

# NEBRASKA AGRI-FACTS

## SPECIAL EDITION

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NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
<http://www.agr.state.ne.us/agstats/index.htm>

### NEBRASKA AGRICULTURE

This report highlights the importance of agriculture to Nebraska. In 1998, the State's 55,000 farms and ranches utilized 46.4 million acres or about 95 percent of the State's total land area. Agriculture is Nebraska's primary source of wealth and its dominant industry. It is estimated that one-half of Nebraska workers depend on agriculture and the many related industries involved in all phases of the food and fiber chain from production to marketing for their employment.

The Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service compiled this report as a service to the public, foreign interests looking to buy Nebraska products, and the many farmers, ranchers and agricultural service firms who voluntarily provide survey data to make reliable agricultural estimates possible. Crop and livestock reports date back to the beginning of this country. The National agency issued the first official monthly crop report in 1863. These statistics reports continue to inform both buyers and sellers, helping to keep agricultural markets updated, stable and efficient -- and help to maintain a "level playing field" for all.

We hope this report will be useful and answer many questions about Nebraska agriculture. If more information is needed, please contact us at the address shown above.

#### NEBRASKA FARMS AND RANCHES AND LAND

Year	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Average Size of Farms
	Number	1,000 Ac.	Acres
1950	109,000	48,400	444
1960	93,000	48,200	518
1970	73,000	48,100	659
1980	65,000	47,700	734
1985	60,000	47,200	787
1990	57,000	47,100	826
1991	56,000	47,100	841
1992	56,000	47,100	841
1993	56,000	46,500	830
1994	56,000	46,500	830
1995	56,000	46,400	829
1996	56,000	46,400	829
1997	55,000	46,400	844
1998	55,000	46,400	844

### AGRO CLIMATIC RESOURCES

Nebraska is located in the mid-section of the United States (latitude 40°N-43°N; longitude 96°W-104°W). Hot summers and cold winters, variability in rainfall distribution, fluctuating length of growing season, and frequent winds typify Nebraska's climate and each has affected agricultural production decisions and resource distribution over the years. Average "precipitation" during the last decade ranged from 35 inches in the southeast to nearly 18 inches in the west. About 75 percent of the precipitation falls as rain during April - September, the crop growing season. Average growing season ranges from 170 days in the southeast to 120 days in the extreme northwest. The southeast is about 1,000 feet above sea level, while the Panhandle has elevations of 4,000 - 5,400 feet. "Irrigation," currently at 8.15 million acres, provides a buffer against drought, a serious recurrent problem for the Great Plains. A careful selection of adaptable crops, improved varieties, use of strip and contour cropping, stubble mulching, deferred grazing and other proven practices enable Nebraska farmers to cope with climatic uncertainty and supply domestic and international markets with top quality products.

### WATER RESOURCES

Nebraska is a water-rich State. Underneath 59 percent of its 49-million-acre land surface, in porous rock beds called aquifers, is stored nearly 2 billion acre-feet of good quality groundwater, most of which is easily accessible. Add to that an average of 90 million acre-feet of annual precipitation and an annual surface-water inflow of roughly 2 million acre-feet to obtain a measure of available water. In terms of surface water, approximately 8 million acre-feet flows on to other States, making Nebraska a donor of approximately 6 million acre-feet more than flows into its borders. Groundwater irrigation began in the 1920's. At the beginning of 1975, nearly 46,000 registered irrigation wells and about 5,000 surface water rights supplied 4 million acres. Currently, 79,395 registered wells and some 5,000 surface water rights supply water to about 8.15 million acres of crop and pastureland.

### SOIL RESOURCES

Nebraska soils are a product of interaction of climate and biological organisms on parent materials as modified by local topography, drainage, and exposure to weathering. Two types of geologic deposits are parent materials for the vast majority of soils in the State. Wind-blown sand is the parent material in the Sandhills grazing region that occupies much of the north-central part of the State. Elsewhere, most soils have formed in wind-blown silt and clay or loess. Topography and subsequent soil drainage have greatly influenced development of soil properties in local areas.



