



UW-Extension

Horticulture contributes to Walworth County diversity

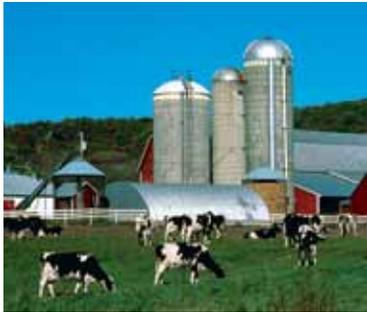
Walworth County sales of Christmas trees, fruits and vegetables, greenhouse, nursery and floriculture products total \$3.8 million. Landscape and grounds maintenance businesses create additional full-time jobs and many seasonal jobs.

Local food sales account for \$1,166,000 to economy

More and more Walworth County farmers sell directly to consumers from roadside stands, farmers' markets, auctions and pick-your-own operations, with 108 farms generating \$1,666,000 in local food sales.

Farmers are stewards of about half of the county's land

Walworth County farmers own and manage 187,711 acres, or 53 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.



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University of Wisconsin-Extension

University of Wisconsin-Extension is part of the local and statewide network of organizations and agencies that support Wisconsin's \$88.3 billion agriculture industry. A recent statewide survey of nearly 1,000 agricultural service providers from throughout Wisconsin found that UW-Extension helps enhance economic impact by improving agribusiness services to farmers, increasing agribusiness or farm profitability, expanding agribusiness networks, and helping to reduce agribusiness or farm environmental impacts.

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Other economic data from:

USDA 2012 Census of Agriculture

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2014

AGRICULTURE – WORKING EVERY DAY FOR WISCONSIN

Walworth County Agriculture:



Agriculture works hard for Walworth 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.

Although population of Walworth County has increased by 25 percent in the past decade, over 60 percent of the county is still farmland. As one of the state's top tourist destinations, the pastoral landscape is a valuable asset to the county.

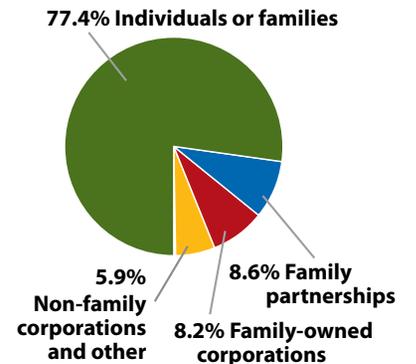
Agriculture in the county is extremely diverse, and in addition to production grain and dairy, includes a wide range of livestock and horticultural crops. The direct marketing of vegetables, meat and poultry, cheese, and fruits is a rapidly growing segment of county agriculture.



How important is agriculture?

- Agriculture provides **jobs for 4,348** Walworth County residents.
- Agriculture accounts for **\$895 million in economic activity**.
- Agriculture contributes **\$285 million** to the county's total income.
- Agriculture pays **\$16.5 million in taxes**. This figure does not include all property taxes paid to local schools.

Who owns the farms?



Agriculture provides 8% of Walworth County's jobs

Walworth County agriculture provides 4,347 jobs, or 7.9 percent, of the county's workforce of 54,881. 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 0.65 jobs in the county.

Agriculture contributes \$258 million to county income

Walworth County agriculture accounts for \$284.6 million, or 7.3 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 \$0.75 of county income.

Agriculture pumps \$895 million into local economy

Walworth County agriculture generates \$894.8 million in economic activity, or 11.4 percent, of the county's total economic activity. Every dollar of sales from agricultural products generates an additional \$0.31 of economic activity in other parts of the county's economy.

Here's how agriculture stimulates economic activity:

- The direct effect of agriculture equals \$683.3 million and includes the sale of farm products and value-added products.
- Purchases of agricultural and food-processing inputs, services and equipment add another \$133.2 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 \$78.3 million in economic activity when people who work in agriculture-related businesses spend their earnings in the local economy.

Agriculture pays \$16.5 million in taxes

Economic activity associated with Walworth County farms and agriculture-related businesses generates \$16.5 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

Sales tax	\$3.7 million
Income tax	\$4.7 million
Property tax	\$5.2 million
Other	\$2.8 million
Total	\$16.5 million

Table 2. Walworth County's top commodities (sales by dollar value, 2012)

1. Grain	\$70.9 million
2. Milk	\$54.9 million
3. Cattle & calves	\$17.4 million
4. Vegetables	\$3.4 million
5. Sheep, goats, and their products	\$0.77 million



Dairy and grain production are key Walworth County industries

Grain production is the largest part of Walworth County's agriculture in terms of on-farm value. In 2012, the market value of corn, soybeans and other grain crops, was \$70.9 million, or 42 percent of the total market value of all agricultural products sold in the county. There are over 80,800 acres of corn grown for grain and over 38,400 acres of soybeans raised in Walworth County. Dairy is an important part of Walworth County's agriculture. In 2012, the on-farm production and sale of milk accounted for \$67.3 million in economic activity.

- At the county level, each dairy cow generates \$4,163 in on-farm sales to producers.
- Walworth County's on-farm milk production accounts for 288 jobs.

