A Look at Nebraska Agriculture

Capital: Lincoln

Population: 1,826,341

Founded: March 1, 1867 (37th)

State Bird: Western Meadowlark

State Tree: Eastern Cottonwood

State Flower: Goldenrod

Number of Counties: 93

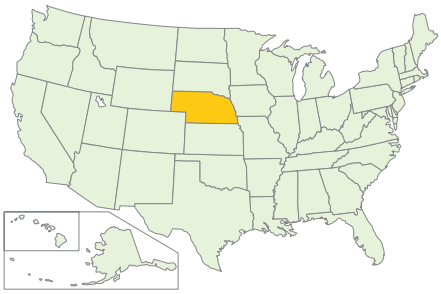
Largest City: Omaha - 434,353

Nickname: Cornhusker State

Number of Farms: 46,800

Average Farm Size: 972 acres

Total Farmland: 45.5 million acres



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Climate & Soil

- Hot summers and cold winters, variability in rainfall distribution, fluctuating length of growing season, and frequent winds typify Nebraska's climate.
- Average precipitation during the last decade ranged from slightly above 30 inches in the southeast to 16 inches in the northwest.
- About 75% of the precipitation falls as rain during April - September, the crop growing season.
- Average growing season ranges from 170 days in the southeast to 120 days in the extreme northwest.
- The Nebraska state soil is "Holdrege".
- The parent material of the vast majority of Nebraska's soils was formed from wind-blown silt and clay or loess while the parent material of the soil in the north-central or Sandhills region is wind-blown sand.
- Topography and subsequent soil drainage have greatly influenced development of soil properties in local areas.

Crops & Livestock

- Jan. 2014, Nebraska ranked 1st in Commercial red meat production – 7,353,100,000 lbs.
- Jan 1, 2014, ranked 2nd in cattle and calves, 6,150,000 head, 2,450,000 head of cattle on feed.
- In 2014 nearly 9.1 million acres were plated to corn and produced nearly 1.2 billion bushels
- In 2014, nearly 5.2 million acres were planted to soybeans and produced nearly 245 bushels.
- In 2014 Nebraska ranked 3rd in corn production, 3rd in dry edible bean production, 5th in soybean production, 10th in hay production, 9th in wheat production, and 1st in popcorn production.
- There are 9.2 million laying hens raised in Nebraska producing over 3 billion eggs in 2013.
- Nebraska dairy cows produced over 135 million gallons of milk in 2013.
- As of Feb, 2014 Nebraska ranks 6th in hog and pig inventory.

General

- In Nebraska 45.5 million acres of land is used for farming, that is 93% of the 49.2 million acres of land in the state.
- Nebraska has 76, 824 square miles of land
- Nebraska's current director of Ag if Greg Ibach.