

# 1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture  
Colorado Agricultural Statistics Service



## LA PLATA COLORADO

### Land in farms

Decreased 1 percent from 587,339 acres in 1992 to 580,135 acres in 1997.

### Average size of farms

Decreased 10 percent from 828 acres in 1992 to 743 acres in 1997.

### Full time farms

Decreased 5 percent from 355 farms in 1992 to 339 farms in 1997.

### Market value of agricultural products sold

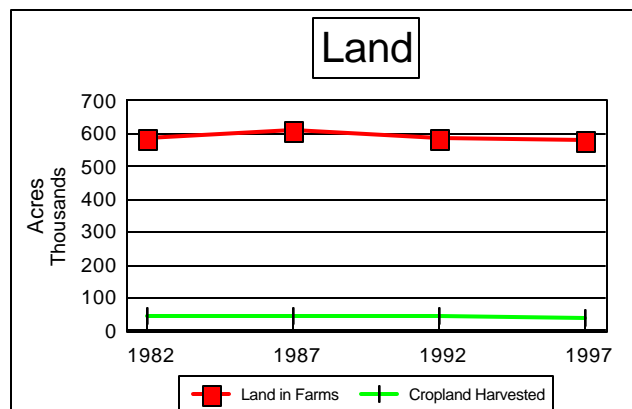
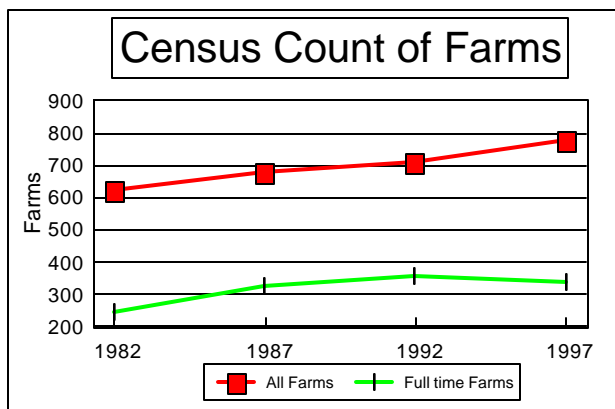
Increased 11 percent to \$15,797,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 31 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 69 percent of the market value.

### Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Increased slightly from \$20,096 in 1992 to \$20,227 in 1997.



# 1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture, Colorado Agricultural Statistics Service

## LA PLATA COLORADO

### Ranked Items Within State and U.S., 1997

Item	Quantity	State		U.S.	
		Rank	Universe*	Rank	Universe*
<b>MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)</b>					
Total value of agricultural products sold	15,797	39	63	2,267	3,076
Value of livestock and poultry	10,849	33	63	1,802	3,069
Value of crops including nursery	4,948	34	62	2,128	3,070
<b>TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)</b>					
Cattle and calves	8,681	32	63	1,007	3,063
Hay, silage, field seeds, grass seeds	3,657	18	60	184	3,043
Dairy products	548	20	42	1,701	2,563
Sheep, lambs, and wool	542	12	56	195	2,787
Nursery and greenhouse crops	533	20	51	1,309	2,790
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)</b>					
Cattle and calves sold	18,480	31	63	1,063	3,063
Sheep and lambs sold	5,511	14	56	214	2,765
Hogs and pigs sold	(D)	20	54	1,384	2,976
Ducks, geese, and other poultry sold	(D)	9	41	557	2,200
Horses and ponies sold	243	12	61	263	3,015
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)</b>					
Cattle and calves inventory	33,907	29	62	997	3,064
Sheep and lamb inventory	7,850	14	56	187	2,864
Horse and pony inventory	3,947	3	63	37	3,066
Colony of bees inventory	(D)	4	43	240	2,588
Hogs and pigs inventory	(D)	19	55	1,445	3,005
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA</b>					
Hay crops-acres	34,493	18	62	550	3,061
Wheat-acres	4,007	33	50	1,162	2,612
Oats-acres	2,464	2	44	282	2,332
Barley-acres	299	19	39	607	1,411
Corn for grain-acres	287	26	35	2,192	2,691

Some counties do not have five commodities in a group.

### Other County Summary Highlights

Item	1997	1992	Percent Change
<b>Farms by value of sales:</b>			
Less than \$10,000 .....	487	438	11
\$10,000 or more .....	294	271	8
Total farm production expenses .....\$1,000..	14,652	13,969	5
Average per farm .....dollars..	18,785	19,703	-5
<b>Net cash return from agricultural sales</b>			
for the farm unit .....\$1,000..	916	(288)	418
Average per farm .....dollars..	1,174	(406)	389
<b>Farms by type of organization:</b>			
Individual or family .....	688	603	14
Partnership or corporation .....	81	95	-15
Other .....	12	11	9
<b>OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS</b>			
<b>Operators by principal occupation:</b>			
Farming .....	339	355	-5
Other .....	442	354	25
<b>Operators by sex:</b>			
Male .....	694	649	7
Female .....	87	60	45
<b>Operators by race:</b>			
White .....	759	684	11
Black and other races .....	22	25	-12
Average age of operator .....	54.2	53.5	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.