

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service



MERCER KENTUCKY

Land in farms

Decreased 5 percent from 133,173 acres in 1992 to 126,389 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Increased 5 percent from 123 acres in 1992 to 129 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Decreased 22 percent from 498 farms in 1992 to 389 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

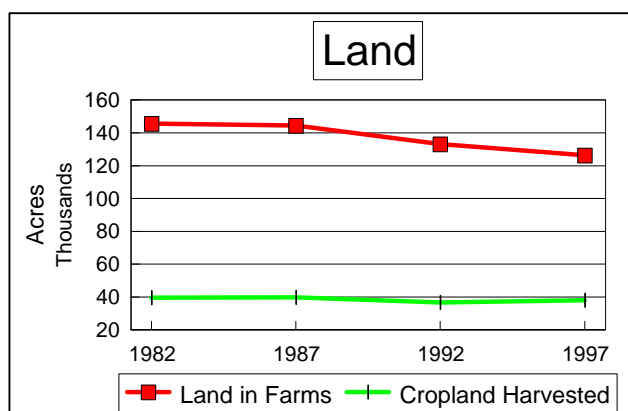
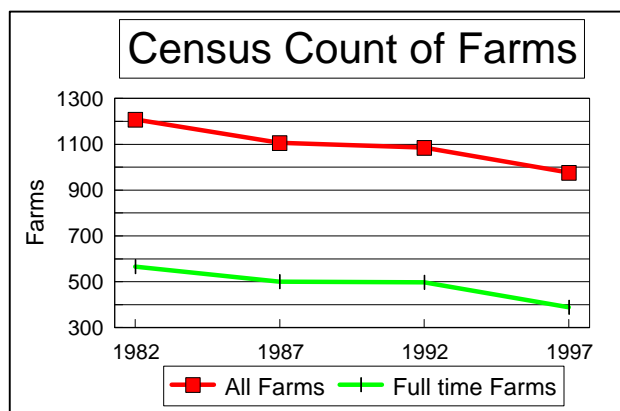
Decreased 14 percent to \$30,601,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 49 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 51 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Decreased 5 percent from \$32,868 in 1992 to \$31,354 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	30,601	40	120	1,701	3,076
Value of livestock and poultry	15,632	32	120	1,476	3,069
Value of crops including nursery	14,969	40	120	1,478	3,070
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Tobacco	13,163	20	116	66	580
Cattle and calves	10,141	13	120	884	3,063
Dairy products	4,187	25	107	705	2,563
Horses and ponies	1,235	10	116	82	3,015
Hay, silage, field seeds, grass seeds	840	24	119	1,109	3,043
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Cattle and calves sold	23,170	15	120	840	3,063
Ducks, geese, and other poultry sold	1,001	13	63	762	2,200
Sheep and lambs sold	396	10	106	1,376	2,765
Horses and ponies sold	222	11	116	300	3,015
Hogs and pigs sold	187	89	116	2,413	2,976
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Cattle and calves inventory	35,723	24	120	939	3,064
Horse and pony inventory	1,635	10	119	316	3,066
Ducks, geese, and other poultry inventory	1,241	10	117	603	2,884
Sheep and lamb inventory	618	9	109	1,267	2,864
All goat inventory	424	6	118	579	2,983
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Hay crops-acres	29,201	27	120	695	3,061
Tobacco-acres	4,177	18	116	57	583
Corn for silage-acres	2,038	20	110	674	2,473
Corn for grain-acres	2,030	68	118	1,641	2,691
Soybeans for beans-acres	1,162	66	98	1,549	2,144

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	516	533	-3
\$10,000 or more	460	552	-17
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	23,583	26,598	-11
Average per farmdollars..	24,188	24,514	-1
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	7,516	8,790	-14
Average per farmdollars..	7,708	8,102	-5
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	845	898	-6
Partnership or corporation	128	183	-30
Other	3	4	-25
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	389	498	-22
Other	587	587	
Operators by sex:			
Male	905	999	-9
Female	71	86	-17
Operators by race:			
White	966	1,077	-10
Black and other races	10	8	25
Average age of operator	53.1	52.5	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.