

State Agricultural Summaries

Prepared by

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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ALABAMA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

in cooperation with

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES

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Alabama's population of 3.9 million people lives in a State covering 33.0 million acres. Alabama farms totaled 54,000 in 1985, ranking 19th nationally. Land in farms, at 11.5 million acres, represents 35 percent of the total area.

Total cash farm income in Alabama totaled \$2.1 billion during 1985 with livestock and poultry accounting for 63 percent and crops making up the balance. Broilers generated the most income with \$629 million or 30.3 percent of the total. Alabama ranks third in the United States in broiler production with producers marketing 561.8 million birds in 1985. Cattle and calf returns totaled \$346 million in 1985, 16.7 percent of the total. All cattle inventory on January 1, 1986, totaled 1,780,000 head, ranking 22nd nationally. Cotton receipts, at \$152 million, accounted for the largest share of the crops income with 7.3 percent of the total. Soybeans were the second largest income-generating crop in the state, accounting for \$140 million in cash receipts during 1985, or 6.7 percent of the total. Peanuts followed as the third largest cash crop with \$127 million, 6.1 percent of the total. Over half of the Alabama cotton crop is produced in the Northern third of the State (Tennessee Valley) while over 98 percent of the peanuts is grown in the Southeastern (Wiregrass) area of the State. Soybeans are grown in every county in Alabama.

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AGRICULTURE IN ALASKA

Alaskan agriculture is in the growing stage with new land being developed into private ownership from lotteries, sales, and homesteading from prior State and Federal ownership. Temperatures and precipitation vary considerably from one end of the State to the other. Although several areas have suitable soils as well as a favorable climate for agriculture, most farms are located in the Railbelt. This area includes the Matanuska Valley, Tanana Valley, and the Kenai Peninsula. Even through agriculture production in Alaska is confined to relatively small areas, the State with the midnight sun produces some of the largest and tastiest vegetables in the Nation.

The Matanuska Valley, surrounding the Palmer area and 45 miles North of Anchorage, is the major agricultural producing area. It is known for it's dairies, hay and silage, potatoes and vegetables of unequalled quality and size (1983 State Fair prize winning cabbage tipped the scales at a record 83-1/2 pounds.) Temperatures of a day in June could be 80 degrees with 19 hours of daylight.

Tanana Valley, from Fairbanks to Delta Junction, is the second-most important existent agricultural area and is known statewide for its barley production. This area has had over 120,000 acres of new land made available for agriculture in the past 7 years. Fairbanks has up to 21 hours of daylight in June. The Kenai Peninsula, Kodiak Island, and other islands along the Aleutian Chain, including Southeast, all primarily have maritime climate. These areas are known for grazing and pasturing lands where a large percentage of the State's cattle and sheep are located.

The largest cropland usage of 42,000 acres was in 1984 which consisted of hay, barley, oats, potatoes, and vegetables. Alaska cash receipts totaled over \$26 million in 1985 of which greenhouse and nursery products accounted for 50 percent followed by dairy, hay and potatoes.

Land clearing and root picking are still a way of life on most farms. Marketing agriculture products in Alaska also differs considerably from other States. The only established agriculture market in the State is for milk. All the other agriculture products raised, farmers must also establish a market before selling the end product.

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ARIZONA'S AGRICULTURE

Arizonans combine the irrigated crop production of the deserts with the grazing of the predominate public rangelands to provide a \$1.7 billion industry for the State. Crop sales contribute about 55 percent of the gross agricultural revenue; livestock and related products provide the remainder. Arizona is on the leading edge of the trend of fewer and larger farms. About 25 percent of the State's 8,500 farms account for approximately 97 percent of total sales.

Arizona, with fifteen counties, is only 18 percent privately owned, with Indian Reservations (28%), federal Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (31%), State Trust Lands (13%), and other government entities (10%) administering the land use of the remainder.

Warm, dry weather, and a long growing season complement the desert irrigated crop culture, enabling growers to produce a large variety of high-yielding crops on a year-around basis. Annual rainfall ranges from 2-9 inches in the deserts to 27 inches in highest elevations. Reservoirs in the mountains and on the Colorado River supplement underground aquifers as sources of irrigation water.

Cotton, both upland and extra-long staple varieties, is the leading cash crop, with special desert varieties of Durum and other hard red wheat and barley grown in the crop rotation. Alfalfa hay is also a leading field crop, with lesser seedings of corn, sorghum, safflower, peanuts, and sesame seed. Fresh vegetables and melons, predominately lettuce, and citrus crops, chiefly lemons, are in supply during the fall, winter and spring seasons. Grapes, pecans, and other fruit and nut crops round out the long list of specialty crops grown in the State. Large volumes of cotton, small grains, citrus and other crops are exported through southern California ports.

Rangeland cow-calf operations provide stocker and feeder calves and yearlings to beef finishing feedlots in Arizona and other states. Most commercial milk production is consumed in the state. Lamb and wool production occurs on the grasslands and desert succulent pastures and is significant on Navajo lands. A small number of hog farrow/finish operations and commercial egg producers target nearby metropolitan areas.

Arizona ranks first in production of extra-long staple cotton; second in lettuce and lemons; third in Durum wheat, fresh vegetables, and citrus; fourth in upland cotton; ninth in cattle on feed.

Water rights, water availability and quality, and the use of agricultural chemicals are major ongoing issues facing Arizona's irrigated agriculture, with public land grazing fees and multiple-land use issues the major long term concerns of ranchers. Rapid population growth, which has diverted much of the state's agricultural land and water to urban/industrial use, has also sustained agricultural land values across the State, thus contributing to a favorable debt/asset ratio for the industry.

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ARKANSAS AGRICULTURE

Arkansas has about 33.3 million acres of land area, of which approximately 44 percent is farmland. The State has about 7.5 million acres of cropland harvested, of that 27 percent is irrigated. Arkansas has 53,000 farms averaging 302 acres. Total population was 2.3 million in 1980, of which about 4.7 percent were on farms.

Arkansas is the Nation's number one poultry state, producing 760 million broilers in 1985 and a total poultry production value of \$1.4 billion. Arkansas also is the Nation's number one rice producer, providing 40 percent of the U.S. total production. Other major crops and ranks are: soybean (6); cotton (6); grain sorghum (5); and winter wheat (11) in 1984.

The poultry industry compliments the state's cattle industry by providing fertilizer for the fescue pastures. The cow calf inventory has averaged about 2 million head the last five years.

Arkansas is the Nation's number one bait-fish producer, producing over 7 million pounds valued at \$18.7 million. The State is also a major producer of farm pond-raised catfish, producing 13.5 million pounds valued at \$10.7 million.

Cash receipts from farming have been over \$3 billion since 1979 and is ranked 15 among all states in cash receipts.

Even though Arkansas does not rank high in pork production, it is the home of the Nation's largest hog operation (Tyson Foods) and, of course, the Arkansas Razorbacks - Soo Pig Soovie!

CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURE

The United States as a Nation possesses astonishing physical diversity and some of the most fertile lands in the world, but California is something special. No other state has such a range of subregions varying in climate, topography and soils. California extends through 10 degrees of latitude, encompassing extremes of elevation, temperature and natural precipitation. Average precipitation ranges from a low of one inch in Thermal to over 67 inches in Blue Canyon. California has over a thousand miles of rugged coastline; the immense interior Mojave Desert; the Sierra Nevada mountain range along its eastern border; dense forests in the northwest; and the great Central Valley at its heart.

The great Central Valley--450 miles long and averaging 50 miles wide--dominates California agriculture. This is actually two valleys, the San Joaquin in the south and the Sacramento in the north. The Central Valley, which at one time ebbed and flowed with seasonal growth as winter rains and melting mountain snows provided varying moisture levels, has been channeled and is now cultivated nearly year round. Broad, flat fields of groomed crops are dissected by meandering rivers and bullet-straight canals.

Other areas of California also contribute to varied food and fiber production. The North Coast and Mountain regions contain extensive cattle and sheep operations. The Central Coast consists of a number of highly productive valleys producing grapes and vegetable crops; other areas produce dryland grains or forage for livestock production. Southern California has enormous variation in growing conditions and the most urban development; production of avocados, dates, grapefruit, lemons and winter vegetables is important along with cattle feeding, dairying, poultry raising, and flower-nursery production.

California leads the Nation in cash receipts (thirty-eight consecutive years) with recent sales about 14 billion dollars annually (about 10 percent of the U.S. total). California is the leading producer of alfalfa seed, almonds, apricots, artichokes, asparagus, avocados, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cantaloups, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cut flowers, dates, eggs, figs, garlic, grapes, honey, honeydew melons, jojoba, kiwifruit, lemons, lettuce, nectarines, nursery products, olives, onions, peaches, Bartlett pears, persimmons, pistachios, plums, pomegranates, potted plants, prunes, safflower, spinach, strawberries, sugar beets, processing tomatoes, vegetable and flower seeds, and walnuts. The State ranks second in production of cotton, dry beans, fresh market tomatoes, grapefruit, milk, mushrooms, oranges, rice, sheep and tangerines. Although one-third of the State is in farms and ranches, most of California's agricultural bounty is derived from less than 15 percent of its land area. Yields for many crops are far above those of other areas.

The above brief description cannot do justice to the more than 250 agricultural crops produced commercially in California. Let us close by saying that California is not only the breadbasket of America but it is the salad bowl and the fruit plate as 25 percent of the Nation's table food comes from California alone; it is dependent on irrigation and modern transportation for shipping products to distant U.S. and export markets.

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COLORADO AGRICULTURE

A major part of Colorado's western heritage is based in the ranching and farming industry. Sunny Colorado has many contrasts of climate and geography which make a rich agricultural combination of quality and variety. From towering, rocky mountains where sheep and cattle graze in summer meadows to the high, eastern plains where wave upon wave of golden grains grow, the state's farmers and ranchers provide the foundation for a healthy economy.

Wide variations in temperature, precipitation, and length of growing season are dictated by the state's topography. High temperatures are common at elevations as low as 3,350 feet in the southeast where the Arkansas River flows into Kansas, just as low temperatures usually prevail across Colorado's mountain peaks. Precipitation ranges from an annual average near 12 inches in the dry southern regions of the state to 50 or more inches in certain mountain areas. The length of growing season varies from a few days in the high mountains to more than 180 days in the protected croplands of the Western Slope. The average humidity is considerably lower than that found in most agricultural areas of the U.S.

Sixty percent of Colorado's land is devoted to agriculture. In the western third of the state, luscious peaches, apples, pears, and cherries are produced. To the north of the fruit region is a thriving sheep industry. The hot, arid climate of the southwest corner produces fine pinto beans. Nestled between the Sangre de Cristo and the San Juan Mountains is the San Luis Valley where hybrid potatoes, exceptional malting barley, and crisp lettuce are grown in abundance.

There are 53 mountain peaks over 14,000 feet above sea level which dominate the scenery in the central third of the state. Rainfall and snowpack from this region supply much of the water for the southwestern United States. Tall hay crops are harvested throughout the summer in the lush river valleys while sheep and cattle graze in the high country until the fall roundup.

The eastern third of Colorado has some of the richest agricultural land in the nation. Weld County, just northeast of Denver, is one of the most important agricultural counties in the country in value of agricultural production. Wheat, corn, sugar beets, cattle, sheep, dairy products, eggs, hogs, and commercial vegetables are only a few of the commodities raised in this region. The eastern high plains area is dotted with green circles where fields of corn and wheat are irrigated from the great Ogallala Aquifer. To the south, the fertile Arkansas Valley harvests renowned Rocky Ford cantaloupes along with watermelons, sweet corn, tomatoes, and pearl onions.

Colorado's 26,000 farmers and ranchers add more than \$3 billion annually to the state through the sale of agricultural commodities. The \$2 billion livestock industry is the back bone of Colorado agriculture with beef production the overall leader. Colorado is home to the world's largest cattle feeding operation and ranks number one in the nation in sheep and lambs on feed. Winter wheat and corn account for over one half of the \$1 billion crop industry. Other major crops rounding out Colorado's diverse productivity are hay, potatoes, dry beans, onions, lettuce, barley, sorghum, oats, millet, apples, and peaches.

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AGRICULTURE IN CONNECTICUT

Eggs - Eggs are Connecticut's leading agricultural product and are produced mainly in the eastern counties of Windham and New London. Eggs account for nearly 30 percent of the State's farm cash receipts from all products. Production in 1985 was valued at \$87 million.

Dairy Products - Milk is Connecticut's second leading agricultural product and had been the leader prior to 1984. Milk is produced across the State's northern region and in the two eastern counties. Production in 1985 was valued at \$86.8 million and accounted for approximately 25 percent of the State's farm cash receipts.

Horticulture - In Connecticut, greenhouse and nursery products provide a large source of income for the State's agriculture. Production is throughout the State and close to heavily populated areas. The 1985 production had a cash value of \$42 million.

Tobacco - An important crop, valued at \$23.5 million in 1985. Mostly grown in the Connecticut Valley area of Hartford County and used by cigar manufacturers. The two tobacco types produced are Broadleaf and Shade-grown.

Apples - An important crop, valued at \$7.4 million in 1985. Major producing areas are the central counties of the State.

Peaches - A \$1.2 million crop in 1985. Production mainly in the central region.

Pears - The 1985 production was valued at \$700 thousand. Production is in the central areas with apples and peaches.

Sweet Corn - A \$4.5 million crop in 1985. Produced throughout the State with concentration in Hartford County.

Vegetables and Berries - Fresh market vegetables and berries are important crops to Connecticut agriculture. Produced throughout the State with concentration in Hartford County, the cash value for 1985 totaled nearly \$13 million.

Turkeys - Production scattered throughout the State with concentration in southeastern Connecticut. 1985 value of production totaled \$572 thousand.

Hogs and Pigs - Pork production is mostly in central and southeastern Connecticut near the larger metropolitan areas. Connecticut hog farmers maintain an average inventory of approximately 8,000 hogs and pigs.

