



**United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
2016 Certified Organic Survey – North Carolina**



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**Certified Organic Highlights**

The 2016 Certified Organic Survey is a survey of all operations identified as having certified organic production. Certified organic farms must meet the standards set out by USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service’s (AMS) National Organic Program (NOP) and be certified compliant by an approved agent of NOP. Results from the survey provide acreage, production, and sales data for a variety of certified organic crops and certified organic livestock.

In 2016, the United States had 14,217 certified organic farms that produced \$7.6 billion in certified organic products. North Carolina had 247 certified organic farms that produced \$144.9 million in certified organic products. Of the 31,800 acres of certified land in North Carolina, 29,120 acres were cropland and 2,680 acres were pastureland/rangeland. The top two certified commodities sold in North Carolina were chicken eggs with sales valued at \$55.3 million and tobacco with sales valued at \$39.0 million.

For more information on the 2016 Certified Organic Survey and related reports, please visit the NASS Organic Agriculture page at: [www.nass.usda.gov/organics](http://www.nass.usda.gov/organics).

**Farms, Land, and Value of Sales on Certified Organic Farms: 2016 and 2015**

Geographic area	2016			2015		
	Total certified farms	Total certified acres	Total certified sales (\$1,000)	Total certified farms	Total certified acres	Total certified sales (\$1,000)
United States .....	14,217	5,019,496	7,553,872	12,818	4,361,849	6,163,472
North Carolina .....	247	31,800	144,917	203	28,727	82,427

**Certified Organic Crops Value of Sales: 2016**

Crop	Farms	Value of sales (dollars)
<b>All vegetables grown in the open</b>		
United States .....	3,121	1,644,431,203
North Carolina .....	81	31,666,249
<b>All field crops</b>		
United States .....	5,077	762,613,158
North Carolina .....	154	43,979,140
<b>All apples</b>		
United States .....	583	327,422,541
North Carolina .....	(NDP)	(NDP)
<b>All grapes</b>		
United States .....	667	218,400,863
North Carolina .....	5	176,488
<b>All berries</b>		
United States .....	1,400	406,116,676
North Carolina .....	27	(D)
<b>All other fruits (excludes apples, grapes, citrus fruits, and berries)</b>		
United States .....	1,101	253,746,497
North Carolina .....	2	(D)
<b>All tree nuts</b>		
United States .....	345	78,900,277
North Carolina .....	(NDP)	(NDP)

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.  
(NDP) No data present.

**Certified Organic Floriculture Crops, Nursery Crops, Mushrooms, and Vegetables/Herbs Under Protection Value of Sales: 2016**

Crop	Farms	Value of sales (dollars)
Floriculture and bedding crops		
United States .....	338	24,273,779
North Carolina .....	9	297,000
Nursery crops, including aquatic plants		
United States .....	135	35,315,048
North Carolina .....	(NDP)	(NDP)
Propagative materials sold		
United States .....	143	53,320,374
North Carolina .....	5	(D)
Mushrooms		
United States .....	111	110,974,221
North Carolina .....	1	(D)
Tomatoes grown under protection		
United States .....	583	39,536,601
North Carolina .....	7	(D)
Other vegetables and fresh herbs grown under protection		
United States .....	666	49,417,138
North Carolina .....	12	421,958

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.  
(NDP) No data present.

**Top Certified Organic Livestock and Poultry Inventory and Sales: 2016**

Commodity	Peak inventory		Value of sales	
	Farms	Number	Number	Dollars
Milk cows				
United States .....	2,559	279,021	50,136	57,801,387
North Carolina .....	9	701	164	275,324
Beef cows				
United States .....	490	46,014	7,827	10,531,380
North Carolina .....	5	206	57	79,962
Other cattle				
United States .....	3,048	256,031	189,634	164,407,528
North Carolina .....	13	598	500	610,765
Hogs and pigs				
United States .....	151	19,817	17,818	6,891,039
North Carolina .....	1	(D)	(D)	(D)
Chickens - layers				
United States .....	818	17,516,491	5,484,267	2,462,123
North Carolina .....	18	1,152,238	791,959	163,742
Chickens - broilers				
United States .....	215	21,732,541	105,260,615	749,929,661
North Carolina .....	3	(D)	(D)	(D)

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

**Top Certified Organic Livestock Products and Poultry Products Sales: 2016**

Commodity	Farms	Quantity	Dollars
Milk from cows (pounds)			
United States .....	2,531	4,034,989,854	1,385,789,843
North Carolina .....	9	9,112,330	(D)
Chicken eggs (dozens)			
United States .....	788	345,269,340	815,881,254
North Carolina .....	18	24,517,894	55,252,105

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.