

## Wisconsin Farm Numbers Unchanged

The number of farms in Wisconsin in 2007 remained steady at 76,000, the same as the year before. Total land in farms declined 100,000 acres to 15.2 million acres, while the average farm size was 200 acres, down one acre from 2006.

By economic size group, there was a shift upwards in Wisconsin. The two highest sales classes tallied 100 more farms each. For 2007, there were 4,400 farms with sales of \$250,000 to \$499,999, and 2,700 farms with sales of \$500,000 or more. Farms with sales of \$10,000-\$99,999 and with sales of \$100,000 - \$249,999 were unchanged from the previous year, at 21,300 and 11,600 respectively. The only category with fewer farms was the group with \$1,000 - \$9,999 in gross sales, down 200 to 36,000.

The number of farms in the U.S. in 2007 declined one percent from the previous year. There were 2.08 million farms in the nation with 931 million acres of land in farms. The average farm size increased 3 acres to 449 acres.

Nationally, the three highest sales groups gained farms. The largest economic sales class grew by 4 percent to 84,970 farms. This group averaged 2,558 acres per farm in 2007, down 66 acres from the previous year. The next highest category, \$250,000 - \$499,999 in sales, grew 2 percent to 93,000 farms with an average of 1,645 acres per farm. The bulk of the nation's farms, 55 percent of the total, had gross sales of \$1,000 - \$9,999 in 2007.

The North Central region is made up of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. This region had 38 percent of the U.S. farms and was second to the South in total number of farms. The North Central region had the highest number of farms in every sales group, except the \$1,000 - \$9,999 class.

A farm is "any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the year". Government payments are included in sales. Places with the entire acreage enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), or other government programs are counted as farms.

### FARMS BY ECONOMIC SALES CLASS: Wisconsin, 2006-2007

Economic class gross value of sales	Number of farms		Land in farms		Average size of farms	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	Number		Thousand acres		Acres	
\$1,000-\$9,999	36,200	36,000	2,800	2,500	77	69
\$10,000-\$99,999	21,300	21,300	3,600	3,700	169	174
\$100,000-\$249,999	11,600	11,600	3,300	3,300	284	284
\$250,000-\$499,999	4,300	4,400	2,700	2,700	628	614
\$500,000 & over	2,600	2,700	2,900	3,000	1,115	1,111
Total	76,000	76,000	15,300	15,200	201	200

Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO