

# 1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture  
Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service



## BEDFORD VIRGINIA

### Land in farms

Decreased 3 percent from 200,507 acres in 1992 to 194,946 acres in 1997.

### Average size of farms

Unchanged from 163 acres in 1992 to 163 acres in 1997.

### Full time farms

Decreased 7 percent from 511 farms in 1992 to 474 farms in 1997.

### Market value of agricultural products sold

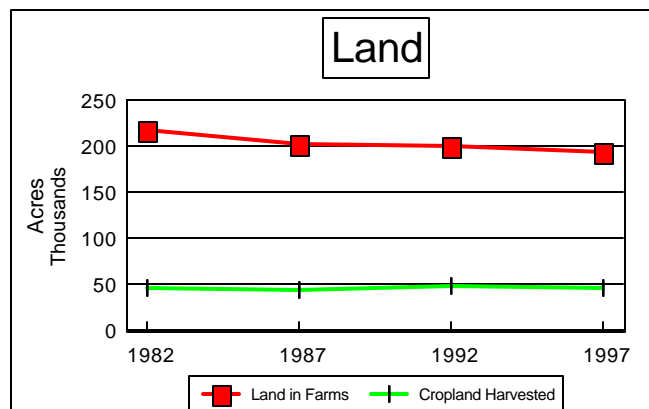
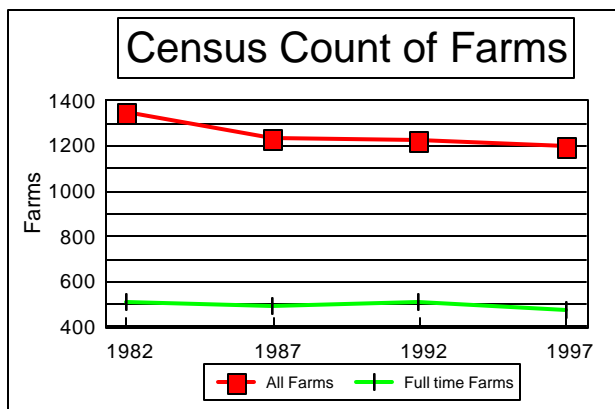
Decreased 5 percent to \$19,755,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 13 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 87 percent of the market value.

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

Decreased 2 percent from \$16,903 in 1992 to \$16,490 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	19,755	29	98	2,117	3,076
Value of livestock and poultry	17,272	15	97	1,388	3,069
Value of crops including nursery	2,483	65	98	2,435	3,070
<b>TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)</b>					
Cattle and calves	8,979	12	97	986	3,063
Dairy products	7,860	7	72	458	2,563
Nursery and greenhouse crops	899	33	97	1,020	2,790
Hay, silage, field seeds, grass seeds	682	13	97	1,319	3,043
Tobacco	365	26	47	365	580
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)</b>					
Cattle and calves sold	23,866	8	97	811	3,063
Hogs and pigs sold	1,384	31	93	1,705	2,976
Sheep and lambs sold	418	24	89	1,352	2,765
Horses and ponies sold	117	12	96	786	3,015
Rabbits and their pelts sold	(D)	21	40	758	1,593
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)</b>					
Cattle and calves inventory	52,043	5	97	565	3,064
Horse and pony inventory	1,305	8	97	496	3,066
All goat inventory	883	2	95	230	2,983
Hogs and pigs inventory	808	33	96	1,691	3,005
Sheep and lamb inventory	578	28	93	1,320	2,864
<b>TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA</b>					
Hay crops-acres	42,884	3	97	368	3,061
Corn for silage-acres	4,018	7	86	382	2,473
Wheat-acres	631	51	87	1,818	2,612
Corn for grain-acres	399	72	97	2,112	2,691
Land in orchards-acres	314	16	96	603	2,693

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 .....	899	894	1
\$10,000 or more .....	299	333	-10
Total farm production expenses .....\$1,000..	17,527	16,841	4
Average per farm .....dollars..	14,643	13,726	7
<b>Net cash return from agricultural sales</b>			
for the farm unit .....\$1,000..	1,556	2,990	-48
Average per farm .....dollars..	1,300	2,437	-47
<b>Farms by type of organization:</b>			
Individual or family .....	1,080	1,095	-1
Partnership or corporation .....	115	120	-4
Other .....	3	12	-75
<b>OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS</b>			
<b>Operators by principal occupation:</b>			
Farming .....	474	511	-7
Other .....	724	716	1
<b>Operators by sex:</b>			
Male .....	1,084	1,139	-5
Female .....	114	88	30
<b>Operators by race:</b>			
White .....	1,168	1,206	-3
Black and other races .....	30	21	43
Average age of operator .....	58.3	57.3	2

(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.