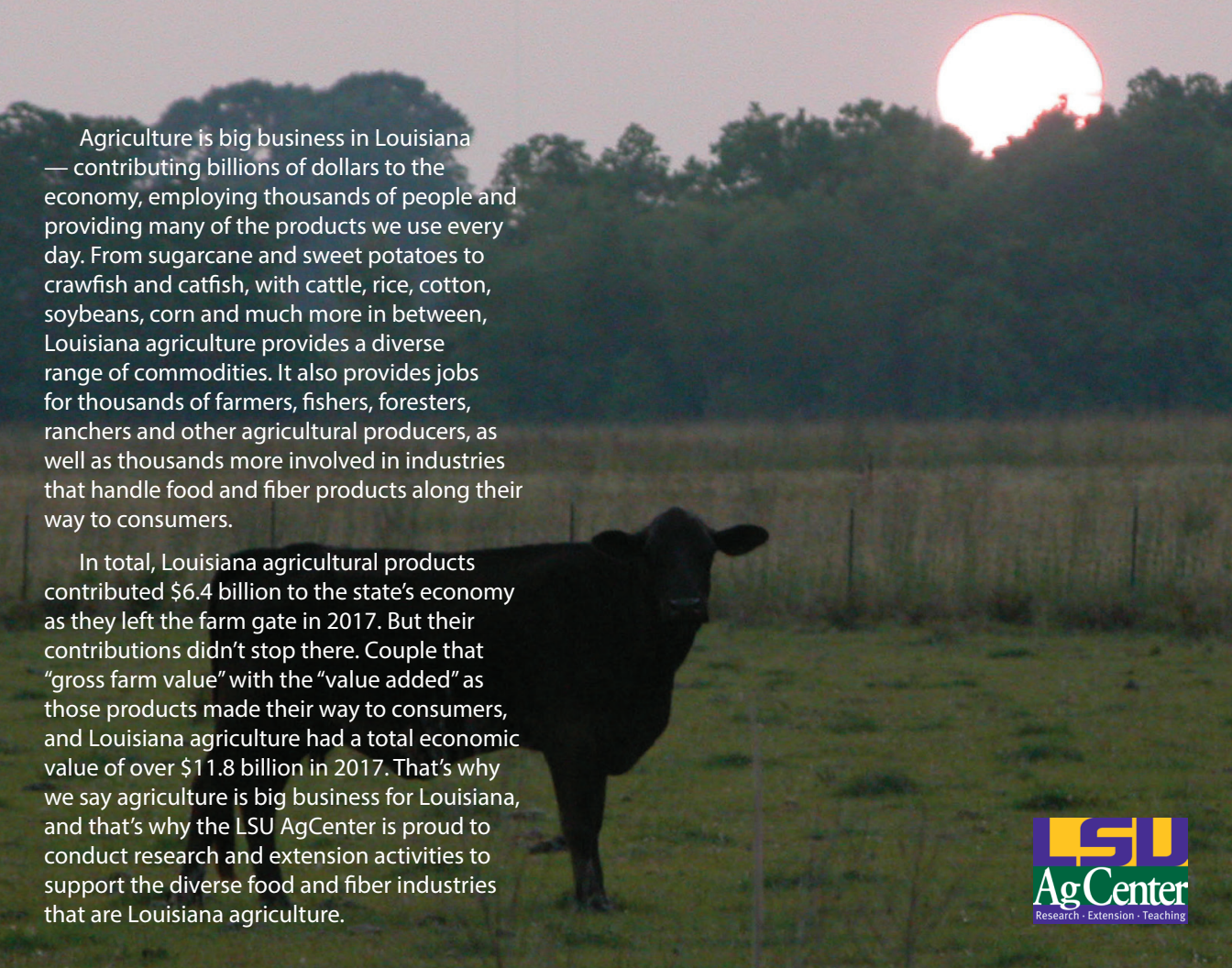


# HIGHLIGHTS OF LOUISIANA Agriculture 2017



*Forestry, crops, animals, fisheries and  
more add up to multibillion dollar  
industries for state*





Agriculture is big business in Louisiana — contributing billions of dollars to the economy, employing thousands of people and providing many of the products we use every day. From sugarcane and sweet potatoes to crawfish and catfish, with cattle, rice, cotton, soybeans, corn and much more in between, Louisiana agriculture provides a diverse range of commodities. It also provides jobs for thousands of farmers, fishers, foresters, ranchers and other agricultural producers, as well as thousands more involved in industries that handle food and fiber products along their way to consumers.

