

# 1987

## Census of Agriculture

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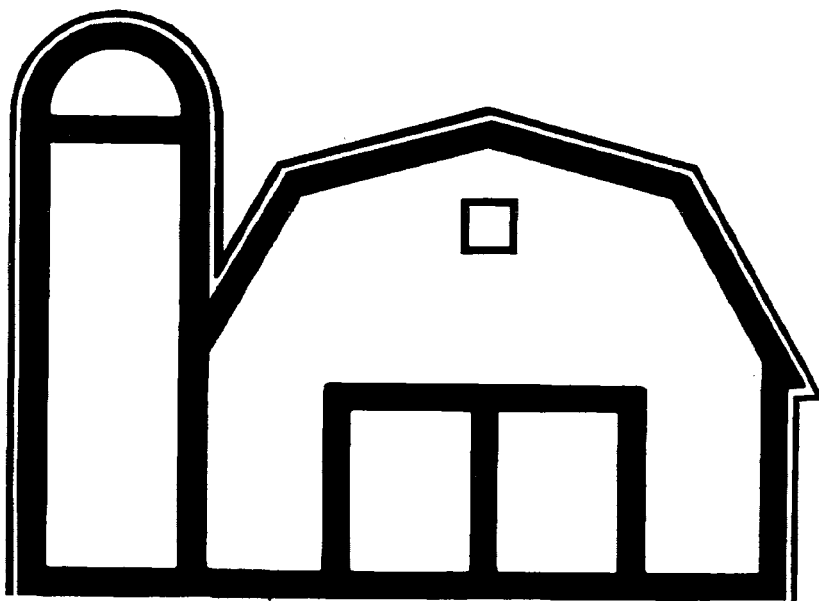
Volume 1  
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

Part 9

# Florida

State and County Data

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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.

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

(301) 763-8555 Division Chief

(301) 763-8567 Crops Branch

(301) 763-8569 Livestock Branch

(301) 763-8566 Farm Economics Branch

(301) 763-1113 General Information

(301) 763-8558 Statistical Methodology

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Volume 1  
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

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**Florida**  
State and County Data

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Issued July 1989



U.S. Department of Commerce  
Robert A. Mosbacher, Secretary  
Michael R. Darby, Under Secretary  
for Economic Affairs

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

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**BUREAU OF THE CENSUS**  
**C. L. Kincannon, Deputy Director**

**Charles A. Waite**, Associate Director for  
Economic Programs  
**Roger H. Bugenhagen**, Assistant Director for  
Economic and Agriculture Censuses

**Thomas L. Mesenbourg**, Chief,  
Economic Census Staff

**AGRICULTURE DIVISION**  
**Charles P. Pautler, Jr., Chief**

---

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# CONTENTS

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	Page
Introduction .....	VII
Highlights of the State's Agriculture: 1987 and 1982 .....	1

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## FIGURES

1. State Map .....	2
2. Profile of State's Agriculture: 1987 .....	3
3. Percent of Farms and of Value of Products Sold: 1987 .....	4
4. Farms by Value of Agricultural Products Sold: 1959 to 1987 .....	4
5. Land Use: 1987 .....	5
6. Selected Crops Harvested: 1987 .....	5
7. Value of Livestock and Poultry Sold: 1987 .....	6
8. Production Expenses: 1987 .....	6

