

1982 Census of Agriculture

AC82-A-33

Volume 1
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

Part 33

North Carolina

State and County Data



U.S. Department of Commerce
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

The publications
from the 1982 Economic and
Agriculture Censuses are dedicated
to the memory of Shirley Kallek,
Associate Director for Economic Fields.
During her career at the Bureau of the
Census (1955 to 1983), she continually
directed efforts to improve
the timeliness and accuracy of
economic statistics.

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Issued May 1984



U.S. Department of Commerce
Malcolm Baldrige, Secretary
Clarence J. Brown, Deputy Secretary
Sidney Jones, Under Secretary for
Economic Affairs

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
John G. Keane,
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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS—Many persons participated in conducting the 1982 Census of Agriculture. Primary direction was by **Shirley Kallek**, Associate Director for Economic Fields (to May 1983), **Charles A. Waite**, her successor, and **Michael G. Farrell**, Assistant Director for Economic and Agriculture Censuses.

This report was prepared in the Agriculture Division under the general supervision of **Orvin L. Wilhite**, Chief (to January 1980); **Arnold L. Bollenbacher**, Chief (to June 1982); and **John H. Berry**, Chief (from July 1982).

Many divisions contributed to this report. Data Preparation performed the clerical processing; Administrative Services provided the forms design and other administrative services; Publications Services contributed in publication planning and design, editorial review, composition, and printing procurement; Computer Services provided the computer processing facilities; Field provided selected data collection activities; and Economic Surveys assisted in preparation of data collection and processing procedures and computer programs.

Members of the Census Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics and representatives of both public and private organizations made significant recommendations which helped establish data content.

Members of various agencies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture provided valuable advice in the planning, publicizing, and processing phases of the census, and in helping farmers and ranchers complete the report forms.

The press, farm magazines, radio and television stations, and farm organizations were most helpful in publicizing the census and encouraging cooperation of farm and ranch operators.

Special tribute is paid to the millions of farm and ranch operators who furnished the information requested. Only through their cooperation was it possible to collect and publish the data in this report.

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Main entry under title:

1982 census of agriculture.

"October 1983."

Includes indexes.

Supt. of Docs. no.: C3.31/4:982/v.1/pt.

1. Agriculture—United States—Statistics. 1. United States. Bureau of the Census.

HD1769.A14 1983

338.1'0973

83-600308

For sale by Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

If you have any questions concerning the statistics in this report, call (301) 763-5230.

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*Not applicable.

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HISTORY

The census of agriculture provides a periodic statistical picture of the Nation's farming, ranching, and related activities. The 1982 Census of Agriculture is the 22d taken by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

The first agriculture census was taken in 1840 as part of the sixth decennial census of population. From 1840 to 1950, an agriculture census was taken as part of the decennial census. A separate mid-decade census of agriculture was conducted in 1925, 1935, and 1945. From 1954 to 1974, a census of agriculture was taken for the years ending in 4 and 9. In 1976, Congress authorized the census of agriculture to be taken for 1978 and 1982 to adjust the data reference year to coincide with the 1982 Economic Censuses covering manufacturing, mining, construction, retail trade, wholesale trade, service industries, and selected transportation activities. After 1982, the agriculture census will revert to a 5-year cycle and be taken covering years ending in 2 and 7.

USES OF THE CENSUS

The census of agriculture is the leading source of statistics about the Nation's agriculture and the only source of consistent, comparable data about agriculture at the county, State, and national levels. Census statistics are used by Congress in developing and changing farm programs and for determining the effects of these programs. Many national and State programs affecting agriculture are designed or allocated on the basis of census data, such as funds for extension services, research, and soil conservation projects. Private industry uses census statistics to provide a more effective production and distribution system for the farm community.

AUTHORITY AND AREA COVERED

The census of agriculture is required by law under title 13, United States Code, sections 142(a) and 191, which directs that the census be taken in 1979, in 1983, and in every fifth year after 1983 covering the prior year. The 1982 census includes each State, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands of the United States.

1982 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

FARM DEFINITION

Since 1850, when minimum criteria defining a farm for census purposes were first established, the farm definition has been changed nine times. The current definition, first used for the 1974 final reports, is any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or normally would have been sold during the census year. The previous definition (used for the 1959, 1964, and 1969 censuses, and for the 1974 preliminary reports) was any place with less than 10 acres from which \$250 or more of agricultural products were sold or normally would have been sold during the census year, or any place of 10 acres or more from which \$50 or more of agricultural products were sold or normally would have been sold during the census year.

