

Measuring the Economic Impact of Agritourism on Farms

Greg Thessen

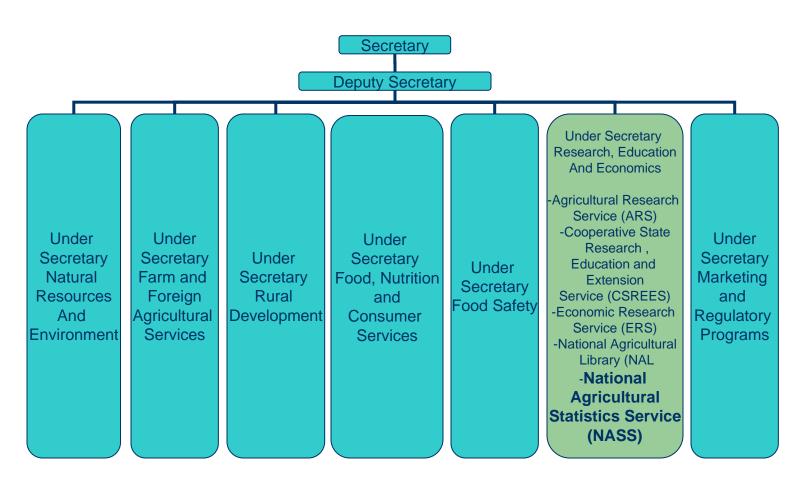
Director, Iowa Field Office
USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service





NASS an Agency within USDA

USDA Organizational Chart

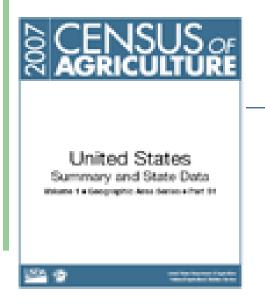




The NASS Mission

 To provide timely, accurate, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture

NASS issues about 500 statistical reports each year and about 9,000 reports and news releases from its 46 field offices.



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Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin

NASS is also responsible for conducting and publishing the Census of Agriculture every 5 years.



Conducting the Census of Agriculture

- 3.2 million forms mailed in late December 2007
- 85.2 percent response rate
- Statistical adjustments for non-response/coverage
- Results published February 4, 2009
- The Census of Agriculture provides the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every county in the nation
 - > Farm Numbers
 - > Economics
 - Demographics



Conducting the Census of Agriculture

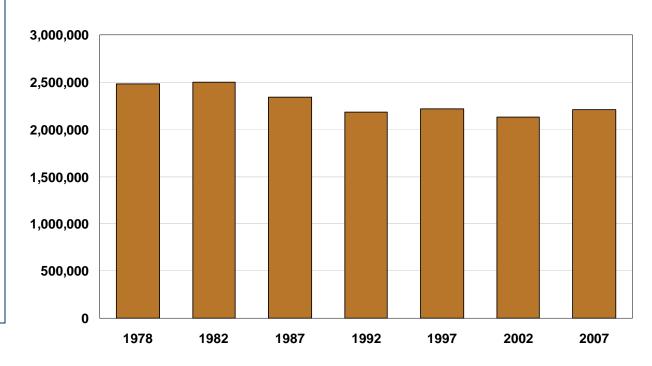
Counted 2.2 million farms & ranches

Farm Definition:

Any place from which \$1,000 of agricultural products were produced and sold, or would normally have been sold, during the census year.

Government payments are included.

Farm Numbers, United States





What is Agritourism?

 Agritourism is a style of <u>vacation</u> that normally takes place on a <u>farm</u> or <u>ranch</u>. This may include the chance to help with farming and ranching tasks during the visit. ... From Wikipedia

What makes an Agritourism farm?

 An Agritourism farm is any land based farm or business that is open to the public. These specialized agritourism destinations generally offer things to see, things to do, and produce or gifts to buy, and are open to the public at least some parts of the year.

