

1987

Census of Agriculture

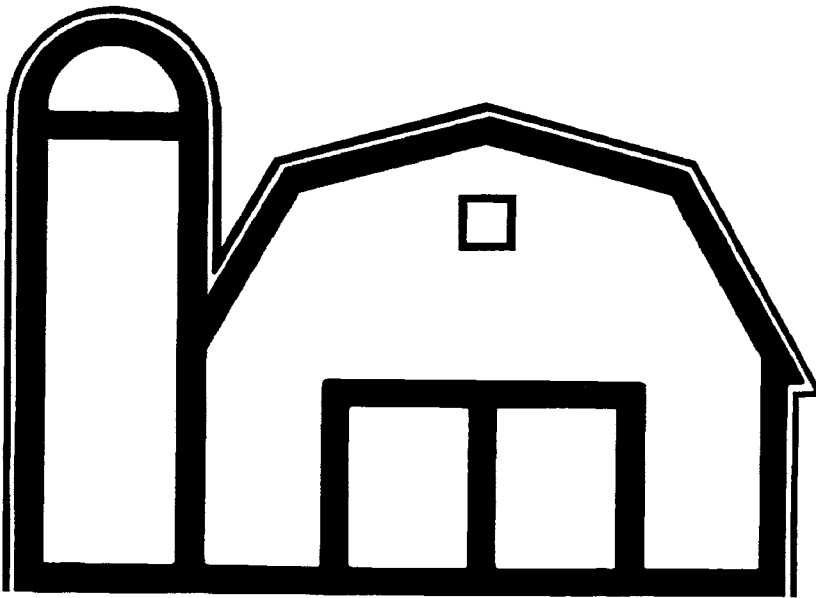
AC87-A-24

Volume 1
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

Part 24

Mississippi

State and County Data



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This report was prepared in the Agriculture Division. Many other divisions contributed to this preparation: 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; Economic Programming prepared the computer programs; 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.

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

(301) 763-8555 Division Chief

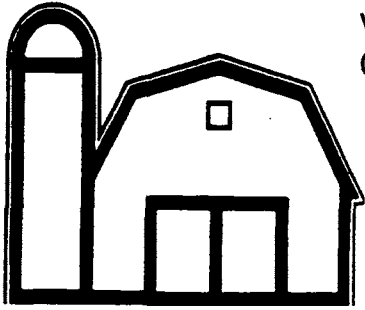
(301) 763-8567 Crops Branch

(301) 763-8569 Livestock Branch

(301) 763-8566 Farm Economics Branch

(301) 763-1113 General Information

(301) 763-8558 Statistical Methodology



VOLUME 1
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

1987 Census of Agriculture

AC87-A-24
Changed November 1989

CHANGE SHEET Mississippi

Following are changes to the 1987 Census of Agriculture volume 1 publications:

Table 17. Selected Characteristics of Farms Operated by Females, Persons of Spanish Origin, and Specified Racial Groups: 1987 and 1982

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

| Characteristics | Female operators | Operators of Spanish origin ¹ | Farms operated by Black and other races | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|--|---|-----------------|-------|------------------|
| | | | Black | American Indian | Asian | Other (see text) |
| 1987 OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS | | | | | | |
| Operators by days of work off farm: | | | | | | |
| Any..... | 890 | 26 | 1 588 | 9 | 2 | 1 |
| 100 to 199 days | 157 | 3 | 297 | 2 | - | - |

¹See chapter 1, table 16, for operators not of or not reporting Spanish origin.

Following are changes to appendix C:

Table G. State Coverage Evaluation Estimates of Farms Not on the Mail List: 1987

[During additional processing for coverage evaluation estimates, minor errors in estimates and relative standard errors were discovered for selected data items in some States. Corrected estimates will be published in *Volume 2, Subject Series, Part 2, Coverage Evaluation*].