Sheep and Lambs - Connecticut sheep growers, with an annual inventory of around 8,000 head are scattered throughout the State.

Hay - Production valued at \$18 million in 1985. Most of the hay is used on farms where produced.

Corn for Silage - A \$30 million crop in 1985 with utilization on Connecticut dairy and livestock farms.

AGRICULTURE IN DELAWARE

Delaware, known as "The First State" because of its status in signing the United States Constitution, features a highly concentrated mixture of agriculture, industry, and tourism. From the rolling hills in northern Delaware, the flatter farmland in central Delaware, and the sandy soil in the southern portion of the state come a variety of agricultural products, such as poultry, eggs, dairy products, corn, soybeans and vegetables.

The poultry industry comprises Delaware's number one cash farm product, with cash receipts amounting to nearly 73 percent of the total gross income of farms. Much of the broiler production in Delaware is produced on a contract basis, where farmers provide facilities and labor to raise the broiler and a large company supplies the birds, feed, veterinary products, transportation and a market for the broilers. The high quality of Delaware produced broilers has established a worldwide reputation for the product. Also, research on the Eastern Shore area is rapidly creating a wide variety of new convenience food poultry products. Besides broilers, nearly 150 million eggs are produced in Delaware each year and are marketed to cities and towns all along the eastern coast.

Dairy herds are located throughout Delaware and produce over 15 million gallons of milk per year. As well as providing the highly urbanized areas on the Eastern Coast with fluid milk, the dairy industry also provides milk for manufactured dairy products such as ice cream, butter and cheeses.

Corn and soybeans account for 16 percent of Delaware's gross farm income with nearly 400,000 acres, or 60 percent of Delaware's total land in farms under cultivation for these two crops alone. Much of the corn and soybeans grown in Delaware is used as feed for the poultry and dairy industries in the state.

Some of Delaware's main vegetable crops are potatoes, sweet corn, green peas, and snap beans. A large portion of the over \$10 million worth of potatoes are grown in northern Delaware. Most of the other vegetable crops are concentrated in the central and southern parts of the state.

Overall, over \$523 million worth of Delaware farm commodities are marketed each year from the state's 3,600 farms. Although farm land is decreasing due to development, agriculture still remains one of the states most important industries.

FLORIDA AGRICULTURE

Citrus, vegetables and melons, livestock and livestock products, field crops, sugarcane, and greenhouse nursery products account for most of the 4.5 billion dollar level of cash receipts from marketings of Florida agricultural commodities. Citrus brings in about 25 percent of these receipts (nearly 20 percent from oranges); vegetables and melons, 22 percent; field crops including sugarcane, 13 percent; greenhouse, nursery, miscellaneous fruits and berries, 17 percent; and livestock and products, 23 percent.

Florida is the Nation's leading producer of citrus, and supplier of fresh market winter vegetables. The State also ranks highest in production of sugarcane, watermelons, foliage plants, cut floral greens and gladioli, and in marketings of beef type feeder calves - mostly shipped to other states for further feeding.

The 13,000,000 acres of land in farms (about 38 percent of total land in the State) and 39,000 farms includes vast cattle ranches extending mostly from the north central Peninsula and southward to the lower Peninsula. Citrus is concentrated in the lower central ridge area of the Peninsula, east coast or Indian River area and lower interior and west coast. The several hundred thousand acres of muck land soils centered in the Lake Okeechobee and Apopka - Zellwood areas produce leafy vegetables, sweet corn, carrots and as many as five crops of radishes each season. Nearly 400,000 acres of sugarcane is grown around Lake Okeechobee - largely on muck soils. The muck land is irrigated by seepage - using an elaborate system of ditches and canals. The muck is flooded when not in use to aid in controlling pests and to reduce oxidization of the soil. These soils are high in natural nitrogen with very little need for additional applications.

Table egg production is located in central and north Florida. Broiler production can be found in the northern and western areas. Horse breeding and training are important in the Ocala area. Florida is known for its large dairies - herds commonly have 300 to 400 cows and some, many more. Major areas of production for tomatoes, peppers, squash and cucumbers are near the east and west coasts of the southern Peninsula and in Dade County. Some potatoes also are grown in these areas. Tropical fruit including limes, avocados, and mangos and tropical vegetables also are important in Dade County. Watermelons are widely grown on the State's sandy soils. Strawberries are grown primarily in the west central Peninsula area. Foliage plant production is concentrated in the central and southeastern Peninsula areas. Potatoes, cabbage and cut florist greens are produced in the upper eastern Peninsula.

The harvest season for Florida's major crops, including citrus, vegetables and sugarcane begins in the fall, extends into the spring, and for citrus and some vegetables, into the early summer. Field crop harvest begins in late spring and extends into the fall for late maturing crops.

GEORGIA

Georgia, the largest State east of the Mississippi River has a land area of 37.7 million acres. Approximately 37 percent of the 5.8 million residents live in non-metropolitan areas, many of which depend on agriculture either directly or indirectly for their livelihood. Georgia currently has 50,000 farms that cover 13.5 million acres in 159 counties.

Cash receipts from farm marketings in 1984 totaled \$3.6 billion with livestock and poultry accounting for 51.5 percent and crops 48.5 percent of the total. Poultry continues its major impact in the State and Nation, with broiler sales at \$835 million and egg sales at \$321 million. Georgia produced about 15 percent of the Nations broilers in 1984 and ranked second nationally in sales for both eggs and broilers. A viable livestock industry in Georgia reports 1.7 million head of all cattle on January 1, 1986, and 1.0 million hogs on June 1, 1986. Cash receipts from cattle, hogs, and milk sales in 1984 amounted to almost \$600 million.

Georgia ranks number one in the Nation in both peanut and pecan production. Peanuts continue to be the State number one income earning crop usually contributing about \$500 million in sales each year. Acreage of corn and soybeans is on a downtrend due to several years of drought induced low yields and general unprofitability. Corn acreage planted in 1985 totaled 1,080,000 acres and soybeans 1,800,000. A renewed interest has occurred in cotton production with 255,000 acres in 1985, sharply above the record low of 120,000 in both 1983 and 1978.

Georgia is known as the Peach State. Peach sales are usually around \$20 million ranking Georgia third nationally in production. Vegetable production is increasing in the State amounting to over \$130 million in cash receipts in each of the past several years.

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HAWAII AGRICULTURE

From the array of agricultural commodities, to farm size, to soil type and rainfall, Hawaii's agriculture can best be described as diverse. Farm size ranges from small intensive truck crop farms of only a few acres to very large sugar, pineapple, macadamia nut and cattle ranching operations comprised of thousands of acres. Crops are grown on land with deep, rich soils to a type of lava called A'a. Rainfall ranges from around 13 inches annually in some agricultural areas to over 145 inches in others. Statistics are provided on over 100 different crops and livestock items produced on the state's 4,600 farms.

Sugarcane and pineapple are the number one and two commodities, respectively. Hawaii is the number two sugarcane producing State in the U. S. and an important world producer of pineapple. Both industries, although characterized by some of the largest, most efficient operations in the world, have felt the pressure of foreign, often subsidized, competition. As a result, operations have scaled back to the most productive land and have stepped up cost-saving efforts and technology research. Additionally, they are looking to other crop alternatives.

Much attention is being given to other important and expanding sectors of Hawaii's agriculture. Beef cattle, milk, poultry, hogs, vegetable and melon crops, as well as tropical and semi-tropical crops such as macadamia nuts, bananas, coffee, papayas, ginger root, taro and flowers and nursery products combine to make up an increasingly important share of the agricultural base. Taking advantage of the climate and relative isolation, seed corn research and production has also found a niche in the crop spectrum.

Some Highlights:

Flowers and Nursery Products: A fast growing segment whose value of wholesale sales ranks 8th in the nation. Major crops include potted foliage, cut anthurium flowers, orchids, roses and numerous tropicals.

Macadamia Nuts: Number one producer in the world. New plantings and intentions point to long-term expansion, much of it on former sugarcane land.

Fruits, Vegetables and Melons: Crops, in addition to pineapple, include papayas, bananas, guava, watermelons, cabbage, tomatoes, ginger root, lettuce, taro and various oriental vegetables. Production and value on increase.

Coffee: The coffee industry has been rejuvenated in response to strong gourmet demand for Hawaii's superior "Kona" coffee. Premium prices have stimulated an increase in new acreage plantings.

Livestock: Cattle ranching can be found on all of the major islands and the size of the operations range from only a few head to the largest individually owned ranch in the U. S. Hawaii's dairy industry is characterized by large-scale dry lot operations with an average commercial herd size of over 500 head. The poultry industry supplies about 90 percent of the State's fresh egg requirements. Swine production is typically a specialized, intensive, family-owned and operated enterprise.

IDAHO AGRICULTURE

Idaho is a state blessed with fertile croplands, endless ranges and unmatched scenic beauty. Agriculture is the number one industry in the State and essential to the economy in all areas. Dryland farming is prevalent in the Northern part, while mountain snowpacks and extensive reservoir systems have allowed irrigation of the semi-desert in the southern part of the State.

Idaho cropland acreage is limited with about 6.5 million acres devoted to cultivation of which about two thirds is devoted to barley, wheat, and hay. Crops raised vary widely and over 50 are raised on a commercial basis. The major ones are wheat, barley, oats, hay and peas which are raised throughout the State. Other important crops such as onions, peppermint, spearmint, sugar beets, hops, potatoes, cloverseed, alfalfa seed, and corn are grown primarily in the South along the Snake River. Fruit crops including apples, peaches, sweet cherries, prunes and plums are also produced in the Southwestern area.

The auto license plates for the State proudly bear the inscription "Famous Potatoes" because production of this crop normally accounts for about one fourth of all potatoes produced in the nation. Idaho's production ranks in the top 5 of the nation for 9 of the crops produced. The crops are spring wheat, barley, sugarbeets, hops, prunes and plums, potatoes, peppermint and spearmint.

Malting and feed barley are grown in large quantities throughout the State because the soil and climate are excellent for the crop and it fits well in the rotation with other cash crops. There are about 10 major varieties of malting barley grown.

North Idaho boasts of a large share of the Nation's dry pea and lentil acreage as well as a large production of bluegrass seed. Soft white wheat makes up a large part of the wheat grown in Northern and south central Idaho. Hard red wheat makes up over 50 percent of Eastern Idaho's wheat production.

Idaho's livestock industry accounts for 40 percent of all cash receipts by Idaho farmers, which emphasizes its importance. Ranchers take advantage of the abundant ranges in the State making cattle and sheep major contributors to the agriculture. Milk and American cheese production are centered in the southern part as that is where most of the dairies are located.

Other miscellaneous agricultural commodities produced in the State are trout for food, honey, and potato and beet pulp. Potato and beet pulp is used to feed cattle and has been a way to use the byproducts that come from the large potato processing plants and the sugar factories. Agriculture has been and will continue to be a major contributor to the State's economy.

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ILLINOIS AGRICULTURE

The State of Illinois is blessed with some of the richest agricultural resources in the USA and in the world. Illinois farmers and industries produce abundant supplies of foods and agricultural products that have gained acceptance worldwide.

Illinois lies midway between the Continental Divide and the Atlantic Ocean and some 500 miles north of the Gulf of Mexico. The climate is typically continental with cold winters, warm summers, and frequent short period fluctuations of temperature, humidity, cloudiness and wind direction. The excellent soil and well distributed annual precipitation favor a very high standard of agricultural production.

Agriculture in Illinois has been 150,000 years in the making. During the Ice Age glaciers moved across the continent, leveling the countryside and depositing black, fertile soil over much of the state. These black soils, rich in organic content, yield an agricultural productivity that is unsurpassed. Parts of Illinois untouched by glacial movement reveal hills and valleys bedecked with timber, haystacks and grazing livestock.

Well known as the home of Abraham Lincoln, the State of Illinois has developed a highly diversified economy. America's third largest city, Chicago, lies adjacent to the Great Lakes region in Northern Illinois. Beyond the urban industrial areas, there are thousands of farms with more than 28 million acres of fertile farmland representing 81 percent of the total land area which comprises Illinois' largest industry agriculture.

Although many farms in the state have become specialized for the production of crops such as corn, soybeans and wheat still one half of the farms have cattle, one fourth have hogs and thousands of other farms have milk cows, sheep and poultry. Cattle are found throughout the state but populations are most concentrated in the Northwest. Milk cow numbers are concentrated in the North and Southwest. Hogs and pigs are on farms throughout the state but the largest populations are in the Western and Northwestern areas of the state. Livestock production contributes nearly a third of the total cash receipts from Illinois farms.

Illinois leads the Nation in total agricultural exports and ranks second among the states in cash receipts from the sale of crops, eleventh in all livestock and livestock products and fourth in all commodities. Illinois is the leading state in soybean production and the second leading state in corn and hog production.

Food and agricultural product processing contribute significantly to the state's economy. Illinois is one of the top ranking states in meat packing, soybean processing, dairy manufacturing, corn processing, feed milling, and vegetable processing.

Illinois' fertile soil, favorable climate, availability of good transportation and the industry of its people make it a rich agricultural empire.

INDIANA AGRICULTURE

OF THE 23 MILLION (22,996,499) ACRES OF LAND IN THE STATE OF INDIANA 16,300,000 ACRES, OR 71 PERCENT ARE IN FARMS. IN RECENT YEARS 12 MILLION TO 13 MILLION ACRES HAVE BEEN PLANTED TO THE 7 MAJOR CROPS—CORN, SOYBEANS, WHEAT, OATS, RYE, SORGHUM (DISCONTINUED IN 1985) AND HAY. IN ADDITION APPROXIMATELY 31,000 ACRES ARE DEVOTED TO VEGETABLE AND MELON PRODUCTION AND 8,000 ACRES ARE IN ORCHARDS, PRINCIPALLY APPLES AND PEACHES.

WITH 81,000 FARMS IN THE STATE THE AVERAGE FARM SIZE IS 202 ACRES WITH 30 PERCENT OF ALL FARMS AVERAGING LESS THAN 50 ACRES WHILE 3 PERCENT AVERAGE OVER 1,000 ACRES EACH.

