

# A Look at *New Hampshire* Agriculture

Capital: Concord

Population: 1,324,575

Founded: June 21, 1788 (9<sup>th</sup>)

State Bird: Purple Finch

State Tree: White Birch

State Flower: Lilac

Number of Counties: 10

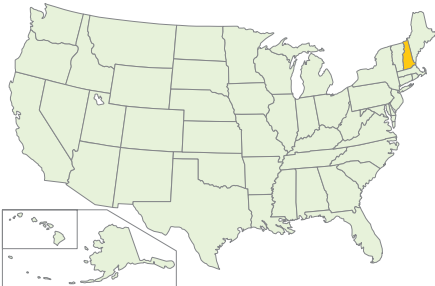
Largest City: Manchester - 109,395

Nickname: The Granite State

Number of Farms: 4,400

Average Farm Size: 108 acres

Total Farmland: 471,911 acres



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## Climate & Soil

- The growing season averages 120 days throughout most of the state.
- Humid short summers, long cold winters.
- Variation in temperature depending on if you are near the mountains or the ocean.
- January temperature average 12°F to 26°F with July temps average 63°F to 70°F.
- Precipitation averages 40", although the White Mountains receive about 46".
- The soil is typically stony and relatively infertile.
- Soils classified as spodosols are common in northern NH, while inceptisols are prevalent in the south.

## Crops & Livestock

- The chief commercial crops raised in New Hampshire are greenhouse and nursery crops, vegetables including sweet corn, apples and other fruit. Christmas trees are also grown in NH and the state ranks 14th nationally in Christmas tree sales.
- Hay is the major field crop grown to feed livestock
- An average of 130,000 gallons of maple syrup are produced on 500,000 taps annually in New Hampshire (3 year average). The Granite State makes 4 percent of US maple syrup production.
- Milk and greenhouse/nursery sales account for more than half of the state's total agricultural cash receipts (approximately \$53 million each).
- Livestock raised includes cattle, hogs, sheep and poultry

## General

- New Hampshire ranks no. 1 in the US for direct sales as a percentage of all farm sales
- New Hampshire ranks no. 1 in the US for organic sales as a percentage of all farm sales
- New Hampshire ranks no. 3 in the US for women farm operators as a percentage of total farm operators