



**United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
2015 Certified Organic Survey – Tennessee**



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Certified Organic Highlights

The 2015 Certified Organic Survey is a survey of all operations identified as having certified organic production. Certified organic farms must meet the standards set out by USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service’s (AMS) National Organic Program (NOP) and be certified compliant by an approved agent of NOP. Results from the survey provide acreage, production, and sales data for a variety of certified organic crops and certified organic livestock.

In 2015, the United States had 12,818 certified organic farms that produced \$6.2 billion in certified organic products. Tennessee had 25 certified organic farms with 2,321 acres of certified land that produced \$4.7 million in certified organic products. Of those farms in Tennessee, 36 percent were certified organic for 10 years or more.

In Tennessee, 11 certified organic farms sold to wholesale markets, 18 farms sold directly to consumers, and 12 farms sold directly to retail markets and institutions. The first point of sales for 80 percent of certified organic farms in Tennessee was within 100 miles of the farm and 28 percent was within 100-499 miles of the farm. Over the next five years, 40 percent of certified organic operations in Tennessee plan to increase certified organic agricultural production.

For more information on the 2015 Certified Organic Survey and related reports, please visit the NASS Organic Agriculture page at: www.nass.usda.gov/organics.

Farms, Land, and Value of Sales on Certified Organic Farms: 2015 and 2014

Geographic area	2015			2014		
	Total certified farms	Total certified acres	Total certified sales (\$1,000)	Total certified farms	Total certified acres	Total certified sales (\$1,000)
United States	12,818	4,361,849	6,163,472	12,634	3,642,933	5,451,377
Tennessee	25	2,321	4,688	30	3,182	3,969

Certified Organic Crops Value of Sales: 2015

Crop	Farms	Value of sales (dollars)
All vegetables, potatoes, and melons grown in the open		
United States	2,999	1,361,747,498
Tennessee	13	1,658,543
All vegetables, potatoes, and melons grown under protection		
United States	1,059	73,201,940
Tennessee	8	123,706
All other fruits (excludes apples, grapes, all tree nuts, and all berries)		
United States	1,456	262,792,206
Tennessee	(NDP)	(NDP)
All tree nuts		
United States	379	83,982,965
Tennessee	(NDP)	(NDP)
All berries		
United States	1,436	344,634,693
Tennessee	12	211,534
All field crops		
United States	4,545	660,044,049
Tennessee	8	(D)

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.
(NDP) No data present.

Certified Organic Floriculture Crops, Nursery Crops, Propagative Materials, and Mushrooms Value of Sales: 2015

Crop	Farms	Value of sales (dollars)
Floriculture and bedding crops		
United States	336	22,231,062
Tennessee	(NDP)	(NDP)
Nursery crops, including aquatic plants		
United States	108	26,516,551
Tennessee	(NDP)	(NDP)
Propagative materials sold		
United States	120	19,912,081
Tennessee	(NDP)	(NDP)
Mushrooms		
United States	130	95,543,620
Tennessee	1	(D)

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.
(NDP) No data present.

Top Certified Organic Livestock and Poultry Inventory and Sales: 2015

Commodity	Peak inventory		Value of sales	
	Farms	Number	Number	Dollars
Milk cows				
United States	2,282	241,112	47,033	65,361,338
Tennessee	2	(D)	(D)	(D)
Beef cows				
United States	455	40,600	5,901	8,982,291
Tennessee	(NDP)	(NDP)	(NDP)	(NDP)
Other cattle				
United States	2,753	228,630	169,884	158,251,289
Tennessee	2	(D)	(D)	(D)
Hogs and pigs				
United States	135	12,358	13,353	5,112,388
Tennessee	(NDP)	(NDP)	(NDP)	(NDP)
Chickens - layers				
United States	730	14,214,364	3,241,756	1,461,403
Tennessee	3	208	(NDP)	(NDP)
Chickens - broilers				
United States	187	9,077,227	47,423,922	420,312,003
Tennessee	2	(D)	(D)	(D)

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.
(NDP) No data present.

Top Certified Organic Livestock Products and Poultry Products Sales: 2015

Commodity	Farms	Quantity	Dollars
Milk from cows (pounds)			
United States	2,258	3,406,420,618	1,173,503,904
Tennessee	2	(D)	(D)
Chicken eggs (dozens)			
United States	684	292,481,855	732,037,052
Tennessee	3	1,004	3,706

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Operators on Certified Organic Farms by Years Operating Any Farm: 2015

Geographic area	Operators	Percent of operators by years operating any farm					
		Less than 10 years	10 to 19 years	20 to 29 years	30 to 39 years	40 to 49 years	50 or more years
United States	12,818	32	23	17	16	8	4
Tennessee	25	40	28	12	12	4	4