MAJOR CROPS GROWN IN INDIANA ARE CORN, SOYBEANS, WHEAT, AND HAY. IN RECENT YEARS THE ACREAGE PLANTED TO CORN HAS BEEN BETWEEN 6,200,000 AND 6,500,000 ACRES AND PRODUCTION VARIES BETWEEN 600 MILLION AND 790 MILLION BUSHELLS. THE STATE PLANTS FROM 4 MILLION TO 4.6 MILLION ACRES OF SOYBEANS AND HARVESTS BETWEEN 150 MILLION TO 185 MILLION BUSHELLS.

INDIANA USUALLY RANKS 4TH IN THE NATION IN THE PRODUCTION OF CORN AND THIRD OR FOURTH IN SOYBEAN PRODUCTION.

SALES OF CORN MAKE UP 25 TO 30 PERCENT OF INDIANA'S CASH RECEIPTS FROM THE SALE OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES WHILE SOYBEAN CONTRIBUTE 20 TO 23 PERCENT.

INDIANA IS A MAJOR HOG PRODUCING STATE WITH AN INVENTORY OF 4.2 TO 4.8 MILLION HOGS AND ANNUAL MARKETINGS OF 6.3 TO 7.3 MILLION HEAD. ANNUALLY HOGS ACCOUNT FOR ABOUT 18 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS OF FARMERS.

THE STATE RANKS SECOND IN THE NATION IN THE NUMBER OF CHICKENS (EXCLUDING BROILERS) AND IN THE EGGS PRODUCED. IN 1985 INDIANA PRODUCED EGGS VALUED AT \$245 MILLION. POULTRY ACCOUNTS FOR NEARLY 10 PERCENT OF THE STATE'S CASH RECEIPTS FROM FARMING.

INDIANA IS A SIGNIFICANT PRODUCER OF SPEARMINT AND PEPPERMINT OIL AND USUALLY RANKS 1ST OR 2ND IN THE NATION IN THE PRODUCTION OF POPCORN.

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DESCRIPTION OF IOWA

Iowa is often confused with Idaho and Ohio much to the insult of Iowans. Iowa is an agricultural state but has produced and trained a number of famous people. Some of the well-known ones number Buffalo Bill, John Wayne, Glen Miller, Bob Feller, Johnny Carson, John L. Lewis, Grant Wood, Herbert Hoover, and Mamie Eisenhower, to name a few.

Iowa is the most homogeneous agricultural state in the nation, 25th in size, 27th in population, and 94% of land area in farms. Iowa usually ranks second in agricultural cash receipts, behind California, and in the top two for exports.

Iowa has 111,000 farms or the third largest number behind Texas and Missouri; however, number one in total harvested acres of crop. Iowa is the largest corn producer--19% of U.S.; second largest soybean producer--15% of U.S.; third in oat production--11% of U.S.; fourth in alfalfa hay--7% of U.S. Iowa is the largest red meat producing state with 15% of U.S. total. Over one fourth of the U.S. pork production comes from Iowa, 6% of cattle slaughter, and 14% of sheep slaughter. Even though Iowa is ranked 11th in land in farms, the value of real estate is ranked fourth.

Iowa is bounded on the east border by the Mississippi River and the west by the Missouri River. The state is largely rolling with numerous smaller rivers traversing the state.

The state is dotted with ethnical groups with communities still of predominant backgrounds like Dutch in Pella and Orange City, Danish at Elk Horn and Kimballton, Norwegian at Decorah, Swedish at Stanton, the Amana Colonies, Amish at Kalona, Czeck at Spillville, and Mesquakie Indian at Tama, to name a few.

The soil was largely laid down during different glacial periods with deep loess silt deposits on the western edge. The steel plow opened the grass plains of Iowa to agriculture in the early 1800s. Prior to that, settlers cleared tree lands because it was easier to till the soil. Much of the land has been tilled to give better drainage and yield larger crops.

Iowa is home of the hybrid corn seed and still produces about one third of the U.S. hybrid seed corn. Even though Iowa is largely agricultural, one fourth of the nation's top 500 corporations have plants in Iowa. Most of these are ag-related such as John Deere, Quaker Oats, Iowa Beef Processors, but also home items such as Maytag, Amana, Sheaffer Pen, and Winnebago motor homes, to name a few. Des Moines is the state capitol located in the center of the state and is also a national headquarters for some 100 insurance companies. Des Moines is also a large publishing center with many nationally distributed magazines published here. A number of novelists stem from Iowa and the University of Iowa continues its Writers Workshop. The Land Grant colleges have provided many advancements for the nation such as Nobel Prize winner Norman Borlaug for crop developments, discovery of the Van Allen radiation belts, feed additives from Iowa State University, as well as the birth of the computer concept.

Iowa welcomes you as a tourist, farmer, manufacturer, writer, scientist, or if you just want to attend the annual National Hobo Convention in Britt.

A Brief Review of Kansas Agriculture

Kansas is often called the "Wheat State" because of a combination of soil and climatic factors. In 1985, for instance, Kansas farmers produced enough wheat to make nearly 31.6 billion loaves of bread, or enough to provide every person on earth with about six loaves of bread. Every year in June and early July wheat harvest moves northward across the state. A normal harvest of several hundred million bushels of wheat adds more than a billion dollars to the economy of Kansas.

The state is blessed with sufficient rainfall, plentiful sunshine and generally moderate though changeable temperatures. It has more available cropland, about 30 million acres, than any state except Texas. The state has three different types of climate in the eastern, middle and western thirds. The eastern third of Kansas has the lowest elevation and average annual precipitation of more than 35 inches, higher humidity and less sunshine than other parts of the state. In a normal year sorghum grain, corn and soybeans are grown in abundance while wheat is less important. Many fruits and vegetables are grown here. The eastern third of the state encompasses the unique area of native grasses particularly suited for cattle grazing known as the Flint Hills or Bluestem Pastures. This area accounts for one-fourth of the state's total pasture and rangeland.

The central third of the state has a higher elevation, less rainfall, more wind and less humidity. It is the heart of the wheat belt, but sorghum, corn, alfalfa and fruits and vegetables are also grown here.

The highest in elevation and more regular in topography is the western third of the state. This is the driest and sunniest area of the state receiving about 19 inches of rainfall each year. Much wheat, corn and sorghum grain are produced in western Kansas aided by irrigation.

In addition to being "Wheat King," Kansas is tops among the states in the production of sorghum grain, sorghum silage, wheat flour milling capacity, flour milled and the number of cattle slaughtered. Through the first quarter of 1986 Kansas has taken over first place in the production of total red meat by commercial slaughter plants. On January 1, 1986, Kansas was tied for second in the number of cattle and calves. It ranks third in commercial grain storage capacity. It is usually sixth or seventh in foreign exports of farm products.

K E N T U C K Y

Kentucky's 3.7 million people live in a State comprising 25.4 million acres. Kentucky farms totaled 100,000 in 1985, ranking it fourth nationally. Farms cover 14.5 million acres in the Commonwealth, 57 percent of the total land area.

Farmers in Kentucky generated \$2.7 billion in cash receipts in 1984. Tobacco was the number one income earner, generating \$756 million or 28.5 percent of the total. Kentucky ranks first in production of burley tobacco and second in production of all types of tobacco. Burley tobacco was grown in 117 of the State's 120 counties. Horses accounted for \$580 million in cash receipts for 1984, 21.9 percent of the total. Kentucky is well known for its thoroughbred breeding farms, with most located in the Bluegrass area of the State of which Lexington is the hub. Cattle and calves generated \$385 million in 1984, 14.6 percent of the total. All cattle inventory on January 1, 1986 totaled 2,480,000, ranking 13th nationally. The State's primary row crops are corn and soybeans. In 1985, 57 percent of the corn for grain and 82 percent of the soybeans were produced in the western third of the State.

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LOUISIANA AGRICULTURE

Agriculture in Louisiana is a nearly \$2 billion industry. It is dominated by the production of crops, which account for about 78 percent of all cash receipts. Leading crops grown are, in order of acreage, soybeans, cotton, rice, corn, sorghum, hay, sugarcane, and winter wheat. Specialty items include sweetpotatoes, peaches, pecans, strawberries, and vegetables of all kinds. Considerable timber is also produced.

Historically, the main crops, in terms of cash receipts to growers, have been soybeans, cotton, rice, and sugarcane. Corn, sorghum and winter wheat have increased in importance just in the past three or four years.

Leading the livestock category are cattle and calves, broilers and dairy products. Most Louisiana livestock farms are cow-calf operations. Small numbers of hogs and sheep are grown as well. Egg production is valued in excess of \$30 million annually. An estimated 110,000 acres of cultivated crawfish are also in production.

AGRICULTURE IN MAINE

Potatoes, milk and eggs are Maine's leading agricultural products and compete each year for the leadership in cash receipts. Each account for approximately 20 - 25 percent of the State's farm cash receipts.

Potatoes - Produced mostly in Aroostook County, the northern area of the State, with minor production in the central area of Maine. The 1985 production totaled 27.2 million cwt with a value of \$80.1 million. Maine ranks in the top 5 nationally in fall potato production.

Dairy - Milk is produced throughout the State with the major producers in central and southern Maine. Production in 1985 was 673 million pounds with a total value of \$93 million.

Eggs - A large source of income for the State's farmers with 1985 production valued at \$79.4 million. Production is mainly in central and southern Maine.

Apples - An important crop, valued at \$15.4 million in 1985. Mostly produced in southern Maine with some production reaching up into central areas.

Blueberries - Produced in the coastal counties of eastern Maine, the wild blueberry crop is a major part of this area's economy. Production is highly dependent on growing conditions and shows large variations in annual production. The 1985 crop totaled 44 million pounds.

Horticulture - Greenhouse and nursery products had a cash value of about \$8.9 million in 1985. Production is concentrated in southern Maine and elsewhere close to heavily populated areas.

Hogs and Pigs - Pork production is throughout the State with concentration near the larger metropolitan areas. Maine hog farmers maintain an average inventory of approximately 8,000 hogs and pigs.

Sheep and Lambs - Maine sheep growers, with an annual inventory of around 18,000 sheep, are scattered throughout the State with coastal regions of eastern Maine having the largest concentration of sheep growers.

Maple Syrup - Produced in western Maine and along the Canadian border. Maine's maple production is a quarter million dollar industry. Production varies considerably depending on early spring weather.

Vegetables and Berries - Fresh market vegetables and berries are produced throughout the State with mostly local marketing. Roughly 10,000 acres of peas for processing are produced annually in Aroostook County.

Hay - Production valued at \$30.7 million in 1985. Most of the hay is used on Maine farms.

Corn for Silage - Production valued at \$15.8 million in 1985 with utilization on dairy and livestock farms.

Oats - Approximately 40 - 45 thousand acres are harvested annually in Aroostook County. The 1985 production was valued at \$3 million.

AGRICULTURE IN MARYLAND

AMERICA'S FARMLAND IN MINIATURE

Maryland's agricultural interests are as varied as its topography. From the flat sandy soil of the Eastern Shore, the rocky crags of Western Maryland, the rolling hills of Northern Maryland and the plantation fields of Southern Maryland come a variety of vegetables, fruits, plants, tobacco, turf, feeds, dairy foods, poultry, eggs, meats and other items. Of Maryland's 6.3 million surface acres, more than 40% are devoted to agriculture.

Today poultry is the state's number one cash farm product while dairy farming is the number two endeavor followed by grain production. Soybeans, vegetables, fruits, livestock and nursery stock are now giving some real competition to tobacco for the fourth most important commodity. Maryland also is becoming increasingly recognized for its sod production as well as for growing commercial Christmas Trees.

Poultry production is concentrated on the Eastern Shore peninsula. The high quality of Maryland produced broilers has established such a reputation that the chickens are now prized worldwide for their consistency and flavor. An expanded market is also evolving in the industry with such products as chicken frankfurters.

There are currently dairy herds in each of Maryland's twenty three counties. However, major production comes from Frederick, Carroll, Washington, Harford, and Montgomery counties. Field crops are grown in all sections; but because of soil, weather conditions, and climate, they are more predominant on the Eastern Shore and in Central Maryland. Corn, the state's major field crop, is used mostly within Maryland as feedstuff for the poultry and dairy industry. That portion of the crop raised for outside sale usually finds a ready outlet in the export market through huge storage and loading facilities located in Baltimore. Soybeans are much like corn.

Maryland's tobacco, known as Type 32, is unique. It's particular flavor can be attained only from Southern Maryland's climate and soil. Grown elsewhere, Type 32 develops characteristics not nearly so appealing to tobacco buyers. Today, almost half of the marketed tobacco is exported.

Overall, over \$1.1 billion worth of Maryland farm commodities are marketed each year from the state's 18,000 farms. Although, farm land has decreased by a third over the past thirty years, agriculture still remains one of the state's most important industries.

AGRICULTURE IN MASSACHUSETTS

Horticulture - Greenhouse and nursery products are Massachusetts's leading agricultural products and account for nearly 30 percent of the State's farm cash receipts from all products. Production is largest in eastern areas, but the industry continues to grow fast in western Massachusetts. The 1985 production had a cash value of \$112 million.

Cranberries - Cranberries are Massachusetts's second leading agricultural product and are produced in the Cape Cod area of southeastern Massachusetts. The 1985 production had a value of nearly \$91.6 million. Massachusetts ranks first nationally in cranberry production.

Dairy Products - Milk is an important product to Massachusetts's agriculture and accounts for approximately 20 percent of the State's total farm cash receipts. Produced mostly in central and western areas of the State, the 1985 value of milk produced totaled \$82.5 million.

Eggs - A large source of income for the State's farmers, with 1985 production valued at \$21 million. Production is spread throughout the State but is intensive in central counties.

Apples - An important crop, valued at \$17.7 million in 1985. Production is throughout the State with the larger producing area in central Massachusetts.

Vegetables and Berries - Fresh market vegetables and berries are produced throughout Massachusetts for the Boston and local markets. The 1985 production had a cash value of \$42.3 million.

