

# Resources in Your Community

Don't overlook the obvious in your area. These organizations, offices and resources could be great partners in local P&E activities.

## Agricultural Organizations

### Commodity associations

- \* Agricultural cooperatives
- \* Grange associations
- \* Conservation districts
- \* State/ federal education/research offices
- \* Others

## Agriculture Education Instructors

- \* Agriculture & Natural Resources departments at community colleges, colleges and universities
- \* FFA
- \* Middle and high schools

## Businesses-Local/Regional/National

- \* Banks
- \* Department and hardware stores
- \* Garden and floral shops
- \* Grocery stores
- \* Processing plants

## County Chamber of Commerce

- \* Directory
- \* History
- \* Maps
- \* Tourism

## Newspaper Editors

### Intermediate School District

- \* Curriculum coordinators/science, math and career
- \* Instructional materials center/library

## Libraries/Museums

- \* Local and county reference desks
- \* National Agriculture Library access
- \* Local historical societies
- \* Natural history
- \* Science

## Offices with Staff Available

- \* City Council, Mayor
- \* Congressional Rep. regional offices
- \* Agriculture-related private industries
  - Banks, agriculture lenders
  - Fertilizer dealers
  - Seed companies
  - Tractor dealers

## Phone Book

- \* Community service numbers  
Agriculture
- \* Government pages – Agriculture
- \* Yellow pages
  - Area Profile
  - Places to Go
  - Did You Know?
  - Calendar of Events
  - Index
  - Fun for Kids

## Teachers

- \* AITC(Ag in the Classroom) presentations
- \* Curriculum specialists
- \* Staff meetings
- \* Workshops/in-services

## Farmers Markets

## Radio/Television Stations

### Michigan State University County Extension Office

- \* County agriculture profiles and history
- \* 4-H materials
- \* Food, animal and plant commodity specialists
- \* Research
- \* County 4-H/FFA youth fairs

# Ag Calendar of Events

## January

AFBF Convention  
Soup Month  
National Popcorn Day

## February

National Cherry Month  
Potato Lover's Month  
American Heart Month  
National Meat Lover's Month  
Canned Food Month

## March

National Nutrition Month  
National Peanut Month  
MSU Ag and Natural Resource Week  
State FFA Convention  
Johnny Appleseed Day – March 11  
National Agriculture Week  
National Ag Day (first day of spring)  
Educator Awards Due Friday of Ag Week

## April

Month of the Young Child  
National Fresh Celery Month  
National Garden Month  
Earth Day

## May

Barbecue Month  
Michigan Beef Month  
National Egg Month  
National Asparagus Month  
National Strawberry Month  
National Hamburger Month  
National Teacher's Day

## June

National Dairy Month  
National Fruit & Vegetable Month  
National Ag in the Classroom Conference

## July

Blueberry Month  
National Baked Bean Month  
National Peach Month  
Star Awards due to MFB July 1  
Communicator of Year applications to MFB July 1  
Ag Promoter to MFB July 1  
Ag Expo at MSU

## August

Farm Bureau fiscal year ends August 31  
County Farm Bureau annuals start

## September

Rice Month  
Chicken Month  
National Mushroom Month  
National Honey Month  
National Farm Safety Week

## October

Pasta Month  
Pizza Month  
National Apple Month  
National Pork Month  
Forest Products Week  
Hunger Awareness Month  
School Lunch Week

## November

American Education Week  
Thanksgiving

## December

MFB Scholarship applications due Dec. 1  
MFB Annual Meeting  
Grand Rapids Project R.E.D. Training

## *Quick Michigan Ag Facts*

**Agriculture is the second largest industry in Michigan.** About 10.1 million acres of farmland is home to over 53,000 farms, averaging 191 acres, which contribute over \$63 billion annually to the state's economy. Production agriculture and food processing employs about one million Michigan residents.

**Because of unique microclimates,** Michigan produces over 200 commodities on a commercial basis, making the state second in the nation in agricultural diversity.

**The value of agricultural exports from Michigan in 2006 was \$1.2 billion.** The top exports were soybeans and products, feed grain and products, vegetables and preparations, fruits and preparations and dairy products. Michigan Ag products were exported mainly to Canada, Mexico, Japan, Austria, United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia, Guatemala, Italy, Taiwan and Australia.

**The cash receipt value of the top 20 commodities in Michigan in 2006 was \$4.2 billion.** The top commodities were milk, floriculture & nursery, corn, soybeans, cattle & calves, hogs, wheat, blueberries, sugarbeets, hay, apples, potatoes, turkeys, dry beans, eggs, tart cherries, cucumbers for pickles, fresh tomatoes, celery and sweet cherries.

**The average value of farmland in Michigan was \$3,950 per acre in 2007 up \$450 per acre** from 2006 levels, according to the Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service.

**Michigan vegetable producers grew over 825,470 tons of fresh market** and processing vegetables in 2006 valued at \$218 million. That makes our state ninth and fifth, respectively, for fresh market and processed vegetable production.

**Michigan's horse population totals 130,000 head.** In Michigan, approximately 100,000 families own horses.

**Michigan is second in the country in dry bean production,** which accounts for 16.8 percent of the national total. Michigan continues to lead the nation in cranberry bean production with 77.2 per cent, black bean production with 62.8 percent and small red bean production with 60.1 percent of the total.

**Michigan ranked first in tart cherry production** having produced 72 percent of the national total and fifth for sweet cherry production total having produced 7.3 percent.

**Michigan ranks second nationally in Christmas tree production** with over 300 million trees sold annually, produced by over 800 growers.

