



WISCONSIN FARM REPORTER

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The Wisconsin Farm Reporter is compiled from data and reports released by the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). All NASS data and reports are available free at www.nass.usda.gov

Land in Farms

The total number of farms in Wisconsin in 2019 was 64,900, up 100 from 2018. Total land in farms in Wisconsin in 2019 was 14.3 million acres, unchanged since 2017. Wisconsin's average farm size in 2019 was 220 acres, down one acre from 2018. The average farm size for those in the \$250,000-\$499,999 sales class increased 29 acres and in the \$1,000,000 and over sales class farm size on average increased 33 acres from 2018.

The number of farms in the United States for 2019 is estimated at 2,023,400, down 5,800 farms from 2018. Total land in farms, at 897,400,000 acres, decreased 2,100,000 acres from 2018. The average farm size for 2019 is 444 acres, up 1 acre from the previous year.

Farm numbers and land in farms are differentiated by six economic sales classes. Farms and ranches are classified into these six sales classes by summing the sales of agricultural products and government program payments. Sales class

breaks occur at \$10,000, \$100,000, \$250,000, \$500,000, and \$1,000,000. Producers were asked during the 2019 mid-year surveys to report the value of sales based on production during the 2018 calendar year.

Point Farms are farms that did not have the required minimum \$1,000 in sales for the year to qualify as a farm, but had sufficient crops and livestock to normally have sales of \$1,000 or more. Point Farms are assigned a sales class based on the sum of the agricultural point (dollar) values assigned to the quantity of commodities produced but not sold. The 2017 Census of Agriculture showed that 471,593 farms or 23.1 percent of the 2,042,220 farms were Point Farms. These Point Farms operated 59,166,158 acres or 6.6 percent of the 900,217,576 acres of farmland.

Number of farms declined by 5,800 from 2018. The number of farms in the \$100,000 - \$249,999 and \$250,000 - \$499,999 sales classes increased while all other sales classes declined. In 2019, 51.1 percent of all farms had less than \$10,000 in sales and 81.5 percent of all farms had less than \$100,000 in sales. In 2019, 7.4 percent of all farms had sales of \$500,000 or more.

Land in farms, at 897,400,000 acres, is down 2,100,000 acres from 2018. The biggest change for 2019 is that producers in Sales Class \$100,000 - \$249,999 operated 1,170,000 fewer acres than in 2018. In 2019, 30.2 percent of all farmland was operated by farms with less than \$100,000 in sales, while 40.8 percent of all farmland was operated by farms with sales of \$500,000 or more.

The average farm size continued to increase in 2019 as the number of farms declined. The overall average size increased by 1 acre to 444 acres per farm. Average farm size decreased in the \$100,000-\$249,999 and \$250,000 - \$499,999 sales classes and increased or remained unchanged in all others.

Farms and Land in Farms, by Sales Class¹, Wisconsin: 2015-2019

	\$1,000-\$9,999	\$10,000-\$99,999	\$100,000-\$249,999	\$250,000-\$499,999	\$500,000-\$999,999	\$1,000,000 & over	Total
Number of Farms							
2015	29,600	20,400	7,100	4,600	2,700	2,200	66,600
2016	29,200	20,200	7,000	4,400	2,700	2,200	65,700
2017	28,700	20,100	7,000	4,300	2,550	2,150	64,800
2018	28,800	20,100	6,900	4,300	2,550	2,150	64,800
2019	29,000	20,200	7,000	4,250	2,400	2,050	64,900
Land in Farms, 1,000 acres							
2015	1,900	2,900	2,000	2,000	2,000	3,600	14,400
2016	1,900	2,900	2,100	2,000	1,900	3,600	14,400
2017	1,800	2,900	2,100	2,000	1,900	3,600	14,300
2018	1,800	2,900	2,100	2,000	1,900	3,600	14,300
2019	1,900	2,900	2,100	2,100	1,800	3,500	14,300
Average Farm Size, acres							
2015	64	142	282	435	741	1,636	216
2016	65	144	300	455	704	1,636	219
2017	63	144	300	465	745	1,674	221
2018	63	144	304	465	745	1,674	221
2019	66	144	300	494	750	1,707	220

¹Farms and ranches are classified in "sales classes" by summing sales of agricultural products and government program payments.

Trout

Wisconsin’s trout producers reported \$1.53 million in trout sales during 2019, a 2 percent increase from 2018. Sales of trout greater than 12 inches long totaled \$1.41 million, a 5 percent increase from 2018.

The number of trout sold greater than 12 inches long were down 30,000 fish to 340,000 fish. The total live weight of trout sold in this size category was 314,000 pounds, 12 percent less than a year ago. Producers received 74 cents per pound more in 2019, getting an average of \$4.49 per pound in this size class.

