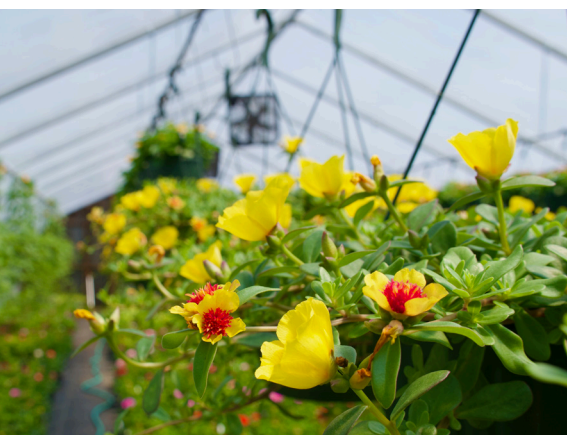
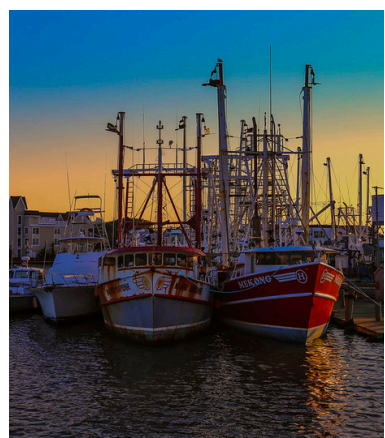
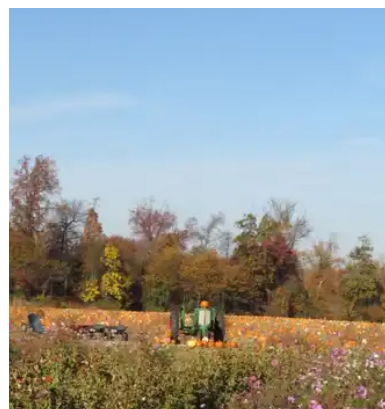




New Jersey
Department of Agriculture
2025
Annual
Report and
Agricultural
Statistics





Introduction from Secretary Edward D. Wengryn

I am proud to present the New Jersey Department of Agriculture's annual report for fiscal year 2025, as this report covers my first full year as New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture.

The report highlights several accomplishments of the Department and steps taken in laying the groundwork for improving the services we provide the citizens of New Jersey.

Two major new initiatives have occurred in the office of the Secretary. One was the launch of the One Health Task Force, which brings together experts in the areas of Human, Animal, and Environmental Health to help facilitate New Jersey's responses to, and creating pre-emptive plans for future health emergencies.

Another big change is the creation of a grants team to manage state and federal funding and to look for opportunities to ensure those grants can best serve our agriculture and food communities. New programs include working with the Division of Travel and Tourism, releasing \$5 million in funding for grants to agritourism businesses in the state.

In the area of technology, we have updated the Department's website and continue to add additional features to better serve the community, including bringing in applications and adding features to improve site navigation. Internally, the Division of Food & Nutrition has made upgrades in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable programs and will launch, in January of 2026, a new web-based Food Management Distribution System (FMDS) that will replace the current paper system the team and feeding authorities now use, streamlining the distribution of food to our schools.

We continue to fund the state's Deer Fencing program, expand work with our urban agriculture producers to better understand the challenges they face, and help traditional producers manage animal waste and take advantage of composting opportunities on their farms.

Our Plant Industry and Animal Health Divisions continue their work on improving plant and animal health testing services. Plant industry expands their work in the release of beneficial insects and developing new predators for emerging pests. We are even making improvements to our greenhouses and insect-rearing facility.

Finally, we are proud of the success of the new Statewide Formula Value (SFV) for Farmland Preservation, which provides an alternative method for valuing farmland and has increased applications for preserving farmland.

All of these programs highlight the steps we are taking to ensure agriculture viability in New Jersey.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Edward D. Wengryn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Edward D. Wengryn
New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture

Melick's Farm silo (Oldwick, NJ)



Who We Are

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA) is the State agency responsible for supporting, promoting, and regulating New Jersey's diverse and vibrant agricultural industry. Established to strengthen and protect farming in the Garden State, the Department is governed by the State Board of Agriculture - an eight - member body of farmers elected by their peers and appointed by the Governor. Together, the State Board of Agriculture and Secretary Ed Wengryn provide leadership, policy direction, and program oversight. The NJDA's work directly impacts all demographics in the State; farmers, consumers, educators, communities, agribusinesses, students, and more.

NJDA's work spans a wide range of critical responsibilities, including farmland preservation; school and community nutrition programs; plant industry and animal health services; agriculture education and Future Farmers of America (FFA); food safety and agricultural inspection; marketing and promoting Jersey Fresh; and other State-grown programs; and stewardship of natural resources.

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New Jersey State Board of Agriculture



BOB BLEW
President, State Board of Agriculture
Nursery Industry



STEPHEN V. LEE IV
Vice President, State Board of Agriculture
Fruit Industry



DAVID DEFRANCE II
Board Member
Nursery Industry



RICK GARDNER
Board Member
Livestock Industry



JOHN HART
Board Member
Hay and Grain Industry



JOEL VIERECK
Board Member
Vegetable Industry



HOLLY SYTSEMA
Board Member
Livestock Industry



HILLARY BARILE
Board Member
Hay and Grain Industry

A Message from the New Jersey State Board of Agriculture

By Board President Bob Blew

Welcome to the 111th Annual State Agricultural Convention!

Continuing a tradition started last year, I'm privileged to deliver the State Board of Agriculture President's message and Convention welcome in this annual report.

Certainly, 2025 was a challenging year for agriculture, but one where our state's diversity of farm output again was our strength. In states where one or two crops are the heart of all agricultural success, their farmers were impacted heavily by global tariff concerns and international trade policy. New Jersey's broad diversity of crops, livestock, and other agricultural products, however, enables us to pivot to meet uncertain marketplace dynamics.

Perhaps the biggest challenge for New Jersey and our Department this year was the fast-changing face of safety-net food-security programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). SNAP in New Jersey is administered through the Department of Human Services, and the denial of federal benefits in November created increased demand for food distribution through community feeding organizations, and those programs are overseen by NJDA.

Fortunately, food-security relationships built over time helped NJDA and the Office of the Food Security Advocate (OFSA) tap deep into community-feeding networks to help ensure SNAP families had food until the federal program got back on track.

This year also saw the Department emerge as the lead agency for the New Jersey One Health Program. This new way of approaching health as encircling humans, animals, plants and the environment helped in our state's approach to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI, aka "bird flu"), ensuring all One Health avenues are aligned to prevent major HPAI outbreaks.

Heading into 2026, we will continue tackling issues surrounding Agricultural Viability. In the past, referred to it as "Farm Viability," but much of what needs to remain viable involves other types of businesses that aren't necessarily "farms." Rest assured, we remain firm in our stance that industry viability starts at the farm.

So, let's get this Convention started on mapping out agriculture's future!

*State Board
and Peter Furey
(Trenton, NJ)*



*Secretary Wengryn NAAMO Introduction
(Cherry Hill, NJ)*



Office of the Secretary

Secretary Wengryn and Chief of Staff Tameko Webster

The Office of the Secretary (OOS) serves as the central administrative division within the New Jersey Department of Agriculture. It works closely with the State Board of Agriculture to ensure effective communication and collaboration between the public and agency employees. OOS provides essential internal support by coordinating with key NJDA sections such as Human Resources, Information Technology, Fiscal Management, and Grants Administration. In addition, the division oversees the agency's website, social media presence, and other core responsibilities that promote transparency and operational efficiency.

Secretary Wengryn and Chief of Staff Tameko Webster (Trenton, NJ)



Website Presence

The NJDA website has undergone a major modernization, transitioning from its 2003 design to a fully updated 2025 platform with the support of the Office of Information Technology (OIT). Current efforts focus on improving content, enhancing user experience, and making the site more intuitive. As part of this initiative, we are identifying the top 10 most frequently asked questions for each division and implementing an AI-powered chat feature to provide quick, accurate assistance to visitors.

Strategic Planning Efforts

The NJDA advanced its strategic planning efforts this year through a series of surveys and collaborative discussions. A Strategic Planning and Feedback Survey was administered to delegates, county boards, and community partners, while an internal feedback survey gathered input from NJDA staff. Additional outreach to the State Board and the public helped identify trending topics and areas of interest, many of which were discussed during the Agricultural Strategic Planning Summit held on October 24. These insights, along with feedback from breakout sessions at the summit, will guide planning for the coming year. Chief of Staff Tameko Webster is preparing a comprehensive strategic planning report for the State Board, which will incorporate these findings and outline next steps for implementation.

NJDA Agricultural Strategic Planning Summit (Rutgers EcoComplex)



Grants Accomplishments

In response to the suspension of federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits during the federal government shutdown in November, the NJDA expedited the release of \$42.5 million in Food and Hunger grant funding. This critical support helped sustain food banks and their networks of local agencies during a time of heightened need.

In addition to these efforts, \$607,317 in grants was awarded to support gleaning and seafood recovery organizations in their mission to provide fresh, local food to communities across the state. Recipients included the New Jersey Agricultural Society, Americas Gleaned Seafood, Foodshed Alliance, CARE Center, and Bushels of Blessings.

*Turkey Day Food
Distribution at Southern
Regional Food Distribution
Center (Vineland, NJ)*



Legislative Tours

In 2025, the NJDA organized a series of legislative tours to showcase New Jersey’s diverse agricultural sectors. The first tour, focused on Equine sector and Jersey Fresh, was held on June 6 and featured visits to Overbrook Farm for equine operations, Fir Farm for hops, vegetables, and Christmas trees, and Battleview Orchards, known for its pick-your-own offerings and retail market. On July 25, the Urban Agriculture tour highlighted innovative community farming initiatives with stops at East Orange Community Charter School and City Green Farm Eco-Center. The final tour of the year, dedicated to Cranberry Production, took place on October 17 and included Pine Island Cranberry Company operated by the Haines family, Rutgers’ Philip E. Marucci Center for Blueberry and Cranberry Research, and the Ocean Spray Chatsworth Receiving Station. These tours provided legislators with firsthand insight into the state’s agricultural diversity and challenges.

*Haines Berry Farm
(Pemberton Township, NJ)*



Human Resources Highlights

The Human Resources team accomplished several key initiatives and collaborative efforts throughout the year.

Major Achievements:

- Launched the NJDA Newsletter to improve internal communication
- Introduced the NJDA Internship Program to attract and develop talent.
- Successfully rolled out Mandatory Defensive Driving Training for employees.
- Transitioned numerous HR documents into SimpliGov for streamlined processes.
- Organized and participated in Take Your Child to Work Day.
- Partnered with the Department of Education for the Toy Drive benefiting Homefront.
- Hosted Employee Recognition Day to celebrate staff contributions.
- Coordinated Blue and Gold Day in honor of Jeff Wolfe.

Collaborative Initiatives with the NJDA Planning Committee:

- Sports Jersey Day to promote team spirit.
- Winter Coat Drive supporting community needs.
- Summer Supplies Drive for seasonal assistance.
- Pet Supplies Drive to help local shelters.