Sweet Corn - A \$9.5 million crop in 1985. Production is statewide.

Tobacco - Produced in south central Massachusetts in the Connecticut Valley region, the 1985 crop was valued at \$7.6 million. The two tobacco types produced are Havana seed and Shade-Grown, both used by cigar manufacturers.

Tomatoes - A \$4.4 million crop in 1985 with production throughout the State.

Potatoes - Production valued at \$3.7 million in 1985. Principle producing areas are southeast, northeast and northcentral counties.

Hogs and Pigs - Production is near the larger populated areas of the State on garbage feed operations. Massachusetts hog growers maintain an annual inventory of approximately 40,000 hogs and pigs.

Turkeys - A \$2.8 million industry with production mostly in central areas of the State.

Sheep and Lambs - Massachusetts sheep growers are scattered throughout the State with an annual inventory of 10,000 sheep and lambs.

Hay and Corn Silage - Produced mainly for use on Massachusetts livestock farms. Hay production was valued at \$25.9 million and corn silage at \$22.2 million in 1985.

AGRICULTURAL BRIEF: MICHIGAN

One of the most important segments of Michigan's economy is agriculture. Despite being second to the huge manufacturing component, Michigan farmers garnered enough cash receipts in 1985 to rank 19th in the Nation in farm marketings. Gross farm income from crops and livestock in 1985 reached \$3 billion on the state's 63,000 farms. Climate and soils vary greatly throughout the state. The soils in the southern half of the Lower Peninsula are very fertile. The moderating influence of Lake Michigan on the weather is very conducive to the growth of fruit crops.

The nucleus of Michigan's agriculture is the production of field crops for food and livestock feed. The state produces more than 50 food and fiber crops each year. A large share of it's farm income is derived from cash crop sales which exceeded \$1.7 billion at the farm level in 1985. Michigan is first in the production of dry edible beans. It also ranks among the top 10 states in the production of corn, oats, sugarbeets, hay, rye and potatoes. However, this State is somewhat unique in that within its borders are found a wide variety of specialty crops, consisting primarily of fruits and vegetables which account for about 1/3 of the total cash receipts. It is first in producing tart cherries, blueberries and pickling cucumbers. Michigan is also a leading producer of apples, sweet cherries, asparagus, celery, carrots, grapes, peaches, strawberries, onions and floriculture crops.

Another essential component of the Wolverine State's agriculture industry is the production of livestock and livestock products. This segment alone generated over \$1.2 billion in total cash receipts in 1985. Dairy, beef cattle and hogs are the top livestock income generators. Michigan has long maintained its status as a leading state in milk production and dairy products with cash receipts totaling \$697 million. In recent years, Michigan has increased its share of national output in other areas of livestock production. The State also is the home of 160,000 equine, while a new angora goat-mohair industry is developing.

Michigan's agriculture industry extends well beyond the farm level and is highly integrated with the rest of the state's economy. As the State ranks 8th nationally in population it provides ready made opportunity for investment and employment in food processing, and distribution as well as providing an excellent nearby market for its own farm products. A strong transportation network facilitates efficient marketing of agricultural products. In summary, Michigan's economy is a unique combination of manufacturing, agriculture and tourism industries which are increasingly interdependent. In generating the agricultural data base our challenge is to develop reliable agricultural statistics within a large, complex and highly urbanized economy.

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A MINNESOTA

Agricultural

STATISTICS SERVICE

U.S. Department of Agriculture
cooperating with
Minnesota Department of Agriculture

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Minnesota Agriculture

Because of the variation in Minnesota's soil and topography, agriculture is very diverse in the state; 27 farm products generate over \$5 million each in cash receipts each year. Minnesota has slightly less than 100,000 farms and the nation's 2nd highest farm population.

Minnesota's major ag industry is dairy -- providing over one-fifth of total cash receipts annually. The dairy region is concentrated in central to southeast Minnesota. Land in this area is generally hilly with many lakes. The state ranks among the top 5 states producing milk, cheese, dry milk, and butter.

Minnesota has 2 major cash grain regions. The northwest part of the state has a shorter growing season and is a major producer of wheat, oats, barley, sugarbeets, and sunflowers, ranking as one of the nation's top 5 producers of these crops. Dry beans and potatoes are other major crops of this region. Minnesota's southern region is the northern part of the nation's Corn Belt and produces most of the state's corn and soybean crops, again ranking as one of the nation's top 5 producers.

The southern third of the state is also a major livestock region. Hog production is prominent along the Minnesota-Iowa border with the state generally ranking 3rd in inventories. Cattle also dominate in this region, with Minnesota ranking within the top 10 states.

Minnesota turkey production ranks 2nd in the nation, with some of the country's largest processors located within the state.

The processing vegetable industry is also a major component of the state's agriculture. Sweet corn and green peas for processing are grown under contract in the southern half of Minnesota, with the state generally ranking 1st or 2nd in both crops.

The state is also home to some of the nation's largest ag industries. Cargill is based here, the largest grain company in the world. The Minneapolis Grain Exchange is the world's largest cash grain market. The state's extensive food processing industry adds billions of dollars to the value of state farm products.

About 40% of the state's exports are farm products. Most of these farm products leave the state by water. An extensive waterway system on the Mississippi River provides direct transport of Minnesota grains to Gulf ports by barge. Minnesota is also connected to ocean outlets by the St. Lawrence Seaway system in Duluth. As such, the volume of Minnesota's off-farm grain storage capacity is one of the largest in the nation.

About one-fourth of Minnesota's employment comes from agriculture and its related industries, making it a major contributor to the state's economic base.

MISSISSIPPI AGRICULTURE

From the flat land of the Delta to the northeast area of the state where cropland and livestock prevail, to the southern and central area with cropland, livestock, poultry and pine timber, agriculture is the most important industry in the state.

Land in farms accounts for about 47 percent of the total land area in the state. There are 48,000 farms in the state with 14,200,000 acres for an average size of 296 acres per farm.

Cash receipts for all commodities total about 2.2 billion dollars. Both row crops and livestock are important to the state's agriculture. Crops account for about 53 percent of total cash receipts and Livestock and Poultry the remaining 47 percent.

Cotton, soybeans, grain sorghum, wheat and rice are the major row crops grown in the state. More acres are planted to soybeans than any other crop followed by cotton, grain sorghum, wheat and rice. Mississippi ranks 3rd in the U. S. in cotton production, 9th in soybeans, 6th in grain sorghum, 5th in rice and 29th in wheat production. Some acreage is also devoted to sweetpotatoes, pecans, peaches, hay and corn. Vegetables, blueberries and grapes are grown on small acreages.

Broilers are the leader in cash receipts from the Livestock and Poultry area. The state ranks 5th in the U. S. in broiler production and 18th in egg production. Broilers are produced on contract and are concentrated in the central and southern part of the state. Poultry accounts for about 1/4 of the total cash receipts. Cattle and Calves account for about 10 percent of the cash receipts. The state ranks 28th in the U. S. in cattle numbers, 18th in beef cow numbers, 24th in hogs and pigs, 30th in milk cows and 35th in milk production. Milk production in the state is concentrated around Memphis and New Orleans. There are about one thousand commercial dairy operations in the state.

Cattle operations are made up of small cow-calf operations. About 75 percent of the 34,000 cattle operations have less than 50 head of all cattle and calves. Beef calves are shipped to other states for further feeding.

Catfish production is the fastest growing enterprise. Estimates are total cash receipts of \$140,000,000. Acreage devoted to catfish production totals about 70,000 to 75,000 acres. The state ranks 1st in the U. S. in catfish production and produces about 75 percent of the total U. S. catfish. Catfish farms are concentrated in the Delta with Belzoni in Humphreys County being designated as the Catfish Capitol of the world.

MISSOURI - THE "SHOW-ME" STATE

Missouri agriculture is characterized by a large number of (115,000) family-operated farms that are generally small and depend heavily on off-farm income to supplement their farm income. The State is best known as a source of feeder cattle and feeder pigs. In fact, Missouri ranks second to Texas in the production of feeder calves and second to Iowa in feeder pig production. Missouri usually ranks among the top ten states in farm cash receipts, cattle inventory, hog inventory, turkeys raised, soybean, corn, wheat, grain sorghum, hay and rice production.

About one-third of the State's farmland is utilized in row crop production, another third is devoted to forest and woodland and the remaining third is primarily in hay and pasture. Missouri agriculture can be classified into three distinct regions. The northern half of the State north of the Missouri River features rolling prairies and are similar in many respects to the corn and hog agriculture of the cornbelt. The southeast lowlands commonly called "the Bootheel" is more like the Southern Delta states where cotton and rice grown. The "Ozarks" of southern and southwestern Missouri is noted for its "hillbilly" heritage and excellent recreation opportunities. However, the Ozarks are also important in the production of beef cattle and milk as most farm land is best suited for forage production.

Missouri is not always blessed with the most favorable weather for crop production. Half of the past dozen years has seen extensive droughts hit the majority of counties in the State. With such high risks, farmers in recent years have shifted away from corn to more drought tolerant crops, soybeans and grain sorghum (milo).

Both St. Louis and Kansas City are important agribusiness centers. In addition to being home to the American and National League Baseball Champions, they are the headquarters for numerous national and international agribusinesses and commodity organizations.

MONTANA AGRICULTURE

Montana is a large state comprising 93.0 million acres and 787 thousand people. The state had 23,600 farms and ranches in 1985. These covered 60.9 million acres; ranking it second in the nation for land in farms. Usually about 2 million acres are irrigated each year. About 67 percent of the total land in farms and ranches is pasture or rangeland. The average annual precipitation varies from 11 to 15 inches. In most agricultural areas the last spring freeze varies from May 10 to May 30 and the first fall freeze usually occurs in September.

The agricultural industry in Montana is nearly three times more valuable to the state than the next closest industry. Cattle and wheat are the two dominant crops in the state, together accounting for 75 to 80 percent of the cash receipts from agricultural marketings. The value of cattle and calf marketings is usually about equal to wheat marketings depending on yearly price trends. Montana farmers and ranchers generated 1.4 billion dollars in cash receipts during 1984. Cattle and calves were the number one income producer then, earning \$654 million or 46.1 percent of the total cash receipts. Wheat was the second largest income producer with \$428 million or 30.2 percent of the total receipts. Barley was third with \$134 million and 9.5 percent of the total.

Other livestock industries in the state include horses, sheep, and swine. Montana also produces other crops, oats, corn, hay, sugarbeets, dry beans, sweet cherries, Christmas trees and seed potatoes. Montana raises approximately 7,000 acres of certified seed potatoes and exports nearly 1.5 million cwt. each year.

NEBRASKA AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is Nebraska's primary source of wealth and its dominant industry. The 47.2 million acres of land in farms and ranches account for 96 percent of the State's land area. It is the fourth-ranked state in total land in farms and ranches.

Nebraska's agriculture is diversified. Located in the heart of the U.S., Nebraska is a part of the rich agricultural area often referred to as the breadbasket of the world. The State encompasses Corn Belt farming in the east, ranching in the Sandhills, and Great Plains wheat farming in the west. Over 45 percent of the land in farms and ranches is devoted to crop production, and over 50 percent is used for pasture.

The livestock industry is a vital part of Nebraska's agriculture. Both cow-calf and commercial feedlot operations are important. In 1985, Nebraska ranked 2nd in fed cattle and calves marketed from feedlots and ranked 5th in the number of calves born. Swine production is also extensive with a ranking of 5th in the number of pigs saved in 1985. The red meat production of the State's slaughtering plants ranks high, being 3rd in cattle slaughter and 4th in hog slaughter.

Nebraska's crop production is dominated by corn, hay, soybeans, wheat, and grain sorghum. Corn production usually ranks 3rd and accounts for about 10 percent of the U.S. crop. Other top 1985 rankings are 3rd for grain sorghum, 6th for winter wheat, 7th for hay, and 8th for soybeans. Dry edible bean production in western Nebraska is important with national rankings of 1st in Great Northerns and 3rd in Pintos.

Nebraska is one of the leading states in acres under irrigation. The advent of the center pivots and a large underground water supply have been important factors in Nebraska's crop production history. Corn accounts for the largest acreage under irrigation, with about two-thirds of the crop irrigated. Without irrigation, the State would probably not have a dry bean and sugar beet industry. Irrigation also played an important role in the development of the popcorn industry, which was number 1 among states in production the last time official estimates were made.

Nebraska is one of the leading meat producing states but utilizes only about 40 percent of the feed grain production to support the livestock industry. The Missouri River, on the eastern edge of the State, provides the opportunity to utilize barge shipment of products to the Gulf. The availability of air, rail, and truck transportation provides the means by which agricultural products begin their trip to all parts of the U.S. and the world.

NEVADA AGRICULTURE

Nevada farms and ranches may be few in number but they rank 3rd in the nation in size, averaging 3,520 acres. Over 85 percent of the 9 million acres in farms is classified as rangeland and this is the same percentage of federally owned land in the state. Nevada is second only to Alaska in the amount of land owned by the federal government. Because of this grazing on public lands is vital to the livestock industry. The range-livestock industry supplies about 55 percent of the total cash receipts from agriculture in the state. An additional 13 percent of cash receipts come from dairy products bringing livestock products to 68 percent of all commodities. Cattle is clearly the leading agricultural industry accounting for nearly one-half of the cash receipts. Dairy, sheep and lambs and hogs are the other main livestock interests in the state.

Hay (primarily alfalfa hay) is the leading crop in Nevada. Alfalfa hay production increased 50 percent in the last 10 years. Much of the hay is sold to dairy operations in surrounding states, especially the large confined milking operations in California. An increasingly important part of the hay industry is cubing. There are several major cubing operations running including one owned by Japanese interests. A considerable quantity of the alfalfa cubes are exported to Japan. Alfalfa Seed production is another important commodity. Other crops produced in the state include potatoes, barley, winter and spring wheat, corn, oats, onions and garlic. There are minor amounts of mint, fruits and vegetables produced.

