

1987

Census of Agriculture

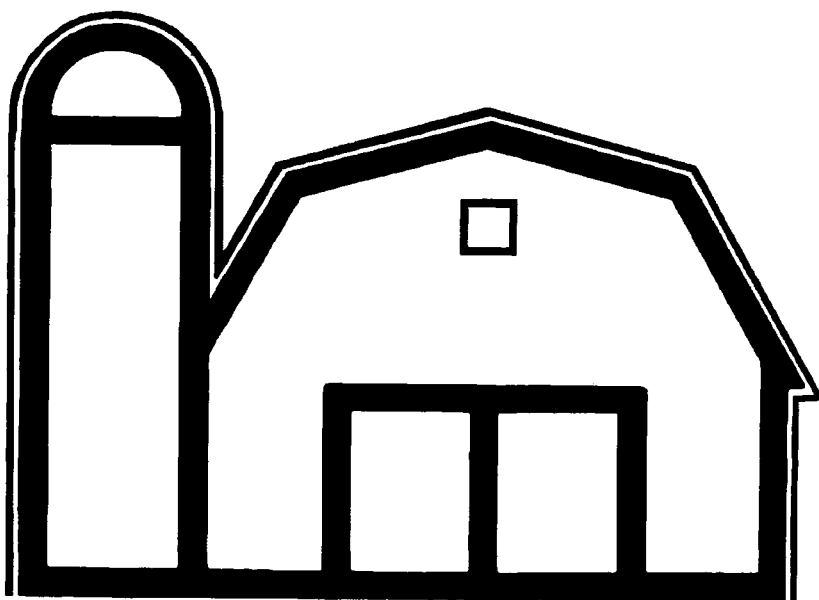
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Volume 1
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

Part 7

Connecticut

State and County Data



U.S. Department of Commerce
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

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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.

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Issued March 1989



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BUREAU OF THE CENSUS



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*Not published for this State.

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fifth year after 1983 covering the prior year. The 1987 census includes each State, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Island of the United States. A census of agriculture will be conducted in American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in conjunction with the 1990 Census of Population and Housing.

HISTORY

The 1987 Census of Agriculture is the 23d 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 so that it coincided with the economic censuses covering manufacturing, mining, construction, retail trade, wholesale trade, service industries, and selected transportation activities. This adjustment in timing established the agriculture census on a 5-year cycle collecting data for years ending in 2 and 7.

USES OF THE CENSUS

The census of agriculture is the leading source of statistics about the Nation's agricultural production and the only source of consistent, comparable data 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 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 agricultural 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 a census be taken in 1979, 1983, and in every

FARM DEFINITION

Since 1850, when minimum criteria defining a farm for census purposes first were established, the farm definition has been changed nine times. The current definition, first used for the 1974 census, is any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold or normally would have been sold during the census year. The farm definition used for the outlying areas varies according to area. The report for each area includes a discussion of the farm definition.

COMPARABILITY OF DATA

Data on acreages and inventories for 1987 and 1982 are generally comparable. Dollar figures shown for expenses and agricultural product sales are expressed in current dollars and have not been adjusted for inflation or deflation. In general, data for censuses since 1974 are not fully comparable with data for 1969 and earlier censuses due to changes in the farm definition.

The 1978 U.S., region, and State data shown in the 1978 Census of Agriculture publications included data for farms on the mail list plus estimates from an area sample for farms not on the mail list. For comparability, the 1978 data in the 1987 publications include only farms on the mail list.

TABULAR PRESENTATION

State data—Tables 1 through 47 in chapter 1 show detailed State-level data usually accompanied by historical data for one or more past censuses. Tables 48 through 53 provide 1987 State data cross-tabulated by various farm classifications.

County data—Chapter 2 presents selected data items by county. Tables 1 through 16 include general data for all counties. The counties are listed in alphabetical order in the column headings. Tables 17 through 36 include only

counties reporting the data item. Counties not having the item, or with a limited number of farms reporting the item, have data combined and presented as "all other counties."

ADVANCE REPORTS

Advance reports of 1987 census data have been published separately for each county with 10 farms or more, each State, and the United States. This series provided, at the earliest possible date, final data on major data items together with comparable final data from the 1982 census. Data items are standard across States except information on selected crops harvested, which vary by State according to their relative importance in the State.

ELECTRONIC DATA DISSEMINATION

The volume 1 data are available on computer tapes and compact disc. The advance report data are available on computer tapes, computer diskettes, and through electronic data services such as the AGRIDATA network, the CENDATA package on Dialog, CompuServe on-line services, and the Census Bureau's State Data Center Bulletin Board. Computer tapes, diskettes, and compact discs are sold by the Customer Services Branch, Data User Services Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233 (telephone (301) 763-4100).

SPECIAL TABULATIONS

Custom designed tabulations can be developed to individual user specifications on a programming cost reimbursable basis. Inquiries about special 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, such as size of farm, is not considered a release of confidential information and is provided even though other information is withheld.