*Holiday Toy Drive
(Trenton, NJ)*



One Health Initiative

As the first legislatively established One Health initiative in the United States (NJ Rev Stat 4:1-49-52) the New Jersey One Health Task Force (NJOHTF) was created in the NJDA. The NJOHTF aims to improve inter-disciplinary communication and collaboration in New Jersey to improve health and well-being of New Jersey's residents, animals, plants, and ecosystems. With the onboarding of a One Health Coordinator in November of 2024, the Task Force gained long-awaited momentum to bring New Jersey to the forefront of this important effort.

February 21, 2025: Inaugural meeting of the NJOHTF was held at NJDA headquarters in Trenton, NJ and on Teams. Members sworn in, Officers elected, bylaws adopted, committees established. Joint press release (NJDA/NJDEP/NJDOH) about inaugural meeting.

May 23, 2025: Second public meeting, adopted Strategic Plan.

June 2025: NJDA received funding (CDC H5N1 Crisis Grant funds shared by NJDOH) enabling One Health outreach. Poster presented about NJ One Health Task Force at Pennsylvania One Health Consortium Meeting.

August 8, 2025: Debut of OneHealthConnect Listserv to connect New Jerseyans interested in collaboration across disciplines. 221 registered and 13 emails contributed as of 12/12/25. Joint press release (NJDA/NJDEP/NJDOH) about Strategic Plan and Listserv.

Inaugural meeting of the New Jersey One Health Task Force (Trenton, NJ)



September 16, 2025: Backyard Poultry health webinar. 154 registered, 78 attended, post-event recording available.

September 26, 2025: Third public meeting.

October 2025: Presented update on New Jersey One Health efforts at the One Health Regional Consortium Meeting in Newark, Delaware. One Health outreach (tabling) at the following events: NJ Environmental Congress (October 10), NJ Public Health Association (October 16), NJ Science Convention (October 21-22), and NJ Earth Care Day (Nov 2).

November 3, 2025: Proclaimed as One Health Day in New Jersey by Governor Phil Murphy. Joint press release (NJDA/NJDEP/NJDOH) about One Health Day.

November 21, 2025: Fourth public meeting. Adoption of Communications Resolution showing support for inter-agency coordination on social media posts.

December 3, 2025: One Health Stakeholder Workshop held at the NJ Hospital Association Conference Center in Princeton, NJ and facilitated by Dr. Katey Pelican, University of Hawai'i and developer of OH-SMART tool for assessing One Health Coordination. 64 stakeholders from a variety of organizations mapped discrepancies in NJ One Health coordination and brainstormed cross-cutting solutions. Workshop recommendations will form the basis of the OHTF's report to the NJ governor and legislature, due in February 2026.

Stay Tuned! **February 27, 2026** will be the Task Force's annual organization meeting, where they may elect new officers, adopt meeting dates for the next year, and approve their First Year Report.

One Health Proclamation Day November 3 (Trenton, NJ)



Hay Mumford Farm (Wall, NJ)



Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Division Director Frank Minch

The Division of Agricultural and Natural Resources plays a critical role in promoting resource conservation measures and service programs to the agricultural community and the public. The Division's role includes providing inter-agency and assistance in the areas of Soil Conservation, Water Conservation, Planning Review, Farmland Assessment, Uniform Construction Code, Sales Tax, Highlands Agricultural Development, motor vehicle matters, Animal Waste Management, water allocation, drought assistance, and composting and source separated food waste. Also, the Division houses the Office of Aquaculture Coordination which gives technical and marketing assistance, the Agricultural Education program which offers State FFA chapters assistance, and the National Agricultural Statistics Service. The Division handles Urban Agriculture and climate issues as well.

Unionville Vineyards (Ringoes, NJ)



Wildlife Fence Cost Share Program

The Wildlife Fence Cost-Share Program (WFCS) provides essential financial assistance to New Jersey farmers to help protect crops from wildlife-related damage. The program offers grants to support the construction of fencing on unreserved farms, reimbursing up to 50 percent of eligible project costs, with a maximum award of \$50,000 per applicant.

During the FY2025 reporting period, the Department's Division of Agricultural and Natural Resources received 27 applications. Of these, 17 were processed and awarded, totaling \$288,793.66 in cost-share funding. The funds awarded supported the installation of approximately 56,470 linear feet of fencing, providing enhanced protection for more than 685.1 acres of productive cropland. Program-supported projects benefited producers in Atlantic, Camden, Cumberland, Hunterdon, Monmouth, Morris, Somerset, and Sussex counties.

Continued implementation of the WFCS Program strengthens on-farm resiliency, reduces wildlife-related crop losses, and contributes to the long-term viability of New Jersey's agricultural sector.

Crooked Row Farm (Port Norris, NJ)



NJ ManureLink

The Department's Division of Agricultural and Natural Resources successfully concluded a two-year project funded through the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG). The initiative consisted of two primary components designed to enhance nutrient management and advance sustainable agricultural practices statewide.

The first component involved the development of an online listing service to connect agricultural producers with individuals and businesses seeking compost or manure. This platform, now available as <https://njmanurelink.rutgers.edu>, facilitates efficient exchange of organic materials, reduces waste, and supports the beneficial reuse of nutrients.

The second component focused on outreach and education. In partnership with the New Jersey Composting Council (NJCC), NJDA delivered both webinar-based instruction and hands-on training to provide farmers and other stakeholders with practical guidance on nutrient management, composting techniques, and the integration of recycled nutrients into on-farm operations. As part of these efforts, two webinars were conducted with a combined total of 47 participants, and two field days were held, drawing 45 attendees.

Development of the NJ ManureLink website was completed in collaboration with Rutgers University's Office of Research and Analytics. The platform officially launched in January 2024 and currently hosts more than 217 registered users. Collectively, these efforts advance the Department's broader goals of improving soil health, promoting environmentally responsible practices, and strengthening New Jersey's agricultural community.

Throughout the project, NJDA staff also identified several challenges faced by small farms in adopting on-site composting and nutrient Best Management Practices (BMPs). Chief among these barriers was the need for technical support to develop appropriate infrastructure, including manure storage areas and composting pads. To address this need, NJDA partnered with the Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority (SCMUA) to develop practical guidance, conceptual layouts, and design templates to assist small livestock and equine operations in constructing facilities that support efficient on-site nutrient management.

Manure Link Event, White Tail Farm (Lambertville, NJ)



NJDA Nutrient Management Assistance Grant

In March 2025, the Division established a pilot grant program to assist producers statewide in enhancing the implementation of Animal Waste Management Plans (AWMPs), improving the efficient utilization of on-site nutrients, and adopting BMP's to mitigate potential water quality impacts. Many farms lack the specialized equipment needed to effectively transport and apply manure, creating barriers to proper nutrient management. The pilot program was designed to address these challenges by providing a reimbursement of up to \$25,000 per award to support the purchase and maintenance of manure spreaders, facilitate the establishment of community use programs that allow equipment sharing among neighboring farms, and promote BMP adoption among equipment users.

NJDA received, reviewed, and ranked 14 applications, ultimately awarding four grants in August 2025. Awardees demonstrated a clear commitment to acquiring appropriate equipment, developing community-use structures to maximize shared access, and providing technical support and educational resources to ensure proper operation and adherence to nutrient management BMPs. Geographic distribution of funds was also a critical consideration in the selection process to ensure balanced support across the state.

The program is structured as a two-year pilot and requires participating farms to develop on-farm nutrient budgets. Awardees will report progress and outcomes to NJDA through semi-annual reporting. Farms selected for participation include Fairgrown Farms in Pennington Township, Mercer County; The Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Jersey (NOFA-NJ); Walnut Grove Farms in Manalapan Township, Monmouth County; and Zeng Farms in Ringoes Township, Hunterdon County.

Zeng Farms (Hunterdon County, NJ)



Urban farm (Clifton, NJ)



Urban Agriculture

In May 2025, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA) Urban Agriculture Work Group began visiting various urban agricultural operations throughout the state to better understand: (1) how each operation produces and aggregates food; (2) local efforts to educate and train the next generation of urban growers; and (3) the common and unique challenges faced by urban agricultural growers. Visiting a total of 12 sites, the NJDA Urban Agriculture Work Group aims to use their findings as a guide as they develop a strategic plan as directed by Resolution #47: Urban Agriculture passed at the 2025 State Agricultural Convention.

Urban farm (Asbury Park, NJ)



Future Farmers of America (FFA)

New Jersey Future Farmers of America (FFA) continued to experience strong growth in statewide engagement during the past year. More than 700 FFA members, advisors, and guests attended the 96th New Jersey State FFA Convention—the largest turnout in the organization’s history. Attendees gathered to recognize chapter and individual achievements and to conduct official State Association business. A total of 51 members earned their State FFA Degrees, reflecting their commitment to leadership, community service, and supervised agricultural experiences. Additionally, a record 161 members received new FFA jackets through a special initiative of the New Jersey FFA Foundation, ensuring that more students can fully participate in FFA activities.

The convention concluded with the election of the 2025–2026 New Jersey State FFA Officer Team:

- President: Kathryn Giovanelli (Allentown)
- Vice President: Breanna Rosmarin (Freehold)
- Secretary: Kayla Romero (Middlesex East Brunswick)
- Treasurer: Abigale DiGiamberardino (Cape May Tech)
- Reporter: Ivanelisse Pena Rivera (Penns Grove)
- Sentinel: Peter DelCollo (Cumberland Regional)
- Parliamentarian: Aaron Foote (Woodstown)

Due to increased participation, New Jersey FFA hosted preliminary Leadership Development Events for the first time in more than 25 years. The top two individuals and the top team from each regional event advanced to the finalist rounds held at the State FFA Convention.

The Association also expanded its career development opportunities by hosting the Agricultural Communications Career Development Event for the first time. Five chapters participated in this inaugural competition, with Freehold FFA placing first and earning the opportunity to represent New Jersey at the National FFA Convention & Expo in October.

98th National FFA Convention & Expo (Indianapolis, IN)



Livestock at Abma's Farm (Hillsborough, NJ)



Division of Animal Health

Division Director Dr. Amar Patil

The Division of Animal Health (DAH) maintains disease control programs to protect the health and well-being of livestock in New Jersey. The Division tracks information about emerging diseases around the world that may impact the Garden State, conducts epidemiological investigations of livestock diseases, operates an animal health diagnostic laboratory, authorizes and oversees two contagious equine metritis quarantine facilities for imported horses, and supports an aggressive livestock welfare program. In addition, the Division is involved with animal emergency preparedness and response, especially during disasters that affect the health, safety and welfare of animals and their owners.

State Employee Recognition Day; DAH staff won the Governor's Team of Excellence Award for HPAI response (Trenton, NJ)



Mitigated and Prevented Highly Pathogenic Avian

DAH enhanced its Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI or “bird flu”) surveillance of poultry in the state through field operations and laboratory testing at the New Jersey Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory (AHDL). Division employees have been so successful fighting HPAI that they were awarded the Governor’s Team of Excellence Award for their efforts to mitigate and prevent HPAI. The Division has responded to and mitigated eight HPAI outbreaks to date in 2025 (mostly resulting from birds being brought in from out of state to New Jersey live bird markets) in accordance with national and international standards. The Division issued over 1,550 permits in 2025 to allow the movement of poultry and eggs from HPAI-affected states into New Jersey, preventing further introduction of the disease. The Division, in collaboration with the Department of Health, monitored and ensured that dairy farms in New Jersey remained HPAI-free.

