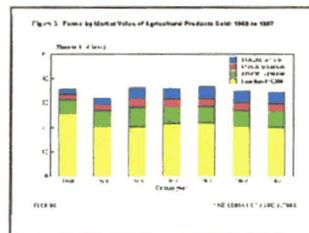


**TECHNICAL INFORMATION**  
**NOTE**  
FOR IN-SERVICE USE



1997 Census of Agriculture  
National, State, and County Tables

TODAY'S FARMER

Today's farmer lives in a fast-paced, often confusing world of local and global market interactions. An important way that farmers can stay attentive to local farm developments and national trends is use the information contained in the Agricultural Census.



*America Counts on  
Agriculture*

GOOD NEWS

GOOD NEWS! The Agricultural Census, whose foundation is farmer knowledge and information, is now available. "1997 Census of Agriculture" includes national, state, and county tables covering everything from *Farm Production Expenses* to *Inventories of Bee Colonies* and *Sales of Honey*. Additionally, sociological information, detailing underserved farm groups like *Farms Operated by Black and Other Races by Value of Sales and Occupation*, is included.

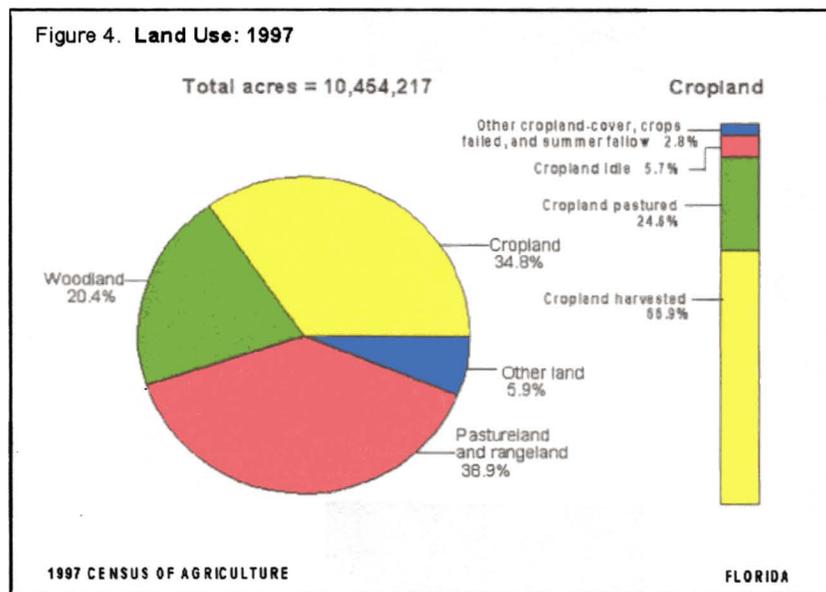
Furthermore, the really GOOD NEWS is that on their Internet site the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) has provided this wealth of information free, literally at your fingertips. Here's how to get your copy.

1. Sign-on to the Internet.
2. At the address line, type:  
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/census/census97/volume1/vol1pubs.htm>
3. Hit return.

4. The NASS screen will appear. Approximately half way down the page Florida appears. At this point, you can download the file for Florida. Note that it will be in *pdf* format. This format is Adobe Acrobat's Portable Document Format. Acrobat's reader is free. If you don't have a copy, double-click the link included on the page and follow the directions at Adobe's web site.
5. Once the census file is downloaded, you can load up the file and print all or portions of the census.

Also, a little searching will reveal census highlights by county and some informative and useful graphics related to current census information (like the chart below). To get to this more specific information, follow the steps below.

1. Into the address line type:  
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/census/census97/highlights/fl/>
2. Search to your heart's content.
3. Download, save and use the information to help make more informed decisions.



Good luck with your net search.

*William G. Reddig*

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