

2023 ANNUAL REPORT AND AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Philip D. Murphy, Governor
New Jersey Department of Agriculture
Joe Atchison III, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture



NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



About the cover: The cover photo was taken in the middle of the fall at Specca Farms in Burlington County. Specca Farms features a wide array of offerings throughout the year for its pick your own operation that includes different types of crops that fulfill the needs of many traditional ethnic offerings. **Above,** Former Secretary Douglas Fisher, at right, stops with Assistant Secretary Joe Atchison in a cornfield at Vierick Farms in Gloucester County on one of Secretary Fisher's final visits before retiring at the end of June. Secretary Fisher served in his position for more than 14 years. Assistant Secretary Atchison is serving in the role of Secretary until the State Board of Agriculture and Governor Murphy appoint a new Secretary. **At right,** Assistant Secretary Atchison checks out poinsettias on National Poinsettia Day in December at Bountiful Gardens with owner Lisa Miccolis.

A MESSAGE FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

Joe Atchison III

This annual report is a review of highlights, activities, and events that occurred in New Jersey agriculture during 2023. The Department provides this summary each year pursuant to N.J.S.A. 4:1-14.

While the retirement of Secretary Fisher marked a time of transition in the Department, there are a vast array of accomplishments that serve as outstanding examples of how the Department continued its exemplary work. They include the State Agriculture Development Committee's Farmland Preservation Program reaching the 250,000-acre mark in its 40th year, the Summer Food Service Program administered by our Food and Nutrition Division being ranked No. 1 in the nation, the Marketing and Development Division providing guidance for a dairy expansion grant that could bring a significant benefit to the state's dairy producers, the Plant Industry Division offering funds for spotted lanternfly treatments to counties and municipalities, the Animal Health Division agreeing to assist the new Rowan University Veterinary School when it begins with its first classes in 2025, and the state FFA Association within our Agricultural and Natural Resources Division reaching its highest membership numbers ever, and many other outstanding achievements as well.

New Jersey producers continue to adapt to the constantly changing needs of consumers. With nearly 10,000 farms on approximately 750,000 acres, the wide variety of products and services offered to our diverse population are a cornerstone for the Garden State. The manner in which producers meet challenges head-on proves to be an example of their innovation and commitment. Please know that staff at the Department are here to serve and support the agricultural community in every way possible.





2023-24

New Jersey State Board of Agriculture



Holly Sytsema
President
Sussex County
Dairy Industry



Barney Hollinger
Vice President
Cumberland County
Aquaculture



Kurt Alstede
Board Member
Morris County
Fruit Industry



Bob Blew
Board Member
Cumberland County
Nursery Industry



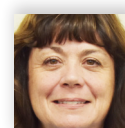
David DeFrange II
Board Member
Hunterdon County
Nursery Industry



John Hart
Board Member
Mercer County
Hay/Grain Industry



Stephen V. Lee IV
Board Member
Burlington County
Fruit Industry



Lisa Specca
Board Member
Burlington County
Vegetable Industry



The State Board of Agriculture meetings take place in the conference room at 200 Riverview Plaza in Trenton each month, with occasional visits to other locations throughout the year. This year, four new members were sworn onto the board with Holly Sytsema, seated at right, becoming president and Barney Hollinger, seated at left, becoming vice president. The terms for the State Board members last four years.

2023

Highlights



Secretary Fisher Retires, Atchison Steps In

New Jersey Department of Agriculture Secretary Douglas Fisher retired at the end of June after serving more than 14 years, beginning with the Corzine Administration in 2009. Assistant Secretary Joe Atchison III is directing the department, assuming the responsibilities of Secretary, until the State Board of Agriculture and Governor Phil Murphy select a new Secretary.

“Since 2009, Secretary Fisher has been a steadfast advocate for the Garden State’s agricultural community,” said Governor Murphy. “From expanding agritourism to combating food insecurity, Secretary Fisher has dedicated his career to preserving New Jersey’s agricultural roots, while exemplifying a sincere commitment to this state and serving the public. I wish him nothing but the best and

congratulate him for all he has accomplished at the Department of Agriculture.

“While the agricultural community is losing a fierce advocate and friend, I am confident that Assistant Secretary Joe Atchison III will lead the Department with diligence and dedication.”

“I am blessed to have the privilege of serving the public in my career in government and have always strived as Secretary of Agriculture to bear in mind how we could help not only the industry, but also all residents whose lives are enhanced by agriculture in our state,” Secretary Fisher said.

Atchison was named Assistant Secretary in 2021, and Director of Marketing and Development in January of 2020.



Dairy Grant Brings Hope To Producers In NJ

The Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center announced in November that an existing Dairy Processor Expansion Grant has the ability to positively impact New Jersey producers. Clover Farms Dairy received a grant to purchase and segregate fluid milk from New Jersey dairy farmers. The product will be packaged into Class I half pints and sold to K through 12 school districts throughout New Jersey, bringing local milk to New Jersey students. New Jersey law requires public schools in the State to serve milk produced in New Jersey when available. Clover Farms plans to use the grant to install a 60,000-gallon tank that will be used exclusively for New Jersey-produced fluid milk. The Existing Dairy Processor Expansion Grant funds allow for the purchase of specialized equipment to help processors increase the use of regionally sourced milk.

SADC Reaches Milestone At 250,000 Preserved Acres

Governor Phil Murphy and Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Joe Atchison announced in October that New Jersey reached the milestone of preserving 250,000 acres of farmland through the State's Farmland Preservation Program. The historic milestone and anniversary was commemorated by Assistant Secretary Atchison, State Agriculture Development Committee Executive Director Susan Payne, and local officials on the 134-acre Mecouch Family Farm in Quinton, Salem County.

"The protection of farmland is critical to ensuring the continued success of our farming industry and in keeping the 'garden' in the "Garden State," Governor Murphy said.

The Mecouch Family Farm was the 2,847th farm preserved through the program and the farm that pushed the program over the 250,000-acre mark.



Four New State Board Members Sworn In For 2023-24 Terms



The State Board of Agriculture had four new board members sworn in this year, two at the June meeting and two more at the July meeting. Taking seats on the board were John Hart of Mercer County, Stephen V. Lee IV of Burlington County, Bob Blew of Cumberland County, and David DeFrangé of Hunterdon County.

Hart is the owner of John Hart Farms and Whispering Wind Stable, and Rosedale Mills Country Store, and represents the hay and grain industry. Lee is a cranberry and blueberry farm operator and represents the fruit industry. Blew is the owner/manager of Centerton Nursery and represents the nursery industry. DeFrangé represents the nursery industry and was re-elected to a second term on the board. He owns and operates Copper Creek, a landscape design, installation, and maintenance company.

NJ No. 1 In Summer Food Service Meals

Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Joe Atchison III, U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service, and local representatives highlighted the success of the Summer Food Service Program in New Jersey with a visit to the Raritan Bay Area YMCA Summer Stars Day Camp lunch at the Rose M. Lopez Elementary School in Perth Amboy, Middlesex County in August. According to the Food Research & Action Center (FRAC), New Jersey is ranked No. 1 in the nation for providing summer lunch to children from households

who participated in school year lunch.

In 2022, more than 11 million summer meals were served to New Jersey children who qualified for the Summer Food Service Program. This year there were 1,250 feeding sites and 170 sponsors for the Summer Food Service program in the state.

The Perth Amboy Summer Food Service Program took place at 35 sites and served more than 60,000 combined breakfasts and lunches in July. Approximately 4,000 children participated in the program in Perth Amboy.



2023

Accomplishments Overview

Division of AGRICULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES

New Jersey's FFA Membership Grows To Highest Number Ever



Frank Minch
Division Director

The Division of Agricultural and Natural Resources plays a critical role in promoting resource conservation measures and service programs to the agricultural community and the public. The Division's role includes providing inter-agency coordination and assistance in the area of Soil Conservation, Water Conservation, Municipal Planning Review, Farmland Assessment, Uniform Construction Code, Sales Tax, Highlands agricultural development, Motor Vehicle matters, Animal Waste Management, water allocation, drought assistance, and composting and source separated food waste. Also, the Division houses the Office of Aquaculture Coordination which gives technical and marketing assistance, the Agricultural Education program which offers State FFA Chapters assistance as needed, and the National Agricultural Statistics Service which works with the agricultural industry in New Jersey.

The New Jersey FFA Association marked a banner year by increasing its membership to more than 3,150, the highest it has ever been. Some of the FFA highlights throughout the year included the 94th Annual State FFA



Convention, which included the election of the 2023-24 State Officer team of Chase Sherburne (Salem Tech FFA), State President; Maisie Shimko, (Union County FFA), Vice President; and Julia Moreno, (Cumberland Regional FFA), State Secretary.

Some other major events to take place during the year included the Floral Design Career Development Event (CDE) and Horticultural Expo in March, the Advocacy and Legislative Leadership Event in February, the Leadership Experience and Development Conference in October, many other career development events, as well as many state chapters attending the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis in October.

319 Grant Allows Upgrade For NJ Farm

The Department and the Upper Delaware Conservation District applied for and received a Water Quality Restoration Grant from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to mitigate Nonpoint Source Pollution.

