

Profile: U.S. Turfgrass Sod Production Industry

Source: U.S Departments of Commerce and Agriculture
Census Of Agriculture

CENSUS YEAR	FARMS*	ACRES IN PRODUCTION	SALES
2002	2,214	386,504	\$1,001,250,000 **
1997	1,869	309,085	\$800,694,000
1992	1,614	218,161	\$471,640,000
1987	1,427	184,070	\$391,635,000
1982	1,430	124,588	\$210,510,000
1978	1,429	119,725	\$174,240,000
1974	1,228	85,164	\$97,159,000

Census Report State Leaders

Category	2002	1997	1992
Farms*	Florida, 235 Texas, 205 Alabama, 96	Florida, 170 Texas, 166 Alabama, 96	Texas, 156 Florida, 154 Minnesota, 90
Acres	Florida, 67,370 Texas, 38,341 Alabama, 25,805	Florida, 64,510 Texas, 28,083 Alabama, 17,318	Florida, 49,952 Texas, 16,911 Illinois, 9,420
Sales	California, \$144,824,000 ** Florida, \$133,469,000 ** Georgia, \$74,967,000 **	California, \$79,357,000 Florida, \$64,215,000 Texas, \$37,757,000	Florida, \$72,037,000 California, \$60,281,000 Texas, \$20,678,000

“* **FARMS**” -- as defined by the Census of Agriculture is any unit producing at least \$1,000 of income from the production of a crop, in this case turfgrass sod. For most areas, this would equate to approximately one-half acre in turf production.

** **SALES** – Because of the Congressional mandate to reduce the number of questions in the 2002 survey, the National Agricultural Statistic Service (NASS) combined the sales of all landscape related crops into a single answer. Therefore NASS is unable to report sales of turfgrass sod as a single crop.

In order to achieve some estimate of 2002 sales values, TPI simplistically multiplied the 2002 acreage by the 1997 sales. There are many obvious short-comings to this methodology; however, if anything, it will under-report the actual 2002 sales because of the five-year gap between reporting years and the presumed increase in pricing.

Geographic Area	Ag Census Farms			Ag Census Acres		
	2002	1997	% Diff.	2,002	1997	% Diff.
<u>WEST</u>						
Alaska	2	0				
California	62	62	0.0%	15,909	13,675	16.3%
Colorado	48	39	23.1%	7,767	7,056	10.1%
Hawaii	20	18	11.1%	113	74	52.7%
Idaho	38	27	40.7%	4,704	2,277	106.6%
Montana	16	15	6.7%	1,232	948	30.0%
Nevada	11	11	0.0%	720	1,364	-47.2%
New Mexico	5	9	-44.4%	1,186	1,946	-39.1%
Oregon	14	12	16.7%	2,608	2,424	7.6%
Utah	46	50	-8.0%	4,036	3,473	16.2%
Washington	41	27	51.9%	3,756	2,475	51.8%
Wyoming	9	7	28.6%	610	238	156.3%
Region Total	312	277	12.6%	42,641	35,950	18.6%

Geographic Area	Ag Census Farms			Ag Census Acres		
	2002	1997	% Diff.	2,002	1997	% Diff.
<u>NORTH CENTRAL</u>						
Illinois	40	49	-18.4%	7,994	11,155	-28.3%
Indiana	38	32	18.8%	5,076	3,716	36.6%
Iowa	33	50	-34.0%	1,836	4,031	-54.5%
Kansas	49	28	75.0%	1,971	2,475	-20.4%
Kentucky	54	44	22.7%	4,692	3,326	41.1%
Michigan	54	63	-14.3%	10,262	8,582	19.6%
Minnesota	89	89	0.0%	14,564	13,689	6.4%
Missouri	53	56	-5.4%	6,002	5,607	7.0%
Nebraska	38	31	22.6%	3,015	3,486	-13.5%
North Dakota	3	3	0.0%	27		
Ohio	62	63	-1.6%	9,434	7,543	25.1%
South Dakota	3	7	-57.1%	-	326	-100.0%
Wisconsin	63	71	-11.3%	4,399	8,506	-48.3%
Region Total	579	586	-1.2%	69,272	72,442	-4.4%

Geographic Area	Ag Census Farms			Ag Census Acres		
	2002	1997	% Diff.	2,002	1997	% Diff.
<u>SOUTH</u>						
Alabama	96	96	0.0%	25,805	17,318	49.0%
Arkansas	58	48	20.8%	8,998	5,679	58.4%
Florida	235	170	38.2%	67,670	64,510	4.9%
Georgia	92	73	26.0%	24,653	17,139	43.8%
Kentucky	54	44	22.7%	4,692	3,326	41.1%
Louisiana	23	21	9.5%	2,747	2,664	3.1%
Maryland	29	28	3.6%	4,987	4,065	22.7%
Mississippi	47	56	-16.1%	4,352	3,793	14.7%
North Carolina	87	45	93.3%	10,952	4,612	137.5%
Oklahoma	95	55	72.7%	17,846	10,309	73.1%
South Carolina	27	26	3.8%	14,027	8,864	58.2%
Texas	205	166	23.5%	38,341	28,083	36.5%
Virginia	25	19	31.6%	7,315	5,539	32.1%
West Virginia	2					
Region Total	1075	847	26.9%	232,385	175,901	32.1%

Geographic Area	Ag Census Farms			Ag Census Acres		
	2002	1997	% Diff.	2,002	1997	% Diff.
<u>NORTHEAST</u>						
Delaware	6	5	20.0%	2,305		
Connecticut	10	9	11.1%	1,251	1,308	-4.4%
Maine	10	7	42.9%	1,151	790	45.7%
Massachusetts	6	7	-14.3%		591	-100.0%
New Hampshire	2	3	-33.3%			
New Jersey	53	48	10.4%	12,485	7,204	73.3%
New York	14	34	-58.8%	6,868	4,965	38.3%
Pennsylvania	24	18	33.3%	2,100	980	114.3%
Rhode Island	15	20	-25.0%	2,453	2,591	-5.3%
Vermont	3			3		
Region Total	143	151	-5.3%	28,616	18,429	55.3%