

from the desk of.....

Greg Preston
Director

This issue of the, “2010-2011 Indiana Agricultural Statistics” publication provides you the most accurate, reliable, and unbiased information about Indiana’s agricultural industry. Indiana agriculture continues to be an important and growing segment of the State’s economy, with Indiana ranked in the top ten nationally for cash farm receipts. Hoosier farmers should take pride in the fact that despite adverse weather conditions, rising production expenses and input prices, Indiana agriculture continues to thrive. For 2011, Indiana continues to rank near the top nationally in the production of corn, soybeans, popcorn, blueberries, peppermint, spearmint, processing tomatoes, fresh market melons, and vegetables for processing. Indiana livestock producers put our state’s rank at the top nationally for hogs, chickens, eggs, and turkeys.

Indiana has a rich agricultural heritage and farming tradition. This publication satisfies the need for data that is used to provide facts to decision makers that determine the future of Indiana’s agricultural industry. It serves as the primary source of data for evaluating and measuring change in Indiana agriculture. The purpose of this publication is to provide the public with data to help them gain an understanding of the current situation of Indiana’s farming community and future opportunities. We strive to exceed this goal.

This is the 85th edition, which serves as Indiana’s Farmer ‘Yearbook’ and is published by the cooperative efforts of Purdue University and USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. This Federal/University cooperative effort has existed since 1925 and continues to enhance the opportunity for agricultural research programs for State specific statistical projects in support of agricultural researchers and decision makers. Some of those projects include Agronomic Survey of Indiana Corn and Soybean Growers, Plant Disease and Fungicide Use Survey, and Timber Price Survey. Results of these special research efforts are published by the individual research programs. Results from these special surveys are not a part of this publication but please feel free to contact us for reference to those researchers for additional information.

The information in this annual summary is collected from farmers who are surveyed throughout the year. The cooperation and support of Indiana’s farmers in showing that “Agriculture Counts”, is greatly appreciated. The voluntary response and cooperation of Indiana farmers, agricultural business firms, USDA Farm Service Agency County Staff, Purdue University County Extension Staff, NASDA Enumerators, and others across the state make this Publication possible. The Indiana Field Office of USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service pledges the confidentiality of individual reports. We take every action necessary to ensure this pledge is upheld.

We are again pleased to feature the photography talents of 21 individual 4-H members within Indiana’s 2010-2011 Agricultural Statistics Annual Summary. These photographs, exhibited at the 2010 Indiana State Fair, provide a glimpse of Indiana’s agriculture from future farmers’ perspective. We are grateful to all of the 4-H members who submitted their photos for publication.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the agricultural community, with your help, in providing timely, accurate, and unbiased data. Please let us know your comments and suggestions.

Sincerely,

Greg Preston
Director
USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office

