

## 2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile

### Ashe, North Carolina

#### Number of farms

1,152 farms in 2002, 1,290 farms in 1997, down 11 percent.

#### Land in farms

107,930 acres in 2002, 114,399 acres in 1997, down 6 percent.

#### Average size of farm

94 acres in 2002, 89 acres in 1997, up 6 percent.

#### Market Value of Production

\$29,181,000 in 2002, \$24,214,000 in 1997, up 21 percent.

Crop sales accounted for \$23,312,000 of the total value in 2002.

Livestock sales accounted for \$5,869,000 of the total value in 2002.

#### Market Value of Production, average per farm

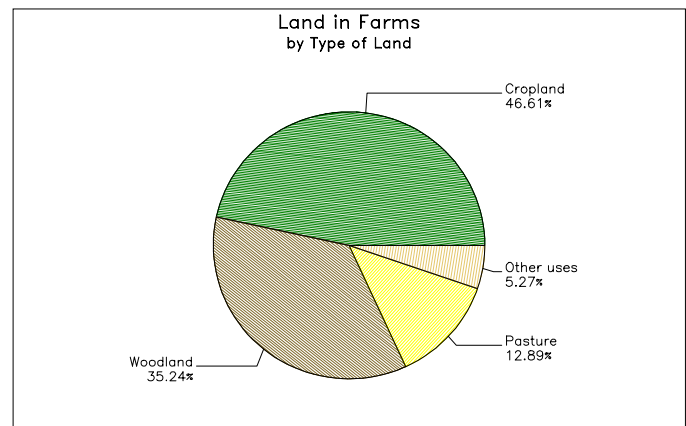
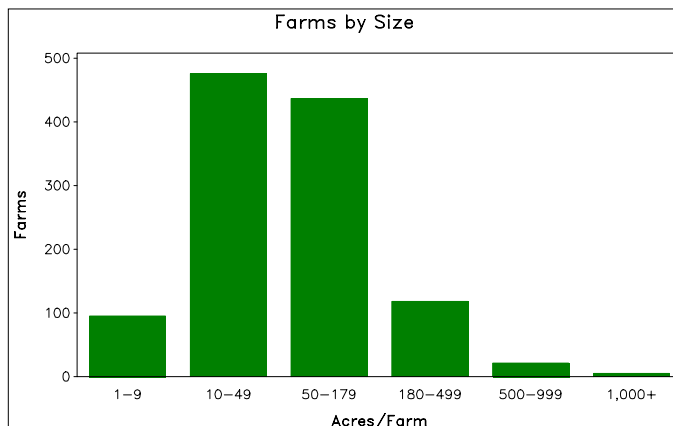
\$25,331 in 2002, \$18,770 in 1997, up 35 percent.

#### Government Payments

\$167,000 in 2002, \$78,000 in 1997, up 114 percent.

#### Government Payments, average per farm receiving payments

\$1,476 in 2002, \$1,339 in 1997, up 10 percent.



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

**Ashe, North Carolina**

**Ranked items among the 100 state counties and 3,078 U.S. counties, 2002**

Item	Quantity	State Rank	Universe <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Rank	Universe <sup>1</sup>
<b>MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)</b>					
Total value of agricultural products sold	29,181	58	100	1,727	3,075
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	23,312	32	100	1,057	3,070
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	5,869	74	99	2,244	3,070
<b>VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)</b>					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	(D)	(D)	98	(D)	2,871
Tobacco	2,284	50	86	175	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	55	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	263	66	100	1,240	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	(D)	(D)	99	(D)	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	3,598	31	96	565	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	16,840	2	68	4	1,774
Other crops and hay	234	67	100	2,445	3,046
Poultry and eggs	13	81	95	1,890	2,918
Cattle and calves	5,077	8	99	1,508	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	607	39	64	1,572	2,493
Hogs and pigs	60	67	90	1,637	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	56	17	98	1,175	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	53	60	91	2,321	3,014
Aquaculture	-	-	51	-	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	2	57	85	2,279	2,727
<b>TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)</b>					
Cattle and calves	15,672	18	99	1,701	3,059
All Goats	1,527	15	99	273	2,971
Layers 20 weeks old and older	1,282	48	95	1,214	2,983
Sheep and lambs	964	5	89	1,009	2,867
Horses and ponies	779	33	99	1,597	3,065
<b>TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)</b>					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	9,767	32	100	1,799	3,059
Cut Christmas trees	9,611	1	69	5	1,877
Tobacco	693	49	86	168	563
Nursery stock	668	6	90	143	2,129
Short-rotation woody crops	310	4	75	207	1,262

**Other County Highlights**

Economic Characteristics	Quantity	Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales		Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Less than \$1,000	249	Farming	580
\$1,000 to \$2,499	192	Other	572
\$2,500 to \$4,999	171		
\$5,000 to \$9,999	145	Principal operators by sex:	
\$10,000 to \$19,999	161	Male	1,068
\$20,000 to \$24,999	44	Female	84
\$25,000 to \$39,999	69		
\$40,000 to \$49,999	27	Average age of principal operator (years)	56.1
\$50,000 to \$99,999	46		
\$100,000 to \$249,999	26	All operators <sup>2</sup> by race:	
\$250,000 to \$499,999	9	White	1,591
\$500,000 or more	13	Black or African American	5
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	28,121	American Indian or Alaska Native	-
Average per farm (\$)	24,798	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
		Asian	-
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	10,222	More than one race	1
Average per farm (\$)	9,014	All operators <sup>2</sup> of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	14

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

<sup>1</sup> Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with item.

<sup>2</sup> Data were collected for a maximum of three operators per farm.