### LAND USES

Nebraska's 46.4 million acres in farms and ranches is divided between cropland and other land used primarily for pastures and rangeland to support the State's livestock industry. In 1998, the area planted to crops and used for hay totaled 19.0 million acres. Active participation in government acreage reduction programs has reduced planted acreages in some years. Comparable area planted estimates for 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, and 1997 were 18.5, 19.1, 18.3, 18.8, and 19.1 million acres, respectively.

Corn, soybeans, winter wheat and sorghum are the State's leading crops, usually utilizing about 14.5 million acres of cropland. Corn and winter wheat are grown essentially Statewide, while most soybeans are produced in the eastern one-half of Nebraska. Primary sorghum producing counties lie in the southeastern one-third of the State. The specialty crops of dry edible beans and sugar beets are produced in western irrigated fields. Sandhill pastures of north central Nebraska produce much of the State's wild hay production and maintain many cow/calf operations.

**CROPS**

Year	Acres 1/ Planted	Acres Harv.	Yield per Harv. Acre	Production
<b>CORN FOR GRAIN</b>				
	000 Acres		Bu.	000 Bu.
1970 . . . .	5,443	4,828	76.0	366,928
1980 . . . .	7,800	7,100	85.0	603,500
1985 . . . .	7,800	7,450	128.0	953,600
1990 . . . .	7,700	7,300	128.0	934,400
1995 . . . .	8,000	7,700	111.0	854,700
1996 . . . .	8,500	8,250	143.0	1,179,750
1997 . . . .	8,900	8,600	132.0	1,135,200
1998 . . . .	8,800	8,550	*145.0	*1,239,750
<b>SOYBEANS</b>				
	000 Acres		Bu.	000 Bu.
1970 . . . .	824	812	22.0	17,864
1980 . . . .	1,830	1,770	30.0	53,100
1985 . . . .	2,400	2,360	36.0	84,960
1990 . . . .	2,400	2,360	34.5	81,420
1995 . . . .	3,100	3,060	33.0	100,980
1996 . . . .	3,050	3,010	45.0	135,450
1997 . . . .	3,600	3,550	40.5	143,775
1998 . . . .	*3,800	*3,750	44.0	*165,000
<b>ALL WHEAT</b>				
	000 Acres		Bu.	000 Bu.
1970 . . . .	2,565	2,410	38.0	91,580
1980 . . . .	3,000	2,850	38.0	108,300
1985 . . . .	2,600	2,300	39.0	89,700
1990 . . . .	2,450	2,250	38.0	85,500
1995 . . . .	2,150	2,100	41.0	86,100
1996 . . . .	2,300	2,100	35.0	73,500
1997 . . . .	2,000	1,900	37.0	70,300
1998 . . . .	1,900	1,800	*46.0	82,800
<b>SORGHUM FOR GRAIN</b>				
	000 Acres		Bu.	000 Bu.
1970 . . . .	1,695	1,480	51.0	75,480
1980 . . . .	2,200	2,030	60.0	121,800
1985 . . . .	2,100	1,930	80.0	154,400
1990 . . . .	1,600	1,410	77.0	108,570
1995 . . . .	1,250	980	58.0	56,840
1996 . . . .	1,250	1,030	95.0	97,850
1997 . . . .	900	750	81.0	60,750
1998 . . . .	700	600	94.0	56,400
<b>ALL HAY</b>				
	000 Acres		Tons	000 Tons
1970 . . . .	---	4,150	1.47	6,100
1980 . . . .	---	3,700	1.91	7,083
1985 . . . .	---	3,300	2.05	6,755
1990 . . . .	---	3,650	1.97	7,205
1995 . . . .	---	3,150	2.29	7,200
1996 . . . .	---	3,150	2.37	7,455
1997 . . . .	---	3,200	2.12	6,790
1998 . . . .	---	3,200	*2.40	7,680
<b>ALFALFA HAY</b>				
	000 Acres		Tons	000 Tons
1970 . . . .	---	1,750	2.30	4,025
1980 . . . .	---	1,650	3.05	5,033
1985 . . . .	---	1,400	3.40	4,760
1990 . . . .	---	1,450	3.30	4,785
1995 . . . .	---	1,350	3.60	4,860
1996 . . . .	---	1,400	3.70	5,180
1997 . . . .	---	1,300	3.25	4,225
1998 . . . .	---	1,400	*3.75	5,250
<b>WILD HAY</b>				
	000 Acres		Tons	000 Tons
1970 . . . .	---	2,050	.75	1,538
1980 . . . .	---	1,750	.90	1,575
1985 . . . .	---	1,550	.88	1,365
1990 . . . .	---	1,600	.92	1,472
1995 . . . .	---	1,500	1.19	1,785
1996 . . . .	---	1,475	1.16	1,710
1997 . . . .	---	1,500	1.11	1,665
1998 . . . .	---	1,500	1.16	1,740

1/ Planted all purposes. \* Record high.

