



Northern New York Agricultural Development Program FACT SHEET

Six-County Regional Profile

Northern New York (NNY) is a six-county region that includes (from west to east) Jefferson, Lewis, St. Lawrence, Franklin, Clinton and Essex Counties. The region was designated for agricultural research projects in the 1960s when Dr. Robert F. Lucey, an agriculture professor at Cornell University, saw the region's potential to become an strong agricultural producer.

The 2002 Census of Agriculture data for NNY's six counties provides a snapshot of agricultural production here. NNY has 1,292,493 acres of land spread across 4,572 farms. For 2,966 farm operators, farming is their primary occupation. The average age of all principal operators across the region is 53.38 years old.

Most farms in Clinton, Essex and St. Lawrence Counties have between 50 and 179 acres; in Franklin, Jefferson and Lewis Counties, the greatest number of farms have between 180 and 499 acres. All six counties have some farms with less than 10 acres and some with more than 1,000 acres. The region's total market value of production is more than \$406.5 million.

This fact sheet includes tables showing:

- number of farms, land in farms & average size of farm
- percentage of acres in cropland, pasture, woodland...
- market value of production
- livestock numbers and acres in various crops
- number of farms by size of farm sales
- annual milk production by county and per cow,
- numbers for vegetable, honey, and maple production, and
- other interesting agricultural statistics for NNY.