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## TABLES

### CHAPTER 1. State Data

1. Historical Highlights: 1987 and Earlier Census Years .....	7
2. Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold: 1987, 1982, and 1978 .....	9
3. Farm Production Expenses: 1987, 1982, and 1978 .....	10
4. Net Cash Return From Agricultural Sales: 1987 .....	12
5. Government Payments and Other Farm-Related Income: 1987 and 1982 .....	13
6. Commodity Credit Corporation Loans: 1987 and 1982 .....	14
7. Land Use and Acres Diverted: 1987, 1982, and 1978 .....	15
8. Land in Farms, Harvested Cropland, and Irrigated Land, by Size of Farm: 1987 and 1982 .....	16
9. Irrigation: 1987, 1982, and 1978 .....	16
10. Selected Characteristics of Irrigated and Nonirrigated Farms: 1987 and 1982 .....	17
11. Value of Land and Buildings: 1987, 1982, and 1978 .....	18
12. Value of Machinery and Equipment on Place: 1987 and 1982 .....	18
13. Selected Machinery and Equipment on Place: 1987 and 1982 .....	18
14. Petroleum Products Expenses: 1987, 1982, and 1978 .....	19
15. Agricultural Chemicals Used, Including Fertilizer and Lime: 1987, 1982, and 1978 .....	19
16. Tenure and Characteristics of Operator and Type of Organization for All Farms and Farms Operated by Black and Other Races: 1987, 1982, and 1978 .....	20
17. Selected Characteristics of Farms Operated by Females, Persons of Spanish Origin, and Specified Racial Groups: 1987 and 1982 .....	21
18. Selected Characteristics of Farms by Standard Industrial Classification: 1987 .....	23
19. Selected Characteristics of Abnormal Farms: 1987 and 1982 .....	24
20. Livestock and Poultry—Inventory and Sales: 1987, 1982, and 1978 .....	25
21. Poultry—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	25
22. Broilers and Started Pullets—Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	26
23. Poultry—Inventory and Sales by Size of Flock: 1987 .....	26
24. Turkeys—Sales by Number Sold Per Farm: 1987 .....	27
25. Cattle and Calves—Inventory: 1987 and 1982 .....	27
26. Cattle and Calves—Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	28
27. Cattle and Calves—Inventory and Sales by Size of Herd: 1987 .....	28
28. Cattle and Calves—Inventory and Sales by Size of Cow Herd: 1987 .....	29
29. Cattle and Calves—Inventory and Sales by Size of Beef Cow Herd: 1987 .....	29
30. Cattle and Calves—Inventory and Sales by Size of Milk Cow Herd: 1987 .....	30
31. Cattle and Calves—Sales by Number Sold Per Farm: 1987 .....	30
32. Hogs and Pigs—Inventory: 1987 and 1982 .....	30
33. Hogs and Pigs—Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	31

	Page
34. Hogs and Pigs—Litters Farrowed: 1987 and 1982 .....	31
35. Hogs and Pigs—Inventory and Sales by Size of Herd: 1987 .....	31
36. Hogs and Pigs—Inventory and Sales by Number Sold Per Farm: 1987 .....	32
37. Hogs and Pigs—Inventory, Sales, and Litters by Total Farrowed: 1987 .....	32
38. Sheep and Lambs—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	32
39. Sheep and Lambs—Inventory and Sales by Size of Flock: 1987 .....	33
40. Sheep and Lambs—Inventory and Sales by Size of Ewe Flock: 1987 .....	33
41. Other Livestock and Livestock Products—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	34
42. Crops Harvested and Value of Production: 1987 and 1982 .....	35
43. Specified Crops Harvested—Yield Per Acre Irrigated and Nonirrigated: 1987 .....	35
44. Specified Crops by Acres Harvested: 1987 and 1982 .....	36
45. Specified Fruits and Nuts by Acres: 1987 and 1982 .....	38
46. Nursery and Greenhouse Crops, Mushrooms, and Sod Grown for Sale by Value of Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	39
47. Farms by Concentration of Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold: 1987 .....	40
48. Summary by Tenure of Operator: 1987 .....	42
49. Summary by Type of Organization: 1987 .....	52
50. Summary by Age and Principal Occupation of Operator: 1987 .....	62
51. Summary by Size of Farm: 1987 .....	82
52. Summary by Value of Agricultural Products Sold: 1987 .....	102
53. Summary by Standard Industrial Classification of Farm: 1987 .....	122

