

# Floriculture Crops, 2008

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**For more detailed data, see the Census of Agriculture found at [www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov)**

There were 827 growers in 2008, compared to 888 growers in 2007. The 2008 wholesale value of sales by commercial flower and foliage producers in Pennsylvania totaled \$164.7 million, down 6 percent from 2007. Pennsylvania ranked ninth nationally in wholesale sales of floriculture crops.

All values in the following tables are **wholesale equivalent** value of sales; they were derived by multiplying the average wholesale price by the total quantity sold.

The value of sales at wholesale of total bedding or garden plants for operations with over \$100,000 in sales was \$30.1 million, down \$4,185,000 from 2007. Sales of herbaceous perennials were up slightly to \$17.9 million.

The total covered growing area for Pennsylvania in 2008 was 19.0 million square feet, down 7 percent from 2007. Covered growing area included: glass greenhouses, 2.0 million square feet; fiberglass and other rigid greenhouses, 2.1 million square feet; film plastic (single/multi) greenhouses, 14.5 million square feet; and shade and temporary cover, 383,000 square feet. Growers also used 597 acres of open ground in 2008.



**About the Survey:** The Commercial Floriculture Survey is conducted annually by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) in 15 states. It is a "census" of all known operations with more than \$10,000 in floriculture sales. For operations with more than \$100,000 in sales, detailed data is collected about specific varieties.

In 2007, the greenhouse and nursery industry comprised 7 percent of all cash receipts received by agricultural producers in Pennsylvania. The annual Commercial Floriculture Survey measures one portion of this important sector of the agricultural economy. The survey is conducted at the request of the National Floriculture Industry and is endorsed locally by both the Pennsylvania Floral Industry Association and the Pennsylvania Landscape and Nursery Association.

The results of the survey are available to the public. Associations use these statistics when working with policy makers at the state and national levels. University Extension specialists justify research grants and other activities with statistics that describe the size and importance of the industry in each state. Banks and other lending institutions often use the data when evaluating loan applications. Individual producer data is kept strictly confidential and used only in combination with other reports to prepare state and national statistics. Individual information is exempted from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

Pennsylvania: Number of Growers,  
Reported Gross Value of Sales, 2007-2008

| Value of Sales                        | 2007                 | 2008    |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---------|
|                                       | <i>Number</i>        |         |
| \$10,000 - \$19,999                   | 151                  | 129     |
| \$20,000 - \$39,999                   | 166                  | 168     |
| \$40,000 - \$49,999                   | 69                   | 76      |
| \$50,000 - \$99,999                   | 280                  | 243     |
| \$100,000 - \$499,999                 | 165                  | 157     |
| \$500,000 or More                     | 57                   | 54      |
| TOTAL                                 | 888                  | 827     |
|                                       | <i>1,000 Dollars</i> |         |
| Expanded wholesale value <sup>1</sup> | 176,178              | 164,727 |

<sup>1</sup> Wholesale value of sales as reported by growers with \$100,000 or more in sales of floriculture crops plus a calculated wholesale 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.

Pennsylvania: Growing Area by Type of Cover,  
All Operations with \$10,000+ Sales, 2007-2008

| Type of Cover                           | 2007                     | 2008   |
|---|--------------------------|--------|
|   | <i>Number</i>            |        |
| Total number of growers                 | 888                      | 827    |
|   | <i>1,000 Square Feet</i> |        |
| Glass greenhouses                       | 2,319                    | 2,039  |
| Fiberglass & other rigid greenhouses    | 1,993                    | 2,073  |
| Film plastic (single/multi) greenhouses | 15,632                   | 14,520 |
| TOTAL GREENHOUSE COVER                  | 19,944                   | 18,632 |
| Shade and temporary cover               | 420                      | 383    |
| TOTAL COVERED AREA                      | 20,364                   | 19,015 |
|   | <i>Acres</i>             |        |
| Open ground                             | 668                      | 597    |