

2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile

Mecosta, Michigan

Number of farms

794 farms in 2002, 696 farms in 1997, up 14 percent.

Land in farms

119,777 acres in 2002, 120,224 acres in 1997, down slightly.

Average size of farm

151 acres in 2002, 173 acres in 1997, down 13 percent.

Market Value of Production

\$30,604,000 in 2002, \$25,470,000 in 1997, up 20 percent.

Crop sales accounted for \$13,412,000 of the total value in 2002.

Livestock sales accounted for \$17,193,000 of the total value in 2002.

Market Value of Production, average per farm

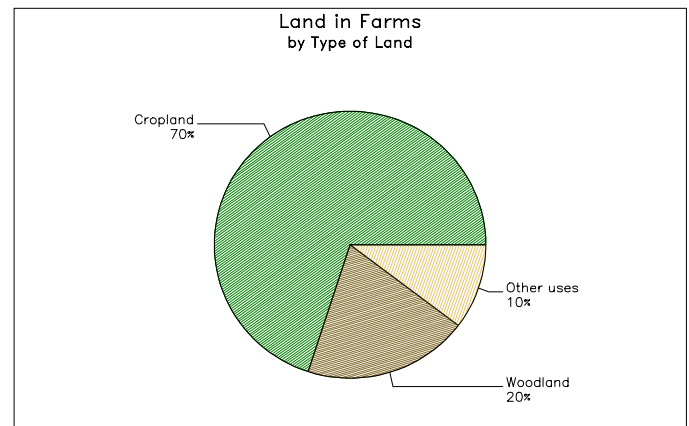
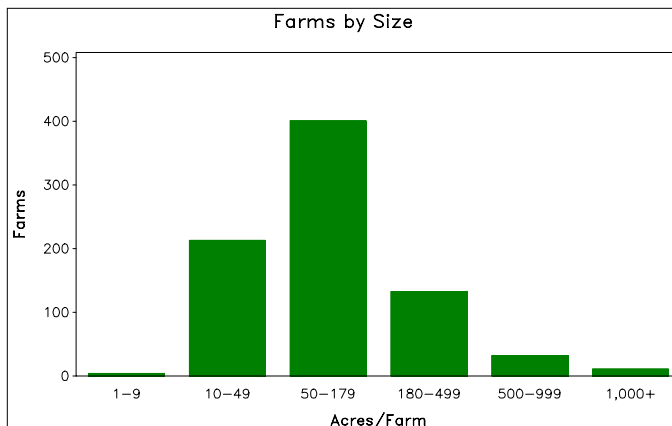
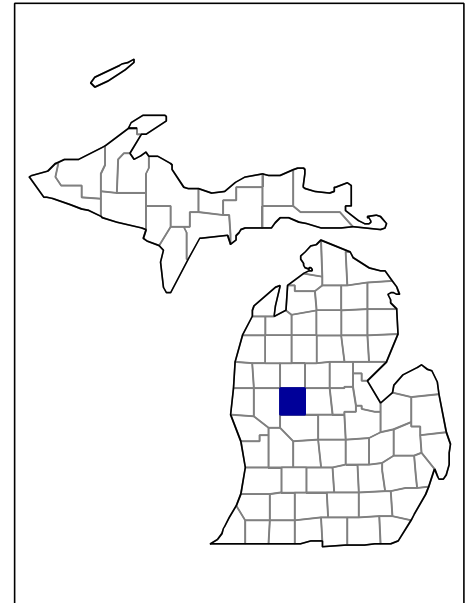
\$38,544 in 2002, \$36,595 in 1997, up 5 percent.

Government Payments

\$1,051,000 in 2002, \$673,000 in 1997, up 56 percent.

Government Payments, average per farm receiving payments

\$4,026 in 2002, \$2,617 in 1997, up 54 percent.



**2002 Census of Agriculture
County Profile
United States Department of Agriculture, Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service**

Mecosta, Michigan

Ranked items among the 83 state counties and 3,078 U.S. counties, 2002

Item	Quantity	State Rank	Universe ¹	U.S. Rank	Universe ¹
MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)					
Total value of agricultural products sold	30,604	38	83	1,680	3,075
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	13,412	43	83	1,455	3,070
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	17,193	27	83	1,425	3,070
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	3,192	38	80	1,396	2,871
Tobacco	-	-	-	-	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	-	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	(D)	(D)	81	(D)	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	151	38	82	1,052	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	416	56	81	1,500	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	45	54	80	672	1,774
Other crops and hay	(D)	(D)	83	(D)	3,046
Poultry and eggs	(D)	(D)	80	(D)	2,918
Cattle and calves	3,102	32	82	1,882	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	9,438	24	76	393	2,493
Hogs and pigs	3,974	15	79	541	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	79	25	81	949	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	319	30	82	686	3,014
Aquaculture	104	8	38	569	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	(D)	(D)	79	(D)	2,727
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Hogs and pigs	18,150	15	78	556	2,926
Cattle and calves	15,383	23	83	1,717	3,059
Broilers and other meat-type chickens	6,475	7	78	674	2,599
Layers 20 weeks old and older	3,296	16	81	861	2,983
Sheep and lambs	1,910	13	80	583	2,867
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	31,625	7	83	676	3,059
Corn for grain	13,696	36	80	934	2,592
Corn for silage	3,362	27	79	515	2,307
Potatoes	(D)	3	72	(D)	1,551
Dry edible beans, excluding limas	1,710	12	48	135	571

Other County Highlights

Economic Characteristics	Quantity	Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales		Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Less than \$1,000	297	Farming	428
\$1,000 to \$2,499	76	Other	366
\$2,500 to \$4,999	79		
\$5,000 to \$9,999	77	Principal operators by sex:	
\$10,000 to \$19,999	81	Male	704
\$20,000 to \$24,999	27	Female	90
\$25,000 to \$39,999	44		
\$40,000 to \$49,999	21	Average age of principal operator (years)	55.1
\$50,000 to \$99,999	48		
\$100,000 to \$249,999	24	All operators ² by race:	
\$250,000 to \$499,999	12	White	1,148
\$500,000 or more	8	Black or African American	15
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	26,624	American Indian or Alaska Native	1
Average per farm (\$)	33,489	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
		Asian	-
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	5,463	More than one race	-
Average per farm (\$)	6,871	All operators ² of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	27

(D) Cannot be disclosed. (Z) Less than half of the unit shown. See "Census of Agriculture, Volume 1, Geographic Area Series" for complete footnotes.

¹ Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with item.

² Data were collected for a maximum of three operators per farm.