This 319 Grant was put into use at the DeGroot Dairy Farm, a first generation operation in Sussex County, that is adjacent to the Papakating Creek Watershed. Improvements to the property were made to implement additional Best Management Practices to protect the Category One Papakating Creek Watershed headwaters. Additional funding is available in the coming year for livestock operations within the watershed.



Deer Fencing Made Available To More NJ Farms

Governor Murphy signed legislation that made the installation of deer fencing available to unpreserved farms in New Jersey for the first time. The NJDA Deer Fencing Program made cost-share funding available for unpreserved farm owners or operators in New Jersey. When an application is approved, the farm may receive up to 50 percent matching funds (\$20,000 maximum, no more than \$200 per acre). The Department began accepting applications for the grant funds in May of 2023.

Grants were awarded on a first-come, first-served basis until all funds for the fiscal year are expended. All applicants who are approved for a cost-share grant will need to sign a standard agreement that will be recorded with the county clerk like a deed. Applicants who operate but



do not own the farmland described in their application must receive authorization from the landowner to satisfy the legal recording requirements.

Aquaculture Farms Become Eligible For Right To Farm

Governor Murphy signed S-428 into law in March, amending the Right to Farm Act to specify that shellfish aquaculture activities are eligible for Right to Farm Act protections. To be eligible for Right to Farm protections, a shellfish commercial farm must produce shellfish worth \$40,000 or more annually. The shellfish commercial farm would not have to qualify for farmland assessment for the protections to apply. The bill became effective on March 13. There are more than 50 fish and shellfish farmers in New Jersey producing aquaculture products.



Division of ANIMAL HEALTH

NJDA To Assist Rowan Vet School



Dr. Amar Patil
Division Director

The Division of Animal Health maintains disease control programs to protect the health and well-being of livestock in New Jersey. The Division tracks information about emerging diseases around the world that may impact the Garden State, conducts epidemiological investigations of livestock diseases, operates an animal health diagnostic laboratory, authorizes and oversees two contagious equine metritis quarantine facilities for imported horses, and supports an aggressive livestock welfare program. In addition, the Division is involved with animal emergency preparedness and response, especially during disasters that affect the health, safety and welfare of animals and their owners.



It was announced in March that the Department will be assisting the Rowan University Veterinary School Program, which is scheduled to begin classes in the fall of 2025. The veterinary school is the first in the state. The shortage of veterinarians has been expected for quite some time. In 2006, the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges predicted a shortage of 15,000 veterinarians in the United States within two decades. According to the American Veterinary Medical Association, 57 percent of households in New Jersey own a pet or large animal livestock. Rowan is scheduled to begin accepting applications with 70 students in the fall of 2025, eventually reaching 90 students per class. There are 33 accredited veterinary schools in the U.S., but only five on the East Coast.

The primary goals of the NJDA assistance are to have the Rowan veterinary students and faculty access the NJDA's Animal Health Diagnostic Lab and to make the NJDA's lab services available to the Rowan veterinary school to protect and promote animal and public health. Once accredited, the school will offer New Jersey's first Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree, as well as related degree programs designed to shape the future of veterinary medicine and animal health care in the state. With the addition of the School of Veterinary Medicine, Rowan will be one of only two universities in the nation offering Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, Doctor of Medicine, and Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degrees.

Accreditation Keeps AHDL Among U.S. Leaders

The Division of Animal Health's Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory (AHDL) received continued accreditation to the ISO 17025 standard. The accreditation is required by the USDA and FDA to ensure the highest quality and defensible laboratory results for the protection of animal agriculture, food safety, and public health. The accreditation has brought many benefits to the AHDL's service. Among those are more animal feed testing for pet foods and farm animals with a quicker turnaround for results since the tests do not have to be sent to an accredited lab to be considered official. The accreditation means the AHDL follows standards in place at all other American Association for Laboratory Accreditation accredited labs. The AHDL is one of about two dozen labs in the U.S. to receive this accreditation.



AEWG Symposium Features National Expert

The 25th Annual Emergency Working Group Symposium took place in May at The Horse Park of New Jersey, the first in-person meeting for this event since 2019. There were 81 in attendance who heard from then Secretary Douglas Fisher, NJDA Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Dr. Sandra Strilec, and guest speaker Eric Thompson, a leading expert in animal response, rescue, and emergency management. Participants also had an opportunity to practice basic livestock handling and restraint, as well as run through a companion animal shelter set-up with animal behavior at top of mind.



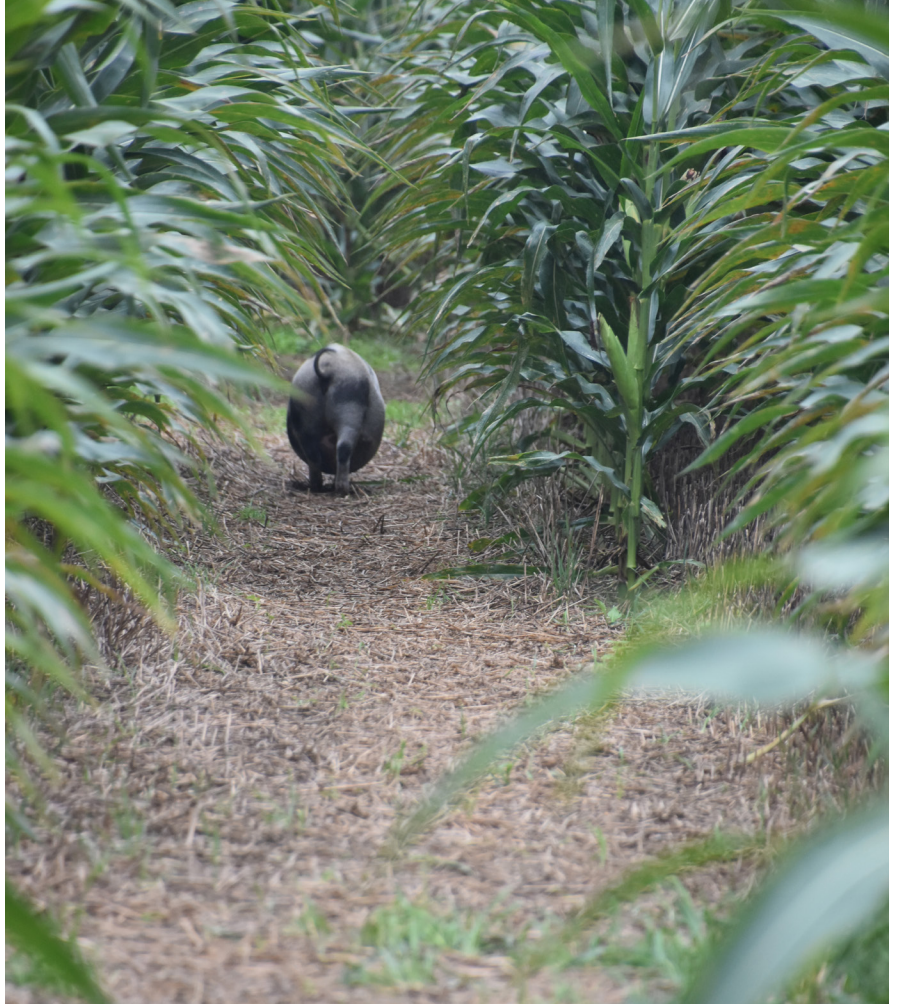
Thompson is the Executive Director of Disaster & Field Response for the Bissell Pet Foundation, leading the Animal Incident Management (AIM) national initiative. He also serves as President of the National Alliance for Animal and Agriculture Emergency Programs. The mission of the NJDA Animal Emergency Working Group is to provide guidelines for rapid response to disasters affecting the health, safety, and welfare of animals. Veterinary medicine and animal care resources in emergency preparedness, response, and recovery include, but are not limited to, small and large animal care, facility usage, displaced pet/livestock assistance, and waste disposal.

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Response Aids Poultry Business



The Division continued increased surveillance of poultry (approximately 3,800 flocks/farms) for highly pathogenic avian influenza through the NJDA's Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory (AHDL). The division mitigated detections according to appropriate standards and issued over 1,500 permits in early 2023 to allow movement of poultry and eggs from affected states into New Jersey.

The only confirmed case of HPAI in New Jersey for 2023 occurred at a Union County live bird market. The result came after Division staff performed its routine surveillance when samples were sent to the AHDL.





Division of FOOD AND NUTRITION



Rose Chamberlain
Division Director

The Division of Food and Nutrition administers the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program, Afterschool Snack Program, Summer Food Service Program, Child and Adult Care Food Program, Family Day Care Program, USDA Food Distribution Program and The Emergency Food Assistance Program.

Child Nutrition programs operate in public and nonpublic schools, residential and nonresidential childcare institutions, day care centers, family day care homes, adult day care centers, recreation centers, and other agencies.

Food Distribution coordinates the allocation and distribution of USDA Foods to sponsors of the above nutrition programs.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program further distributes to food insecure citizens through a network of food banks.



