

AG Facts & Figures

2008 Georgia Farm Gate Value Report¹

BEN HILL

COUNTY

GEORGIA

Avg. County

with data > 0**

TOTAL FARM GATE VALUE	\$48,901,481	\$11,922,405,911	\$74,983,685
Rank of Total Farm Gate Value (1=highest)	77		
Total Farm Gate Value per acre of land in farms	\$654	\$1,175	\$1,463
Total Farm Gate Value per farm	\$215,425	\$249,183	\$238,628
Farm Gate GROWER Value	\$38,061,872	\$7,486,370,989	\$47,084,094
<u>Row & Forage Crops</u>			
Barley, Acres Harvested	0	606	76
Barley, Avg Yield/acre in bushels	0	39	37
Barley, Production in bushels	0	23,720	2,965
Barley, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$115,042	\$14,380
Corn, Acres Harvested	3,823	349,983	2,518
Corn, Avg Yield/acre in bushels	110	142	120
Corn, Production in bushels	420,530	49,832,771	358,509
Corn, Farm Gate Value	\$1,997,518	\$236,751,951	\$1,703,251
Cotton, Acres Harvested	7,567	994,392	11,049
Cotton, Avg Yield/acre in pounds	925	858	798
Cotton, Production in pounds	6,999,475	852,730,216	9,474,780
Cotton, Farm Gate Value	\$4,794,640	\$584,120,198	\$6,490,224
Hay, Acres Harvested	7,500	757,558	5,017
Hay, Avg Yield/acre in tons	2	2.5	2.7
Hay, Production in tons	15,000	1,909,097	12,643
Hay, Farm Gate Value	\$1,125,000	\$144,911,814	\$959,681
Oats, Acres Harvested	85	41,790	459
Oats, Avg Yield/acre in bushels	45	65	60
Oats, Production in bushels	3,825	2,708,138	29,760
Oats, Farm Gate Value	\$13,388	\$9,493,258	\$104,322
Peanuts, Acres Harvested	8,161	697,161	9,173
Peanuts, Avg Yield/acre in pounds	3,500	3,477	3,284
Peanuts, Production in pounds	28,563,500	2,423,795,331	31,892,044
Peanuts, Farm Gate Value	\$6,855,240	\$582,176,839	\$7,660,222
Rye, Acres Harvested	327	70,354	725
Rye, Avg Yield/acre in bushels	25	29	29
Rye, Production in bushels	8,175	2,062,214	21,260
Rye, Farm Gate Value	\$98,100	\$24,809,043	\$255,763
Silage, Acres Harvested	350	51,583	727
Silage, Avg Yield/acre in tons	15	17.5	15.9
Silage, Production in tons	5,250	903,691	12,728
Silage, Farm Gate Value	\$262,500	\$45,184,550	\$636,402
Sorghum, Acres Harvested	371	54,315	632
Sorghum, Avg Yield/acre in bushels	45	50	46
Sorghum, Production in bushels	16,695	2,708,791	31,498
Sorghum, Farm Gate Value	\$75,128	\$12,189,560	\$141,739
Soybeans, Acres Harvested	1,459	400,921	3,517
Soybeans, Avg Yield/acre in bushels	30	33	32
Soybeans, Production in bushels	43,770	13,213,255	115,906
Soybeans, Farm Gate Value	\$383,863	\$115,880,243	\$1,016,493
Straw, Acres Harvested	350	186,147	1,843
Straw, Avg Yield/acre in bales	90	79	75
Straw, Production in bales	31,500	14,735,383	145,895
Straw, Farm Gate Value	\$94,500	\$44,078,741	\$436,423
Tobacco, Acres Harvested	85	16,926	513
Tobacco, Avg Yield/acre in pounds	2,300	2,296	2,298
Tobacco, Production in pounds	195,500	38,863,044	1,177,668
Tobacco, Farm Gate Value	\$349,945	\$69,564,849	\$2,108,026
Wheat, Acres Harvested	1,635	397,255	3,256
Wheat, Avg Yield/acre in bushels	45	56	51
Wheat, Production in bushels	73,575	22,184,933	181,844
Wheat, Farm Gate Value	\$404,663	\$121,707,481	\$997,602
Row/Forage Crops, Total, Farm Gate Value²	\$16,454,483	\$2,009,762,474	\$13,135,702

