



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MARYLAND FIELD OFFICE

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MARYLAND 2014 ORGANIC SURVEY RESULTS

ANNAPOLIS, MD - The USDA/NASS released the results of the 2014 Organic Survey, which shows 120 certified and exempt organic farms in Maryland sold a total of \$19.0 million in organic products in 2014. This is up 82 percent since 2008, according to Dale Hawks, State Statistician of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Maryland Field Office.

Maryland accounted for less than 1 percent of the U.S. organic sales in 2014. However, the industry shows potential for growth in production as approximately 58 organic producers (49 percent) report they intend to increase organic production in Maryland over the next 5 years.

The selection of organic products sold by Maryland farms in 2014 was diverse, from dairy, livestock and poultry, to fruits, vegetables and grains. The top commodities in organic sales were:

- Milk from cows -- \$6,409,710
- Corn for Grain -- \$4,343,399
- Soybeans -- \$1,529,627
- Fresh Mkt Tomatoes -- \$639,985
- All Dry Hay -- \$507,298

Additionally, 30 percent of Maryland's organic farms reported selling products to wholesale markets. These sales accounted for 82 percent of Maryland's organic farm sales. Wholesale markets, such as buyers for supermarkets, processors, distributors, packers and cooperatives, were serving as the marketing channel of choice for Maryland organic farmers to get organic agriculture products to customers.

The complete 2014 Organic Survey report is available online at:
http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2012/Online_Resources/Organics/index.php.

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