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Director



cooperating with  
Tennessee  
Department  
of Agriculture

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### **Tennessee's 2002 Census of Agriculture Shows Value of Land and Buildings Up 27 Percent**

Results of the latest census of agriculture, conducted by the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, show that a relatively small percentage of Tennessee farms continue to account for a significant portion of the state's agricultural production. Eleven percent of Tennessee's farms had 86 percent of the market value of agricultural products sold during 2002, compared with 83 percent in 1997. The results also show that the value of farm land and buildings increased by 27 percent from 1997 to 2002.

"I'm pleased to see this notable increase in value of farm land and buildings," said Tennessee's Director, Debra Kenerson. "It's certainly a positive step forward for our farmers and ranchers economic health." The average value of land and buildings per farm rose by over \$80,000 during the 5-year period, reaching an average of \$325,783 in 2002. The average value of land and buildings per acre is up more than \$500 during that same time period to \$2,405 per acre in 2002.

Overall, the state's 87,595 farms generated \$2.20 billion in sales during 2002 on 11.7 million acres of land. Although the total number of farms fell 4 percent from 1997, the average farm size and average value of products sold per farm both increased 2 percent during 2002 to 133 acres and \$25,113, respectively. The number of farms with sales of \$1 million or more increased 14 percent from 1997 to 253. Greene county ranked first in the number of farms with 3,367, while Warren county was number one in the market value of agricultural products sold in Tennessee at \$93.9 million. Livestock and poultry farms accounted for over

half of the state's total sales of agricultural products in 2002, replacing crops, including nursery and greenhouse, as the leading commodity group. Sales of poultry and eggs and cattle and calves both increased 12 percent from 1997, while sales of tobacco and cotton fell 26 and 18 percent, respectively. The number of broiler farms in 2002 increased 22 percent from 1997, while the number of farms producing tobacco dropped by nearly half since 1997. Tennessee ranked second in the U.S. in the number of equine and goats on farms and third in rabbit inventory at the end of 2002.

Ninety-five percent of Tennessee farms are still run by individuals or families and most are still small farms. Seventy-eight percent of operations had less than \$10,000 in sales of agricultural products in 2002. The average age of a Tennessee farmer in 2002 was 56.0 years old, up from 54.8 in 1997. Twenty-six percent, or nearly 32,000, of the state's 123,277 agricultural producers were women in 2002 and the number of women who were principal operators increased 10 percent from 1997 to 9,413. Part-time farming continues to be a major part of Tennessee agriculture, as 44 percent of the principal farm operators worked 200 days or more off the farm, a 13 percent decline from 1997.

2002 Census of Agriculture final data provide consistent and detailed production, economic, demographic and environmental data including facts on number and type of farms, land use, value of sales and government payments, production expenses, hired labor, computer and Internet use, livestock and poultry inventory and sales, aquaculture, irrigation, crop acreage and production, gender and race of operator, production contracts, number of people in farm households, tenure of operator, chemical use, value of land and buildings, production contracts, organic acreage, and a myriad of other topics.

Volume 1 tables are currently available online at [www.usda.gov/nass/](http://www.usda.gov/nass/) by clicking on "Census of Agriculture." The website provides the county, state, and national data through the online database, "QuickStats", that can be queried into .CSV files. Published tables will be available as .PDF, .CSV, and .TXT files. For general information about the census or other NASS surveys, visit [www.usda.gov/nass/](http://www.usda.gov/nass/) or contact the Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service toll free at 800-626-0987.

## Tennessee Wheat Producers Remain Optimistic

According to a recent survey conducted by the Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service, wheat producers remain optimistic about this year's crop, despite weather, disease, and insect problems encountered during the month of May. Tennessee's 2004 winter wheat production is forecast at 14.3 million bushels, up 6 percent from a year earlier and unchanged from the May 1 forecast. The State's average yield is forecast at 53 bushels per acre, 3 bushels above 2003 and also unchanged from the previous forecast. Wheat producers expect to harvest 270,000 acres, unchanged from a year ago. Tennessee farmers seeded 400,000 acres last fall, 30,000 acres less than a year earlier and the lowest planted acreage since 1985. The remaining 130,000 acres was used as a cover crop or will be harvested for hay or silage. As of June 6, virtually all of the wheat crop had turned color with nearly half of the acreage ripe. Disease pressure and weather related problems have been reported in a few areas. However, over three-fourths of the State's acreage was rated in good-to-excellent condition as of the third week of May. Harvest began on schedule during the first week of June with combining expected to become more prevalent in the next several weeks.

