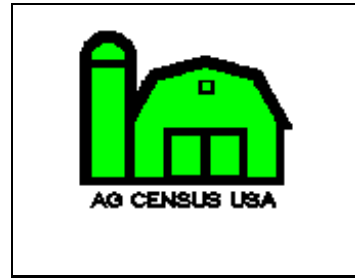


1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service



BLUE EARTH MINNESOTA

Land in farms

Increased 5 percent from 383,373 acres in 1992 to 403,362 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Increased 11 percent from 351 acres in 1992 to 389 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Decreased 16 percent from 823 farms in 1992 to 695 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

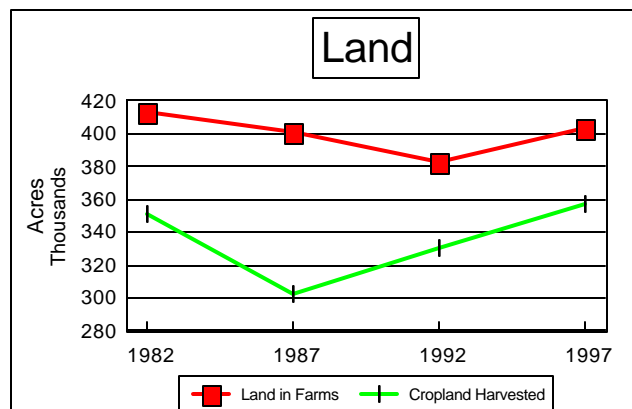
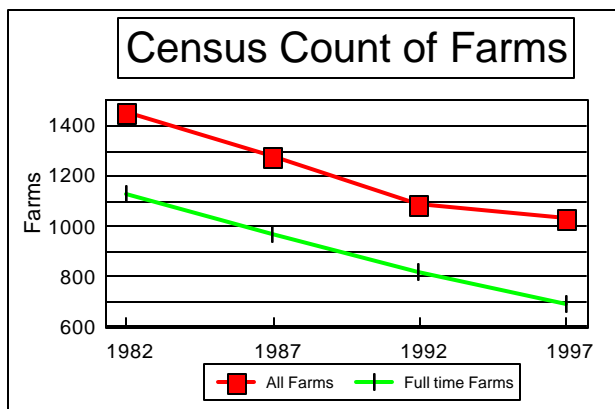
Increased 76 percent to \$221,470,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 45 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 55 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Increased 85 percent from \$115,571 in 1992 to \$213,568 in 1997.



1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture, Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Service

BLUE EARTH MINNESOTA

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	221,470	5	87	115	3,076
Value of livestock and poultry	122,259	6	87	127	3,069
Value of crops including nursery	99,211	9	87	149	3,070
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Hogs and pigs	103,513	2	85	12	2,976
Corn for grain	49,352	7	84	56	2,582
Soybeans	46,082	4	82	24	2,136
Cattle and calves	10,799	25	87	836	3,063
Poultry & poultry products	4,211	32	87	638	2,901
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Hogs and pigs sold	911,619	2	85	17	2,976
Turkeys sold	229,456	31	69	183	1,353
Layers, pullets, and pullet chicks sold	44,003	29	74	648	2,203
Cattle and calves sold	14,543	35	87	1,268	3,063
Sheep and lambs sold	1,737	24	86	531	2,765
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Hogs and pigs inventory	325,829	2	85	21	3,005
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	109,021	16	86	408	3,002
All turkeys inventory	87,861	26	81	182	2,361
Cattle and calves inventory	17,408	54	87	1,674	3,064
Pullets 13 to less than 20 weeks inventory	(D)	13	74	356	2,549
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Soybeans for beans-acres	176,854	4	82	24	2,144
Corn for grain-acres	170,142	5	85	44	2,691
Hay crops-acres	6,527	74	87	2,088	3,061
Land used for vegetables-acres	4,418	17	84	156	2,741
Corn for silage-acres	1,363	70	85	883	2,473

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	215	157	37
\$10,000 or more	822	934	-12
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	149,315	105,105	42
Average per farmdollars..	143,848	96,250	49
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	70,067	21,600	224
Average per farmdollars..	67,502	19,780	241
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	921	959	-4
Partnership or corporation	111	132	-16
Other	5	-	
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	695	823	-16
Other	342	268	28
Operators by sex:			
Male	1,001	1,068	-6
Female	36	23	57
Operators by race:			
White	1,029	1,089	-6
Black and other races	8	2	300
Average age of operator	50.4	48.6	4

(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.