In total, Louisiana agricultural products contributed \$6.4 billion to the state's economy as they left the farm gate in 2017. But their contributions didn't stop there. Couple that "gross farm value" with the "value added" as those products made their way to consumers, and Louisiana agriculture had a total economic value of over \$11.8 billion in 2017. That's why we say agriculture is big business for Louisiana, and that's why the LSU AgCenter is proud to conduct research and extension activities to support the diverse food and fiber industries that are Louisiana agriculture.



# Louisiana 2017 Highlights

## Louisiana's Top 10 Commodities

Commodity	Total Value
Forestry	\$3.8 billion
Poultry	\$1.8 billion
Sugarcane	\$998.3 million
Soybeans	\$798.2 million
Marine fisheries	\$664.4 million
Aquaculture	\$552.9 million
Cattle and calves	\$463.8 million
Horses	\$414.4 million
Rice	\$372.7 million
Feed grain crops	\$372.1 million



# About Louisiana agriculture: Farms and farmers

Louisiana land in farms	7,700,000 acres
Land in forests	14,984,083 acres
Total land in state	22,684,083 acres
Average size of a farm	291 acres
Average land holding by timber owner	68 acres

## About Louisiana farms

Number of farms	26,500
With less than \$5,000 in sales	55.8%
With \$5,000 to \$99,999 in sales	32.5%
With \$100,000 to \$499,999 in sales	5.0%
With \$500,000 or more in sales	6.7%

Family farms	87.3%
Partnerships	6.4%
Corporations	6.3%

## About Louisiana farmers

Average age	
All operators	56.5
Principal operator	58.5

### Principal operators

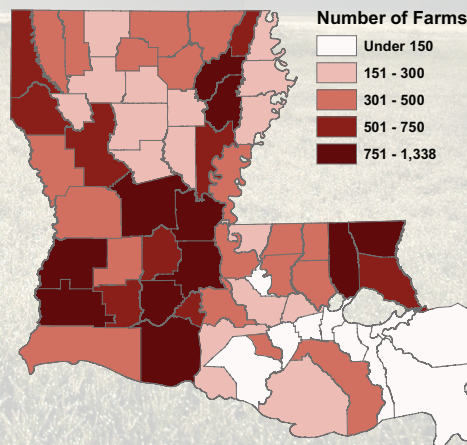
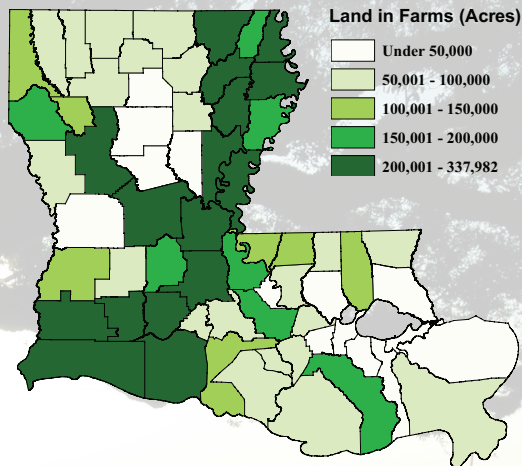
Farming is primary occupation	43.2%
Farming is secondary occupation	56.8%

African-American	8.4%
Caucasian	90.1%
Other	1.5%

Female	12.3%
Male	87.7%

**Average value of agricultural  
production per farm**

**\$106,542**



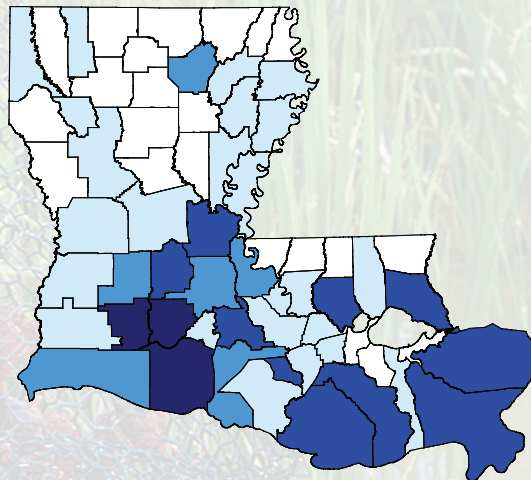


# Louisiana Aquaculture

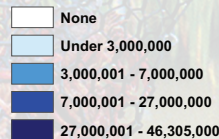
- 2,700 operations
- 222,000 acres of production

