

North Dakota Agriculture

2007



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Agriculture is the bedrock of North Dakota's economy and society. Almost 25 percent of our economic base is attributed to agriculture, and farmland makes up almost 90 percent of our state's land area.

Today, North Dakota agriculture is a \$4.7 billion giant. Our 30,300 family farmers and ranchers supply the nation and the world with enormous quantities of food, feed and fiber, leading the nation in the production of 14 important commodity categories, such as spring wheat, durum, barley, canola and various pulse crops.

Many challenges face these producers. The unpredictable weather and the uncertain markets have always been with us, but today's producers must also contend with uncertain federal farm policies, increasing environmental concerns, changing consumer demands and steeply escalating fuel, equipment, labor and land costs.

And while there are many challenges, there are also tremendous opportunities. The rapidly growing renewable energy industry provides an almost unlimited market for corn, canola and soybeans, as well as the opportunity for others to invest and partner in ethanol and biodiesel production plants. Cellulosic ethanol technology promises to increase the role of agriculture in energy production many times over.

This publication is intended to give you an overview of North Dakota agriculture. We hope that you enjoy it and that it will entice you to learn more about our state's most prominent industry.

We are confident that with new and emerging technologies, coupled with plain old determination and hard work, North Dakota farmers and ranchers will remain the trusted providers of the finest agricultural products in the world.

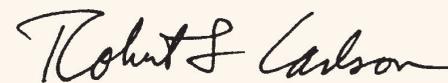
Sincerely,



Roger Johnson
Agriculture Commissioner



Dave Knopf
Director, ND Agricultural Statistics



Robert Carlson
President, ND Farmers Union

North Dakota Profile

Population: 636,677

Urban population: 47%

Rural population: 53%

Land area: 44.1 million acres

Land in farms: 39.4 million acres

Number of farms: 30,300

Average farm size: 1,300 acres

Number of counties: 53

North Dakota leads the nation in the production of the following commodities:

| 2006 | Percent of the U.S. | 2006 | Percent of the U.S. |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| <u>First</u> | | <u>Second</u> | |
| Flaxseed | 94% | Sugarbeets | 19% |
| Canola | 92% | All Wheat | 14% |
| Dry Edible Peas | 71% | <u>Fourth</u> | |
| Durum Wheat | 59% | Potatoes | 6% |
| Pinto Beans | 52% | <u>Seventh</u> | |
| Oil Sunflower | 52% | Oats | 5% |
| All Sunflower | 52% | <u>Ninth</u> | |
| Non-Oil Sunflower | 51% | Soybeans | 4% |
| Spring Wheat | 46% | | |
| Lentils | 37% | | |
| Navy Beans | 36% | | |
| All Dry Edible Beans | 32% | | |
| Barley | 27% | | |
| Honey | 17% | | |



Photo by: Elaine Johnson, Belfield

Did you know?

- It takes a combine 9 seconds to harvest enough wheat to make 70 loaves of bread.
- A pig can run a 7-minute mile.
- An ear of corn contains approximately 600 kernels.

North Dakota's Top Agricultural Commodities

| Commodity | Percentage of Total Cash Receipts |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Wheat | 21.4 |
| Cattle and Calves | 15.6 |
| Soybeans | 11.6 |
| Barley | 5.4 |
| Corn | 5.2 |
| Sugarbeets | 4.4 |
| Sunflower | 4.4 |
| Canola | 3.2 |
| Dry Edible Beans | 3.0 |
| Potatoes | 2.6 |
| Dairy Products | 1.5 |
| Hay | 1.5 |
| Other Crops | 1.4 |
| Flaxseed | 1.3 |
| Honey | 0.9 |
| Hogs & Pigs | 0.7 |
| Other Livestock | 0.6 |
| Oats | 0.2 |
| Sheep and Lambs | 0.2 |
| Turkeys | 0.2 |