Water is the determining factor in Nevada agriculture. Most of the state receives only about 7.5 inches of precipitation per year and crops are totally dependent on water from winter snows. This limits where and how much acreage can be grown.

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AGRICULTURE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

Dairy Products - Milk is New Hampshire's leading agricultural product and is produced throughout the State. Milk accounts for nearly 50 percent of the State's farm cash receipts from all products. Production in 1985 totaled 363 million pounds with a total value of \$49.9 million.

Horticulture - A large source of income for the State's agriculture and the fastest growing agriculture commodity in recent years. Production is mainly in southern areas but does reach into central regions. The 1985 production had a cash value of \$13 million.

Eggs - Major producing areas are in the southeastern counties and in the Lakes Region with some production State wide. The 1985 egg production was valued at \$9.1 million.

Apples - An important crop, valued at \$10.7 million in 1985. Production areas are mostly in southern and central areas of the State.

Maple Syrup - A \$2.2 million crop in 1985 and ranking the State third in production after neighboring Vermont and New York. Production is mainly in central and northern areas.

Vegetables and Berries - Fresh market vegetables and berries are produced seasonally in central and southern areas. Local markets, roadside stands and pick-your-own are the primarily outlets. This enterprise accounted for about \$6 million in 1985.

Hogs and Pigs - Pork production is mainly in central and southern areas with concentration near the larger populated centers. New Hampshire hog producers maintain an average inventory of approximately 9,000 hogs and pigs.

Sheep and Lambs - New Hampshire sheep growers are mainly in central and northcentral areas of the State with an annual inventory of approximately 11,000 sheep and lambs.

Hay - Production valued at \$19 million in 1985. New Hampshire farmers utilize about 80 percent of the crop on farms with the remainder sold.

Corn for Silage - The 1985 production was valued at \$13 million with utilization on dairy and livestock farms.

NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURE

Agribusiness is one of the Garden State's largest industries, contributing millions of dollars each year to the state economy and employing thousands of people in service and on-the-farm occupations. Although one of the smallest and most urbanized states in the nation, New Jersey is a major producer of cranberries, blueberries, peaches, tomatoes, spinach and potatoes. In fact, it ranks among the top five in the production of five commodities.

New Jersey growers cultivate a broad diversity of crops ranging from livestock, produce, dairy products and field crops to ethnic food products and other specialty items, such as goat cheese. Each growing season, the fruits of the farmers' harvest are distributed to food stores, sold at farmers markets and roadside stands, purchased by food processing firms or farmers' cooperatives or picked by consumers at "pick your own" operations. But the bounty of New Jersey agriculture transcends the products found at the local food store. Flowers and bedding plants are also an important aspect of New Jersey agriculture, contributing \$15.4 million each year in the sales of annuals, perennials, cut flowers and bedding plants and indoor plants. In addition, several vineyards throughout the state are busy perfecting Garden State wine varieties.

Each bet wagered at one of the state's parimutual tracks, and each horse entered in an equine event boost New Jersey's agricultural industry. The state's \$750 million pleasure horse and horse racing industries are among the fastest-growing and most lucrative in New Jersey agribusiness.

NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURE 1985

Crop	Value of Production
Nursery, Greenhouse and Forest Products	\$177,229,000
Vegetables	131,493,000
Grains and Hay	98,019,000
Fruit and Berries	83,636,000
Milk and Dairy Products	64,600,000
Eggs and Poultry	29,544,000
Horses	29,536,000
Meat Animals	23,428,000
TOTAL	\$637,485,000

The time-honored tradition of the family farm predominates in the Garden State. Many of the state's 8,700 farms have been in the same family for generations, management. Exports of New Jersey agricultural products total an estimated \$43 million annually and the combined value of sales of farm commodities, farm equipment, transportation, refrigeration, and other agriculturally-related products and services brings the value of New Jersey agribusiness to some \$3 billion. Agribusiness is a leading state industry, employing about 76,000 people in on and off-the-farm occupations in both seasonal and year-round employment. The average New Jersey farm is about 109 acres, with most farmers cultivating several crops. This variety serves as a hedge against yield reductions in one crop, as it enhances the state's agricultural diversity. Through sound managerial skill, New Jersey farmers meet the challenges of farming in a primarily non-rural environment through business strategies designed to capitalize on their proximity to major metropolitan consumer markets.

PROFILE OF NEW MEXICO AGRICULTURE

New Mexico agriculture is a complex industry, ranging from small subsistence type operations to large commercial farms. It is hard to generalize about an agriculture so diverse. Instead it is necessary to examine the wide range of conditions that influence it when attempting to profile the state's agriculture.

The structure of land ownership in New Mexico serves as a background for understanding the state's agriculture. Less than half (44%) of the land is privately owned. There are large areas of public owned and administered land with about 63% federally owned, 16% Indian owned and 21% State owned. In total, nearly 63 million acres or 83% of the State's land is used for grazing livestock. This acreage consists of those lands classed as range land and the portion of forest and woodlands used for grazing.

Only about 3.4% of the State's land is in crop production. Irrigated land of just over 1.4 million acres accounts for most of the crop production. Almost 1 million acres are classified as dry cropland, but the arid condition of the state limits crop yields on these lands.

Livestock has long been the major agricultural enterprise in the State making up over 67% of the State's total cash receipts. Cattle and calves dominate New Mexico's livestock industry with beef production accounting for nearly 73% of the livestock cash receipts. Dairy and dairy products rank second with 20% and have shown dramatic growth over the last decade. However government programs may curtail this growth for the next few years. Sheep and New Mexico's highly sought after fine wools account for over 2% of the livestock cash receipts while poultry, hogs, horses and other livestock account for the remaining 5%.

Of the \$351 million receipts from crops, New Mexico's high quality alfalfa hay continues to hold a dominant place over more traditional crops such as corn and grain sorghum. Winter wheat is a close second, but with more than three-fourths of the wheat grown on dryland acreage it is a much more volatile crop because of the unpredictability of the State's weather. Cotton once an important crop in the State continues its decline in relative importance that began in the late 1950's. Chile, pecans, grapes and miscellaneous vegetables are increasing in importance as rising production costs and declining prices have forced producers to shift to higher value specialty crops. Highlighting this change has been New Mexico's rise in pecan production over the last 20 years, to become the number two producer of improved variety pecans and the number three producer of all varieties of pecans in the nation. The significance of specialty crops while on the rise is again highly correlated to the climate and the availability of land and water.

NEW MEXICO

June 1986 - Prepared by NASS



NEW YORK AS AN AGRICULTURAL STATE

Agriculture is a growth industry in New York State. Our state produces a wide variety of food, and it is all good. Further, the food producing areas are near the world's largest marketplace — New York City. Here are a few of the food products in which New York leads most other states.

DAIRY PRODUCTS—Milk is New York's leading agricultural product and is produced throughout the State. Milk accounts for nearly 60 percent of the State's cash receipts from all products. Production in 1985 exceeded 11.4 billion pounds with a total value of \$1.51 billion. New York ranks 3rd nationally in milk production and in income from dairy products.

MEAT PRODUCTION—New York with 573,000 calves slaughtered during 1985 led the nation in number of calves slaughtered and ranked third in total pounds of meat produced. There were 208,000 cattle, 83,000 hogs and 52,000 sheep and lambs slaughtered in 1985.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PRODUCTION—In New York, greenhouse and nursery products had a cash value of about \$179 million in 1985. Production is concentrated on Long Island and elsewhere close to heavily populated areas. These products are grown on more than 20 thousand acres and under about 18 million square feet of glass or other material. New York ranked 6th in income from greenhouse and nursery products in 1984.

EGG PRODUCTION—A large source of income for the State's farmers, with 1985 production valued at \$80 million. Production is spread throughout the State but is intensive in Sullivan County. New York ranked 12th in egg production in 1985.

APPLES—New York ranked 3rd in the nation in apple production in 1985. The crop is valued at about \$70 million at the packing house door. Three general areas produce the apple crop: along the southern shore of Lake Ontario, the Hudson Valley counties of Columbia, Dutchess, Ulster and Orange, and the Lake Champlain Valley, mostly in Clinton County.

GRAPES—Grapes were a \$21 million crop in 1985, with most going for juice and wine. Production centers in Erie and Chautauqua Counties, in the Finger Lakes region (Yates, Steuben, Ontario, and Schuyler Counties), in the Mid-Hudson Valley, and on Long Island. New York ranked 2nd in grape production in 1985.

WATERBURY CHERRIES—Produced mostly in the Lake Ontario region of Western New York. Production and value of the crop fluctuates widely. New York ranked 1st nationally in 1985 with the crop bringing \$6 million to New York State producers.

CABBAGE—Principally grown south of Lake Ontario in Orleans, Monroe, Wayne and Ontario Counties. This is the center of production of cabbage grown for the fresh market as well as cabbage for storage, which is subsequently moved to the fresh market during the winter months. Cabbage is also grown in Suffolk County and in other sections of the State. Value of the crop grown in 1985 was about \$15 million. New York ranks first in production of cabbage for kraut and third in cabbage for the fresh market.

PUMPKINS—An important crop, valued at \$36 million in 1985. Mostly grown in muck soils in Orange, Oswego, Orleans, Genesee and Madison Counties. The State ranked fifth in production in 1985.

SOY BEANS—Grown in the central and western parts of the State largely for the canning trade. The 1985 value of the crop was \$23 million. New York ranks 1st in production for both fresh market and processing.

SWEET CORN—Produced throughout the State with concentration in the lower Hudson Valley and in Western and Central New York in Genesee, Monroe, Madison, Ontario, Orleans, Erie and Yates Counties. 1985 production placed New York 2nd in fresh market and 7th in processed tonnage. Total value was more than \$27 million.

POTATOES—Largest production is in Western New York for fresh and processing use. New York's 1985 fresh market value was about \$10.6 million.

OTHER VEGETABLES—Lettuce (worth \$9.4 million), cauliflower (worth \$9.5 million), celery (worth \$3.4 million), carrots (worth \$4.1 million), green peas for processing (worth \$8.6 million), and beets for processing (worth \$1.7 million) are grown in the State. Lettuce and celery are grown in the muck soils of Orange and Oswego Counties. New York ranks 2nd in beet production for processing, 4th in cauliflower, 4th in celery, 5th in lettuce and 7th in carrots.

GRAIN—New York also has significant production of several grain crops. Corn, oats and wheat are the most widely grown in the State. New York is 15th in acreage of corn, 3rd in corn silage production and 20th in corn for grain. The State places 10th in oat production and 29th in winterwheat.

HAY—Production valued at 398 million dollars in 1985. New York ranks 11th in all hay but is 7th in production of clover and grass hay. Most of the hay is used on the farms where produced and the value realized through the sale of milk and livestock.

POTATOES—Production is centered in eastern Suffolk County (Long Island) and in Steuben County with scattered production in other areas of the State. Value in 1985 was \$40 million. The state ranks 11th in production.

DRY BEANS—Grown in Western New York and valued at \$5.6 million in 1985. New York ranks 10th in production.

MAPLE SYRUP—A 5.4 million dollar crop in 1985 and ranking the State second in production after neighboring Vermont.

NORTH CAROLINA'S AGRICULTURE

North Carolina's agriculture is diversified and changing. It is the leading tobacco producing State with two thirds of the U.S. flue-cured total. However, the percent of cash receipts accounted for by tobacco has declined from over one third of the total in 1978 to less than one fourth in 1984. Due to the tobacco influence, there are a large number of small farms throughout the State. Only the New England States and Tennessee have a smaller average size farm than the 142 acres in North Carolina.

North Carolina is the tenth largest State in terms of cash receipts from all farm commodities. In addition to leading the U.S. in tobacco production it is also number one in sweet potato and turkey production.

The poultry industry has been increasing during recent years helping to offset decreases in tobacco. North Carolina is the third leading State in cash receipts from poultry and poultry products. It is the fourth leading producer of commercial broilers and the seventh leading producer of eggs. Cash receipts from poultry moved from 21 percent of the total in 1978 to nearly 27 percent in 1984.

North Carolina ranks seventh in number of hogs which are concentrated on a few very large farms. Less than four percent of the hog farms in the State have over 500 head, but those farms account for over 77 percent of the hogs in the State. This concentration is by far the heaviest of any of the ten major hog producing States.

Other crops which are important to North Carolina agriculture although concentrated in relatively small areas are sweet potatoes and peanuts. It's the leading sweet potato producing State and the third leading State in peanut production. Corn and soybeans each contribute about six percent of the cash receipts and North Carolina ranks 15th in production of both these crops.

A SYNOPSIS OF NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURE

North Dakota is the most agricultural state in the Nation. It is a land of supersized farms, bronzed fields of wheat, barley, oats and rye rippling in the wind, of gigantic yellow flower gardens of sunflower, lake-blue fields of flowering flax, and fine livestock grazing on the hillsides.

Eighty-seven percent of the state's land is devoted to agriculture and it's the third ranking state in total cropland. It is consistently the Number One producer of durum wheat, other spring wheat, barley, flaxseed and sunflower. It normally is the second largest producer of all wheat, pinto beans and honey, and the top leader in the production of rye, dry edible beans, sugarbeets, oats, potatoes and specialty crops such as mustard, buckwheat, canary seed, and safflower.

It's easy to see why North Dakota is known as the "Breadbasket of America" and the Durum Capitol of the World. North Dakota produces as much as 85 percent of the Nation's total durum wheat, 72 percent of the flaxseed, 44 of other spring wheat, 31 of the barley, and 20 of the pinto beans. The state is a leading exporter, ranking first in the amount of sunflower, durum, and hard red spring wheat, and second in all wheat shipped around the World.

North Dakota is physically divided into 3 regions from east to west. The eastern 10 percent of the State's area is known as the Red River Valley. It encompasses some of the finest black soils in the world. The land was once the bed of glacial Lake Aggasiz and is almost perfectly flat and well suited for production of small grains, potatoes, soybeans, dry edible beans, sugarbeets and sunflower.

