

# ORANGE COUNTY FARM STATISTICS

April 2000

Orange County is located in southeastern New York bordering New Jersey and Pennsylvania. In 1998, there were 99,500 acres in farms, 19 percent of the county's total 522,240 acres. There were 740 farms in the county averaging 134 acres per farm. Orange county ranks 21<sup>st</sup> in the state for number of farms and 39th for land in farms.

In 1997, according to the Census of Agriculture, the market value of all agricultural products sold from county farms was \$69.8 million. Total sales averaged \$111,934 per farm. The leading products sold were: vegetables, dairy products, nursery and greenhouse, fruits and berries, and cattle and calves.

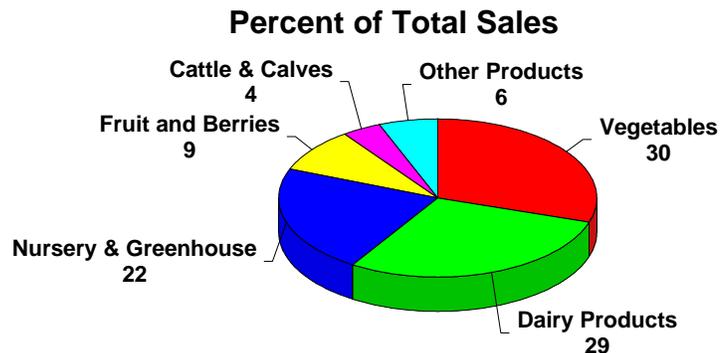
The average value of land and buildings per farm in 1997 was \$576,124. Machinery and equipment were valued at \$76,456 per farm. Total production expenses in 1997 were \$54.7 million for an average of \$87,296 per farm. The Census showed 70 percent of the farm operators reported farming as their principal occupation. The average age of the operator was 52.9 years. Data from the U.S. Department of Commerce showed the average personal income for all wage earners in the county in 1996 was \$22,618.

## LEADING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Product	1997 Sales Thous. Dol.	Percent of Total	County Rank
Vegetables	20,961	30	2
Dairy Products	20,168	29	28
Nursery & Greenhouse	15,027	22	3
Fruit and Berries	6,036	9	9
Cattle & Calves	2,480	4	37
Other Products	5,175	6	
<b>TOTAL SALES</b>	<b>69,847</b>		<b>17</b>

1997 Census of Agriculture

## LEADING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS



### FARMS, LAND IN FARMS, AND LAND USE

Year	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Total Cropland 1/	Permanent Pasture 2/	Total Woodland 3/	Other Land 4/
		Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
1940	3,513	299,865	5/	5/	36,160	5/
1950	2,958	273,820	163,600	51,251	41,875	17,094
1959	2,055	235,153	141,291	42,531	35,491	15,840
1969	1,124	157,194	105,711	5/	22,675	5/
1978	844	131,800	88,172	12,379	19,735	11,514
1982	894	129,901	84,355	13,018	20,239	12,289
1987	880	118,800	81,700	8,700	18,600	9,800
1992	755	113,000	73,400	12,000	19,600	8,000
1993	765	111,600	72,500	11,500	19,200	8,400
1994	765	107,400	71,000	10,800	17,400	8,200
1995	750	106,000	70,700	10,700	16,300	8,300
1996	750	103,400	69,700	10,400	14,900	8,400
1997	750	101,900	69,800	10,200	13,900	8,000
1998	740	99,500	67,300	10,100	13,800	8,300

1940-1982 U.S. Census of Agriculture 1/ Includes cropland pastured. 2/ Excludes cropland and woodland pastured.  
3/ Includes woodland pastured. 4/ Land in house lots, ponds, wasteland, etc. 5/ Not available.

### FARMS BY SALES CLASS

Sales Class	1992	1997
Number of Farms		
Under \$10,000	188	188
\$10,000 to \$49,999	190	185
\$50,000 to \$99,999	78	66
\$100,000 or more	185	185
Farms Reporting	641	624

U. S. Census of Agriculture

### FRUIT ACRES AND RANK

Fruit	1997	Rank
Acres		
Apples	1,905	6
Peaches	80	7
Pears	72	6

U. S. Census of Agriculture

### RESIDENT POPULATION

In 1998, County's population ranked 12th in the state

Year	Total	Population Per Square Mile
1940	140,100	172
1950	152,300	187
1960	183,700	225
1970	221,700	272
1980	259,600	318
1990	307,600	377
1998	329,220	403

U.S. Census of Population

**CATTLE: Number on Farms, January 1**

Year	All Cattle & Calves	Beef Cows	Milk Cows
Number on farms			
1940	52,453	1/	1/
1950	53,634	592	38,662
1959	52,128	1,622	37,284
1969	35,959	1,817	23,488
1978	31,000	1,600	18,500
1982	34,500	3,300	18,500
1987	26,500	1,200	12,000
1992	20,000	800	10,500
1993	20,000	1,000	10,500
1994	19,500	1,200	11,000
1995	20,000	1,000	11,000
1996	18,000	800	10,000
1997	17,000	1,000	9,500
1998	18,000	1,000	9,500

1940-1969 U.S. Census of Agriculture  
1/ Not available.