*Aquaculture includes crawfish, catfish, alligators, oysters, soft-shell crabs, turtles and minnows and other bait fish.*

**Total value of Louisiana  
aquaculture production  
in 2017:  
\$552.9 million**



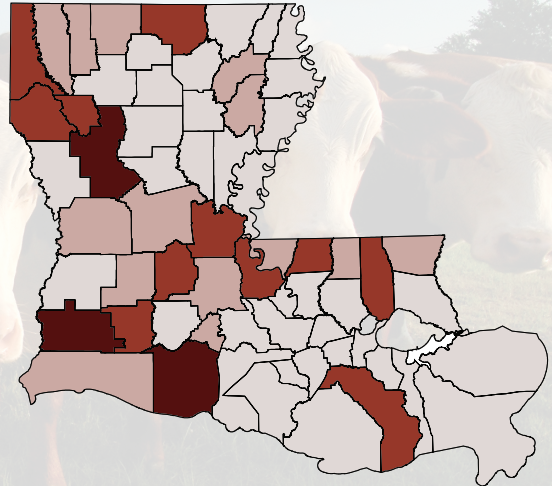
**Aquaculture Gross Farm Value (\$)**



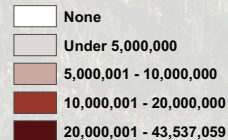


# Louisiana Beef

**Total value of Louisiana beef  
production in 2017:  
\$463.8 million**



**Beef Gross Farm Value (\$)**



- 559,000 cattle and calves
- 11,500 farms and ranches

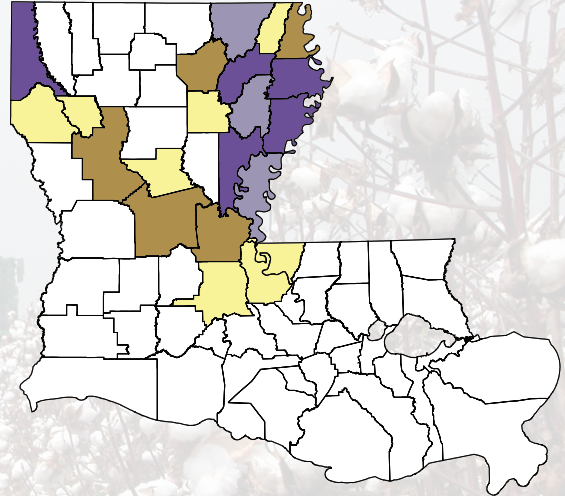


# Louisiana Cotton

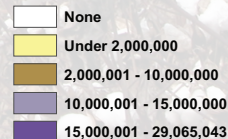


- 197 million pounds (410,000 bales) produced
- 212,000 acres harvested
- 311 producers

**Total value of Louisiana cotton  
production in 2017:  
\$210.1 million**



**Cotton Gross Farm Value (\$)**

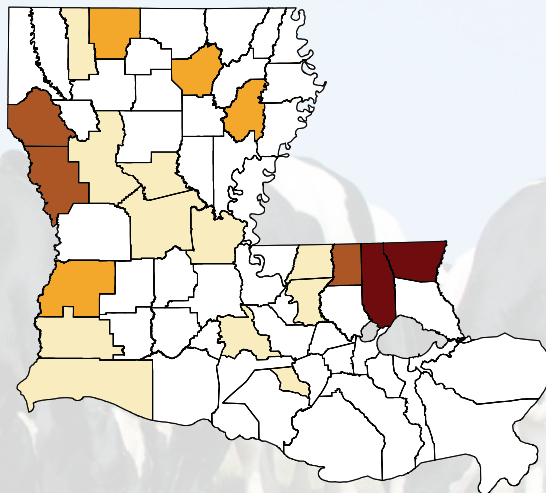


# Louisiana Dairy

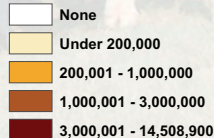
- 156 million pounds of milk produced
- 11,200 dairy cows
- 101 Grade A dairy herds