Maintained International ISO 17025 Accreditation of Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory

The AHDL received continued accreditation to the ISO 17025 standard. This accreditation ensures the highest quality and defensible laboratory results to protect animal agriculture, food safety, and public health in New Jersey. The AHDL is one of approximately two dozen animal health laboratories in the United States that hold this distinction.

A lab microbiologist performing Next Generation Sequencing on a food-borne pathogen



Ensured Livestock Animal Welfare through Domestic Livestock Humane Complaints Investigation Process

The DAH ensured the welfare of livestock animals by: Training 80 humane law enforcement officers (HLEOs) on the livestock Humane Standards rule and the investigation process; conducting 38 outreach contacts to local agencies about the role of the NJDA and the law enforcement in domestic livestock humane complaint investigations; and responding to 162 humane complaints, as of November 25, 2025.

Supported Equine Industry

The Division approved a second Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM) quarantine facility in New Jersey to facilitate the import of breeding horses in support of the equine industry in New Jersey and the United States. Imported breeding horses that test negative for CEM during quarantine duration are allowed to move to their destination in the United States upon the State Veterinarian's approval. CEM is a venereal foreign animal disease of horses responsible for significant breeding losses overseas.

*Livestock at Abma's Farm
(Hillsborough, NJ)*



FFVP VIP Award Event (Union City, NJ)



Division of Food and Nutrition

Division Director Rose Chamberlain

The Division of Food and Nutrition administers the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program, Afterschool Snack Program, Summer Food Service Program, Child and Adult Care Food Program, Family Day Care Program, USDA Food Distribution Program, The Emergency Food Assistance Program, and the Summer EBT Program.

Child Nutrition programs operate in public and nonpublic schools, residential and nonresidential childcare institutions, day care centers, family day care homes, adult day care centers, recreation centers, and other agencies.

Food Distribution coordinates the allocation of USDA Foods to sponsors of nutrition programs. The Emergency Food Assistance Program further distributes to food insecure citizens through a network of food banks.

*Best of NJ Farm to School Award
(Cranbury, NJ)*



Summer EBT 2025 Accomplishments

More than 700,000 eligible children helped ease their families' burden on affording healthy, nutritious foods through the Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (SEBT) Program. The second year of this permanent USDA program provides families with school-age children who are eligible for Federal Free or Federal Reduced Price school meals with a one-time \$120 grocery benefit per eligible child to cover the three summer months of June, July, and August when school is not in session. Families receive a physical EBT card, like those used for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which they can then use to purchase nutritious food anywhere SNAP-EBT is accepted.

The Department's Division of Food and Nutrition is the lead agency for the program and is proud to share that at the end of Year 2, the Division successfully issued benefits to 724,417 eligible children across the state, amounting to the distribution of over \$86.9 million in federal food security benefits. Notably, over 95 percent of these benefits were distributed during the first week of June – just ahead of the Summer Operational period, which was a key goal that represented a significant achievement for the state of New Jersey.

Two new technology initiatives vital to improving and expanding the Summer EBT Program were introduced this year. One was developing a statewide database of children enrolled in the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program-participating schools, with significant improvements made to the School Food Authority (SFA) file upload process and technology enhancements specifically targeting duplicate SFA student data. The second was the creation of a "Summer EBT Eligibility Lookup Tool" for families, made publicly available on the State's official SEBT website. This initial public-facing self-service web application was developed to provide families with information regarding their children's eligibility status for Summer EBT benefits. The tool represents the first phase of a broader "Parent Portal" initiative, currently under development, and will ultimately serve as a secure platform for household-directed benefits management and will be accomplished through a multi-phased deployment strategy over the course of the next three years.

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) Highlights

The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) now reaches students in over 200 schools throughout the state. This federally funded initiative offers grants to schools to provide fresh produce as snacks in schools where 50 percent or more of the students are eligible to receive free or reduced-priced meals. The program began in 2008 with just 33 New Jersey schools and has grown to 201 participating schools for the 2025-26 school year, up from 189 in 2024-25. Of those, more than half have committed to serving New Jersey-grown produce a minimum of 12 times during the current school year. New Jersey was the first state to offer a local incentive into its FFVP allocation structure, providing extra funds to those schools to account for purchases from local fresh-produce purveyors. New Jersey has averaged just under half a million dollars annually over the past five years on local food purchases for the FFVP.

FFVP VIP Award Event (Union City, NJ)



NJDA Highlights Farm to School Academy Pilot and 2025 Recognition Awards

The Department celebrated key Farm to School accomplishments this year, including its NJ Farm to School Academy Pilot Program, a three-day summer series where four teams of school administrators, food service directors, and educators collaborated on customized Farm to School implementation plans. The resulting projects included: West New York School District’s “Urban Agriculture: Growing from Classroom to Community,” an initiative connecting gardening, culture, and curriculum across subject areas; St. Joseph’s Pro-Cathedral Preschool’s “We Are So Excited We Wet Our Plants!” a garden-integrated curriculum; Camden City School District’s “CCSD Farm to School Committee,” a district-wide initiative incorporating hydroponics, seasonal cooking, composting, and community engagement; and New Brunswick School District’s “Cultivate and Connect New Brunswick,” a hands-on program integrating gardening, nutrition, and family involvement. The Department also hosted several introductory Farm to School workshops statewide to promote local procurement in schools and strengthen agricultural education.

During Jersey Fresh Farm to School Week, NJDA presented its 2025 Recognition Awards. Norz Hill Farm received the Farmer Recognition Award for its commitment to supplying local foods and supporting agricultural literacy, while Cranbury School earned the Best of Farm to School Award for its robust program featuring a Farm to Tray initiative, aquaponics, school garden, and monthly local taste tests. The Farm to School Program has influenced 700 schools to purchase locally. More than 600 of those schools have implemented cafeteria programs using Harvest of the Month promotional materials to highlight the nutritional value of local items, and more than 350 use curriculum that ties cafeteria meals to healthy eating education and/or field trips to farms.

Norz Hill Farm to School Award (Hillsborough, NJ)



USDA Foods Conference Previews New Options for School Meals

New Jersey high school students and school officials previewed the newest lunch and breakfast offerings available from food manufacturers for the 2026-2027 school year during the USDA Foods Conference in December at the New Jersey Convention and Exposition Center. The Department administers the USDA Foods Distribution program which distributes USDA foods to schools at reduced cost to the districts.

Over 600 school food service directors, superintendents, business administrators, and students from across New Jersey sampled meals they can introduce into their programs for the 2026-2027 school year. There were 45 state-approved processors providing the samples. Over 80 students from various districts participated this year in providing feedback through surveys, which will be provided to the processors to help them fine-tune the offerings and make them even more attractive to the students.

Students sampling food at USDA Foods Show (Edison, NJ)



Launch of the New Food Distribution Management System

The Department launched its new web-based Food Distribution Management System (FDMS) at the upcoming annual USDA Foods Conference. This rollout will include an introduction to the innovative platform, accompanied by comprehensive training sessions focusing on three core sections of the system.

The FDMS platform was scheduled to go live on January 5, 2026, providing school food authorities with streamlined access to manage their USDA Food Diversions for the 2026-2027 school year. This platform is designed to transform the management of USDA Foods inventory in schools by simplifying the annual diversions process. It empowers schools to place monthly orders directly from their specific inventory, enhancing accuracy, efficiency, and planning capabilities—truly a demand driven model!

By eliminating manual tracking, FDMS offers a smarter approach to food distribution, ensuring schools can manage their diversions with greater precision and ease. The NJDA is committed to supporting schools in their transition to this new system and enhancing the overall food distribution process.

*Food and Nutrition and NJDA IT staff
(Edison, NJ)*



Jersey Fresh beach giveaway day (Seaside, NJ)



Division of Marketing and Development

Division Director Joe Atchison III

The Division of Marketing and Development plays a critical role in enhancing the awareness of New Jersey farm products by developing and expanding markets, both here and abroad. The Division also promotes New Jersey's racing and pleasure horse industries. In addition, the Division provides regulatory and service programs to the agricultural community, in accordance with policies of the State Board of Agriculture and the state so as to enable abundant supplies of fresh, wholesome, and safe agricultural commodities and products at affordable costs.

Division Director Joe Atchison and Christine Fries at the Jersey Fresh booth during the New England Produce Show (Boston, MA)



New Jersey's Value-Added “Made With Jersey Fresh” Program Grows

Many people are familiar with the Jersey Fresh program in the Garden State, which promotes top-quality produce and other agricultural products that are grown right here. The program was established in 1984 to set New Jersey fruits and vegetables apart from crops grown elsewhere. Jersey Fresh is well known across the country and into Canada with produce retailers and consumers.

However, the NJDA has another newer program that is less well known but is beginning to grow. The “Made With Jersey Fresh” program exists to promote value-added products that include at least one ingredient that is 100-percent Jersey Fresh.

We have tomato sauces that are made with Jersey Fresh tomatoes and salsas that are made with Jersey Fresh tomatoes, peppers, garlic and onions. We have beers and spirits that are made with Jersey Fresh grains and other agricultural products. These items allow producers to extend their season and get top dollar for their value-added products. In 2025, Division of Markets staff worked to identify and recruit new items into the program and, while a slow process, the program was able to grow 36 percent in one year.

If you are a producer of items that would qualify for the program or if you know someone who is, we encourage you to reach out to division staff to discuss the steps to enroll you in the program. The Division intends to continue to assist farmers and producers and grow the brand even more in the coming year.

Is It Spicy (Made With Jersey Fresh program)



New Jersey Hosts the Nation

In July, New Jersey hosted the North American Agricultural Marketing Officials (NAAMO) annual national conference, the second time the state has done so in the past 20 years.

At the recent conference in Cherry Hill, there were 83 attendees representing 26 states from as far away as Hawaii and as close as Pennsylvania. This was the highest attendance at the conference in years, and all guests were impressed with the depth and breadth of the agricultural industry in New Jersey.

The international organization is composed of marketing officials from state and provincial departments of agriculture. The purpose of NAAMO is to provide its members with a forum to network, collaborate, and share insights to enhance the development, marketing, and promotion of North American food and agricultural products.

Joe Atchison III, NJDA Assistant Secretary and Director of Marketing and Development, who also serves as Treasurer to NAAMO, was joined by members of his staff in hosting the event and telling the nationwide audience about New Jersey’s farmers, ranchers, and aquaculturists. Joe and several staff members demonstrated how New Jersey agriculture plays a major part and impactful role in the state’s modern-day economy, as well as how the “Jersey Fresh” program promotes fruits, vegetables, and other farm-grown items as the first state-sponsored ag marketing program in the nation. This includes a quality-grading program to ensure the reputation of “Jersey Fresh” products remains the standard-bearer.

NAAMO delegates on tour (Ringoes, NJ)



We showcased how New Jersey is a leader in preserving farmland, has recently launched a “NextGen Farmer” program to help spur new and beginning farmers, as well as to modernize the operations of existing farmers to help them better navigate the technological world of the 21st century. We hosted several industry meetings to highlight the Marketing Excellence Presenters, USDA and NASDA, as well as an awards banquet where we honored the West Windsor Community Farmers Market, the Marketer of the Year winner.

