

1992

Census of Agriculture



AC92-A-15

Volume 1
GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERIES

Part 15

Iowa

State and County Data



U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
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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Contents

	Page
Introduction	VII
A. Highlights of the State's Agriculture: 1992 and 1987	1
B. Highlights of the State's Agriculture: 1992 and 1987 (Metric Measurement)	2
State Map	3

FIGURES

1. Profile of the State's Agriculture: 1992	4
2. Percent of Farms and of Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold: 1992	5
3. Farms by Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold: 1964 to 1992	5
4. Land Use: 1992	6
5. Selected Crops Harvested: 1992	6
6. Value of Livestock and Poultry Sold: 1992	7
7. Production Expenses: 1992	7

TABLES

CHAPTER 1. State Data

1. Historical Highlights: 1992 and Earlier Census Years	8
2. Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold and Direct Sales: 1992, 1987, and 1982	10
3. Farm Production Expenses: 1992, 1987, and 1982	11
4. Net Cash Return From Agricultural Sales: 1992 and 1987	14
5. Government Payments and Other Farm-Related Income: 1992 and 1987	14
6. Commodity Credit Corporation Loans: 1992 and 1987	16
7. Land Use and Acres Diverted: 1992, 1987, and 1982	17
8. Land in Farms, Harvested Cropland, and Irrigated Land, by Size of Farm: 1992 and 1987	18
9. Irrigation: 1992, 1987, and 1982	18
10. Selected Characteristics of Irrigated and Nonirrigated Farms: 1992 and 1987	19
11. Value of Land and Buildings: 1992, 1987, and 1982	20
12. Value of Machinery and Equipment on Place: 1992 and 1987	20
13. Selected Machinery and Equipment on Place: 1992 and 1987	20
14. Petroleum Products Expenses: 1992, 1987, and 1982	21
15. Agricultural Chemicals Used, Including Fertilizer: 1992, 1987, and 1982	21
16. Tenure and Characteristics of Operator and Type of Organization for All Farms and Farms Operated by Black and Other Races: 1992, 1987, and 1982	22
17. Selected Characteristics of Farms by Specified Racial Groups, Sex of Operators, and Persons of Spanish Origin: 1992 and 1987	23
18. Selected Characteristics of Farms by Standard Industrial Classification: 1992	25
19. Selected Characteristics of Abnormal Farms: 1992 and 1987	26
20. Poultry—Inventory and Sales: 1992 and 1987	26
21. Hens and Pullets—Number Sold: 1992 and 1987	27
22. Poultry—Inventory and Sales by Farms With Chickens 3 Months Old or Older: 1992	27
23. Turkeys—Number Sold: 1992	28
24. Cattle and Calves—Inventory: 1992 and 1987	28
25. Cattle and Calves—Sales: 1992 and 1987	29
26. Cattle and Calves Herd Size by Inventory and Sales: 1992	29
27. Cow Herd Size by Inventory and Sales: 1992	30
28. Beef Cow Herd Size by Inventory and Sales: 1992	30
29. Milk Cow Herd Size by Inventory and Sales: 1992	31
30. Cattle and Calves—Number Sold Per Farm by Sales: 1992	31
31. Hogs and Pigs—Inventory: 1992 and 1987	32
32. Hogs and Pigs—Sales: 1992 and 1987	32