...from http://iowaagritourism.com

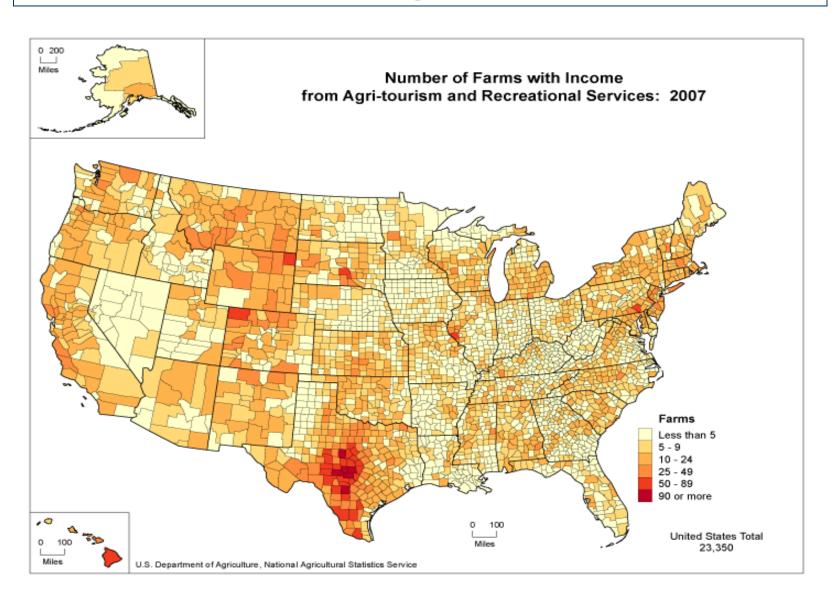


What did we ask on the 2007 Census form about agri-tourism?

SECTION 25 INCOME FROM FARM-RELATED SOURCES				
Report amount received before taxes and expenses in 2007.				
1.	Customwork and other agricultural services provided for farmers	None		Dollars
	and others, such as plowing, planting, spraying, harvesting, preparation of products for market, etc. Exclude if customwork was an entirely separate business from your agricultural operation		\$.00
2.	Payments received from cash rent or share payments from renting out farmland or payments from lease of allotments. Include			
	payments for livestock pastured on a per-head basis, per-month basis, AUM basis, etc		\$.00.
3.	Sales of forest products. Include timber, firewood, etc. Exclude sales of Christmas trees, short rotation woody crops, and maple products 0994		\$.00.
4.	Agri-tourism and recreational services, such as farm or winery tours, hay rides, hunting, fishing, etc		\$.00.
5.	Patronage dividends and refunds from cooperatives		\$.00
6.	Crop and livestock insurance payments received. Exclude payments received from casualty insurance, vehicle liability, blanket policies, and operator dwelling insurance		\$.00.
7.	Other income which is closely related to the agricultural operation. Include renting and leasing farm machinery and trucks, renting and leasing of livestock, animal boarding, tobacco quota buyouts and settlements, state fuel tax refunds, farm-generated energy, etc. Specify below.			
	1403		\$.00.