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Fruits & Nuts

Apples, Acres Harvested	0	619	39
Apples, Production in bushels	0	268,820	16,801
Apples, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$5,916,644	\$369,790
Blackberries, Acres Harvested	0	558	14
Blackberries, Production in pounds	0	2,715,100	66,222
Blackberries, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$7,573,532	\$184,720
Blueberries, Acres Harvested	0	14,126	147
Blueberries, Production in pounds	0	55,265,161	575,679
Blueberries, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$60,921,843	\$634,603
Grapes, Acres Harvested	0	2,299	35
Grapes, Production in pounds	0	12,673,935	192,029
Grapes, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$10,455,349	\$158,414
Peaches, Acres Harvested	0	10,713	219
Peaches, Production in pounds	0	65,293,055	1,332,511
Peaches, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$48,998,097	\$999,961
Pecans, Acres Harvested	2,050	140,339	1,337
Pecans, Production in pounds	1,537,500	92,943,158	885,173
Pecans, Farm Gate Value	\$2,075,625	\$125,932,662	\$1,199,359
Strawberries, Acres Harvested	0	242	4
Strawberries, Production in pounds	0	3,388,610	62,752
Strawberries, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$4,820,431	\$89,267
Fruits & Nuts, Total, Farm Gate Value²	\$2,075,625	\$267,729,337	\$1,859,232

Vegetables

Cabbage, Acres Harvested	1	9,348	260
Cabbage, Farm Gate Value	\$5,328	\$35,437,543	\$984,376
Cantaloupe, Acres Harvested	10	4,264	80
Cantaloupe, Farm Gate Value	\$32,900	\$20,696,968	\$390,509
Cucumbers, Acres Harvested	0	9,310	259
Cucumbers, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$80,673,284	\$2,240,925
Eggplant, Acres Harvested	0	1,215	58
Eggplant, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$16,760,087	\$798,099
Greens, Acres Harvested	18	18,818	251
Greens, Farm Gate Value	\$68,464	\$57,106,251	\$761,417
Okra, Acres Harvested	2	306	6
Okra, Farm Gate Value	\$9,723	\$887,769	\$17,755
Onions, Acres Harvested	0	12,322	770
Onions, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$139,018,353	\$8,688,647
Peppers, Bell, Acres Harvested	0	5,836	162
Peppers, Bell, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$105,300,645	\$2,925,018
Peppers, Other, Acres Harvested	0	1,215	49
Peppers, Other, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$12,539,294	\$501,572
Snap Beans, Acres Harvested	10	13,219	275
Snap Beans, Farm Gate Value	\$18,988	\$22,588,108	\$470,586
Southern Peas, Acres Harvested	20	6,868	106
Southern Peas, Farm Gate Value	\$45,058	\$10,968,397	\$168,745
Squash, Acres Harvested	0	6,185	91
Squash, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$25,019,023	\$367,927
Sweet Corn, Acres Harvested	5	22,657	276
Sweet Corn, Farm Gate Value	\$14,455	\$69,132,140	\$843,075
Tomatoes, Acres Harvested	3	3,985	56
Tomatoes, Farm Gate Value	\$29,160	\$51,230,245	\$721,553
Watermelons, Acres Harvested	0	21,852	280
Watermelons, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$118,277,909	\$1,516,383
Zucchini, Acres Harvested	4	4,031	119
Zucchini, Farm Gate Value	\$15,033	\$16,905,638	\$497,225
Vegetables, Total, Farm Gate Value²	\$241,578	\$849,037,686	\$6,685,336

Forestry

Christmas Trees, Acres Harvested	0	2,285	25
Christmas Trees, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$8,538,375	\$94,871
Pine Straw, Acres Harvested	22,000	660,485	6,605
Pine Straw, Farm Gate Value	\$2,750,000	\$82,062,625	\$820,626
Timber, Farm Gate Value	\$3,485,066	\$472,414,381	\$3,170,566
Forestry & Products, Total, Farm Gate Value²	\$6,235,066	\$570,838,261	\$3,612,900

Source: Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, The University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602. 706-542-0760. <http://www.caed.uga.edu>

