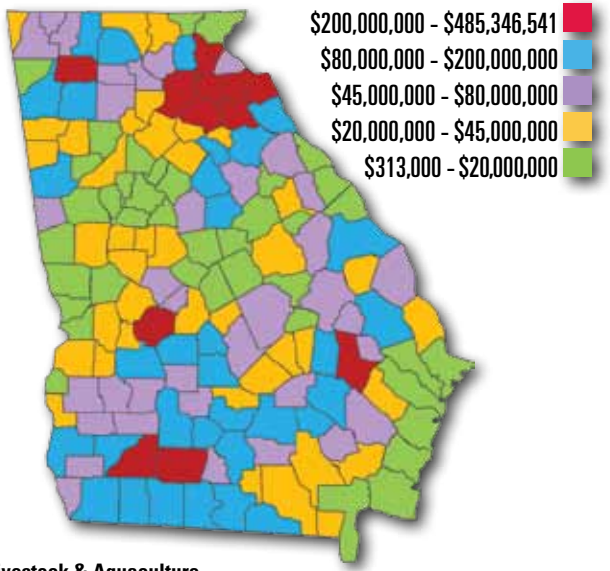
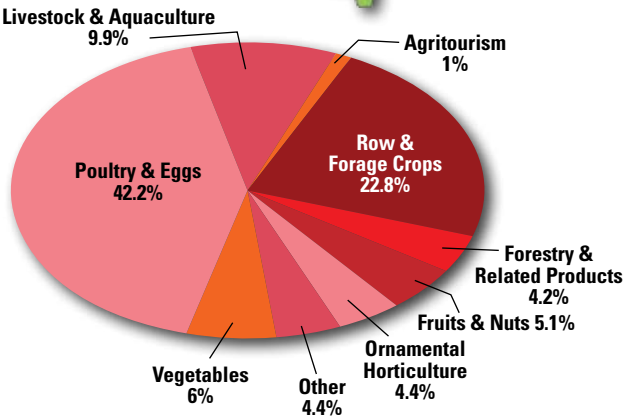
2013 Ag Snapshots

A brief focus on Georgia's agricultural industry

The University of Georgia
Center for Agribusiness & Economic Development

2011 Total Farm Gate Value





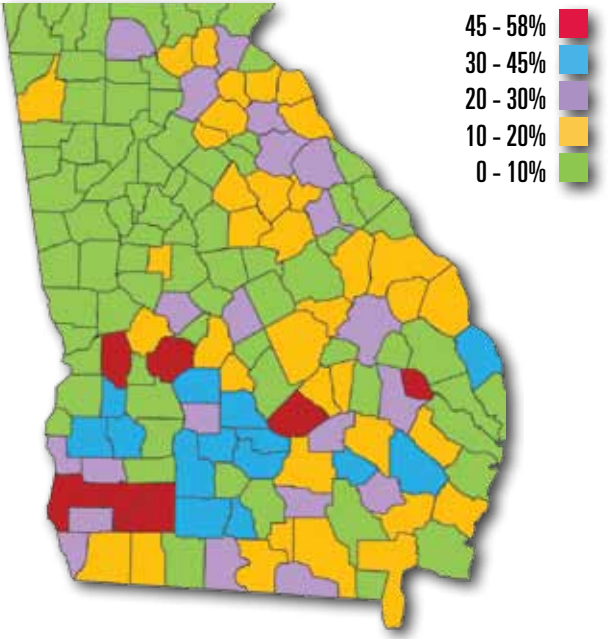
2011 Georgia Agricultural Commodity Rankings

