



## ***TALBOT COUNTY 2002 AGRICULTURAL PROFILE***

Talbot County lies in the heart of the Eastern Shore of Maryland. With 602 miles of waterfront, Talbot County is believed to have the longest shoreline of any county in the continental United States. The area of the county is 172,277 acres, of which 109,572 acres are classified as land in farms.

A total of 92,953 acres are cropland. Cash grain represents the primary type of farm production. Soybeans and corn with winter small grains are the main crops. Broiler production also contributes significantly to agricultural income.

The population of Talbot County was 33,812 in 2000. Easton, the County Seat, had a population of 9,372 and is the largest of the five incorporated towns in the county.

Seafood industry is second only to agriculture as the county's economic base. Recreational activities such as hunting, fishing and boating attract many visitors to the county each year, and a large number of retired persons have bought or built homes here.

## **TALBOT 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>	34,300	140.9	4,833,000
	<b>2001</b>		32,200	146.6	4,719,000
	<b>2002</b>		32,000	68.8	2,200,000
<b>Corn for Silage</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Tons.</b>	*	*	*
	<b>2001</b>		600	18.3	11,000
	<b>2002</b>		1,000	11.0	11,000
<b>Soybeans</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Bu.</b>	35,600	41.0	1,461,000
	<b>2001</b>		46,300	42.0	1,944,000
	<b>2002</b>		42,000	17.0	714,000
<b>Wheat</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Bu.</b>	21,600	63.6	1,373,500
	<b>2001</b>		18,500	64.5	1,194,000
	<b>2002</b>		17,700	69.7	1,233,000
<b>Hay</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Tons.</b>	700	3.6	2,500
	<b>2001</b>		700	2.9	2,000
	<b>2002</b>		800	1.6	1,300
<b>Barley</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Bu.</b>	3,300	95.1	313,700
	<b>2001</b>		3,100	76.2	236,200
	<b>2002</b>		1,900	83.2	158,000

<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	4	Oats	3	Cattle	17
Wheat	3	Barley	8	Hogs	2
Hay	22	Soybeans	7	Sheep	12
				Milk Cows	12 <sup>5</sup>

## TALBOT 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		280	250	240
Average Size	<i>(acres)</i>	389	436	457
Land in Farms	<i>(acres)</i>	109,032	109,108	109,572
<b><i>Livestock (Number on Farms)</i></b> <sup>1</sup>				
Cattle Inventory		4,278	2,367	2,212
Hog Inventory		2,765	1,834	<sup>2</sup>
Sheep Inventory		487	521	514
<b><i>Value of Sales</i></b> <sup>1</sup>			<b><i>(\$1,000)</i></b>	
All Products		26,579	35,501	48,630
Crops		12,309	21,125	24,259
Livestock, Poultry, and Poultry Products		14,270	14,376	24,271
Average Number of Milk Cows		<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
		600	600	500
Milk Production - 1,000 lbs.		8,000	8,000	8,000
<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>		
	1,930	8,375	700	
<b>Cash Rents</b>				
		<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
Cropland	<i>dollars per acre</i>	86.46	78.32	69.77

<sup>1</sup> Source: Bureau of the Census U.S. Department of Commerce.

<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.