**Total value of Louisiana dairy production in 2017:  
\$83.9 million**



**Dairy Gross Farm Value (\$)**

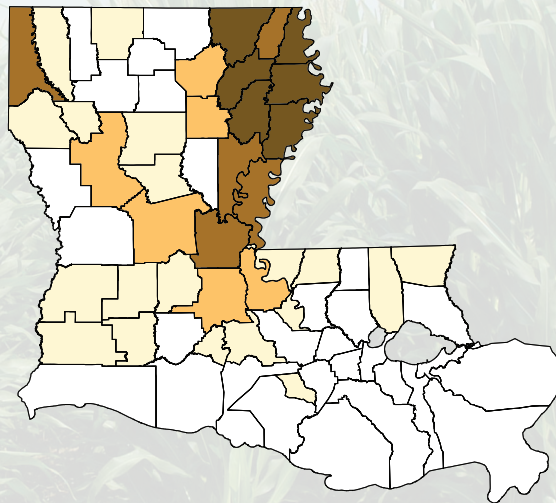




# Louisiana Feed Grains

- 90.8 million bushels produced
- 498,000 acres harvested
- 1,282 producers

**Total value of Louisiana feed  
grain production in 2017:  
\$372.1 million**



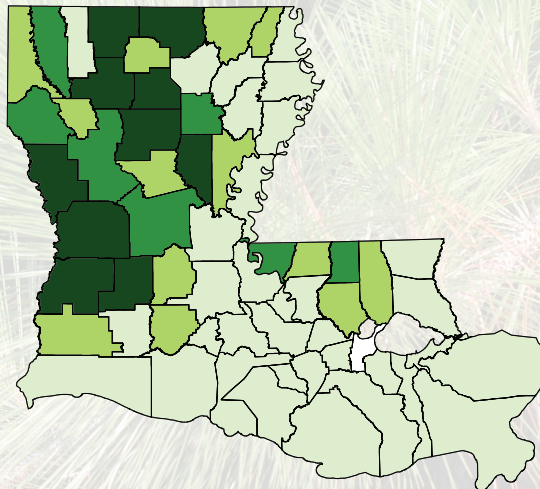
*Feed grains include corn,  
grain sorghum and oats.*