FFVP Participation Reaches Record High

The Department recognized Sonia Sotomayor School No. 21 of Passaic Public Schools with the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program VIP Award for 2023. The award highlights schools in the United States Department of Agriculture's Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) that are doing an exceptional job at promoting fruits and vegetables and healthy lifestyles to their students. A record-high 222 New Jersey schools are participating in the 2023-2024 school year's FFVP. Sonia Sotomayor School was selected for the first-place prize for providing a comprehensive program integrating the entire school community in program and wellness activities.

The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program is a federally funded initiative that offers grants to schools to provide fresh produce as snacks to students in schools where 50 percent or more of the students receive free or reduced-price meals. The USDA has allocated \$5,930,389 to New Jersey for this school year's Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, to provide fresh produce to over 105,000 students in 57 districts throughout 16 counties during the school day.

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Distribution Funds Aid Farmers, Food Banks

Schools that participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) were sub-awarded \$4.9 million in the NSLP Food Distribution Program. The grants were awarded and implementation is continuing in 2024. The NJDA has partnered with the Community Foodbank of New Jersey on the Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program.



USDA Foods Conference Includes Students To Help Rate Choices

School officials and high school students from around New Jersey previewed the newest lunch and breakfast offerings available from food manufacturers for the 2024-25 school year during the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Foods Conference at the New Jersey Convention and Exposition Center in December. The conference had approximately 450 school food service directors, superintendents, business administrators, and students attend who could sample meals they can order for the 2024-2025 school year that meet the National School Lunch Program requirements.

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA) administers the USDA Foods Distribution program which takes USDA foods and distributes them to food processors at a reduced cost to school districts. There were 44 vendors that supplied samples to those in attendance.

This was the first year that students from various districts around the state were involved in sampling the food. Each student was given a sheet in which they listed the food service company, the offering they tasted, and gave it a score based on how much they much liked it.



Farm To School Helps Students Learn To Grow

The Food and Nutrition Division's Farm to School Program highlighted its success with visits to two schools and one farm during Farm to School Week during the last week of September. The Best in Farm to School Award went to Joseph Cappello School in Trenton, the Farmer Recognition Award to Coombs Barnyard, and the Full Bloom Award to Upper Pittsgrove School, both in Salem County.

The Farm to School Program has led to almost 500 schools purchasing local. More than 300 districts buying local have implemented cafeteria programs using Harvest of the Month promotional material to feature the nutritional value of local items. Nearly 200 districts use curriculum that ties cafeteria meals to healthy eating education and/or field trips to farms.

It was also the first New Jersey Agricultural Literacy Week, which coincides with Farm to School Week. Ag Literacy Week highlights the importance of New Jersey agriculture, how the state's agricultural products provide the necessary ingredients for meals, and the health value of eating fresh farm foods and locally grown produce and fruits for students in kindergarten through fifth grade.



Division of MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT

Visits Feature Jersey Fresh Produce



Joe Atchison III
Division Director

The Division of Marketing and Development plays a critical role in enhancing the awareness of New Jersey farm products by developing and expanding markets, both here and abroad. The Division also promotes New Jersey's racing and pleasure horse industries. In addition, the Division provides regulatory and service programs to the agricultural community, in accordance with policies of the State Board of Agriculture and the state so as to enable abundant supplies of fresh, wholesome, and safe agricultural commodities and products at affordable costs.



The Department made several visits throughout the growing season to farms and farmers markets to highlight Jersey Fresh produce being widely available.

Among the stops were Muth Family Farm in Gloucester County to highlight asparagus and strawberries, Viereck Farms in Gloucester County to highlight tomatoes, Larchmont Farms in Salem County to highlight peaches, Free Haven Farms in Camden County to highlight their fruit and vegetable agreement with the Food Bank of South Jersey, to West Windsor Farmers Market, and the Trenton Farmers Market during National Farmers Market

Week, and to the Collingswood and Haddonfield Farmers Markets at the beginning of the Jersey Fresh season.

Jersey Fresh was also promoted at several major events in North America, including the New York Produce Show, the Eastern Produce Council Dinner, the USDA Foods Conference, the New Jersey Food Council Good Government Breakfast, the Food Export Conference in Chicago, the International Fresh Produce Association Global Produce and Floral Show in Anaheim, the New England Produce Council Show in Boston, and the Allegiance/Foodtown Show in Edison, N.J.



Produce Promotions Huge Hit At Shore Sites

The Department highlighted three of the state's top crops with the return of popular promotions at boardwalks along the Jersey Shore. This past summer's produce days at the shore were blueberries on National Blueberry Day on July 8, a tomato distribution on August 7, and a peach giveaway on August 22, National Eat a Peach Day.

The events took place on the boardwalks in Wildwood, Atlantic City and Seaside Heights. Blueberry Day took place in conjunction with the New Jersey Blueberry Industry Advisory Council, and Peach Day took place in conjunction with the New Jersey Peach Promotion Council. New Jersey is regularly among the top five producers in the country in blueberries, tomatoes, and peaches, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Ag Ambassador Represents Industry At Fairs Around State

Ashleigh Dickson, of Montague in Sussex County, was chosen as the 2023 New Jersey Agricultural Fair Ambassador. The 17-year-old Sussex County Technical High School student was selected by the Agricultural Fair Association of New Jersey. As ambassador, Dickson was charged with visiting the state's agricultural fairs in 2023, promoting agriculture to the public, and bringing people together to support the state's farmers.

Dickson is president of the Sussex Shepherds 4-H Club, where she has won Grand Champion Overall honors for Ram, Ewe, and Market Lamb during the past three years at the Sussex County Farm and Horse Show. She also earned the Outstanding Shepherd Award and the Member of the Year Award.

Dickson is also president of the Sussex Tech FFA Chapter, where she was previously the Vice-President and Sentinel in each of the last two years. She has earned a Chapter FFA Degree and a Greenhand FFA Degree. Dickson's Cascading Bouquet and Harvest Festival arrangement each took first place prizes in the 2022 FFA Horticulture Exposition Career Development Event. She also earned high placings in Floral Design, Meats Evaluation and Technology, Livestock Evaluation, Floriculture, and Fruit and Vegetable Evaluation.



Farmers Market Week Highlights West Windsor As NJ Vote Leader

Assistant Secretary Atchison marked National Farmers Market Week with a visit to the West Windsor Community Farmers Market in August. The USDA each year proclaims a National Farmers Market Week to remind consumers to visit these markets in the summer and fall.

"Community farmers markets provide a convenient avenue for residents to access a wide variety of delicious just-picked Jersey Fresh fruits and vegetables," Assistant Secretary Atchison said. "Farmers markets foster a sense of community and allow consumers an opportunity to interact with farmers and gain a better understanding of where and how their food is grown."

There are approximately 140 community farmers markets and 700 on-farm markets in the state. Farmers who attend these markets sell produce they've picked at the peak of



ripeness within 24 hours of sale to ensure the best taste and highest quality. The West Windsor Community Farmers' Market celebrated its 20th season and is located at 877 Alexander Road in West Windsor. The market is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday through mid-November and runs twice monthly throughout the winter. The market hosts approximately 50 vendors with nearly 20 farms represented, along with a variety of other food-related booths, knife sharpening, a composting service, live music, and community groups.

Last year in a poll by American Farmland Trust, the West Windsor Market was voted by the public as the No. 1 community farmers market in New Jersey and the No. 4 market in the Northeast.





Division of PLANT INDUSTRY

Spotted Lanternfly Funding Expanded



Joe Zoltowski
Division Director

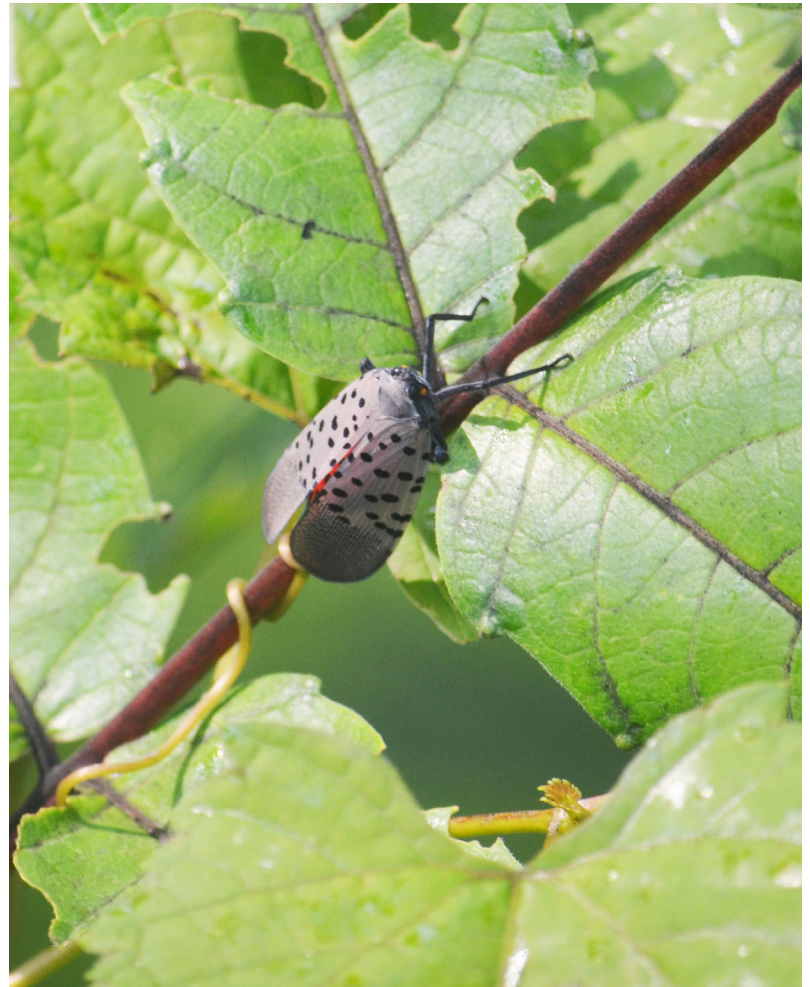
The protection of New Jersey's plant resources from injurious insects, weeds and disease is basic to the vitality of the state's agricultural industry, natural environment, and homeowners. Plant pests can cost farmers, woodland and natural area owners, and eventually the consumer, millions of dollars through crop damage and pest control costs. The programs of the Division of Plant Industry provide protection to New Jersey food crops, forests and other plant resources against injurious plant insects and diseases through detection, control, and eradication programs. The Division helps to ensure that farmers, businesses and consumers buy and sell high quality pest-free plants and plant products.