### **Michigan leads the nation in the value of sales for 12 floriculture crops**

- **Impatiens (flats)** with 2.2 million flats sold, valued at \$15.5 million
- **Begonia Hanging Baskets** with 473,000 baskets sold, valued at \$2.7 million.
- **Geranium Hanging Baskets (cuttings)** with 721,000 baskets sold, valued at \$4.8 million.
- **Impatiens Hanging Baskets** with 648,000 sold, valued at \$3.4 million.

- **New Guinea Impatiens Hanging Baskets** with 719,000 baskets sold, valued at \$4.7 million.
- **Petunias Hanging Baskets** with 746,000 baskets sold, valued at \$2.7 million.
- **Other Flowering Hanging Baskets** with 2.2 million baskets sold, valued at \$13.7 million
- **Potted Geraniums (cuttings)** with 4.3 million pots sold, valued at \$10.8 million.
- **Potted Geraniums (seeds)** with 19.5 million pots sold, valued at \$15.5 million.
- **Potted New Guinea Impatiens** with 4.3 million pots sold, valued at \$6.3 million.
- **Potted Petunias** with 2.2 million pots sold valued at \$4.8 million.
- **Potted Easter Lilies** with 1.2 million pots sold, valued at \$4.5 million.

**Michigan ranks first in blueberry production, first in production of cucumbers for pickles** and is second for celery, carrot, Hosta, Marigold and squash production.

**Michigan ranks third in the nation in apple production** with 850 million pounds produced in 2006, according to Michigan Agricultural Statistics; estimated farm value was over \$97.1 million.

**Michigan ranks fourth in grape production.** Michigan growers produced 102.7 tons of grapes at an estimated value of \$21.8 million.

**Michigan ranks fifth in both snap beans for processing and sugarbeet production** with 66,000 tons and 23.2 tons, respectively.

**Michigan ranks fifth in maple syrup production** out of the ten major producing states, with 78,000 gallons produced in 2006. The estimated value was \$2.886 million.

**Michigan ranks eighth nationally in annual milk production.** Approximately 324,000 cows produced over 7.1 billion pounds of milk in 2006.

**Michigan potato farmers produced more than 14.9 million cwt of potatoes** in 2006. While that's a lot of spuds, Michigan ranked tenth nationally in potato production.

**Corn is Michigan's leading crop** in value in production, which was \$972 million 2006. Top counties in corn production were Huron, Lenawee and St. Joseph.

**Michigan's cattle herd totaled 1.06 million** in January 2007 with an estimated value of \$1.20 billion.

**Michigan ranks second nationally in the value of sales for several horticultural products**

- Geraniums (cuttings)
- New Guinea Impatiens (flats)
- Petunia, Begonia and Marigold flats
- Pansy/Viola Hanging Baskets
- Geranium (seed) Hanging Baskets
- Petunias (flats)

# MICHIGAN AGRICULTURE QUIZ

1. Agriculture is the second largest industry in Michigan. True \_\_\_\_\_ False \_\_\_\_\_
2. There are more than 10.1 million acres of farmland in Michigan. True \_\_\_\_\_ False \_\_\_\_\_
3. Michigan farmers produce over 200 food and fiber products. True \_\_\_\_\_ False \_\_\_\_\_
4. The majority of farmland in Michigan is owned by families. True \_\_\_\_\_ False \_\_\_\_\_
5. Soybeans are Michigan's #1 agriculture export commodity. True \_\_\_\_\_ False \_\_\_\_\_
6. List the top Michigan counties for apple production.
  1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
7. List five of the top 20 commodities in cash receipts in Michigan.
  1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
  4. \_\_\_\_\_
  5. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Michigan leads the nation in the production of \_\_\_\_\_ commodities.  14  10  27
9. According to government statistics, there are over \_\_\_\_\_ ,300 farms in Michigan.  35  53  95
10. The average size of a Michigan farm is \_\_\_\_\_ acres.  98  640  191
11. The average nationwide farm is \_\_\_\_\_ acres.  450  770  935
12. Agriculture directly contributes over \_\_\_\_\_ billion dollars to Michigan's economy.  63  56  68

# MICHIGAN AGRICULTURE QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Agriculture is the second largest industry in Michigan. True  False   
*Cash receipts total over \$4.4 billion.*
2. There are more than 10.1 million acres of farmland in Michigan. True  False
3. Michigan farmers produce over 200 food and fiber products. True  False   
*Michigan ranks 21st according to the Michigan Department of Agriculture.*
4. The majority of farmland in Michigan is owned by families. True  False   
*There are more individual and family farms in Michigan.*
5. Soybeans are Michigan's #1 agriculture export commodity. True  False   
*Michigan exports over \$233 million, over 20% of the total exported to other countries.*
6. List the top Michigan counties for apple production.
- |            |              |
|------------|--------------|
| 1. Kent    | 3. Van Buren |
| 2. Berrien | 4. Oceana    |
| 3. Ottawa  | 5. Muskegon  |
1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
7. List five of the top 20 commodities in cash receipts in Michigan.
- |                    |                |               |                             |
|--------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Milk            | 6. Hogs        | 11. Apples    | 16. Eggs                    |
| 2. Floriculture    | 7. Wheat       | 12. Potatoes  | 17. Tart Cherries           |
| 3. Corn            | 8. Blueberries | 13. Turkeys   | 18. Cucumbers for pickles   |
| 4. Soybeans        | 9. Sugarbeets  | 14. Turkeys   | 19. Tomatoes (fresh)        |
| 5. Cattle & Calves | 10. Hay        | 15. Dry Beans | 20. Celery & Sweet Cherries |
1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
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