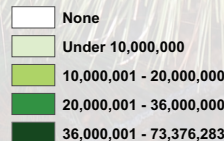
# Louisiana Forestry

- 14.9 million acres of forests in Louisiana
- 150,000 forest landowners

**Total value of Louisiana forestry  
production in 2017:  
\$3.8 billion**



**Forestry Gross Farm Value (\$)**

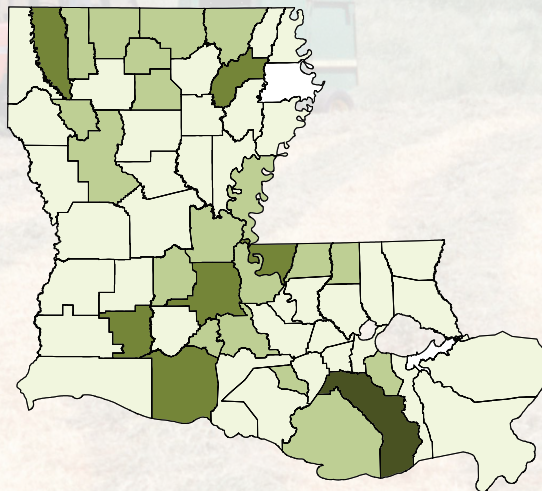




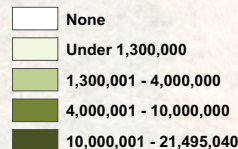
# Louisiana Hay

- 1.2 million tons produced
- 419,000 acres harvested
- 3,300 producers

**Total value of Louisiana hay  
production in 2017:  
\$139.1 million**



**Hay Gross Farm Value (\$)**



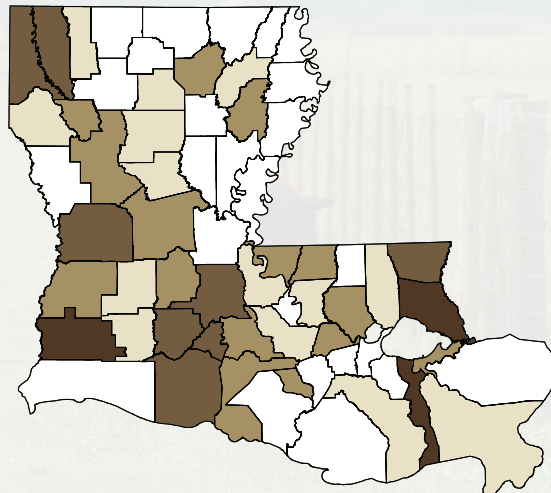
# Louisiana Horses



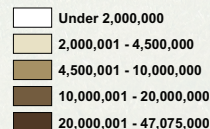
- **124,000 horses**
  - 21,000 race horses
  - 24,000 show horses
- **44,000 horse owners**

## Total value of Louisiana horse industry in 2017: \$414.4 million

- More than \$200 million economic impact from horse racing industry
- More than \$100 million economic contribution from show horse industry
- Total economic effects estimated to be \$2 billion



Horse Gross Farm Value (\$)



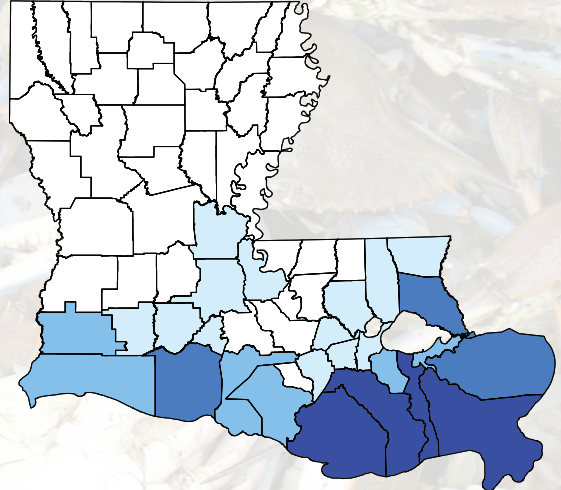


# Louisiana Marine Fisheries

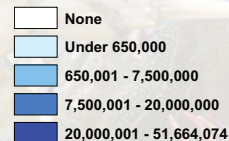
- **1.2 billion pounds total marine catch in Louisiana**

- 97.5 million pounds shrimp
- 1.1 billion pounds menhaden
- 40.1 million pounds crab
- 12.6 million pounds commercial finfish

**Total value of Louisiana marine fisheries in 2016\*:  
\$664.4 million**



**Fisheries Gross Farm Value (\$)**



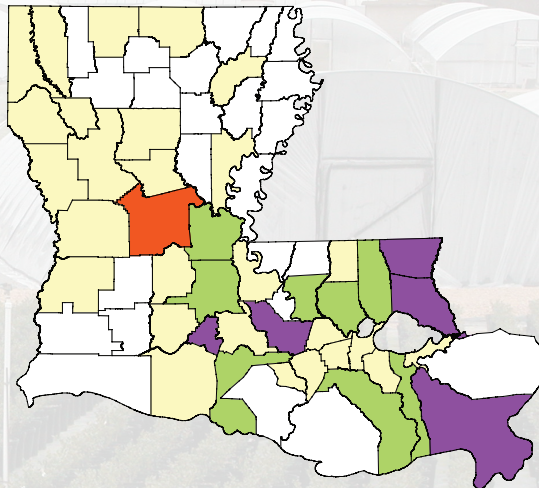
*\*Marine fisheries information is one year after harvest season due to reporting requirements.*