### U.S. Winter Wheat Production

Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.53 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the May 1 forecast and 10 percent below 2003. Based on June 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 43.6 bushels per acre, down 0.6 bushel from the previous forecast. Area for 2004 grain harvest is forecast at 35.1 million acres, unchanged from May 1 but down 4 percent from 2003. As of May 30, heading had reached 87 percent in the 18 major States, 6 percentage points ahead of normal. Harvest was underway in the southern-most portions of the growing area.

**Winter Wheat: Tennessee, Surrounding States, and U.S., June 1, 2004 with Comparisons<sup>1</sup>**

State	Acreage Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	1,000 Acres		Bushels		1,000 Bushels	
Arkansas	570	630	50.0	51.0	28,500	32,130
Georgia	230	200	46.0	43.0	10,580	8,600
Kentucky	330	350	62.0	62.0	20,460	21,700
Mississippi	125	205	49.0	51.0	6,125	10,455
Missouri	870	950	61.0	55.0	53,070	52,250
North Carolina	410	480	36.0	47.0	14,760	22,560
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>13,500</b>	<b>14,310</b>
Virginia	160	155	46.0	63.0	7,360	9,765
United States	36,541	35,082	46.7	43.6	1,707,069	1,530,742

<sup>1</sup> 2004 forecast, 2003 final.

**Livestock Operations<sup>1</sup>, Tennessee, 1998-2003<sup>1</sup>**

Year	Cattle	Beef Cows	Milk Cows	Hogs	Sheep <sup>2</sup>
	1,000 Operations				
1998	55	47	2.0	2.2	800
1999	53	46	1.8	1.7	---
2000	52	45	1.6	1.5	---
2001	52	45	1.5	1.5	---
2002	51	45	1.4	1.5	---
2003	51	45	1.3	1.5	---

<sup>1</sup> An operation is any place having one or more head on hand at any time during the year. <sup>2</sup> Operations in actual numbers. Estimates discontinued in 1999.