	Page
33. Hogs and Pigs —Litters Farrowed: 1992 and 1987	33
34. Hogs and Pigs Herd Size by Inventory and Sales: 1992	33
35. Hogs and Pigs —Inventory and Sales by Number Sold Per Farm: 1992	33
36. Hogs and Pigs —Inventory, Sales, and Litters by Total Litters Farrowed: 1992	34
37. Sheep and Lambs —Inventory, Shorn, and Sales: 1992 and 1987	34
38. Sheep and Lambs —Inventory, Shorn, and Sales by Size of Flock: 1992	34
39. Ewes 1 Year Old or Older —Inventory, Shorn, and Sales by Size of Ewe Flock: 1992	35
40. Other Livestock and Livestock Products —Inventory and Sales: 1992 and 1987 ...	35
41. Specified Crops Harvested —Yield Per Acre Irrigated and Nonirrigated: 1992	36
42. Specified Crops by Acres Harvested: 1992 and 1987	37
43. Specified Fruits and Nuts by Acres: 1992 and 1987	38
44. Nursery and Greenhouse Crops, Mushrooms, and Sod Grown for Sale by Value of Sales: 1992 and 1987	38
45. Farms by Concentration of Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold: 1992	40
46. Summary by Tenure of Operator: 1992	42
47. Summary by Type of Organization: 1992	52
48. Summary by Age and Principal Occupation of Operator: 1992	62
49. Summary by Size of Farm: 1992	82
50. Summary by Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold: 1992	102
51. Summary by Standard Industrial Classification of Farm: 1992	122
52. Summary by Combined Government Payments and Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold: 1992	142

CHAPTER 2. County Data

1. County Summary Highlights: 1992	162
2. Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold and Farms by Standard Industrial Classification: 1992 and 1987	175
3. Farm Production Expenses: 1992 and 1987	201
4. Net Cash Return From Agricultural Sales, Government Payments, Other Farm- Related Income, Direct Sales, and Commodity Credit Corporation Loans: 1992 and 1987	214
5. Hired Farm Labor —Workers and Payroll: 1992	232
6. Farms, Land in Farms, Value of Land and Buildings, and Land Use: 1992 and 1987	245
7. Harvested Cropland by Size of Farm and Acres Harvested: 1992 and 1987	271
8. Irrigation: 1992 and 1987	284
9. Machinery and Equipment on Place: 1992 and 1987	297
10. Agricultural Chemicals Used, Including Fertilizer: 1992 and 1987	310
11. Tenure and Characteristics of Operator and Type of Organization: 1992 and 1987	317
12. Farms With Sales of \$10,000 or More: 1992 and 1987	343
13. Selected Crops: 1992 and 1987	408
14. Cattle and Calves —Inventory and Sales: 1992 and 1987	425
15. Hogs and Pigs —Inventory, Litters, and Sales: 1992 and 1987	456
16. Poultry—Inventory and Sales: 1992 and 1987	469
17. Sheep and Lambs —Inventory, Shorn, and Sales: 1992 and 1987	482
18. Horses and Ponies —Inventory and Sales: 1992 and 1987	489
19. Milk Goats —Inventory and Sales: 1992 and 1987	490
20. Angora Goats —Inventory and Sales: 1992 and 1987	490
21. Mink and Their Pelts —Inventory and Sales: 1992 and 1987	490
22. Colonies of Bees and Honey —Inventory and Sales: 1992 and 1987	491
23. Fish Sales: 1992 and 1987	491
24. Miscellaneous Poultry —Inventory and Sales: 1992 and 1987	492
25. Miscellaneous Livestock and Animal Specialties —Inventory and Sales: 1992 and 1987	493
26. Grains—Corn, Sorghum, Wheat, and Other Small Grains: 1992 and 1987	495
27. Cotton, Tobacco, Soybeans, Dry Beans and Peas, Potatoes, Sugar Crops, and Peanuts: 1992 and 1987	500
28. Field Seeds, Grass Seeds, Hay, Forage, and Silage: 1992 and 1987	502
29. Vegetables, Sweet Corn, and Melons Harvested for Sale: 1992 and 1987	513
30. Land in Orchards: 1992 and 1987	521
31. Fruits and Nuts: 1992 and 1987	522
32. Berries Harvested for Sale: 1992 and 1987	523

