

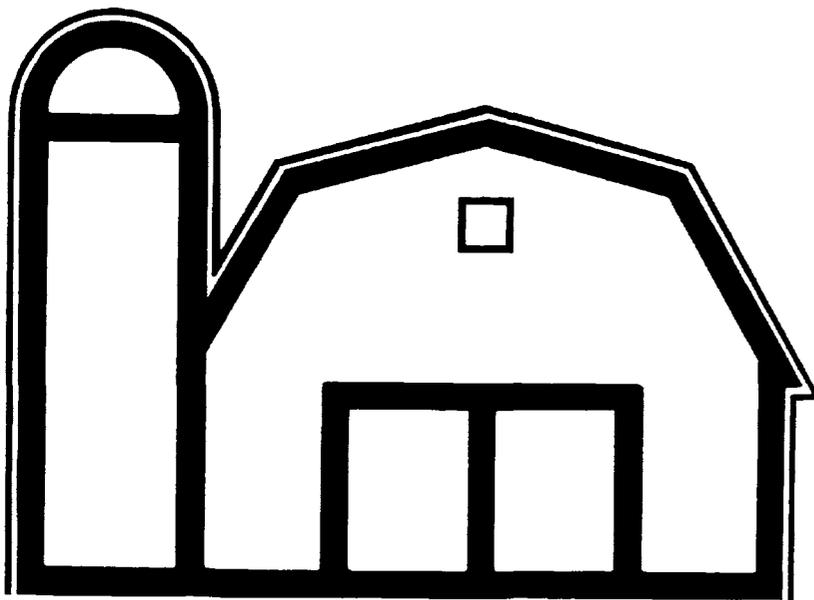
1987

Census of Agriculture

AC87-HOR-1

Volume 4

Census of Horticultural Specialties (1988)



U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

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If you have any questions concerning the statistics in this report, call:

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HISTORY

This is the seventh census of horticultural specialties. These censuses have been taken in conjunction with the agriculture censuses of 1890, 1930, 1950, 1959, 1969, 1978, and 1987. The 1988 Census of Horticultural Specialties, as in previous censuses, includes producers of floriculture, nursery, and other specialty crops such as sod, mushrooms, vegetables produced under glass or protection, vegetable transplants, and seeds. Major changes in the 1988 census are greater detail on unfinished plant materials and addition of many varieties of plants and size of containers.

Establishments producing horticultural specialties are included in the census of agriculture. However, the detail of questions included in the census of agriculture for horticultural specialties is limited to measure of acres and/or area in the growing area and sales data for 11 major categories of horticultural specialties.

AUTHORITY

The 1988 Census of Horticultural Specialties was taken in accordance with the provisions of Title 13, United States Code. Section 142 provides for the census of agriculture and section 193 provides for the collection of supplementary statistics related to the main topic.

HORTICULTURAL ESTABLISHMENT DEFINITION

Establishments included are operations growing and selling \$2,000 or more of horticultural products in 1988. This is the same definition used in 1959, 1969, and 1979 Censuses of Horticultural Specialties. The previous definition used before 1950 included a \$1,000 limit of horticultural products sold. The definition for inclusion in the census of agriculture, which is the basis for identifying horticultural establishments, has also varied. Since 1974, the census of agriculture includes all farms from which

\$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold or normally would have been sold during the census year. Definitions for this program prior to 1974 varied, but were based on a lower value of products sold and included relationships to acres in the place.

SOURCE OF DATA

The source of data for this census is a combined enumeration procedure between the Bureau of the Census and the National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The combined enumeration is an effort to reduce overall respondent burden. Response to the census was voluntary. Because of methodological problems, nonresponse weighting was not performed.

The results include the response of 24,571 reports mailed out by the Bureau of the Census and 9,334 reports collected by NASS. There were two questionnaires used to collect information for this report. The 88-A19.1 was used by the Bureau of the Census. The NASS questionnaire (88-A19.2) included all the questions from the Census questionnaire plus the additional items necessary for NASS to collect the data for their annual "Floriculture Crops" survey. This ensured that the respondents did not have to file the same information to two agencies.

The primary collection effort was based on a mail-out, mail-back basis. The NASS collection effort included personal enumeration for a number of cases. Both efforts relied on mail reminders and telephone followup to delinquent respondents. See additional information on response and followup in appendix A.

TABULAR PRESENTATION

U.S. data—Tables 1 through 15 show detailed U.S.-level data.

State data—Tables 16 through 39 present selected data items by State. States not having the item reported, or with a limited number of establishments reporting the item, have data combined in the "All Other States."

ELECTRONIC DATA DISSEMINATION

The 1988 Census of Horticultural Specialties will be available on floppy disk and CD-ROM. (Selected data will be available through electronic data services such as the

AGRIDATA network, the CENDATA package on Dialog, the CompuServe on-line services, and the Census Bureau's State Data Center Bulletin Board.) Floppy disks and CD-ROM will be sold by the Customer Service Branch, Data User Services Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233 (telephone 301-763-4100).

SPECIAL TABULATIONS

Custom tabulations can be developed to individual user's specifications on a programming cost reimbursement basis. Inquiries about special tabulations should be directed to the Chief, Agriculture Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 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 establishment. However, the

number of establishments in a given size category or other classification, such as size of establishment, is not considered a release of confidential information and is provided even though other information is withheld.

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

The following abbreviations and symbols are used throughout the tables:

- Represents zero.
- (D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual establishments.
- (NA) Not available.
- (X) Not applicable.
- (Z) Less than half the unit shown.