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Ornamental Horticulture

Container Nursery, Acres Harvested	13	4,498	37
Container Nursery, Farm Gate Value	\$572,260	\$190,217,960	\$1,546,487
Field Nursery, Acres Harvested	50	8,202	77
Field Nursery, Farm Gate Value	\$553,750	\$91,698,285	\$856,993
Greenhouse, Harvested Sq. Ft.	108,000	18,977,843	148,264
Greenhouse, Farm Gate Value	\$1,625,400	\$261,673,990	\$2,044,328
Turfgrass, Acres Harvested	84	41,257	543
Turfgrass, Farm Gate Value	\$272,126	\$131,258,516	\$1,727,086
Ornamental Horticulture, Total, Farm Gate Value²	\$3,023,536	\$695,986,551	\$4,671,051

Livestock & Aquaculture

Beef Cattle, Finished Outside Co, Total Head	0	46,607	740
Beef Cattle, Finished Outside Co, Production in lbs.	0	23,303,500	369,897
Beef Cattle, Finished Outside Co, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$21,287,747	\$337,901
Beef Cows, Total Head	2,750	811,425	5,269
Beef Cows, Production in pounds	1,027,125	303,217,426	1,968,944
Beef Cows, Farm Gate Value	\$967,141	\$285,905,901	\$1,856,532
Beef Stockers, Total Head	2,400	234,107	1,951
Beef Stockers, Production in pounds	720,000	70,338,300	586,153
Beef Stockers, Farm Gate Value	\$613,440	\$60,180,520	\$501,504
Catfish, Pond Acres	0	2,213	46
Catfish, Production in pounds	0	3,793,536	79,032
Catfish, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$8,156,102	\$169,919
Dairy, Total Head	0	76,322	1,090
Dairy, Milk Production in pounds	0	1,376,000,771	19,657,154
Dairy, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$306,175,691	\$4,373,938
Goats, Total Nannies	1,600	141,471	996
Goats, Production in number of kids	2,000	177,139	1,247
Goats, Farm Gate Value	\$170,000	\$15,209,919	\$107,112
Honeybees, Farm Gate Value	\$38,566	\$16,557,716	\$165,577
Horses, Board/Train/Breed, Number	400	75,676	518
Horses, Board/Train/Breed, Farm Gate Value	\$1,600,000	\$302,704,000	\$2,073,315
Horses, Raised, Number	750	44,353	315
Horses, Raised, Farm Gate Value	\$1,875,000	\$110,872,500	\$786,330
Pork, Farrow to Finish, Total Head	100	17,862	252
Pork, Farrow to Finish, Production in pounds	367,500	65,642,850	924,547
Pork, Farrow to Finish, Farm Gate Value	\$174,048	\$31,088,454	\$437,866
Pork, Feeder Pigs, Total Head	0	57,532	1,308
Pork, Feeder Pigs, Production in pounds	0	43,359,000	985,432
Pork, Feeder Pigs, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$36,300,155	\$825,004
Pork, Finishing Only, Number of Houses	0	100	4
Pork, Finishing Only, Avg. House Capacity	0	876	790
Pork, Finishing Only, Production in pounds	0	48,499,331	1,939,973
Pork, Finishing Only, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$22,969,283	\$918,771
Quail, Number of Birds	650	9,939,775	141,997
Quail, Farm Gate Value	\$2,438	\$24,830,406	\$354,720
Sheep, Number of Ewes	0	7,578	100
Sheep, Production in Lambs	0	9,598	126
Sheep, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$847,350	\$11,149
Livestock/Aquaculture, Total, Farm Gate Value²	\$5,440,633	\$1,263,728,965	\$7,998,285

Poultry & Eggs

Breeder Pullet Unit Houses	0	780	18
Breeder Pullet Unit, Avg. # of birds	0	13,234	14,729
Breeder Pullet Unit, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$165,166,400	\$3,753,782
Broiler Houses	24	12,021	116
Broilers, Total, Production in lbs	21,605,760	8,842,007,020	85,019,298
Broilers, GROWER Farm Gate Value	\$1,101,894	\$450,942,358	\$4,335,984
Broilers, INTEGRATOR Farm Gate Value	\$10,839,610	\$4,436,034,922	\$42,654,182
Broilers, Total Farm Gate Value (Grower + Integrator)	\$11,941,504	\$4,886,977,280	\$46,990,166
Layers, Hatching Egg & Table Egg, Houses	0	1,455	22
Layers, Hatching Egg & Table Egg, Total birds	0	22,923,700	352,672
Layers, Hatching Egg & Table Egg, Farm Gate Value	\$0	\$592,973,078	\$9,122,663
Poultry & Eggs, Total, Farm Gate Value²	\$11,941,504	\$5,651,535,758	\$49,143,789

