

FUN FACTS ABOUT WISCONSIN AGRICULTURE



General Agriculture Facts

- In 2009, there were 78,000 farms in Wisconsin
- There are 211 plants manufacturing one or more dairy products including 9 butter, 127 cheese and 22 ice cream plants!
- Each U.S. farmer feeds 155 people
- In Wisconsin, 15.2 million acres of land is used for agricultural purposes.
- The average farm size in Wisconsin is 195 acres.
- Wisconsin's agriculture industry generates \$59.16 billion in economic activity annually.
- Over 99% of Wisconsin's farms are family-owned.
- More than 353,991 Wisconsin citizens, 10% of our workforce, rely directly on agriculture for their jobs.



Soil

- Wisconsin's fertile upland soils are well suited for alfalfa production, helping to feed our 1.25 million dairy cows.
- Wisconsin's state soil is Antigo Silt Loam.
- Wisconsin farmers were pioneers in soil and water conservation, establishing the first county soil conservation project in the nation.



Livestock

- Wisconsin chicken farms produce 1.2 billion eggs and 51 million broilers each year.
- State mink producers produce 910,000 pelts each year – tops in the nation.
- Sale of cattle and calves account for \$820 million in farm income annually.
- Wisconsin fish farmers produce 480,000 pounds of trout - mostly for restaurants – every year.
- Wisconsin ranks #1 in dairy goats with 40,000 head

Wisconsin

- **Capital:** Madison
- **Population:** 5,363,675
- **Founded:** May 29, 1848
- **State Bird:** Robin
- **State Tree:** Sugar Maple
- **State Flower:** Wood Violet
- **State Animal:** Badger
- **Number of counties:** 72
- **Largest City:** Milwaukee



Climate

- Wisconsin's climate is good for growing a variety of crops.
- Warm summers help Wisconsin plants grow and cold winters help the soil replenish itself.
- Average annual rainfall in Wisconsin is 32.63 inches.
- The northern part of Wisconsin averages 10 ° F in January and 67 ° F in July. The southern part of Wisconsin averages 16 ° F in January and 71 ° F in July.



Crops

- Wisconsin leads the nation in production of snap beans, cranberries, and ginseng.
- Each year, Wisconsin growers harvest more than 1.8 million Christmas trees
- Central Wisconsin is famous for vegetable production, making us second in sweet corn and carrot processing, and third in production of potatoes & green peas for processing.
- Today's corn farmers grow five times more corn on 20% fewer acres, export \$13 billion worth of corn annually, use 36% less fertilizer and cut soil erosion by 44%.



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Updated: January 2010