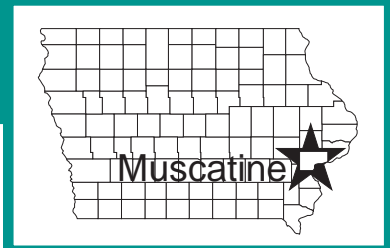


Agricultural Data for Decision Makers



Muscatine County

Number of Farms

There were 783 farms counted in Muscatine County in 1997. From 1992 to 1997, the number of farms in Muscatine County decreased by 2 percent. Over the 28 years from 1969 to 1997, farm numbers in this county declined by 38 percent, faster than the state's decline of 35 percent.

1. Number of farms.

Year	Muscatine County	State
1997	783	90,792
1992	803	96,534
1987	901	105,180
1982	1,005	115,413
1978	1,054	121,339
1974	1,135	126,104
1969	1,272	140,354

Average Farm Size

Farms in Muscatine County averaged 280 acres in 1997, 63 acres less than the state's average.

2. Average farm size (acres).

Year	Muscatine County	State
1997	280	343
1992	274	325
1987	259	301
1982	237	283
1978	232	274
1974	220	262
1969	210	239

Farm Land Use

Muscatine County had 219,001 total acres in farmland in 1997, about the same as in 1992.

3. Land in farms (acres), Muscatine County.

Year	Total	Crop-land	Wood-land	Other*
1997	219,001	189,869	12,895	16,237
1992	219,832	189,685	14,861	15,286
1987	233,026	199,021	15,874	18,131
1982	238,127	196,889	17,454	23,784

* Includes land in house lots, ponds, etc., and non-crop and non-woodland pasture.

Of the acres harvested in Muscatine County in 1997, 92 percent were either corn or soybean acres. This was lower than the 93 percent statewide average.

4. Corn and soybean acres as percentages of total acres harvested.

Year	Muscatine County		State	
	Corn	Soy-beans	Corn	Soy-beans
1997	51	41	50	43
1992	56	35	55	36
1987	53	35	50	39
1982	59	30	53	33
1978	59	28	54	32

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Livestock Profile

Hogs and Pigs

The number of farms selling hogs and pigs in Muscatine County decreased 43 percent from 1992 to 1997. Over that same period the number of hogs and pigs sold in the county decreased by 36 percent. Statewide, the number of farms with hog and pig sales decreased 46 percent while the number of hogs and pigs sold increased 2 percent.

5. Farms selling hogs and pigs and number of hogs and pigs sold, Muscatine County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	150	115,246
1992	261	181,310
1987	289	152,451
1982	421	185,168
1978	517	180,201
1974	576	178,476
1969	808	224,474

Fattened Cattle

The number of farms in Muscatine County selling fattened cattle decreased 17 percent from 1992 to 1997, while the number of fattened cattle sold decreased 10 percent. Statewide, farms selling decreased by 22 percent and cattle sales dropped by 16 percent over those five years.

6. Farms selling fattened cattle and number of fattened cattle sold, Muscatine County.

Year	Farms selling	Number sold
1997	133	6,054
1992	161	6,746
1987	215	10,529
1982	263	17,447
1978	271	18,168

(Note: Fattened cattle are defined as cattle fattened on grain or concentrates for 30 days or more and sold for slaughter.)

* Data suppressed to assure confidentiality.

Dairy Cows

The number of farms in Muscatine County with dairy cows decreased 26 percent from 1992 to 1997 and the number of dairy cows reported decreased 30 percent. Statewide, the number of farms with dairy cows decreased 28 percent and the number of dairy cows dropped 14 percent.

7. Farms with dairy cows and number of dairy cows reported, Muscatine County.

Year	Farms with Cows	Number of Cows
1997	20	1,043
1992	27	1,486
1987	36	1,441
1982	64	1,875

Poultry

A small number of farms in Muscatine County sold chickens in 1997. Four farms reported turkey sales.

8. Farms selling poultry and number of poultry sold, Muscatine County.

Year	Layers		Broilers		Turkeys	
	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold	Farms	No. sold
1997	5	567	7	1,250	4	*
1992	7	*	5	892	4	*
1987	8	847	9	836	5	57
1982	16	4,311	9	*	7	*

Sheep and Lambs

The number of farms in Muscatine County selling sheep and lambs decreased by 30 percent and there were 45 percent fewer head sold in 1997 than in 1992. Statewide, the number of farms with sheep and lamb sales decreased 36 percent and the number of head sold dropped 46 percent.