The middle 60 percent of the state lies in the Drift Prairie. Once covered by glaciers, this area is rolling, sometimes rocky, and is the center for small grain farming and livestock production. The remaining area of the southwest is the Missouri Slope. It is the most rugged part of the state. It is ranching country, with small grains also important. Its rugged terrain was chiseled and carved by rushing waters eons ago.

The length of growing season ranges from 110 to 150 days and generally runs between mid-April and mid-September. This short season puts more emphasis on the growing of short season crops. Long, warm, sunny days during the growing season and cool summer nights help to maximize solar energy input to growing crops and efficient utilization of precipitation. Precipitation totals in the state are relatively light, ranging from 13 inches in the northwest to 20 inches in parts of the Red River Valley. Fortunately, a major portion of this precipitation is received during the crop growing season, making for efficient utilization of the moisture received.

The railroad arrived at the eastern border in 1872 and was completed as a transcontinental line in 1881. The railroads preceded the farm settlers, thereby expediting settlement and development. It could be said that North Dakota was settled from railroad boxcars instead of the traditional prairie schooner and wagon train. Large small grain farms called "bonanza farms" were developed by land speculators from the east. These large holdings were gradually divided into smaller individually owned farms and ranches.



OHIO
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June 10, 1986

Subject: Brief Description of Ohio Agriculture

To: C. Caudill

A total of 10.8 million people live on Ohio's 26.2 million acres. The number of farms in 1985 totaled 89,000 placing Ohio 8th in the nation. These farms covered 15.8 million acres, 60 percent of the land area in the Buckeye state. Forest areas covers another 6.8 million acres or one-fourth of Ohio.

The farm sector generated \$3.9 billion in cash receipts in 1985 ranking Ohio 12th in the nation. A total of 11.0 million acres of crop land was utilized in 1985. Corn, which is grown statewide, was the number 1 cash receipt commodity with \$1.0 billion in sales. Soybeans which are concentrated in the western half of Ohio, were second with sales totaling \$825 million. Corn and soybeans switch about for the 1st place cash receipt rating depending on year and price but corn is always King when reporting value of production. In third place for crops was wheat with 1985 cash receipts of \$162 million. Rounding out the big acreage crops is hay which takes up considerable cropland acreage in eastern counties. Floriculture and nursery products are also important with over \$150 million in sales.

Ohio also is important in several vegetable, fruit and speciality crops. These include tobacco which is the most important crop in extreme southern Ohio. Processing tomatoes which make the world's best ketchup are grown in north central Ohio as are handpicked cucumbers for pickles which are superior to those from any other state. Potatoes, fresh market tomatoes, grapes, apples and strawberries are produced in most areas. Greenhouse vegetables are very important in the Cleveland area.

Dairy is the major livestock enterprise with over \$600 million in sales. Hogs and beef cattle remain very important and each will contribute \$300-400 million annually to cash receipts. Egg production has increased rapidly in recent years and poultry and egg sales are now at the \$200 million level.

Because Ohio is a heavily industrialized state approximately 60 percent of the farmers work some hours off the farm. Over 40 percent have full-time non-farm jobs. The age of farm operators continues to increase, with the average now at 53 years.

Approximately 20,000 of Ohio's farms are classified as family-sized commercial farms (\$40,000 to \$500,000 in gross sales). These operators produce nearly two thirds of Ohio's farm output.

Prepared by NASS

Tom Cato

OKLAHOMA AGRICULTURE

Oklahoma is known for its production of cattle and is often referred to as "Cow Country." While cattle far outrank the other livestock categories, poultry, hogs and pigs, and sheep are strongly represented. A mainstay in the agricultural industry in Oklahoma, livestock production is very important to the state's economy and will continue to remain a major source for domestic and worldwide demand for livestock.

Oklahoma is the third largest producer of beef cattle in the United States, and beef represents the number one agricultural product in the state. Thousands of head of cattle are raised each year in the western section of Oklahoma, while thousands of head are brought into the state to be placed in the well-known feeder lots in the Panhandle. Over 65,000 cattle operations are currently involved in this industry, with a large percentage of these herds going outside the state for domestic and foreign use.

Oklahoma, always well known for its fine Quarter Horses, is fast becoming a leader in all facets of the horse industry. With almost every breed represented in the state, Oklahoma horses are used for work, pleasure, and for thoroughbred racing. The source of many world champions, the Oklahoma horse industry is not only diversified, but continues to grow at a very rapid rate. With this growing interest, the future of the horse industry in Oklahoma is bright and will continue to have an impact on the state's economy.

Oklahoma, the buckle of the Sunbelt, is a large domestic and foreign exporter of agricultural products. Ranked high in its production of wheat, cotton, milo, alfalfa hay and seed, soybeans, pecans and peanuts, Oklahoma is one of the most diverse states in the nation.

The growing demand for many of these products throughout the United States and around the world is creating a marketplace unlike any previously known. The ranches and farms across the state are reaching a higher level of productivity that is helping to feed the hungry and that continues to make agriculture the number one industry in the state.

Hard red winter wheat is one of Oklahoma's major crops. The state ranks second in the nation in production of hard red winter wheat and third in the nation in production of all wheat. The ever-expanding export market has created an increase in overall production of wheat, and Oklahoma currently ranks third in the nation in exporting this crop. Primarily grown in the western section of the state, hard red winter wheat is a leader in value and production.

Cotton is the fifth largest crop in Oklahoma. Grown in the western and southwestern sections of the state, it is a large export crop. Most of the cotton is short stemmed and is primarily used for industrial purposes.

In the southeastern and south central sections of Oklahoma are grown most of the states peanuts. Ranking sixth in the nation in peanut production, Oklahoma exports a large percentage of this crop.

OREGON AGRICULTURE

The key word in describing Oregon and its agriculture is "diversity." The top 10 agricultural commodities in the state are usually cattle and calves, wheat, hay, dairy products, nursery crops, potatoes, ryegrass seed, onions, pears and Christmas trees. Oregon ranks number 1 in the Nation in the production of grass seeds, caneberries, filberts, peppermint and winter pears.

Oregon is in the northwestern United States and borders the Pacific Ocean, which has a strong influence on its climate. Variations in climate throughout the state are considerable. However, precipitation falls chiefly in the cool winter season; summers tend to be dry and sunny.

Oregon's 2.6 million people occupy a total land area of 62 million acres. Topography ranges from ocean beaches to snow-capped mountains and includes fertile valleys, high plateau areas, rangelands, forests and desert. Slightly more than 50 percent of Oregon's land is publicly owned, most of which is managed by the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. About one-third of the state is farmland. Each year, Oregon farmers harvest crops from 3.5 to 4 million acres.

The major Oregon producing regions include:

1. The Willamette Valley, located in western Oregon, is one of the most diverse agricultural regions on earth. This area produces more than 170 different crops including grains, hay, grass and legume seeds, tree fruits, nuts, small fruits and berries, wine grapes, fresh and processed vegetables, Christmas trees and nursery products of all descriptions. Dairy, poultry, sheep and beef cattle are also important agricultural industries in this amazing valley.
2. The Columbia Basin, located in north central Oregon, is the state's principal wheat production area. Farms here are generally large, averaging 4,000 acres or more. Recent irrigation development along the Columbia River has changed the sage brush and desert areas into some of the Nation's most productive farm land. On these large irrigated plots grow potatoes, alfalfa, wheat, melons, onions, field corn and many other crops.
3. The Snake River Basin, located in east central Oregon, produces onions, potatoes, sugarbeets, grain, hay, processed vegetables and seeds - mostly under irrigation. This region also has vast areas of public forest and rangeland on which ranchers run large numbers of cattle.
4. The Klamath Basin, situated on a high plateau in south central Oregon, is ideal for the production of fresh market potatoes. This high altitude area also produces excellent quality malting barley.
5. The Hood River Valley, which is nestled in the foothills and northern valleys near Mt. Hood, produces a wide variety of tree fruits -- including apples, Bartlett and winter pears and sweet cherries.
6. The Rogue River Valley, in southern Oregon, produces pears and other tree fruits with an international reputation for unequalled quality.

Pennsylvania



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PENNSYLVANIA AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is Pennsylvania's number one industry, with farm receipts totalling about \$3 billion annually. Based on cash receipts from farming Pennsylvania is the number one agricultural state of the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic Region, and ranks 17th nationally.

The five leading commodities or commodity groupings produced in Pennsylvania are as follows: (1) milk and dairy products; (2) cattle and calves; (3) eggs; (4) greenhouse and nursery; and (5) corn.

In the national crops arena Pennsylvania ranks first in the production of mushrooms; fourth in peaches, apples, grapes, sweet corn and corn for silage; and fifth in tart cherries. In the livestock-poultry complex Pennsylvania ranks second in the production of ice cream and milk sherbet; third in calf slaughter and the production of low fat cottage cheese; fourth in eggs; and fifth in milk production and hatching of egg-type chickens.

Lancaster County is the eleventh leading county in the U.S. in market value of agricultural products sold, and the number one county east of the Mississippi River.

Pennsylvania rural residents are enthusiastically involved in promoting and maintaining a physical and economic environment that will assure the continuation of a viable agricultural industry in the Commonwealth.

JUNE 1986

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AGRICULTURE IN RHODE ISLAND

Horticulture - Greenhouse and nursery products are Rhode Island's leading agricultural products and account for nearly 50 percent of the State's farm cash receipts from all products. Production is statewide as all areas are relatively close to populated centers. The 1985 production had a cash value of \$30 million.

Dairy Products - Milk is produced throughout the State, with the major production in Newport and Washington Counties. Production in 1985 was 44 million pounds with a total value of \$6.2 million.

Eggs - An important product to Rhode Island agriculture with 1985 production valued at \$5.3 million. Production is spread through the State but is intensive in Providence and Newport counties.

Vegetables and Berries - Fresh market vegetable and berries are produced throughout the State from early spring until late fall. This sector of Rhode Island's agriculture realized \$4.5 million receipts in 1985.

Potatoes - Principally grown in Newport and Washington counties, the Rhode Island potatoe crop has an annual value of approximately \$3 million.

Hay and Corn Silage - Produced mainly for use on Rhode Island dairy and livestock farms, each had a production value of over \$2 million in 1985.

Hogs and Pigs - Rhode Island hog producers are mainly garbage feeding operations in Providence County. The annual average inventory is approximately 5,500 hogs and pigs.

Other Livestock and Poultry - Rhode Island farmers realize about \$800 thousand annually in cash receipts from other livestock and miscellaneous poultry.

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Brief Description of Agriculture in South Carolina

Agriculture is one of the largest industries in South Carolina. The 27,500 farms in the State in 1985, with an average size of 200 acres, comprise a total of 5.5 million acres. Land in farms accounts for approximately 28 percent of the total land area of the State. Cash receipts from farm marketing total more than a billion dollars annually. Crops account for the major portion, or approximately 65 percent, and livestock and poultry, 35 percent. Soybeans was the leading cash crop in 1984, bringing in more than \$200 million. Tobacco was second, accounting for \$188 million. These two commodities make up more than half of the total cash receipts derived from all crops. Other major commodities which ranked behind soybeans and tobacco in cash receipts were, in order of largest to smallest, eggs, dairy products, broilers, cattle and calves, hogs, corn, peaches and cotton.

South Carolina is known for its delicious, succulent peaches. In most recent years the State has led the Nation in production of peaches for fresh market. The 40,000 acres of trees are scattered from the foothills of the Piedmont to the Coastal Plains and produced a record crop of 480 million pounds in 1984. A variety of different vegetables are grown and the State ranks third in fresh market tomato production.

All cattle inventory on January 1, 1986, totaled 635,000 head and all hogs and pigs was 400,000 head. Cash receipts generated by all livestock and poultry amounted to \$428 million in 1984.

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SOUTH DAKOTA

GENERAL: South Dakota was admitted as a State in 1889 and comprises over 48.6 million acres, or approximately 76,000 square miles. The rectangular-shaped State stretches 375 miles east/west and 200 miles north/south, gradually rising from about 1,100 feet above sea level on the eastern edge to Harney Peak's 7,242 feet in the Black Hills on the the western edge. Eight Indian reservations (Cheyenne River, Crow Creek, Lower Brule, Pine Ridge, Rosebud, Standing Rock, Wahpeton and Yankton) make up about 10% of the State. The Missouri River divides the State through the center with four large dams (Big Bend, Gavin's Point, Fort Randall and Oahe) having a maximum combined storage capacity of 31.6 million acre feet and creating over 2,500 miles of shoreline. The dams range in height from 74 feet (Gavin's Point) to 245 feet (Oahe) and in length from 8,700 feet (Gavin's Point) to 10,700 feet (Fort Randall). The State symbols include Animal-Coyote, Bird-Ringnecked Pheasant, Fish-Walleye, Flower-Pasque, Gemstone-Fairburn Agate, Grass-Wheat Grass, Insect-Honey Bee, Mineral-Rose Quartz, Song-"Hail South Dakota", and Tree-Black Hills Spruce. Annual precipitation normals (excluding the Black Hills) range from 13 inches in the Northwest to 25 inches in the Southeast.

AGRICULTURE is the number one industry in the State. South Dakota's 36,500 farms and ranches account for 44.5 million acres, averaging 1,219 acres in size and using over 91% of the State's land area. The record high number of farms and ranches was 84,300 in 1931, averaging 434 acres each.

Livestock provides about 58% of the cash farm income with cattle and calves at 35% and hogs at about 10%. South Dakota had 26,000 farms and ranches with cattle and ranked 9th in all cattle and calves in the U. S. on January 1, 1986. Beef cows ranked 5th in the nation. The State's 9,000 hog farms ranked 9th in hog numbers and the 4,500 sheep producers ranked 5th in all sheep and lambs.

