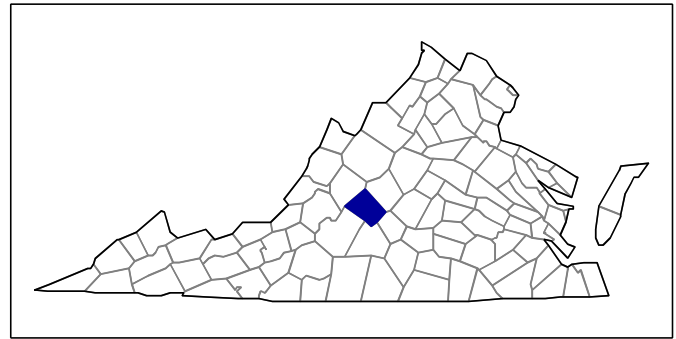




2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile



Amherst, Virginia

Number of farms

460 farms in 2002, 499 farms in 1997, down 8 percent.

Land in farms

99,863 acres in 2002, 101,617 acres in 1997, down 2 percent.

Average size of farm

217 acres in 2002, 204 acres in 1997, up 6 percent.

Market Value of Production

\$6,368,000 in 2002, \$5,311,000 in 1997, up 20 percent.

Crop sales accounted for \$1,015,000 of the total value in 2002.

Livestock sales accounted for \$5,354,000 of the total value in 2002.

Market Value of Production, average per farm

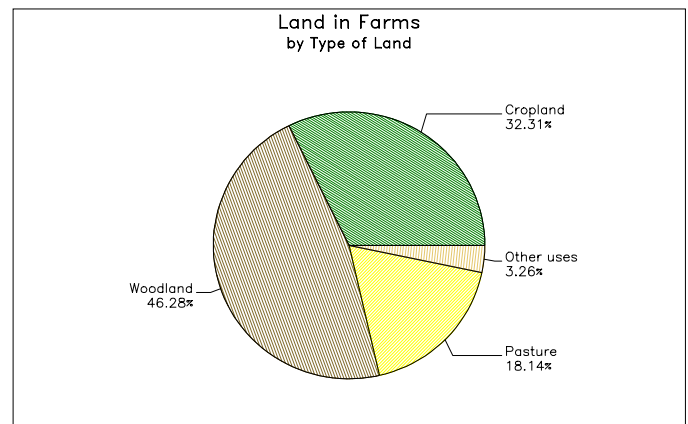
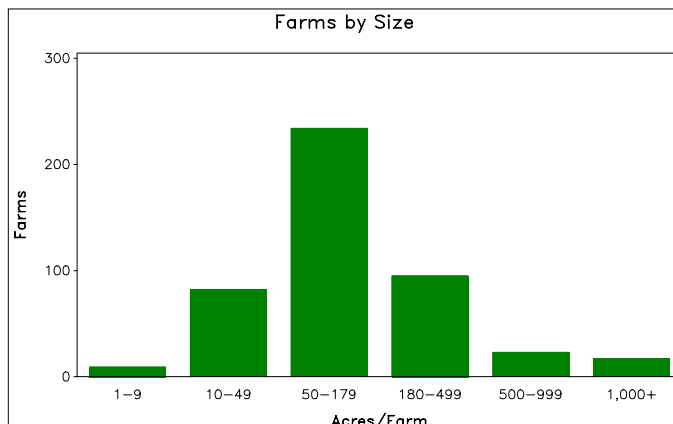
\$13,844 in 2002, \$10,643 in 1997, up 30 percent.

Government Payments

\$61,000 in 2002, \$68,000 in 1997, down 10 percent.

Government Payments, average per farm receiving payments

\$1,743 in 2002, \$1,619 in 1997, up 8 percent.



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

Amherst, Virginia

Ranked items among the 98 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	6,368	70	98	2,692	3,075
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	1,015	86	97	2,722	3,070
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	5,354	53	98	2,311	3,070
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	(D)	(D)	95	(D)	2,871
Tobacco	-	-	43	-	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	15	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	(D)	(D)	95	(D)	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	341	19	93	671	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	357	54	95	1,577	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	18	46	76	991	1,774
Other crops and hay	259	66	97	2,397	3,046
Poultry and eggs	(D)	(D)	94	(D)	2,918
Cattle and calves	5,212	32	97	1,482	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	27	74	83	2,337	2,493
Hogs and pigs	15	48	90	2,164	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	19	49	93	1,943	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	75	53	94	2,031	3,014
Aquaculture	-	-	44	-	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	(D)	(D)	87	(D)	2,727
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Cattle and calves	17,947	33	97	1,562	3,059
Horses and ponies	591	46	97	1,965	3,065
Layers 20 weeks old and older	343	63	96	2,167	2,983
All Goats	259	56	95	1,617	2,971
Sheep and lambs	105	66	93	2,260	2,867
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	14,915	40	97	1,378	3,059
Corn for silage	295	58	87	1,622	2,307
Corn for grain	196	81	96	2,203	2,592
Nursery stock	(D)	24	77	(D)	2,129
Grapes	70	11	76	175	1,830

Other County Highlights

Economic Characteristics	Quantity	Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales		Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Less than \$1,000	106	Farming	233
\$1,000 to \$2,499	63	Other	227
\$2,500 to \$4,999	85		
\$5,000 to \$9,999	83	Principal operators by sex:	
\$10,000 to \$19,999	61	Male	405
\$20,000 to \$24,999	12	Female	55
\$25,000 to \$39,999	22		
\$40,000 to \$49,999	13	Average age of principal operator (years)	59.2
\$50,000 to \$99,999	8		
\$100,000 to \$249,999	5	All operators ² by race:	
\$250,000 to \$499,999	1	White	628
\$500,000 or more	1	Black or African American	23
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	6,960	American Indian or Alaska Native	-
Average per farm (\$)	15,230	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
		Asian	-
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	-437	More than one race	-
Average per farm (\$)	-957	All operators ² of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	3

(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.