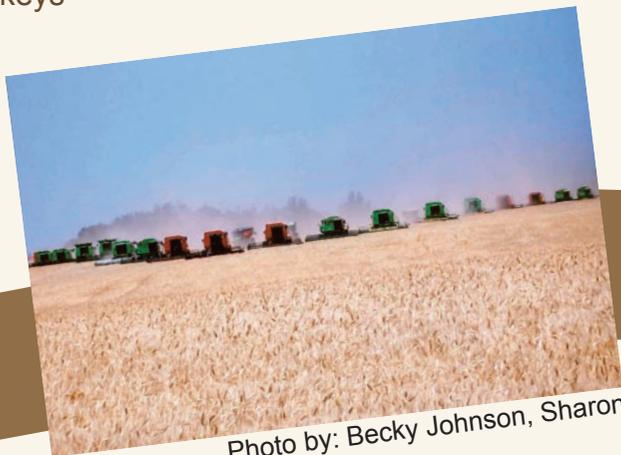
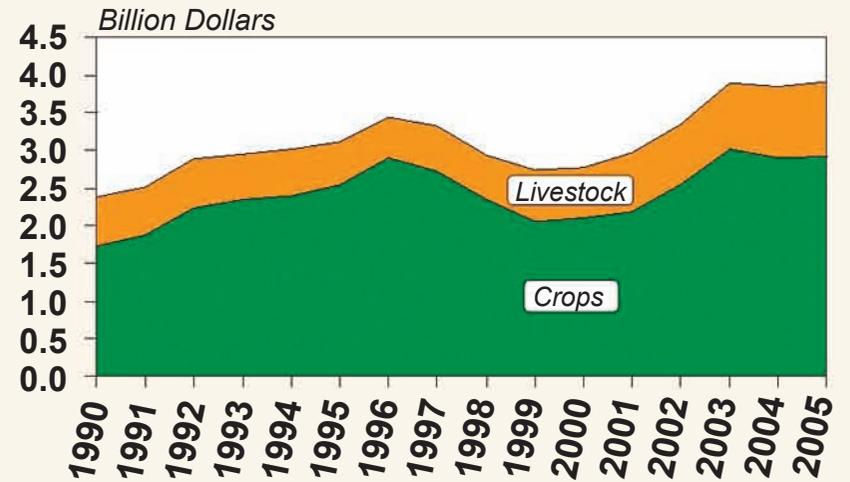
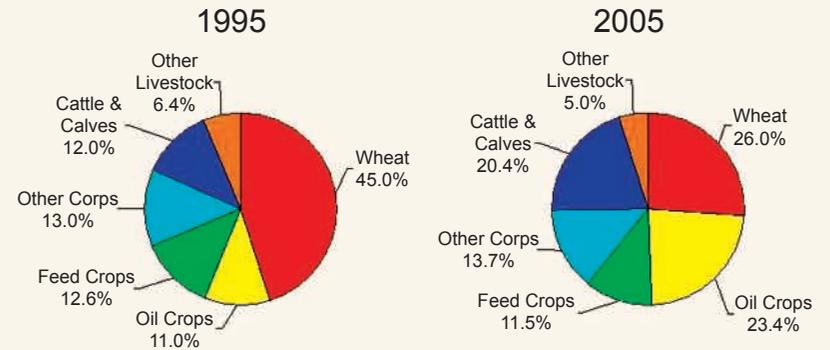


Photo by: Becky Johnson, Sharon

Cash Receipts North Dakota, 1990-2005



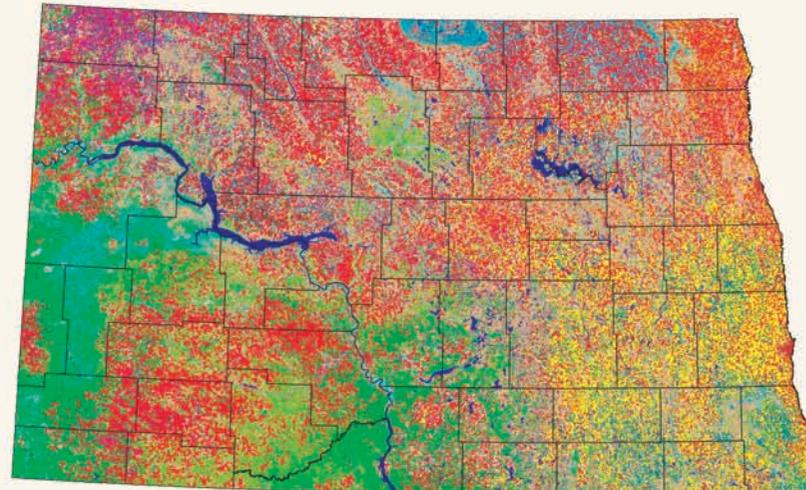
Cash Receipts North Dakota



North Dakota's Agricultural Products By Ranking (2005)