Producers raising trout for sale lost 266,000 fish weighing a total of 70,000 pounds to various causes during 2019. The number of trout lost was 31,000 more than last year, and the total weight of the fish lost increased by 16,000 pounds.

The total value of fish sales received by trout growers in the United States totaled 95.6 million dollars for 2019, a decrease of 6 percent from 2018. Idaho accounted for 39 percent of the total value of fish sold.

The number of trout 12 inches and longer sold during 2019 totaled 32.4 million fish, down 10 percent from the previous year. The average price per pound was \$1.96, a 2 percent increase from the previous year. The value of sales for the 2019 marketing year was 85.8 million dollars, down 6 percent from

2018. For trout 12 inches or longer, 55 percent were sold to processors.

The number of 6"- 12" trout sold during 2019 totaled 9.10 million fish, an increase of 13 percent from 2018. The average price per pound was \$3.86 during 2019, up 4 percent from the 2018 price. The total value of sales was 8.42 million dollars during 2019, a 3 percent increase from the previous year. The major sales outlets for 6"-12" trout were for recreational stocking accounting for 52 percent of total sales, followed by wholesale to other producers with 24 percent.

The number of 1"- 6" trout sold during 2019 totaled 5.74 million, a decrease of 15 percent from the previous year. The average value per 1,000 fish was \$228 during 2019, up from \$206 in 2018. The total value of sales was 1.31 million dollars, down 5 percent from last year's total.

Trout distributed for restoration, conservation, enhancement, or recreational purposes, primarily by State and Federal hatcheries, included 8.41 million 12" or longer fish, 66.1 million 6"-12" fish, and 48.0 million 1"- 6" fish. The estimated value of fish distributed totaled 136 million dollars, up 6 percent from 2018.

Total losses of all trout intended for sale were 32.0 million fish during 2019. Disease accounted for 88 percent of these losses.

Trout – Wisconsin and United States: 2018-2019

Item	Wisconsin		United States	
	2018	2019	2018	2019
Trout 12 inches and longer				
Number sold(1,000)				
Pounds sold(1,000)				
Value of sales(1,000 dollars)	370	340	35,935	32,390
Average value per pound(dollars)	357	314	47,548	43,758
	1,339	1,410	91,759	85,842
	3.75	4.49	1.93	1.96
Trout 6 -12 inches in length				
Number sold(1,000)				
Pounds sold(1,000)	(D)	95	8,050	9,095
Value of sales(1,000 dollars)	(D)	26	2,190	2,179
Average value per pound(dollars)	(D)	111	8,152	8,419
	(D)	4.28	3.72	3.86
Trout 1-6 inches long				
Number sold(1,000)				
Pounds sold(1,000)	(D)	40	6,715	5,741
Value of sales(1,000 dollars)	(D)	1	154	167
Average per 1,000 fish(dollars)	(D)	4	1,383	1,311
	(D)	111	206	228
Total sales (excluding eggs)(1,000 dollars)	1,493	1,525	101,294	95,572
Trout lost to various causes				
Total number(1,000)	235	266	29,088	32,005
Total pounds(1,000)	54	70	7,573	8,058
Distributed for conservation and restoration				
Trout 12 inches or longer(1,000 fish)	10	(D)	8,065	8,410
Trout 6-12 inches long(1,000 fish)	1,570	(D)	61,980	66,052
Trout 1-6 inches in length(1,000 fish)	2,080	(D)	53,090	47,965
Total value(1,000 dollars)	1,514	(D)	128,623	136,306

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Chickens and Eggs

Wisconsin **egg production** during January 2020 was 197 million eggs, down 1 percent from last month but up 12 percent from last year. The average number of **all layers on hand** during January 2020 was 7.62 million, down 4 percent from last month but up 3 percent from last year. **Eggs per 100 layers** for January were 2,589, up 3 percent from last month and up 9 percent from last year.

In 2019, Wisconsin egg producers had an average of 7,327 layers on hand, up 1 percent from 2018. Eggs per layer rose 3 percent to 295. Wisconsin produced a total of 2.16 billion eggs in 2019, up 4 percent from 2.08 billion eggs in 2018. Wisconsin ranked 15th in the U.S. for egg production in 2019.

**Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced
Wisconsin and United States, January 2019 and 2020**

Commodity	Wisconsin		United States	
	2019	2020	2019	2020
Table egg layers in flocks 30,000 & above.....(1,000 layers)	6,269	6,495	325,078	323,327
All layers on hand.....(1,000 layers)	7,405	7,622	402,763	402,985
Eggs per 100 layers.....(eggs)	2,386	2,589	2,398	2,415
Total egg production.....(million eggs)	176.7	197.3	9,658.0	9,731.8
Table egg production.....(million eggs)	170.9	191.2	8,475.6	8,510.5

**Annual Layer Numbers and Egg Production:
Top 15 Egg-Producing States and United States, 2018-2019¹**

State	Average number of layers		Eggs per layer ²		Total egg production	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
	(1,000 layers)		(eggs)		(million eggs)	
Iowa	57,067	58,195	282	294	16,119.3	17,083.8
Ohio	35,902	36,245	285	295	10,238.1	10,705.4
Indiana	33,794	34,646	286	290	9,658.6	10,048.1
Pennsylvania	29,288	30,042	296	298	8,664.8	8,941.5
Texas	22,567	22,266	271	272	6,109.3	6,057.9
Georgia	19,607	19,893	248	254	4,871.1	5,046.8
Michigan	15,387	15,336	296	295	4,548.1	4,516.6
California	14,547	13,632	295	286	4,295.7	3,899.7
North Carolina	14,573	14,986	254	253	3,705.4	3,791.3
Missouri	11,974	12,631	291	296	3,485.2	3,733.1
Arkansas	14,668	14,775	241	242	3,534.7	3,573.7
Minnesota	10,812	10,888	290	299	3,131.8	3,255.7
Nebraska	7,837	8,868	305	300	2,391.6	2,660.8
Alabama	9,556	10,085	223	226	2,133.3	2,275.4
Wisconsin	7,271	7,327	286	295	2,077.8	2,163.1
United States	394,361	399,656	279	283	110,073.7	113,253.4

1. Annual estimates cover the period Dec. 1 of previous year to Nov. 30 of following year. Totals may not add due to rounding. 2. Total egg production divided by average number of layers on hand.

Crop Values

The production of Wisconsin's **field and miscellaneous crops** was valued at \$3.28 billion in 2019. This was a 10 percent decrease from 2018.

The value of **corn for grain** production totaled \$1.67 billion, down 13 percent from the previous year, with production down 17 percent. Wisconsin's corn price averaged \$3.70 per bushel, an increase of 18 cents from the last marketing year.

Down 23 percent from 2018, the value of **soybean** production was \$683 million, with production down 24 percent. The average price increased 6 cents from the previous year to \$8.55 per bushel.

Value of production increased from 2018 to 2019 for potatoes, oats, barley, alfalfa hay, and all forage. Value of production decreased from 2018 to 2019 for winter wheat and other hay.

**Crop Values Summary,
Wisconsin and United States, 2018-2019**

Commodity	Market Year Average Price per Unit		Value of Production	
	2018	2019 ¹	2018	2019 ¹
			(dollars)	
			(1,000 dollars)	
WISCONSIN				
Field and Misc Crops ²	(NA)	(NA)	3,631,187	3,279,061
Barley bu	4.00	5.00	1,800	1,840
Corn bu	3.52	3.70	1,919,245	1,665,888
Forage, all ³ tons	(NA)	(NA)	1,004,958	1,179,465
Hay, all tons	153.00	189.00	441,450	524,832
Hay, alfalfa tons	162.00	203.00	312,174	428,736
Hay, other tons	126.00	143.00	129,276	96,096
Maple syrup ⁴ gal	32.40	(NA)	7,290	(NA)
Oats bu	2.77	3.20	15,207	20,736
Potatoes cwt	10.50	11.60	284,918	327,352
Rye bu	(D)	7.00	(D)	4,760
Soybeans bu	8.49	8.55	888,394	683,145
Wheat, winter bu	4.55	4.35	64,610	41,760
UNITED STATES				
Field and Misc Crops ²	(NA)	(NA)	141,850,765	135,228,146
Barley bu	4.62	4.60	697,598	761,152
Corn bu	3.61	3.85	52,102,404	52,911,254
Forage, all ³ tons	(NA)	(NA)	19,592,413	20,614,205
Hay, all tons	166.00	165.00	17,288,215	18,160,596
Hay, alfalfa tons	180.00	183.00	8,583,806	9,184,257
Hay, other tons	139.00	132.00	8,704,409	8,976,339
Maple syrup ⁴ gal	33.80	(NA)	141,825	(NA)
Oats bu	2.66	2.95	167,640	162,711
Potatoes cwt	8.90	9.79	4,006,340	4,138,194
Rye bu	6.27	6.11	52,870	64,863
Soybeans bu	8.48	8.75	36,819,008	31,202,680
Wheat, winter bu	5.08	4.50	5,985,308	5,999,460

(D) Not disclosed. (NA) Not available. ¹ Preliminary. ² Includes corn for grain, hay, maple syrup, oats, potatoes, soybeans, wheat, and miscellaneous crops. ³ Dry all hay price used to calculate haylage/greenchop portion of total value of production. ⁴ Prices and values for 2019 will be published in *Crop Production* released April 2020.

