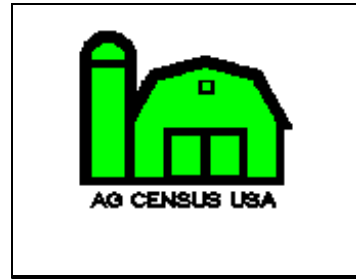


1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
Florida Agricultural Statistics Service



HERNANDO FLORIDA

Land in farms

Decreased 13 percent from 61,019 acres in 1992 to 52,999 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Decreased 17 percent from 148 acres in 1992 to 123 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Increased 2 percent from 166 farms in 1992 to 170 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

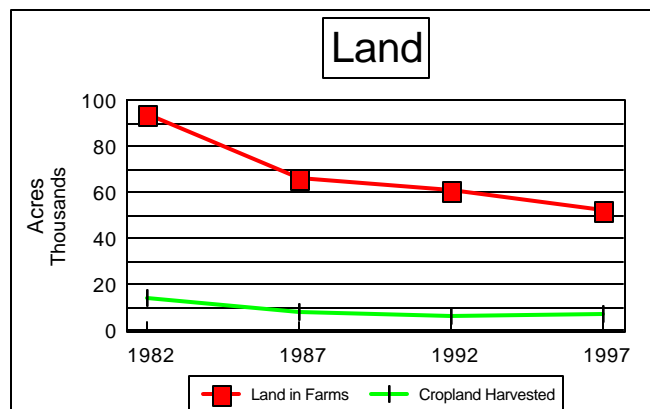
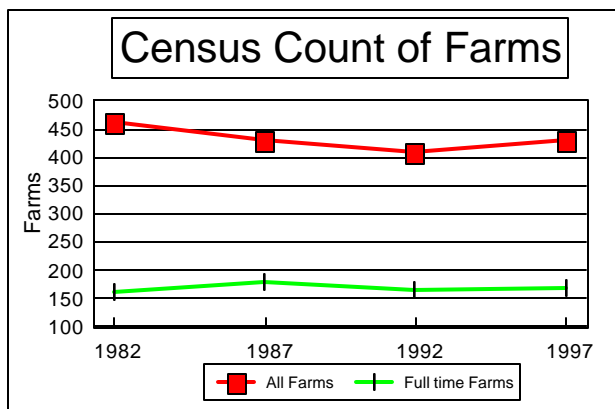
Increased 23 percent to \$23,011,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 28 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 72 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Increased 17 percent from \$45,439 in 1992 to \$53,267 in 1997.



1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture, Florida Agricultural Statistics Service

HERNANDO FLORIDA

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	23,011	45	67	1,989	3,076
Value of livestock and poultry	16,662	25	67	1,414	3,069
Value of crops including nursery	6,349	48	67	2,004	3,070
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Poultry & poultry products	(D)	17	64	527	2,901
Dairy products	5,544	17	52	589	2,563
Nursery and greenhouse crops	4,774	37	67	408	2,790
Cattle and calves	2,573	33	67	1,975	3,063
Aquaculture	(D)	7	56	105	1,505
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Layers, pullets, and pullet chicks sold	(D)	8	56	200	2,203
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold	(D)	22	39	590	1,882
Cattle and calves sold	7,695	33	67	1,822	3,063
Hogs and pigs sold	1,425	13	64	1,691	2,976
Rabbits and their pelts sold	847	14	38	237	1,593
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	(D)	10	65	173	3,002
Pullets less than 13 weeks inventory	(D)	3	47	79	1,790
Broiler inventory	(D)	22	57	586	2,620
Cattle and calves inventory	14,626	31	67	1,823	3,064
Ducks, geese, and other poultry inventory	1,435	15	65	557	2,884
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Hay crops-acres	5,381	17	67	2,220	3,061
Land in orchards-acres	1,479	29	66	269	2,693
All nursery-acres	539	40	66	496	2,619
Field seeds-acres	160	18	26	419	1,212
Land used for vegetables-acres	65	53	64	1,443	2,741

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	309	318	-3
\$10,000 or more	123	93	32
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	18,305	17,158	7
Average per farmdollars..	42,471	41,645	2
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	3,736	1,290	190
Average per farmdollars..	8,669	3,132	177
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	355	355	
Partnership or corporation	71	54	31
Other	6	2	200
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	170	166	2
Other	262	245	7
Operators by sex:			
Male	346	342	1
Female	86	69	25
Operators by race:			
White	422	396	7
Black and other races	10	15	-33
Average age of operator	56.7	55.1	3

(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.