

# Nebraska Agriculture

## Fact Card

*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, 2010 – 7,144,800,000 lbs. (3,240,826,209 kg.)  
Commercial cattle slaughter, 2010 – 6,950,300 head  
Commercial cattle slaughter, 2010, live weight – 9,124,450,000 lbs. (4,138,780,190 kg.)  
Great Northern beans production, 2010 – 1,186,000 cwt. (53,785,100 kg.)  
Irrigated land harvested, 2007 - 8,558,559 acres (3,463,539 ha.)  
Popcorn production, 2007 – 294,541,958 lbs. (133,601,961 kg.)
- 2<sup>nd</sup>** All cattle on feed, Jan. 1, 2011 – 2,500,000 head  
Pinto beans production, 2010 – 1,650,000 cwt. (74,842,728 kg.)  
Proso millet production, 2010 - 2,640,000 bushels (93,031 m<sup>3</sup>)
- 3<sup>rd</sup>** Corn for grain production, 2010 – 1,469,100,000 bushels (51,769,723 m<sup>3</sup>)  
All cattle and calves, Jan. 1, 2011 – 6,200,000 head  
All dry edible beans production, 2010 – 3,193,000 cwt. (144,832,018 kg.)
- 4<sup>th</sup>** Cash receipts from all farm commodities, 2009 – \$15,309,098,000  
Cash receipts from all livestock and products, 2009 – \$7,283,326,000  
Net farm income, 2009 – \$3,275,707,000  
Land in farms and ranches, 2009 – 45,600,000 acres (18,453,738 ha.)  
On-farm grain storage capacity, Dec. 1, 2010 – 1,110,000,000 bushels (39,115,372 m<sup>3</sup>)  
Off-farm commercial grain storage capacity, Dec. 1, 2010 – 806,190,000 bushels (28,409,389 m<sup>3</sup>)  
Soybean production, 2010 – 267,750,000 bushels (9,435,262 m<sup>3</sup>)
- 5<sup>th</sup>** Cash receipts from all crops, 2009 – \$8,025,772,000  
All hay production, 2010 – 6,349,000 tons (6,998,574 t)
- 6<sup>th</sup>** All hogs and pigs on farms, Dec. 1, 2010 – 3,100,000 head  
Grain sorghum production, 2010 – 6,750,000 bushels (237,863 m<sup>3</sup>)
- 7<sup>th</sup>** Harvested acres of principal crops, 2010 – 18,792,000 acres (7,604,882.8 ha.)  
Winter wheat production, 2010 – 64,070,000 bushels (2,257,767 m<sup>3</sup>)  
Alfalfa hay production, 2010 – 3,649,000 tons (4,022,333 t)  
Commercial hog slaughter, 2010 – 7,599,000 head  
Commercial hog slaughter, 2010, live weight – 2,063,539,000 lbs. (936,005,385 kg.)
- 10<sup>th</sup>** Table egg layers (flocks of 30,000+), Dec. 2010 – 9,321,000 layers

### Nebraska Ag Facts

- Cash receipts from farm marketings contributed over \$15 billion to Nebraska's economy in 2009 and 5 percent of the U.S. total.
- Nebraska's ten leading commodities (in order of importance) for 2009 cash receipts are cattle and calves, corn, soybeans, hogs, wheat, dairy products, chicken eggs, hay, dry beans, and potatoes, which represent 98 percent of the state's total cash receipts.
- Every dollar in agricultural exports generates \$1.36 in economic activities such as transportation, financing, warehousing, and production. Nebraska's \$4.8 billion in agricultural exports translate into \$6.5 billion in additional economic activity. The top three agricultural exports in value are soybeans and products, feed grains and products, and live animals and meat.
- Nebraska had 47,200 farms and ranches during 2009; the average operation consisted of 966 acres (390 ha.); average net income per farm averaged \$64,145 during the 2005-2009 period.
- In 2010, Nebraska ranked second in ethanol production capacity, with 24 operating plants having production capacity of 2 billion gallons (7,570,824,000 L). Over 40% of the state's 2009 corn crop was utilized in ethanol production.
- The Nebraska livestock industry accounted for 48% of the state's total agricultural cash receipts during 2009. Livestock or poultry operations were found on 50% of Nebraska farms.
- The top five counties ranked by agricultural sales in 2007 were Cuming, Dawson, Custer, Phelps, and Lincoln.
- In 2008, Nebraska was eighth nationally in certified organic cropland acres (129,858) (52,551 ha.) and eighth in certified organic pasture acres (53,174) (21,518 ha.).

### Nebraska's Natural Resources

- Nebraska's farms and ranches utilize 45.6 million acres (18,453,738 ha.) – 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 (11 m). The state has 92,685 registered, active irrigation wells supplying water to over 8.5 million acres (3,439,841 ha.) of harvested cropland and pasture. Of the total cropland harvested during 2007, 46 percent was irrigated.
- Nearly 24,000 miles (38,624 km.) of rivers and streams add to Nebraska's bountiful natural resources.
- There are nearly 23 million acres (9,307,806 ha.) of rangeland and pastureland in Nebraska – half of which are in the Sandhills.

*Source: USDA NASS Nebraska Field Office  
(More detailed list of rankings available from USDA, NASS,  
Nebraska Field Office) Phone (402) 437-5541*

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