

2002 Census of Agriculture County Profile

La Plata, Colorado

Number of farms

923 farms in 2002, 832 farms in 1997, up 11 percent.

Land in farms

562,664 acres in 2002, 569,709 acres in 1997, down 1 percent.

Average size of farm

610 acres in 2002, 685 acres in 1997, down 11 percent.

Market Value of Production

\$15,962,000 in 2002, \$15,848,000 in 1997, up 1 percent.

Crop sales accounted for \$3,899,000 of the total value in 2002.

Livestock sales accounted for \$12,063,000 of the total value in 2002.

Market Value of Production, average per farm

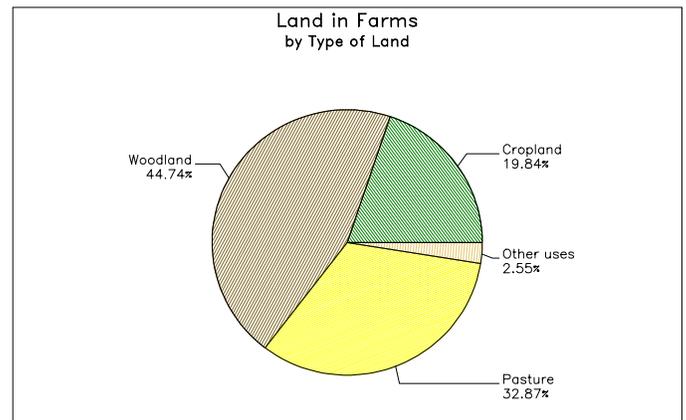
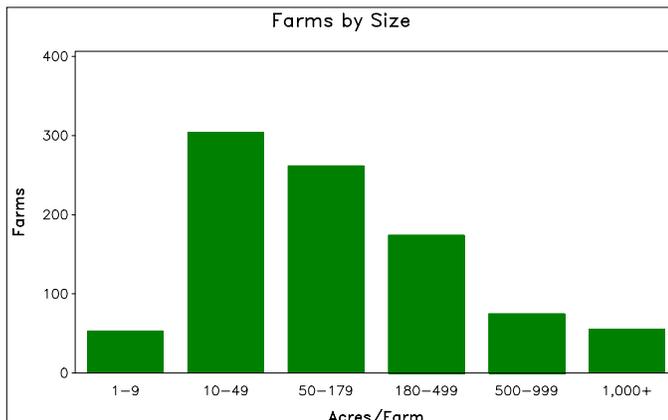
\$17,294 in 2002, \$19,048 in 1997, down 9 percent.

Government Payments

\$827,000 in 2002, \$615,000 in 1997, up 34 percent.

Government Payments, average per farm receiving payments

\$4,445 in 2002, \$5,969 in 1997, down 26 percent.



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

La Plata, Colorado

Ranked items among the 63 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	15,962	37	62	2,235	3,075
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	3,899	35	62	2,214	3,070
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	12,063	29	62	1,724	3,070
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	(D)	(D)	44	(D)	2,871
Tobacco	-	-	-	-	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	-	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	24	27	42	2,295	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	349	5	28	661	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	1,007	20	49	1,091	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	(D)	(D)	24	(D)	1,774
Other crops and hay	2,498	22	61	504	3,046
Poultry and eggs	(D)	(D)	53	(D)	2,918
Cattle and calves	9,379	30	60	1,036	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	66	25	40	2,213	2,493
Hogs and pigs	16	37	56	2,131	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	668	6	57	135	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	785	7	61	190	3,014
Aquaculture	(D)	(D)	27	(D)	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	323	15	52	400	2,727
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Cattle and calves	19,949	31	61	1,454	3,059
Sheep and lambs	8,679	7	55	137	2,867
Horses and ponies	4,274	6	63	84	3,065
Layers 20 weeks old and older	1,947	8	57	1,017	2,983
Colonies of bees	(D)	7	40	(D)	2,392
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	34,090	15	61	618	3,059
Oats	172	15	28	1,318	2,215
Corn for silage	(D)	26	37	(D)	2,307
Apples	72	6	28	434	2,173
All Wheat for grain ³	(D)	(D)	41	(D)	2,517

Other County Highlights

Economic Characteristics	Quantity	Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales		Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Less than \$1,000	363	Farming	471
\$1,000 to \$2,499	118	Other	452
\$2,500 to \$4,999	106	Principal operators by sex:	
\$5,000 to \$9,999	95	Male	763
\$10,000 to \$19,999	83	Female	160
\$20,000 to \$24,999	29	Average age of principal operator (years)	54.9
\$25,000 to \$39,999	48	All operators ² by race:	
\$40,000 to \$49,999	23	White	1,383
\$50,000 to \$99,999	29	Black or African American	-
\$100,000 to \$249,999	22	American Indian or Alaska Native	39
\$250,000 to \$499,999	4	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2
\$500,000 or more	3	Asian	2
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	17,441	More than one race	10
Average per farm (\$)	18,957	All operators ² of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	124
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	2,671		
Average per farm (\$)	2,904		

(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.

³ Items with a rank that cannot be disclosed are separated by a blank line, position in table does not indicate rank.