Prices Received by Farmers

The January 2020 average price received by farmers for **corn** in Wisconsin was \$3.66 per bushel. This was up 10 cents from December and 24 cents above the previous January.

The January **soybean** price, at \$8.63 per bushel, was up 15 cents from December and 15 cents above the previous January.

The January **oat** price was \$2.97 per bushel, 10 cents above the December price but 27 cents below January 2019.

All hay prices in Wisconsin averaged \$183.00 per ton in January, down \$46.00 from December but \$2.00 above January 2019. The **alfalfa hay** price averaged \$191.00 per ton in January, down \$51.00 from December but \$4.00 above the previous January. The **other hay** price averaged \$144.00, down \$38.00 from December and \$14.00 below the January 2019 price.

Prices Received by Farmers

WISCONSIN		January 2019	December 2019	January 2020
<i>(dollars)</i>				
Corn	bu	3.42	3.56	3.66
Hay, all baled	ton	181.00	229.00	183.00
Alfalfa	ton	187.00	242.00	191.00
Other	ton	158.00	182.00	144.00
Oats	bu	3.24	2.87	2.97
Soybeans	bu	8.48	8.48	8.63
UNITED STATES		January 2019	December 2019	January 2020
<i>(dollars)</i>				
Corn	bu	3.56	3.71	3.79
Hay, all baled	ton	167.00	158.00	155.00
Alfalfa	ton	179.00	175.00	171.00
Other	ton	150.00	133.00	134.00
Oats	bu	2.67	3.19	2.93
Soybeans	bu	8.64	8.70	8.84
Calves	cwt	169.00	159.00	168.00
Cattle, all beef	cwt	121.00	118.00	122.00
Cows ¹	cwt	54.20	59.30	61.40
Steers & Heifers	cwt	124.00	120.00	125.00
Hogs, all	cwt	44.60	47.30	47.80
Barrows & Gilts	cwt	45.00	47.70	48.60
Sows	cwt	32.30	33.40	25.70
Eggs (market) ²	doz	0.797	0.715	0.453

¹Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter. ²Mid-month price. Also referred to as table eggs.

January Milk Prices

The Wisconsin all milk price for January 2020 was \$19.40 per hundredweight (cwt). This was \$1.90 lower than last month's price but \$3.20 higher than last January's price.

The U.S. all milk price for January was \$19.60 per cwt, 20 cents higher than Wisconsin's price but \$1.10 lower than last month's U.S. price. All of the 24 major milk producing states except Florida had a lower price when compared with December. Oregon and Utah had the largest price decreases, both down \$2.10 per cwt. from last month.

The Chicago Mercantile Exchange* (CME) 40-pound block cheese price closed at \$1.7225 per pound on February 28, while barrels were \$1.5900 per pound. The CME butter price was \$1.7250 per pound.

For the week ending February 22, 2020, the Agricultural Marketing Service* U.S. weekly 40-pound block cheese price averaged \$1.9412 per pound, and 500 pound barrels adjusted to 38 percent moisture averaged \$1.5829 per pound. The U.S. butter price was \$1.7921 per pound.

Milk Prices¹

Selected states	January 2019		December 2019		January 2020	
	Price per cwt.	Fat test	Price per cwt.	Fat test	Price per cwt.	Fat test
	<i>(dollars)</i>	<i>(percent)</i>	<i>(dollars)</i>	<i>(percent)</i>	<i>(dollars)</i>	<i>(percent)</i>
Milk for all uses	16.25	4.03	19.80	3.98	19.40	3.97
California	15.70	4.09	20.30	4.18	18.60	4.16
Idaho	16.30	4.05	22.50	4.10	20.50	4.11
Iowa	15.70	3.89	19.40	3.95	18.40	3.90
Michigan	16.50	4.13	22.00	4.17	20.30	4.21
Minnesota	15.00	3.84	19.80	4.00	18.00	3.94
New Mexico	17.50	3.99	20.50	4.02	19.80	3.99
New York	17.70	3.94	20.90	4.03	20.20	3.99
Pennsylvania	17.00	4.30	21.30	4.36	19.90	4.32
Texas	16.20	3.99	21.30	3.98	19.40	3.96
Wisconsin						
United States	16.60	4.02	20.70	4.05	19.60	4.03

¹Before deduction for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.



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