Crops provide about 35% of the cash farm income with wheat about 12% and corn about 7.5%. Of the State's 11 major crops, 8 ranked in the top 10 of the U. S. based upon 1985 production. The 11 crops with the U. S. ranking and major production area of the State are: Oats (1st) SE and E; Rye (1st) NE; Flaxseed (2nd) NE; Sunflowers (2nd) NE; Other Spring Wheat (3rd) C, NC, NE; Durum Wheat (4th) NC and NE; Barley (5th) NE; Corn (10th) SE; Grain Sorghum (11th) SC; Winter Wheat (13th) SC, C, NC, NE; and Soybeans (14th) SE. Greatest 1985 acreage is devoted to wheat, 4.2 million; corn, 3.5 million; oats, 1.9 million; and soybeans, 1.3 million. Total cash receipts in 1984 were slightly over 3.1 billion dollars.

MISCELLANEOUS: The world's largest volume stockyards are in Sioux Falls. Located outside Sioux Falls is the EROS Data Center (Earth Resource Observation Systems). This facility is the storehouse for satellite and high altitude photography with capability to receive images direct from satellites. An in-house laboratory can locate and make varying prints for any area of the World, filling thousands of requests each month. Mitchell is the home of the World's only Corn Palace. The outside of this auditorium is decorated differently each year with numerous large murals made from corn and sorghum. The Black Hills, with Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse Mountain, numerous caves, historic Deadwood, the World's largest gold mine in Lead, and many other attractions, are one of the top tourist areas in the country.

TENNESSEE AGRICULTURE

Tennessee's agriculture is characterized by a wide diversity of crop and livestock production and ranks as the State's number one industry. Twenty-three percent of Tennesseans owe their jobs to agriculture. When coupled with timber, 80% of Tennessee land is devoted to one of these vital industries.

The varied soils with ample rainfall and a long growing season enable Tennesseans to produce every product of the temperate zone. Growing season ranges from 150 days (Northeast) to 230 days (Southwest). Average rainfall is nearly 50 inches. The type of farming areas range from the specialized areas of cotton or tobacco production where a large percentage of income is derived from one crop, to the highly diversified areas featuring numerous crops and livestock.

Cash receipts from farm marketings annually approach 2 billion dollars from an estimated 98 thousand farms. An average size Tennessee farm is 137 acres. Sales of cattle and calves account for about twenty-five percent of the total cash receipts, with sales of dairy products accounting for an additional fourteen percent of sales. Tobacco has recently replaced soybeans as the leading cash crop accounting for over \$250 million annually or thirteen percent. Soybeans account for twelve percent annually. The greenhouse and nursery business account for another 10 percent of the total cash receipts.

Tennessee ranks 14th in the export of soybeans and soybean products, the number one agricultural commodity exported. Four types of tobacco; Eastern Dark-fired, Western Dark-fired, Dark Air-cured, and Burley, are grown in the State. This ranks Tennessee third among the 18 tobacco producing States. Burley tobacco accounts for about 85 percent of all tobacco produced. Wheat production in Tennessee increased significantly in the late 70's and early 80's, but has recently declined. Cotton is still a major crop for many Tennessee farmers but lost its "King" status in the 60's. Tennessee is the collection point for 40 percent of all cotton in the U.S. Other major field crops grown in Tennessee are corn, sorghum and hay. Tennessee also has a significant production of snap beans, tomatoes, apples, peaches and potatoes.

Tennessee's livestock industry is a major contributor to the agriculture sector. The State ranks 12th in all cattle and calves on hand and 14th in milk production in the U.S. Feeder calves mainly sold to out-of-state buyers contribute significantly to Tennessee's cattle industry. The State leads the U.S. in number of feeder pigs produced through organized, graded sales, and ranks 14th in total hogs and pigs among the 50 producing states. Tennessee farmers produce over 700 million eggs and nearly 65 million broilers annually.

Agriculture is important and deserving of its number one ranking among the industries that call Tennessee home.

Texas Agriculture

Texas agriculture is as diverse as the land that produces the state's vast wealth of food and fiber. Rising from the rice and soybean fields along the Gulf Coast, the land swells to the northwest into the wheat, oat, corn and sorghum fields of the central Texas Blacklands. The rocky, hilly terrain of the Edwards Plateau -- home to some of the state's sheep and goat ranches -- softens northward to the flat, level mesa of the High Plains, where mechanization and the Ogallala Aquifer have transformed the region into a primary producer of cotton, wheat, grain sorghum, sunflowers and sugarbeets. The Northern High Plains is also the hub of the Texas cattle feeding industry.

The subtropical Lower Rio Grande Valley is the center of Texas citrus production. Hit hard by devastating freezes in late 1983, the industry is currently on the rebound. This fertile region is a major producer of sugarcane, too! Texas agriculture is also vegetables, and the Lower Rio Grande Valley, San Antonio-Winter Garden, East Texas, High Plains and Trans-Pecos are important producing areas.

The Texas pecan industry developed from the native trees that populate pastures and river bottoms into the full-fledged production of both native and improved varieties. Peanuts are harvested from sandy areas in the Cross Timbers, South Texas and High Plains. Peaches abound in the eastern half of the state, and the succulent Hill Country peach has earned a loyal following.

Texas producers bale hay from the lush, managed pastures of the south and east and from the native grasslands of southcentral and western regions. These grasslands also fostered the state's beef cattle industry. Early cattle drives not only gave Texas much of its heritage and mystique, but also the foundation for an industry that consistently leads the state in total agricultural cash receipts.

But the Texas livestock industry is more than beef cattle and calves. It is also hogs and pigs; poultry and egg production; dairy cows and milk production; and sheep, goats, wool and mohair. In fact, the U.S. Angora goat and mohair industry is concentrated in the region from the Cross Timbers westward through the Edwards Plateau to the eastern edges of the Trans-Pecos.

The continued hard work of Texas farmers and ranchers places the state among the leaders in U.S. agriculture. Texans like to brag on being the biggest and best, and the state is proud to lead the nation in the number of farms and ranches and total land in farms and ranches. Texas is also number one in all cattle and calves, cattle on feed, all cows, beef cows and the annual calf crop. Bragging rights are also awarded for all sheep and lambs, stock sheep and lambs, ewes one year and older, the yearly lamb crop and wool production. All goats, Angora goats and mohair production earn producers a first-place ranking.

Texas farmers lead the nation in Upland cotton and other hay production, and the state is also one of the top five in grain sorghum, winter wheat, rice, peanuts, all hay, and American-Pima cotton.

UTAH AGRICULTURE

Utah's climate shows considerable variation, ranging from the mild climate of southern Utah's Dixie to the cold rugged summer ranges of the high Uintah mountains in northern Utah. Nearly three-fourths of the state is owned by the State or Federal Government. Much of this land provides valuable grazing for cattle and sheep. Farm sizes also vary considerably within the state from large livestock ranches and crop farms to small operations operated in addition to off farm jobs.

Cropland is concentrated in the valleys of the mountains extending north and south through the center of the state. Dry farming is common in the north, central and southeast areas where acreages tend to be larger but, most farmers and ranchers in the lower valleys rely on irrigation.

Cattle regularly account for the largest percent of Utah's cash receipts from farm marketings. Milk sales are normally second, although they have headed the list on occasion. These two items account for nearly 60 percent of the State's cash receipts. Farm income from turkeys is third in importance of livestock followed by sheep and eggs. Utah ranks third nationally in mink pelt production. Hog production is minimal with hogs being shipped into the state for slaughter.

Hay is the number one crop in the state and vitally important to the State's beef, milk and sheep production. Recent years have seen the development of overseas markets for Utah produced alfalfa hay cubes. Barley and wheat crops are a distant second and third place to hay in terms of both acreage and value. Silage corn for the dairy cows is the major corn crop but some corn is grown for grain. Potatoes, onions and dry beans are primary crops in some localities. Processing vegetable production has been mostly limited to snap beans in recent years.

Apples and tart cherries are the major fruit crops in the state with Utah normally ranking third Nationally in tart cherry production. Peaches, sweet cherries, pears and apricots exemplify the diversity of fruit production in the State.

AGRICULTURE IN VERMONT

Dairy Products - Milk is Vermont's leading agricultural product and is produced throughout the State. Milk accounts for nearly 80 percent of the State's farm cash receipts from all products. Production in 1985 totaled 2.4 billion pounds with a total value of \$319 million. Vermont ranks 15th nationally in milk production.

Cattle and Calves - A large source of income for the State's farmers accounting for nearly 10 percent of the State's total cash receipts. The 1985 cash receipts totaled \$29.2 million for cattle and calves.

Maple Syrup - A \$10.2 million crop in 1985 and ranking the State first in production of maple syrup. Vermont maple industry is mainly in central and northern areas of the State. Vermont maple products are marketed world wide.

Apples - An important crop valued at \$7.5 million in 1985. Major producing areas are southern counties and in the northwest counties along the Champlain Valley.

Hay - Production valued at \$76 million in 1985. Most of the hay is used on Vermont farms where produced and the value realized through the sale of milk and livestock.

Corn for Silage - The 1985 production was valued at \$35.8 million with utilization on Vermont dairy and livestock farms.

Eggs - Produced throughout the State with concentration in central counties and in the north central region. The 1985 egg production was valued at \$5.1 million.

Hogs and Pigs - Vermont hog producers are throughout the State and maintain an average inventory of approximately 7,000 hogs and pigs.

Sheep and Lambs - Vermont sheep growers are throughout the State with concentration in central counties. The 1985 inventory was 15,000 sheep and lambs.

Vegetables and Berries - Fresh market vegetables and berries are produced seasonally throughout the State. Local markets, roadside stands and pick-your-own are the primary markets. This enterprise accounted for about \$4 million in 1985.

Horticulture - A \$3.5 million business for Vermont agriculture in 1985. Production is concentrated close to the heavier populated areas of the State.

June 1986

Agriculture in Virginia

Agriculture in the United States literally put down its roots in 1607 with the founding of the Jamestown colony. Tobacco and corn, staples of the new colony, are still important crops in the Commonwealth. A westward trip today in Virginia would find a would-be traveler beginning in the intensively cultivated Eastern Shore where soybeans, potatoes, and vegetable production predominate. Southeastern counties are home to the Virginia peanut and south central counties produce the bulk of the state's leading crop - tobacco. Tidewater Virginia is a low, flat plain 100 miles in width from the Atlantic to the Piedmont with grain and seafood production basic to its economy.

The rolling Piedmont is divided by the James River into distinctive northern and southern halves. The southern half is the land of tobacco and the northern is grain, grass, cattle and horses.

Western Virginia, with its ridges and valleys and high plateaus is home to the state's fruit and livestock industry. The beef cattle industry is the state's largest agricultural enterprise followed closely by milk production. Rockingham County, the most important agricultural county in the commonwealth, is located in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley and is home to production of cattle and calves, milk, and poultry and poultry products.

Southwestern Virginia with its rugged topography is an important livestock area as well as the only section of the state producing Burley tobacco.

Total farm income is close to 2 billion dollars annually from the state's 55,000 farms. Average farm size is 175 acres.

OVERVIEW OF WASHINGTON STATE

The Washington State countryside is characterized by craggy mountains, broad valleys, rolling hills, fertile basins. On top of that, there is the sharp difference in temperature and precipitation within a relatively short distance. The mild, wet climate of western Washington and the more extreme dry eastern section of the state have created a landscape that features both forest lands and near deserts.

All this results in a highly productive and diversified agriculture. You can't help but be impressed with the Columbia Basin, its fertile soils and extensive irrigation systems, or the Palouse hills, where the world's highest yielding dryland wheat farms are so perfect they look as though they have been painted on the landscape. You'd be hard pressed to find more beautiful areas naturally suited to the production of apples and other fruit crops than the broad valleys on the eastern slope of the Cascades. Then there are the Cascade Mountains, which slice the western part of the state from north to south, dividing the populous Puget Sound area with its dairies and specialty commodities from the great croplands of the east.

Agriculture, including forest products, remains the number one industry in Washington. The state is also important when ranked against other producing areas of the nation. Nationally, Washington ranks number one in such crops as apples, sweet cherries, hops and spearmint oil, and is among the top five states in potatoes, peppermint, wheat, barley, pears, prunes and plums, apricots, green peas and corn for processing, carrots, cranberries and strawberries. A complete national ranking for most crops can be seen in the accompanying Table 1.

Washington has one of the most dynamic agricultural industries in the nation, where cropland harvested has increased by nearly a million acres over the last 35 years. Still, there is much potential for expansion of growing area and for development of specialty crops. In the Columbia Basin alone, another half million acres could easily be put under irrigation.

The diversified nature of Washington agriculture can be seen in the ranking of commodities based upon their value within the state. In 1984, wheat remained the number one dollar producer, followed by milk, apples, cattle and calves, and potatoes among the top five. A complete ranking of 40 commodities is shown in Table 2.

Washington's Rank in the Nation's Agriculture, 1984

Item	Rank Among States	Washington Production	Unit	Percent of U. S.
1,000 Units				
CROPS				
Hops	1	43,584	Lbs.	77.6
Spearmint Oil	1	1,254	Lbs.	62.1
Peppermint Oil	2	1,062	Lbs.	26.0
Potatoes, Fall	2	36,923	Cwt.	18.2
Barley	3	63,700	Bu.	10.7
Wheat, All	4	160,350	Bu.	6.2
Dry Edible Beans	8	707	Cwt.	3.4
Alfalfa Hay	17	2,043	Tons	2.3
FRUIT				
Apples, All	1	2,900,000	Lbs.	35.8
Sweet Cherries	1	33.8	Tons	36.0
Pears, All	2	204.0	Tons	29.1
Prunes and Plums	2	18.0	Tons	4.4
Apricots	2	3.4	Tons	2.9
Grapes	3	168.5	Tons	3.3
Peaches, Freshstone	8	38,000	Lbs.	2.4
VEGETABLES				
Asparagus	2	72.5	Cwt.	38.2
Green Peas, Processing	2	109.5	Tons	22.1
Carrots, Processing	2	68.8	Tons	17.1
Sweet Corn, Processing	4	245.8	Tons	9.6
Dry Onions, All Summer	6	2,367	Cwt.	6.4
BERRIES				
Cranberries	4	103	Bbls.	3.1
Strawberries, All	4	210	Cwt.	2.1
LIVESTOCK				
Milk Production	10	3,464	Lbs.	2.6
Milk Cows 1/	13	211	Head	1.9
Broilers Produced	17	21,700	Head	.5
Eggs Produced	18	1,306,000	Eggs	1.9
Farm Chickens 2/	20	6,130	Head	1.6
Sheep and Lambs 1/	29	53	Head	.5
All Cattle and Calves 1/	29	1,470	Head	1.3
Hogs and Pigs 2/	37	65	Head	.1

1/ January 1, 1985 inventory.
2/ December 1, 1984 inventory.

