

A Look at Kansas Agriculture



Kansas

Capital: Topeka
Population: 2,715,884
Founded: January 29, 1861 (34th state)
State Bird: Meadowlark
State Tree: Cottonwood
State Flower: Sunflower
State Insect: Honey Bee
State Soil: Harney Silt Loam
Number of Counties: 105
Largest City: Wichita **Population:** 330,000



Soil

- Average depth of topsoil is 7"-16".
- Kansas has 390 soil series. A series is defined as a group of soils that have similar horizons and properties (for example, "Harney" is the name of a soil series)

Climate



- Average amount of precipitation is 25.52" yearly.
- Average temperature in January is 28.7°F and 79.6°F in July.
- Average wind speed is 12.04 mph.
- Total amounts of precipitation vary from near 15" on the western border of Kansas to over 40" per year in southeast Kansas.
- Precipitation ranges from about 46" per year in the southeast of the state, to about 14" per year in the southwest.

General



- Number of farms in Kansas in 2008 is 65,500.
- Each Kansas farmer feeds 144 people.
- 20% of all Kansas (rural and urban) are employed in jobs related to agriculture.
- Average size of a farm in Kansas is 705 acres.

Crops



- Kansas 2008 Production
 - Corn: 356 million bushels
 - Grain Sorghum: 214.5 million bushels
 - Soybeans: 120.25 million bushels
 - Alfalfa: 2.87 million tons
 - Other Hay: 3.895 million tons
 - Wheat: 356 million bushels
- Kansas Farmers also grow corn, soybeans, sunflowers, cotton, barley and oats.

Animals



- In 2008 there were 6,300,000 head of cattle slaughtered in Kansas.
- There are 80,000 head of sheep and lambs.
- There are 1,730,000 hogs on farms.



Kansas Agriculture in the Classroom
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