Ag operation visits and guest speakers included:

- Welcome remarks from New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture Ed Wengryn
- Melick’s Town Farm and Cidery
- Readington River Buffalo Farm
- Abma’s Farm - Hillsborough
- Campbell’s Company
- Is it Spicy?! Sauce Co.
- Unionville Vineyards Tour
- Chickadee Creek Farm
- Gloucester County DREAM Park
- Centerton Nursery
- Eastern Fresh Growers
- Lund’s Fisheries
- Cape May Whale Watch & Research Center
- Duffield’s Farm
- Tuckahoe Turf Farm

NAAMO NJDA staff



Website Updates Help Promote NJ Farm Operations

The Division made recent improvements to FindJerseyFresh.com that can help any New Jersey agricultural business. Whether a farmer is looking to encourage customers to visit their farm or market, and learn about the Jersey Fresh produce they provide, or to enjoy pick-your-own opportunities, highlight upcoming agritourism events, or connect with schools or retailers, the updated website can be of help. New Jersey farmers can now create and/or manage a profile on their own page, plus add special events.

If a farmer is already listed on FindJerseyFresh.com, they can log-in to manage and update their business' profile page. If not, let us help you create a profile page at no cost. If you are looking to promote the products or agritourism activities you offer, update your current hours, add photos, educate customers on your CSA, or any other approach you want to pursue, you are now able to do so and manage your business' profile page at your convenience. To learn more or get started, visit www.FindJerseyFresh.com and click Login from the drop-down menu.

NJDA is excited to introduce our latest feature on FindJerseyFresh.com – our Special Events page! It was designed to help promote any activities or special occasions planned member farms. All Jersey Fresh markets and growers are invited to add their upcoming events and agritourism festivities, also at no charge. It is simple, you only need to login at www.FindJerseyFresh.com and navigate to the Special Events section and provide information such as event name, address, date, time, details, photos, etc.

Questions or concerns? Reach out to Christine Fries at christine.fries@ag.nj.gov or Scarlett Goodacre at scarlett.goodacre@ag.nj.gov.



Equine Industry

New Jersey's equine industry is a major economic driver and an essential part of the state's agricultural identity. Horses help preserve thousands of acres of open space across the state and support a wide range of jobs—from veterinarians and trainers to farriers, show managers, and farm staff. With the horse designated as the State Animal, New Jersey embraces a strong recreational and competitive horse culture that includes pleasure riding, showing, and robust Standardbred and Thoroughbred racing. Key institutions anchor the industry, including the Horse Park of New Jersey, the Rutgers Equine Science Center, and the U.S. Equestrian Federation headquarters in Gladstone.

Since opening in 1983, the Horse Park of New Jersey has served as the cornerstone of the pleasure-horse community. The park hosts a wide variety of events each year, ranging from multi-breed horse shows to nationally recognized Standardbred pleasure-horse competitions. It has also welcomed notable livestock shows, such as the Monmouth County Stars and Stripes Invitational.

The New Jersey Sire Stakes (NJSS) Program, established by statute in 1971, encourages the breeding of high-quality Standardbred trotters and pacers. By offering generous purses to the offspring of registered New Jersey stallions, the program incentivizes breeders to base their operations within the state. As a result, it has played a significant role in preserving more than 100,000 acres of open space.

In 2026, the program is projected to offer approximately \$4.1 million in purse money and has introduced a new “Platinum and Silver Division” (formally the Premier Division) to expand racing opportunities. All NJSS races take place at The Meadowlands in East Rutherford.

On the Thoroughbred side, Monmouth Park stands as one of New Jersey's historic racing institutions. First opened in 1870 near Long Branch, the track faced closure in 1894 after legislation banned parimutuel wagering. It was later revived at its current location in 1946. Today, its signature event – the Haskell Invitational – draws national attention.

Dream Park (Gloucester County, NJ)



Agricultural Fairs and Shows

Nothing captures the spirit of summer quite like a New Jersey Agricultural Fair. The smell of grilled hot dogs, fresh popcorn, and sugar-dusted funnel cake fills the air as carnival rides whirl and families laugh in the background. These fairs blend classic entertainment – tractor pulls, monster truck exhibitions, live concerts – with cultural and agricultural traditions, such as livestock shows, quilting displays, pie-baking contests, and other homesteading demonstrations.

New Jersey’s agricultural fairs, held from June through September, celebrate the state’s farming heritage. Major annual events include the New Jersey State Fair in Sussex County, the Burlington County Farm Fair, the Warren County Farmers’ Fair, and numerous county 4-H fairs across Cape May, Monmouth, Ocean, and other counties. Together, these fairs offer fun, education, and a meaningful glimpse into the state’s agricultural roots and potential future.

Morris County 4H
Fair 2025



Mexican bean beetle at Chickadee Creek Farm (Pennington, NJ)



Division of Plant Industry

Division Director Joseph Zoltowski

The protection of New Jersey’s plant resources from harmful insects, weeds, and diseases is essential to the vitality of the state’s agricultural industry, natural environment, and homeowners. Plant pests can cause significant financial losses—costing farmers, woodland and natural area owners, and ultimately consumers millions of dollars through crop damage and pest control expenses.

The programs of the Division of Plant Industry provide protection to New Jersey food crops, forests and other plant resources against injurious plant insects and diseases through detection, control, and eradication programs. The Division helps to ensure that farmers, businesses and consumers buy and sell high quality pest-free plants and plant products.

*Mexican bean beetle at Chickadee Creek Farm
(Pennington, NJ)*



Spotted Lanternfly

The Division of Plant Industry's spotted lanternfly (SLF) teams treated 263 properties with insecticides, assessed 189 properties for future treatment, treated 151 trees and 613 saplings with herbicides, scraped and crushed 71,860 egg masses, collected 2,139 intact egg masses for scientific research, and vacuumed up 48,290 spotted lanternflies.

Also in 2025, under an agreement with the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Forest Pest Methods Laboratory (APHISFPML) lab, more than 7,000 second-instar Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) nymphs were shipped to aid in the host-specificity testing as USDA works toward seeking permitting for *Dryinus sinicus* as a potential SLF biocontrol.

Emerald Ash Borer

In the past year, the Division of Plant Industry released a total of 10,597 egg and larval emerald ash borer (EAB) parasitoids on three sites located in the southern and northern counties of the state to reduce populations of this invasive tree-killing insect. From 2016 to 2024, a total of 277,873 EAB parasitoids had been released on 35 locations in 15 counties of the state. Recoveries have been collected from 10 sites in eight counties.

A total of 10,597 egg and larval EAB parasitoids released on three sites located in the southern and northern counties



Feed, Seed, and Fertilizer Testing

The Plant Laboratory completed testing of 500 feed samples for protein, fat, and moisture, analyzed 236 fertilizer samples for nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), potassium (K), and heavy metals, conducted analysis on 119 seed samples, and reviewed over 1,985 label submissions for feed, fertilizer, and lime product compliance.

LDD (Spongy Moth) Control

During the spring of 2025, the division conducted continual surveillance and suppression activities of Spongy Moth, from surveys and treatments on 5,022 acres of forested residential properties, and 3,733 acres of state lands in eight municipalities. Counties surveyed included: Bergen, Burlington, Cape May, Morris, Passaic, and Sussex.

Also in 2025, the Division conducted a statewide aerial survey for LDD (Gypsy Moth) defoliation on over 2.2 million acres to identify 126,075 acres of impacted forested lands in 57 municipalities in 14 counties of the state.

Plant Laboratory (Trenton, NJ)



Hemp Program

In 2025, the hemp program licensed 21 growers, 10 processors, and one handler. In the program, a total of 16,679 square feet of indoor space and 39 acres of outdoor growth have been produced.

Phillip Alampi Beneficial Insect Rearing Laboratory (PABIL) Activity

During the 2025 season, the Beneficial Laboratory reared, released and shipped over 872,676 adult wasps as well as 57,750 weevils to control invasive weeds and environmental and agricultural insect pests.

Horticultural Nursery Inspections

During the 2025 season, horticultural staff inspected 816 nursery locations and 1,336 plant dealer locations to ensure freedom from plant pests and diseases, as well as issuing 357 phytosanitary certificates to allow for the interstate and international shipment of New Jersey horticultural products.

Apiary Colony Health Inspections

During the 2025 season, the State Apiarist inspected 1,339 overwintering bee colonies to ensure freedom from apiary pests and diseases.

State Apiarist inspected 1,339 overwintering bee colonies to ensure freedom from apiary pests and diseases



Office of the Food Security Advocate

Division Director Mark Dinglasan

The New Jersey Office of the Food Security Advocate (OFSA) is currently the only food security advocacy office in the United States that is placed in the highest level of state government, the Governor's Office. Legislation was drafted to create OFSA in 2021 and the office began its work in September 2022, physically located in and supported by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture. The vision of OFSA is to create positive outcomes in food security in the state of New Jersey through collaborative efforts with multi-sector stakeholders that are driven by strong research, evaluation, and community-driven program design.

To achieve this, the office is focusing its work in four areas: 1) supporting state agencies in conducting food security work; 2) supporting the advancement of policy that is aligned with ongoing food security work; 3) collaborating with the philanthropic sector, and 4) supporting and participating in community-driven food security work. In 2026 and beyond, the work of OFSA will be informed by the focus areas established in the New Jersey Food Security Strategic Plan. In 2025, a team of international researchers on global food security cited New Jersey as the only U.S. state adopting the six-dimensional food security framework, made possible through the work of this office.



NJ Statewide Food Insecurity Index Launch and Early Application

Building on the success of the Tri-County Food Insecurity Index and incorporating feedback and input from over 75 organizations in New Jersey, Trenton Health Team released the NJ Statewide Food Insecurity Index in June. OFSA consulted on the project and provided funding for the development of the index and its previous iteration to put a valuable tool that maps food insecurity and the intensity of it at the neighborhood level, in the hands of decision-makers in each of New Jersey's 21 counties. During the federal government shutdown and suspension of SNAP benefits that impacted more than 800,000 New Jerseyans, the NJ Statewide Food Insecurity Index proved to be essential in informing emergency response efforts. OFSA and the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) used the index as the base layer for data mapping efforts that helped inform decisions and tactics for the state's emergency response. Before and beyond the SNAP crisis, organizations such as food banks, food pantries, and health providers are continually using the index to make data-driven decisions about how best to meet everyday community food needs.

New Jersey Food Security Strategic Plan

Through OFSA, the State has created its first statewide Food Security Strategic Plan—a comprehensive, systems-oriented, three-year roadmap to guide the state toward lasting food security for all. Developed through deep collaboration with community members and partners across sectors, the plan is intended to unify efforts around shared priorities while respecting the unique role and expertise of each sector and contributor. It speaks to a broad audience—from community organizations and farmers to philanthropic groups, health systems, schools, researchers, and government, inviting all to see their place in building solutions that reflect the state's dynamic needs and strengths. Rather than being prescriptive, the Strategic Plan serves as a directional guide that invites shared ownership, acknowledges and lifts up existing efforts, and encourages local adaptation based on partners' strengths and areas of influence. Strategies offer multiple entry points from planning and community engagement to direct programs and policy advocacy. The strategies and actions laid out in this plan are designed to be implementable regardless of fluctuations in federal programs. The plan is grounded in New Jersey's existing tools, partnerships, and pathways to ensure progress at the state level continues.

Strengthening Connections with New Jersey's Agricultural Community

Farmers, especially in the Garden State, are an essential part of this food supply ecosystem and vital neighbors and partners in building food security for everyone, everywhere. During the 2025 NJDA Agricultural Convention, the OFSA team accepted an invitation from the Department to participate in a pre-convention session that served as a resource seminar and idea exchange for farmers and growers, and supported the Office of the Secretary and the State Board of Agriculture in gathering input from convention attendees about their food production, harvesting and distribution experiences and priorities as operators representing farms of all sizes and settings.