	Page
33. Nursery and Greenhouse Crops, Mushrooms, and Sod Grown for Sale: 1992 and 1987	524
34. Other Crops: 1992 and 1987	528
35. Farms Operated by Black and Other Races by Value of Sales and Occupation: 1992 and 1987	529
36. Farms Operated by Black and Other Races by Tenure: 1992 and 1987	529
37. Operators by Selected Racial Groups: 1992 and 1987	529
38. Operators of Spanish Origin: 1992 and 1987	530
39. Farms With Grazing Permits: 1992 and 1987	531

APPENDIXES

A. General Explanation	A-1
B. Places With All Cropland in the Conservation Reserve Programs or Wetlands Reserve Programs	B-1
C. Statistical Methodology	C-1
D. Report Form and Information Sheet	D-1
E. Units of Weights, Measures, and Metric Conversion Factors	E-1

Index	Index 1
Publication Program	Inside back cover

Introduction

HISTORY

The 1992 Census of Agriculture is the 24th 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 1992 census includes each State, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands of the United States.

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 its farm definition.

COMPARABILITY OF DATA

Data on acreages and inventories for 1992 and 1987 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.

TABULAR PRESENTATION

State data. Tables 1 through 45 in chapter 1 show detailed State-level data usually accompanied by historical data for one or more past censuses. Tables 46 through 52 provide 1992 State data cross-tabulated by various farm classifications.

County data. Chapter 2 presents selected data items by county. Tables 1 through 17 include general data for all counties. The counties are listed in alphabetical order in the column headings. Tables 18 through 39 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."

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, 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 farm. However, the number of farms in a given size category or other classification 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.
(H)	Standard error or relative standard error of estimate is greater than or equal to 99.95 percent.
(IC)	Independent city.
(L)	Standard error or relative standard error of estimate is less than .05 percent.
(NA)	Not available.
(S)	Withheld because estimate did not meet publication standards on the basis of either the response rate or a consistency review.
(X)	Not applicable.
(Z)	Less than half of the unit shown.
cwt	Hundredweight.
sq ft	Square feet.