The Department announced in May that grant funds were available to counties and for the first time, municipalities, to battle spotted lanternfly (SLF). Interested counties and municipalities could apply to receive funds from the Department. The Murphy Administration, in partnership with the Legislature, has provided funding to the Department to reduce SLF populations and minimize its spread.

A total of up to \$50,000 per county, and up to \$15,000 per municipality was available on a first-come, first-served basis for reimbursement of eligible costs incurred for SLF chemical treatment activities for 2023. In addition to this program, home and business owners can go to www.badbug.nj.gov to find information that includes a timeline for the stages of growth for the insect as well as treatment options.

Along with the listed treatment options, residents and businesses can also use licensed pesticide applicators to provide treatments.

While the spotted lanternfly does not harm humans or animals, it can feed on about 70 different types of vegetation or trees. The pest's preferred host is the Tree of Heaven, an invasive plant that has been in the United States for decades. The spotted lanternfly is native to Asia and was first found in the U.S. in Berks County, Pa., in 2014. It is considered a plant hopper and can fly only a few feet at a time. However, the spotted lanternfly is an excellent hitchhiker and can travel on almost any kind of transportation for several miles, which has caused it to spread to several states.



LDD Treatments Recommended For 2024

The Department announced in late December that it is recommending more than 3,000 acres to be treated in New Jersey as part of the *Lymantria dispar dispar* (formerly gypsy moth) suppression program. A statewide aerial defoliation survey of over 2.2 million acres identified gypsy moth populations impacting near-

ly 16,000 acres of residential and municipal forestlands in 14 counties and 52 municipalities. From follow up ground surveys, 1,458 acres of municipal and 1,720 acres of state-owned lands in seven municipalities in Burlington, Cape May, Passaic, and Sussex counties are targeted for treatments during the spring of 2024.



Beneficial Insect Lab Production Saves Cash, Crops



Phillip Alampi Beneficial Insect Laboratory (PABIL) staff reared more than 1.5 million adults and more than 122,000 weevil beneficial parasitoids to control various agricultural plant pests and invasive plants. That includes field staff releasing nearly 15,000 egg and larval parasitoids of Emerald Ash Borer in Bergen, Sussex, and Warren counties.

It is estimated that these biological controls save New Jersey farmers approximately \$450,000 annually for not having to treat crops with chemicals, while also helping preserve the environment. The Mexican Bean Beetle Program protects more than 100,000 acres from the invasive pest without the need for treating against the pest.

One of the Department's primary goals is to safeguard the state's agricultural and natural resources from injurious pests and diseases. The NJDA has been developing and implementing biological control programs to help farmers control plant pests since the 1920's, starting with the Japanese beetle.

The Department's 21,000 square-foot state-of-the-art beneficial insect rearing laboratory was constructed in 1985. Designed for biological pest control, the facility allows state entomologists to develop insect rearing techniques and mass produce beneficial insects to be used to help reduce insect and weed populations below economic levels. Construction of this building made it possible for the Department's Division of Plant Industry to simultaneously mass produce a variety of beneficial insect species for control of many different species of pest insects and weeds.

Agreement With Rutgers, Stockton Paves Way For Hemp Development

In an agreement with Rutgers University and Stockton University, \$600,000 of funding was provided to develop technologies that would develop hemp bio-plastics creating a more sustainable hemp industry in the State.

Rutgers is focused on the agronomic aspects of the hemp crop, while Stockton is concentrating on the processing aspects of the program.

The New Jersey hemp program licensed 33 growers, 14 processors and four handlers for the 2023 growing year. The program included a total of 31,864 square feet of indoor and 17 acres of outdoor growth being produced.

The New Jersey Hemp

Farming Act was enacted in August 2019. This new legislation complies with the 2018 Farm Bill, which authorized hemp producers to grow and sell hemp for commercial purposes.

On December 27, 2019, New Jersey was among the first three states to have its Hemp Program approved by the USDA. Industrial hemp (cannabis sativa) was a major crop in America starting in the Colonial period, and was used for textiles, paper and rope, and continues to this day to be used in fiberboard, construction materials, protein for humans and livestock, lubricating oils and energy-producing biomass.



STATE AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE



Susan Payne
Executive Director

The State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) leads in the preservation of New Jersey's farmland and promotes innovative approaches to maintaining the viability of agriculture. The SADC administers the Farmland Preservation Program, providing grants to counties, municipalities and nonprofit groups to fund the purchase of development easements on farmland; directly purchasing farms and development easements from landowners; and offering grants to landowners in the program to fund up to 50 percent of the cost on projects, such as deer fencing.

It also administers the Right to Farm Program, oversees the Transfer of Development Rights Bank, and operates the Farm Link Program, which helps connect farm owners with farmers seeking access to farmland and farming opportunities. The SADC consists of 11 members – six citizens appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, and five ex-officio members. Four citizen members must be active farmers.



Farmland Preservation Reaches 40th Year

The state's farmland preservation program marked its 40th year in 2023. It is administered by the State Agriculture Development Committee and the County Agriculture Development Boards and was established with the Agricultural Retention Act of 1983. The program has since accelerated throughout New Jersey as there are now more than 250,000 preserved acres, one third of the farmland in the State.

Overall, the total of preserved farmland in New Jersey is at 250,192 acres on 2,850 farms in 186 municipalities that have been permanently preserved under the program. In terms of number of acres preserved, Salem County continues to be the leader at 43,374 acres, followed by Hunterdon County at 36,075 and Burlington County at 29,642. Hunterdon County is the leader in the number of farms preserved with 466 followed by Salem County at 409 and Warren County at 316.

Burlington County has the most municipalities with preserved land at 21, followed by Warren County and Hunterdon County each with 19.

The counties with the largest average farm size that is preserved are Burlington at 121 acres, Salem at 106 acres, Atlantic and Sussex each at 105 acres, and Cumberland at 94 acres.

There are valuable incentives for landowners to participate in the Farmland Preservation Program.

The program can help them meet their financial goals, provide them with the capital to expand their existing operations, eliminate or



reduce their debt load, or further their estate or retirement planning.

Participants in the program are eligible to apply for cost-sharing grants to fund soil and water conservation projects.

The SADC's State Acquisition program accepts applications year-round. Farms are prioritized by size and quality based on average census acres by county.

If your farm has at least 50 percent of its acreage tillable and the size is over the following acreage, it could be prioritized for preservation: Atlantic (48 acres), Bergen (10), Burlington (78), Camden (35), Cape May (37), Cumberland (88), Gloucester (63), Hunterdon (47), Mercer (58), Middlesex (55), Monmouth (35), Morris (26), Ocean (24), Passaic (15), Salem (94), Somerset (59), Sussex (44) and Warren (60).

Land Acquisition In Warren County Prevents Warehouse Development

The State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) announced in November that it had reached an agreement to purchase land that was slated for warehouse development in Warren County. The agreement was for approximately 570 acres of farmland owned by Jaindl Land Co. The purchase is part of the SADC's recent efforts to target the preservation of high-quality, strategically located farms to prevent significant adverse impacts on the surrounding agricultural area and host communities that could have been caused by development.

"The Jaindl property is a prime example of this initiative," said SADC Executive Director Susan Payne. "The property

consists of a large tract of highly productive farmland located within Warren County's designated Agricultural Development Area (ADA) and the environmentally sensitive planning areas of the Highlands."

New Jersey farmland is typically preserved through the sale of a development easement on farmland, in which the landowner is paid to restrict the land to only agricultural uses in the future. In those cases, the landowner retains ownership of the farm. Jaindl chose to sell the farmland to the state rather than establishing an easement. The SADC will then resell the farmland at a public auction with deed restrictions in place.