2011 Total Farm Gate Value = $13 billion
2010 = $12 billion

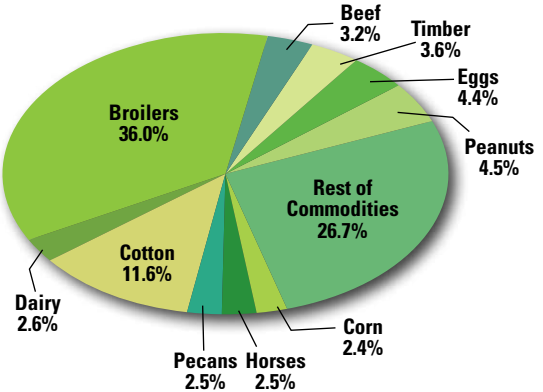
Rank	Commodity	Farm Gate Value	% of GA Total
1	Broilers	$4,667,682,292	36.03%
2	Cotton	$1,508,274,752	11.64%
3	Peanuts	$586,414,003	4.53%
4	Eggs	$567,964,150	4.38%
5	Timber	$470,297,585	3.63%
6	Beef	$409,672,880	3.16%
7	Dairy	$332,745,848	2.57%
8	Horses	$322,478,524	2.49%
9	Pecans	$319,538,540	2.47%
10	Corn	$311,603,285	2.41%
11	Greenhouse	$275,900,999	2.13%
12	Blueberries	$254,853,216	1.97%
13	Breeder Pullet Unit	$223,678,080	1.73%
14	Hay	$196,848,652	1.52%
15	Onions	$159,033,150	1.23%
16	Container Nursery	$143,042,671	1.10%
17	Ag-based Tourism	$126,716,879	0.98%
18	Pork	$113,492,261	0.88%
19	Misc. Vegetables	$111,818,983	0.86%
20	Watermelon	$98,654,431	0.76%

Economic Importance

Food and fiber production plus directly related manufacturing as a percentage of total economic output



$71.1 billion output impact on Georgia's $763.6 billion economy

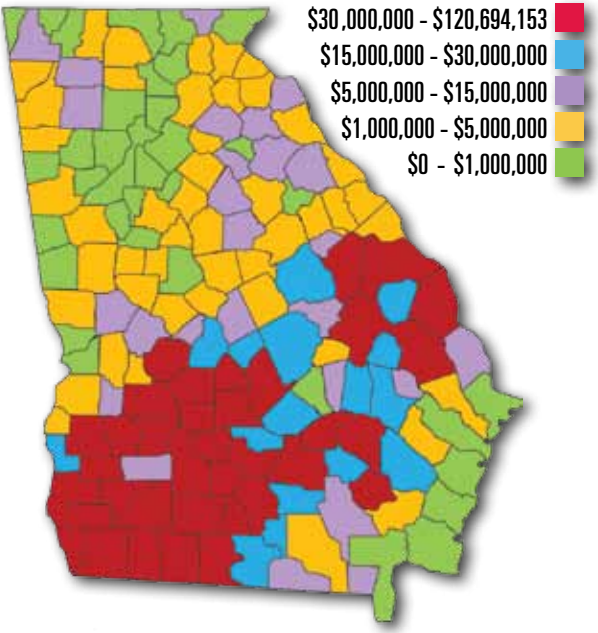


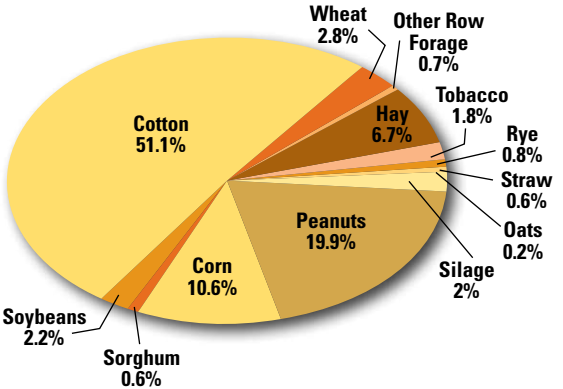
Food and fiber production and directly related processing are key components of Georgia's economy. Agriculture shaped Georgia's history and will continue to be a driving force in local economies across the state.

Food and fiber production and directly related processing directly and indirectly generated a **total economic impact of $71.1 billion** for the state and **created more than 359,000 jobs** in 2011. In nearly two-thirds of Georgia's counties, food and fiber production plus directly related businesses represent the largest or second largest segment of all goods and services produced.

