



**United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
2015 Certified Organic Survey – Kentucky**



Eastern Mountain Region – Kentucky Field Office
P.O. Box 1120, Louisville, KY 40201
(800) 928-5277 · (855) 270-2708 Fax · www.nass.usda.gov/ky

Certified Organic Highlights

The 2015 Certified Organic Survey is a survey of all operations identified as having certified organic production. Certified organic farms must meet the standards set out by USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service’s (AMS) National Organic Program (NOP) and be certified compliant by an approved agent of NOP. Results from the survey provide acreage, production, and sales data for a variety of certified organic crops and certified organic livestock.

In 2015, the United States had 12,818 certified organic farms that produced \$6.2 billion in certified organic products. Kentucky had 86 certified organic farms with 7,497 acres of certified land that produced \$9.4 million in certified organic products. Of those farms in Kentucky, 17 percent were certified organic for 10 years or more.

In Kentucky, 50 certified organic farms sold to wholesale markets, 43 farms sold directly to consumers, and 22 farms sold directly to retail markets and institutions. The first point of sales for 83 percent of certified organic farms in Kentucky was within 100 miles of the farm and 23 percent was within 100-499 miles of the farm. Over the next five years, 47 percent of certified organic operations in Kentucky plan to increase certified organic agricultural production.

For more information on the 2015 Certified Organic Survey and related reports, please visit the NASS Organic Agriculture page at: www.nass.usda.gov/organics.

Farms, Land, and Value of Sales on Certified Organic Farms: 2015 and 2014

Geographic area	2015			2014		
	Total certified farms	Total certified acres	Total certified sales (\$1,000)	Total certified farms	Total certified acres	Total certified sales (\$1,000)
United States	12,818	4,361,849	6,163,472	12,634	3,642,933	5,451,377
Kentucky	86	7,497	9,372	86	6,997	7,671

Certified Organic Crops Value of Sales: 2015

Crop	Farms	Value of sales (dollars)
All vegetables, potatoes, and melons grown in the open		
United States	2,999	1,361,747,498
Kentucky	32	1,470,946
All vegetables, potatoes, and melons grown under protection		
United States	1,059	73,201,940
Kentucky	12	78,673
All other fruits (excludes apples, grapes, all tree nuts, and all berries)		
United States	1,456	262,792,206
Kentucky	(NDP)	(NDP)
All tree nuts		
United States	379	83,982,965
Kentucky	(NDP)	(NDP)
All berries		
United States	1,436	344,634,693
Kentucky	17	167,423
All field crops		
United States	4,545	660,044,049
Kentucky	26	1,588,106

(NDP) No data present.

Certified Organic Floriculture Crops, Nursery Crops, Propagative Materials, and Mushrooms Value of Sales: 2015

Crop	Farms	Value of sales (dollars)
Floriculture and bedding crops		
United States	336	22,231,062
Kentucky	2	(D)
Nursery crops, including aquatic plants		
United States	108	26,516,551
Kentucky	3	75,000
Propagative materials sold		
United States	120	19,912,081
Kentucky	1	(D)
Mushrooms		
United States	130	95,543,620
Kentucky	(NDP)	(NDP)

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.
(NDP) No data present.

Top Certified Organic Livestock and Poultry Inventory and Sales: 2015

Commodity	Peak inventory		Value of sales	
	Farms	Number	Number	Dollars
Milk cows				
United States	2,282	241,112	47,033	65,361,338
Kentucky	22	1,226	193	257,605
Beef cows				
United States	455	40,600	5,901	8,982,291
Kentucky	3	(D)	(D)	(D)
Other cattle				
United States	2,753	228,630	169,884	158,251,289
Kentucky	25	1,080	700	613,585
Hogs and pigs				
United States	135	12,358	13,353	5,112,388
Kentucky	4	396	374	153,688
Chickens - layers				
United States	730	14,214,364	3,241,756	1,461,403
Kentucky	5	1,300	728	3,095
Chickens - broilers				
United States	187	9,077,227	47,423,922	420,312,003
Kentucky	7	22,700	(D)	(D)

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Top Certified Organic Livestock Products and Poultry Products Sales: 2015

Commodity	Farms	Quantity	Dollars
Milk from cows (pounds)			
United States	2,258	3,406,420,618	1,173,503,904
Kentucky	22	13,072,519	4,616,001
Chicken eggs (dozens)			
United States	684	292,481,855	732,037,052
Kentucky	5	15,739	58,908

Operators on Certified Organic Farms by Years Operating Any Farm: 2015

Geographic area	Operators	Percent of operators by years operating any farm					
		Less than 10 years	10 to 19 years	20 to 29 years	30 to 39 years	40 to 49 years	50 or more years
United States	12,818	32	23	17	16	8	4
Kentucky	86	47	31	12	8	1	1