**Cattle: Number on Farms, by County, January 1, 2003 and 2004**

District and County	All Cattle and Calves		Beef Cows		Milk Cows		District and County	All Cattle and Calves		Beef Cows		Milk Cows	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004		2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	Head		Head		Head			Head		Head		Head	
Dyer	10,000	9,500	5,200	5,200	1	1	Trousdale	12,000	11,000	7,800	7,500	1	1
Lake	800	800	500	500	1	1	Williamson	44,000	43,000	23,000	22,000	700	600
Lauderdale	7,700	7,500	4,400	4,500	1	1	Wilson	53,000	53,000	28,000	26,500	800	700
Obion	17,000	16,500	8,500	8,500	1	1	Other	---	---	---	---	600	1,400
Shelby	8,500	8,000	5,200	5,200	1	1	District 40	665,000	655,000	345,000	340,000	19,000	16,000
Tipton	8,000	7,700	5,200	5,100	1	1	Bledsoe	28,000	28,000	14,000	14,000	600	500
Other	---	---	---	---	500	400	Coffee	35,000	33,000	13,000	13,000	2,200	2,100
District 10	52,000	50,000	29,000	29,000	500	400	Cumberland	25,000	24,000	10,000	10,000	1,400	1,200
Benton	11,000	10,000	6,500	6,000	1	1	Fentress	22,000	22,000	9,500	9,500	500	500
Carroll	17,000	16,000	9,800	9,300	1	1	Franklin	35,000	35,000	16,000	16,500	1,800	1,800
Chester	9,000	8,500	4,800	4,700	1	1	Grundy	8,000	7,500	3,500	3,500	1	1
Crockett	8,500	8,000	4,000	4,000	1	1	Marion	9,000	8,000	5,000	4,700	1	1
Decatur	13,000	12,500	8,600	8,300	1	1	Morgan	10,000	9,000	5,000	4,700	1	1
Fayette	23,000	21,000	13,000	12,000	700	1	Overton	32,000	31,000	18,000	18,500	1,300	1,200
Gibson	17,000	16,000	10,000	9,500	1	1	Pickett	12,000	12,000	6,500	6,500	1	1
Hardeman	15,000	13,000	8,500	8,000	1	1	Putnam	30,000	30,000	14,500	14,500	1,000	900
Hardin	12,500	12,000	6,500	7,000	1	1	Scott	5,000	4,500	2,500	2,500	1	1
Haywood	6,000	5,000	3,800	3,200	1	1	Sequatchie	7,000	6,500	2,800	2,600	1	1
Henderson	30,000	28,000	14,000	13,500	1	1	Van Buren	9,000	8,500	4,700	4,500	1	1
Henry	23,000	21,000	10,000	9,200	2,200	2,200	Warren	45,000	44,000	21,000	21,000	1,500	1,400
McNairy	10,000	9,000	6,000	5,500	1	1	White	48,000	47,000	24,000	24,000	2,200	2,300
Madison	16,000	14,000	7,000	6,500	1	1	Other	---	---	---	---	1,500	1,100
Weakley	17,000	16,000	7,500	7,300	1,000	900	District 50	360,000	350,000	170,000	170,000	14,000	13,000
Other	---	---	---	---	800	1,100	Anderson	11,000	10,000	5,000	5,000	1	1
District 20	228,000	210,000	120,000	114,000	4,700	4,200	Blount	35,000	35,000	18,000	19,000	1,300	1,100
Cheatham	11,000	11,000	5,500	5,500	1	1	Bradley	30,000	29,000	9,100	9,500	2,500	2,300
Dickson	29,000	29,000	15,000	15,000	1	1	Campbell	9,000	8,000	5,000	5,000	1	1
Hickman	27,000	26,000	14,000	13,500	1	1	Carter	12,000	11,000	4,200	4,500	500	1
Houston	13,000	13,000	5,200	5,200	1	1	Claiborne	38,000	37,000	20,000	20,500	800	700
Humphreys	19,000	18,000	9,500	9,000	1	1	Cocke	19,000	19,000	8,500	10,000	1,000	1,000
Lawrence	54,000	52,000	27,000	26,500	2,300	2,300	Grainger	28,000	27,000	13,000	13,500	900	1,000
Lewis	6,000	6,000	3,500	3,500	1	1	Greene	72,000	71,000	33,000	33,000	6,000	5,600
Montgomery	30,000	30,000	17,000	17,000	1	1	Hamblen	16,000	16,000	8,500	8,500	900	800
Perry	7,000	7,000	3,800	3,800	1	1	Hamilton	14,000	13,000	6,300	6,500	1	1
Robertson	49,000	48,000	23,000	22,500	2,600	2,300	Hancock	15,000	15,000	7,500	7,500	1	1
Stewart	8,000	8,000	5,000	5,000	1	1	Hawkins	39,000	38,000	20,000	21,000	600	600
Wayne	22,000	22,000	13,500	13,500	1	1	Jefferson	38,000	37,000	17,000	17,000	1,800	1,700
Other	---	---	---	---	900	800	Johnson	11,000	11,000	4,900	5,000	1	1
District 30	275,000	270,000	142,000	140,000	5,800	5,400	Knox	25,000	23,000	12,000	12,000	600	600
Bedford	55,000	55,000	28,000	29,000	2,200	1,900	Loudon	29,000	28,000	10,000	10,000	3,900	3,600
Cannon	23,000	23,000	11,000	11,000	900	900	McMinn	43,000	43,000	16,000	16,500	5,300	5,500
Clay	17,000	16,000	10,000	9,500	1	1	Meigs	13,000	13,000	6,700	7,000	500	500
Davidson	9,500	9,000	5,000	4,500	1	1	Monroe	37,000	37,000	10,500	11,000	5,000	5,000
De Kalb	23,000	22,000	12,000	12,000	500	1	Polk	10,000	10,000	2,000	2,500	1,500	1,500
Giles	69,000	69,000	33,000	33,000	1,800	1,400	Rhea	13,000	13,000	5,000	5,500	1	1
Jackson	14,000	14,000	8,500	8,500	1	1	Roane	14,000	13,000	7,000	7,200	1	1
Lincoln	73,000	73,000	39,000	38,000	2,200	1,800	Sevier	20,000	20,000	9,000	9,000	1	1
Macon	27,000	27,000	16,000	15,500	1	1	Sullivan	31,000	31,000	14,000	15,000	700	600
Marshall	40,000	38,000	18,000	17,000	4,100	3,500	Unicoi	2,000	2,000	800	800	1	1
Maury	65,000	64,000	34,000	34,000	2,100	1,600	Union	12,000	11,000	6,000	6,500	1	1
Moore	14,500	14,000	7,700	7,500	1	1	Washington	54,000	54,000	21,000	21,500	4,500	4,200
Rutherford	49,000	49,000	22,000	23,000	1,700	1,400	Other	---	---	---	---	1,700	1,700
Smith	31,000	30,000	18,000	18,000	500	1	District 60	690,000	675,000	300,000	310,000	40,000	38,000
Sumner	46,000	45,000	24,000	23,500	900	800	State	2,270,000	2,210,000	1,106,000	1,103,000	84,000	77,000