Year	Acres 1/ Planted	Acres Harv.	Yield per Harv. Acre	Production
<b>IRRIGATED CORN FOR GRAIN</b>				
	000 Acres		Bu.	000 Bu.
1970 . . . .	---	2,231	111.4	248,446
1980 . . . .	---	4,950	101.0	499,950
1985 . . . .	---	5,050	141.5	714,800
1990 . . . .	---	5,050	145.5	734,775
1995 . . . .	---	5,125	130.1	666,725
1996 . . . .	---	*5,550	156.6	*869,250
1997 . . . .	---	5,400	151.6	818,400
1998 . . . .	---	5,250	*161.3	847,050
<b>DRY EDIBLE BEANS</b>				
	000 Acres		Lbs.	000 Cwt.
1970 . . . .	92	86	1,800	1,548
1980 . . . .	160	150	1,820	2,730
1985 . . . .	165	151	1,850	2,794
1990 . . . .	*260	*254	1,970	*5,004
1995 . . . .	225	205	1,750	3,588
1996 . . . .	205	195	1,900	3,705
1997 . . . .	190	180	2,060	3,708
1998 . . . .	195	188	1,950	3,666
<b>SUGAR BEETS</b>				
	000 Acres		Tons	000 Tons
1970 . . . .	85.2	78.7	17.3	1,365
1980 . . . .	87.0	85.0	20.9	1,777
1985 . . . .	59.1	53.2	23.1	1,229
1990 . . . .	75.1	71.0	21.0	1,491
1995 . . . .	75.9	72.3	16.4	1,186
1996 . . . .	55.8	51.2	17.8	913
1997 . . . .	67.3	60.3	16.8	1,013
1998 . . . .	53.8	47.4	19.7	934
<b>OATS</b>				
	000 Acres		Bu.	000 Bu.
1970 . . . .	702	578	42.0	24,276
1980 . . . .	525	380	41.0	15,580
1985 . . . .	550	420	61.0	25,620
1990 . . . .	450	280	48.0	13,440
1995 . . . .	155	90	50.0	4,500
1996 . . . .	165	105	*71.0	7,455
1997 . . . .	160	90	65.0	5,850
1998 . . . .	170	95	56.0	5,320
<b>CROPS: RECORD HIGHS THROUGH 1998</b>				
	Crops	Year	Record High	
Corn	Harvested	1932	10,005,000	acres
for	Yield	1998	145.0	bu.
Grain	Production	1998	1,239,750,000	bu.
Soybeans	Harvested	1997	3,500,000	acres
	Yield	1994	47.0	bu.
	Production	1998	165,000,000	bu.
All Wheat	Harvested	1938	4,691,000	acres
	Yield	1998	46.0	bu.
	Production	1958	113,488,000	bu.
Sorghum	Harvested	1965	2,271,000	acres
for	Yield	1994	98.0	bu.
Grain	Production	1981	164,800,000	bu.
All Hay	Harvested	1954	5,595,000	acres
	Yield	1998	2.40	tons
	Production	1982	7,855,000	tons
<b>NEBRASKA'S RANK AMONG STATES IN 1998</b>				
1st	Great northern beans production - 1,855,000 cwt.			
2nd	Alfalfa meal production - 148,200 tons			
3rd	Corn grain production - 1.24 billion bushels			
3rd	Sorghum grain production - 56.4 million bushels			
3rd	Pinto beans production - 1,386,000 cwt.			
4th	On-farm grain storage capacity - 1.1 billion bushels			
4th	Commercial grain storage capacity - 629 million bushels			
5th	All hay production - 7.7 million tons			
5th	Alfalfa hay production - 5.3 million tons			
6th	Winter wheat production - 82.8 million bushels			
6th	Crops cash receipts - \$4.55 billion (in 1997)			
7th	Soybean production - 165.0 million bushels			
10th	Sugar beet production - 934 thousand tons			