# Louisiana Nursery Crops

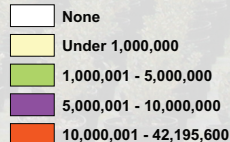


- 7,000 acres in nursery crop production
- 600 nursery operations in Louisiana

**Total value of Louisiana nursery  
crop production in 2017:  
\$166 million**



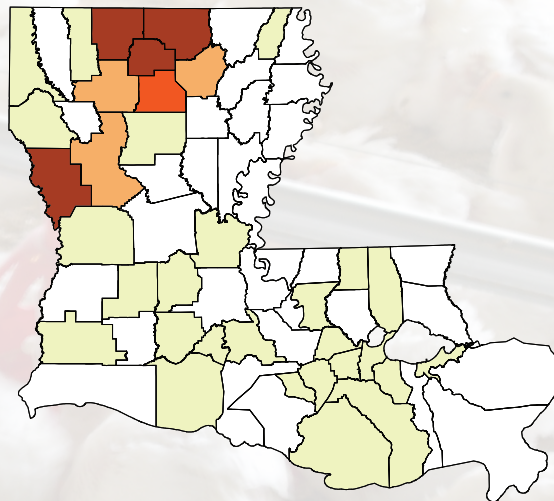
**Nursery Gross Farm Value (\$)**





# Louisiana Poultry

**Total value of Louisiana poultry  
production in 2017:  
\$1.8 billion**

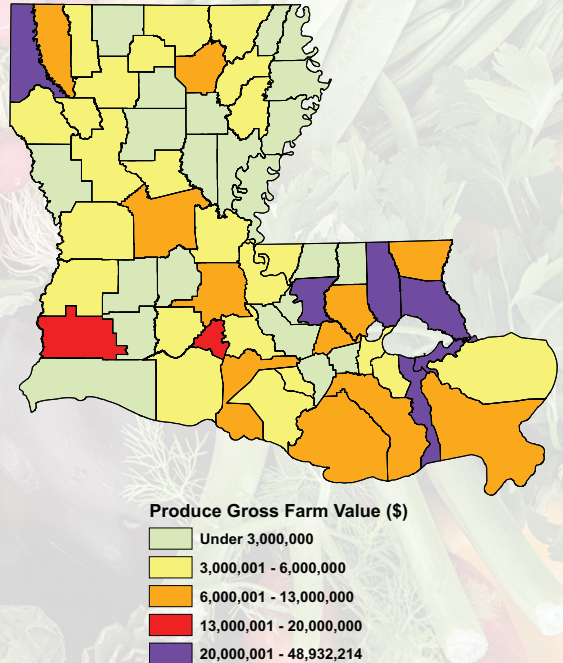


- 881 million pounds of broiler meat produced
- 626 broiler producers
- 263 million edible eggs produced
- 811 edible egg producers

# Louisiana Produce

- 35,000 acres in commercial production
- 7,400 commercial producers
- 634,000 home gardens

**Total value of Louisiana produce  
in 2017:  
\$596.8 million**

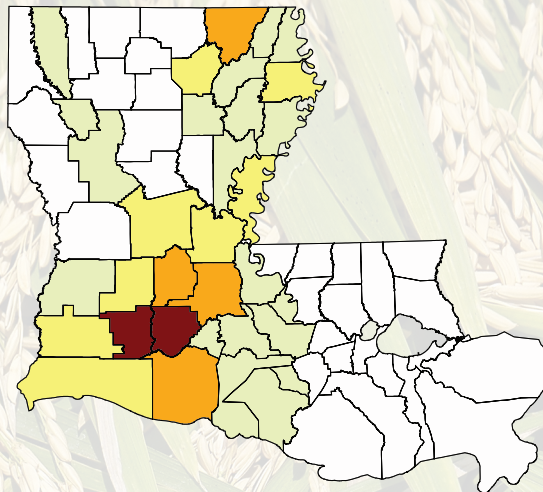


*Produce includes commercial vegetables, greenhouse vegetables, fruit crops, pecans and home gardens.*

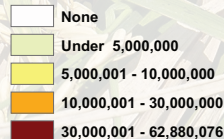


# Louisiana Rice

**Total value of Louisiana rice  
production in 2017:  
\$372.7 million**



**Rice Gross Farm Value (\$)**

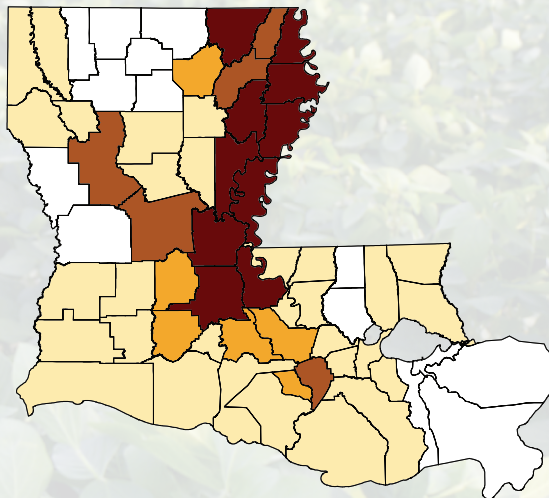


- **2.7 billion pounds of rice produced**
- **390,000 acres harvested**
- **859 producers**

