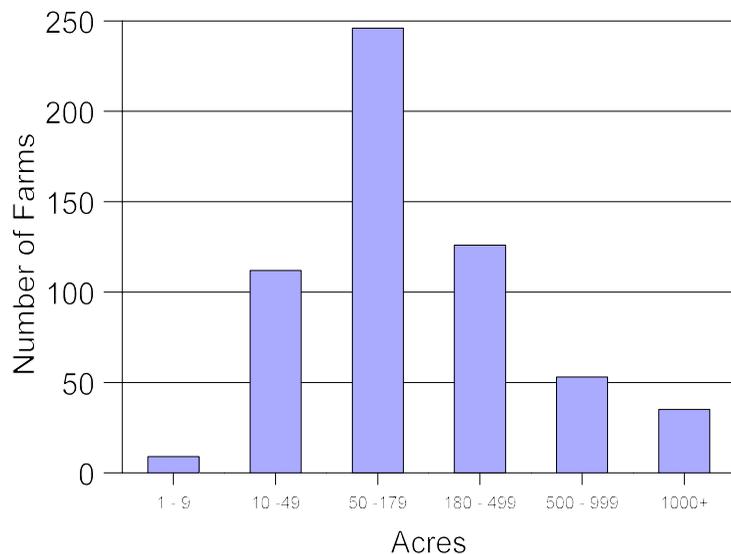
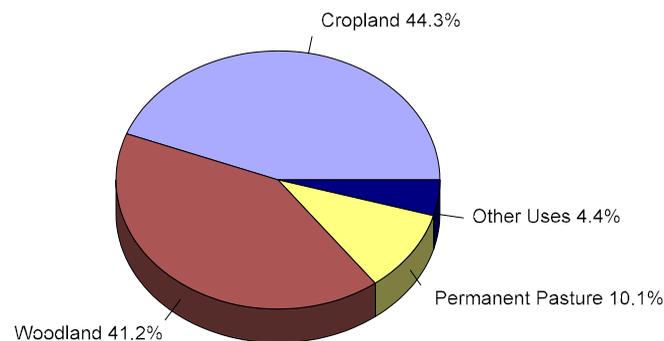


FARMS

Farms by Size



Land in Farms



Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Farming	362
Other	219
Principal operators by sex:	
Male	513
Female	68
Average age of principal operator (years)	
	57.8
All operators ⁵ by race:	
White	723
Black or African American	76
American Indian or Alaska Native	2
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
Asian	1
More than one race	1
All operators ⁵ of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	
	6

Footnotes: 1/ Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with items. 2/ Beginning with 1997, data includes an adjustment for undercoverage. 3/Due to changes in definition and wording of questions, figures for "cropland pasture" and "other pasture" are not always comparable from the Census. Acreage beginning with 1964 refer to pastureland and rangeland, other than cropland and woodland pastured, on farms with sales of agricultural products of \$2,500 and over. 4/ Beginning with 1974, agricultural operations under individual management with annual sales of \$1,000 or more. 5/ Data were collected for a maximum of three operators per farm. NA Not Available. (D) Cannot be disclosed. (Z) Less than 1/2 of the unit shown. See "Census of Agriculture, Vol. 1, Geographic Series" for complete footnotes.



Distributed by:
Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
P.O. Box 1659
Richmond, VA 23218-1659

Phone (804) 771-2493
FAX Number (804)-771-2651
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>
Kevin Barnes, Director

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Revised 2004

MECKLENBURG COUNTY

2002 U.S. Census of Agriculture



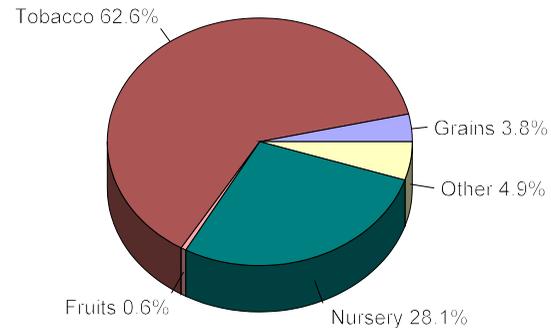
Mecklenburg County lies on the Piedmont Plateau and borders North Carolina. Formed in 1765 from part of Lunenburg, the county was named in honor of Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, wife of King George III.