COMPARABILITY OF DATA

All censuses since 1969 were conducted primarily by mail. To improve the coverage of the 1978 census, especially in counting the number of small farms, the mailout/mailback enumeration was supplemented by the direct enumeration of all households in approximately 6,400 sample segments in rural areas in all States, except Alaska and Hawaii. Due to budget reductions, the direct enumeration area sample was eliminated for 1982.

The U.S. region, and State data for 1978 shown in the 1978 Census of Agriculture publications included data for farms represented on the mail list plus estimates from the area sample for farms not on the mail list. The 1978 county data included only farms represented on the mail list as the sample was not large enough to provide reliable estimates for each county.

To provide comparable data for 1982 and 1978, estimates from the 1978 area sample have been subtracted from the 1978 data. Thus, the 1978 data in this report include only farms represented on the mail list. Appendix B includes a detailed discussion of the effect of the area sample on census comparability.

In general, data for 1982, 1978, and 1974 are not fully comparable with data for 1969 and earlier censuses due to changes in the farm definition. Data on acreages and inventories for 1982 and 1978 are generally comparable. Dollar figures shown for expenses and agricultural product sales have not been adjusted for changes in price levels between census years.

TABULAR PRESENTATION

State data—In chapter 1, State tables 1 through 43 show detailed State level data usually accompanied by historical data for one or more past censuses. Tables 44 through 50 provide 1982 State data cross-tabulated by various farm classifications.

County data—Selected data items are presented by county in chapter 2. Tables 1 through 16 include general data for all counties. The counties are listed in alphabetical order in the

column headings. In tables 17 through 36, only counties reporting the data item are included in the table stub. Counties not having the item, or with a limited number of farms reporting the item, are not listed separately. Data for these counties are combined and presented as "all other counties."

PRELIMINARY REPORTS

Preliminary reports have been published separately for each county with 10 farms or more in 1982, each State, and the United States. This series provided, at the earliest possible date, information on major data items together with comparable final data from the 1978 census. The data items were standard except in tables 4 and 5 where the selected crops varied by State according to their relative importance.

For farms, land in farms, livestock inventories, and other major items at the county level, differences between the preliminary and final figures are generally less than 5 percent. At the State level, differences are significantly less.

MICROFICHE AND COMPUTER TAPES

The data in this report and final data for individual counties are available on microfiche. The final microfiche county tables have the same format as the county preliminary report. Also, computer tapes are available for the same summary statistics that are found in the preliminary and volume 1 reports. Microfiche reports are sold by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Computer tapes are sold by the Customer Services Branch, Data User Services Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233.

UNPUBLISHED DATA

Copies of computer printouts of the following unpublished county summary tables are available:

- Land in Farms With Cropland Harvested and Land in Farms and Cropland Harvested on Irrigated Farms, by Size of Farm: 1982
- Owned and Rented Land—Farms, Land in Farms, and Value of Land and Buildings: 1982
- Farms With Grazing Permits: 1982

Other special unpublished tables and summaries on computer tape can be developed to individual user specifications.

Inquiries about the availability and cost of unpublished tabulations should be directed to the Chief, Agriculture Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233.

CENSUS DISCLOSURE RULES

In keeping with the provisions of title 13, United States Code, no data are published that would disclose the operations of an individual farm. However, the number of farms in a given size category or other classification is not considered a disclosure, so this information may be given even though other information is withheld.

DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Appendix A includes definitions and explanations of selected terms used in the tables.

"SEE TEXT" REFERENCE

Items in the tables which are followed by the reference "see text" are explained or defined in appendix A.

