



Results from the 2007 Census of Agriculture

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The NASS mission is to provide timely, accurate, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture

Scope of Information

- Major Crop and Livestock Items
- Fruits, Nuts, Vegetables
- Milk, Cheese, Aquaculture, Floriculture, Honey, Mink
- Ag Labor, Land Values, Cash Rents
- Prices Received and Prices Paid
- Costs & Returns, Costs of Production
- Chemical Usage
- Virtually all are Congressionally mandated.



Data Sources, Collection Methods & Data Security

- Farms, ranches, and farm businesses – go to the people who know best.
- Collect data by mail, phone, Internet & personal interview
- Estimates based on surveys that are statistically sound – no bias.
- Individual data guaranteed complete confidentiality.
- Estimates held securely until published release time – “level playing field”.

Let's put a face to a data collection method.



Supervisor Bill Goodwin, personal interviewer

Why Public Information?

- Nature of Ag Markets – many producers, few buyers – true today and in 1863.
- Price determination = Supply & Demand
 How much supply? What is the demand?
- Information, misinformation & speculation:
 – All exist and move markets
- On a publicly known schedule – NASS provides unbiased estimates of the supply side of U.S. agriculture

January 2008		February 2008		March 2008	
Release	Survey Period	Release	Survey Period	Release	Survey Period
01-20 and 01-21	01-01 and 01-02	02-01 and 02-02	01-01 and 01-02	03-01 and 03-02	02-01 and 02-02
01-22 and 01-23	01-03 and 01-04	02-03 and 02-04	01-03 and 01-04	03-03 and 03-04	02-03 and 02-04
01-24 and 01-25	01-05 and 01-06	02-05 and 02-06	01-05 and 01-06	03-05 and 03-06	02-05 and 02-06
01-26 and 01-27	01-07 and 01-08	02-07 and 02-08	01-07 and 01-08	03-07 and 03-08	02-07 and 02-08
01-28 and 01-29	01-09 and 01-10	02-09 and 02-10	01-09 and 01-10	03-09 and 03-10	02-09 and 02-10
01-30 and 01-31	01-11 and 01-12	02-11 and 02-12	01-11 and 01-12	03-11 and 03-12	02-11 and 02-12
01-31	01-13 and 01-14	02-13 and 02-14	01-13 and 01-14	03-13 and 03-14	02-13 and 02-14
02-01	01-15 and 01-16	02-15 and 02-16	01-15 and 01-16	03-15 and 03-16	02-15 and 02-16
02-02	01-17 and 01-18	02-17 and 02-18	01-17 and 01-18	03-17 and 03-18	02-17 and 02-18
02-03	01-19 and 01-20	02-19 and 02-20	01-19 and 01-20	03-19 and 03-20	02-19 and 02-20
02-04	01-21 and 01-22	02-21 and 02-22	01-21 and 01-22	03-21 and 03-22	02-21 and 02-22
02-05	01-23 and 01-24	02-23 and 02-24	01-23 and 01-24	03-23 and 03-24	02-23 and 02-24
02-06	01-25 and 01-26	02-25 and 02-26	01-25 and 01-26	03-25 and 03-26	02-25 and 02-26
02-07	01-27 and 01-28	02-27 and 02-28	01-27 and 01-28	03-27 and 03-28	02-27 and 02-28
02-08	01-29 and 01-30	02-29 and 02-30	01-29 and 01-30	03-29 and 03-30	02-29 and 02-30
02-09	01-31	02-31	01-31	03-31	02-31

Why Public Information?

- Without this public, unbiased source:
 - Market information controlled primarily by buyers; Advantage = buyers.
- True in 1863 – True Today
- NASS information serves ALL market participants – farmers, buyers, food processors, input providers, etc.

Basic Principles

1. Voluntary Reporting vs. Mandatory Reporting
2. Confidentiality
Protected by law from any court or legislative action
3. Security
Equal Access to Results



2007 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Arkansas Farm Structure in 1910

214,678 farms with 17,416,075 (acres) land in farms

2.28 million acres of corn for grain

245,861 horses, 858,831 cattle and calves, and 1.15 million hogs on farms

197,449 acres of oats threshed, 408,867 all hay harvested, 2.15 million acres of cotton, and

2.3 million bushels of apples produced and 2.6 million pounds of grapes produced.