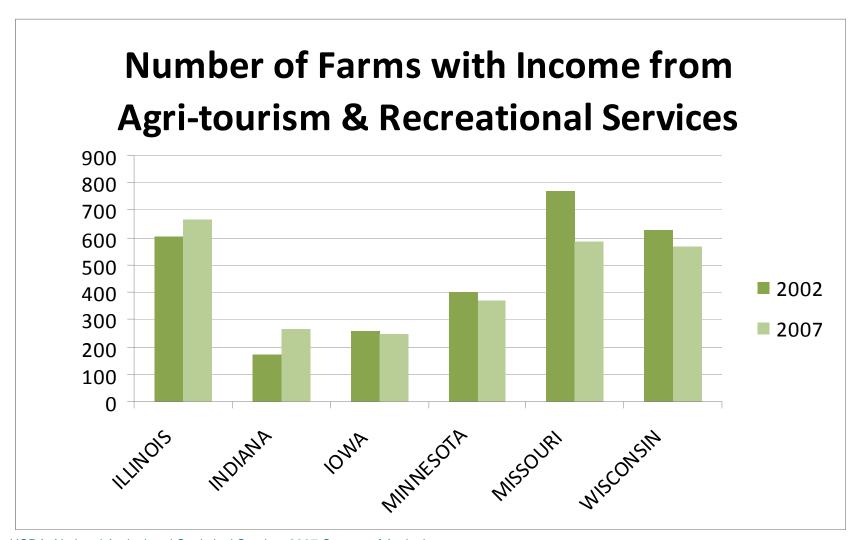


23,350 farms w/ Agri-tourism income



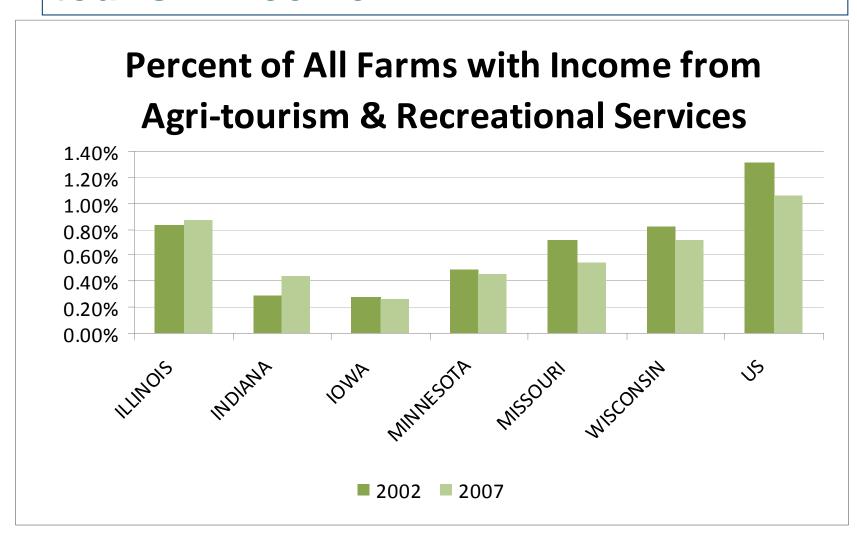


"I" states at or above 2002



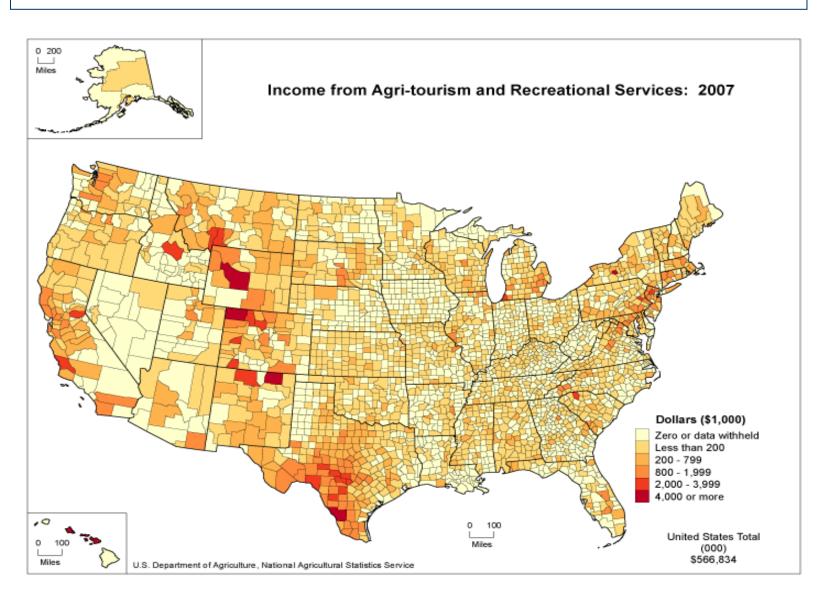


Small percentage of farms have agritourism income



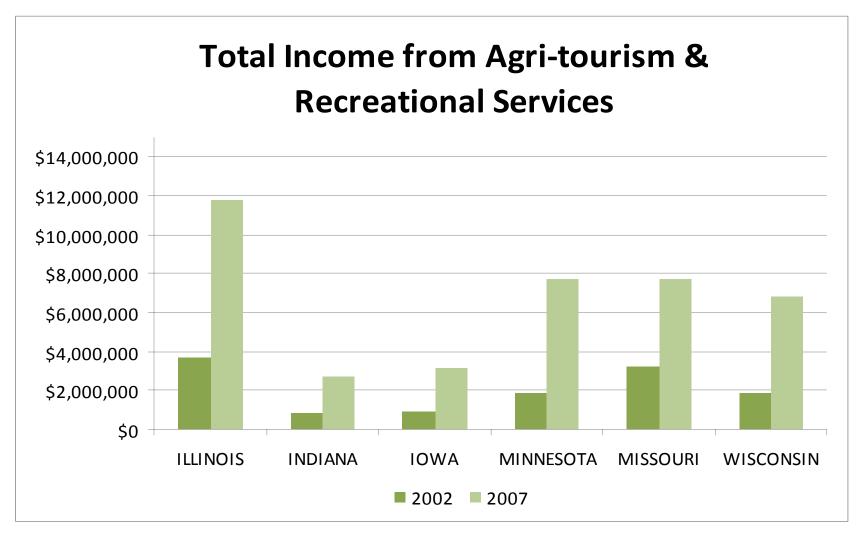


