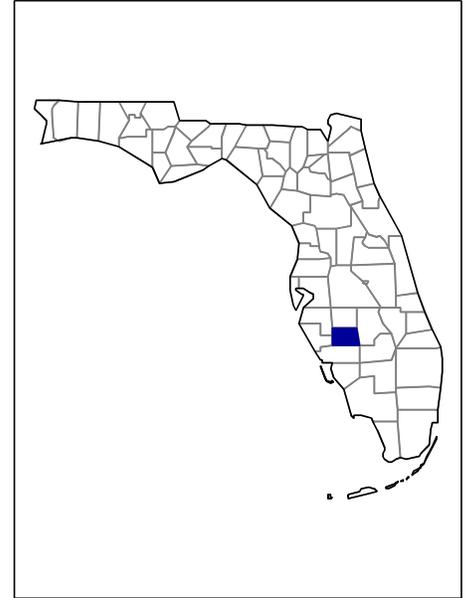


2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile

DeSoto, Florida



Number of farms

1,153 farms in 2002, 941 farms in 1997, up 23 percent.

Land in farms

388,177 acres in 2002, 324,144 acres in 1997, up 20 percent.

Average size of farm

337 acres in 2002, 344 acres in 1997, down 2 percent.

Market Value of Production

\$180,096,000 in 2002, \$182,157,000 in 1997, down 1 percent.

Crop sales accounted for \$150,446,000 of the total value in 2002.

Livestock sales accounted for \$29,650,000 of the total value in 2002.

Market Value of Production, average per farm

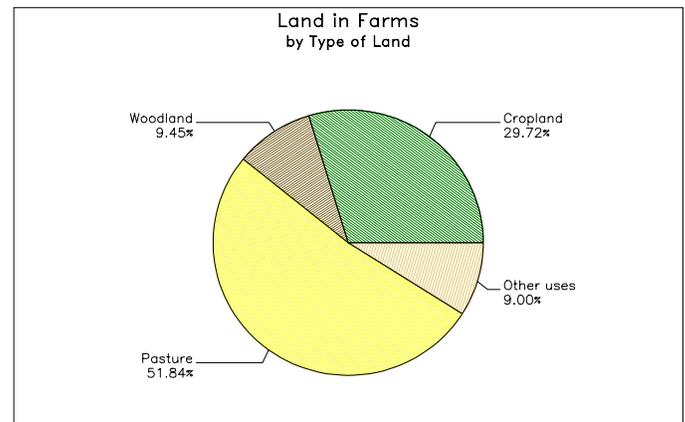
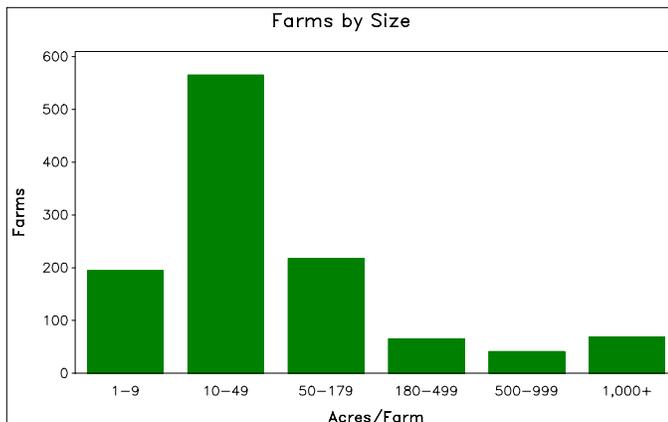
\$156,198 in 2002, \$193,578 in 1997, down 19 percent.

Government Payments

(D) in 2002, \$8,000 in 1997.

Government Payments, average per farm receiving payments

(D) in 2002, \$846 in 1997.



**2002 Census of Agriculture
County Profile
United States Department of Agriculture, Florida Agricultural Statistics Service**

DeSoto, Florida

Ranked items among the 67 state counties and 3,078 U.S. counties, 2002

Item	Quantity	State Rank	Universe ¹	U.S. Rank	Universe ¹
MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)					
Total value of agricultural products sold	180,096	10	67	178	3,075
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	150,446	11	66	73	3,070
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	29,650	14	67	951	3,070
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	(D)	(D)	49	(D)	2,871
Tobacco	-	-	14	-	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	12	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	2,583	25	62	469	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	137,271	5	65	25	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	10,209	25	65	253	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	(D)	(D)	36	(D)	1,774
Other crops and hay	(D)	(D)	61	(D)	3,046
Poultry and eggs	(D)	(D)	66	(D)	2,918
Cattle and calves	18,637	5	66	558	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	(D)	(D)	52	(D)	2,493
Hogs and pigs	1	59	61	2,787	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	4	52	65	2,681	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	203	28	64	1,098	3,014
Aquaculture	-	-	53	-	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	(D)	(D)	65	(D)	2,727
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Cattle and calves	81,628	6	66	217	3,059
Quail	(D)	2	37	(D)	1,412
Colonies of bees	8,835	8	64	52	2,392
Horses and ponies	1,187	24	65	1,050	3,065
Layers 20 weeks old and older	251	51	65	2,353	2,983
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Oranges	72,279	4	44	5	123
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	6,338	17	65	2,140	3,059
Sod harvested	5,180	4	45	8	740
All Vegetables harvested	1,446	19	62	348	2,710
Watermelons	1,328	7	57	27	1,753

Other County Highlights

Economic Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales	
Less than \$1,000	195
\$1,000 to \$2,499	131
\$2,500 to \$4,999	73
\$5,000 to \$9,999	92
\$10,000 to \$19,999	171
\$20,000 to \$24,999	139
\$25,000 to \$39,999	69
\$40,000 to \$49,999	45
\$50,000 to \$99,999	91
\$100,000 to \$249,999	57
\$250,000 to \$499,999	32
\$500,000 or more	58
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	138,594
Average per farm (\$)	120,307
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	44,586
Average per farm (\$)	38,703

Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Farming	606
Other	547
Principal operators by sex:	
Male	1,003
Female	150
Average age of principal operator (years)	57.5
All operators ² by race:	
White	1,488
Black or African American	7
American Indian or Alaska Native	-
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	3
Asian	16
More than one race	35
All operators ² of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	25

(D) Cannot be disclosed. (Z) Less than half of the unit shown. See "Census of Agriculture, Volume 1, Geographic Area Series" for complete footnotes.

¹ Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with item.

² Data were collected for a maximum of three operators per farm.