculture is typically central Maryland Peidmont farming. Cash grain and oil crops, dairy and livestock dominate agricultural production.

With a high percentage of small part-time farmers, it has the second largest equine population and a growing fresh produce industry that is marketed directly to the consumer.

## ***MONTGOMERY 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>	9,900	129.0	1,277,000
	<b>2001</b>		10,600	128.0	1,357,000
	<b>2002</b>		10,800	92.6	1,000,000
<b>Corn for Silage</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Tons.</b>	1,000	19.0	19,000
	<b>2001</b>		1,100	18.2	20,000
	<b>2002</b>		1,100	13.6	15,000
<b>Soybeans</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Bu.</b>	15,600	44.9	700,000
	<b>2001</b>		12,900	35.5	458,000
	<b>2002</b>		13,200	32.0	422,400
<b>Wheat</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Bu.</b>	5,300	65.5	347,100
	<b>2001</b>		4,500	62.2	280,000
	<b>2002</b>		5,100	57.8	295,000
<b>Hay</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Tons.</b>	12,500	3.4	42,000
	<b>2001</b>		11,500	2.6	30,000
	<b>2002</b>		10,000	2.0	20,300
<b>Barley</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Bu.</b>	800	61.3	49,000
	<b>2001</b>		700	77.6	54,300
	<b>2002</b>		500	82.0	41,000

***Crop Production***  
***Rank among MD. Counties, 2002***

Corn	11	Oats	3
Wheat	13	Barley	14
Hay	7	Soybeans	12

***Livestock Inventories***  
***Rank among MD. Counties, 1997<sup>1</sup>***

Cattle	8
Hogs	18
Sheep	8
Milk Cows	10 <sup>5</sup>

## ***MONTGOMERY AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS***

<b><i>Farm Number &amp; Size</i></b> <sup>1</sup>	<b>1987</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1997</b>
Number of Farms	669	561	526
Average Size	<i>(acres)</i> 155	147	147
Land in Farms	<i>(acres)</i> 103,377	82,470	77,266
<b><i>Livestock (Number on Farms)</i></b> <sup>1</sup>			
Cattle Inventory	121,131	11,330	8,543
Hog Inventory	2,780	483	666
Sheep Inventory	1,765	1,015	905
<b><i>Value of Sales</i></b> <sup>1</sup>		<b><i>(\$1,000)</i></b>	
All Products	26,049	27,717	28,563
Crops	16,091	25,000	24,000
Livestock, Poultry, and Poultry Products	9,958	7,764	8,731
Average Number of Milk Cows	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
	1,800	2,000	2,000
Milk Production - 1,000 lbs.	25,000	24,000	25,000
<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>		
8,470	60,555	2,590	
<b>Cash Rents</b>			
		<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>
Cropland	<i>dollars per acre</i>	44.45	45.69
		<b>2002</b>	
			47.71

<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 .