Special Occasion

Events Law

Offers Benefits

The Special Occasion Events bill became law in February and recognizes the positive effects that holding special occasion events (SOEs) on preserved farms can have, under certain conditions. Among these are helping sustain the agricultural industry, enhancing the growing demand for agritourism activities on farmland, and improving the viability of the state's farm operations without displacing agricultural or horticultural use



of the land, or disrupting neighborhoods that surround preserved farms. An SOE is a cultural or social event, including a wedding, held on preserved farmland. SOEs do not include the following: activities eligible for Right to Farm Act protection; recreational uses already permitted under the farmland preservation deed of easement; and weddings held for the owner, operator, or employee of the commercial farm or weddings held for certain family members of the commercial farm owner.

The owner or operator of a preserved farm that is also a "commercial farm" may apply to hold SOEs. The preserved farmland must produce agricultural or horticultural products worth \$10,000 or more annually to qualify to hold SOEs. If the applicant to hold SOEs is a farm operator, and not the farm owner, the operator must obtain written authorization from the owner to apply.

Farm owners or operators can receive approval to hold up to 26 SOEs per calendar year on the preserved farm. Up to six of the SOEs may have 250 or more guests in attendance at any time during the event. If a farm holds more than one SOE on the same day, only one of the SOEs on that day may have 100 or more guests.









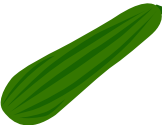



SADC, Mercer County Partner To Preserve Historic Kerr Farmland

The New Jersey Farmland Preservation Program and Mercer County jointly announced the preservation of the Kerr farm, a historic stretch of farmland containing 355 acres of productive farmland located on Bear Tavern Road in Hopewell Township, Mercer County. The farmland was preserved by Mercer County as four separate farms owned by various Kerr Family members and was made possible through a grant provided by the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC), the agency that administers the state program, in addition to county preservation funds. The project also includes an open space component with a 28.5-acre conservation easement area that will provide public access along Jacobs Creek.

The Kerr family's heritage on this land began in the 1930s when they purchased the farm. The land is both agriculturally and historically significant, as it is located adjacent to the fabled Jacobs Creek, where George Washington and 1,800 cold and weary troops endured their only major stream crossing on the way to the infamous Battle of Trenton, with horses and artillery in tow.

The land rises from Jacobs Creek, located on a ridge, and is how the estate got its name, "Kerr Ridge Farm." The property is part of the Jacobs Creek Crossing Rural Historic District, with the original houses dating back to the 1700s. The fourth generation of the Kerr family currently operates the farm, which will now remain in agriculture forever.

New Jersey is a National Top Ten Producer of Fruits and Vegetables

2022 Statistics	Produce	Rank	Production	Production Value	Acres
	eggplant	1st	26.4 million lbs.	\$6.1 million	760
	tomatoes*	3rd	73.4 million lbs.	\$47.3 million	2,800
	cranberries	3rd	56.1 million lbs.	\$19.9 million	2,800
	spinach	4th	20 million lbs.	\$4.9 million	2,000
	bell peppers	4th	96.9 million lbs.	\$52.6 million	3,500
	asparagus	4th	4.1 million lbs.	\$10.6 million	1,700
	squash	6th	31.2 million lbs.	\$16.4 million	2,700
	peaches	7th	18 million lbs.	\$18.9 million	3,600
	cucumbers*	7th	44.1 million lbs.	\$12.4 million	2,100
	blueberries	8th	34.3 million lbs.	\$68.9 million	7,300
	sweet corn*	9th	63.6 million lbs.	\$26.7 million	7,500
	snap beans*	9th	7.5 million lbs.	\$4.2 million	1,600

* New Jersey was not measured in the national summary report for that crop in 2022. Ranking based on comparison with national annual summary



New Jersey Agricultural Statistics

National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA
Hubert Hamer, Administrator

and

New Jersey Department of Agriculture
Joe Atchison III, Assistant Secretary

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New Jersey: Field Crops, Weights, Measures, and Conversion Factors

Crop and Unit	Approximate Net Weight	
	lbs	kgs
Corn:		
Ear, Husked Bushel	70	31.8
Shelled Bushel	56	25.4
Hay Square Bale	40-50	18.2-22.7
Oats Bushel	32	14.5
Potatoes Sack	100	45.4
Rye Bushel	56	25.4
Soybeans Bushel	60	27.2
Sweet Potatoes Box	25	11.4
Wheat Bushel	60	27.2

New Jersey: Vegetables, Fruit, and Berries, Unit of Sale, Average Weight, and Number of Packages Used in Converting to Carlot Equivalents

Crop and Unit of Sale	Average Weight Per Unit	Package Per Carlot Equivalent	
	Pounds	Units	Cwt
Vegetables			
Asparagus Crate, 12 bunches	28	1,050	294
Beets, topped Bushel	50	700	350
Broccoli Crate, 12-14 bunches	21	900	189
Cabbage Crate or sack	50	600	300
Carrots, topped Bushel	50	1,000	500
Cauliflower Crate	50	400	200
Celery Crate, 3-4 dozen	60	600	360
Cucumber Bushel	55	700	385
Eggplant 1 1 / 9 bushel crate	33	750	248
Escarole & Endive 1 1 / 9 bushel crate	25	850	213
Lettuce, Head Crate, 24 heads	50	825	413
Onions, dry Sack	50	800	400
Peppers, Bell Bushel	28	850	238
Snap Beans Bushel	30	850	255
Spinach Bushel	25	850	213
Sweet Corn Crate, 50 ears	42	725	305
Tomatoes Carton	25	2,000	500
Fruit and Berries			
Apples Bushels or carton	42	900	378
Blueberries Flat, 12 pints	11	1,400	154
Cranberries Barrel	100	---	---
Peaches 1 / 2 bushel or carton	25	900	342

Source: Fruit and Vegetable Market News Service, AMS, US Department of Agriculture.



Rank of New Jersey Counties for Selected Items – 2017 Census

Item	1	2	3	4	5
Field Crop Harvested Acres					
Corn for grain	Salem	Warren	Hunterdon	Cumberland	Gloucester
All hay	Hunterdon	Sussex	Warren	Salem	Somerset
Soybeans for beans	Salem	Burlington	Cumberland	Gloucester	Warren
Orchard and Berry Acres					
Land in orchards	Cumberland	Gloucester	Salem	Monmouth/Mercer ¹	Hunterdon
Blueberry	Atlantic	Burlington	Camden	Cumberland	Monmouth
All berries	Atlantic	Burlington	Camden	Cumberland	Gloucester
Nurseries					
Number of nurseries	Monmouth	Hunterdon	Morris	Burlington	Cumberland
Nursery stock acreage in the open	Burlington	Hunterdon	Cumberland	Gloucester	Salem
Livestock					
Number of horses on farms	Hunterdon	Monmouth	Burlington	Sussex	Salem
Number of cattle and calves	Salem	Warren	Hunterdon	Sussex	Gloucester
Number of milk cows	Salem	Gloucester	Sussex	Warren	Mercer

--- Other counties not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

¹ Tied in ranking.

Rank of States for Selected Items – 2022

Item	1	2	3	4	5
Crop Harvested Acres					
Blueberries	Washington	Georgia	Michigan	Oregon	California
Cranberries	Wisconsin	Massachusetts	New Jersey	Oregon	
Peaches ¹	California	South Carolina	Georgia	New Jersey	Pennsylvania
Peppers, bell	Florida	California	New Jersey	Georgia	North Carolina

¹ Bearing acres.

New Jersey: Field Crops, Usual Planting and Harvesting Dates

Crop	Usual Planting Dates			Usual Harvesting Dates		
	Begin	Most Active	End	Begin	Most Active	End
Corn for grain	Apr 15	May 1 - May 20	June 15	Sep 25	Oct 10 - Nov 1	Nov 15
Corn for silage	Apr 15	May 1 - May 20	Jul 1	Aug 30	Sep 10 - Sep 30	Nov 20
Hay, alfalfa	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	May 15	(NA)	Nov 1
Hay, other	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	May 10	(NA)	Oct 15
Potatoes, summer ..	Apr 20	May 1 - May 20	Jun 1	Jul 10	Jul 20 - Sep 30	Oct 15
Soybeans	May 10	May 20 - Jul 1	Jul 10	Oct 1	Oct 1 - Nov 10	Nov 15
Sweet potatoes	May 10	May 20 - Jun 20	Jul 10	Sep 10	Sep 20 - Nov 10	Nov 20
Wheat, winter	Sep 30	Oct 5 - Oct 20	Nov 1	Jun 25	Jul 1 - Jul 10	Jul 15

(NA) Not available.



Field Crop Summary – New Jersey: 2022

Crop and Units	Acres Harvested	Yield per Acre	Production	Season Average Price per Unit	Value of Production	
					Total	Per Acre
			<i>1,000</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>	<i>dollars</i>
Corn for Grainbu	67,000	115	7,705	6.65	51,238	765
Corn for Silageton	6,000	16.0	96	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
All Hayton	109,000	1.99	217	160	34,622	318
Alfalfa Hayton	13,000	2.70	35	230	8,050	619
Other Hayton	96,000	1.90	182	146	26,572	277
Soybeans for Beansbu	108,000	28	3,024	13.80	41,731	386
Winter Wheatbu	22,000	70	1,540	7.70	11,858	539

(NA) Not available.