## CHAPTER 2. County Data

1. County Summary Highlights: 1987 .....	142
2. Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold and Farms by Standard Industrial Classification: 1987 and 1982 .....	151
3. Farm Production Expenses: 1987 and 1982 .....	169
4. Net Cash Return From Agricultural Sales, Government Payments, Other Farm-Related Income, and Commodity Credit Corporation Loans: 1987 and 1982 .....	178
5. Farms, Land in Farms, and Land Use: 1987 and 1982 .....	187
6. Harvested Cropland by Size of Farm and Acres Harvested: 1987 and 1982 .....	205
7. Irrigation: 1987 and 1982 .....	214
8. Machinery and Equipment on Place: 1987 and 1982 .....	223
9. Agricultural Chemicals Used, Including Fertilizer and Lime: 1987 and 1982 .....	232
10. Tenure and Characteristics of Operator and Type of Organization: 1987 and 1982 .....	237
11. Cattle and Calves—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	255
12. Hogs and Pigs—Inventory, Litters, and Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	273
13. Sheep and Horses—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	282
14. Poultry—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	287
15. Selected Crops: 1987 and 1982 .....	296
16. Farms With Sales of \$10,000 or More: 1987 and 1982 .....	305
17. Milk Goats—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	346
18. Angora Goats—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	*
19. Mink and Their Pelts—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	*
20. Colonies of Bees and Honey—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	346
21. Fish Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	347
22. Miscellaneous Poultry—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	347
23. Miscellaneous Livestock and Animal Specialties—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 .....	348
24. Grains—Corn, Sorghum, Wheat, and Other Small Grains: 1987 and 1982 .....	350
25. Cotton, Tobacco, Soybeans, Dry Beans and Peas, Potatoes, Sugar Crops, and Peanuts: 1987 and 1982 .....	352
26. Field Seeds, Grass Seeds, Hay, Forage, and Silage: 1987 and 1982 .....	355
27. Vegetables, Sweet Corn, and Melons Harvested for Sale: 1987 and 1982 .....	361
28. Fruits and Nuts: 1987 and 1982 .....	371
29. Berries Harvested for Sale: 1987 and 1982 .....	379
30. Nursery and Greenhouse Crops, Mushrooms, and Sod Grown for Sale: 1987 and 1982 .....	380
31. Other Crops: 1987 and 1982 .....	386
32. Farms Operated by Black and Other Races by Value of Sales and Occupation: 1987 and 1982 .....	386
33. Farms Operated by Black and Other Races by Tenure: 1987 and 1982 .....	387
34. Operators by Selected Racial Groups: 1987 and 1982 .....	388
35. Operators of Spanish Origin: 1987 and 1982 .....	389
36. Farms With Grazing Permits: 1987 .....	390

**APPENDIXES**

A.	General Explanation .....	A-1
B.	Places With All Cropland in the Conservation Reserve Program .....	B-1
C.	Statistical Methodology .....	C-1
D.	Report Form and Information Sheet .....	D-1

Index .....	Index	1
Publication Program .....	Inside back cover	

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# INTRODUCTION

	Page
HISTORY .....	VII
USES OF THE CENSUS .....	VII
AUTHORITY AND AREA COVERED .....	VII
FARM DEFINITION .....	VII
COMPARABILITY OF DATA .....	VII
TABULAR PRESENTATION .....	VII
ADVANCE REPORTS .....	VIII
ELECTRONIC DATA DISSEMINATION .....	VIII
SPECIAL TABULATIONS .....	VIII
CENSUS DISCLOSURE RULES .....	VIII
INVENTORIES, PRODUCTION, AND SALES DATA .....	VIII
ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS .....	VIII

## 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

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.