INVENTORIES, PRODUCTION, AND SALES DATA

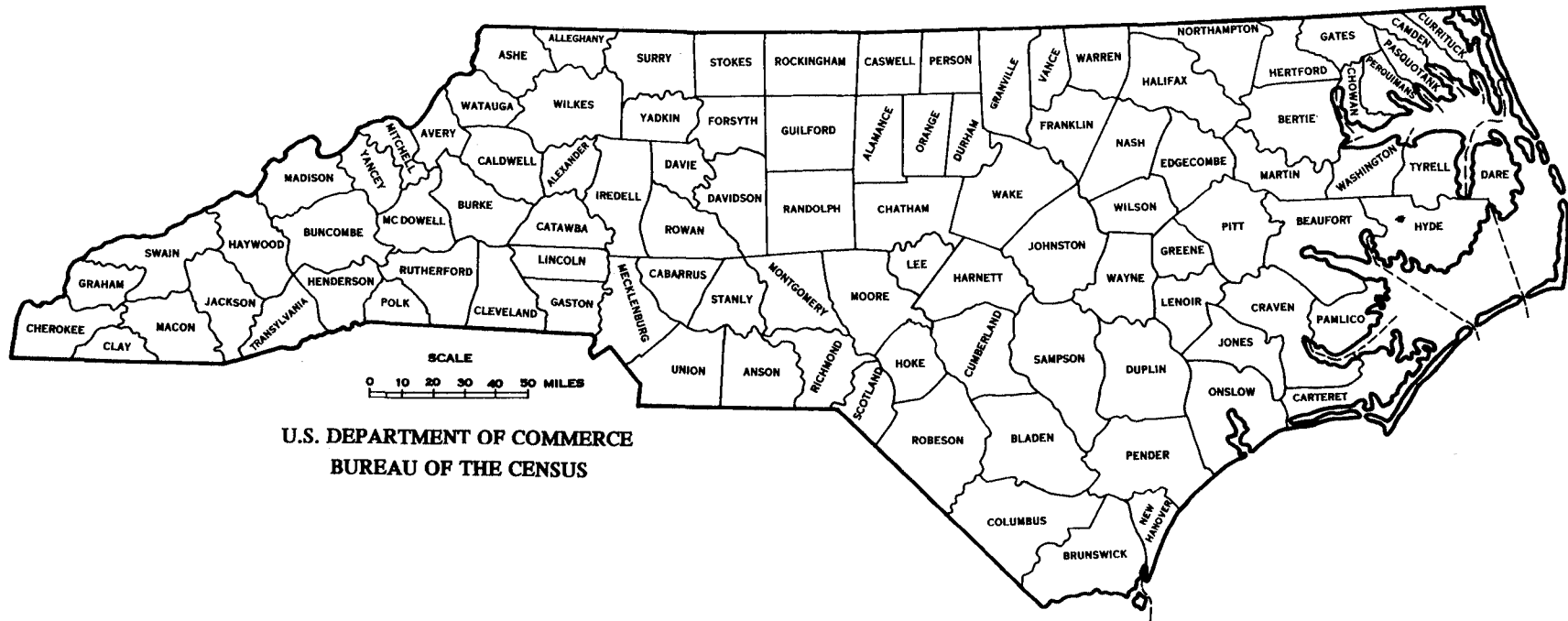
Inventories of livestock, poultry, and machinery and equipment are as of December 31 of the census year. Crop and livestock production, sales, and expense data are for the calendar year, except for a few crops (such as citrus) for which the production year overlaps the calendar year.

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

The following abbreviations and symbols are used throughout the tables:

- | | |
|---------|---|
| — | Represents zero. |
| (D) | Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual farms. |
| (X) | Not applicable. |
| (Z) | Less than half of the unit shown. |
| (NA) | Not available. |
| (IC) | Independent city. |
| cwt. | Hundredweight. |
| sq. ft. | Square feet. |