Informed by honest conversations and relationships with New Jersey farmers, OFSA advocated for state appropriations to help offset the federal cancelation of previously committed funds to the state through the Local Food Purchasing Assistance (LFPA) and Local Food for Schools (LFS) programs, and to protect the benefits of these programs for New Jersey families and farmers alike. With the support of Speaker Craig J. Coughlin and all of the food security champions in the Legislature, New Jersey identified funding that made it possible to create a state-level version of LFPA, bringing nourishing, locally grown and harvested food to those who want it to live healthier and institutional purchasing benefits to the agricultural community producing the food.

OFSA also engaged the agricultural community by inviting participation on the New Jersey Food Security Strategic Plan Executive Committee (Perehynys Farm) and onstage as panelists (City Green and New Roots, Inc.) for the 2nd Annual Garden State Conference on Food Security, plus welcoming more as attendees (Fairgrown Farms, Newark Science and Sustainability, Inc., among them) for the same, and touring a number of sites (C.R.O.P.S., Cutts Farm, Green Acre Community Garden, Grow it Green, Howell Living History Farm, Hungry Work Farm, Riamede Farms, Specca Farms) independently and alongside Department colleagues. Finally, the office continued to build connections between the agricultural community and partners in the Legislature by facilitating meetings and connections to create a stronger connection between the Legislature and New Jersey's local food producers. OFSA will continue meeting more agricultural partners throughout 2026, including during the NJDA Agricultural Convention.

Ribbon-cutting for Harvest, the farm-to-community innovation hub (Newark, NJ)



Gibbs Farm (Warren County, NJ)



State Agricultural Development Committee (SADC)

Division Director Charles Roohr

The State Agricultural Development Committee of New Jersey promotes innovative approaches to maintaining the viability of agriculture. The SADC administers the Farmland Preservation Program, providing grants to counties, municipalities and nonprofit groups to fund the purchase of development easements on farmland; directly purchasing farms and development easements from landowners; and offers grants to landowners in the program to fund up to 50 percent of the cost on projects, such as deer fencing.

It also administers the Right to Farm Program, oversees the Transfer of Development Rights Bank, and operates the Farm Link Program, which helps connect farm owners with farmers seeking access to farmland and farming opportunities. The SADC consists of 11 members – six citizens appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, and five ex-officio members. Four citizen members must be active farmers.



New Statewide Formula Value – A Game Changer!

There have been several exciting changes during 2025 for the SADC. First and foremost among them, is the implementation of the new Statewide Formula Value (SFV) for Farmland Preservation, which provides an alternative method for valuing farmland, which has stimulated significant interest from farmland owners across the state, resulting in a significant increase in preservation applications. Based on the unrestricted appraised value, the SFV considers additional attributes such as soil quality, size, proximity to preserved land, and certain natural resources. With those changes, the SADC can now offer landowners a value based on traditional appraisals and the SFV, which, in many cases, is higher.

The SADC's State Acquisition program accepts applications year-round. Depending on the size and quality of the farm, SADC processes applications directly or coordinates with a county, municipal, or nonprofit preservation partner to take the lead in processing the application.

Artz Farm Event; the first farm to close using the formula value



Farmland Preservation Program Outreach

The SADC continues to coordinate meetings, listening sessions, presentations, and workshops across the state. Many County Agricultural Development Boards have requested and received in-person presentations, guidance, and updates on important issues, including Right to Farm, agricultural mediation, Special Occasion Events on preserved farms, the new SFV, Soil Protection Standards, Planning for Agriculture and Agriculture Development Areas, and the easement acquisition process.

Tax Workshops

To address misinformation and many questions landowners have about the tax implications of preserving their farms and how to integrate preservation into their estate and succession planning, the SADC organized two workshops this year for farmers, farmland owners, and their professionals to hear from two experts in the field. Wade Martin, of Martin Wealth Management Group, and Keith Dickinson, Business Consultant from Farm Credit East, presented ideas and encouraged thinking ahead about how to preserve land and the various methods for utilizing the preservation payment. The funds provided through farmland preservation can help farmland owners meet their financial goals, provide capital to expand existing operations, eliminate or reduce debt load, or further estate or retirement planning.

*First tax workshop at D&R Greenway
(Princeton, NJ)*



State Agricultural Development Updates

Soil & Water Cost Share Grant Improvements

On December 1, 2025, the State of New Jersey adopted regulatory amendments in N.J.A.C. 2:76-5 to improve and expand the State Agriculture Development Committee's (SADC) Soil & Water Conservation Grant Program. The program offers up to 50-percent cost-sharing for preserved farms that install soil and water conservation projects to prevent soil erosion, control and reduce pollution, and improve land, soil, and water management, all with the goal of achieving maximum agricultural productivity and natural resource benefits. As part of these new regulatory changes, additional funding has become available. The formula for determining maximum grant eligibility for farms was modified to increase the maximum grant amount for all farms. Also, to address federal rate inconsistencies with the local market and inflation, the updated regulation allows farmers to submit three local estimates to the SADC to increase their project cost-share if the current federal rates are not reflective of the local market. Finally, to assist with obtaining farm conservation plans and paying for engineering needs, the SADC will now have an additional \$20,000 per farm available to hire private conservation planners, technical specialists, and/or engineers that are often necessary to implement agricultural and conservation projects.

Farm Link

The SADC's Ag Development team manages New Jersey's Farm Link Program, which includes online resource pages and a linking site to help connect farmland owners with farmers seeking access to farmland and farming opportunities. This year, the SADC completed its second annual review of all NJ Land Link postings to verify their current status and remove any listings that were outdated or non-responsive. The program also developed a new fact sheet to promote the linking website and guide new users through its basic functions. As of December 2025, NJ Land Link had 2,704 registered users, and 84 active listings had been created by landowners with farmland available (47) and by farmers seeking access to land (37). Ag Development staff contacted 169 beginning farmer registrants and 51 farmland owners in 2025 to provide additional resources.



New registrants to NJ Land Link who request additional resources are contacted by staff to discuss their farming goals and what resources may be helpful based on their needs. In this capacity, Ag Development staff serve as the bridge between the online linking site and the Farm Link Program's resource and referral services.

Agricultural Resource Pages

The SADC has developed an extensive list of suppliers, contractors, professionals, and other businesses commonly used by farmers to help the farming community find business support products and services, such as construction, contractors, supplies, services, auctions, cooperatives, and grain buyers. The SADC is also developing a list of legal, financial, tax-planning, business consultants, and other professionals to add to the Agricultural Resource Pages. As an additional resource, the Pages also include guidance on conducting due diligence when seeking professionals and/or businesses to work with.

Next Generation Farmer Program

The SADC continues developing the new Next Generation Farmer Program to support the next generation of agriculture in New Jersey. This includes helping next generation farmers from all backgrounds to address the challenges they face when getting started, advancing, and establishing or diversifying their operations. It also includes supporting established farmers as they adapt their operations to become more profitable and build the “next generation” of their farm businesses and providing support for succession planning to help farms transition from one generation to the next.

The SADC adopted the Next Gen policy report, “The Next Generation of Farming in New Jersey: Report on Cultivating the Future of Farming in the Garden State,” in March 2025. Based on extensive outreach to and feedback from the agricultural community, the report summarizes the challenges faced by the next generation of farmers and farm businesses. It also provides recommendations for addressing challenges, filling programming gaps, and enhancing support. The report is intended to guide the development of the Next Gen Program and to help create a strategic path forward for the SADC and partners to support the next generation of farming in New Jersey collaboratively.

The SADC’s Ag Development team has begun working on new Next Gen initiatives, services, and resources based on the recommendations in the report. These efforts have focused on addressing the challenges around land access, education and training, farm transfer and succession planning, support for active-duty service members and veterans, and support for urban agriculture. The Next Gen Program is working with partner organizations to develop this support, host events, and foster a coordinated network of support for New Jersey farmers. The Next Gen Program also continues to provide direct assistance to next generation and established farmers through resource referral, technical assistance, networking connections, farm visits, and coordination of the Farm Link Program.

Farmland Preservation Program

The Farmland Preservation Program, established with the Agricultural Retention Act of 1983, is administered by the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC), which preserves New Jersey's farmland and seeks to support the long-term viability of agriculture through programs focused on supporting the business of agriculture. Farmland is preserved through SADC purchasing easements directly from farmland owners, purchasing fee simple title to farmland, and reselling that land. The SADC also provides grant funding for participating counties, municipalities, and nonprofit organizations to fund their local farmland preservation priorities.

As of November 24, 2025, the SADC preserved 2,911 farms totaling 254,231 acres. Here is a look behind the numbers:

County	# of Farms Preserved	Acres Preserved	Average Farm Size
Atlantic	49	5,166	105
Bergen	8	335	42
Burlington	251	30,081	120
Camden	16	1,103	69
Cape May	51	3,141	62
Cumberland	245	22,874	93
Gloucester	234	16,713	71
Hunterdon	480	36,916	77
Mercer	125	9,139	73
Middlesex	57	4,956	87
Monmouth	216	15,599	72
Morris	116	7,344	63
Ocean	48	3,193	67
Passaic	2	56	28
Salem	415	43,706	105
Somerset	117	8,336	71
Sussex	162	17,019	105
Warren	319	28,553	90

Beyond securing the agricultural land base through the preservation process, defending commercial farming operations under New Jersey's Right To Farm Law and offering Agricultural Mediation services at no cost to resolve issues before they become a Right To Farm case are of primary importance.

New Jersey Agricultural Statistics

Bruce Eklund, State Statistician

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Trenton Farmers Market (Trenton, NJ)



New Jersey: Field Crops, Weights, Measures, and Conversion Factors

Crop and Unit	Approximate Net Weight	
	lbs	kgs
Corn:		
Ear, Husked Bushel	70	31.8
Shelled Bushel	56	25.4
Hay Square Bale	40-50	18.2-22.7
Oats Bushel	32	14.5
Potatoes Sack	100	45.4
Rye Bushel	56	25.4
Soybeans Bushel	60	27.2
Sweet Potatoes Box	25	11.4
Wheat Bushel	60	27.2

New Jersey: Vegetables, Fruit, and Berries, Unit of Sale, Average Weight, and Number of Packages Used in Converting to Carlot Equivalents

Crop and Unit of Sale	Average Weight Per Unit	Package Per Carlot Equivalent	
	Pounds	Units	Cwt
Vegetables			
Asparagus Crate, 12 bunches	28	1,050	294
Beets, topped Bushel	50	700	350
Broccoli Crate, 12-14 bunches	21	900	189
Cabbage Crate or Sack	50	600	300
Carrots, topped Bushel	50	1,000	500
Cauliflower Crate	50	400	200
Celery Crate, 3-4 dozen	60	600	360
Cucumber Bushel	55	700	385
Eggplant 1 1 / 9 Bushel Crate	33	750	248
Escarole & Endive 1 1 / 9 Bushel Crate	25	850	213
Lettuce, Head Crate, 24 heads	50	825	413
Onions, dry Sack	50	800	400
Peppers, Bell Bushel	28	850	238
Snap Beans Bushel	30	850	255
Spinach Bushel	25	850	213
Sweet Corn Crate, 50 ears	42	725	305
Tomatoes Carton	25	2,000	500
Fruit and Berries			
Apples Bushels or Carton	42	900	378
Blueberries Flat, 12 pints	11	1,400	154
Cranberries Barrel	100	---	---
Peaches 1 / 2 Bushel or Carton	25	900	342

Source: Fruit and Vegetable Market News Service, AMS, US Department of Agriculture.



