



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE
4050 Crums Mill Rd, Harrisburg PA 17112



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 30, 2015

Contact: Mark Linstedt
(717) 657-6309

PENNSYLVANIA 2014 ORGANIC SURVEY RESULTS

HARRISBURG, PA - The USDA/NASS released the results of the 2014 Organic Survey, which shows that 679 certified and exempt organic farms in Pennsylvania sold a total of \$313.5 million in organic products in 2014, up 32 percent since 2008, according to King Whetstone, Director of the Northeastern Regional Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Pennsylvania accounted for 5.7 percent of the U.S. organic sales in 2014. Additionally, the industry shows potential for growth in production as approximately 245 organic producers (37 percent) report they intend to increase organic production in Pennsylvania over the next 5 years.

The selection of organic products sold by Pennsylvania farms in 2014 was diverse, from dairy, livestock and poultry, to fruits, vegetables and grains. Some of the top commodity groups in organic sales were:

- Livestock and Poultry -- \$112.5 million
- Livestock and Poultry Products -- \$109.6 million
- Mushrooms -- \$42.2 million
- Vegetables -- \$29.4 million

Additionally, 77 percent of Pennsylvania's organic farms reported selling products to wholesale markets. These sales accounted for 92 percent of Pennsylvania's organic farm sales. Wholesale markets, such as buyers for supermarkets, processors, distributors, packers and cooperatives, were serving as the marketing channel of choice for Pennsylvania organic farmers to get organic agriculture products to customers.

The complete 2014 Organic Survey report is available online at:
http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2012/Online_Resources/Organics/index.php.

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