Row & Forage Crops

2011 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $3 billion
2010 = $2.4 billion

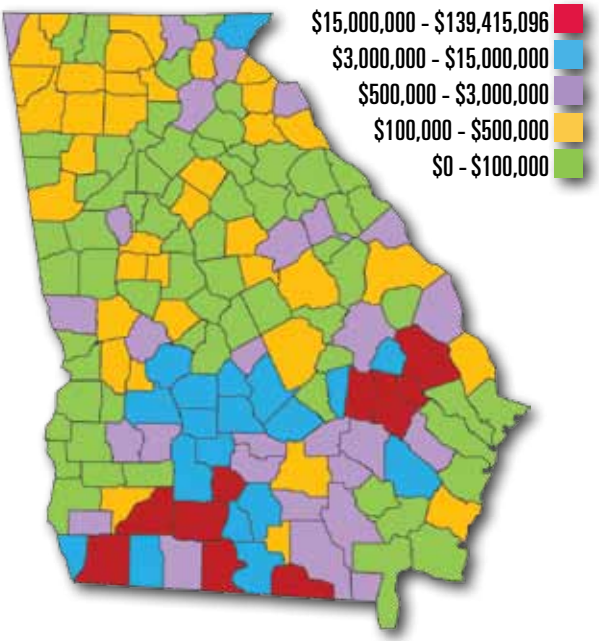


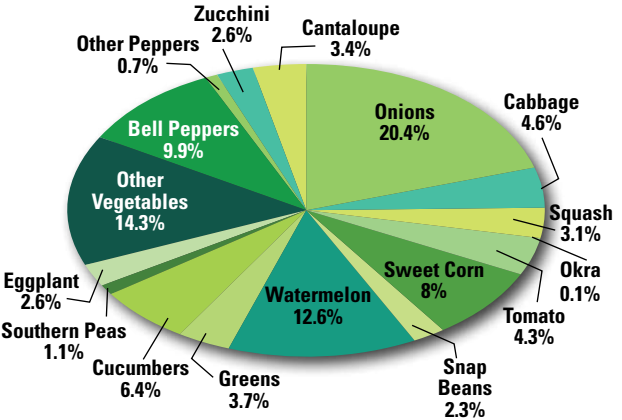


Row and forage crops have traditionally been the backbone of South Georgia agriculture. With 4.5 million acres of cropland, Georgia produced almost half of the nation's peanuts and harvested the second highest cotton acreage in 2011. With long growing seasons and abundant irrigation resources, row and forage crops were responsible for a **$12.2 billion impact** on the state's economy and represented **more than 55,000 jobs** in 2011.

Vegetables

2011 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $781 million
2010 = $753 million