## 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.....	36 556	36 352	.6
Land in farms..... acres.....	11 194 090	12 814 216	-12.6
Average size of farm..... acres.....	306	353	-13.3
Value of land and buildings <sup>1</sup> :			
Average per farm..... dollars.....	543 830	552 586	-1.6
Average per acre..... dollars.....	1 790	1 576	13.6
Farms by size:			
1 to 9 acres.....	7 300	6 790	7.5
10 to 49 acres.....	13 346	12 981	2.8
50 to 179 acres.....	8 379	8 711	-3.8
180 to 499 acres.....	4 255	4 409	-3.5
500 to 999 acres.....	1 598	1 660	-3.7
1,000 to 1,999 acres.....	789	828	-4.7
2,000 acres or more.....	889	973	-8.6
Harvested cropland..... farms.....	22 677	24 396	-7.0
..... acres.....	2 240 831	2 643 147	-15.2
Irrigated land..... farms.....	11 981	10 550	13.6
..... acres.....	1 622 750	1 585 080	2.4
Market value of agricultural products sold..... \$1,000.....	4 351 383	3 522 103	23.5
Average per farm..... dollars.....	119 033	96 889	22.9
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops..... \$1,000.....	3 317 823	2 518 959	31.7
Grains..... \$1,000.....	29 945	85 624	-65.0
Cotton and cottonseed..... \$1,000.....	10 309	2 896	255.9
Tobacco..... \$1,000.....	19 243	30 601	-37.1
Hay, silage, and field seeds..... \$1,000.....	16 416	18 510	-11.3
Vegetables, sweet corn, and melons..... \$1,000.....	697 504	572 729	21.8
Fruits, nuts, and berries..... \$1,000.....	1 108 431	970 420	14.2
Nursery and greenhouse crops..... \$1,000.....	823 183	505 669	62.8
Other crops..... \$1,000.....	612 793	332 509	84.3
Livestock, poultry, and their products..... \$1,000.....	1 033 560	1 003 144	3.0
Poultry and poultry products..... \$1,000.....	266 846	250 051	6.7
Dairy products..... \$1,000.....	310 925	321 911	-3.4
Cattle and calves..... \$1,000.....	315 999	321 347	-1.7
Hogs and pigs..... \$1,000.....	24 897	32 240	-22.8
Sheep, lambs, and wool..... \$1,000.....	240	164	46.2
Other livestock and livestock products (see text)..... \$1,000.....	114 653	77 431	48.1
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	28 943	29 556	-2.1
Partnership.....	3 289	3 195	2.9
Corporation.....	3 961	3 255	21.7
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc. ....	363	346	4.9
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming.....	15 821	15 610	1.4
Other.....	20 735	20 742	(2)
Operators by days worked off farm:			
Any.....	21 196	21 034	.8
200 days or more.....	15 349	15 536	-1.2
Average age of operator..... years.....	53.7	52.5	2.3
Total farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> ..... \$1,000.....	3 200 405	(NA)	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses <sup>1</sup> :			
Livestock and poultry purchased..... \$1,000.....	148 405	165 018	-10.1
Feed for livestock and poultry..... \$1,000.....	336 690	349 630	-3.7
Commercial fertilizer <sup>2</sup> ..... \$1,000.....	209 617	217 332	-3.5
Agricultural chemicals <sup>2</sup> ..... \$1,000.....	227 063	165 343	37.3
Petroleum products..... \$1,000.....	104 591	135 063	-22.6
Hired farm labor..... \$1,000.....	721 540	480 444	50.2
Interest expense <sup>3</sup> ..... \$1,000.....	191 913	198 515	-3.3
Livestock and poultry inventory:			
Cattle and calves..... farms.....	17 321	17 822	-2.8
..... number.....	1 879 124	2 178 552	-13.7
Milk cows..... farms.....	1 073	1 385	-22.5
..... number.....	176 993	194 550	-9.0
Hogs and pigs..... farms.....	2 487	3 602	-31.0
..... number.....	156 137	203 231	-23.2
Chickens 3 months old or older..... farms.....	2 275	2 891	-21.3
..... number.....	12 964 760	15 374 588	-15.7
Selected crops harvested:			
Corn for grain or seed..... farms.....	2 088	2 987	-30.1
..... acres.....	95 874	190 254	-49.6
Soybeans for beans..... farms.....	708	2 091	-66.1
..... acres.....	89 938	334 401	-73.1
Sugarcane for sugar..... farms.....	138	123	12.2
..... acres.....	403 014	343 680	17.3
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text)..... farms.....	5 643	5 560	1.5
..... acres.....	280 639	281 747	-.4
Vegetables harvested for sale (see text)..... farms.....	2 053	2 455	-16.4
..... acres.....	311 659	283 780	9.8
Land in orchards..... farms.....	9 965	11 214	-11.1
..... acres.....	762 068	938 527	-18.8

<sup>1</sup>Data are based on a sample of farms.

<sup>2</sup>Data for 1987 include cost of custom applications.

<sup>3</sup>Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.