NORTH CAROLINA



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

Highlights of the State's Agriculture: 1982 and 1978

[Dollar figures are in current dollars with no adjustment for price changes. For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Item	All farms			Farms with sales of \$10,000 or more		
	1982	1978	Percent change from 1978 to 1982	1982	1978	Percent change from 1978 to 1982
Farms.....number.....	72 792	81 706	-10.9	33 228	38 211	-13.0
Land in farms.....acres.....	10 320 832	10 998 652	-6.2	7 718 224	8 064 261	-4.3
Average size of farm.....acres.....	142	135	5.2	232	211	10.0
Value of land and buildings ¹ :						
Average per farm.....dollars.....	187 840	*141 464	32.8	304 813	220 689	38.1
Average per acre.....dollars.....	1 314	1 038	26.6	1 299	1 036	25.4
Farms by size:						
1 to 9 acres.....	6 682	7 837	-14.7	1 797	1 975	-9.0
10 to 49 acres.....	23 286	25 567	-8.9	5 870	7 286	-19.4
50 to 179 acres.....	28 120	32 667	-13.9	13 268	16 079	-17.5
180 to 499 acres.....	10 914	11 887	-8.2	8 737	9 415	-7.2
500 to 999 acres.....	2 690	2 667	.9	2 504	2 437	2.7
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	823	839	-1.9	788	795	-.9
2,000 acres or more.....	277	242	14.5	264	224	17.9
Harvested cropland.....farms.....	63 392	73 870	-14.2	30 612	35 691	-14.2
.....acres.....	4 659 283	4 467 045	4.3	4 144 246	3 846 764	7.7
Irrigated land.....farms.....	4 026	6 082	-33.8	2 964	4 575	-35.2
.....acres.....	81 078	89 861	-9.8	75 924	82 780	-8.3
Market value of agricultural products sold.....\$1,000.....	3 500 750	2 980 078	17.5	3 364 086	2 820 791	19.3
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse products.....farms.....	52 662	63 501	-17.1	28 743	33 651	-14.6
.....\$1,000.....	1 898 109	1 669 769	13.7	1 813 008	1 565 320	15.8
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....farms.....	35 592	40 868	-12.9	15 766	18 813	-16.2
.....\$1,000.....	1 602 642	1 310 309	22.3	1 551 078	1 255 471	23.5
Farms by standard industrial classification:						
Cash grains (011).....	13 183	13 581	-2.9	4 533	3 957	14.6
Field crops, except cash grains (013).....	27 929	36 152	-22.7	17 654	22 306	-20.9
Vegetables and melons (016).....	1 349	1 358	-.7	374	345	8.4
Fruits and tree nuts (017).....	944	1 079	-12.5	252	431	-41.5
Horticultural specialties (018).....	1 014	994	2.0	504	395	27.6
General farms, primarily crop (019).....	2 734	2 844	-3.9	1 482	1 611	-8.0
Livestock, except dairy, poultry, and animal specialties (021).....	19 050	19 205	-.8	3 332	3 719	-10.4
Dairy farms (024).....	1 465	1 587	-7.7	1 382	1 461	-5.4
Poultry and eggs (025).....	3 628	3 945	-8.0	3 482	3 778	-7.8
Animal specialties (027).....	1 017	556	82.9	159	112	42.0
General farms, primarily livestock (029).....	479	405	18.3	74	96	-22.9
Farms by type of organization:						
Individual or family.....	64 150	71 388	-10.1	27 661	31 461	-12.1
Partnership.....	7 092	8 520	-16.8	4 480	5 301	-15.5
Corporation.....	1 225	1 559	-21.4	979	1 377	-28.9
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	325	239	36.0	108	72	50.0
Tenure of operator:						
Full owners.....	40 913	43 773	-6.5	12 549	13 659	-8.1
Part owners.....	23 184	26 235	-11.6	15 390	17 467	-11.9
Tenants.....	8 695	11 698	-25.7	5 289	7 085	-25.3
Operators by principal occupation:						
Farming.....	39 795	46 637	-14.7	26 087	30 146	-13.5
Other.....	32 997	35 069	-5.9	7 141	8 065	-11.5
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :						
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000.....	702 666	610 405	15.1	689 222	594 998	15.8
Commercial fertilizer.....\$1,000.....	238 315	209 537	13.7	218 335	185 841	17.5
Other agricultural chemicals ²\$1,000.....	111 631	83 869	33.1	105 680	76 516	38.1
Energy and petroleum products.....\$1,000.....	278 039	189 676	46.6	257 571	170 716	50.9
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000.....	245 364	222 451	10.3	234 157	209 846	11.6
Livestock and poultry inventory:						
Cattle and calves.....farms.....	30 485	30 099	1.3	10 557	11 611	-9.1
.....number.....	890 480	839 293	6.1	561 889	553 777	1.5
Milk cows.....farms.....	4 353	5 716	-23.8	2 186	2 748	-20.5
.....number.....	125 832	125 412	.3	120 449	118 076	2.0
Hogs and pigs.....farms.....	11 390	18 846	-39.6	6 293	9 653	-34.8
.....number.....	2 047 098	1 901 227	7.7	1 955 047	1 713 084	14.1
Chickens 3 months old or older.....farms.....	5 348	7 486	-28.6	2 076	2 999	-30.8
.....number.....	18 823 538	18 556 105	1.4	18 634 899	18 329 780	1.7
Crops harvested:						
Corn for grain or seed.....farms.....	30 193	38 850	-22.3	18 440	22 955	-19.7
.....acres.....	1 393 496	1 489 546	-6.4	1 284 261	1 326 022	-3.1
Wheat for grain.....farms.....	11 950	6 517	83.4	8 727	4 349	100.7
.....acres.....	597 539	132 445	351.2	556 588	115 318	382.7
Cotton.....farms.....	620	434	42.9	579	386	50.0
.....acres.....	68 760	43 394	58.5	68 304	43 054	58.6
Tobacco.....farms.....	29 489	37 971	-22.3	19 713	24 691	-20.2
.....acres.....	337 696	409 857	-17.6	319 079	381 330	-16.3
Soybeans for beans.....farms.....	26 324	29 577	-11.0	17 594	19 043	-7.6
.....acres.....	1 746 774	1 512 294	15.5	1 594 277	1 337 012	19.2
Peanuts for nuts.....farms.....	3 809	4 463	-14.7	3 186	3 587	-11.2
.....acres.....	149 158	165 475	-9.9	145 496	160 087	-9.1
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text).....farms.....	21 046	23 174	-9.2	7 505	8 503	-11.7
.....acres.....	375 940	391 331	-3.9	210 922	211 699	-.4

¹Data are based on a sample of farms.

²Data for 1978 include the cost of lime which was not collected in 1982.