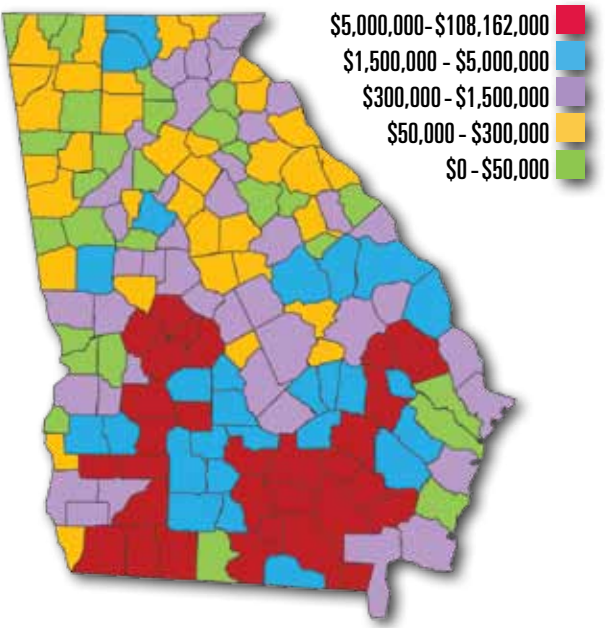


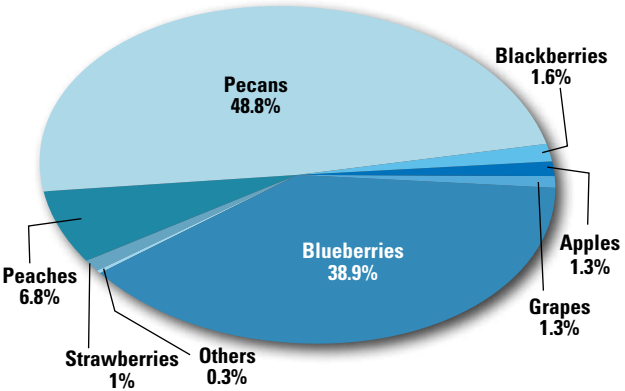


The vegetable industry in Georgia is one of agriculture's most diverse and fastest growing sectors. With a favorable climate often allowing both spring and fall plantings, Georgia ranked among the top five states for fresh market vegetable area harvested, production and value. Vegetable industry production and processing generated a total **economic impact of $1.9 billion** and accounted for **more than 10,200 jobs** in 2011.

Fruits & Nuts

2011 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $655 million
2010 = $451 million

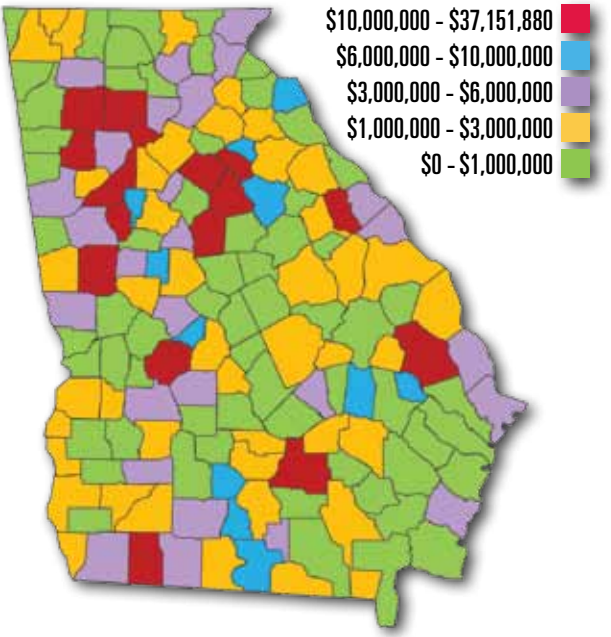


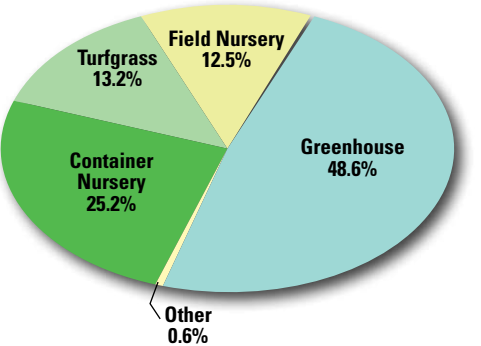


Fruit and tree nuts are important staples in our diet, and many types are grown in Georgia due to its favorable climate. Peaches have long been a trademark and are the state's official fruit. Additionally, Georgia has ranked first in pecan production for the past five years. The fruit and nut industry contributed a total **economic impact of $2.3 billion** for the state in 2011 and represented **more than 13,100 jobs.**

Ornamental Horticulture

2011 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $568 million
2010 = $586 million

