

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
Florida Agricultural Statistics Service



DE SOTO FLORIDA

Land in farms

Decreased 4 percent from 334,623 acres in 1992 to 322,402 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Increased 8 percent from 416 acres in 1992 to 451 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Decreased 4 percent from 345 farms in 1992 to 330 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

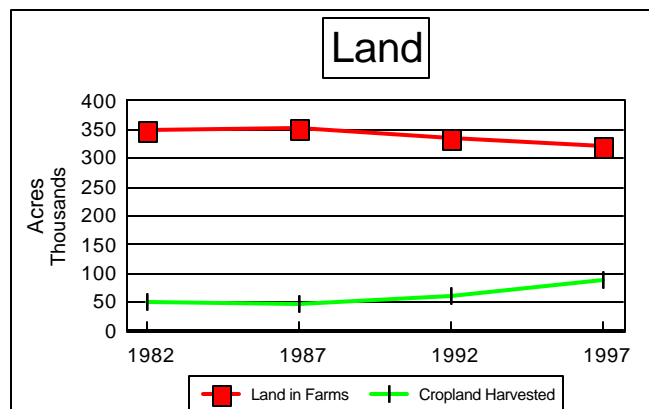
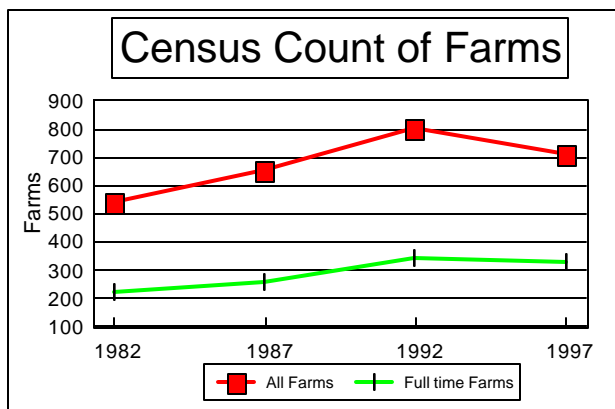
Increased 41 percent to \$180,983,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 88 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 12 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Increased 58 percent from \$160,020 in 1992 to \$253,123 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	180,983	10	67	164	3,076
Value of crops including nursery	158,512	11	67	65	3,070
Value of livestock and poultry	22,471	19	67	1,131	3,069
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Fruits, nuts, berries	145,288	3	64	19	2,547
Cattle and calves	12,555	7	67	723	3,063
Vegetables, sweet corn, and melons	8,054	15	64	131	2,739
Nursery and greenhouse crops	5,011	35	67	391	2,790
Poultry & poultry products	(D)	21	64	612	2,901
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Layers, pullets, and pullet chicks sold	(D)	23	56	619	2,203
Cattle and calves sold	29,096	8	67	659	3,063
Ducks, geese, and other poultry sold	3,400	16	57	476	2,200
Hogs and pigs sold	(D)	38	64	2,186	2,976
Horses and ponies sold	110	14	66	829	3,015
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	(D)	11	65	212	3,002
Cattle and calves inventory	76,226	7	67	268	3,064
Pullets less than 13 weeks inventory	(D)	10	47	213	1,790
Colony of bees inventory	7,251	7	65	63	2,588
Ducks, geese, and other poultry inventory	3,551	11	65	311	2,884
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Land in orchards-acres	81,785	5	66	14	2,693
Hay crops-acres	4,409	21	67	2,372	3,061
Land used for vegetables-acres	2,147	16	64	279	2,741
All nursery-acres	858	31	66	353	2,619
Field seeds-acres	(D)	16	26	376	1,212

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	341	370	-8
\$10,000 or more	374	434	-14
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	143,949	92,096	56
Average per farmdollars..	201,047	114,548	76
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	37,479	36,133	4
Average per farmdollars..	52,345	44,942	16
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	513	576	-11
Partnership or corporation	197	211	-7
Other	5	17	-71
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	330	345	-4
Other	385	459	-16
Operators by sex:			
Male	582	697	-16
Female	133	107	24
Operators by race:			
White	702	794	-12
Black and other races	13	10	30
Average age of operator	57.9	57.1	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.