Fruit Crop Summary — New Jersey: 2022

Crop and Units	Acres Bearing/ Harvested	Yield per Acre	Utilized Production	Season Average Price per Unit	Value of Production	
					Total	Per Acre
			<i>1,000</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>	<i>dollars</i>
Blueberries lbs	7,300	4,750	34,290	2.010	68,909	9,440
Cranberries barrels	2,800	201.2	561.3	35.50	19,940	7,121
Peaches tons	3,600	2.50	9	2,100.00	18,900	5,250

Principal Vegetables Crop Summary – New Jersey: 2022 ¹

Crop, Estimate Date, and Unit	Acres Harvested	Yield per Acre	Production		Season Average Price per Unit	Value of Utilized Production	
			Total	Utilized		Total	Per Acre
	<i>acres</i>	<i>cwt</i>	<i>1,000 cwt</i>	<i>1,000 cwt</i>	<i>dollars/cwt</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>	<i>dollars</i>
Principal Vegetables							
AsparagusJan-Jun cwt	1,600	26	41.6	41.4	255.00	10,567	6,604
Cabbage ²Jan-Dec cwt	1,400	360	504.0	504.0	24.70	12,449	8,892
Collards ²Jan-Dec cwt	650	200	130.0	130.0	38.10	4,953	7,620
Cucumber ²July-Dec cwt	2,100	210	441.0	441.0	28.00	12,348	5,880
Eggplant ²July-Dec cwt	765	345	264.0	264.0	23.00	6,072	7,937
Escarole & Endive ² ... Jan-Dec cwt	237	245	58.0	58.0	30.00	1,740	7,342
Herbs ^{2,3}Jan-Dec cwt	1,700	93	158.0	158.0	75.00	11,850	6,971
Kale ²Jan-Dec cwt	950	220	209.0	209.0	41.20	8,611	9,064
Lettuce, All ^{2,4}Jan-Dec cwt	1,150	245	282.0	282.0	41.30	11,647	10,128
Parsley ² Jan-Dec cwt	600	122	73.0	73.0	61.40	4,482	7,470
Peppers, Bell..... July-Dec..... cwt	3,400	285	969.0	968.0	54.40	52,624	15,478
Pumpkins ²July-Dec..... cwt	1,700	56	95.0	95.0	54.00	5,130	3,018
Snap Beans ² Jan-Dec cwt	1,500	50	75.0	75.0	56.40	4,230	2,820
Spinach..... Jan-Dec cwt	1,900	105	199.5	199.1	24.40	4,862	2,559
Squash, SummerJuly-Dec cwt	1,450	123	179.0	178.7	56.20	10,043	6,926
Squash, WinterJuly-Dec..... cwt	1,150	116	133.0	133.0	48.00	6,384	5,551
Sweet Corn ² July-Dec..... cwt	7,400	86	636.0	636.0	42.00	26,712	3,610
Tomatoes ²July-Dec..... cwt	2,700	272	734.0	734.0	64.40	47,270	17,507
Total - 18 market crops.....	32,352	---	5,181.1	5,179.2	---	241,974	7,479

¹ Preliminary.

² Not in the Federal Estimating Program, state estimates only.

³ Includes arugula, basil, chives, coriander, cress, fennel, sage, thyme, etc., excludes parsley.

⁴ Includes head lettuce, Romaine, and other lettuce.

Corn for Grain Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value – New Jersey: 2018-2022

Year	Area planted ¹	Area harvested	Yield per acre	Production	Price per bushel ²	Value of production ³
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>bushels</i>	<i>1,000 bushels</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2018	70	60	141.0	8,460	3.90	32,994
2019	77	68	155.0	10,540	4.30	45,322
2020	80	73	156.0	11,388	5.70	64,912
2021	78	72	163.0	11,736	6.48	76,049
2022	76	67	115.0	7,705	6.65	51,238

¹ Area planted includes corn planted for both grain and silage.

² Marketing year average price.

³ Based on final State marketing year average price for years prior to 2022; for 2022, based on preliminary State marketing year average.

Corn for Silage Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value – New Jersey: 2018-2022

Year	Area planted ¹	Area harvested	Yield per acre	Production	Price per ton ²	Value of production
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>tons</i>	<i>1,000 tons</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2018	(NA)	6	19.0	114	(NA)	(NA)
2019	(NA)	7	22.0	154	(NA)	(NA)
2020	(NA)	6	20.0	120	(NA)	(NA)
2021	(NA)	5	20.0	100	(NA)	(NA)
2022	(NA)	6	16.0	96	(NA)	(NA)

(NA) Not available.

¹ For area planted, see corn for grain table.

² Marketing year average price.

Soybeans for Beans Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value – New Jersey: 2018-2022

Year	Area planted	Area harvested	Yield per acre	Production	Price per bushel ¹	Value of production ²
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>bushels</i>	<i>1,000 bushels</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2018	110	107	39.5	4,227	7.98	33,731
2019	95	92	37.0	3,404	8.45	28,764
2020	94	93	46.0	4,278	11.50	49,197
2021	100	99	46.0	4,554	12.90	58,747
2022	110	108	28.0	3,024	13.80	41,731

¹ Marketing year average price.

² Based on final State marketing year average price for years prior to 2022; for 2022, based on preliminary State marketing year average.

Winter Wheat Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value – New Jersey: 2018-2022

Year	Area planted	Area harvested	Yield per acre	Production	Price per bushel ¹	Value of production ²
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>bushels</i>	<i>1,000 bushels</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2018	18	15	62.0	930	4.90	4,557
2019	19	14	66.0	924	4.95	4,574
2020	25	18	67.0	1,206	5.80	6,995
2021	23	16	67.0	1,072	7.35	7,879
2022	26	22	70.0	1,540	7.70	11,858

¹ Marketing year average price.

² Based on final State marketing year average price for years prior to 2022; for 2022, based on preliminary State marketing year average.

Alfalfa Hay Area Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value – New Jersey: 2018-2022

Year	Area harvested	Yield per acre	Production	Price per ton ¹	Value of production
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>tons</i>	<i>1,000 tons</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2018.....	9	3.40	31	214.00	6,634
2019.....	11	3.20	35	224.00	7,840
2020.....	16	2.70	43	240.00	10,320
2021.....	13	3.40	44	230.00	10,120
2022.....	13	2.70	35	230.00	8,050

¹ Marketing year average price.

Other Hay Area Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value – New Jersey: 2018-2022

Year	Area harvested	Yield per acre	Production	Price per ton ¹	Value of production
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>tons</i>	<i>1,000 tons</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2018.....	105	1.80	189	182.00	34,398
2019.....	80	1.90	152	179.00	27,208
2020.....	90	1.70	153	169.00	25,857
2021.....	85	2.00	170	140.00	23,800
2022.....	96	1.90	182	146.00	26,572

¹ Marketing year average price.

All Hay Area Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value – New Jersey: 2018-2022

Year	Area harvested	Yield per acre	Production	Price per ton ¹	Value of production
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>tons</i>	<i>1,000 tons</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2018.....	114	1.93	220	186.00	41,032
2019.....	91	2.05	187	187.00	35,048
2020.....	106	1.85	196	185.00	36,177
2021.....	98	2.18	214	159.00	33,920
2022.....	109	1.99	217	160.00	34,622

¹ Marketing year average price. All hay price is based on weighted sales, not production.



Soybean Acreage, Yield, and Production, by County – New Jersey: 2021

County	Planted	Harvested	Yield	Production
	<i>acres</i>	<i>acres</i>	<i>bushels</i>	<i>bushels</i>
Atlantic	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Bergen.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Burlington.....	21,200	21,100	44.2	933,000
Camden.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Cape May.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Cumberland	12,000	11,800	42.3	499,000
Essex.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Gloucester.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Hudson.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Hunterdon	5,500	5,490	42.3	232,000
Mercer.....	4,100	4,050	48.6	197,000
Middlesex	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Monmouth	4,200	4,160	44.7	186,000
Morris	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Ocean.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Passaic	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Salem	25,900	25,800	48.1	1,240,000
Somerset	1,900	1,880	33.9	63,800
Sussex	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Union	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Warren	9,400	9,250	57.2	529,000
Other Counties.....	15,800	15,470	43.6	674,200
New Jersey.....	100,000	99,000	46.0	4,554,000

¹ Represents zero or is included in Other counties.

Soybean Acreage, Yield, and Production, by County – New Jersey: 2022

County	Planted	Harvested	Yield	Production
	<i>acres</i>	<i>acres</i>	<i>bushels</i>	<i>bushels</i>
Atlantic	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Bergen	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Burlington.....	22,700	22,600	33.7	761,000
Camden.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Cape May	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Cumberland	10,800	10,700	24.8	265,000
Essex.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Gloucester.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Hudson	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Hunterdon.....	7,800	7,660	28.3	217,000
Mercer	4,500	4,470	22.1	98,900
Middlesex	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Monmouth	5,700	5,640	21.6	122,000
Morris	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Ocean.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Passaic	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Salem.....	27,200	27,000	27.8	751,000
Somerset.....	2,300	2,200	19.5	43,000
Sussex.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Union.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Warren.....	11,300	11,000	33.5	369,000
Other Counties.....	17,700	16,730	23.7	397,100
New Jersey.....	110,000	108,000	28.0	3,024,000

¹ Represents zero or is included in Other Counties.