Prepared by NASS
June 1986

Rank of Principal Commodities

Commodity	Rank 1984	Value of Production		
		1982	1983	1984
1,000 Dollars				
Wheat	1	561,076	616,783	545,190
Milk	2	439,991	476,019	466,322
Apples	3	252,895	348,790	331,915
Cattle and Calves	4	335,024	317,284	339,378
Potatoes	5	198,000	229,840	264,701
Hay	6	201,894	206,848	224,917
Barley	7	110,184	140,332	146,310
Nursery & Greenhouse Products	8	96,000	100,000	100,000
Hops	9	93,067	92,061	87,168
Corn, Grain	10	72,000	63,712	74,400
Eggs	11	60,253	58,110	67,803
All Pears	12	32,005	48,973	36,450
Sweet Cherries	13	37,888	55,709	40,654
Asparagus 1/	14	33,145	35,158	37,454
Chickens & Broilers	15	29,760	30,856	34,933
Green Peas, Processing	16	25,455	20,037	26,932
Corn, Silage	17	30,360	28,750	26,450
Mint Oil	18	13,409	17,814	25,948
Sweet Corn, All	19	35,856	24,187	21,240
Grapes	20	31,299	34,252	20,853
Onions	21	7,910	21,558	20,392
Dry Edible Peas 1/	22	18,614	19,161	14,924
Lentils	23	21,165	9,775	12,933
Dry Edible Beans 1/	24	10,341	6,497	12,443
Carrots	25	7,436	8,871	10,941
Peaches	26	6,021	6,244	9,239
Hogs	27	9,477	9,660	8,992
Red Raspberries	28	11,892	7,482	7,875
Mink	29	5,909	5,304	5,824
Strawberries	30	8,072	7,777	5,424
Cranberries	31	4,192	6,450	5,408
Mushrooms	32	5,688	5,474	5,186
Oats	33	3,478	3,347	3,672
Lettuce	34	2,398	3,080	3,373
Prunes	35	3,454	2,374	2,716
Sheep, Lambs & Wool	36	2,687	2,430	2,360
Blueberries	37	4,283	4,637	3,465
Apricots	38	1,529	1,751	1,655
Snap Beans, Processing	39	1,227	811	823
Tart Cherries	40	308	674	665

1/ Dry Edible Pea and Lentil data for 1982, 1983 and 1984 are provided by the American Dry Pea and Lentil Association. 1982 and 1983 Asparagus data was provided by the Washington Asparagus Growers Association. Official USDA estimates were discontinued in 1982, but reinstated for 1984 crop year.

WEST VIRGINIA

AGRICULTURE IN THE MOUNTAIN STATE

Geographically, West Virginia is characterized by rugged, hilly terrain and many small valleys. Although no large areas of level land are found in any section of the State, the most extensive areas of level to rolling land are in the Shenandoah and lower Greenbrier Valleys, with fine bottomland found along the Ohio and Kanawha Rivers.

The most important aspect of West Virginia's climate is its diversity, accentuated by temperature and precipitation differences between mountain and valley locations. Seasons are strongly contrasted and of nearly equal length. Precipitation is ample and well distributed. The average growing season is approximately 160 days.

Early agricultural development was confined to the small valleys, along areas bordering rivers, and the Eastern Panhandle. As lumber and mineral industries developed, more hill land was brought into cultivation, mostly in corn and small grains. Later, changes in mineral industries caused decreases in rural population. Associated with this decrease was a decline in crop area cultivated and a shift to livestock farming. Hay began to replace grain crops. There were about 10.7 million acres of land in farms in the early 1900's, decreasing steadily to 3.5 million in 1985. The number of farms was highest in 1935 at over 104,000, and has since declined to around 20,000.

Meat animals, dairy, and poultry dominate the farm economy in the Mountain State. The relatively small field crop acreages are mainly devoted to livestock feed. Of the 734,000 acres harvested from principal field crops, 83 percent are hay, 14 percent corn, and 1 percent oats. Based on 1985 cash receipts of just under \$226 million, the top six commodities are: beef cattle and calves (25%), dairy products (22%), chickens (16%), apples (10%), turkeys (10%), and eggs (4%).

Non-livestock related commodities important to West Virginia's economy are apples, tobacco, peaches, and wheat. Apple and peach orchards cover about 20,000 acres in the State. Burley tobacco harvested, although only approximately 2,000 acres, ranks seventh in cash receipts. Wheat and barley are decreasing in importance, with soybean acreage climbing in some areas.

WISCONSIN AGRICULTURE

Wisconsin's agricultural history dates back to the hardy pioneers who followed the trails of the fur trappers. Much of the state was covered with forests. The mining boom of the middle 1820's brought settlers to the southwest corner of the state. Oak openings in the forests provided cropland already cleared or easily cleared. Soils were fertile and water was abundant in springs and creeks.

Wheat became the big pioneer crop in the western and southern parts of the state. By 1860 Wisconsin was the third largest wheat growing state. Lumbering was the dominant industry in central and northern Wisconsin until the early 1900's when the forest were depleted. The lumber camps relied on nearby farmers to supply their food needs.

Plant diseases, pests, and excessive cropping led to the demise of the wheat growing era in Wisconsin. Farmers gradually shifted to raising livestock and livestock products. Since much of Wisconsin's land was suitable for pastures or raising of forages, the dairy animal was ideal for utilizing those resources. Wisconsin became the leading dairy state by 1910 and has retained that leadership to the present.

Nearly 60 percent of Wisconsin's cash receipts from farm marketings is derived from dairying. The state produces over 17 percent of the nation's milk supply, 35 percent of the cheese, nearly one-fourth of the butter, and a large variety of milk by-products. Wisconsin is more than dairying though. With more acres of processed vegetables than any other state, Wisconsin produces one-fourth to one-third of the Nation's sweet corn, peas, and snap beans. Wisconsin also leads in the production of hay, corn silage, and mink pelts. The state ranks second in cranberry production with a third of the national output. Wisconsin is among the top ten states in output of tart cherries, mint, potatoes, turkeys, cattle, tobacco, oats, and corn for grain. Cash receipts from the sale of agricultural products exceed \$5 billion annually.

Wisconsin has almost 36 million acres of land. Farmland accounts for 17.7 million acres. There are 83,000 farms in Wisconsin, of which 41,000 are dairy farms. Agriculture is a basic industry that supports many other sectors of Wisconsin's economy. Agribusiness generates many dollars as the large volume of agricultural goods moving from Wisconsin farms provides employment to thousands of workers who transport, process, and market food products.



AGRICULTURE IN WYOMING

Located within the Great Plains and the Rocky Mountain Physiographic Regions, Wyoming is the ninth largest State in the Union. The majority of the State's 97,914 square mile area is public land, with 48 percent of the total land area owned by the Federal Government. Six percent of the lands within Wyoming are State lands, 4 percent are Indian Trust Lands, and the remaining 42 percent are privately owned.

The dissimilarity of topography results in considerable climatic variations throughout the State, thus affecting Wyoming's agricultural posture. Classified as arid to semiarid, Wyoming receives 5 to 16 inches of moisture per year, depending upon location. From 10 to 16 inches of precipitation a year falls upon the State's high plain areas, while intermountain valleys and basins receive from 5 to 9 inches. Winter accumulations of snow in the high mountains, followed by spring and early summer runoffs, supply irrigation water to a variety of crops. Temperatures have been recorded from 60° below zero to as high as 115° Fahrenheit. The agricultural growing season varies from 130 frost free days in some northern and eastern basins to less than 30 days in intermountain basins located in the western part of Wyoming.

Agriculture has always been a major industry in Wyoming and its importance to the State's economic stability will continue. Total cash receipts from Wyoming agricultural production in 1985 amounted to almost 606 million dollars.

In 1985, 79 percent of Wyoming farm and ranch cash receipts came from marketing livestock and livestock products. Rangeland in Wyoming is well suited to livestock production with approximately 45 million acres, or 72 percent of the State, being utilized for livestock grazing. Beef cattle and sheep are the principal livestock grown in Wyoming. The January 1, 1986 inventory of cattle and calves totaled 1,325,000 head at a value of \$463.8 million. Sheep and lamb inventory numbers as of January 1, 1986, totaled 819,000 head with a value of \$51.6 million. Wyoming ranks third nationally in sheep and lamb production, and fifth for sheep on feed for slaughter. Limited numbers of hogs and chickens are also raised in Wyoming, and in 1985, 48,000 honey bee colonies were inventoried in the State.

The major crop producing areas in Wyoming are located in the southeastern section of the State and the Big Horn and Wind River Basins, located in the north central and central part of the State. In 1984, hay, barley, wheat and sugar beets were leading cash crops. Other important cash crops are dry beans, corn, oats and potatoes. The total value of all crops produced in Wyoming in 1985 (excluding sugar beets) was \$202,710,000. Sugar beet value in 1984 was \$20,928,000.

Wyoming produces high quality alfalfa and native hay. A total of 1.6 million tons of hay was harvested in 1985, from 1,030,000 acres with a value of \$127,097,000.

Wheat is the major grain crop in Wyoming. Dry land wheat grows well during Wyoming's short growing season, and under careful management 20-35 bushels of wheat can be produced per acre. In 1985, winter wheat production was 5,060,000 bushels, compared to spring wheat production of 468,000 bushels. Wheat is usually part of a 2-year wheat-fallow rotation in areas with less than 20 inches of rainfall. The usual planting dates for hard red winter wheat are August 20 to September 25 with harvest from July 20 to August 25th.

Wyoming ranks eleventh nationally in the production of barley, producing 10,560,000 bushels in 1985. Most of Wyoming's barley is utilized in the brewing industry, with some barley being sold as a high quality feed grain.

Great Northern and Pinto beans are the two primary types of dry edible beans grown in Wyoming. Wyoming ranked ninth in the United States in 1985 producing 481,000 hundredweight of high quality dry edible beans. Oat production in 1985 totaled 2,025,000 bushels. Oats produced in Wyoming are used mainly as a feed grain. Corn is grown in Wyoming primarily for grain or silage. Corn grain production totaled 5,194,000 bushels in 1985. Wyoming is ninth in the Nation for sugar beet production. Sugar beet production in 1985 was 1,037,000 tons. Fall potato production in 1985 was 245,000 hundredweight.

FARMLINE TRENDS

Top Farm States

		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
Number of farms, June 1985 (U.S. total: 2.3 million)	farms	Texas 184,000	Missouri 116,000	Iowa 111,000	Kentucky 100,000	Tennessee 98,000	Minnesota 96,000	Illinois 90,000	Ohio 89,000
Land in farms, June 1985 (U.S. total: 1.02 billion acres)	million acres	Texas 136.3	Montana 80.9	Kansas 48.0	Nebraska 47.2	New Mexico 45.0	So. Dakota 44.5	No. Dakota 40.9	Arizona 37.5
Average farm size, June 1985 (U.S. average: 445 acres)	acres	Arizona 4,412	Wyoming 3,867	Nevada 3,520	New Mexico 3,281	Montana 2,280	Alaska 2,235	Colorado 1,288	No. Dakota 1,203
Acres planted to principal crops, 1985 (U.S. total: 342 million)	million acres	Iowa 28.0	Illinois 27.7	Texas 22.6	California 22.1	Minnesota 21.5	Nebraska 18.9	So. Dakota 18.1	Wisconsin 17.8
Number of cattle and calves on farms, January 1986 (U.S. total: 105 million)	million head	Texas 13.80	Kansas 11.90	Nebraska* 5.80	California 5.70	California 5.00	Iowa 4.95	Missouri 4.80	Wisconsin 4.25
Number of hogs and pigs on farms, December 1985 (U.S. total: 52.3 million)	million head	Iowa 13.50	Illinois 8.40	Indiana 4.15	Minnesota 4.10	Nebraska 3.90	Missouri 3.05	No. Carolina 2.35	Ohio 1.98
Cash receipts from crop marketings, 1985** (U.S. total: \$73.9 billion)	million dollars	California 9,648	Illinois 5,379	Iowa 5,018	Texas 4,877	Minnesota 3,769	Florida 3,584	Nebraska 3,345	Indiana 2,821
Cash receipts from livestock marketings, 1985** (U.S. total: \$69.6 billion)	million dollars	Texas 5,438	Iowa 4,591	Nebraska 4,573	California 4,223	Wisconsin 3,982	Kansas 3,557	Minnesota 3,282	Illinois 2,178
Net cash income from farming, 1984 (U.S. total: \$39.2 billion)	million dollars	California 3,769	Iowa 2,881	Texas 2,246	Florida 2,078	Nebraska 1,936	Wisconsin 1,760	Minnesota 1,725	Illinois 1,549
Government payments, 1984 (U.S. total: \$8.4 billion)	million dollars	Texas 782	Iowa 743	Illinois 543	Nebraska 533	Minnesota 530	No. Dakota 483	California 335	Oklahoma 309
Farm production expenses, 1984 (U.S. total: \$139.5 billion)	billion dollars	California 12.11	Texas 8.83	Iowa 8.10	Illinois 7.20	Nebraska 6.65	Minnesota 6.50	Kansas 6.11	Wisconsin 4.90
Average farm debt-to-asset ratio, 1984	percent	Nebraska 32.0	Iowa 30.5	So. Dakota 30.0	Minnesota 29.5	Georgia 28.5	Wisconsin 27.4	Delaware 26.8	Kansas 26.0

* Kansas and Nebraska tied. ** Includes net CCC loans.