A FIRST LOOK AT THE 2002 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

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National Agricultural Statistics Service
A First Look at the 2002 Census of Agriculture

Ron Bosecker
February 19, 2004

National Agricultural Statistics Service
## Preliminary Data Reported

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farms</td>
<td>Number of Persons Living in Household</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land in Farms</td>
<td>Number of Households Sharing in Net Income of Farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farms by Size</td>
<td>Principal Operator by Primary Occupation and Days of Work Off Farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farms by Value of Sales</td>
<td>Average Age of Principal Operator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farms by Type of Organization</td>
<td>Diversity of Operators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Operators &amp; Total Women Operators</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Preliminary data show there are ...

- 2.13 million farms and ranches in the United States
- 939.5 million acres of land in farms in the United States
- 816,329 Women operators
- 36,452 Black operators
- 24,313 American Indian or Alaska Native operators
- 13,152 Asian operators
- 1,682 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander operators
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>1997</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farms</td>
<td>2,129,226</td>
<td>2,215,876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land in Farms</td>
<td>939.5</td>
<td>954.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(million acres)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Farms by Size:

Farms by Size: 1997 & 2002

- 1 to 9 acres: 179 in 1997, 205 in 2002
- 10 to 49 acres: 531 in 1997, 563 in 2002
- 50 to 179 acres: 694 in 1997, 659 in 2002
- 180 to 499 acres: 428 in 1997, 399 in 2002
- 500 to 999 acres: 162 in 1997, 179 in 2002
- 1,000 to 1,999 acres: 99 in 1997, 103 in 2002
- 2,000 or more acres: 78 in 1997, 74 in 2002

(Thousands)
Farms by Value of Sales*

* Adjusted for 2002 and 1997

Distribution of Farms by Sales

- Less than $2,500: 39% in 2002, 31% in 1997
- $2,500 to $9,999: 32% in 2002, 24% in 1997
- $10,000 to $24,999: 12% in 2002, 13% in 1997
- $25,000 to $49,999: 8% in 2002, 7% in 1997
- $50,000 to $99,999: 7% in 2002, 7% in 1997
- $100,000 to $499,999: 11% in 2002, 13% in 1997
- $500,000 or more: 3% in both years
Farms by Type of Organization*

- Family or Individual: 90%
- Legal Partnership: 8%
- Legal Corporation: 3%
- Other-cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.: 1%

* Adjusted for 2002 and 1997
Puerto Rico Results

Number of Farms: 1978 - 2002
(Thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Census Year</th>
<th>Number of Farms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>31.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>21.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>20.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>22.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>19.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>17.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Preliminary census of agriculture data for US and State Historical Highlights will be available on the NASS Web site and limited print format.

Complete tabulated census of agriculture data for the US, States, and the 3,000 plus counties will be made available in June 2004 in both electronic and print format.
Introduction of Speakers

- Rich Allen, Deputy Administrator, USDA NASS
- Jill Findeis, Professor of Agricultural, Environmental and Regional Economics, and Demography, Penn State University
- Bob Hoppe, Agricultural Economist, USDA ERS