

# 1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture  
Florida Agricultural Statistics Service



## ST LUCIE FLORIDA

### Land in farms

Decreased 24 percent from 300,622 acres in 1992 to 227,414 acres in 1997.

### Average size of farms

Decreased 18 percent from 558 acres in 1992 to 455 acres in 1997.

### Full time farms

Decreased 13 percent from 285 farms in 1992 to 248 farms in 1997.

### Market value of agricultural products sold

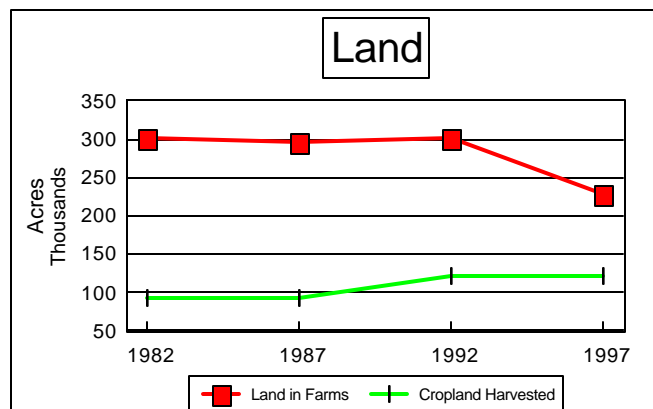
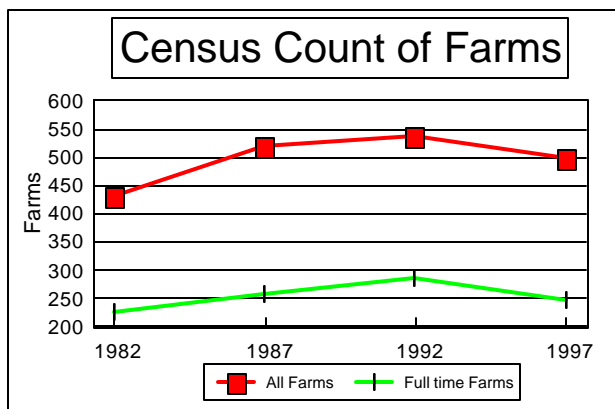
Decreased 16 percent to \$173,137,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 94 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 6 percent of the market value.

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

Decreased 10 percent from \$384,273 in 1992 to \$346,274 in 1997.



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**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	173,137	11	67	180	3,076
Value of crops including nursery	163,017	10	67	62	3,070
Value of livestock and poultry	10,120	32	67	1,851	3,069
<b>TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)</b>					
Fruits, nuts, berries	141,915	4	64	21	2,547
Vegetables, sweet corn, and melons	(D)	13	64	98	2,739
Nursery and greenhouse crops	9,755	26	67	207	2,790
Cattle and calves	5,483	18	67	1,399	3,063
Dairy products	(D)	24	52	735	2,563
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)</b>					
Cattle and calves sold	14,536	20	67	1,269	3,063
Hogs and pigs sold	165	53	64	2,454	2,976
Horses and ponies sold	58	26	66	1,491	3,015
Sheep and lambs sold	(D)	34	46	2,509	2,765
Layers, pullets, and pullet chicks sold	(D)	55	56	2,158	2,203
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)</b>					
Cattle and calves inventory	25,478	22	67	1,292	3,064
Colony of bees inventory	5,048	13	65	116	2,588
Horse and pony inventory	497	33	67	1,605	3,066
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	108	55	65	2,605	3,002
Hogs and pigs inventory	59	58	65	2,636	3,005
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA</b>					
Land in orchards-acres	117,840	1	66	8	2,693
All nursery-acres	(D)	14	66	88	2,619
Hay crops-acres	1,134	46	67	2,855	3,061
Land used for vegetables-acres	(D)	38	64	599	2,741

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 .....	188	185	2
\$10,000 or more .....	312	354	-12
Total farm production expenses .....\$1,000..	153,546	163,758	-6
Average per farm .....dollars..	307,708	304,382	1
<b>Net cash return from agricultural sales</b>			
for the farm unit .....\$1,000..	17,098	40,314	-58
Average per farm .....dollars..	34,264	74,934	-54
<b>Farms by type of organization:</b>			
Individual or family .....	274	302	-9
Partnership or corporation .....	213	218	-2
Other .....	13	19	-32
<b>OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS</b>			
<b>Operators by principal occupation:</b>			
Farming .....	248	285	-13
Other .....	252	254	-1
<b>Operators by sex:</b>			
Male .....	435	486	-10
Female .....	65	53	23
<b>Operators by race:</b>			
White .....	490	536	-9
Black and other races .....	10	3	233
Average age of operator .....	56.8	53.6	6

(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.