



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



Eastern Mountain Region – Virginia Field Office
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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. Virginia had 139 certified organic farms with 23,453 acres of certified land that produced \$46.1 million in certified organic products. Of those farms in Virginia, 31 percent were certified organic for 10 years or more.

In Virginia, 102 certified organic farms sold to wholesale markets, 49 farms sold directly to consumers, and 19 farms sold directly to retail markets and institutions. The first point of sales for 86 percent of certified organic farms in Virginia was within 100 miles of the farm and 29 percent was within 100-499 miles of the farm. Over the next five years, 53 percent of certified organic operations in Virginia 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
Virginia	139	23,453	46,096	139	28,094	41,244

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
Virginia	30	1,516,861
All vegetables, potatoes, and melons grown under protection		
United States	1,059	73,201,940
Virginia	17	2,639,201
All other fruits (excludes apples, grapes, all tree nuts, and all berries)		
United States	1,456	262,792,206
Virginia	1	(D)
All tree nuts		
United States	379	83,982,965
Virginia	4	74,290
All berries		
United States	1,436	344,634,693
Virginia	17	102,159
All field crops		
United States	4,545	660,044,049
Virginia	70	20,715,562

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

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
Virginia	5	861,333
Nursery crops, including aquatic plants		
United States	108	26,516,551
Virginia	2	(D)
Propagative materials sold		
United States	120	19,912,081
Virginia	7	156,104
Mushrooms		
United States	130	95,543,620
Virginia	2	(D)

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

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
Virginia	16	1,615	316	505,164
Beef cows				
United States	455	40,600	5,901	8,982,291
Virginia	3	185	16	31,026
Other cattle				
United States	2,753	228,630	169,884	158,251,289
Virginia	19	1,364	1,099	849,458
Hogs and pigs				
United States	135	12,358	13,353	5,112,388
Virginia	(NDP)	(NDP)	(NDP)	(NDP)
Chickens - layers				
United States	730	14,214,364	3,241,756	1,461,403
Virginia	11	7,240	3,715	10,935
Chickens - broilers				
United States	187	9,077,227	47,423,922	420,312,003
Virginia	10	351,000	1,236,904	9,492,698

(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
Virginia	16	19,970,469	7,163,773
Chicken eggs (dozens)			
United States	684	292,481,855	732,037,052
Virginia	11	69,409	(D)

(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
Virginia	139	31	19	19	17	12	2