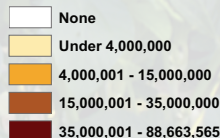
# Louisiana Soybeans

- 68.9 million bushels produced
- 1.29 million acres harvested
- 2,346 producers

**Total value of Louisiana soybean production in 2017:  
\$798.2 million**



**Soybean Gross Farm Value (\$)**



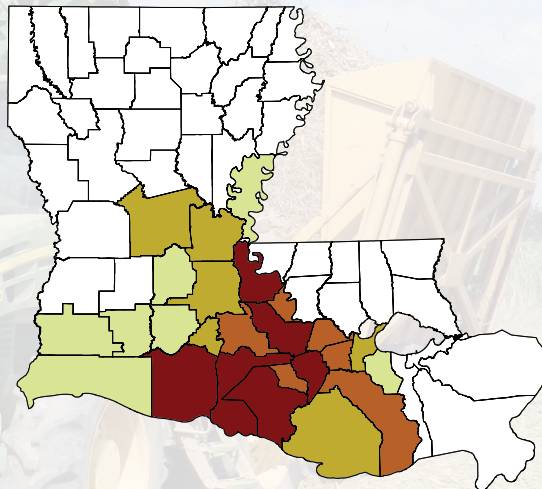


# Louisiana Sugarcane



- 1.8 million tons (3.7 billion pounds) of raw sugar produced
- 78 million gallons molasses
- 439,000 acres harvested
- 439 producers

**Total value of Louisiana  
sugarcane production in 2017:  
\$998.3 million**

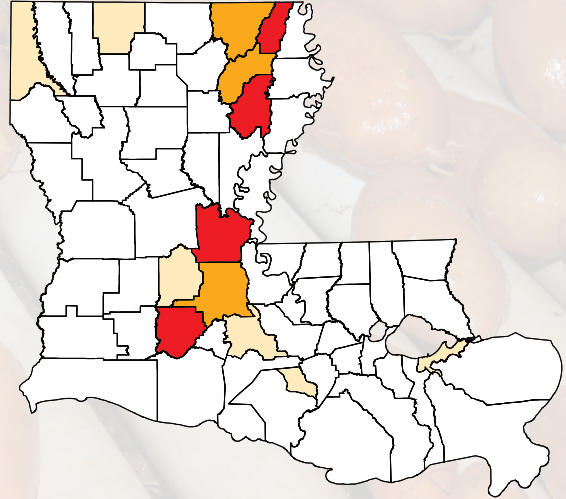


**Sugarcane Gross Farm Value (\$)**

None
Under 4,000,000
4,000,001 - 20,000,000
20,000,001 - 40,000,000
40,000,001 - 72,670,473

# Louisiana Sweet Potatoes

**Total value of Louisiana sweet  
potato production in 2017:  
\$92.6 million**



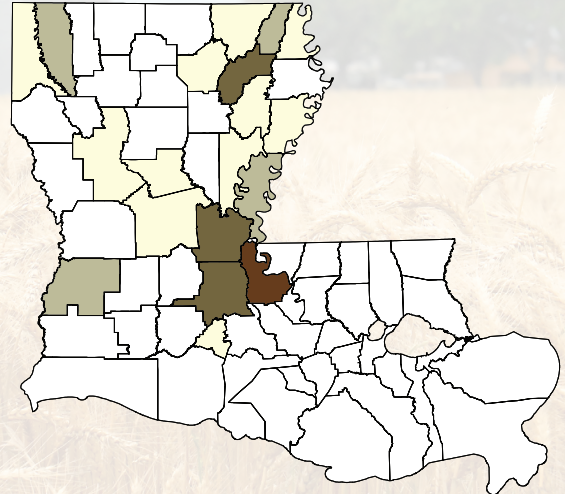
- **3.9 million bushels produced**
- **9,193 acres harvested**
- **47 producers**



