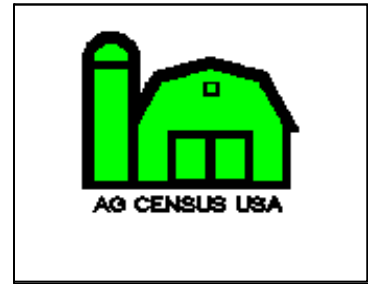


1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile



United States Department of Agriculture
Texas Agricultural Statistics Service

MATAGORDA TEXAS

Land in farms

Decreased 2 percent from 562,612 acres in 1992 to 550,642 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Decreased 6 percent from 762 acres in 1992 to 717 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Decreased 7 percent from 401 farms in 1992 to 372 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

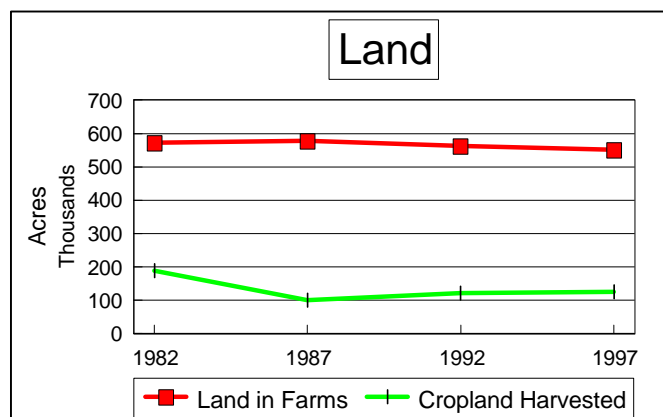
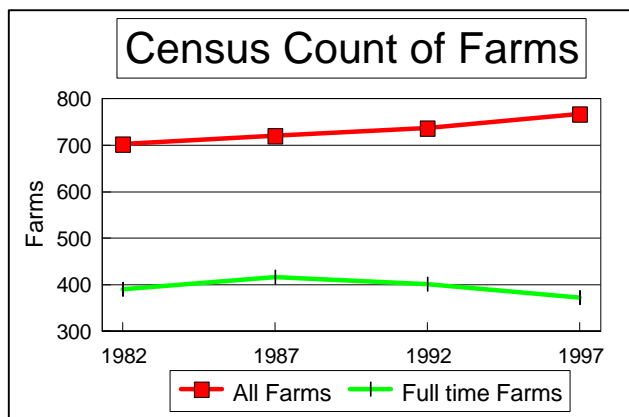
Increased 30 percent to \$58,020,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 73 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 27 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Increased 25 percent from \$60,353 in 1992 to \$75,547 in 1997.



1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture, Texas Agricultural Statistics Service

MATAGORDA TEXAS

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	58,020	54	254	1,026	3,076
Value of crops including nursery	42,424	29	252	676	3,070
Value of livestock and poultry	15,596	127	254	1,481	3,069
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
All other grains: rye, drybeans, etc	15,002	3	132	53	1,971
Cattle and calves	12,534	113	254	725	3,063
Cotton, cottonseed	9,254	41	177	160	709
Nursery and greenhouse crops	8,976	13	189	233	2,790
Grain sorghum	5,885	19	208	55	1,275
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Cattle and calves sold	31,414	106	254	602	3,063
Ducks, geese, and other poultry sold	(D)	64	180	759	2,200
All goats sold	225	133	243	423	2,686
Rabbits and their pelts sold	86	78	123	856	1,593
Sheep and lambs sold	(D)	189	235	2,348	2,765
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Cattle and calves inventory	63,317	83	254	411	3,064
Ducks, geese, and other poultry inventory	(D)	26	223	283	2,884
Horse and pony inventory	892	99	254	866	3,066
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	408	118	245	1,847	3,002
All goat inventory	364	159	247	658	2,983
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Sorghum for grain-acres	40,814	19	219	57	1,508
Rice-acres	27,820	4	22	38	153
Cotton-acres	22,252	52	178	163	713
Soybeans for beans-acres	16,670	8	119	844	2,144
Hay crops-acres	10,211	133	253	1,698	3,061

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	428	364	18
\$10,000 or more	340	374	-9
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	46,476	38,214	22
Average per farmdollars..	60,515	51,710	17
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	10,755	4,772	125
Average per farmdollars..	14,003	6,457	117
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	621	586	6
Partnership or corporation	143	137	4
Other	4	15	-73
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	372	401	-7
Other	396	337	18
Operators by sex:			
Male	702	683	3
Female	66	55	20
Operators by race:			
White	724	705	3
Black and other races	44	33	33
Average age of operator	54.5	53.8	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.