Rank of New Jersey Counties for Selected Items — 2022 Census

Item	1	2	3	4	5
Field Crop Harvested Acres					
Corn for grain	Salem	Warren	Hunterdon	Burlington	Gloucester
All hay	Hunterdon	Sussex	Warren	Salem	Somerset
Soybeans for beans	Salem	Burlington	Gloucester	Warren	Cumberland
Orchard and Berry Acres					
Land in orchards	Cumberland	Gloucester	Hunterdon	Salem	Monmouth
Blueberry	Atlantic	Burlington	Camden	Cumberland	Gloucester
All berries	Atlantic	Burlington	Camden	Cumberland	Gloucester
Nurseries					
Number of nurseries	Monmouth	Cumberland	Hunterdon	Burlington	Warren
Nursery stock acreage in the open	Cumberland	Monmouth	Burlington	Gloucester	Cape May
Livestock					
Number of horses on farms	Monmouth	Burlington	Hunterdon	Sussex	Morris
Number of cattle and calves	Salem	Sussex	Hunterdon	Warren	Gloucester
Number of milk cows	Salem	Sussex	Gloucester	Hunterdon	Warren

--- Other counties not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Organic Sales – New Jersey: 2022 and 2017 Census

Item (unit)	2022	2017
Number of Farms	107	102
Total Organic Sales (\$1,000)	38,088	13,018
Average per Farm(dollars)	355,959	127,632

Rank of States for Selected Items – 2024

Item	1	2	3	4	5
Crop Harvested Acres					
Blueberries	Georgia	Washington	Michigan	Oregon	New Jersey
Cranberries	Wisconsin	Massachusetts	New Jersey	Oregon	
Peaches ¹	California	South Carolina	Georgia	Pennsylvania	New Jersey
Peppers, bell	Florida	California	Georgia	New Jersey	Mich./N.C.

¹ Bearing acres.

New Jersey: Field Crops, Usual Planting and Harvesting Dates

Crop	Usual Planting Dates			Usual Harvesting Dates		
	Begin	Most Active	End	Begin	Most Active	End
Corn for grain	Apr 15	May 1 - May 20	June 15	Sep 25	Oct 10 - Nov 1	Nov 15
Corn for silage	Apr 15	May 1 - May 20	Jul 1	Aug 30	Sep 10 - Sep 30	Nov 20
Hay, alfalfa	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	May 15	(NA)	Nov 1
Hay, other	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	May 10	(NA)	Oct 15
Potatoes, summer ..	Apr 20	May 1 - May 20	Jun 1	Jul 10	Jul 20 - Sep 30	Oct 15
Soybeans	May 10	May 20 - Jul 1	Jul 10	Oct 1	Oct 1 - Nov 10	Nov 15
Sweet potatoes	May 10	May 20 - Jun 20	Jul 10	Sep 10	Sep 20 - Nov 10	Nov 20
Wheat, winter	Sep 30	Oct 5 - Oct 20	Nov 1	Jun 25	Jul 1 - Jul 10	Jul 15

(NA) Not available.

Field Crop Summary – New Jersey: 2024

Crop and Units	Acres Harvested	Yield per Acre	Production	Season Average Price per Unit	Value of Production	
					Total	Per Acre
			<i>1,000</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>	<i>dollars</i>
Corn for Grainbu	61,000	157.0	9,577	4.25	40,702	667
Corn for Silageton	5,000	17.0	85	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
All Hayton	95,000	1.95	185	180.00	33,271	350
Alfalfa Hayton	12,000	3.00	36	233.00	8,388	699
Other Hayton	83,000	1.80	149	167.00	24,883	300
Soybeans for Beansbu	103,000	43.0	4,429	9.70	42,961	417

(NA) Not available.

Fruit Crop Summary – New Jersey: 2024

Crop and Units	Acres Bearing/ Harvested	Yield per Acre	Utilized Production	Season Average Price per Unit	Value of Production	
					Total	Per Acre
			<i>1,000</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>	<i>dollars</i>
Blueberrieslbs	10,700	3,980	42,390	2.000	84,896	7,934
Cranberriesbarrels	2,900	202.6	587.3	36.40	21,367	7,368
Peaches tons	3,200	4.60	14	1,280.00	17,933	5,604

Principal Vegetables Crop Summary – New Jersey: 2024 ¹

Crop, Estimate Date, and Unit	Acres Harvested	Yield per Acre	Production		Season Average Price per Unit	Value of Utilized Production	
			Total	Utilized		Total	Per Acre
	<i>acres</i>	<i>cwt</i>	<i>1,000 cwt</i>	<i>1,000 cwt</i>	<i>dollars/cwt</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>	<i>dollars</i>
Principal Vegetables							
Asparagus ⁵Jan-Jun..... cwt	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Cabbage ²Jan-Dec..... cwt	1,300	240	312.0	312.0	27.00	8,424	6,480
Collards ²Jan-Dec..... cwt	700	150	105.0	105.0	32.50	3,413	4,876
Cucumbers ²July-Dec..... cwt	2,900	170	493.0	493.0	36.60	18,043	6,222
Eggplant ²July-Dec..... cwt	780	245	191.0	191.0	33.30	6,360	8,154
Escarole & Endive ² ... Jan-Dec..... cwt	335	114	38.0	38.0	55.00	2,096	6,257
Herbs ^{2,3}Jan-Dec..... cwt	1,900	70	133.0	133.0	68.50	9,111	4,795
Kale ²Jan-Dec..... cwt	870	130	113.0	113.0	34.60	3,910	4,494
Lettuce, All ^{2,4}Jan-Dec..... cwt	910	155	141.0	141.0	61.40	8,660	9,516
Parsley ²Jan-Dec..... cwt	675	99	67.0	67.0	64.50	4,322	6,403
Peppers, Bell..... July-Dec..... cwt	2,200	305	671.0	670.3	78.70	52,745	23,975
Pumpkins ²July-Dec..... cwt	1,800	62	112.0	104.0	55.00	5,720	3,178
Snap Beans ²Jan-Dec..... cwt	1,100	37	41.0	41.0	46.50	1,907	1,734
Squash, Summer ²July-Dec..... cwt	1,830	113	206.0	206.0	44.60	9,189	5,021
Squash, Winter ²July-Dec..... cwt	1,070	106	113.0	111.0	35.66	3,958	3,699
Sweet Corn ² July-Dec..... cwt	7,100	111	788.0	788.0	38.50	30,388	4,280
Tomatoes ²July-Dec..... cwt	2,500	280	700.0	700.0	80.70	56,490	22,596
Total - 17 market crops.....	27,970	---	4,224.0	4,213.3	---	224,736	8,035

¹ Preliminary

² Not in the Federal Estimating Program, state estimates only.

³ Includes arugula, basil, chives, coriander, cress, fennel, sage, thyme, etc., excludes parsley.

⁴ Includes head lettuce, Romaine, and other lettuce.

⁵ Data not published in 2024.

Corn for Grain Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value – New Jersey: 2020-2024

Year	Area planted ¹	Area harvested	Yield per acre	Production	Price per bushel ²	Value of production ³
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>bushels</i>	<i>1,000 bushels</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2020	80	73	156.0	11,388	5.70	64,912
2021	75	69	163.0	11,247	6.48	72,881
2022	68	58	114.0	6,612	6.51	43,044
2023	74	65	168.0	10,920	4.55	49,686
2024	72	61	157.0	9,577	4.25	40,702

¹ Area planted includes corn planted for both grain and silage.

² Marketing year average price.

³ Based on final State marketing year average price for years prior to 2024; for 2024, based on preliminary State marketing year average.

Corn for Silage Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value – New Jersey: 2020-2024

Year	Area planted ¹	Area harvested	Yield per acre	Production	Price per ton ²	Value of production
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>tons</i>	<i>1,000 tons</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2020	(NA)	6	20.0	120	(NA)	(NA)
2021	(NA)	5	20.0	100	(NA)	(NA)
2022	(NA)	6	16.0	96	(NA)	(NA)
2023	(NA)	6	18.0	108	(NA)	(NA)
2024	(NA)	5	17.0	85	(NA)	(NA)

(NA) Not available.

¹ For area planted, see corn for grain table.

² Marketing year average price.

Soybeans for Beans Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value – New Jersey: 2020-2024

Year	Area planted	Area harvested	Yield per acre	Production	Price per bushel ¹	Value of production ²
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>bushels</i>	<i>1,000 bushels</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2020	94	93	46.0	4,278	11.50	49,197
2021	100	99	46.0	4,554	12.90	58,747
2022	110	108	28.0	3,024	14.50	43,848
2023	100	98	43.0	4,214	12.20	51,411
2024	105	103	43.0	4,429	9.70	42,961

¹ Marketing year average price.

² Based on final State marketing year average price for years prior to 2024; for 2024, based on preliminary State marketing year average.

Winter Wheat Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value – New Jersey: 2020-2024

Year	Area planted	Area harvested	Yield per acre	Production	Price per bushel ¹	Value of Production ²
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>bushels</i>	<i>1,000 bushels</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2020	25	18	67.0	1,206	5.80	6,995
2021	23	16	67.0	1,072	7.35	7,879
2022	26	22	70.0	1,540	7.25	11,165
2023	34	32	82.0	2,624	6.26	16,426
2024 ³	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)

(NA) Not available.

¹ Marketing year average price.

² Based on final State marketing year average price.

³ Estimates discontinued in 2024.

Alfalfa Hay Area Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value – New Jersey: 2020-2024

Year	Area harvested	Yield per acre	Production	Price per ton ¹	Value of production
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>tons</i>	<i>1,000 tons</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2020.....	16	2.70	43	240.00	10,320
2021.....	13	3.40	44	230.00	10,120
2022.....	13	2.70	35	243.00	8,505
2023.....	12	2.60	31	235.00	7,285
2024.....	12	3.00	36	233.00	8,388

¹ Marketing year average price.

Other Hay Area Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value – New Jersey: 2020-2024

Year	Area harvested	Yield per acre	Production	Price per ton ¹	Value of production
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>tons</i>	<i>1,000 tons</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2020.....	90	1.70	153	169.00	25,857
2021.....	85	2.00	170	140.00	23,800
2022.....	96	1.90	182	154.00	28,028
2023.....	85	1.80	153	164.00	25,092
2024.....	83	1.80	149	167.00	24,883

¹ Marketing year average price.

All Hay Area Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value – New Jersey: 2020-2024

Year	Area harvested	Yield per acre	Production	Price per ton ¹	Value of production
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>tons</i>	<i>1,000 tons</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2020.....	106	1.85	196	185.00	36,177
2021.....	98	2.18	214	159.00	33,920
2022.....	109	1.99	217	168.00	36,533
2023.....	97	1.90	184	176.00	32,377
2024.....	95	1.95	185	180.00	33,271

¹ Marketing year average price. All hay price is based on weighted sales, not production.