**MILK: Cows & Production**

Year	Annual Avg. Milk Cows	Average Production Per Cow	Total Milk Production
No. Head                  Pounds                  Million lbs.			
1940	1/	1/	1/
1950	1/	1/	1/
1959	1/	1/	1/
1969	1/	1/	1/
1978	18,500	11,400	210.9
1982	18,000	11,700	210.6
1987	14,000	14,200	198.8
1992	10,500	16,000	168.0
1993	10,800	16,000	172.8
1994	10,500	16,000	168.0
1995	10,000	16,300	163.0
1996	9,500	16,100	153.0
1997	9,500	16,200	153.9
1998	9,500	16,400	155.8

1940-1969 U.S. Census of Agriculture  
1/ Not available.

**OATS: Acreage, Yield, and Production**

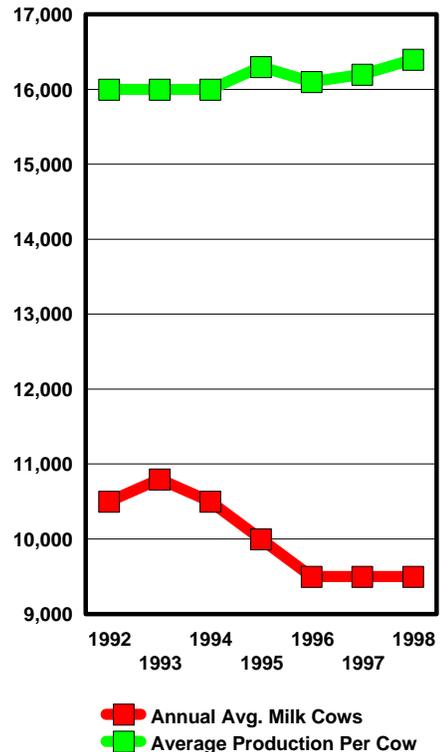
Year	Planted	Harvested	Yield	Production
Acres                  Acres                  Bushels                  Bushels				
1940	1/	1/	1/	1/
1950	1/	1/	1/	1/
1959	1/	1/	1/	1/
1969	1/	1/	1/	1/
1978	1/	1/	1/	1/
1982	1/	1/	1/	1/
1987	1/	1/	1/	1/
1992	500	200	59.0	11,800
1993	400	200	40.0	8,000
1994	800	700	43.0	30,100
1995	400	300	57.0	17,100
1996	1/	1/	1/	1/
1997	1/	1/	1/	1/
1998	1/	1/	1/	1/

1940-1969 U.S. Census of Agriculture  
1/ Not available.

**EQUINE: Inventory and Value,  
1997 Census of Agriculture**

Total Equine	Rank in State	Inventory Value	Rank in State
2295	2	\$720,000	4

**MILK: Cows & Production**



**CORN: Acreage, Yield, and Production**

Year	All Planted	Grain			Silage		
		Harvested	Yield	Production	Harvested	Yield	Production
	Acres	Acres	Bushels	Bushels	Acres	Tons	Tons
1940	13,487	2,493	35.9	89,556	1/	1/	1/
1950	12,686	1,244	41.9	52,165	10,942	8.9	97,760
1959	14,803	1,836	71.6	131,412	12,818	10.1	129,966
1969	14,300	1,200	88.0	105,600	1/	1/	1/
1978	18,100	5,200	88.0	457,600	12,700	14.0	177,800
1982	18,800	6,100	101.5	619,200	12,400	15.0	186,500
1987	16,000	5,500	101.0	555,500	9,600	14.0	134,400
1992	14,400	5,200	94.0	488,800	8,600	11.0	94,600
1993	14,700	4,900	87.0	428,200	9,700	13.7	132,900
1994	14,800	5,200	106.0	551,400	9,600	15.0	143,700
1995	13,800	5,300	105.0	556,500	8,400	13.3	111,400
1996	12,900	5,100	103.0	526,000	7,700	14.7	112,900
1997	13,100	4,900	107.0	524,300	8,100	14.0	113,400
1998	12,800	4,700	104.0	488,800	8,100	15.1	122,000

1940 - 1969 U.S. Census of Agriculture

1/ Not available

**HAY: Acreage, Yield, and Production 1/**

Year	Alfalfa Hay			Other Hay			Total Hay		
	Harvested	Yield	Production	Harvested	Yield	Production	Harvested	Yield	Production
	Acres	Tons	Tons	Acres	Tons	Tons	Acres	Tons	Tons
1940	4,306	1.8	7,656	88,458	1.1	93,939	92,764	1.1	101,595
1950	6,324	1.8	11,619	74,714	1.5	112,371	81,038	1.5	123,990
1959	19,342	2.5	48,776	50,735	1.8	90,389	70,077	2.0	139,165
1969	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	41,542	2.0	84,399
1978	11,500	2.9	33,400	24,000	1.9	45,600	35,500	2.2	79,000
1982	12,300	2.7	33,200	22,900	2.1	48,100	35,200	2.3	81,300
1987	11,000	3.1	34,100	25,000	1.9	46,800	36,000	2.2	80,900
1992	11,500	2.4	27,600	13,900	2.1	29,500	25,400	2.2	57,100
1993	9,000	2.0	17,600	17,000	1.8	31,300	26,000	1.9	48,900
1994	8,000	2.4	18,800	16,900	2.1	35,300	24,900	2.2	54,100
1995	8,800	2.0	17,600	15,200	2.0	30,400	24,000	2.0	48,000
1996	8,700	2.2	19,100	13,500	2.2	29,700	22,200	2.2	48,800
1997	8,000	2.7	21,800	14,900	1.7	25,400	22,900	2.1	47,200
1998	7,500	2.6	19,300	13,400	1.7	23,300	20,900	2.0	42,600

1940-1969 U.S. Census of Agriculture

1/ Dry hay only - excludes silage and green chop

2/ Not available