Floriculture: Selected Crops and State Totals – New Jersey: 2022

Growers with Gross Value of Sales	Number of Growers	Covered Area	Total Value of Sales ¹
	<i>number</i>	<i>1,000 square feet</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
\$100,000 and over	128	21,464	335,256
\$10,000 - \$99,999	144	1,399	6,909
Total.....	272	22,863	342,165

¹ Total value of sales as reported by growers with \$100,000 or more in sales of floriculture crops plus a calculated value of sales for growers with sales below \$100,000. The value of sales for growers below the \$100,000 level was estimated by multiplying the number of growers in each size group by the mid-point of each dollar value range.

Growing Area: By Type of Cover – New Jersey: 2022

Type of Cover	All Operations with \$10,000+ Sales	All Operations with \$100,000+ Sales
	<i>1,000 square feet</i>	<i>1,000 square feet</i>
Total Greenhouse Cover	21,682	20,372
Glass Greenhouses	5,773	5,662
Fiberglass and Other Rigid Greenhouses	931	826
Film Plastic Greenhouse	14,978	13,884
Shade and Temporary Cover.....	1,181	1,092
Total Covered Area.....	22,863	21,464

Floriculture: Selected Crops and State Totals – New Jersey: 2022

Plant Type and Units for Quantity Sold	Operations with \$100,000+ Sales		
	Growers	Quantity Sold	Total Value of Sales
	<i>number</i>	<i>1,000 units</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
Bedding/Garden Plants, Total ¹			192,465
Annuals			116,929
Hanging Baskets, Geraniums (Cuttings)..... Baskets	54	505	5,057
Hanging Baskets, Impatiens (Other)..... Baskets	19	236	1,769
Hanging Baskets, New Guinea Impatiens..... Baskets	47	223	2,509
Hanging Baskets, Petunias..... Baskets	55	718	6,789
Impatiens (Other)..... Flats	43	474	4,255
Petunias..... Flats	52	271	3,078
Marigolds..... Flats	57	278	2,954
Geraniums (Cuttings)..... Pots	69	2,310	6,940
New Guinea Impatiens..... Pots	58	1,471	3,667
Pansies/Violas..... Pots	41	2,251	6,205
Potted Herbaceous Perennials			75,536
Hardy/Garden Chrysanthemums..... Pots	60	6,029	21,652
Hostas..... Pots	37	1,688	7,468
Other Potted Herbaceous Perennials..... Pots	45	4,992	30,311
Flowering Plants, For Indoor Patio Use, Total			58,855
Lilies, Easter..... Pots	17	342	1,769
Poinsettias..... Pots	39	1,725	11,723

¹ Includes annual bedding plants and herbaceous perennials.

Blueberry, Cultivated Area Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value – New Jersey: 2018-2022

Year	Area harvested	Yield per acre ¹	Production		Price per pound ²	Value of utilized production
			Total	Utilized		
	<i>acres</i>	<i>pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2018.....	9,000	4,940	44,500	44,010	1.420	62,441
2019.....	9,200	5,090	46,800	45,590	1.850	84,407
2020.....	8,400	5,350	44,900	44,460	1.690	75,098
2021.....	7,200	6,020	43,300	42,440	1.840	77,910
2022.....	7,300	4,750	34,700	34,290	2.010	68,909

¹ Yield is based on total production.

² Marketing year average price.

Blueberry, Cultivated Utilization, Price, and Value by Utilization – New Jersey: 2018-2022

Year	Fresh			Processed		
	Quantity	Price per pound ¹	Value of production	Quantity	Price per pound ¹	Value of production
	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2018.....	35,960	1.620	58,255	8,050	0.520	4,186
2019.....	37,630	2.150	80,905	7,960	0.440	3,502
2020.....	37,810	1.900	71,839	6,650	0.490	3,259
2021.....	32,350	2.190	70,847	10,090	0.700	7,063
2022.....	30,260	2.180	65,967	4,030	0.730	2,942

¹ Marketing year average price.



Cranberry Area Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value - New Jersey: 2018-2022

[Net pounds per barrel: 100]

Year	Area harvested	Yield per acre ¹	Production		Price per barrel ²	Value of utilized production
			Total	Utilized		
	<i>acres</i>	<i>barrels</i>	<i>barrels</i>	<i>barrels</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2018	3,100	165.3	512,000	508,420	29.30	14,886
2019	2,700	196.0	529,000	490,390	37.80	18,523
2020	3,000	177.0	531,000	528,310	39.30	20,771
2021	2,900	203.0	589,000	588,420	39.60	23,283
2022	2,800	201.2	563,000	561,300	35.50	19,940

¹ Yield is based on total production.

² Marketing year average price.

Peach Bearing Acreage, Yield, Production, Price, and Value – New Jersey: 2018-2022

Year	Bearing acreage	Yield per acre ¹	Production		Price per ton ²	Value of utilized production
			Total	Utilized		
	<i>acres</i>	<i>tons</i>	<i>tons</i>	<i>tons</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2018	4,100	5.60	23,000	23,000	1,780.00	41,048
2019	3,900	5.00	19,500	17,980	1,430.00	25,657
2020	3,800	2.00	7,600	7,600	2,850.00	21,660
2021	3,600	3.80	13,700	13,690	2,610.00	35,731
2022	3,600	2.50	9,000	9,000	2,100.00	18,900

¹ Yield is based on total production.

² Marketing year average price.

New Jersey: Fruits and Berries, Usual Full Bloom and Harvesting Dates

Crop	Usual Full Bloom Dates			Usual Harvesting Dates		
	Begin	Most Active	End	Begin	Most Active	End
Apples	Apr 12	(NA)	Apr 20	Jul 15	Sep 1 - Oct 25	Oct 31
Blueberries	Apr 15	(NA)	May 15	Jun 15	Jun 27 - Jul 11	Aug 15
Cranberries	Jun 1	(NA)	Jul 15	Sep 10	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Nov 18
Grapes	May 20	(NA)	Jun 10	Aug 20	Sep 10 - Sep 20	Oct 10
Peaches	Apr 7	(NA)	Apr 15	Jul 5	Jul 20 - Aug 31	Sep 15
Strawberries	May 1	(NA)	May 10	May 20	Jun 1 - Jun 31	Jul 10

(NA) Not available.



Cattle and Calves Number on Farms, January 1, Inventory Value and Value per Head – New Jersey: 2019-2023

Year	Cows and Heifers that have calved		Heifers 500 lbs. and over			Bulls	Steers	Calves	All Cattle and Calves		
	Kept for milk	Kept for beef	For milk replacement	For beef replacement	Other heifers	500 lbs. and over	500 lbs. and over	500 lbs. and less	Number	Value per head	Total value
	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dol.</i>
2019.....	5.5	9.5	3.3	2.5	0.7	1.0	2.5	5.0	30.0	1,100	33,000
2020.....	4.7	9.3	3.1	2.2	1.2	1.0	2.0	4.5	28.0	1,000	28,000
2021.....	4.4	8.6	2.9	1.6	0.9	0.7	1.9	4.0	25.0	970	24,250
2022.....	4.2	7.8	2.8	1.5	1.2	0.7	2.2	3.6	24.0	1,060	25,440
2023.....	4.1	8.9	2.2	1.6	1.1	0.6	2.5	4.0	25.0	1,090	27,250

Cattle and Calves Inventory, Supply, and Disposition – New Jersey: 2018-2022

Year	Beginning inventory January 1	Calf crop	Inshipments	Marketings ¹		Farm slaughter ²	Deaths		Ending inventory following January 1
				Cattle	Calves		Cattle	Calves	
	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>
2018.....	29.0	10.0	1.2	3.7	5.1	0.4	0.5	0.5	30.0
2019.....	30.0	10.0	1.2	6.8	5.1	0.4	0.4	0.5	28.0
2020.....	28.0	9.0	2.0	8.0	4.8	0.2	0.5	0.5	25.0
2021.....	25.0	8.0	3.9	7.8	4.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	24.0
2022.....	24.0	9.0	6.5	8.5	5.0	0.1	0.4	0.5	25.0

¹ Includes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and State outshipments, but excludes interfarm sales within the State.

² Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments.

All Cattle and Calves Production and Income – New Jersey: 2018-2022

Year	Production ¹	Marketings ²	Value of Production	Cash Receipts ³	Value of Home Consumption	Gross Income
	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2018.....	5,916	4,820	6,946	5,823	1,658	7,481
2019.....	7,303	8,338	8,031	9,101	1,654	10,755
2020.....	6,198	9,866	6,664	10,324	1,069	11,393
2021.....	6,255	9,772	7,308	11,192	890	12,082
2022.....	6,165	11,015	8,719	15,027	822	15,849

¹ Adjustments made for changes in inventory and inshipments.

² Excludes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and interfarm sales within the State.

³ Receipts from marketings and sale of farm slaughter.