Over \$566 Million in Income



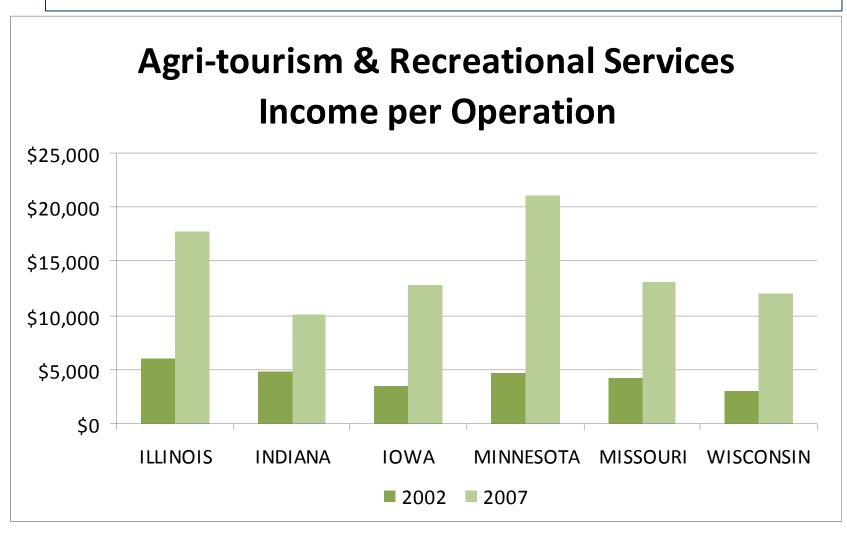


Large Increases from 2002



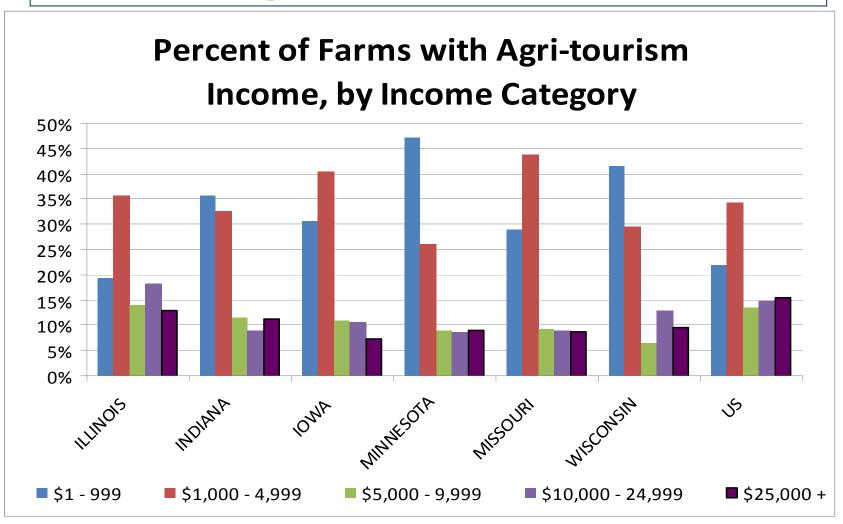


Income per Farm more than Doubled from 2002





50% or more of Farms have less than \$5,000 of agri-tourism income