398 producers had 1,000 acres or more

63,593 farm operators where nonwhite

Average size farm was 81.1



2007 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Arkansas Farm Structure in 1950

182,429 farms with 18,871,244 (acres) land in farms

150,529 horses, 1.15 million cattle and calves, and 753,075 million hogs on farms

1.09 million acres of corn for grain

161,811 acres of oats threshed, 999,150 all hay harvested, 2.57 million acres of cotton, and

961,788 bushels of apples produced and 14.1 million pounds of grapes produced.



1,254 producers had 1,000 acres or more

40,841 farm operators where nonwhite

Average size farm was 103



2007 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Arkansas Farm Structure in 2007

49,346 farms with 13,872,862 (acres) land in farms

78,968 horses, 1.8 million cattle and calves, and 289,342 million hogs on farms

584,629 million acres of corn for grain

6,431 acres of oats for grain, 1.33 million all hay harvested, 854,410 million acres of cotton, and

658 acres of apples and 1,139 acres of grapes



3,181 producers had 1,000 acres or more

2,401 farm operators where nonwhite
or of more than one race

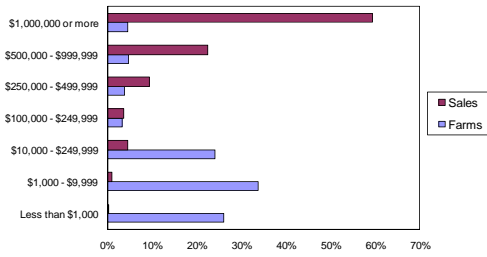
Average size farm was 281



2007 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

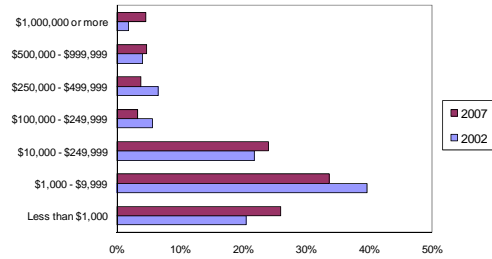
2007 Census of Agriculture: Arkansas

Arkansas Percent of Farms and Sales by Class, 2007



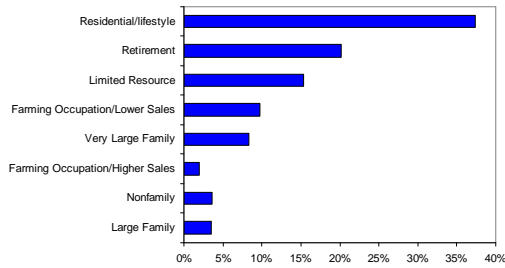
2007 Census of Agriculture: Arkansas

Arkansas Percent of Farms by Sales Class

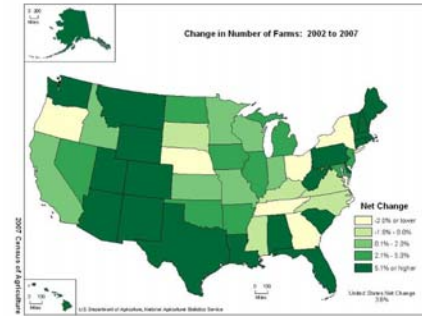


2007 Census of Agriculture: Arkansas

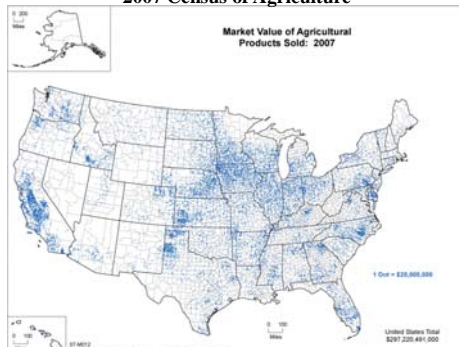
Arkansas Farms by Typology, 2007



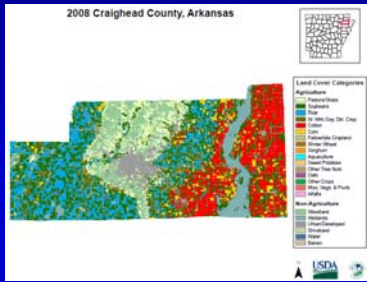
2007 Census of Agriculture, with Comparisons to 2002



2007 Census of Agriculture



www.usda.gov/nass/ =NASS Web site
www.agcensus.usda.gov = Census Web site



www.nass.usda.gov/ar/ = Arkansas Field Office Web site

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