



Office of the Director

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Dear Friend:

The *Illinois Agricultural Statistics Annual Summary* is dedicated to everyone who has ever asked where our state's agricultural production ranks against the competition. It is the definitive source for statistical information about our top industry, with sections covering every major commodity grown or raised in Illinois. Whether you need to know the yield of our corn crop, cash receipts from the sale of our soybeans or the production of our pork farmers, the *Annual Summary* has the answer.

The *Annual Summary* also contains useful information about agricultural exports, alternative crops, farmland conversion, fertilizer and chemical usage and weather patterns, as well as a wealth of economic data, including farm income, asset and debt levels, farm real estate values and wages for farm labor.



The figures are presented in easy-to-read tables that make comparisons a snap. Farmers, for example, can learn not only how Illinois' production compares to that of other states, but also how their home county compares to neighboring counties or even how their own production compares to the average of other farmers.

The bottom line, though, is that Illinois remains one of the leading agricultural states in the country. This publication will help you understand why. I also hope it helps put today's farm economy in proper perspective so we can better plan for a prosperous future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Hampton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joe Hampton
Director, Illinois Department of Agriculture