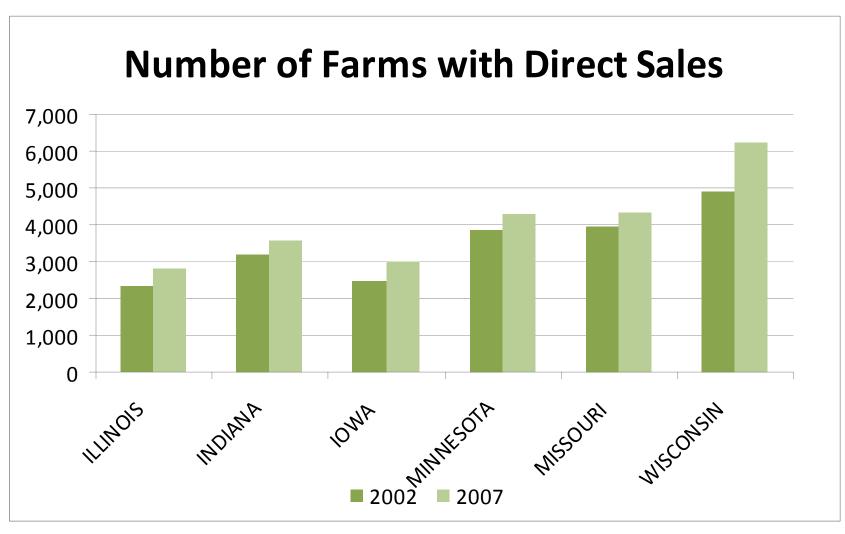


What is the future Agritourism?

- Other data from the 2007 Census of Agriculture can give an indication of what the trend may be
- The 2012 Census of Agriculture will take a new measurement and show the actual trend

