

# FOND DU LAC COUNTY AGRICULTURE-2012

## Farms and Owners: (source: 2007 Census of Agriculture)

Total number of farms: **1643**  
 Total number of farms, >\$100,000 cash sales: **503**  
 Average farm size: **204 acres**  
 Median farm size: **100 acres**  
 Average age of principle farm operator: **56.1 years**  
 Operators with farming as principle occupation: **848**



## Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold: (source: 2007 Census of Agriculture)

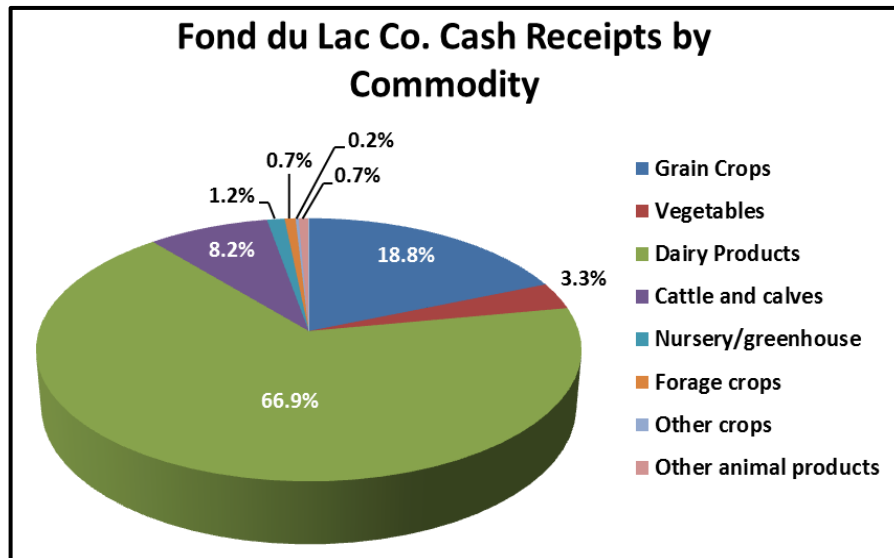
Total value of agricultural products sold: **\$290.4 million**  
 Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse: **\$69.7 million**  
 Value of milk and other dairy products: **\$192.3 million**

### State Rank

5<sup>th</sup>

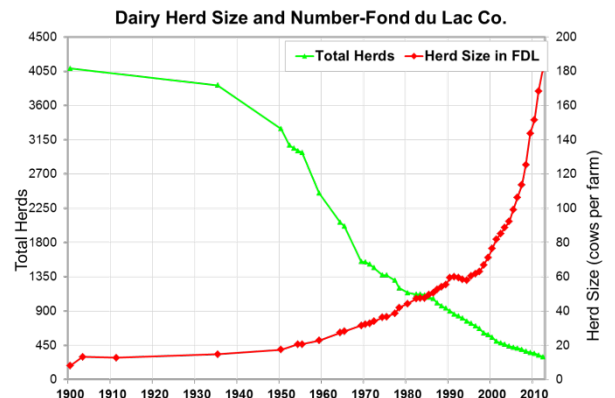
10<sup>th</sup>

4<sup>th</sup>



## Dairy Production: (source: Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service)

	Year	Value	State Rank
Total number of dairy herds:	2012	298	10 <sup>th</sup>
Total number of dairy cows:	2011	54,000	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Dairy cows per square mile:	2012	71	
Average milk herd size (# cows):	2011	168	
Percent Grade A herds:	2011	99	
Average production per cow:	2011	22,500	12 <sup>th</sup>
Total pounds of milk shipped:	2011	1.215 billion	4 <sup>th</sup>



### Prepared by:

Mike Rankin, Crops and Soils Agent, 920-929-3171, [michael.rankin@uwex.edu](mailto:michael.rankin@uwex.edu)

Tina Kohlman, Dairy and Livestock Agent, 920-929-3171, [tina.kohlman@uwex.edu](mailto:tina.kohlman@uwex.edu)

<http://fonddulac.uwex.edu>

Your county extension office



**UW Extension**  
 Cooperative Extension  
 Fond du Lac County

**Livestock Production:** (source: 2007 Census of Agriculture)

	Year	Number	State Rank
Beef cows:	2007	2,034	42 <sup>nd</sup>
Hogs:	2007	11,331	10 <sup>th</sup>
Sheep/lambs:	2007	1,625	21 <sup>st</sup>
Layers	2007	4419	24 <sup>th</sup>
Broilers:	2007	1325	41 <sup>st</sup>



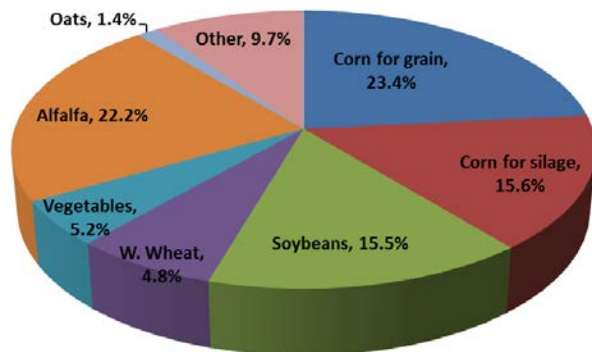
**Crop Production:** (source: Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service)

- Total cropland acres: **279,922** (2007 Census of Agriculture)
- Total harvested cropland acres: **253,054** (2007 Census of Agriculture)
- Total acres in Conservation Reserve Program (CRP): **10,003** (Oct. 2011)
- Total harvested organic acres: **2579** (2007 Census of Agriculture)
- Average price paid for agricultural land (remaining in crop production): **\$4846** (2011)
- Average county cash rent value: **\$118 per acre** (2012)

**Production of major crops:**

	Year	Harvested Acres	Yield/Acre	Production State Rank
Corn for grain:	2011	67,500	177 bu	13 <sup>th</sup>
Corn for silage:	2011	45,100	22 tons	1 <sup>st</sup>
Soybeans:	2011	44,600	50 bu	10 <sup>th</sup>
Winter wheat:	2011	20,100	75 bu	1 <sup>st</sup>
Alfalfa:	2008	64,600	3.90 tons	7 <sup>th</sup>
Sweet corn:	2007	8300	6.5 tons	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Green peas:	2007	6100	2.1 tons	2 <sup>nd</sup>

**Relative percentage of cropland base used for various crops:**



Fond du Lac County is a well-diversified, leading agricultural county in Wisconsin and ranks as the nation's 26th largest dairy county. Crops are primarily used to feed the county's 54,000 dairy cows. Soil types range from clays to loams and the limestone based, well-drained soils located throughout much of the county are ideal for growing high yields of alfalfa. The area averages about 32 inches of precipitation per year. The agricultural infrastructure in Fond du Lac County is solid. There are competitive markets for every major livestock and crop commodity. Additionally, there are numerous dealers for seeds, feeds, equipment, fertilizers, and most agricultural services (nutritionists, A.I. technicians, crop consultants, farm credit officers, etc.). The local newspapers and radio stations place a priority on agricultural news.