Horticulture contributes to Crawford County diversity
Crawford County sales of Christmas trees, fruits and vegetables, greenhouse, nursery and floriculture products total $4.8 million. Landscape and grounds maintenance businesses create additional full-time jobs and many seasonal jobs.

Local food sales account for over $1.3 million to economy
More and more Crawford County farmers sell directly to consumers from roadside stands, farmers’ markets, auctions and pick-your-own operations, with 48 farms generating $1,351,000 in local food sales.

Farmers are stewards of 59% of the county’s land
Crawford County farmers own and manage 216,584 acres, or 59.3 percent, of the county’s land. This includes cropland, rangeland, pasture, tree farms and farm forests. As stewards of the land, farmers use conservation practices, such as crop rotation, nutrient management and integrated pest management, to protect environmental resources and provide habitat for wildlife.

How important is agriculture?
- Agriculture provides jobs for 1,970 Crawford County residents.
- Agriculture accounts for $149 million in economic activity.
- Agriculture contributes $55 million to the county’s total income.
- Agriculture pays $1.9 million in taxes. This figure does not include all property taxes paid to local schools.

Who owns the farms?
- 88.3% Individuals or families
- 8.4% Family partnerships
- 1.2% Non-family corporations and other
- 2.1% Family-owned corporations

Agriculture works hard for Crawford County every day. Family-owned farms, food processors and agriculture-related businesses generate thousands of jobs and millions of dollars of economic activity while contributing to local income and tax revenues.

With the Mississippi River forming its western border and the Wisconsin River its southern, Crawford County is a region of hills and valleys, making it ideal for small farms and rotational grazing. About a third of the county’s beef and dairy farms practice rotational grazing, giving farmers an economic edge and helping conserve the area’s highly erodible soil.

The county is home to eight large-scale orchards and a major goat cheese producer. It’s known for organic and pasture-raised products, including pork, poultry and goat meat. Logging is a major economic force in this heavily forested county, as are tourism, hunting and fishing.

Produced in 2014 by: University of Wisconsin-Extension Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection

Other economic data from: USDA 2012 Census of Agriculture
For more information, contact:
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Prairie du Chien, WI 53821
(608) 326-0223 • http://crawford.uwex.edu/

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Agriculture provides 35% of Crawford County’s jobs

Crawford County agriculture provides 1,970 jobs, or 18.3 percent, of the county’s workforce of 10,759. Production jobs include farm owners and managers and farm employees. Agricultural service jobs include veterinarians, crop and livestock consultants, feed, fuel and other crop input suppliers, farm machinery dealers, barn builders and agricultural lenders, to name a few. Processing jobs include those employed in food processing and other value-added industries that support food processors. Every job in agriculture generates an additional 0.30 jobs in the county.

Agriculture contributes $55 million to county income

Crawford County agriculture accounts for $55.4 million, or 8.1 percent, of the county’s total income. This includes wages, salaries, benefits and profits of farmers and workers in agriculture-related businesses. Every dollar of agricultural income generates an additional $0.52 of county income.

Agriculture pumps almost $149 million into local economy

Crawford County agriculture generates $148.7 million in economic activity, about 11 percent, of the county’s total economic activity. Every dollar of sales from agricultural products generates an additional $0.37 of economic activity in other parts of the county’s economy.

Here’s how agriculture stimulates economic activity:

■ The direct effect of agriculture equals $108.9 million and includes the sale of farm products and value-added products.

■ Purchases of agricultural and food-processing inputs, services and equipment add another $26.3 million in economic activity. For example, this includes business-to-business purchases of fuel, seed, fertilizer, feed and farm machinery, as well as veterinary services, crop and livestock consultants and equipment leasing.

■ This business-to-business activity then generates another $13.6 million in economic activity when people who work in agriculture-related businesses spend their earnings in the local economy.

Agriculture pays almost $2 million in taxes

Economic activity associated with Crawford County farms and agriculture-related businesses generates $1.9 million in local and state taxes. This figure does not include all property taxes paid to support local schools. If it did, the number would increase dramatically.

Table 1. Taxes paid by agriculture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tax Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sales tax</td>
<td>$0.26 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income tax</td>
<td>$0.81 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property tax</td>
<td>$0.37 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$0.41 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1.9 million</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. Crawford County’s top commodities (sales by dollar value, 2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodity</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Grain</td>
<td>$29.9 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Other crops &amp; hay</td>
<td>$2.9 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Nursery &amp; greenhouse</td>
<td>$0.55 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Sheep &amp; goats</td>
<td>$0.21 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Horses &amp; others</td>
<td>$0.17 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dairy is a key Crawford County industry

Dairy farming is the major agricultural industry in Crawford County. On-farm production and milk sales account for $45.3 million. Processing milk into dairy products generates another $8.8 million.

■ Three plants process dairy products in Crawford County.

■ On-farm milk production accounts for 443 jobs, and dairy processing accounts for 31 jobs.

■ At the county level, each dairy cow generates $4,675 in on-farm sales to producers.

■ At the state level, each dairy cow generates over $34,000 in total sales.