Modern Agriculture

Policy, Production, and Prosperity

Agriculture & the New Deal

- Agricultural Adjustment Administration – 1933 & 1938
- Civilian Conservation Corps – 1933
- Farm Credit Administration – 1933
- Rural Electrification Administration – 1936
  - Reorganized as division of USDA - 1939

Post-New Deal Agriculture

- Advancements
  - Steam, gasoline, diesel & electricity
  - Chemical fertilizers
  - Soil analysis
  - Natural Resource conservation
  - Selective breeding – plants & animals
  - Improved storage, processing, & transportation
Other Farm Policies

- Food Security Act of 1985 - Reagan
  - Designed to govern farm policy for 5 years
- Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 - Bush
- Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform Act (FAIR) – 1996 - Clinton
- Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 - Bush
### Farm business average net cash income forecasts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Farm size:</th>
<th>Average 2000</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003/04</th>
<th>2003/04</th>
<th>Share of U.S. farm businesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2003/04</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial farms</td>
<td>198,500</td>
<td>198,200</td>
<td>199,600</td>
<td>200,600</td>
<td>-3.2</td>
<td>7.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate farms</td>
<td>11,500</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>12,900</td>
<td>12,900</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>43.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural residence farms</td>
<td>-4,400</td>
<td>-2,000</td>
<td>-2,900</td>
<td>-2,900</td>
<td>-46.7</td>
<td>27.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>All farm businesses/</td>
<td>41,500</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>37,900</td>
<td>39,800</td>
<td>-2.2</td>
<td>14.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

F = forecast. 1/ Commercial and intermediate farms only.

Source: Economic Research Service, USDA.

### Number of farms in Texas

![Number of farms in Texas graph]

#### Texas Statistics*
- Average farm size decreased
- Full size farms decreased
- Market values increased
  - Crop sales 31% of market value
  - Livestock sales 69% of market value
- Average market value of products sold per farm increased

*Based on 1997 Census of Agriculture
U.S. Rank

- 2nd in total value of agricultural sales
- 1st in total value of livestock & poultry
- 5th in total value of crops including nursery

Where does your county rank?

[1997 Census of Agriculture]