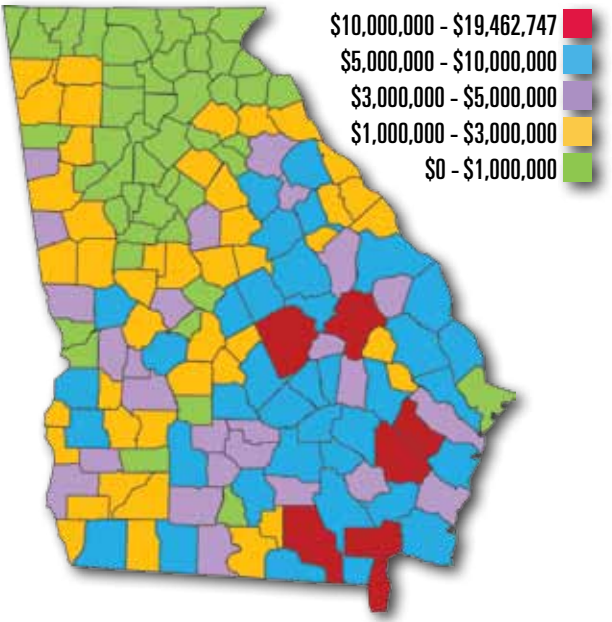


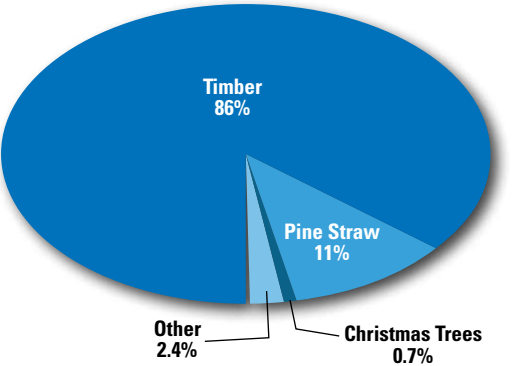


Ornamental horticulture provides a wide range of opportunities scattered across the state. This industry includes ornamentals and other plants in addition to landscape services. Greenhouses and container nurseries both ranked among the top 20 Georgia agricultural commodities in 2011. Green industry production, landscape services and processing generated a total **economic impact of $5.9 billion** and created **more than 66,000 jobs.**

Forestry & Products

2011 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $547 million
2010 = $577 million

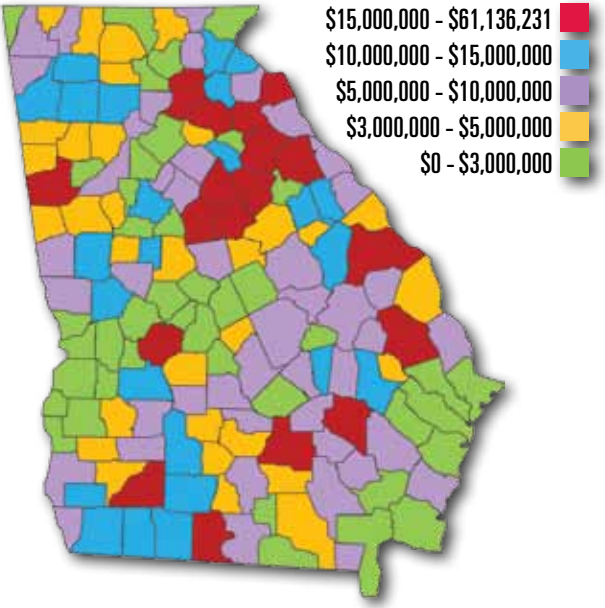


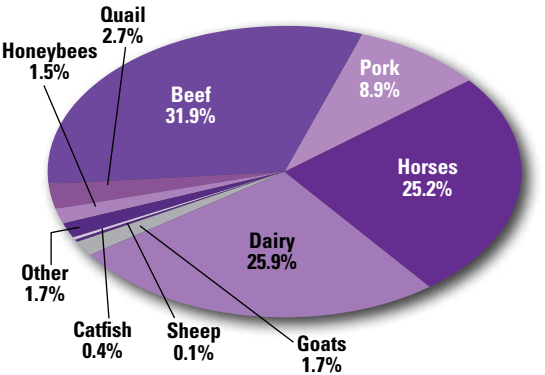


Forests affect nearly every aspect of our lives by providing the raw materials for home building, paper, packaging and many other uses. Forests shape our landscape, help stabilize our farms and enhance our cities. Timber production ranked fifth highest in farm gate value in 2011. Forest industry production and processing generated a total **economic impact of $14.4 billion** and contributed **nearly 61,500 jobs.**

Livestock & Aquaculture

2011 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $1.3 billion
2010 = $1.3 billion

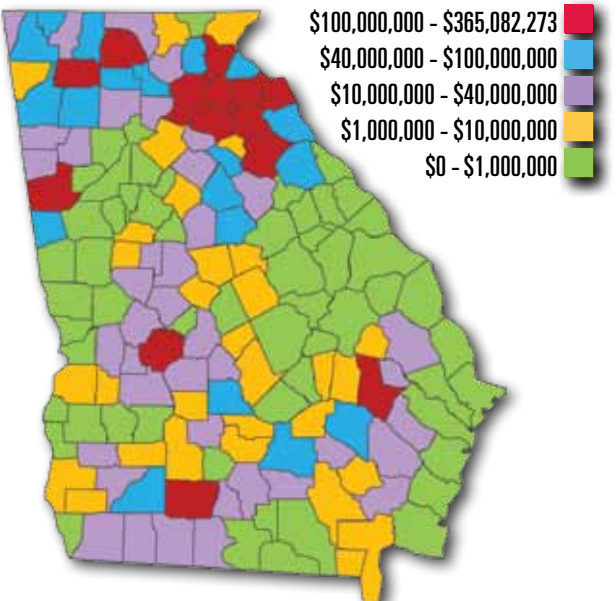


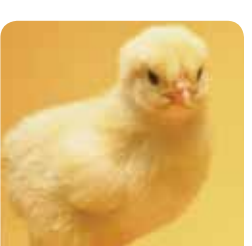


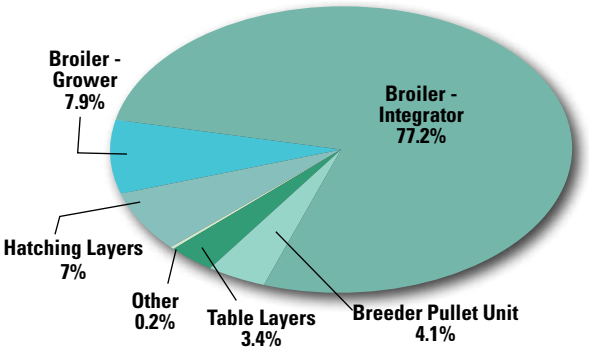
Livestock has long been an important component of Georgia's agricultural economy with beef and dairy among the top 10 commodities. Raising and breeding horses has become a significant industry, and increasing interest in goats, quail and catfish production keeps this industry dynamic. Livestock and aquaculture production and processing generated a total **economic impact of $4.8 billion** for Georgia and led to **nearly 34,000 jobs** covering every county of the state.

Poultry & Eggs

2011 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $5.5 billion
2010 = $5.4 billion



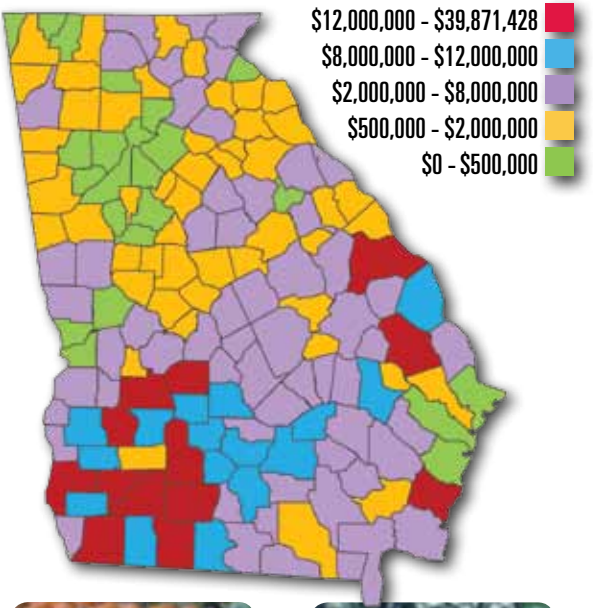


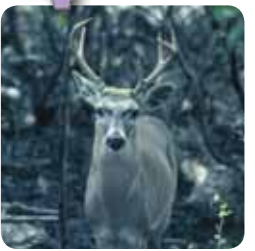


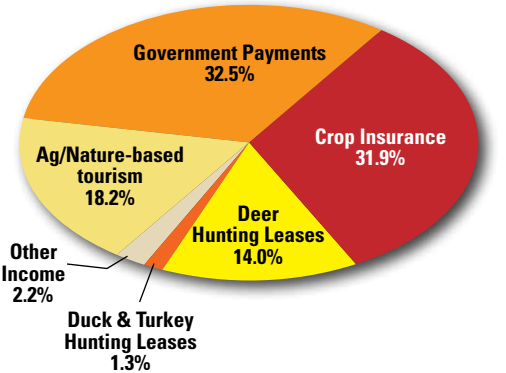
As Georgia's most valuable agricultural sector, the poultry-egg industry has dramatically increased in size over several decades, with more than two-thirds of the state's 159 counties now involved in production. Georgia has led the nation in broiler production for 28 consecutive years. Poultry-egg production and processing contributed **$28 billion total economic impact** for the state in 2011, and the industry contributes **more than 111,500 jobs.**