**CROPS**

Year	Hectares Planted 1/	Hectares Harv.	Yield per Harv. Hectare	Production
<b>CORN FOR GRAIN</b>				
	000 Hectares		MT	000 MT
1970 .....	2,203	1,954	4.77	9,320
1980 .....	3,157	2,873	5.34	15,330
1985 .....	3,157	3,015	8.03	24,222
1990 .....	3,116	2,954	8.03	23,735
1995 .....	3,238	3,116	6.97	21,710
1996 .....	3,440	3,339	8.98	29,967
1997 .....	3,602	3,480	8.29	28,835
1998 .....	3,561	3,460	*9.10	*31,491
<b>SOYBEANS</b>				
	000 Hectares		MT	000 MT
1970 .....	333	329	1.48	486
1980 .....	741	716	2.02	1,445
1985 .....	971	955	2.42	2,312
1990 .....	971	955	2.32	2,216
1995 .....	1,255	1,238	2.22	2,748
1996 .....	1,234	1,218	3.03	3,686
1997 .....	1,457	1,437	2.72	3,913
1998 .....	*1,538	*1,518	2.96	*4,491
<b>ALL WHEAT</b>				
	000 Hectares		MT	000 MT
1970 .....	1,038	975	2.56	2,492
1980 .....	1,214	1,153	2.56	2,947
1985 .....	1,052	931	2.62	2,441
1990 .....	992	911	2.56	2,327
1995 .....	870	850	2.76	2,343
1996 .....	931	850	2.35	2,000
1997 .....	809	769	2.49	1,913
1998 .....	769	728	*3.09	2,253
<b>SORGHUM FOR GRAIN</b>				
	000 Hectares		MT	000 MT
1970 .....	686	599	3.20	1,917
1980 .....	890	822	3.77	3,094
1985 .....	850	781	5.02	3,922
1990 .....	648	571	4.83	2,758
1995 .....	506	397	3.64	1,444
1996 .....	506	417	5.96	2,485
1997 .....	364	304	5.08	1,543
1998 .....	283	243	5.90	1,433
<b>ALL HAY</b>				
	000 Hectares		MT	000 MT
1970 .....	---	1,679	3.29	5,534
1980 .....	---	1,497	4.29	6,426
1985 .....	---	1,335	4.59	6,128
1990 .....	---	1,477	4.42	6,536
1995 .....	---	1,275	5.12	6,532
1996 .....	---	1,275	5.31	6,763
1997 .....	---	1,295	4.76	6,160
1998 .....	---	1,295	*5.38	6,967
<b>ALFALFA HAY</b>				
	000 Hectares		MT	000 MT
1970 .....	---	708	5.16	3,651
1980 .....	---	668	6.84	4,566
1985 .....	---	567	7.62	4,318
1990 .....	---	587	7.40	4,341
1995 .....	---	546	8.07	4,409
1996 .....	---	567	8.29	4,699
1997 .....	---	526	7.29	3,833
1998 .....	---	567	*8.41	4,763
<b>WILD HAY</b>				
	000 Hectares		MT	000 MT
1970 .....	---	830	1.68	1,395
1980 .....	---	708	2.02	1,429
1985 .....	---	627	1.97	1,238
1990 .....	---	648	2.06	1,335
1995 .....	---	607	2.67	1,619
1996 .....	---	597	2.60	1,551
1997 .....	---	607	2.49	1,510
1998 .....	---	607	2.60	1,579