U.S. Department of Commerce
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

1987

Census of Agriculture

AC87-A-24

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Mississippi
State and County Data

Issued July 1989



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

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS



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

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

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 |

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 | 37 |
| 46. Nursery and Greenhouse Crops, Mushrooms, and Sod Grown for Sale by Value of Sales: 1987 and 1982 | 38 |
| 47. Farms by Concentration of Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold: 1987 | 39 |
| 48. Summary by Tenure of Operator: 1987 | 40 |
| 49. Summary by Type of Organization: 1987 | 50 |
| 50. Summary by Age and Principal Occupation of Operator: 1987 | 60 |
| 51. Summary by Size of Farm: 1987 | 80 |
| 52. Summary by Value of Agricultural Products Sold: 1987 | 100 |
| 53. Summary by Standard Industrial Classification of Farm: 1987 | 120 |

CHAPTER 2. County Data

| | |
|---|-----|
| 1. County Summary Highlights: 1987 | 140 |
| 2. Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold and Farms by Standard Industrial Classification: 1987 and 1982 | 151 |
| 3. Farm Production Expenses: 1987 and 1982 | 173 |
| 4. Net Cash Return From Agricultural Sales, Government Payments, Other Farm-Related Income, and Commodity Credit Corporation Loans: 1987 and 1982 | 184 |
| 5. Farms, Land in Farms, and Land Use: 1987 and 1982 | 195 |
| 6. Harvested Cropland by Size of Farm and Acres Harvested: 1987 and 1982 | 217 |
| 7. Irrigation: 1987 and 1982 | 228 |
| 8. Machinery and Equipment on Place: 1987 and 1982 | 239 |
| 9. Agricultural Chemicals Used, Including Fertilizer and Lime: 1987 and 1982 | 250 |
| 10. Tenure and Characteristics of Operator and Type of Organization: 1987 and 1982 | 256 |
| 11. Cattle and Calves—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 | 278 |
| 12. Hogs and Pigs—Inventory, Litters, and Sales: 1987 and 1982 | 300 |
| 13. Sheep and Horses—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 | 311 |
| 14. Poultry—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 | 317 |
| 15. Selected Crops: 1987 and 1982 | 328 |
| 16. Farms With Sales of \$10,000 or More: 1987 and 1982 | 339 |
| 17. Milk Goats—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 | 389 |
| 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 | 389 |
| 21. Fish Sales: 1987 and 1982 | 390 |
| 22. Miscellaneous Poultry—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 | 391 |
| 23. Miscellaneous Livestock and Animal Specialties—Inventory and Sales: 1987 and 1982 | 392 |
| 24. Grains—Corn, Sorghum, Wheat, and Other Small Grains: 1987 and 1982 | 394 |
| 25. Cotton, Tobacco, Soybeans, Dry Beans and Peas, Potatoes, Sugar Crops, and Peanuts: 1987 and 1982 | 397 |
| 26. Field Seeds, Grass Seeds, Hay, Forage, and Silage: 1987 and 1982 | 400 |
| 27. Vegetables, Sweet Corn, and Melons Harvested for Sale: 1987 and 1982 | 408 |
| 28. Fruits and Nuts: 1987 and 1982 | 414 |
| 29. Berries Harvested for Sale: 1987 and 1982 | 419 |
| 30. Nursery and Greenhouse Crops, Mushrooms, and Sod Grown for Sale: 1987 and 1982 | 420 |
| 31. Other Crops: 1987 and 1982 | 421 |
| 32. Farms Operated by Black and Other Races by Value of Sales and Occupation: 1987 and 1982 | 422 |
| 33. Farms Operated by Black and Other Races by Tenure: 1987 and 1982 | 423 |
| 34. Operators by Selected Racial Groups: 1987 and 1982 | 424 |
| 35. Operators of Spanish Origin: 1987 and 1982 | 425 |
| 36. Farms With Grazing Permits: 1987 | 425 |

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 |

*Not published for this State.

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