

Income and Expense

New Jersey commodity cash receipts from farm marketings totaled \$846 million for the 2003 calendar year. This was down \$23.5 million (three percent) below the 2002 cash receipts of \$869 million. Compared to 2002, decreases were reported for all fruits and berries, all livestock and products and all vegetables. All field crops and the combined cash receipts of greenhouse, nursery, sod, and Christmas trees were above 2002 levels.

Receipts for field crops in 2004 totaled \$46.8 million, up \$2 million from the previous year. Soybean cash receipts were up 38 percent, sweet potato cash receipts were up 19 percent, and hay cash receipts were up 16 percent. Wheat cash receipts were down 36 percent, potato cash receipts were down 32 percent, and corn cash receipts were down 4 percent. Other field crops were down \$6,000 from the previous year.

All vegetable cash receipts, at \$146 million, were down 15 percent from the previous year's level of \$171 million. The largest percentage decrease came from cabbage, which decreased \$5.89 million, or 55 percent below the previous year. Snap bean cash receipts, at \$2.67 million fell 43 percent from 2002. Escarole cash receipts decreased by 40 percent from the previous year to \$2.18 million. Processing vegetable cash receipts fell by 35 percent to \$4.59 million from 2002. Sweet corn cash receipts, at \$28 million, fell 30 percent from the previous year. Miscellaneous vegetables (crops not published separately) cash receipts fell by 24 percent to \$31.1 million from 2002. All lettuce cash receipts declined \$1.29 million to \$7.79 million, a 14 percent decline. Asparagus cash receipts, at \$3 million, declined 7 percent from 2002. Bell pepper cash receipts totaled \$25.6 million, a decrease of 2 percent. Spinach cash receipts for 2003 totaled \$7.56 million, a decrease of 35 percent from the previous year. Eggplant and tomato cash receipts also increased by 25 and 2 percent, respectively. Cucumber cash receipts, for 2003, increased by \$52,000 from the previous year.

All fruit cash receipts totaled \$97.4 million in 2003 compared to 99.3 million in 2002, a decrease of 2 percent. Apple cash receipts fell 13 percent below 2002 levels, to \$5.8 million. Strawberry cash receipts were down 13 percent to \$1.82 million. Peach cash receipts totaled \$24.2 million, down 4 percent from previous year. Blueberry cash receipts totaled \$45.7 million, down 2 percent from 2002 levels. Cranberry cash receipts were \$15.1 million, up 10 percent from 2002 levels.

Livestock and livestock products cash receipts totaled \$188 million in 2003 compared to the 2002 level of \$189 million. Hog cash receipts, at \$747,000 were down 11 percent from the previous year. Dairy products cash receipts totaled \$27.3 million in 2003, down 9 percent from the previous year. Other livestock cash receipts declined by 6 percent to \$4.78 million. The largest component of the livestock and livestock products cash receipts total was from the equine industry, which excludes purse and stake payments. Equine cash receipts totaled \$117 million in 2003 compared to \$123 million in 2002, a 5 percent decline. Cash receipts from all poultry and eggs were \$31.1 million, a 26 percent increase from 2002. Meat animal cash receipts, at \$7.72 million, were up 14 percent from the 2002 level of \$24.7 million.

New Jersey farm real estate values, a measurement of the value of all land and buildings on farms, averaged \$9,750 per acres as of January 1, 2004, up seven percent from the previous year. The Garden State ranked fourth among all states in the highest farm real estate value per acre. Connecticut's and Rhode Island's real estate value per acre tied for the highest value per acre in the country, at \$10,200. Massachusetts's real estate value per acre ranked third, at \$9,900 per acre. Maryland's real estate value per acre ranked fifth, at \$4,500 per acre followed by Delaware's ranking of sixth, at \$4,300 per acre.