| Crops | Value <i>1,000 Dollars</i> | % of Total |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Wheat | 1,019,628 | 26 |
| Soybeans | 493,698 | 12.6 |
| Corn | 205,905 | 5.3 |
| Sugarbeets | 191,417 | 4.9 |
| Sunflower | 165,415 | 4.2 |
| Barley | 142,293 | 3.6 |
| Canola | 142,293 | 3.6 |
| Potatoes | 133,230 | 3.4 |
| Dry Edible Beans | 126,469 | 3.2 |
| Flaxseed | 110,086 | 2.8 |
| Hay | 95,788 | 2.4 |
| Dry Edible Peas | 42,076 | 1.1 |
| Lentils | 22,469 | 0.6 |
| Oats | 6,088 | 0.2 |
| Other Crops | 27,265 | 0.7 |
| Total Crops | 2,924,605 | 74.6 |
| Livestock | Value <i>1,000 Dollars</i> | % of Total |
| Cattle and Calves | 799,083 | 20.4 |
| Milk | 77,916 | 2 |
| Hogs | 49,571 | 1.2 |
| Honey | 27,273 | 0.7 |
| Turkeys | 10,989 | 0.3 |
| Sheep and Lambs | 8,055 | 0.2 |
| Wool | 414 | 0 |
| Other Livestock Products | 23,232 | 0.6 |
| Total Livestock | 996,533 | 25.4 |

2006 North Dakota Cropland Data Layer



Categories

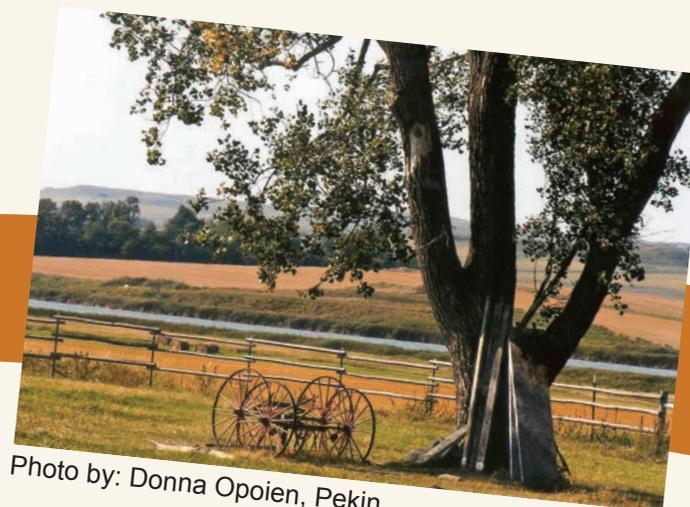


Photo by: Donna Opoien, Pekin

Agriculture is the Leading Industry in North Dakota

- North Dakota production agriculture generated more than \$4.7 billion in cash receipts in 2005 (including government payments).
- Production agriculture is the largest sector of North Dakota's economy, making up 25% of the economic base.
- Nearly 24% of North Dakota workers are farmers and ranchers or are employed in farm-related jobs.
- Value-added ag processing and farm input manufacturing generates \$1.7 billion in business activity per year.
- North Dakota farmland would cover more than 12 million city blocks.
- North Dakota farms provide food and habitat for 75% of the state's wildlife.
- North Dakota has 30,300 farms and ranches. The average size of a North Dakota farm is 1,300 acres.
- 39.4 million acres - nearly 90% of North Dakota's land area - is in farms and ranches.
- North Dakota ranks first in the nation in the organic production of oilseeds, oats, buckwheat, other specialty grains, flax and sunflowers.

Quick Fact:

Fifty cents of every food dollar is spent on food prepared outside the home.