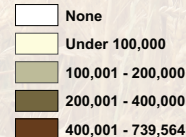
# Louisiana Wheat

- 605,000 bushels produced
- 13,931 acres harvested
- 58 producers

**Total value of Louisiana wheat  
production in 2017:  
\$3.0 million**



**Wheat Gross Farm Value (\$)**



# Louisiana 2017 Progress Report

## Plant Commodities

Commodity	Gross Farm Value	Value Added	Total Value
Cotton	\$168,069,500	\$42,017,375	\$210,086,875
Feed Grain Crops	\$316,713,136	\$55,424,799	\$372,137,935
Forestry	\$938,095,763	\$2,814,287,288	\$3,752,383,051
Fruit Crops	\$41,235,986	\$14,432,595	\$55,668,581
Greenhouse Vegetables	\$2,323,429	\$813,200	\$3,136,629
Hay, Sold	\$118,373,580	\$20,715,376	\$139,088,956
Home Gardens	\$324,361,728	\$0	\$324,361,728
Nursery Stock and Ornamentals	\$107,122,960	\$58,917,628	\$166,040,588
Other Oilseed	\$21,116	\$1,056	\$22,172
Peanuts	\$1,930,740	\$289,611	\$2,220,351
Pecans	\$9,200,492	\$2,530,135	\$11,730,627
Rice	\$279,612,118	\$93,110,835	\$372,722,953
Sod Production	\$31,232,736	\$23,424,552	\$54,657,288
Soybeans	\$679,352,072	\$118,886,613	\$798,238,685
Sugarcane	\$589,286,573	\$408,964,882	\$998,251,455
Sweet Potatoes	\$52,897,345	\$39,673,009	\$92,570,354
Vegetables, Commercial	\$79,429,379	\$107,229,662	\$186,659,041
Wheat	\$2,582,206	\$451,886	\$3,034,092
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,741,840,858</b>	<b>\$3,801,170,502</b>	<b>\$7,543,011,361</b>

## Animal Commodities

Commodity	Gross Farm Value	Value Added	Total Value
Cattle and Calves	\$412,236,571	\$51,529,571	\$463,766,142
Milk	\$32,142,486	\$51,749,402	\$83,891,888
Horses	\$373,289,430	\$41,061,837	\$414,351,267
Poultry	\$904,878,574	\$882,256,610	\$1,787,135,184
Rabbits	\$112,556	\$11,818	\$124,374
Quail/Pheasant	\$43,332	\$4,767	\$48,099
Sheep	\$989,628	\$113,807	\$1,103,435
Goats	\$2,040,049	\$255,006	\$2,295,055
Swine	\$1,145,253	\$143,157	\$1,288,410
Exotic Animals	\$103,500	\$10,868	\$114,368
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,726,981,379</b>	<b>\$1,027,136,843</b>	<b>\$2,754,118,222</b>

## Fisheries and Wildlife Commodities

Commodity	Gross Farm Value	Value Added	Total Value
Aquaculture	\$330,099,746	\$222,817,329	\$552,917,075
Fisheries			
Freshwater	\$17,029,540	\$14,900,848	\$31,930,388
Marine	\$336,412,661	\$328,002,344	\$664,415,005
Fur Animals	\$57,948	\$14,487	\$72,435
Alligators (wild)	\$3,217,338	\$1,769,536	\$4,986,874
Hunting Lease Enterprise	\$193,398,948	\$16,438,911	\$209,837,859
Honey	\$5,190,399	\$1,297,600	\$6,487,999
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$885,406,580</b>	<b>\$585,241,055</b>	<b>\$1,470,647,635</b>

<b>Total of All Commodities</b>	<b>\$6,354,228,817</b>	<b>\$5,413,548,400</b>	<b>\$11,767,777,218</b>
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## **Links of interest:**

**LSU AgCenter**  
[www.LSUAgCenter.com](http://www.LSUAgCenter.com)

**Louisiana Summary of Agriculture  
and Natural Resources**  
[www.LSUAgCenter.com/agsummary](http://www.LSUAgCenter.com/agsummary)

**Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry**  
[www.ldaf.state.la.us](http://www.ldaf.state.la.us)

**Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries**  
[www.wlf.louisiana.gov](http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov)



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The contents of this document are based on the 2017 Louisiana Summary of Agriculture and Natural Resources, LSU AgCenter publication No. 2382, and research by Kurt Guidry, Ph.D., Professor, and Huizhen “Jane” Niu, Research Associate, Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, LSU AgCenter.

**William B. Richardson, LSU Vice President for Agriculture  
Louisiana State University Agricultural Center  
Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station  
Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service  
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