A. Highlights of the State's Agriculture: 1992 and 1987

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

Item	All farms		
	1992	1987	Percent change from 1987 to 1992
Farms ----- number	96 543	105 180	-8.2
Land in farms ----- acres	31 346 565	31 638 130	-9
Average size of farm ----- acres	325	301	8.0
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :			
Average per farm ----- dollars	394 267	283 597	39.0
Average per acre ----- dollars	1 212	947	28.0
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ :			
Average per farm ----- dollars	68 967	52 844	30.5
Farms by size:			
1 to 9 acres -----	7 129	7 974	-10.6
10 to 49 acres -----	10 345	10 981	-5.8
50 to 179 acres -----	24 518	27 556	-11.0
180 to 499 acres -----	33 988	39 071	-13.0
500 to 999 acres -----	15 830	15 874	-3
1,000 to 1,999 acres -----	4 241	3 401	23.2
2,000 acres or more -----	492	323	52.3
Total cropland ----- farms	88 224	96 749	-8.8
Harvested cropland ----- acres	27 195 676	27 290 868	-3
Irrigated land ----- farms	84 009	92 878	-9.5
----- acres	22 826 308	20 484 178	11.4
Irrigated land ----- farms	1 063	851	24.9
----- acres	115 724	92 247	25.5
Market value of agricultural products sold ----- \$1,000	10 099 786	8 926 799	13.1
Average per farm ----- dollars	104 614	84 872	23.3
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ----- \$1,000	4 641 155	3 660 117	26.8
Livestock, poultry, and their products ----- \$1,000	5 458 631	5 266 682	3.6
Farms by value of sales:			
Less than \$2,500 -----	7 636	8 799	-13.2
\$2,500 to \$4,999 -----	4 753	5 498	-13.6
\$5,000 to \$9,999 -----	7 030	8 252	-14.8
\$10,000 to \$24,999 -----	13 820	17 436	-20.7
\$25,000 to \$49,999 -----	14 852	17 752	-16.3
\$50,000 to \$99,999 -----	17 570	20 656	-14.9
\$100,000 to \$249,999 -----	21 903	20 200	8.4
\$250,000 to \$499,999 -----	6 692	4 957	35.0
\$500,000 or more -----	2 287	1 630	40.3
Total farm production expenses ¹ ----- \$1,000	7 744 947	6 647 645	16.5
Average per farm ----- dollars	80 232	63 200	26.9
Net cash return from agricultural sales for the farm unit (see text) ¹ ----- farms	96 541	105 184	-8.2
----- \$1,000	2 193 209	2 146 997	2.2
Average per farm ----- dollars	22 718	20 412	11.3
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming -----	66 885	75 279	-11.2
Other -----	29 658	29 901	-8
Operators by days worked off farm:			
Any -----	42 672	46 229	-7.7
200 days or more -----	25 568	25 928	-1.4
Livestock and poultry:			
Cattle and calves inventory ----- farms	43 610	49 469	-11.8
----- number	3 963 602	4 303 682	-7.9
Beef cows ----- farms	29 987	32 279	-7.1
----- number	1 065 744	1 123 745	-5.2
Milk cows ----- farms	5 878	7 748	-24.1
----- number	258 925	294 888	-12.2
Cattle and calves sold ----- farms	43 780	50 509	-13.3
----- number	3 223 645	3 539 020	-8.9
Hogs and pigs inventory ----- farms	31 790	36 670	-13.3
----- number	14 153 158	12 983 074	9.0
Hogs and pigs sold ----- farms	34 058	38 638	-11.9
----- number	26 812 736	23 483 812	14.2
Sheep and lambs inventory ----- farms	6 760	8 636	-21.7
----- number	405 354	451 617	-10.2
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ----- farms	2 633	4 897	-46.2
----- number	12 560 235	9 580 666	31.1
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ----- farms	652	1 060	-38.5
----- number	9 199 943	666 016	1 281.3
Selected crops harvested:			
Corn for grain or seed ----- farms	72 756	83 301	-12.7
----- acres	12 512 815	10 147 051	23.3
Corn for silage or green chop ----- bushels	1 754 149 889	1 274 388 346	37.6
----- farms	9 575	7 934	20.7
----- acres	260 770	205 176	27.1
Wheat for grain ----- tons, green	4 096 921	3 251 394	25.0
----- farms	30 072	31 047	-27.9
----- acres	1 183 472	1 180 360	-3
Oats for grain ----- bushels	17 854	25 398	-29.7
----- farms	368 086	544 907	-32.4
----- acres	23 246 559	30 918 660	-24.8
Soybeans for beans ----- bushels	59 945	68 278	-12.2
----- farms	8 243 067	7 903 395	4.3
----- acres	352 590 997	326 081 351	8.1
----- bushels			
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms	44 768	48 271	-7.3
----- acres	1 762 425	1 968 207	-10.5
----- tons, dry	5 107 237	5 612 944	-9.0

¹Data are based on a sample of farms.

1992 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

IOWA 1

B. Highlights of the State's Agriculture: 1992 and 1987 (Metric Measurement)

[1 acre = 0.4047 hectare. For further metric conversions, see metric conversion table in appendix E. Dollar figures are in current dollars with no adjustment for price changes. For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