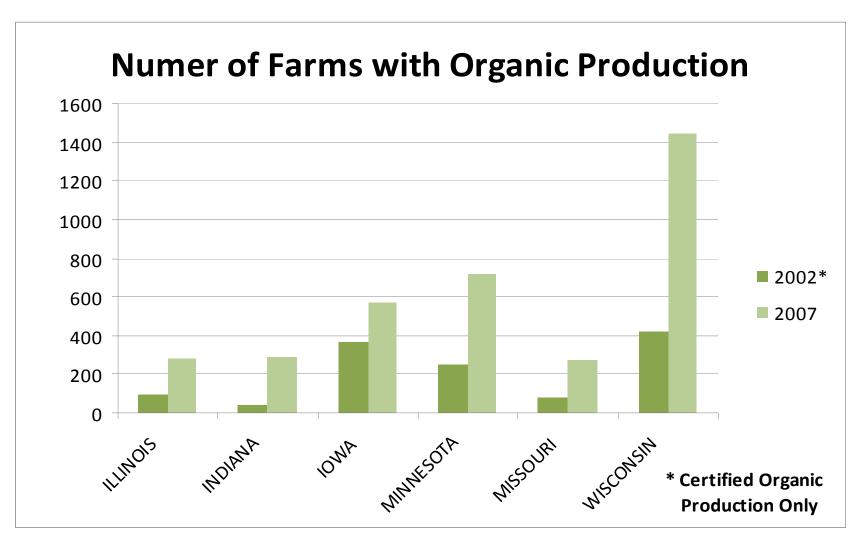


Farms w/ Direct Sales Increasing



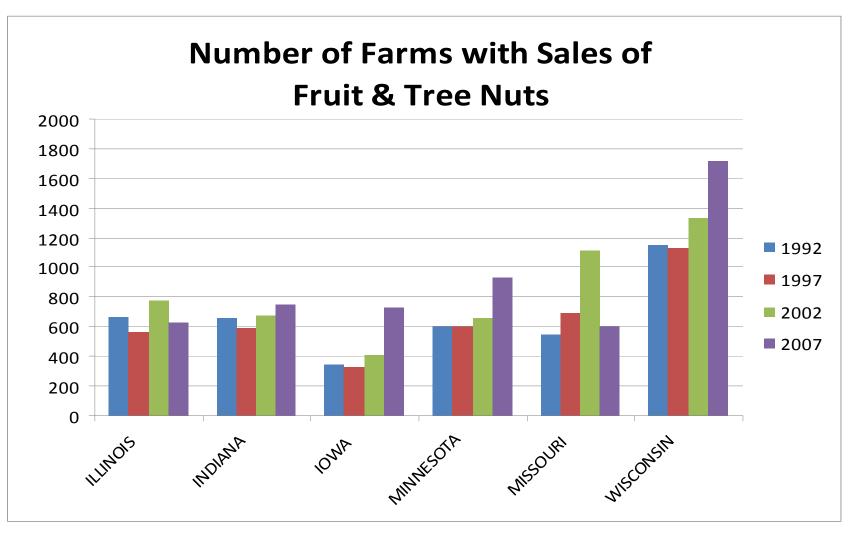


Organic Farms Increasing



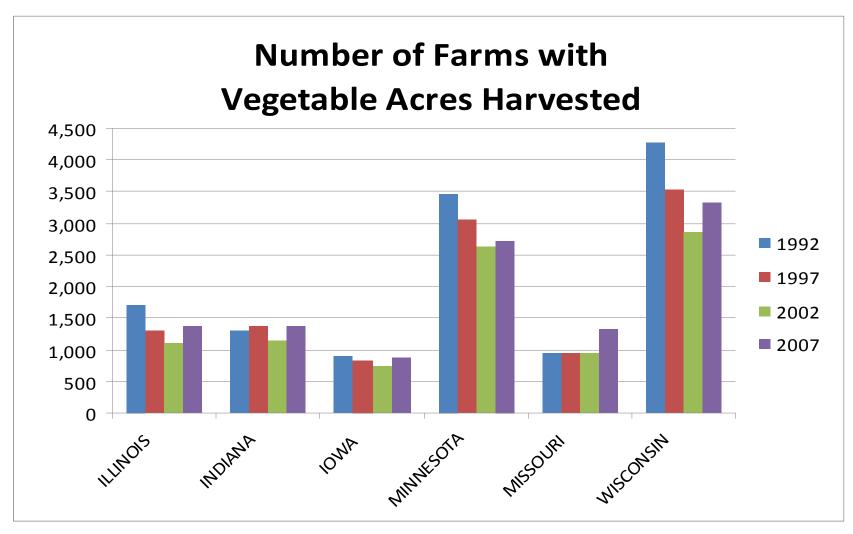


Fruit Farms Increasing?





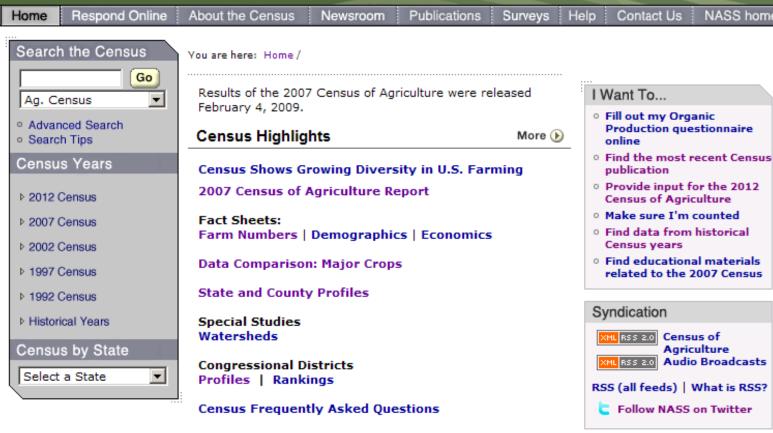
Vegetable Farms Rebounding





Census of Agriculture is available at www.agcensus.usda.gov







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