

**CORN: Acreage, Yield, and Production**

Year	All Planted Acres	Grain			Silage		
		Harvested Acres	Yield Bushels	Production Bushels	Harvested Acres	Yield Tons	Production Tons
1940	13,744	5,198	31	162,657	N/A	N/A	N/A
1950	14,370	5,258	41	213,945	8,795	8.3	73,421
1959	15,799	5,329	53	282,503	10,138	10.1	102,266
1969	29,200	9,500	82	779,600	N/A	N/A	N/A
1978	29,700	12,900	100	1,289,700	16,400	14.0	229,600
1982	29,000	15,300	97	1,476,500	13,500	13.7	185,000
1987	20,500	11,200	109	1,220,800	8,800	14.0	123,200
1992	17,500	9,200	101	929,200	7,500	15.6	117,000
1997	22,900	11,800	114	1,345,200	10,900	14.3	155,900
1998	22,400	11,500	109	1,249,400	10,900	15.9	172,800
1999	22,300	9,000	90	810,000	13,300	16.5	219,800
2000	15,100	3,200	99	317,800	11,900	17.0	202,000
2001	16,400	5,800	97	565,000	10,600	15.5	163,900
2002	16,500	6,300	87	545,800	10,000	14.4	144,000
2003	16,000	6,500	124	804,800	9,500	18.9	180,000

1940 - 1969 U.S. Census of Agriculture

**HAY: Acreage, Yield, and Production**

Year	Alfalfa Hay			Other Hay			Total Hay		
	Harvested Acres	Yield Tons	Production Tons	Harvested Acres	Yield Tons	Production Tons	Harvested Acres	Yield Tons	Production Tons
1940	5,132	1.7	8,654	47,494	1.0	49,472	52,626	1.1	58,126
1950	10,144	1.8	18,300	38,005	1.3	48,774	48,149	1.4	67,074
1959	25,911	2.0	51,805	25,180	1.5	36,777	51,091	1.7	88,582
1969	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	36,709	2.1	77,592
1978	19,700	2.7	53,200	20,000	2.2	44,000	39,700	2.4	97,200
1982	19,700	2.8	55,200	17,100	2.1	35,900	36,800	2.5	91,100
1987	18,800	3.0	56,400	27,000	2.4	64,100	45,800	2.6	120,500
1992	13,100	2.2	29,000	13,000	1.6	20,900	26,100	1.9	49,900
1997	11,000	2.3	25,500	16,300	1.8	29,100	27,300	2.0	54,600
1998	9,800	2.6	25,300	13,600	2.2	29,600	23,400	2.3	54,900
1999	8,600	2.8	23,700	16,500	1.8	29,100	25,100	2.1	52,800
2000	6,800	2.6	17,600	19,200	2.0	37,500	26,000	2.1	55,100
2001	8,700	2.5	21,900	21,300	1.7	36,000	30,000	1.9	57,900
2002	11,000	2.3	25,200	17,800	2.0	34,900	28,800	2.1	60,100
2003	10,000	1.7	17,100	19,700	1.2	24,400	29,700	1.4	41,500

1940-1969 U.S. Census of Agriculture



# Columbia County

## Farm Statistics

Columbia county lies in the eastern part of the state in the Hudson Valley region. In 2003, there were 119,500 acres in farms, 29 percent of the county's total 406,870 acres. There were 495 farms in the county averaging 241 acres per farm. Columbia county ranks 42nd in the state for number of farms and 31st for land in farms.

In 2002, according to the Census of Agriculture, the market value of all agricultural products sold from county farms was \$52.2 million. Total sales averaged \$104,807 per farm. The leading products sold were: dairy products, fruits & nuts, cattle & calves, sheep & goats, and nursery & greenhouse.

The average value of land and buildings per farm was \$867,345. Machinery and equipment was valued at \$110,017 per farm. Total production expenses in 2002 were \$54.4 million for an average of \$108,786 per farm. The Census showed 68 percent of the farm operators reported farming as their principal occupation. The average age of the operator was 56.7 years. Data from the U.S. Department of Commerce showed the median household income in 1999 was \$41,915.

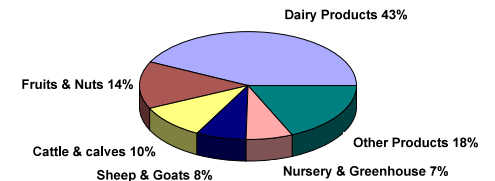
**LEADING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS**

Product	2002 Sales (\$1,000)	Percent of Total	State Rank
Dairy Products	22,335	43	28
Fruits & Nuts	7,530	14	9
Cattle & calves	5,300	10	18
Sheep & Goats	3,944	8	1
Nursery & Greenhouse	3,618	7	19
Other Products	9,467	18	
<b>TOTAL SALES</b>	<b>52,194</b>		<b>25</b>

2002 Census of Agriculture

**Leading Agricultural Products**

Percent of Total Sales



New York Agricultural Statistics Service  
 10B Airline Drive  
 Albany, New York 12235  
[www.nass.usda.gov/ny](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ny) (518)457-5570