Agritourism & Other Income

2011 Georgia Farm Gate Value = $698 million
2010 = $641 million



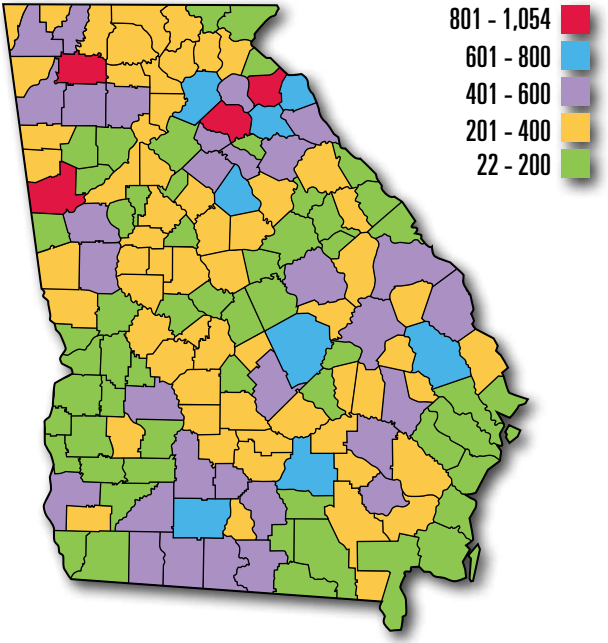




Both ag-based and nature-based tourism play a major role in making Georgia a destination for increasing numbers of tourists. Millions of residents and nonresidents enjoy abundant fishing, hunting and wildlife watching opportunities. Government payments, other than those directly related to crop production, are important for environmental and conservation programs across the state.

Number of Farms

2007 U.S. Census of Agriculture data



Number of farms = 47,846
Land in farms = 10,150,539 acres
Average farm size = 212 acres
Harvested cropland = 3,390,437 acres
Market value of agricultural products sold = $7.1 billion
Total farm production expenses = $6 billion

Number of Farms by Size

Less than 10 acres = 7.3% (3,504)
10 to 49 acres = 33.9% (16,243)
50 to 179 acres = 34% (16,244)
180 to 499 acres = 15.5% (74,321)
500 to 999 acres = 5.2% (2,470)
1000+ acres = 4.1% (1,953)

Number of Farms by Value of Sales

Less than $2,500 = 48.9% (23,391)
$2,500 to $4,999 = 9.3% (4,450)
$5,000 to $9,999 = 9.5% (4,527)
$10,000 to $24,999 = 10.3% (4,906)
$25,000 to $49,999 = 4.8% (2,308)
$50,000 to $99,999 = 3.1% (1,491)
$100,000 or more = 14.2% (6,773)

Farmers, Principal Operator

Worked 200+ days off farm = 39.9% (19,087)
Average age of principal operator = 57.8 yrs.
Female = 15.7% (7,532)
Black = 4.3% (2,072)
Hispanic = 0.8% (365)

OTHER AG FACTS

Georgia Conservation Reserve Program Acreage: 309,006 active acres as of October 2012

Source: USDA-FSA Conservation Reserve Program

Irrigation system acres = 1,446,754
Acres of irrigated crops = 1,548,772

Source: 2008 Irrigation Survey, UGA Cooperative Extension, Tifton, GA

752 million gallons per day state water withdrawals for irrigation

Source: Fanning, J.L. and Trent, V.P., "Water Use in Georgia by County for 2005; and Water Use Trends, 1980-2005," U. S. Geological Survey

Based on 2011 Georgia Farm Gate Value Report

To learn more about Georgia agribusiness, contact:

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