

# Michigan Farming Facts

Michigan Agriculture is the second **most diverse** in the nation, **leading in the production** of dry beans (black, cranberry, light red kidney, navy, small red), blueberries, tart cherries, cucumbers (for pickles), flowering hanging baskets, geraniums, impatiens, and petunias.

*Source: Michigan Agricultural Statistics 2004-2005*

## MICHIGAN AGRICULTURE FACTS:

- 1.05 million (direct and indirect) employed in the agri-food system - equal to 24% of all persons working in Michigan; 727,000 persons in direct employment.<sup>1</sup>
- Michigan's agricultural sector accounts for \$60.1 billion in economic activity annually - the second largest in the state; \$35.9 billion in direct economic activity annually.<sup>1</sup>
- 17,841 acres (0.18%) of Michigan's 10.1 million acres of farmland are permanently protected.<sup>2</sup>

*Source: <sup>1</sup>MSU Product Center; <sup>2</sup>AFT*



## FARMLAND and GROUNDWATER:

Farmland and other open spaces play an important role in groundwater recharge. In fact:

- As little as 10% impervious surface within a watershed can impair water resources (that's about one dwelling unit per 2.5 acres).<sup>1</sup>
- Cropland has only 2% impervious surface (at a regional scale), as compared to a typical residential subdivision (which has 0.5 acre lots) with 25% impervious surface.<sup>2</sup>
- A one-acre parking lot produces about 16 times the total runoff volume than an undeveloped meadow.<sup>3</sup>

*Source: <sup>1</sup>EPA 2006;*

*<sup>2</sup>Kluitenberg 1994, NRCS 1986; <sup>3</sup>Schueler 1994*

## LAND USE & COST OF SERVICES:

For every **\$1.00** of local taxes paid:

- Residential services use: **\$1.15**
- Commercial & Industrial services use: **\$0.28**
- Working & Open Land services use: **\$0.36**

(national median cost per dollar of revenue raised)

*Source: American Farmland Trust*

**MICHIGAN LEADS the NATION in the PRODUCTION of 11 COMMODITIES (TOP 6):**

- Dry Cranberry Beans.....72% of the nation's total
- Tart Cherries..... 70% of the nation's total
- Dry Black Beans.....69% of the nation's total
- Dry Navy Beans..... 45% of the nation's total
- Dry Small Red Beans.... 43% of the nation's total
- Blueberries.....35% of the nation's total

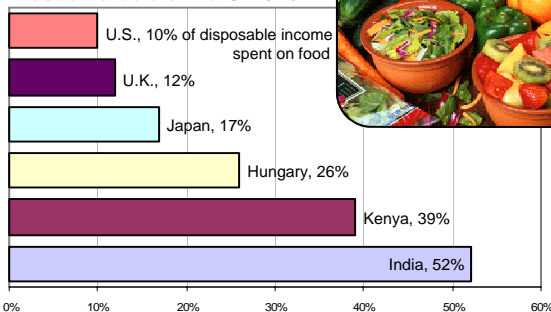
Source: Michigan Agricultural Statistics 2004-2005

**MICHIGAN'S VALUE to U.S. AGRICULTURE:**

	<u>Michigan</u>	<u>U.S.</u>
Number of farms	53,315	2,128,982
Average farm size	190	441
Total acres of farmland	10.1 million	938 million
% of land in farmland	27	41
Value of farmland per acre	2,667	1,213
Market value of crops	2.4 billion	95 billion
Market value of livestock	1.4 billion	106 billion
Total market value	3.8 billion	201 billion

Source: 2002 Census of Agriculture

**Food in the U.S. is among the most affordable in the world.**



Source: Univ. of Florida - Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences



**St. Joseph County MSU Extension**  
 612 E. Main Street  
 Centreville, MI 49032  
 Phone: 269-467-5522; Fax: 269-467-5641  
[www.msue.msu.edu/stjoseph](http://www.msue.msu.edu/stjoseph)



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