Cattle Number on Farms, January 1, by County – New Jersey: 2022-2023

County	All Cattle and Calves		Milk Cows	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
	<i>head</i>	<i>head</i>	<i>head</i>	<i>head</i>
Atlantic	(D)	(D)	(¹)	(¹)
Bergen.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Burlington.....	1,100	1,100	(D)	(D)
Camden.....	(D)	(D)	(¹)	(¹)
Cape May.....	(D)	(D)	(¹)	(¹)
Cumberland	1,000	1,100	200	200
Essex.....	(D)	(D)	(¹)	(¹)
Gloucester.....	2,500	2,600	800	800
Hudson.....	(D)	(D)	(¹)	(¹)
Hunterdon.....	3,500	3,600	200	200
Mercer.....	700	700	300	300
Middlesex	(D)	(D)	(¹)	(¹)
Monmouth	400	400	(D)	(D)
Morris	500	500	(D)	(D)
Ocean.....	700	800	100	100
Passaic	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Salem	5,000	5,200	1,100	1,000
Somerset.....	1,400	1,500	(D)	(D)
Sussex	3,400	3,600	700	700
Union.....	(D)	(D)	(¹)	(¹)
Warren	3,500	3,600	600	600
Other Counties.....	300	300	200	200
New Jersey.....	24,000	25,000	4,200	4,100

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

¹ Represents zero or is included in All Other Counties.

Cattle Commercial Slaughter, by Month — New Jersey: 2021-2022 ¹

Month	2021			2022		
	Number Head	Average Live Weight	Total Live Weight	Number Head	Average Live Weight	Total Live Weight
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>
January.....	3.5	1,120	3,887	3.8	1,126	4,295
February.....	3.5	1,124	3,940	3.7	1,127	4,121
March.....	4.0	1,120	4,447	4.6	1,138	5,181
April.....	4.4	1,131	4,933	4.3	1,137	4,905
May.....	4.0	1,143	4,564	4.1	1,146	4,670
June.....	4.0	1,145	4,560	4.1	1,141	4,659
July	3.7	1,124	4,188	3.7	1,131	4,170
August.....	3.9	1,137	4,450	4.1	1,132	4,611
September.....	4.2	1,122	4,651	4.1	1,128	4,555
October	4.3	1,128	4,775	4.0	1,136	4,556
November	4.2	1,131	4,776	3.9	1,131	4,392
December.....	4.3	1,140	4,915	4.2	1,148	4,827
Total²	48.1	1,131	54,087	48.7	1,135	54,943

¹ Includes slaughter in federally inspected and other slaughter plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

² May not add due to rounding.

Hogs and Pigs Inventory by Class, December 1 – New Jersey: 2018-2022

Year	Breeding	Market	Weight Group				Sows farrowing ¹	Pigs per litter ¹	Pig crop ¹
			Under 50 pounds	50-119 pounds	120-179 pounds	180 pounds and over			
	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>
2018.....	1.0	7.5	2.0	2.1	1.6	1.8	0.8	6.25	5.0
2019.....	1.0	6.5	1.3	1.9	1.5	1.8	0.8	7.00	5.6
2020.....	1.0	6.5	1.4	1.5	1.3	2.3	0.8	6.88	5.5
2021.....	1.0	5.5	1.2	1.0	1.3	2.0	0.8	6.50	5.2
2022.....	1.1	6.4	1.8	2.1	1.2	1.3	0.8	6.38	5.1

¹ Marketing year.

Hogs and Pigs Inventory, Supply, and Disposition – New Jersey: 2018-2022

Year	Beginning inventory Dec. 1 preceding	Pig crop	Inshipments	Marketings ¹	Farm slaughter ²	Deaths	Ending inventory Dec. 1
	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>
2018.....	8.5	5.0	8.5	12.7	0.1	0.7	8.5
2019.....	8.5	5.6	7.5	13.4	0.1	0.6	7.5
2020.....	7.5	5.5	5.6	10.7	-	0.4	7.5
2021.....	7.5	5.2	6.0	11.7	0.1	0.4	6.5
2022.....	6.5	5.1	4.0	7.6	0.1	0.4	7.5

- Represents zero.

¹ Includes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and State outshipments, but excludes interfarm sales within the State.

² Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments.

Hogs and Pigs Production, Marketings, and Income — New Jersey: 2018-2022

[Dollar values based on data received from United States Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service.]

Year	Production ¹	Marketings ²	Value of production ³	Cash receipts ^{3 4}	Value of home consumption	Gross income
	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2018.....	836	1,204	89	616	76	692
2019.....	1,015	1,195	521	609	125	734
2020.....	924	1,160	418	563	32	595
2021.....	825	1,216	785	818	34	852
2022.....	534	717	414	506	56	562

¹ Adjustments made for changes in inventory and for inshipments.

² Excludes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and interfarm sales within the State.

³ Includes allowance for higher average price of State inshipments and outshipments of feeder pigs.

⁴ Receipts from marketings and sale of farm slaughter.



Honey Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price, and Value — New Jersey: 2018-2022

[Producers with 5 or more colonies.]

Year	Honey producing colonies ¹	Yield per colony	Production	Stocks on December 15 ²	Average price per pound ³	Value of production ⁴
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2018	13	31	403	165	7.47	3,010
2019	15	28	420	155	4.68	1,966
2020	14	31	434	91	4.32	1,875
2021	15	35	525	158	3.44	1,806
2022	16	39	624	62	4.00	2,496

¹ Honey producing colonies are the maximum number of colonies from which honey was harvested during the year. It is possible to harvest honey from colonies which did not survive the entire year.

² Stocks held by producers.

³ Average price per pound based on expanded sales.

⁴ Value of production is equal to production multiplied by average price per pound.

Milk Cows and Production, by Quarter – New Jersey: 2021-2022

Quarter	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>pounds</i>	<i>pounds</i>	<i>million pounds</i>	<i>million pounds</i>
Jan - Mar.....	4.4	4.3	5,455	5,349	24.0	23.0
Apr - Jun.....	4.4	4.3	5,455	5,349	24.0	23.0
Jul - Sep.....	4.2	4.3	5,000	4,884	21.0	21.0
Oct - Dec	4.2	4.1	5,000	4,878	21.0	20.0
Annual Total	4.0	4.0	22,500	21,750	90.0	87.0

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Production, Disposition, and Income – New Jersey: 2018-2022

Year	Milk Cows ¹	Milk per Cow	Total Milk Production	Disposition of Milk Produced			Prices Received ²	Gross Income ³	Value of Milk Produced ⁴
				Fed to Calves	Used for Milk, Cream and Butter	Sold			
	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>pounds</i>	<i>million pounds</i>	<i>million pounds</i>	<i>million pounds</i>	<i>million pounds</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2018.....	6.0	18,333	110.0	1.5	0.5	108.0	16.20	17,577	17,820
2019.....	5.0	20,000	100.0	1.5	0.5	98.0	18.30	18,026	18,300
2020.....	5.0	20,200	101.0	2.5	0.5	98.0	17.20	16,942	17,372
2021.....	4.0	22,500	90.0	3.5	0.5	86.0	18.60	16,089	16,740
2022.....	4.0	21,750	87.0	2.5	0.5	84.0	25.30	21,379	22,011

¹ Average number on farms during the year.

² Prices received for all milk sold wholesale per cwt.

³ Includes value of milk used for home consumption.

⁴ Includes value of milk fed to calves.

Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size – New Jersey and United States: 2018-2022 ¹

Year	New Jersey			United States		
	Number of farms	Land in farms	Average farm size	Number of farms	Land in farms	Average farm size
	<i>number</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>acres</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>acres</i>
2018	9,900	750	76	2,029,200	899,500	443
2019	9,900	750	76	2,023,400	897,400	444
2020	9,900	750	76	2,019,000	896,600	444
2021	9,900	750	76	2,012,050	895,300	445
2022	9,900	750	76	2,002,700	893,400	446

¹ A farm is any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the year.

Number of Farms and Land in Farms, by Sales Class — New Jersey: 2018-2022

Economic Sales Class	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
	<i>farms</i>	<i>farms</i>	<i>farms</i>	<i>farms</i>	<i>farms</i>
Number of Farms					
\$1,000 - \$9,999	6,400	6,400	6,400	6,400	6,400
\$10,000 - \$99,999	2,350	2,350	2,350	2,350	2,350
\$100,000 - \$249,999	450	450	450	450	450
\$250,000 - \$499,999	280	280	280	280	280
\$500,000 - \$999,999	200	200	200	200	200
\$1,000,000 and over	220	220	220	220	220
Total	9,900	9,900	9,900	9,900	9,900
	<i>acres</i>	<i>acres</i>	<i>acres</i>	<i>acres</i>	<i>acres</i>
Land in Farms					
\$1,000 - \$9,999	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000
\$10,000 - \$99,999	170,000	170,000	170,000	170,000	170,000
\$100,000 - \$249,999	110,000	110,000	110,000	110,000	110,000
\$250,000 - \$499,999	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
\$500,000 - \$999,999	90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
\$1,000,000 and over	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000	140,000
Total	750,000	750,000	750,000	750,000	750,000