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Other Income

Ag-Based & Nature-Based Tourism, Farm Gate Value	\$6,063	\$78,231,051	\$625,848
Crop Insurance, Farm Gate Value	\$315,212	\$107,397,080	\$1,022,829
Government Payments, Farm Gate Value	\$2,677,782	\$311,070,587	\$1,968,801
Hunting Leases - Deer, Acres	35,000	8,516,009	61,710
Hunting Leases - Deer, Farm Gate Value	\$420,000	\$102,439,208	\$742,313
Hunting Leases - Duck & Turkey, Acres	35,000	3,065,104	27,614
Hunting Leases - Duck & Turkey, Farm Gate Value	\$70,000	\$8,395,653	\$75,637
Other Income, Total, Farm Gate Value²	\$3,489,057	\$613,786,879	\$3,860,295

Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2007 data

Total Cash Receipts & Other Income	\$40,923,000	\$7,894,159,000	\$49,648,799
Livestock and Products, % of total	13.4	56.6	49.3
Crops, % of total	35.1	31.1	33.6
Government Payments, % of total	7.5	4.5	4.7
Imputed & Misc Income, % of total	44.0	7.8	12.4
Farm Production Expenses	\$20,413,000	\$5,999,216,000	\$37,730,918
Feed, % of total expenses	9.5	23.7	18.3
Livestock, % of total expenses	1.4	7.4	5.6
Seed, % of total expenses	9.0	4.0	4.2
Fert/Lime & Ag Chem, % of total expenses	20.6	10.3	10.5
Petroleum products, % of total expenses	7.5	5.4	5.9
Hired farm labor, % of total expenses	6.3	7.2	7.8
Other, % of total expenses	45.8	42.0	47.2
Net Farm Proprietor's Income	\$11,541,000	\$1,240,892,000	\$7,804,352
Total Farm Labor and Proprietor's Income	\$12,644,000	\$1,594,837,000	\$10,030,421

2007 Census of Agriculture³

Number of Farms	227	47,846	301
% Change in Number, 2002-2007	30.5	-3.0	-1.2
Average Farm Size in Acres	329	212	225
Median Farm Size in Acres	100	67	83
% of Farms by Size, Less than 10 Acres	8.4	7.3	8.6
% of Farms by Size, More than 1,000 Acres	7.5	4.1	4.4
% of Farms by Sales Class, Less than \$2,500	45.4	48.9	51.2
% of Farms by Sales Class, \$2,500 to \$99,999	34.8	37.0	36.4
% of Farms by Sales Class, \$100,000 or higher	19.8	14.2	12.5
Acres of Land in Farms	74,739	10,150,539	63,840
% of Total County Land in Farms	46.7	27.6	27.6
Acres of Harvested Cropland	30,421	3,390,437	21,324
Est. Mkt. Val. of Land and Bldgs--Avg./Acre	\$2,210	\$3,117	\$3,706
Est. Mkt. Val. of Machinery/Equipment--Avg./Farm	\$101,292	\$661,201	\$76,764
Avg. Age of Farmers	58.1	57.8	57.9
% of Farmers Working 200 + Days Off Farm	39.2	39.9	40.1

Miscellaneous¹

Water Use for Irrigation (Millions of Gal/Day), 2005	7.26	751.64	4.7
Irrigated Acres, 2008	7,950	1,446,754	9,099
Acreage in Crop Reserve Program, as of 4/30/09	2,658.9	332,669.4	2,079.4
Acreage in Wetlands Reserve Program, as of 4/30/09	0.0	5,593.7	35.1
All AG Land as a % of 2008 Gross Tax Digest	13.4	8.2	24.6
Acres of Forest Land, 2007	97,068	24,896,839	156,584
Forest Land as a % of Land Use Area	58.9	65.5	64.3
Rural/Urban Continuum Code ⁴	7	--	--

-- data not available or data tabulation not appropriate

** Data > 0 applies only to Farm Gate Value Report; Other source data calculated on 159 counties.

¹ Center for Agribusiness and *The Georgia County Guide* (see "Source" below)

² Includes miscellaneous commodities not listed separately.

³ USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

⁴ 0=most urban; 9=most rural