Year	Hectares Planted 1/	Hectares Harv.	Yield per Harv. Hectare	Production
<b>IRRIGATED CORN FOR GRAIN</b>				
	000 Hectares		MT	000 MT
1970 .....	---	903	6.99	6,311
1980 .....	---	2,003	6.34	12,699
1985 .....	---	2,044	8.88	18,157
1990 .....	---	2,044	9.13	18,664
1995 .....	---	2,074	8.17	16,935
1996 .....	---	*2,246	9.83	*22,080
1997 .....	---	2,185	9.51	20,788
1998 .....	---	2,125	*10.13	21,516
<b>DRY EDIBLE BEANS</b>				
	000 Hectares		MT	000 MT
1970 .....	37	35	2.02	70
1980 .....	65	61	2.04	124
1985 .....	67	61	2.08	127
1990 .....	*105	*103	2.21	*227
1995 .....	91	83	1.96	163
1996 .....	83	79	2.13	168
1997 .....	77	73	2.31	168
1998 .....	79	76	2.19	166
<b>SUGAR BEETS</b>				
	000 Hectares		MT	000 MT
1970 .....	34.5	31.8	38.88	1,238
1980 .....	35.2	34.4	46.86	1,612
1985 .....	23.9	21.5	51.79	1,115
1990 .....	30.4	28.7	47.07	1,353
1995 .....	30.7	29.3	36.77	1,076
1996 .....	22.6	20.7	39.97	828
1997 .....	27.2	24.4	37.66	919
1998 .....	21.8	19.2	44.17	847
<b>OATS</b>				
	000 Hectares		MT	000 MT
1970 .....	284	234	1.51	352
1980 .....	212	154	1.47	226
1985 .....	223	170	2.19	372
1990 .....	182	113	1.72	195
1995 .....	63	36	1.79	65
1996 .....	67	42	*2.55	108
1997 .....	65	36	2.33	85
1998 .....	69	38	2.01	77

<b>CROPS: RECORD HIGHS THROUGH 1998</b>				
Crops		Year	Record High	
Corn	Harvested	1932	4,049,000	hectares
	Yield	1998	9.10	metric tons
	Production	1998	31,491,000	metric tons
Soybeans	Harvested	1997	1,396,000	hectares
	Yield	1994	3.16	metric tons
	Production	1998	4,491,000	metric tons
All Wheat	Harvested	1938	1,898,000	hectares
	Yield	1998	3.09	metric tons
	Production	1958	3,087,000	metric tons
Sorghum	Harvested	1965	919,000	hectares
	Yield	1994	6.15	metric tons
	Production	1981	1,186,000	metric tons
All Hay	Harvested	1954	2,264,000	hectares
	Yield	1998	5.38	metric tons
	Production	1982	7,126,000	metric tons

<b>NEBRASKA'S RANK AMONG STATES IN 1998</b>	
1st	Great northern beans production - 84,217 metric tons
2nd	Alfalfa meal production - 134,445 metric tons
3rd	Corn grain production - 31,491,000 metric tons
3rd	Sorghum grain production - 1,433,000 metric tons
3rd	Pinto beans production - 62,924 metric tons
4th	On-farm grain storage capacity - 27.9 million metric tons
4th	Commercial grain storage capacity - 16.0 million metric tons
5th	All hay production - 6,967,000 metric tons
5th	Alfalfa hay production - 4,763,000 metric tons
6th	Winter wheat production - 2,253,000 metric tons
6th	Crops cash receipts - \$4.55 billion (in 1997)
7th	Soybean production - 4,491,000 metric tons
10th	Sugar beet production - 847,000 metric tons

1/ Planted all purposes. \* Record high. MT = Metric Tons.

# LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

## HIGHLIGHTS

- \* 3 of every 4 farms have livestock or poultry enterprises.
- \* Usually 40% of feed grains produced are fed in State.
- \* Cash receipts from livestock, poultry, and products annually account for over 65% of total cash receipts.
- \* National rank among States (Number and Date):
  - 1st - Commercial red meat production (6.7 billion lbs. - 1998)
  - 2nd - Commercial cattle slaughter (7.3 million - 1998)
  - 2nd - Cattle & calves (6.7 million - 1/99)
  - 2nd - Cattle on feed (2.2 million - 1/99)
  - 3rd - Fed cattle marketed, 1000+ lots (4.4 million - 1998)
  - 3rd - Livestock cash receipts (\$5.5 billion - 1997)
  - 3rd - Beef cows (1.94 million - 1/99)
  - 5th - Calves born (1.8 million - 1998)
  - 6th - Hog slaughter (6.3 million - 1998)
  - 6th - Hogs & pigs (3.4 million - 12/98)
  - 12th - Chickens (13.2 million - 12/98)
  - 13th - Honey production (4.48 million lbs. - 1998)
  - 16th - Sheep & lambs (105,000 - 1/99)

