

2007 CENSUS OF **AGRICULTURE** Conservation and Agricultural Practices

The 2007 Census of Agriculture showed that 503,917 farms and ranches across the United States utilized conservation methods such as no-till or limited tilling, filtering runoff to remove chemicals, fencing animals from streams and other practices. These conservation methods were used by producers in every state but were more widely used across the Midwest. The states with the largest number of operations using these methods were lowa (41,350), Illinois (32,338), Ohio (27,166), Wisconsin (27,081) and Missouri (24,040).

In addition to conservation methods such as no-till or limited tilling, filtering runoff to remove chemicals, fencing animals from streams and other practices, the 2007 Census of Agriculture also reported that 346,231 farms had a total of 38,547,450 acres enrolled in Conservation Reserve, Wetlands Reserve, Farmable Wetland or Conservation Reserve Enhancement programs. This reflected a 5.8 million acre, or 18 percent, increase from 2002. Texas had the most acreage enrolled in the programs with 4.2 million acres, followed by Montana, North Dakota, Kansas, Colorado and Iowa - all with more than 2 million enrolled acres.

U.S. Department of Agriculture

National Agricultural Statistics Service



Operations Using Conservation Methods



Acres Enrolled in the Conservation Reserve, Wetlands Reserve, Farmable Wetlands or Conservation Reserve Enhancement Programs: 2007



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Irrigation Water from U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Receiving irrigation water supplied by a U.S. Bureau of Reclamation project or facility is another conservation method that, according to the 2007 Census of Agriculture, 46,177 farms reported using. All of these operations were located in the West. Of the total farms using Bureau of Reclamtion supplied water, the states accounting for the highest percentage are California (21 percent), Idaho (15 percent), Washington (12 percent), Colorado (9 percent) and Oklahoma Oregon (8 percent).

On Farm Renewable Energy Production

For the first time, the 2007 Census of Agriculture also reported the number of farms producing on-farm renewable energy. Energy conservation through the production of onfarm renewable energy was reported on more 23,000 farms in the United States. California and Texas accounted for the largest number of farms producing renewable energy with 3,230 and 2,300 operations, respectively. Operations that Received Irrigation Water Through the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation



Number of Farms Generating Energy or Electricity on the Operation in 2007



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