<sup>1</sup> Combined with "Other" counties to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

## Boll Weevil Assessment Rates Set, Debt Refinanced

**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** – Cotton grower assessment rates for the 2004 Boll Weevil Eradication Program have been set and the program's current debt has been refinanced announced state Agriculture Commissioner Ken Givens. The Tennessee Boll Weevil Eradication Program Foundation board of directors met June 8 in Jackson and set the 2004 assessment rate at \$8 per acre in West Tennessee and \$4.50 per acre in Middle Tennessee.

“The success of the program coupled with the board’s action have placed West Tennessee cotton growers in a far more competitive position,” said Givens. “Our cotton growers will initially save about a half million dollars annually in interest costs alone. That’s a substantial savings in anyone’s book, equaling about \$1 per acre annually.” The board’s action follows a referendum in March in which West Tennessee cotton growers voted in favor of combining program regions and refinancing \$24 million in program debt over ten years. This allowed the maximum annual assessment rate that farmers pay to fund the program to be lowered from a high of \$32 in some cotton growing areas to the lower region-wide single rate for West Tennessee. According to Givens, another \$3.9 million in state funding passed by the General Assembly for the fiscal year beginning July 1 allowed the rate to be reduced even further than anticipated and will help reduce overall debt.

### Tobacco, Types 11-37: Prices Received Monthly, By Selected States and United States, July 2003 - April 2004<sup>1</sup>

State	2003						2004			
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
	Dollars Per Pound									
Georgia	1.705	1.835	1.910	1.880	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>
Kentucky	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	1.990	2.010	2.080	2.050	2.285	<sup>2</sup>
North Carolina	1.855	1.795	1.885	1.900	1.930	1.945	1.925	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>
South Carolina	1.765	1.790	1.875	1.830	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>
<b>Tennessee</b>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	1.985	1.975	2.210	2.410	2.260	<sup>2</sup>
Virginia	1.935	1.845	1.830	1.885	1.960	1.930	1.950	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>
United States	1.790	1.805	1.880	1.890	1.985	1.995	2.095	2.175	2.105	0.660

<sup>1</sup> Revised. <sup>2</sup> Insufficient sales to establish a price.

### Tobacco, Types 11-37: Marketing Year Average Price, by Selected States, 2002 - 2003 <sup>1</sup>

State	2002	2003	State	2002	2003
	Dollars per Pound			Dollars per Pound	
Georgia	1.845	1.855	South Carolina	1.774	1.830
Kentucky	2.015	2.027	<b>Tennessee</b>	2.066	2.107
Missouri	1.900	1.940	Virginia	1.876	1.868
North Carolina	1.821	1.856	West Virginia	1.967	1.978

<sup>1</sup> 2002 and 2003 revised.

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FARM FACTS (USPS 368-470) is published semimonthly for \$12 per year by the Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service, Ellington Agricultural Center, 440 Hogan Road, Nashville, TN 37220-1626.

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