

# Nebraska Agriculture

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## Fact Card

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*A cooperative effort of the*  
Nebraska Department of Agriculture  
USDA, NASS, Nebraska Field Office  
Nebraska Bankers Association  
Nebraska AgRelations Council  
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### Nebraska's Top National Rankings

- 1<sup>st</sup> Commercial red meat production, 2007 – 7,217,300,000 lbs. (3,273,711 MT)  
Great Northern beans production, 2007 – 991,000 cwt. (44,950 MT)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> All cattle on feed, Jan. 1, 2008 – 2,700,000 head  
Commercial cattle slaughter, 2007 – 7,067,700 head  
Commercial cattle slaughter, 2007, live weight – 9,257,365,000 lbs. (4,199,069 MT)  
Pinto beans production, 2007 – 1,132,000 cwt. (51,346 MT)  
Proso millet production, 2007 – 4,160,000 bushels (146,594 cubic meters)  
Irrigated land, 2002 - 7,625,170 acres (3,085,809 hectares)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Cash receipts from all livestock and products, 2006 - \$7,683,386,000  
Corn for grain production, 2007 – 1,472,000,000 bushels (51,871,917 cubic meters)  
All cattle and calves, Jan. 1, 2008 - 6,550,000 head
- 4<sup>th</sup> Cash receipts from all farm commodities, 2006 - \$12,042,344,000  
Land in farms and ranches, 2007 – 45,600,000 acres (18,453,738 hectares)  
On-farm grain storage capacity, Dec. 1, 2007 – 1,100,000,000 bushels (38,786,981 cubic meters)  
Off-farm commercial grain storage capacity, Dec. 1, 2007 – 761,200,000 bushels (26,823,983 cubic meters)  
All dry edible beans production, 2007 – 2,418,000 cwt. (109,678 MT)  
Grain sorghum production, 2007 – 23,520,000 bushels (828,823 cubic meters)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Alfalfa hay production, 2007 – 4,198,000 tons (1,904 MT)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Soybean production, 2007 – 190,385,000 bushels (6,708,991 cubic meters)  
All hogs and pigs on farms, Dec. 1, 2007 – 3,150,000 head  
Commercial hog slaughter, 2007 – 7,428,800 head  
Commercial hog slaughter, 2007, live weight – 1,995,625,000 lbs. (905,200 MT)
- 7<sup>th</sup> Harvested acres of principal crops, 2007 – 18,382,000 acres (7,438,961 hectares)  
Winter wheat production, 2007 – 84,280,000 bushels (2,969,950 cubic meters)  
All hay production, 2007 – 6,298,000 tons (2,859 MT)
- 8<sup>th</sup> Cash receipts from all crop, 2006 – \$4,358,958,000  
Net farm income, 2006 - \$2,297,014,000  
Table egg layers (flocks of 30,000+), Dec. 2007 – 10,171,000 layers

### Nebraska Ag Facts

- Cash receipts from farm marketings contributed over \$12 billion to Nebraska's economy in 2006, ranking 4th in the nation.
- Nebraska's six leading commodities (in order of importance) for cash receipts are cattle and calves, corn, soybeans, hogs, wheat, and dairy products, which represent 95 percent of the state's total farm receipts.
- Every dollar in agricultural exports generates \$1.64 in economic activities such as transportation, financing, warehousing, and production. Nebraska's \$3.3 billion in agricultural exports translate into \$5.3 billion in additional economic activity.
- Nebraska has 47,300 farms and ranches; the average operation consists of 964 acres (383 hectares); average net income per farm averaged \$50,977 during the 2002-2006 period.
- In 2007, Nebraska ranked second in ethanol production capacity, with 20 operating plants having production capacity of 1.3 billion gallons (4,921,035,600 liters). Over 40% of the state's 2006 corn crop was utilized in ethanol production.
- The Nebraska livestock industry accounted for 64% of the state's total agricultural cash receipts in 2006. Nearly 55% of Nebraska farms have livestock or poultry operations.
- In 2005, Nebraska was ninth nationally in certified organic cropland acres (77,820 acres/31,493 hectares) and 10<sup>th</sup> in certified organic pasture acres (17,655 acres/7,145 hectares).
- Of every dollar spent on food in 2002, the farm value was 19 cents; 38 cents went to labor used by manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers. The remaining 43 cents paid for marketing costs such as packaging, transportation, and advertising.

### Nebraska's Natural Resources

- Nebraska's farms and ranches utilize 45.6 million acres (18,453,739 hectares) – 93% of the state's total land area.
- Nebraska is fortunate to have aquifers below it. If poured over the surface of the state, the water in those aquifers would have a depth of 37.9 feet (12 meters). The state has 91,609 registered, active irrigation wells supplying water to 7.6 million acres (3,075,623 hectares) of harvested cropland and pasture. Of the total cropland harvested during 2002, 43 percent was irrigated.
- Nearly 24,000 miles (38,624 kilometers) of rivers and streams add to Nebraska's bountiful natural resources.
- There are nearly 22 million acres (8,903,120 hectares) of rangeland and pastureland in Nebraska – half of which are in the Sandhills.

*(More detailed list of rankings available from USDA, NASS, Nebraska Field Office)*

To receive more information or request this card in another format, call the Nebraska Department of Agriculture at (402) 471-2341.