



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

Mercer County, Ohio

- ✓ Agriculture contributes \$621.7 million in output and employs 6,500 people in Mercer County.
- ✓ Livestock and poultry production represents over 78% of production agriculture in Mercer County.
- ✓ In Mercer County, food & forestry processing accounted for \$171 million in total output.
- ✓ *Basic Grain Products, Cooper Farms, and Fort Recovery Equity Exchange* are food processing businesses located in Mercer County.
- ✓ 273,000 acres of land are farmed in Mercer County.
- ✓ Mercer County farmers produce over 4.4 million bushels of corn, 2.9 million bushels of soybeans, 41,900 cattle, 145,200 hogs, and 314.5 million pounds of milk.
- ✓ Among Ohio counties, Mercer ranks 1st in hogs, 2nd in cattle and milk production, 8th in oats harvested, and 12th in wheat production.
- ✓ Cash receipts from marketing of farm commodities totaled over \$282.5 million.

Ohio Agricultural Facts

- *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

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