**FARMS, LAND IN FARMS, AND LAND USE**

Year	Number of Farms	Land in Farms <i>Acres</i>	Total Cropland <i>Acres</i>	Permanent Pasture <i>Acres</i>	Total Woodland <i>Acres</i>	Other Land <i>Acres</i>
1940	2,153	275,708	N/A	N/A	50,060	N/A
1950	1,692	259,998	149,263	31,833	53,976	24,926
1959	1,235	231,315	133,286	23,912	51,452	22,665
1969	768	174,390	108,355	N/A	40,939	N/A
1978	643	162,699	103,007	10,160	34,613	14,919
1982	599	152,397	99,384	8,255	31,629	13,129
1987	630	138,200	91,000	8,800	28,000	10,400
1992	570	123,100	83,700	8,800	20,800	9,800
1997	555	123,500	83,600	9,700	16,700	13,500
1998	545	120,600	80,700	9,700	16,500	13,700
1999	560	120,400	81,100	9,300	16,200	13,800
2000	545	116,700	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2001	535	118,400	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2002	495	119,700	77,838	7,416	25,031	9,215
2003	495	119,500	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

1940-1982 and all land breakouts after 1999 are U.S. Census of Agriculture

**FARMS BY SALES CLASS**

Sales Class	1997	2002
Under \$10,000	237	237
\$10,000 to \$49,999	149	123
\$50,000 to \$99,999	48	37
\$100,000 or more	111	101
<b>Farms Reporting</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>498</b>

U. S. Census of Agriculture

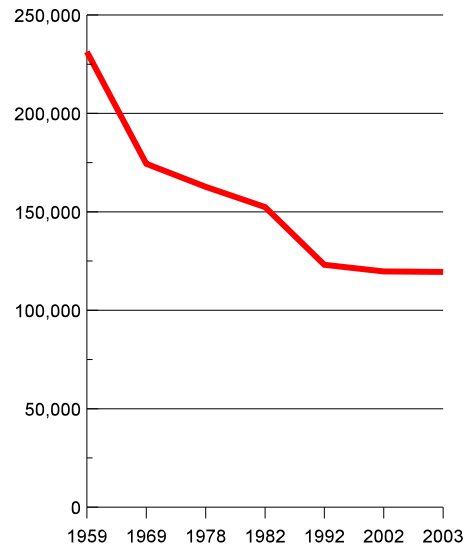
**RESIDENT POPULATION**

In 2002, Columbia County's population ranked 41st in the state.

Year	Total	Population Per Square Mile
1940	41,500	65
1950	43,200	68
1960	47,300	74
1970	51,500	81
1980	59,500	94
1990	63,000	99
2002	63,094	99

U.S. Census of Population

**Land in Farms (Acres)**



**CATTLE: Number on Farms, January 1**

Year	All Cattle & Calves	Beef Cows	Milk Cows
1940	23,858	N/A	N/A
1950	29,218	516	17,044
1959	35,798	1,160	21,018
1969	34,038	1,735	18,689
1978	37,000	2,000	19,500
1982	37,000	3,000	18,000
1987	28,500	2,200	13,000
1992	24,000	1,600	11,000
1997	25,000	1,500	10,500
1998	24,000	1,500	11,000
1999	21,000	1,300	9,000
2000	24,000	1,400	11,000
2001	22,000	1,200	10,500
2002	22,000	1,200	10,500
2003	23,500	1,800	9,800
2004	23,000	1,700	9,100

1940-1969 U.S. Census of Agriculture

**MILK: Cows & Production**

Year	Annual Avg. Milk Cows <i>No. Head</i>	Average Production Per Cow <i>Pounds</i>	Total Milk Production <i>Million lbs.</i>
1940	N/A	N/A	N/A
1950	N/A	N/A	N/A
1959	N/A	N/A	N/A
1969	N/A	N/A	N/A
1978	19,000	11,200	213
1982	17,500	12,000	210
1987	12,000	13,700	164
1992	11,000	15,000	165
1997	10,500	16,000	168
1998	10,000	16,500	165
1999	10,000	17,000	170
2000	10,500	17,000	179
2001	9,900	17,200	171
2002	9,900	17,200	171
2003	9,500	15,100	143
2004	N/A	N/A	N/A

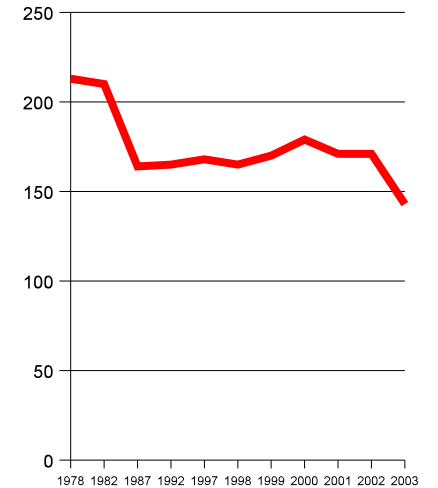
1940-1969 U.S. Census of Agriculture

**Oats: Acreage, Yield, and Production**

Year	Planted <i>Acres</i>	Harvested <i>Acres</i>	Yield <i>Bushels</i>	Production <i>Bushels</i>
1940	N/A	7,217	25	180,127
1950	N/A	8,087	32	262,250
1959	N/A	8,179	44	360,828
1969	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
1978	3,000	2,000	51	102,100
1982	2,200	1,900	54	102,600
1987	2,300	1,500	46	69,000
1992	1,600	1,400	66	92,400
1997	900	800	49	39,200
1998	900	800	60	48,000
1999	800	500	40	20,200
2000	500	300	65	19,400
2001	800	400	42	16,900
2002	600	300	55	16,500
2003	500	400	52	20,800

1940-1969 U.S. Census of Agriculture

**Milk Production (Million Pounds)**



**EQUINE: Inventory and Value, Census of Agriculture, 2002**

Year	Total Equine	Rank in State	Total Equine Sold	Value of Sales
2002	1,429	42	111	\$1,313,000