



Farm Facts



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Tennessee farms decreased 100,000 acres in 2002 to 11.7 million acres. Land in farms with sales of \$100,000 or more was estimated at 3.3 million acres. Land in farms with sales between \$10,000 and \$99,999 was estimated at 3.9 million acres, while land in farms with sales between \$1,000 and \$9,999 was 4.5 million acres. The average size of all Tennessee farms in 2002 was 130 acres, unchanged from the year earlier.

U.S.: The number of farms in the United States in 2002 is estimated at 2.16 million, up 0.1 percent from 2001. The increase in farms occurred primarily in agricultural operations with \$1,000-\$9,999 in sales. Total land in farms, at 941.5 million acres, increased 170,000 acres from last year. The average farm size, at 436 acres, decreased one acre from 2001. The increase in the number of farms and land in farms primarily resulted from the inclusion of pasture only farms in 2002. The U.S. number of agricultural operations in the economic sales class \$1,000-\$9,999 increased 1.0 percent to 1,172,770 in 2002. Farms with sales in the \$10,000-\$99,999 economic class decreased 0.9 percent from 2001 to 637,160 operations. The number of farms with sales over \$100,000 at 348,160 decreased 1.1 percent. Dry weather, below normal yields, and lower commodity prices contributed to the shifting of farms among the economic sales classes.

Tennessee Farm Numbers Decline

The number of farms in Tennessee for 2002 was 90,000, down 1,000 farms from the previous year. A farm is defined as "any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the year". There were 1,000 farms each in the \$250,000 to \$499,999 and \$500,000 or over sales categories. Farms with sales of \$100,000 to \$249,999 were estimated at 2,000, while farms in the \$10,000 to \$99,999 sales category were estimated at 17,000. There were 69,000 farms in the sales class of \$1,000 to \$9,999, which represents 77 percent of the farms in Tennessee. Total land in

Number and Land in Farms by Sales Class: Tennessee, 1995-2002

Year	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Average Size	Economic Sales Class					
				Farms			Land In Farms		
				\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$99,999 ¹	\$100,000 & Over	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$99,999 ¹	\$100,000 & Over
(000)	(000) Acres	Acres	Number			(000) Acres			
1995	92	12,000	130	68,000	24,000		4,700	7,300	
1996	91	12,000	132	68,000	23,000		4,800	7,200	
1997	91	12,000	132	69,000	22,000		4,800	7,200	
1998	91	11,900	131	69,000	18,000	4,000	4,800	4,000	3,100
1999	91	11,900	131	69,000	18,000	4,000	4,800	4,000	3,100
2000	90	11,700	130	68,000	18,000	4,000	4,400	4,000	3,300
2001	91	11,800	130	69,000	18,000	4,000	4,500	4,000	3,300
2002	90	11,700	130	69,000	17,000	4,000	4,500	3,900	3,300

¹ Prior to 1998, this economic sales category was \$10,000 and over.

Prices Received by Farmers: Tennessee and United States, February 2003, with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Tennessee			United States		
		February 2002	January 2003	February 2003 ¹	February 2002	January 2003	February 2003 ¹
Dollars Per Unit							
Field Crops							
Winter Wheat	bu.	2.94	3.59	---	2.75	3.66	3.53
Corn	bu.	2.18	2.58	2.55	1.93	2.33	2.35
Cotton Lint	lb.	.257	.456	.453 ²	.280	.440	.448 ²
Tobacco	bu.	1.975	1.925	1.810	1.960	1.960	1.890
Soybeans	bu.	4.47	5.69	5.80	4.22	5.52	5.57
Livestock & Products							
All beef cattle	cwt.	63.00	57.60	57.40	70.00	73.20	74.60
Steers/heifers	cwt.	79.00	74.00	73.00	73.50	77.80	78.90
Cows	cwt.	39.00	33.00	34.00	40.60	36.90	38.10
Calves	cwt.	95.00	83.00	84.00	105.00	96.80	97.60

¹ Mid-month. ² Based on purchases first half of month.

Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by State and United States, during January 2002 and 2003 for Selected States

Selected States	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 or more		All Layers ¹		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹		
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	
		Thousands					
Alabama	2,802	2,378	10,583	9,989	1,909	1,892	
Arkansas	4,755	4,582	14,836	14,849	1,887	1,899	
Georgia	11,849	10,676	21,391	19,883	1,963	2,082	
North Carolina	3,140	3,330	11,078	10,845	1,932	1,973	
All Other States ²	250,909	252,571	281,078	282,556	2,187	2,208	
United States	273,455	273,537	338,966	338,122	2,143	2,170	

¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size. ² Tennessee included in other states.

Governor Proclaims Arbor Month, Celebration Set

Nashville, Tn. — Gov. Phil Bredesen has proclaimed March 2003 as “**Arbor Month**” in Tennessee in observance of the importance of trees to our communities and environment. “Arbor Month is an opportunity for the citizens of Tennessee to learn more about how trees contribute to our state’s beauty, environment and economy,” said state Agriculture Commissioner Ken Givens. “Governor Bredesen supports Arbor Month because he understands the importance of reforestation and urban tree management to our state and local communities.”

