Top Five Equine Counties

1. Rutherford  9,500  
2. Wilson       7,600  
3. Williamson   6,500  
4. Bedford      6,000  
5. Marshall     5,700  

For complete results of the 2004 Tennessee Equine Survey please visit our website,  
http://www.nass.usda.gov/tn
2004 Tennessee Equine Survey Highlights

- Tennessee’s equine inventory (horses, donkeys, and mules) totaled 210,000 head on January 1, 2004.

- The state’s top breed was Tennessee Walkers, followed by Quarter Horses with the two combining for more than half (52 percent) of the State’s total equine.

- Equine are found on 41,000 operations, with the majority (67 percent) of operations having less than five equine. Collectively, these operations were caretakers for 3.2 million acres in Tennessee.

- Income from equine sales and related agricultural activities during 2003 was $259 million. Equine sales during 2003 were valued at $57.5 million with 23,000 head sold.

- Value of Tennessee’s equine on January 1, 2004, was estimated at $565 million with an average value per animal of $2,690. The Hunter/Jumper category had the highest value per animal, followed by Thoroughbred, Tennessee Walker, and American Saddlebred.

- Assets on equine operations totaled $6.09 billion on January 1, 2004. In addition to equine inventory, these operations had $4.89 billion of land, fencing, facilities, and buildings and $636 million of equipment and supplies.

- Equine related expenditures during 2003 totaled $597 million. Equipment, feed and bedding, capital improvements, boarding, equine purchases, and veterinarian and health expenditures accounted for the largest share (67 percent). Operations averaged $14,566 of expenditures for the year, or $2,844 per animal.

- Based on the 2002 Census of Agriculture, Tennessee ranks 2nd in the U.S. in the number of equine on farms.