## CATTLE IN NEBRASKA

- \* Early 1999 inventory decreased with fewer cattle on feed.
- \* Annually, cash receipts total about \$4.5 billion, or about one-half of the State's total agricultural receipts.
- \* Account for about 6.7% of the Nation's cattle herd.
- \* Account for 5.8% of the Nation's beef cow herd.
- \* On January 1, 1999, feedlots held 17% of the Nation's cattle on feed and 22.6% of the 7 Major State's total.
- \* Central and western feeding expanding:
  - In 1954, 75% of cattle were placed in eastern one-third of State. Recently, less than 45% of the fed cattle were placed in eastern lots.
- \* Feeding more cattle in fewer feedlots:
  - In 1962, operators of 24,303 lots marketed 1.8 million fed cattle.
  - In 1998, only 665 lots (1,000+ capacity) marketed 4.4 million.
- \* Commercial cattle slaughter totaled about 7.3 million head in 1998 and 20.6% of U.S. total cattle slaughter.

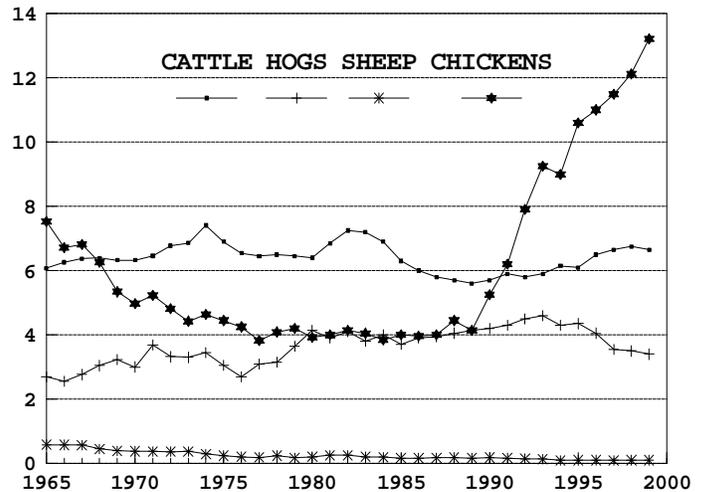
## NUMBER OF OPERATIONS WITH LIVESTOCK

Year	Cattle	Beef* Cows	Milk* Cows	Hogs	Sheep	Cattle Feedlots*	
						All	1000+
N u m b e r							
1989	31,000	24,000	3,500	13,000	3,200	8,800	480
1990	31,000	24,000	3,000	12,500	3,200	7,800	480
1991	30,000	23,000	2,700	12,500	2,900	7,400	510
1992	29,000	23,000	2,500	12,000	2,600	6,400	560
1993	29,000	23,000	2,300	11,500	2,200	6,000	600
1994	29,000	23,000	2,000	11,000	1,700	5,700	650
1995	28,000	23,000	1,900	10,000	1,700	5,600	655
1996	28,000	23,000	1,800	8,000	1,700	5,400	670
1997	28,000	23,000	1,500	6,500	1,700	5,100	665
1998	29,000	23,000	1,400	6,000	1,700	5,000	665

\* Included in number of cattle operations.

## NEBRASKA – TRENDS IN LIVESTOCK & POULTRY INVENTORIES

### MILLION HEAD



## NEBRASKA LIVESTOCK INVENTORIES

Year	Cattle Jan. 1	Beef Cows	Milk Cows	Sheep Jan. 1	Hogs & Pigs Dec. 1
- 1,000 head -					
1950 . . . .	3,843	1,051	493	588	2,499
1960 . . . .	5,072	1,499	356	836	2,502
1970 . . . .	6,330	1,915	175	377	3,691
1980 . . . .	6,400	1,950	120	210	3,900
1990 . . . .	5,700	1,760	100	177	4,300
1995 . . . .	6,100	1,895	75	105	4,050
1996 . . . .	6,500	1,930	70	105	3,550
1997 . . . .	6,650	1,941	69	95	3,500
1998 . . . .	6,750	1,940	70	100	3,400
1999 . . . .	6,650	1,938	72	105	NA

NA = Not Available.