The topography of the county ranges from gently rolling to hilly and is occasionally steep on ridges between streams. Elevations range from about 200 to 700 feet above sea level. The frost-free growing season is roughly 188 days, usually extending from around April 18 to October 23. Annual precipitation averages nearly 40 inches, with July and August receiving the most rainfall. November is the driest month for the county. Nearly 62 percent of the county's area is wooded, and farms contain nearly 67,415 acres of this woodland.

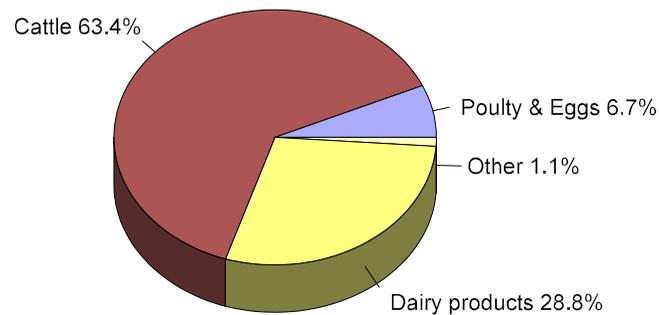
Highlights	2002	1997
Number of Farms	581	686
Land in Farms (acres)	168,150	169,324
Average size of farm	289	247
Market Value of Production		
County Total	\$26,639,000	\$41,953,000
Average per farm	\$45,850	\$61,157
Government Payments	\$481,000	\$389,000

CASH RECEIPTS

Crops



Livestock & Poultry



Ranked Items among the 98 state counties and 3,078 US Counties, 2002

Commodity	Quantity	State Rank	Universe 1/	US Rank	Universe 1/
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	706	41	95	1,883	2,871
Tobacco	11,518	3	43	33	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	15	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	(D)	(D)	95	(D)	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	106	44	93	1,213	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	5,180	13	95	454	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	(D)	(D)	76	(D)	1,774
Other crops and hay	749	33	97	1,532	3,046
Poultry and eggs	548	32	94	1,041	2,918
Cattle and calves	5,223	30	97	1,480	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	2,367	30	83	946	2,493
Hogs and pigs	(D)	(D)	90	(D)	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	30	37	93	1,623	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	55	66	94	2,301	3,014
Aquaculture	(D)	(D)	44	(D)	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	1	68	87	2,387	2,727
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Broilers and other meat-type chickens	(D)	25	79	(D)	2,599
Cattle and calves	24,473	23	97	1,262	3,059
Layers 20 weeks old and older	(D)	20	96	(D)	2,983
All Goats	692	23	95	752	2,971
Horses and ponies	675	41	97	1,796	3,065
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	25,638	15	97	863	3,059
Soybeans	5,487	30	79	1,179	2,076
Tobacco	3,018	3	43	32	563
All Wheat for grain	1,817	28	87	1,327	2,517
Corn for silage	1,374	27	87	945	2,307

FARM DATA & LAND USE

YEAR	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Avg. Value Per Acre For Land & Buildings	LAND USE					
				Cropland			Other Pasture 3/	Woodland	
				Harvested	Other	Pasture		Pasture	Not Pastured
Number	Acres	Dollars	-Acres-						
1940	4,303	361,933	29	90,507	37,990	40,499	NA	NA	NA
1945	4,268	367,502	37	83,843	30,387	26,482	28,009	NA	176,277
1950	4,034	350,748	69	71,876	34,633	26,948	18,748	NA	182,700
1954	3,783	338,209	82	67,729	23,600	26,019	25,769	NA	184,023
1959	2,981	315,655	102	62,090	26,921	21,617	22,295	NA	169,123
1964	2,429	279,275	157	46,384	25,189	13,507	20,545	23,575	98,873
1969	1,738	239,495	192	35,604	29,966	25,797	15,465	25,253	60,100
1974 4/	1,291	199,851	346	37,357	15,324	30,990	13,269	27,215	48,820
1978	1,162	194,308	594	40,487	16,973	29,218	8,373	28,236	59,974
1982	990	187,296	727	43,806	12,939	31,716	10,617	18,907	59,055
1987	780	179,539	712	37,091	16,738	31,811	11,768	19,862	50,531
1992	645	167,858	946	35,407	14,430	33,198	9,586	18,321	48,989
1997 2/	686	169,324	1,201	40,706	12,189	31,431	9,595	15,806	52,409
2002	581	168,150	1,582	36,643	15,724	22,052	16,988	14,775	54,491

See footnotes on back.