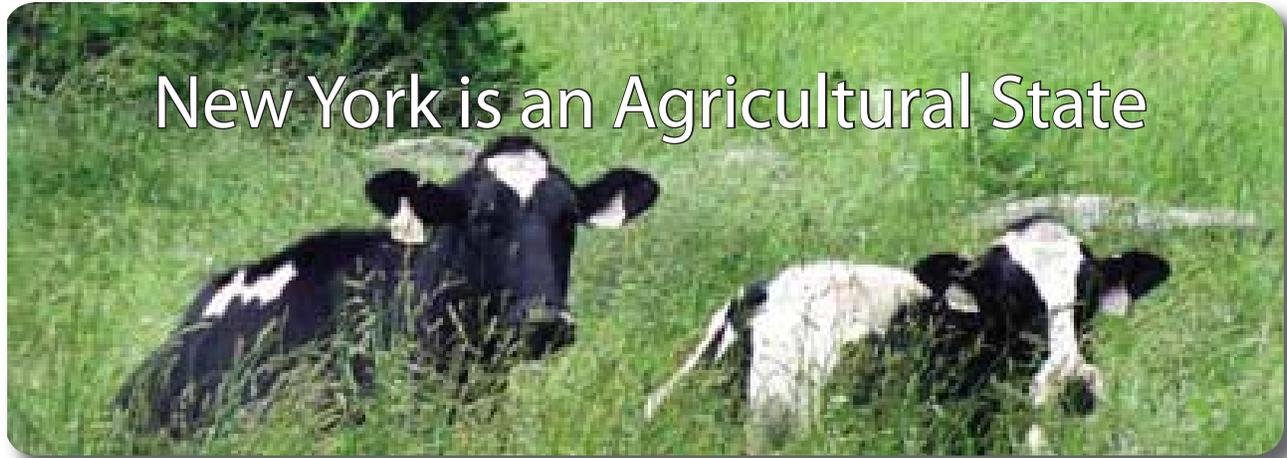


New York is an Agricultural State



Agriculture is important to New York State. Agricultural production returned almost \$4.4 billion to the farm economy in 2008. About 23 percent of the state's land area, or 7.10 million acres are used by the 36,600 farms to produce a very diverse array of food products. Here are some of the items in which New York ranks high nationally:

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Dairy and animal production in New York provided \$2.42 billion value of production to farmers in 2008.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

Milk is New York's leading agricultural product and is produced all across the state. Milk sales account for one-half of total agricultural receipts. Production in 2008 was 12.4 billion pounds with a preliminary value of \$2.3 billion. New York is the nation's 3rd leading producer and Wyoming is the State's leading county.

MEAT PRODUCTION

New York livestock producers marketed 249 million pounds of meat animals during 2008 bringing in \$157 million in cash receipts. Sales from cattle and calves accounted for \$148 million, hogs and pigs returned \$9.9 million, and sheep and lambs provided \$3.3 million.

POULTRY PRODUCTION

The receipts of New York eggs, ducks, broilers and turkeys plus the receipts for other chickens totaled \$114 million for 2008. Eggs made up \$96.6 million of the total. New York ranks 18th among all egg producing states.

CROP PRODUCTION

Field crops, fruits and vegetables returned \$1.85 billion in receipts to New York farmers in 2008.

FRUITS

The value of New York's 2008 tree fruit and grape crops totaled \$346 million, down 8 percent from the 2007 value.

Apples

New York ranks 2nd nationally with production worth about \$255 million in 2008. Three general areas produce most of the apples: along the southern Lake Ontario shore, along the Hudson Valley, and along the upper Lake Champlain Valley. New York's leading varieties are McIntosh, Empire, Red Delicious and Golden Delicious.

Grapes

Wine and juice grape production place New York 3rd behind California and Washington. The crop was worth \$58.4 million in 2008. Three-fourths of the production was for juice and one-fourth went into wines. The four major producing areas are Lake Erie area, the Finger Lakes, the Hudson Valley and the eastern end of Long Island.

Tart Cherries

Production in New York ranks 4th in the Nation. Production in 2008 totaled 9.6 million pounds with a value of \$3.88 million.

Pears

Production ranked 4th in the nation with 10,300 tons and had a value of \$4.74 million.

Strawberries

Strawberries are the 3rd most valuable fruit in New York and places New York 9th in national production. Growers harvested 4.50 million pounds in 2008. The crop was worth \$7.43 million to growers.

VEGETABLES

The value of vegetable production totaled \$468 million in 2008. Fresh market vegetable production ranks 5th among all states. Leading crops in New York are cabbage, sweet corn and onions.

Cabbage

New York produced the largest crop of cabbage in the Nation. Cabbage is principally grown south of Lake Ontario in Monroe, Genesee, Orleans, Ontario, and Niagara counties. New York cabbage is typically stored for sale as fresh during winter months. Value of the fresh market crop in 2008 totaled \$101 million.

Sweet Corn

Produced statewide, sweet corn had a value of \$73.9 million. Concentrations are found in the Lower Hudson Valley and around the Genesee Valley. Production of fresh market sweet corn crop ranked 4th in the nation.

Onions

An important crop with value of sales of \$58.9 million in 2008. Onions are grown in New York's muck soils in Orange, Orleans, Oswego, Madison and Wayne counties. The state ranked 5th in production for 2008.

Snap Beans

Grown in the Central and Western regions for fresh and processing. The 2008 fresh market and processing crop was valued at \$62 million. Fresh production accounted for 65 percent of the total value. New York ranks 4th in fresh market production.

Other Vegetables

Tomatoes: \$43.0 million, 10th nationally
Pumpkins: \$38.4 million, 1st nationally
Cucumbers: \$16.1 million, 3rd nationally
Squash: \$32.5 million, 3rd nationally
Cauliflower: \$1.7 million, 3rd nationally

FIELD CROPS

New York produces a variety of field crops largely in support of its dairy industry. Corn, oats and wheat are most widely grown with soybeans steadily increasing in importance. New York ranks 3rd in corn silage production with a value of \$352 million. Grain corn ranked 18th with production worth \$396 million. Soybeans were valued at \$85.8 million. The state placed 8th in oat production, 31st in wheat and 25th for soybeans production. Hay receipts put New York 22nd and was valued at \$362 million in 2008. Most hay is used on farms and its value is realized through sale of milk and livestock. Fall potatoes production reached a value of \$94 million in 2008 and made New York the 13th leading producer.

MAPLE SYRUP

At \$13.9 million, New York ranks 2nd behind Vermont in value. New York also ranks 3rd behind Vermont and Maine in 2009 production with 362,000 gallons.



FLORICULTURE CROPS

In 2008, New York floriculture products were valued at \$202 million. Bedding and garden plants top the list of commodities. The wholesale value of New York's floriculture output ranks 7th nationally at \$202 million. A variety of crops are produced in 23.8 million square feet of covered area and on 1,184 acres of open ground.