## NEBRASKA POULTRY STATISTICS

Year	Eggs Prod.	Chickens Dec. 1 /1/	Broiler Prod. 2/	Turkeys Raised 2/	Chickens Sold 2/
	Million	T h o u s a n d s			
1950 . . . .	1,801	13,552	3,370	784	15,590
1960 . . . .	1,843	10,425	2,175	1,115	4,798
1970 . . . .	858	5,230	1,371	652	2,398
1980 . . . .	847	4,000	2,000	811	1,600
1990 . . . .	1,202	6,200	2,950	2,090	1,345
1994 . . . .	2,027	10,600	2,800	NA	4,500
1995 . . . .	2,359	11,005	2,900	NA	3,722
1996 . . . .	2,341	11,493	2,300	NA	3,950
1997 . . . .	2,469	12,126	1,600	NA	3,820
1998 . . . .	2,706	13,219	NA	NA	NA

1/ Excludes commercial broilers. 2/ Dec. previous year - Nov. current year.

NA = Not Available.

## LIVESTOCK RECORD HIGHS TO DATE

COMMODITY	NUMBER	MO./YR.
Cattle & Calves	7.41 million head	1/74
Cattle on Feed	2.37 million head	4/91
Fed Cattle Marketed	5.12 million head	1988
Milk Cows	820 thousand head	1/34
Hogs & Pigs	5.98 million head	1/24
Sheep & Lambs	1.26 million head	1/43
Chickens	19.9 million head	1/44
Turkeys Raised	2.55 million head	1993

ECONOMICS

**NEBRASKA -- ALL LAND  
AVERAGE VALUE PER ACRE  
BY STATISTICAL DISTRICT, 1987-1998**

District	Selected Years						
	1987	1989	1991	1993	1995	1997	1998
Northwest	165	210	226	239	250	269	288
North	115	171	215	226	251	275	295
Northeast	502	689	747	790	860	962	1053
Central	324	495	639	693	744	833	897
East	707	1009	1115	1217	1378	1600	1754
Southwest	232	300	341	396	384	417	450
South	474	673	787	885	944	1066	1140
Southeast	482	711	756	845	925	1057	1162
STATE	306	432	492	531	582	654	710

\* SOURCE: Nebraska Farm Real Estate Market Developments 1997-98 Ag Research Division, UNL, June 1998.

\* Includes irrigated and non-irrigated cropland, grazing and hayland.

**PRICES RECEIVED BY NEBRASKA FARMERS 1/**

Commodity	1960	1970	1980	1990	1997	1998
Corn, Bu.	.98	1.25	3.08	2.28	2.32	1.95
Soybeans, Bu.	1.94	2.78	7.25	5.59	6.28	5.15
Sorghum, Bu.	.80	1.08	2.85	2.05	2.15	1.75
All Wheat, Bu.	1.73	1.22	3.72	2.53	3.20	2.60
Oats, Bu.	.58	.65	1.85	1.19	1.79	1.15
All Hay, Ton	15.00	21.00	55.00	58.00	76.00	51.00
Sugar Beets, Ton	12.90	14.80	47.00	40.10	35.60	NA
Dry Beans, Cwt.	6.80	8.00	26.90	16.90	18.80	18.60
Steers & Heifers, Cwt.	23.70	29.10	66.70	80.00	67.60	62.70
Cows, Cwt.	14.20	20.50	45.80	52.00	36.60	34.20
Calves, Cwt.	25.20	35.30	78.70	100.00	86.00	83.80
Hogs, Cwt.	15.40	22.30	38.10	54.80	55.40	37.10
Sheep, Cwt.	4.90	7.30	24.50	21.90	35.10	31.10
Lambs, Cwt.	19.10	27.50	64.30	54.00	90.90	74.80
Milk Cows, head	199	298	1,130	1,130	1,170	1,140

1/ Crops prices for 1960, 1970, and 1980 are season average prices; beginning 1985 prices are marketing year average prices received. NA = Not Available. 1998 preliminary.

**GRAIN STORAGE CAPACITY**

Commercial off-farm grain storage capacity of the 524 licensed storage facilities totaled 628.6 million bushels on December 1, 1998. On-farm capacity was estimated at 1.05 billion bushels on December 1, 1998, compared with 1.05 billion bushels on December 1, 1997.

