

Non-Traditional Agriculture is growing in Jo Daviess County

One of the indicators of change in agricultural production is the size of farms located in the county. Very small farms are more likely to produce non-traditional crops such as fruits and vegetables, Christmas trees, and grapes, and livestock such as goats and llamas. Since 2002, the number of very small farms grew by 200%, while larger farms shrunk on average 9%. At the same time very large farms grew by 13%



natural and organic foods and other products can be found throughout the summer months.

In all, Jo Daviess County farmers own and manage nearly 70% of all acres of land in the county, including cropland, pastures, fallow land, commercial fruit and vegetable gardens and tree farms.

The county has 11 vineyards and 3 wineries, making it the 4th highest grape producer in Illinois.

Over 18,000 acres are managed within the federal CRP program.

Farms total	2007	2009
# of farms	1,016	989
Land in farms*	281,457	264,493
Avg. size*	277	267
Median size*	101	145
Acres in CRP (* Acres)	24,046	18,511

Farms by Size	2007	2002
1 to 9 acres	85	30
10 to 49 acres	261	211
50 to 179 acres	305	341
180 to 499 acres	242	273
500 to 999 acres	62	88
1,000 + acres	61	47

Those farms which produce horticultural products, such as trees, garden plants, flowers and landscaping have also increased.

According to the Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau, there are 23 such farms, and a total of seven farmer's markets in which a wide variety of

Reproduced in 2011 by the Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau of the to increase awareness of the economic inputs and impact of agriculture.

Jo Daviess County lies in the Northwest corner of Illinois, bordered on the north by the state of Wisconsin, and on its west by the Mississippi River and the state of Iowa. The population of around 22,000 lives on small and large farms, in rural locations and in ten small communities and two lake resort communities

Agriculture in Jo Daviess County Value and Economic Impact



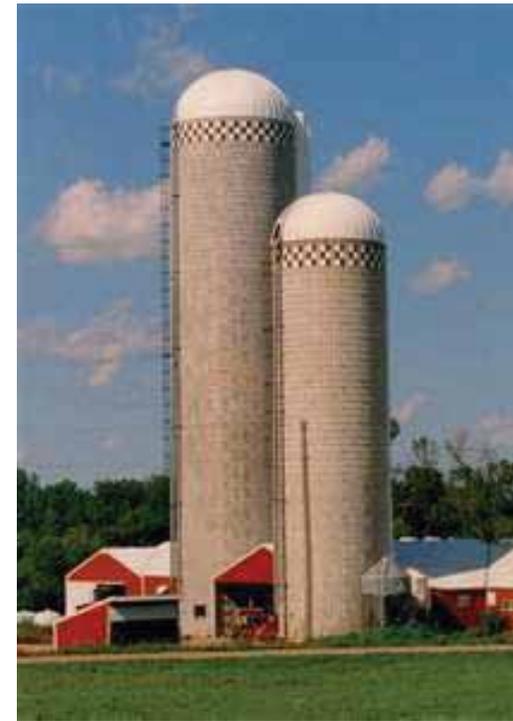
Agriculture is an important economic force in Jo Daviess County.

Jo Daviess County was settled in the late 18th century by traders and trappers and by the time of its incorporation in 1827 was a destination for adventurous pioneers who first broke agricultural ground here.

Agriculture leads the county in most economic activities and is a solid footing in the foundation of our historic and cultural heritage.

Today the county's agriculture base includes hundreds of family-owned farms and related business and industry that supports agriculture such as trucking, equipment sales and service, feed and seed sales, and more.

Jo Daviess County ranks among the highest in the state of Illinois in the production of certain agricultural products, including number of cattle, bushels of grain, and production of alfalfa, and remains a strong agricultural economy.



How important is agriculture to the county's economy?

Local farms employ over 730 people in full and part-time positions Another 390 jobs are reported in ag-related businesses.

Farm production expenses and farm and agricultural business payrolls are all on the rise, increasing the circulation of dollars throughout the county as farmers manage their farms and workers spend their paychecks on homes, and living expenses in the county.

Jo Daviess County leads the state in many areas of agricultural production.

- #1 in alfalfa production
- #1 in number of all cattle
- #1 in number of beef cows
- #2 in production of oats
- #3 in number of acres in CRP
- #4 in total number of dairy cows
- One of only four Illinois counties with more than 40,000 head of cattle
- #4 in production of grapes

In total, \$120 million in crops were sold in Jo Daviess County in 2009.

Product	2009
Alfalfa	101,010 tons
Oats	196,000 bushel
Corn	14,657,800 bushel
Soybeans	1,720,400 bushel

The market value of all grains and livestock sold in Jo Daviess County in 2009 totaled \$135,390,000.



Jo Daviess County has a strong and productive dairy and livestock industry.

In 2010, the county had 67 dairy farms with 7,200 head of dairy cattle, producing over 135,867,000 pounds of milk and totaling over \$23,790,000 in sales of milk and dairy products.

The dairy industry alone accounts for an additional \$41 million in economic activity in the county every year.

The county contains a total of 58,800 head of cattle and calves, with an overall value of \$51,744,000.

Who Lives in Jo Daviess County?

- 1,568 people live on 1,016 farms
- 15,882 live in the rural areas of the county, including resort communities
- 6,407 people live in 10 municipalities:

Apple River
 East Dubuque
 Elizabeth
 Hanover
 Galena (county seat)
 Menominee
 Nora
 Scales Mound
 Stockton
 Warren

Farms and agri-business stimulate economic activity.

Over \$90 million in farm production expenses is generated each year by farms, large and small, in Jo Daviess County, the majority of which is spent within the county for goods and services necessary for operations.

If you added all of the various crop values, livestock production, and payroll costs, the total comes to well over \$178 million.

Using a conservative average multiplier of just 1.65, agriculture in Jo Daviess County accounts for \$237.6 million of economic activity every year in the county.

Twenty cents out of every dollar spent on food goes to the farmer. The other eighty cents is spent on labor, packaging, transportation, advertising, etc.



Agricultural land contributes to the county tax base.

In 2006, agricultural land made up 28% of the total Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) in the county, more than double that of commercial and industrial land combined. 9.7% of personal income tax and 8.5% of all payroll taxes come from agricultural business.



Agriculture provides jobs

Over 730 people are employed in either full or part-time positions on farms throughout Jo Daviess County. A common multiplier for farm labor (1.86) would indicate that an additional 600 jobs are likely created as a direct result of farm labor.

The payroll for 2007 for farm laborers was just over \$6.5 million. But that number translates into even more in the county's economy. The labor multiplier average of 1.66 translates those paychecks into an additional \$4 million circulating in the county as a result of the payrolls in the livestock industry alone.