



**United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
2014 Census of Horticultural Specialties – Minnesota**



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**Horticultural Specialties Highlights**

The 2014 Census of Horticultural Specialties provides detailed production and sales data for floriculture, nursery, and other specialty products. This special study is part of the larger census of agriculture program. All operations that reported producing and selling \$10,000 or more of horticultural specialty products were included in the 2014 Census of Horticultural Specialties.

In 2014, the United States had 23,221 horticultural operations that produced and sold \$13.8 billion in floriculture, nursery, and other horticultural specialty products. Minnesota had 487 horticultural operations that sold \$244.6 million in horticultural products in 2014, compared to 453 horticultural operations that sold \$268.8 million in horticultural products in 2009. Horticulture producers in Minnesota had \$229.1 million in total production expenses in 2014. Hired labor expenses in Minnesota accounted for 41 percent of the total production expenses. Of the 6,580 hired workers in Minnesota, 3,595 worked less than 150 days compared to 2,985 who worked 150 days or more.

**Top Horticultural Specialty Crops Sold: 2014**

Items	All sales		Wholesale sales		Retail sales	
	Operations	Value (\$1,000)	Operations	Value (\$1,000)	Operations	Value (\$1,000)
<b>All horticultural specialty crops</b>						
United States .....	23,221	13,789,048	14,885	11,859,976	14,710	1,929,073
Minnesota .....	487	244,618	234	168,755	411	75,862
<b>Annual bedding/garden plants</b>						
United States .....	7,964	2,567,534	3,367	2,044,090	6,197	523,444
Minnesota .....	227	54,734	77	28,841	216	25,893
<b>Potted herbaceous perennial plants</b>						
United States .....	6,291	944,850	2,710	794,915	4,805	149,936
Minnesota .....	166	20,088	51	14,867	140	5,221
<b>Potted flowering plants for indoor or patio use</b>						
United States .....	4,059	1,084,274	2,010	993,437	2,891	90,837
Minnesota .....	84	18,215	31	13,007	78	5,208
<b>Foliage plants for indoor or patio use</b>						
United States .....	2,644	721,889	1,386	702,029	1,591	19,860
Minnesota .....	46	2,023	12	1,671	40	353
<b>Cut flowers and cut lei flowers</b>						
United States .....	1,998	462,098	974	417,108	1,350	44,990
Minnesota .....	13	(D)	2	(D)	11	144
<b>Nursery stock</b>						
United States .....	8,226	4,266,631	(NA)	3,834,953	(NA)	431,678
Minnesota .....	180	91,467	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
<b>Propagative horticultural materials, bareroot and unfinished plants</b>						
United States .....	1,067	695,126	832	670,651	303	24,475
Minnesota .....	23	12,965	11	11,765	14	1,200
<b>Sod, sprigs, or plugs</b>						
United States .....	1,289	1,138,465	(NA)	858,280	(NA)	280,185
Minnesota .....	46	16,281	(NA)	6,901	(NA)	9,380
<b>Food crops grown under protection</b>						
United States .....	2,521	796,664	(NA)	606,025	(NA)	190,639
Minnesota .....	51	18,809	(NA)	(D)	(NA)	(D)
<b>Transplants for commercial vegetable and strawberry production</b>						
United States .....	693	371,817	(NA)	339,123	(NA)	32,694
Minnesota .....	18	492	(NA)	379	(NA)	113

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.  
(NA) Not available.

## Top Horticultural Production Expenses and Number of Hired Workers: 2014

Item	United States	Minnesota
<b>HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTION EXPENSES</b>		
All horticultural production expenses .....	operations \$1,000	487 229,136
Seeds, plants, vines, trees, etc. purchased .....	operations \$1,000	443 30,676
Containers purchased .....	operations \$1,000	287 11,803
Hired labor expenses, all .....	operations \$1,000	390 93,536
Gasoline, fuels, and oils purchased .....	operations \$1,000	472 12,045
All other production expenses <sup>1</sup> .....	operations \$1,000	277 15,600
<b>GREENHOUSE, NURSERY, AND OTHER HORTICULTURAL LABOR</b>		
Hired workers .....	operations workers	390 6,580

<sup>1</sup> Includes customwork, storage and warehousing, insurance premiums, etc. Excludes potting soils and growing media, fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioner, chemicals, contract labor, utilities, repairs, supplies, and maintenance costs, rent and lease expenses, interest paid on all debt, property taxes paid in 2014, marketing expenses, and packaging expenses.

## Value of Horticultural Specialty Crops Sold by Marketing Channels: 2014

Item	United States	Minnesota
Consumers (direct sales) .....	operations value (\$1,000)	408 59,464
Retail florists .....	operations value (\$1,000)	24 6,354
Retail garden centers/nurseries, excluding mass marketers .....	operations value (\$1,000)	146 49,371
Supermarkets/grocers .....	operations value (\$1,000)	43 31,374
Other mass marketers .....	operations value (\$1,000)	20 35,318
Interiorscapers .....	operations value (\$1,000)	5 (D)
Landscape contractors .....	operations value (\$1,000)	164 24,120
Wholesale florists .....	operations value (\$1,000)	8 (D)
Landscape redistribution yards .....	operations value (\$1,000)	20 10,886
Non-profit groups (fund raisers) .....	operations value (\$1,000)	56 4,999
Other marketing channels .....	operations value (\$1,000)	54 21,652

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

## Land Area Used for Horticultural Production: 2014

Geographic area	Greenhouses		Shade structure area		Natural shade area		Area in the open	
	Operations	Area (1,000 sq ft)	Operations	Area (1,000 sq ft)	Operations	Acres	Operations	Acres
United States .....	14,593	894,907	4,058	429,708	1,804	5,404	12,927	497,339
Minnesota .....	294	15,342	50	1,270	20	11	211	5,431

## Horticultural Specialty Operations and Sales by Legal Status for Tax Purposes: 2014

Geographic area	Total		Family or individual		Partnership		Corporation		Other - cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	
	Operations	Value (\$1,000)	Operations	Value (\$1,000)	Operations	Value (\$1,000)	Operations	Value (\$1,000)	Operations	Value (\$1,000)
United States .....	23,221	13,789,048	12,193	1,968,588	1,873	1,140,653	8,736	10,541,841	419	137,966
Minnesota .....	487	244,618	222	(D)	26	34,023	238	187,623	1	(D)

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