



all eyes are ON michigan agriculture

General

In 2001, there were 52,000 farms in Michigan. Michigan employs more than 500,000 people in production Ag and food processing. Michigan is the second most agriculturally diverse state in the country. Michigan's unique micro-climates allow farmers to produce over 125 different food and fiber products. Agriculture, the 2nd largest industry, contributes \$37 billion annually to the states economy.

Crops



Corn plants grow 7 to 10 feet tall.

Corn is harvested using a combine.

Most corn is used for livestock feed, but can also be used for ethanol (a fuel additive), plastics and foods.

In 2000, 2.2 million acres worth \$416.4 million were planted making it the largest crop by acreage and value.

Michigan ranks #1 in production of black beans, cranberry beans, blueberries, tart cherries, processing cucumbers and Niagara grapes.

Michigan also ranks #1 in the production of flowering and bedding plants, seed and cutting geraniums and hanging baskets.



Other Farm Facts

In 2000, the top ten Michigan commodities ranked by cash receipts were: milk, soybeans, corn, cattle and calves, hogs, annual bedding plants, woody ornamentals, sugar beets, potatoes and apples.

Michigan

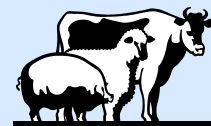
Capitol: Lansing
Population: 9,938,444 (rank – 8th)
Largest City: Detroit – 951,270
Number of Counties: 83
Founded: Entered Union Jan. 26, 1837



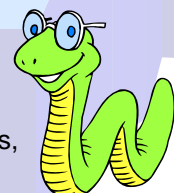
More on Michigan

State Bird: Robin
State Tree: White Pine
State Flower: Apple Blossom
State Mammal: White tailed deer
State Fishes: Trout and Brook Trout
State Gem: Isle Royal Greenstone
State Soil: Kalkaska Soil Series
State Stone: Petoskey Stone
State Reptile: Painted Turtle
State Wildflower: Dwarf Lake Iris
State Nickname: Wolverine State

Animals



There are 980,000 cattle including beef cows, calves and milk cows, 950,000 sheep and lambs and 6,305,000 hens and pullets of laying age in Michigan. In 2001, Michigan dairy cattle produced 5.7 billion pounds of milk.



Michigan is a leader in plantation grown Christmas trees – producing more than 8 varieties.