Item	All farms		
	1992	1987	Percent change from 1987 to 1992
Farms ----- number	96 543	105 180	-8.2
Land in farms ----- hectares	12 685 955	12 803 951	-9
Average size of farm ----- hectares	131	122	7.4
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :			
Average per farm ----- dollars	394 267	283 597	39.0
Average per hectare ----- dollars	1 212	947	28.0
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ :			
Average per farm ----- dollars	68 967	52 844	30.5
Farms by size:			
.01 to 3.84 hectares -----	7 129	7 974	-10.6
3.85 to 20.04 hectares -----	10 345	10 981	-5.8
20.05 to 72.67 hectares -----	24 518	27 556	-11.0
72.68 to 202.22 hectares -----	33 988	39 071	-13.0
202.23 to 404.65 hectares -----	15 830	15 874	-3
404.66 to 809.51 hectares -----	4 241	3 401	24.7
809.52 hectares or more -----	492	323	52.3
Total cropland ----- farms	88 224	96 749	-8.8
----- hectares	11 006 090	11 044 614	-3
Harvested cropland ----- farms	84 009	92 878	-9.5
----- hectares	9 237 807	8 289 947	11.4
Irrigated land ----- farms	1 063	851	24.9
----- hectares	46 834	37 332	25.5
Market value of agricultural products sold ----- \$1,000	10 099 786	8 926 799	13.1
Average per farm ----- dollars	104 614	84 872	23.3
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops ----- \$1,000	4 641 155	3 660 117	26.8
Livestock, poultry, and their products ----- \$1,000	5 458 631	5 266 682	3.6
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\$5,000 to \$9,999 -----	7 030	8 252	-14.8
\$10,000 to \$24,999 -----	13 820	17 436	-20.7
\$25,000 to \$49,999 -----	14 852	17 752	-16.3
\$50,000 to \$99,999 -----	17 570	20 656	-14.9
\$100,000 to \$249,999 -----	21 903	20 200	8.4
\$250,000 to \$499,999 -----	6 692	4 957	35.0
\$500,000 or more -----	2 287	1 630	40.3
Total farm production expenses ¹ ----- \$1,000	7 744 947	6 647 645	16.5
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Farming -----	66 885	75 279	-11.2
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Operators by days worked off farm:			
Any -----	42 672	46 229	-7.7
200 days or more -----	25 568	25 928	-1.4
Livestock and poultry:			
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----- number	3 963 602	4 303 682	-7.9
Beef cows ----- farms	29 987	32 279	-7.1
----- number	1 065 744	1 123 745	-5.2
Milk cows ----- farms	5 878	7 748	-24.1
----- number	258 925	294 888	-12.2
Cattle and calves sold ----- farms	43 780	50 509	-13.3
----- number	3 223 645	3 539 020	-8.9
Hogs and pigs inventory ----- farms	31 790	36 670	-13.3
----- number	14 153 158	12 983 074	9.0
Hogs and pigs sold ----- farms	34 058	38 638	-11.9
----- number	26 812 736	23 483 812	14.2
Sheep and lambs inventory ----- farms	6 760	8 636	-21.7
----- number	405 354	451 617	-10.2
Chickens 3 months old or older inventory ----- farms	2 633	4 897	-46.2
----- number	12 560 235	9 580 666	31.1
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold ----- farms	652	1 060	-38.5
----- number	9 199 943	666 016	1 281.3
Selected crops harvested:			
Corn for grain or seed ----- farms	72 756	83 301	-12.7
----- hectares	5 063 936	4 106 512	23.3
----- metric tons	44 557 477	32 370 968	37.6
Corn for silage or green chop ----- farms	9 575	7 934	20.7
----- hectares	105 534	83 035	27.1
----- metric tons	3 716 665	2 949 616	26.0
Wheat for grain ----- farms	970	1 345	-27.9
----- hectares	12 170	12 565	-3.1
----- metric tons	32 209	32 124	3
Oats for grain ----- farms	17 854	25 398	-29.7
----- hectares	148 964	220 524	-32.4
----- metric tons	337 423	448 783	-24.8
Soybeans for beans ----- farms	59 945	68 278	-12.2
----- hectares	3 335 969	3 198 504	4.3
----- metric tons	9 595 958	8 874 483	8.1
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) ----- farms	44 768	48 271	-7.3
----- hectares	713 253	796 533	-10.5
----- metric tons	4 633 209	5 091 979	-9.0

¹Data are based on a sample of farms.