The city of Tullahoma, this year’s “Tree Board of the Year” award winner, will host the annual statewide Arbor Month celebration and awards ceremony at 11 a.m. (CST) on March 7 at the Hands-On Science Center located at 101 Mitchell Blvd. Tullahoma and other cities will be honored for their work through Tree City USA, a national program which recognizes communities effectively managing their public tree resources. Public utilities will also be recognized through the Tree Line USA award program. The Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry, the National Arbor Day Foundation, the USDA Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters sponsor the program. “Arbor Month is all about educating young people as well as adults about the importance of trees,” said Kay Fermann, assistant urban forester with the Division of Forestry. “Several hundred Tennessee fifth-graders will participate in the fourth annual Arbor Day poster contest, and tree seedlings will be distributed to thousands of fourth-graders across the state through Tennessee ReLeaf.”

More information about Arbor Month activities and proper tree care can be found on the Web at www.state.tn.us/agriculture, or by contacting Kay Fermann at (615) 837-5437, or email kay.fermann@state.tn.us.

Annual Milk Production

Milk produced on Tennessee farms during 2002 totaled 1.32 billion pounds, down 20 million pounds from 2001. Tennessee milk cows were once again extremely efficient, with the decline in production due to fewer cows. Average milk produced per cow, at 14,943 pounds, increased 432 pounds from 2001, to a record high. Milk cow numbers in the state averaged 88,000 in 2002, down 4,000 cows from the previous year's average of 92,000.

Milk Cows and Milk Production: Tennessee, Annual Average, 1997 - 2002

Year	Number of Milk Cows on Farms ¹	Milk Production Per Cow	Milk Production ²
	Thousands	Pounds	Million Pounds
1997	113	14,239	1,609
1998	105	14,295	1,501
1999	97	14,608	1,417
2000	95	14,789	1,405
2001	92	14,511	1,335
2002	88	14,943	1,315

¹ Average number on farms during year, excluding heifers not yet fresh. ² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Crop Production: Tennessee's Rank Among States, 2002

Crops	Units	Number of States Estimating	Tennessee Rank	Production (000)
All Tobacco	lbs.	16	3	72,540
Tomatoes, Fresh Mkt.	cwt.	17	5	1,326
Cotton ¹	bales	17	6	813
Snapbeans, Fresh Mkt.	cwt.	11	6	236
Sorghum for Silage	tons	23	12	28
Squash, Fresh & Processed	cwt.	12	12	85
Sorghum for Grain	bu.	24	12	2,480
All Hay	tons	48	13	4,514
Soybeans	bu.	31	16	34,720
Corn for Grain	bu.	41	17	66,340
All Wheat	bu.	42	22	13,800
Peaches	lbs.	29	24	4,000
Corn for Silage	tons	48	27	825
Apples	lbs.	35	30	6,500

¹ 480 lbs. Net weight bales.

Livestock Production: Tennessee's Rank Among States, 2002

Livestock ²	Number of States Estimating	Tennessee Rank	Inventory (000 Head)
Beef Cows that have calved	50	9	1,106
All Cattle and Calves	50	14	2,270
All hogs and pigs	50	24	220
Milk Cows that have calved	50	28	84
All chickens excluding broilers	50	33	2,200

² Cattle is as of January 1, 2003. Chickens and hogs are as of December 1, 2002.

Honey Production Up 3 Percent

Tennessee: Honey production from producers with five or more colonies was 488,000 pounds during 2002, an increase of 16,000 pounds from the previous year. Eight thousand colonies produced an average of 61 pounds per colony, up 2 pounds per colony from the previous year. Honey on hand December 15, 2002, was 137,000 pounds, up 5 percent from the previous year. Producers received an average of \$1.37 per pound during 2002, a drop of 2 cents per pound from the year earlier.

United States: Honey production in 2002 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 171 million pounds, down 8 percent from 2001. There were 2.52 million colonies producing honey in 2002, up 1 percent from 2001. Yield per colony averaged 67.8 pounds, down 8 percent from the 74.0 pounds in 2001. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State and yields per colony may therefore be understated. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 39.0 million pounds on December 15, 2002, down 40 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program.

Honey: Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price, and Value 2001-2002¹

Year	Colonies of Bees	Honey Production Per Colony	Production	Average Price Per Pound ²	Value of Production	Honey Stocks on Hand for Sale Dec. 15 ³
	1,000	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Cents	1,000 Dollars	1,000 Pounds
1993	8	51	408	93	379	86
1994	6	51	306	98	300	107
1995	5	53	265	117	310	87
1996	5	64	320	154	493	90
1997	7	62	434	147	638	148
1998	7	64	448	132	591	121
1999	8	51	408	130	530	106
2000	9	61	549	143	785	104
2001	8	59	472	139	656	131
2002	8	61	488	137	669	137

¹ Producers with five or more colonies. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State.

² Prices weighted by sales. ³ Stocks held by producers.