**OFF-FARM GRAIN STORAGE CAPACITY  
NEBRASKA & UNITED STATES, 1997 & 1998**

DISTRICT	STORAGE CAPACITY 1/		NET CHANGE	1998 1997
	12/1/97	12/1/98		
	1,000 bushels			%
Northwest	30,462	30,396	-66	-0.2
North	13,573	13,567	-6	---
Northeast	74,932	75,350	418	0.6
Central	47,617	47,444	-173	-0.4
East	216,004	216,342	338	0.2
Southwest	60,029	60,529	500	0.8
South	93,279	92,517	-762	-0.8
Southeast	92,794	92,465	-329	-0.4
State	628,690	628,610	-80	---
United States	7,961,340	8,005,580	44,240	0.6

1/ Licensed commercial storage, including temporary facilities licensed for use this year.

**NEBRASKA TOTAL FARM INCOME**

Year	Gross Income 1/	Farm Production Expenses	Net Farm Income	Net Farm Income Per Farm
	Million Dollars			Dollars
1989	9,759.6	7,641.5	2,118.1	37,160
1990	10,406.3	7,902.5	2,503.8	43,926
1991	9,868.8	7,575.4	2,293.4	40,954
1992	9,907.4	7,411.5	2,495.9	44,570
1993	9,777.1	7,820.6	1,956.5	34,938
1994	9,917.8	7,704.1	2,213.7	39,530
1995	9,591.6	7,965.3	1,626.3	29,041
1996	11,608.1	8,229.8	3,378.3	60,327
1997	10,963.1	8,878.6	2,084.5	37,900

1/ See table below for detailed breakdown, including inventory adjustment.

**NEBRASKA GROSS FARM INCOME**

Year	Cash Receipts	Government Payments	Non-Cash Income	Farm-Related Income	Value of Inventory Adjustment
	Million Dollars				
1989	8,724.7	542.3	161.5	417.8	-86.8
1990	8,714.8	624.6	159.0	371.6	536.1
1991	8,998.9	490.7	154.4	385.3	-160.5
1992	8,685.3	478.7	148.5	288.6	306.3
1993	8,871.5	806.3	161.1	330.7	-392.3
1994	8,515.8	348.2	190.3	343.8	519.7
1995	9,040.7	507.3	205.3	375.6	-537.3
1996	9,210.8	388.7	229.2	442.2	1,337.1
1997	10,092.2	454.6	240.2	457.8	-281.7

**VALUE OF NEBRASKA FARM EXPORTS**

Commodity	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
	Million Dollars				
Feed Grains & Products	793.0	770.3	1,091.5	1,312.2	1,120.5
Soybeans & Products	287.5	271.4	384.2	367.1	526.1
Wheat & Products	98.5	109.6	191.0	226.1	84.7
Feeds & Fodders	171.9	194.7	208.3	225.5	249.2
Seeds	38.4	34.5	34.9	35.0	44.3
Vegetables & Preparations	18.3	19.3	29.2	25.7	30.9
Live Animals & Meat	658.1	677.0	806.1	900.6	766.5
Hides & Skins	236.2	256.9	315.5	304.4	315.3
Fats, Oils, & Greases	95.6	93.4	151.3	124.9	115.7
Dairy Products	15.5	16.7	16.2	12.5	14.2
Other	50.4	53.1	51.9	56.4	57.5
TOTAL	2,463.4	2,496.9	3,280.1	3,590.4	3,324.9

**A BIT OF AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS OFFICE HISTORY:**

The Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service is a State-Federal cooperative effort of U.S.D.A.'s National Agricultural Statistics Service and the Nebraska Department of Agriculture. A Federal statistics program dates back to 1862 when U.S.D.A. was founded. This Nebraska cooperative office has been in existence since 1918. It is located in Room 273 of the Federal Building in Lincoln at 100 Centennial Mall North. The office has had three different names: State-Federal Division of Agricultural Statistics (1918-1976), Nebraska Crop and Livestock Reporting Service (1976-1986), and the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (1986 to date). While the office name has changed and survey procedures improved upon, the objective of providing the most accurate and reliable agricultural forecasts and estimates possible has remained unchanged throughout the years. "Voluntary" reporting by many thousands of farmers, ranchers and agri-business firms make these estimates possible in a timely manner.

