



**Ohio farmers produce products that are an economic engine for local economies. Here are some facts to consider:**

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**Darke County, Ohio**

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- ✓ Agriculture contributes \$598.6 million in output and employs over 6,400 people in Darke County.
  - ✓ Livestock and poultry production represents 67% of production agriculture in Darke County.
  - ✓ In Darke County, food & forestry processing accounted for \$128.2 million in total output.
  - ✓ *Creative Cabinet Systems, Keller Grain & Feed, Weaver Brothers, and Whiteford Food Products* are major food and forestry processing businesses located in Darke County.
  - ✓ 346,000 acres of land are farmed in Darke County.
  - ✓ Darke County farmers produce over 7.8 million bushels of corn, 4.1 million bushels of soybeans, 27,500 cattle, 126,400 hogs, and 138.8 million pounds of milk.
  - ✓ Among Ohio counties, Darke ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in hogs, 5<sup>th</sup> in soybean production and processed tomatoes, 6<sup>th</sup> in cattle, 7<sup>th</sup> in corn harvested, and 8<sup>th</sup> in milk production.
  - ✓ Cash receipts from marketing of farm commodities totaled \$226.3 million.
- *One farmer produces enough food to feed 129 people, 101 in the United States, and 28 others around the world.*
  - *Ohio is home to over 1,000 food processing facilities.*
  - *Ohio's \$79.6 billion agricultural sector comprises approximately 12% of total output, 10% of GSP, 15% of total employment, and 10% of total income generated in Ohio.*
  - *Over \$1 billion in agricultural products from Ohio are exported out of the country.*
  - *One out of every 10 rows of corn harvested in Ohio is exported. Every other row of soybeans is exported.*
  - *Almost half (44%) of all land in Ohio is classified as prime farmland. Ohio is one of only five states that has almost half of its land classified as prime farmland.*
  - *Ohio ranks in the top ten nationally in the production of corn, soybeans, oats, tobacco, pork, eggs, Swiss cheese, ice cream, flowers, tomatoes, grapes, strawberries, and maple syrup.*
  - *The average American earns enough money in 37 days to pay for a year's worth of food.*

Sources: Dr. Tom Sporleder OSU, AEDE  
Ohio Department of Agriculture  
2002 ODA/OAS Annual Report

