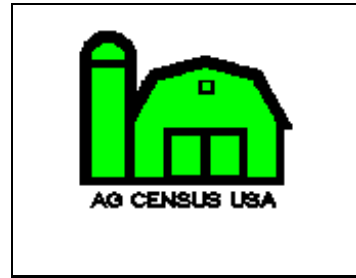


1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service



WETZEL WEST VIRGINIA

Land in farms

Increased 29 percent from 37,130 acres in 1992 to 47,771 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Decreased 2 percent from 187 acres in 1992 to 184 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Increased 34 percent from 62 farms in 1992 to 83 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

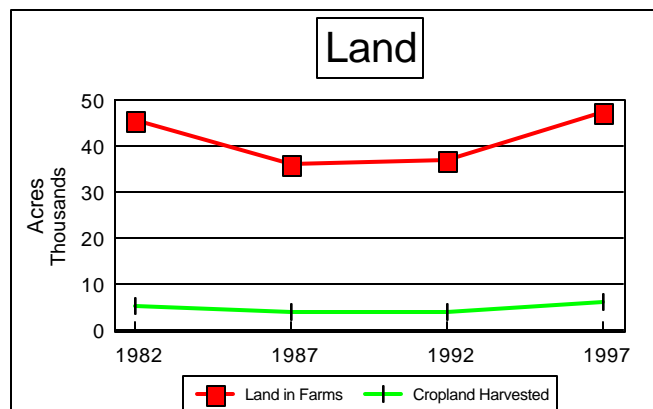
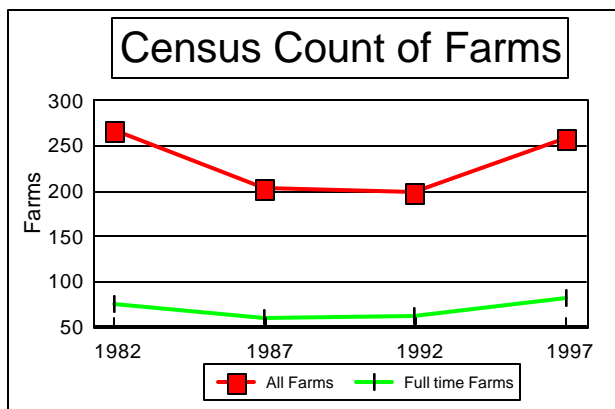
Decreased 11 percent to \$735,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 26 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 74 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Decreased 32 percent from \$4,165 in 1992 to \$2,826 in 1997.



1997 Census of Agriculture
County Profile

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WETZEL

WEST VIRGINIA

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	735	46	55	3,017	3,076
Value of livestock and poultry	545	43	55	2,949	3,069
Value of crops including nursery	190	42	54	2,986	3,070
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Cattle and calves	385	42	55	2,819	3,063
Hay, silage, field seeds, grass seeds	106	42	54	2,657	3,043
Colonies of bees and honey	(D)	1	35	315	1,992
Nursery and greenhouse crops	51	41	52	2,243	2,790
Corn for grain	(D)	24	45	2,279	2,582
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Cattle and calves sold	1,066	43	55	2,809	3,063
Sheep and lambs sold	235	22	50	1,641	2,765
Hogs and pigs sold	103	32	51	2,563	2,976
All goats sold	52	20	47	1,410	2,686
Ducks, geese, and other poultry sold	(D)	7	23	1,562	2,200
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Cattle and calves inventory	2,330	41	55	2,801	3,064
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	684	14	52	1,437	3,002
Colony of bees inventory	(D)	2	52	611	2,588
Sheep and lamb inventory	394	19	50	1,534	2,864
Horse and pony inventory	203	36	54	2,575	3,066
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Hay crops-acres	6,306	35	54	2,115	3,061
Corn for grain-acres	109	28	51	2,353	2,691
All nursery-acres	58	22	50	1,441	2,619
Wheat-acres	(D)	15	26	2,471	2,612
Cut christmas trees harvested-acres	29	10	45	627	1,965

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	250	184	36
\$10,000 or more	10	15	-33
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	836	696	20
Average per farmdollars..	3,229	3,500	-8
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	(191)	267	-172
Average per farmdollars..	(737)	1,342	-155
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	248	188	32
Partnership or corporation	10	5	100
Other	2	6	-67
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	83	62	34
Other	177	137	29
Operators by sex:			
Male	230	177	30
Female	30	22	36
Operators by race:			
White	260	198	31
Black and other races	-	1	-100
Average age of operator	56.0	57.1	-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.