INVENTORIES, PRODUCTION, AND SALES DATA

Inventories of livestock, poultry, and machinery and equipment are measured 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.
(IC)	Independent city.
(NA)	Not available.
(S)	Withheld because estimate did not meet publication standards on the basis of either the response rate (associated relative standard error) or a consistency review.
(X)	Not applicable.
(Z)	Less than half of the unit shown.
cwt	Hundredweight.
sq ft	Square feet.

Highlights of the State's Agriculture: 1987 and 1982

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

Item	All farms		
	1987	1982	Percent change from 1982 to 1987
Farms.....number..	3 580	3 754	-4.6
Land in farms.....acres..	398 400	444 242	-10.3
Average size of farm.....acres..	111	118	-5.9
Value of land and buildings ¹ :			
Average per farm.....dollars..	467 677	316 317	47.9
Average per acre.....dollars..	4 171	2 655	57.1
Farms by size:			
1 to 9 acres.....	560	594	-5.7
10 to 49 acres.....	1 176	1 164	1.0
50 to 179 acres.....	1 176	1 223	-3.8
180 to 499 acres.....	546	632	-13.6
500 to 999 acres.....	95	111	-14.4
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	24	28	-14.3
2,000 acres or more.....	3	2	50.0
Harvested cropland.....farms..	2 876	3 062	-6.1
.....acres..	153 715	171 229	-10.2
Irrigated land.....farms..	430	367	17.2
.....acres..	7 245	6 695	8.2
Market value of agricultural products sold.....\$1,000..	357 702	285 324	25.4
Average per farm.....dollars..	99 917	76 005	31.5
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000..	164 664	102 058	61.3
Grains.....\$1,000..	432	977	-55.8
Cotton and cottonseed.....\$1,000..	-	-	-
Tobacco.....\$1,000..	19 604	15 532	26.2
Hay, silage, and field seeds.....\$1,000..	5 357	4 345	23.3
Vegetables, sweet corn, and melons.....\$1,000..	8 784	8 020	9.5
Fruits, nuts, and berries.....\$1,000..	11 423	9 519	20.0
Nursery and greenhouse crops.....\$1,000..	118 353	62 079	90.6
Other crops.....\$1,000..	711	1 585	-55.2
Livestock, poultry, and their products.....\$1,000..	193 039	183 266	5.3
Poultry and poultry products.....\$1,000..	93 332	74 387	25.5
Dairy products.....\$1,000..	75 807	89 914	-15.7
Cattle and calves.....\$1,000..	12 172	12 022	1.2
Hogs and pigs.....\$1,000..	890	842	5.7
Sheep, lambs, and wool.....\$1,000..	422	321	31.5
Other livestock and livestock products (see text).....\$1,000..	10 415	5 781	80.2
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	2 923	3 119	-6.3
Partnership.....	355	360	-1.4
Corporation.....	276	251	10.0
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.....	26	24	8.3
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming.....	1 842	1 957	-5.9
Other.....	1 738	1 797	-3.3
Operators by days worked off farm:			
Any.....	1 940	2 032	-4.5
200 days or more.....	1 304	1 432	-8.9
Average age of operator.....years..	53.5	52.5	1.9
Total farm production expenses ¹farms..	3 580	(NA)	(NA)
.....\$1,000..	255 212	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :			
Livestock and poultry purchased.....\$1,000..	16 647	24 973	-33.3
Feed for livestock and poultry.....\$1,000..	54 207	66 821	-18.9
Commercial fertilizer ²\$1,000..	7 333	7 547	-2.8
Agricultural chemicals ²\$1,000..	4 815	3 377	42.6
Petroleum products.....\$1,000..	9 300	14 569	-36.2
Hired farm labor.....\$1,000..	65 657	44 278	48.3
Interest expense ³\$1,000..	11 616	12 018	-3.3
Livestock and poultry inventory:			
Cattle and calves.....farms..	1 596	1 896	-15.8
.....number..	89 306	110 029	-18.8
Milk cows.....farms..	630	880	-28.4
.....number..	41 691	51 795	-19.5
Hogs and pigs.....farms..	254	379	-33.0
.....number..	5 429	6 915	-21.5
Chickens 3 months old or older.....farms..	443	583	-24.0
.....number..	4 913 031	5 637 431	-12.8
Selected crops harvested:			
Corn for grain or seed.....farms..	115	150	-23.3
.....acres..	3 953	6 017	-34.3
Corn for silage or green chop.....farms..	624	806	-22.6
.....acres..	42 865	53 959	-20.6
Irish potatoes.....farms..	37	67	-44.8
.....acres..	544	1 785	-69.5
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text).....farms..	1 984	2 091	-5.1
.....acres..	86 038	90 659	-5.1
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text).....farms..	451	511	-11.7
.....acres..	8 608	8 244	4.4
Land in orchards.....farms..	308	331	-6.9
.....acres..	5 122	5 361	-4.5

¹Data are based on a sample of farms.

²Data for 1987 include cost of custom applications.

³Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.