Agriculture is a Part of Your Life

We use many products that are made from plant and animal by-products in our daily lives:

- **Healthcare:** pharmaceuticals, surgical sutures, ointments, latex gloves, x-ray film, gelatin for capsules and heart valves.
- **Construction:** lumber, paints, brushes, tar paper, dry wall and tool handles.
- **Transportation:** fuel, lubricants, antifreeze, tires and upholstery.
- **Manufacturing:** adhesives, solvents and detergents.
- **Printing:** paper, ink and film.
- **Personal care products:** shampoo, cosmetics, lotions, fingernail polish and toothpaste.
- **Education:** crayons, textbooks, chalk, desks, pencils and paper.
- **Sports:** uniforms, baseball bats, leather equipment and shoes.

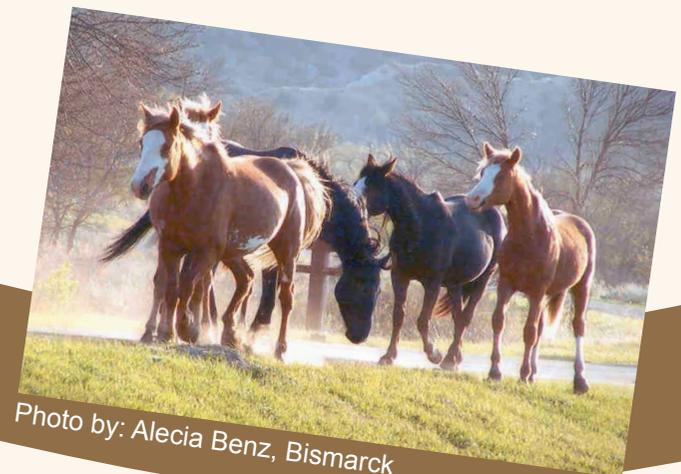


Photo by: Alecia Benz, Bismarck

Did you Know?

North Dakota farmers and ranchers annually produce enough:

- **Wheat** for 13.5 billion loaves of bread.
- **Soybeans** to make 251 billion crayons.
- **Potatoes** for 192 million servings of french fries.
- **Durum** for 6.3 billion servings of spaghetti.
- **Sunflowers** to fill 2.2 billion bags of sunflower seeds.
- **Beef** for 113 million hamburgers.
- **Wool** for 513,000 sweaters.
- **Milk** for 1 billion glasses.
- **Pork** for 57 million pork chops.
- **Corn** to produce 418 million gallons of ethanol.
- **Canola** to fill the ND State Capitol tower more than 17 times.



Photo by: Jared Munson, Minot AFB

Where Does Your Food Dollar Go?

Off Farm

| | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Repairs | 1.5¢ |
| Other Costs | 2¢ |
| Interest | 2.5¢ |
| Energy | 3.5¢ |
| Rent | 4¢ |
| Transportation | 4¢ |
| Business Taxes & Depreciation | 7¢ |
| Profits and Advertising | 8¢ |
| Packaging | 8.5¢ |
| Labor | 39¢ |

On Farm

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Farmers and Ranchers | 20¢ |
|----------------------|-----|

North Dakota's Top 5 Agricultural Exports in Millions

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Wheat and products | \$647 |
| 2. Other* | \$530 |
| 3. Soybeans and products | \$307 |
| 4. Vegetables and preparations | \$154 |
| 5. Feed grains and products | \$131 |

*Other includes sunflower, canola, flax and sugar

Quick Fact:

More than 96 billion pounds of edible "surplus" food is thrown away in the United States each year.

Sponsored by:

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Roger Johnson, Commissioner

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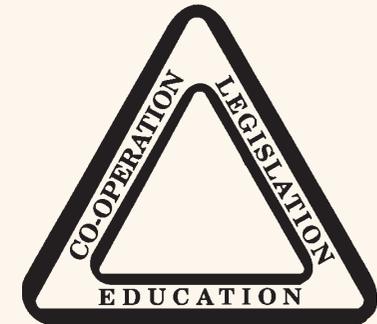
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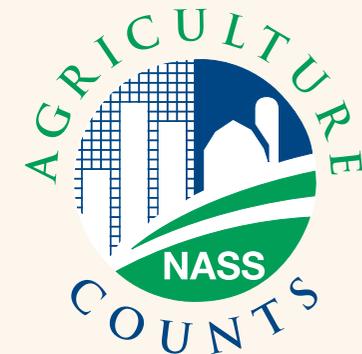
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Cover photo by: Mark Gangnes, Argusville