Soybean Acreage, Yield, and Production, by County – New Jersey: 2023

County	Planted <i>acres</i>	Harvested <i>acres</i>	Yield <i>bushels</i>	Production <i>bushels</i>
Atlantic	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Bergen.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Burlington.....	22,000	21,600	42.4	916,000
Camden.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Cape May.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Cumberland	11,500	11,300	36.7	415,000
Essex.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Gloucester.....	10,400	10,200	33.2	339,000
Hudson.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Hunterdon	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Mercer.....	4,300	4,220	47.4	200,000
Middlesex	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Monmouth	5,100	5,000	50.8	254,000
Morris	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Ocean.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Passaic	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Salem	24,800	24,400	42.2	1,029,000
Somerset	1,800	1,770	45.6	80,800
Sussex	1,500	1,440	44.9	64,700
Union	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Warren	9,000	8,790	51.2	450,000
Other Counties.....	9,600	9,280	50.2	465,500
New Jersey.....	100,000	98,000	43.0	4,214,000

¹ Represents zero or is included in Other Counties.

Soybean Acreage, Yield, and Production, by County – New Jersey: 2024

County	Planted <i>acres</i>	Harvested <i>acres</i>	Yield <i>bushels</i>	Production <i>bushels</i>
Atlantic	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Bergen.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Burlington.....	21,900	21,600	38.6	834,000
Camden.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Cape May.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Cumberland	11,200	10,500	38.0	399,000
Essex.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Gloucester.....	10,700	10,600	36.3	385,000
Hudson.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Hunterdon	7,100	6,930	55.1	382,000
Mercer.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Middlesex	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Monmouth	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Morris	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Ocean.....	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Passaic	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Salem	26,300	26,100	43.0	1,121,000
Somerset	1,800	1,770	40.3	71,300
Sussex	1,600	1,580	52.7	83,300
Union	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Warren	10,400	10,300	55.7	574,000
Other Counties.....	14,000	13,620	42.5	579,400
New Jersey.....	105,000	103,000	43.0	4,429,000

¹ Represents zero or is included in Other Counties.

Floriculture: Selected Crops and State Totals – New Jersey: 2023

Growers with Gross Value of Sales	Number of Growers	Covered Area	Total Value of Sales ¹
	<i>number</i>	<i>1,000 square feet</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
\$100,000 and over.....	116	20,678	300,453
\$10,000 - \$99,999.....	159	1,428	7,413
Total	275	22,106	307,866

¹ Total value of sales as reported by growers with \$100,000 or more in sales of floriculture crops plus a calculated value of sales for growers with sales below \$100,000. The value of sales for growers below the \$100,000 level was estimated by multiplying the number of growers in each size group by the mid-point of each dollar value range.

Growing Area: By Type of Cover – New Jersey: 2023

Type of Cover	All Operations with \$10,000+ Sales	All Operations with \$100,000+ Sales
	<i>1,000 square feet</i>	<i>1,000 square feet</i>
Total Greenhouse Cover	20,838	19,523
Glass Greenhouses.....	5,971	5,852
Fiberglass and Other Rigid Greenhouses.....	919	820
Film Plastic Greenhouse.....	13,948	12,851
Shade and Temporary Cover	1,268	1,155
Total Covered Area	22,106	20,678

Floriculture: Selected Crops and State Totals – New Jersey: 2023

Plant Type and Units for Quantity Sold	Operations with \$100,000+ Sales		
	Growers	Quantity Sold	Total Value of Sales
	<i>number</i>	<i>1,000 units</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
Bedding/Garden Plants, Total ¹			184,088
Annuals			113,365
Hanging Baskets, Geraniums (Cuttings)	Baskets 46	446	4,441
Hanging Baskets, Impatiens (Other).....	Baskets 13	220	1,597
Hanging Baskets, New Guinea Impatiens	Baskets 38	157	1,790
Hanging Baskets, Petunias	Baskets 42	667	6,277
Impatiens (Other).....	Flats 36	438	4,142
Petunias	Flats 47	231	2,708
Marigolds.....	Flats 52	268	2,868
Geraniums (Cuttings)	Pots 58	2,125	6,434
New Guinea Impatiens	Pots 51	1,155	3,349
Pansies/Violas	Pots 35	1,787	4,482
Potted Herbaceous Perennials			70,723
Hardy/Garden Chrysanthemums	Pots 47	5,328	19,789
Hostas	Pots 33	1,688	7,518
Other Potted Herbaceous Perennials	Pots 32	4,736	27,928
Flowering Plants, For Indoor Patio Use, Total			51,912
Lilies, Easter	Pots 12	242	1,350
Poinsettias.....	Pots 32	1,730	9,767

¹ Includes annual bedding plants and herbaceous perennials.

Blueberry, Cultivated Area Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value - New Jersey: 2020-2024

Year	Area harvested	Yield per acre ¹	Production		Price per pound ²	Value of utilized production
			Total	Utilized		
	<i>acres</i>	<i>pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2020	9,800	5,350	52,400	51,880	1.690	87,630
2021	11,200	5,520	61,800	60,560	1.840	111,170
2022	10,900	4,750	51,800	51,180	2.010	102,858
2023	10,800	4,660	50,300	50,150	1.840	92,109
2024	10,700	3,980	42,600	42,390	2.000	84,896

¹ Yield is based on total production.

² Marketing year average price.

Blueberry, Cultivated Utilization, Price, and Value by Utilization - New Jersey: 2020-2024

Year	Fresh			Processed		
	Quantity	Price per pound ¹	Value of production	Quantity	Price per pound ¹	Value of production
	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2020	44,120	1.900	83,828	7,760	0.490	3,802
2021	46,160	2.190	101,090	14,400	0.700	10,080
2022	45,170	2.180	98,471	6,010	0.730	4,387
2023	40,740	2.120	86,369	9,410	0.610	5,740
2024	37,490	2.190	82,103	4,900	0.570	2,793

¹ Marketing year average price.



Cranberry Area Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value - New Jersey: 2020-2024

[Net pounds per barrel: 100]

Year	Area harvested	Yield per acre ¹	Production		Price per barrel ²	Value of utilized production
			Total	Utilized		
	<i>acres</i>	<i>barrels</i>	<i>barrels</i>	<i>barrels</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2020.....	3,200	166.9	534,000	531,330	39.30	20,889
2021.....	3,100	208.8	647,000	646,330	39.60	25,574
2022.....	2,800	201.2	563,000	561,300	35.50	19,940
2023.....	2,900	200.1	580,000	578,840	35.40	20,508
2024.....	2,900	202.6	588,000	587,380	36.40	21,367

¹ Yield is based on total production.

² Marketing year average price.

Peach Bearing Acreage, Yield, Production, Price, and Value - New Jersey: 2020-2024

Year	Bearing acreage	Yield per acre ¹	Production		Price per ton ²	Value of utilized production
			Total	Utilized		
	<i>acres</i>	<i>tons</i>	<i>tons</i>	<i>tons</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2020.....	3,200	2.00	6,400	6,400	2,850.00	18,240
2021.....	3,300	3.80	12,550	12,540	2,610.00	32,729
2022.....	3,300	2.50	8,250	8,250	2,100.00	17,325
2023.....	3,300	4.30	14,200	14,200	2,050.00	29,110
2024.....	3,200	4.60	14,700	14,010	1,280.00	17,933

¹ Yield is based on total production.

² Marketing year average price.

New Jersey: Fruits and Berries, Usual Full Bloom and Harvesting Dates

Crop	Usual Full Bloom Dates			Usual Harvesting Dates		
	Begin	Most Active	End	Begin	Most Active	End
Apples	Apr 12	(NA)	Apr 20	Jul 15	Sep 1 - Oct 25	Oct 31
Blueberries	Apr 15	(NA)	May 15	Jun 15	Jun 27 - Jul 11	Aug 15
Cranberries	Jun 1	(NA)	Jul 15	Sep 10	Oct 5 - Nov 5	Nov 18
Grapes	May 20	(NA)	Jun 10	Aug 20	Sep 10 - Sep 20	Oct 10
Peaches	Apr 7	(NA)	Apr 15	Jul 5	Jul 20 - Aug 31	Sep 15
Strawberries	May 1	(NA)	May 10	May 20	Jun 1 - Jun 31	Jul 10

(NA) Not available.



Cattle and Calves Number on Farms, January 1, Inventory Value and Value per Head – New Jersey: 2020-2024

Year	Cows and Heifers that have calved		Heifers 500 lbs. and over			Bulls	Steers	Calves	All Cattle and Calves		
	Kept for milk	Kept for beef	For milk replacement	For beef replacement	Other heifers	500 lbs. and over	500 lbs. and over	500 lbs. and less	Number	Value per head	Total value
	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dol.</i>
2020	4.7	9.3	3.1	2.2	1.2	1.0	2.0	4.5	28.0	1,000	28,000
2021	4.4	8.6	2.9	1.6	0.9	0.7	1.9	4.0	25.0	970	24,250
2022	4.2	7.8	2.8	1.5	1.2	0.7	2.2	3.6	24.0	1,060	25,440
2023	4.1	8.9	2.2	1.6	1.1	0.6	2.5	4.0	25.0	1,090	27,250
2024	4.0	9.5	2.3	1.6	1.1	0.6	2.5	4.4	26.0	1,350	35,100

Cattle and Calves Inventory, Supply, and Disposition – New Jersey: 2020-2024

Year	Beginning inventory January 1	Calf crop	Inshipments	Marketings ¹		Farm slaughter ²	Deaths		Ending inventory following January 1
				Cattle	Calves		Cattle	Calves	
	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>
2020	28.0	9.0	2.0	8.0	4.8	0.2	0.5	0.5	25.0
2021	25.0	8.0	3.9	7.8	4.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	24.0
2022	24.0	9.0	6.5	8.5	5.0	0.1	0.4	0.5	25.0
2023	25.0	9.0	6.5	8.5	4.9	0.2	0.5	0.4	26.0
2024	26.0	9.0	4.5	9.4	4.9	0.2	0.6	0.4	24.0

¹ Includes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and State outshipments, but excludes interfarm sales within the State.

² Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments.

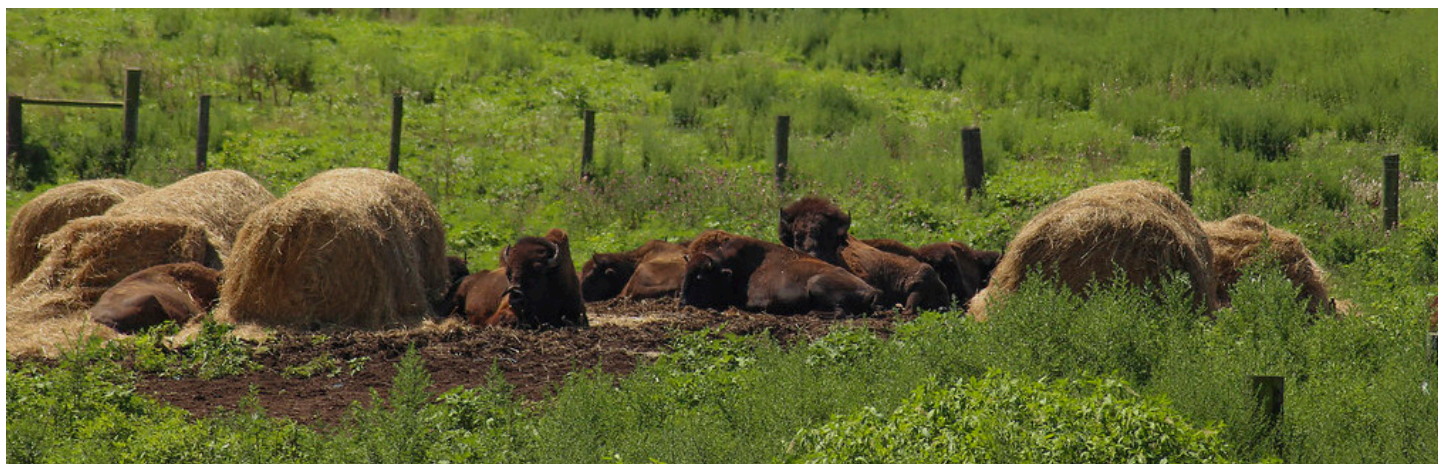
All Cattle and Calves Production and Income – New Jersey: 2020-2024

Year	Production ¹	Marketings ²	Value of Production	Cash Receipts ³	Value of Home Consumption	Gross Income
	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2020	5,014	9,866	5,042	10,324	1,069	11,393
2021	7,439	9,772	9,061	11,192	890	12,082
2022	6,165	11,015	8,719	15,027	822	15,849
2023	6,562	10,602	10,986	18,009	1,947	19,956
2024	6,787	11,714	13,196	22,740	2,196	24,936

¹ Adjustments made for changes in inventory and inshipments.

