

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
Alabama Agricultural Statistics Service



LIMESTONE ALABAMA

Land in farms

Increased 23 percent from 207,226 acres in 1992 to 253,889 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Decreased 1 percent from 228 acres in 1992 to 225 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Increased 12 percent from 334 farms in 1992 to 375 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

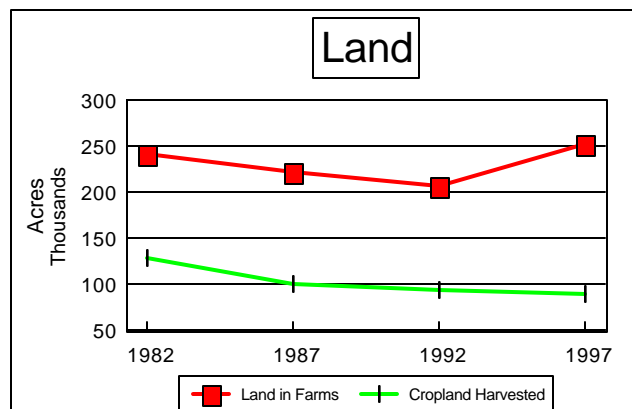
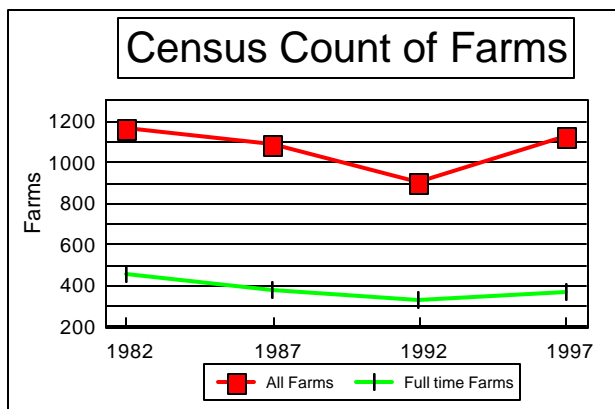
Decreased 2 percent to \$53,026,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 44 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 56 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Decreased 20 percent from \$59,183 in 1992 to \$47,051 in 1997.



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Ranked Items Within State and U.S., 1997

Item	Quantity	State		U.S.	
		Rank	Universe*	Rank	Universe*
MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)					
Total value of agricultural products sold	53,026	23	67	1,132	3,076
Value of livestock and poultry	29,929	24	67	886	3,069
Value of crops including nursery	23,097	7	67	1,147	3,070
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Poultry & poultry products	22,945	24	66	252	2,901
Cotton, cottonseed	7,954	9	57	176	709
Soybeans	6,014	3	58	699	2,136
Cattle and calves	5,451	18	67	1,403	3,063
Nursery and greenhouse crops	5,073	8	64	386	2,790
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold	5,308,715	31	51	255	1,882
Layers, pullets, and pullet chicks sold	238,574	19	52	300	2,203
Cattle and calves sold	14,251	20	67	1,287	3,063
Hogs and pigs sold	(D)	34	67	1,576	2,976
Ducks, geese, and other poultry sold	1,463	29	52	672	2,200
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Broiler inventory	785,112	30	62	267	2,620
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	139,323	20	67	353	3,002
Pullets 13 to less than 20 weeks inventory	(D)	11	55	219	2,549
Cattle and calves inventory	28,712	19	67	1,178	3,064
Pullets less than 13 weeks inventory	(D)	21	46	315	1,790
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Soybeans for beans-acres	36,287	2	58	620	2,144
Cotton-acres	21,951	6	57	166	713
Hay crops-acres	21,592	9	67	959	3,061
Corn for grain-acres	8,411	6	67	1,137	2,691
Wheat-acres	5,590	3	58	1,006	2,612

Some counties do not have five commodities in a group.

Other County Summary Highlights

Item	1997	1992	Percent Change
Farms by value of sales:			
Less than \$10,000	829	622	33
\$10,000 or more	298	288	3
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	43,781	40,897	7
Average per farmdollars..	38,848	44,942	-14
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	8,039	11,521	-30
Average per farmdollars..	7,133	12,660	-44
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	973	784	24
Partnership or corporation	145	122	19
Other	9	4	125
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	375	334	12
Other	752	576	31
Operators by sex:			
Male	1,041	861	21
Female	86	49	76
Operators by race:			
White	1,102	887	24
Black and other races	25	23	9
Average age of operator	54.0	54.5	-1

(D) Cannot be disclosed. See "Census of Agriculture Volume 1 Geographic Area Series" for complete footnotes.

* Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with item.