9. Farms selling sheep and lambs and number of sheep and lambs sold, Muscatine County.

Year	Farms Selling	Number Sold
1997	60	1,970
1992	86	3,579
1987	105	3,136
1982	100	2,816

Farm Operator Profile

Age

10. Percentages of farm operators by age group.

Year	Muscatine County						State					
	34 or under	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65 or over	Average age	34 or under	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65 or over	Average age
1997	8.0	20.8	23.1	25.2	22.9	53.4	9.9	23.0	23.7	21.1	22.3	52.4
1992	16.9	17.1	26.2	21.3	18.6	50.6	15.9	23.0	20.5	21.6	19.0	50.3
1987	16.4	18.3	25.3	25.2	14.8	49.7	19.3	20.2	20.7	24.0	15.7	49.3
1982	15.5	24.6	24.8	23.7	11.4	48.5	22.5	19.5	22.6	23.9	11.5	47.6
1978	17.1	25.3	24.9	22.7	10.1	47.8	21.1	19.7	25.0	23.9	10.4	47.5

Farm operators in Muscatine County in 1997 included 8.0 percent under the age of 35 and 22.9 percent 65 years of age or older. The average age of farm operators in Muscatine County was 53.4 in 1997, which was older than the statewide average.

Principal Occupation

Of the farm operators in Muscatine County in 1997, 73.1 percent claimed farming as their principal occupation, higher than the 62.9 percent state average.

11. Percentages of farm operators claiming farming as their principal occupation.

Year	Muscatine County	State
1997	73.1	62.9
1992	74.6	71.7
1987	79.3	73.5
1982	83.8	80.1
1978	87.4	80.8

Days Worked Off Farm

The percentage of farm operators working 200 or more days off the farm in 1997 was greater in Muscatine County than in the state overall.

12. Percentages of farm operators working 200 or more days off the farm.

Year	Muscatine County	State
1997	37.8	33.3
1992	36.7	28.3
1987	39.8	26.5
1982	33.8	24.2
1978	32.1	22.2

Tenure and Type of Organization

Full-owner farms are operations where the operator owns all the land he or she operates. Part-owners are those who rent some of the land they operate. Tenants rent all of the land they operate. Compared to the state, Muscatine County had a higher percentage of farms operated by full-owners.

13. Percentages of farms by tenure.

Year	Muscatine County			State		
	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant	Full-Owner	Part-Owner	Tenant
1997	49.0	36.3	14.7	47.3	36.3	16.4
1992	45.5	35.2	19.3	45.1	36.0	18.9
1987	46.9	34.3	18.8	45.9	33.5	20.7
1982	49.1	31.7	19.2	45.9	33.3	20.8
1978	32.7	32.7	19.3	45.9	32.2	21.9

Individual/family operated farms are the most common type of farm organization throughout the state. The percentage of individual/family operated farms in Muscatine County was lower than the state average in 1997, while the percentage of partnerships was the same.

14. Percentages of farms by type of organization.

Year	Muscatine County			State		
	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other	Individual/Family	Part-ner	Other
1997	80.7	9.1	10.2	83.6	9.1	7.4
1992	83.8	9.2	7.0	84.0	10.4	5.6
1987	83.8	9.2	7.0	84.8	10.5	4.7
1982	83.1	10.2	7.0	84.6	11.4	4.0
1978	84.1	12.2	3.7	85.6	11.8	2.6

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For more information on these and other topics, please call the Extension specialists listed on the cover page or visit the Extension Internet site at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/>

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Financial Profile

The sale of corn generated the greatest amount of agricultural revenue in Muscatine County in 1997, followed by soybeans.

15. Market value (\$1,000) of agricultural products sold, Muscatine County.

Year	Total sales	Hogs and pigs	Cattle and calves	Dairy products	Corn	Soybeans	Other
1997	73,835	14,051	7,597	1,800	24,025	20,131	6,231
1992	65,427	17,219	7,696	2,567	19,651	12,254	6,040
1987	54,308	16,996	9,958	2,182	12,600	10,020	2,552

In Muscatine County, sale of cattle and calves constituted a smaller percentage of total sales than in the state overall; hogs and pigs made up a smaller percentage of total sales. The sale of corn, soybeans, and hogs and pigs accounted for 79 percent of the dollars from total sales of agricultural products in Muscatine County in 1997.

16. Percent of total market value by sales of selected agricultural products.

Year	Muscatine County						State					
	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other	Hogs, pigs	Cattle, calves	Dairy	Corn	Soy-beans	Other
1997	19.0	10.3	2.4	32.5	27.3	8.4	25.4	15.5	3.4	27.0	23.1	5.6
1992	26.3	11.8	3.9	30.0	18.7	9.2	24.8	22.1	4.2	26.6	17.6	4.7
1987	31.3	18.3	4.0	23.2	18.5	4.7	27.9	23.8	4.4	22.0	17.6	4.3

Farms in Muscatine County averaged a net cash return of \$16,842 in 1997, \$15,863 less than the state average. Of the farms in Muscatine County, 52 percent experienced a net cash gain that year, compared with 66 percent statewide.

17. Average net cash return per farm.

Year	Muscatine County			State		
	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss	Net Cash Return	Net Gain	Net Loss
1997	\$16,842	\$41,745	\$9,910	\$32,705	\$54,248	\$9,348
1992	15,391	28,608	7,613	22,718	37,419	9,381
1987	10,122	26,132	9,011	20,412	31,660	7,521

(Note: Net cash return is derived by subtracting total operating expenditures from the gross market value of agricultural products sold. Net cash return is that of the farm unit rather than the net farm income of the operator since sales and expenses of the partners, landlords, and contractors are included.)