² Excludes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and interfarm sales within the State.

³ Receipts from marketings and sale of farm slaughter.



Cattle Number on Farms, January 1, by County – New Jersey: 2023-2024

County	All Cattle and Calves		Milk Cows	
	2023	2024	2023	2024
	<i>head</i>	<i>head</i>	<i>head</i>	<i>head</i>
Atlantic.....	200	200	(¹)	(¹)
Bergen.....	(D)	(D)	(¹)	(¹)
Burlington.....	1,000	1,000	(D)	(¹)
Camden.....	(D)	(D)	(¹)	(¹)
Cape May.....	200	200	(¹)	(¹)
Cumberland.....	1,100	1,100	300	300
Essex.....	(D)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Gloucester.....	2,000	2,100	700	700
Hudson.....	(D)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Hunterdon.....	3,300	3,500	400	400
Mercer.....	600	600	(D)	(D)
Middlesex.....	(D)	(D)	(¹)	(¹)
Monmouth.....	300	300	(D)	(¹)
Morris.....	300	400	(D)	(D)
Ocean.....	500	500	100	(¹)
Passaic.....	(D)	(D)	(¹)	(¹)
Salem.....	6,000	6,200	1,100	1,000
Somerset.....	1,500	1,600	(D)	(D)
Sussex.....	4,600	4,800	1,000	1,000
Union.....	(D)	(D)	(¹)	(¹)
Warren.....	3,200	3,300	300	300
Other Counties.....	200	200	300	300
New Jersey.....	25,000	26,000	4,100	4,000

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Represents zero or is included in Other Counties.

Cattle Commercial Slaughter, by Month – New Jersey: 2023-2024 ¹

Month	2023			2024		
	Number Head	Average Live Weight	Total Live Weight	Number Head	Average Live Weight	Total Live Weight
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>
January.....	4.0	1,144	4,550	4.3	1,138	4,870
February.....	3.8	1,145	4,364	4.3	1,143	4,845
March.....	4.8	1,148	5,442	4.7	1,157	5,411
April.....	4.1	1,148	4,659	4.5	1,157	5,139
May.....	4.3	1,146	4,911	4.5	1,149	5,092
June.....	4.3	1,116	4,754	4.2	1,137	4,721
July.....	3.7	1,145	4,192	4.7	1,147	5,393
August.....	4.5	1,140	5,118	4.8	1,151	5,473
September.....	4.0	1,140	4,550	4.5	1,155	5,225
October.....	4.3	1,134	4,838	4.5	1,146	5,184
November.....	4.0	1,140	4,581	4.3	1,146	4,876
December.....	4.3	1,151	4,902	4.7	1,164	5,482
Total².....	50.0	1,141	56,860	54.0	1,149	61,710

¹ Includes slaughter in federally inspected and other slaughter plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

² May not add due to rounding.

Hogs and Pigs Inventory by Class, December 1 – New Jersey: 2019-2023

Year	Breeding	Market	Weight Group				Sows farrowing ¹	Pigs per litter ¹	Pig crop ¹
			Under 50 pounds	50-119 pounds	120-179 pounds	180 pounds and over			
	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>
2019	1.0	6.5	1.3	1.9	1.5	1.8	0.8	7.00	5.6
2020	1.0	6.5	1.4	1.5	1.3	2.3	0.8	6.88	5.5
2021	1.0	5.5	1.2	1.0	1.3	2.0	0.8	6.50	5.2
2022	1.1	6.4	1.8	2.1	1.2	1.3	0.8	6.38	5.1
2023	1.0	5.0	1.1	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.0	5.60	5.6

¹ Marketing year.

Hogs and Pigs Inventory, Supply, and Disposition – New Jersey: 2019-2023

Year	Beginning inventory Dec. 1 preceding	Pig crop	Inshipments	Marketings ¹	Farm slaughter ²	Deaths	Ending inventory Dec. 1
	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>
2019	8.5	5.6	7.5	13.4	0.1	0.6	7.5
2020	7.5	5.5	5.6	10.7	-	0.4	7.5
2021	7.5	5.2	6.0	11.7	0.1	0.4	6.5
2022	6.5	5.1	4.0	7.6	0.1	0.4	7.5
2023	7.5	5.6	4.4	11.0	0.1	0.4	6.0

- Represents zero.

¹ Includes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and State outshipments, but excludes interfarm sales within the State.

² Excludes custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments.

Hogs and Pigs Production, Marketings, and Income – New Jersey: 2019-2023

[Dollar values based on data received from United States Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service.]

Year	Production ¹	Marketings ²	Value of production ³	Cash receipts ^{3 4}	Value of home consumption	Gross income
	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2019	1,015	1,195	521	609	125	734
2020	924	1,160	418	563	32	595
2021	815	1,206	778	811	34	845
2022	534	717	414	506	56	562
2023	709	1,053	386	678	34	712

¹ Adjustments made for changes in inventory and for inshipments.

² Excludes custom slaughter for use on farms where produced and interfarm sales within the State.

³ Includes allowance for higher average price of State inshipments and outshipments of feeder pigs.

⁴ Receipts from marketings and sale of farm slaughter.



Honey Number of Colonies, Yield, Production, Stocks, Price, and Value – New Jersey: 2019-2023

[Producers with 5 or more colonies.]

Year	Honey producing colonies ¹	Yield per colony	Production	Stocks on December 15 ²	Average price per pound ³	Value of production ⁴
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2019.....	15	28	420	155	4.68	1,966
2020.....	14	31	434	91	4.32	1,875
2021.....	15	35	525	158	3.44	1,806
2022.....	16	39	624	62	4.26	2,658
2023.....	15	36	540	54	7.46	4,028

¹ Honey producing colonies are the maximum number of colonies from which honey was harvested during the year. It is possible to harvest honey from colonies which did not survive the entire year.

² Stocks held by producers.

³ Average price per pound based on expanded sales.

⁴ Value of production is equal to production multiplied by average price per pound.

Milk Cows and Production, by Quarter – New Jersey: 2023-2024

Quarter	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>pounds</i>	<i>pounds</i>	<i>million pounds</i>	<i>million pounds</i>
Jan - Mar.....	4.1	4.0	5,366	5,500	22.0	22.0
Apr - Jun.....	4.0	4.0	5,500	5,500	22.0	22.0
Jul - Sep.....	3.9	3.9	5,385	5,128	21.0	20.0
Oct - Dec.....	4.0	3.8	5,250	5,263	21.0	20.0
Annual Total.....	4.0	3.9	21,500	21,538	86.0	84.0

¹ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Milk Production, Disposition, and Income – New Jersey: 2020-2024

Year	Milk Cows ¹	Milk per Cow	Total Milk Production	Disposition of Milk Produced			Prices Received ²	Gross Income ³	Value of Milk Produced ⁴
				Fed to Calves	Used for Milk, Cream and Butter	Sold			
	<i>1,000 head</i>	<i>pounds</i>	<i>million pounds</i>	<i>million pounds</i>	<i>million pounds</i>	<i>million pounds</i>	<i>dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
2020.....	5.0	20,200	101.0	2.5	0.5	98.0	17.20	16,942	17,372
2021.....	4.0	22,500	90.0	3.5	0.5	86.0	18.60	16,089	16,740
2022.....	4.0	22,000	88.0	2.5	0.5	85.0	25.30	21,632	22,264
2023.....	4.0	21,500	86.0	1.7	0.3	84.0	20.40	17,197	17,544
2024.....	3.9	21,538	84.0	1.7	0.3	82.0	21.80	17,941	18,312

¹ Average number on farms during the year.

² Prices received for all milk sold wholesale per cwt.

³ Includes value of milk used for home consumption.

⁴ Includes value of milk fed to calves.

Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Farm Size – New Jersey and United States: 2020-2024

Year	New Jersey			United States		
	Number of farms ¹	Land in farms	Average farm size	Number of farms ¹	Land in farms	Average farm size
	<i>number</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>acres</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>acres</i>
2020	9,900	710	72	1,992,200	893,110	448
2021	9,900	700	71	1,959,550	888,800	454
2022	10,000	700	70	1,900,650	879,660	463
2023	10,000	700	70	1,894,950	878,560	464
2024	9,900	700	71	1,880,000	876,460	466

¹ A farm is any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the year.

Number of Farms and Land in Farms, by Sales Class – New Jersey: 2020-2024

Economic Sales Class	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	<i>farms</i>	<i>farms</i>	<i>farms</i>	<i>farms</i>	<i>farms</i>
Number of Farms					
\$1,000 - \$9,999	6,400	6,300	6,300	6,300	6,300
\$10,000 - \$99,999	2,300	2,400	2,450	2,450	2,400
\$100,000 - \$249,999	450	450	450	450	420
\$250,000 - \$499,999	270	260	260	240	220
\$500,000 - \$999,999	200	200	220	220	220
\$1,000,000 and over	280	290	320	340	340
Total	9,900	9,900	10,000	10,000	9,900
	<i>acres</i>	<i>acres</i>	<i>acres</i>	<i>acres</i>	<i>acres</i>
Land in Farms					
\$1,000 - \$9,999	170,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000
\$10,000 - \$99,999	160,000	150,000	140,000	140,000	140,000
\$100,000 - \$249,999	100,000	90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
\$250,000 - \$499,999	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000
\$500,000 - \$999,999	80,000	80,000	70,000	70,000	70,000
\$1,000,000 and over	130,000	150,000	170,000	170,000	170,000
Total	710,000	700,000	700,000	700,000	700,000



In Memoriam of Jeff Wolfe

April 1963 - May 2025

In May of 2025, NJDA suffered a sudden and unexpected loss of our Public Information Officer, Jeff Wolfe. Jeff served the Department of Agriculture with dedication, integrity, and with a deep appreciation for agriculture. As the long-time Public Information Officer, he played an essential role in telling the story of New Jersey agriculture and the work of the Department. The Annual Report was among many projects he crafted each year, and we honor him by continuing this work in his memory. His professionalism and kindness has left a lasting impact on colleagues and partners throughout the agricultural and media community; the Department is grateful for his years of service.

He is missed, remembered, and appreciated.



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