

A Look at New Hampshire Agriculture



Capital: Concord

Population: 1,324,575

Founded: June 21, 1788 (9th)

State Bird: Purple Finch

State Tree: White Birch

State Flower: Lilac

Number of Counties: 10

Largest City: Manchester - 109,395

Nickname: The Granite State

Number of Farms: 4,150

Average Farm Size: 113 acres

Total Farmland: 471,911 acres



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Climate & Soil

- The growing season averages 120 days throughout most of the state.
- Humid short summers, long cold winters.
- Variation in temperature depending on if you are near the mountains or the ocean.
- January temperature average 12°F to 26°F with July temps average 63°F to 70°F.
- Precipitation averages 40", although the White Mountains receive about 46".
- The soil is typically stony and relatively infertile.
- Soils classified as spodosols are common in northern NH, while inceptisols are prevalent in the south.

Crops & Livestock

- The chief commercial crops raised in New Hampshire are greenhouse and nursery products, Christmas trees, sweet corn, chicken eggs, and apples. Various vegetables and forest products are also sold.
- Hay is the chief field crop grown to feed livestock.
- Many farmers tap the maple trees on their land to produce maple syrup and sugar.
- Forest products are also produced in New Hampshire.
- Dairy products account for nearly 1/3 of the state's total farm income.
- Other livestock raised includes beef cattle and hogs.
- Chicken, cattle and calves and turkeys are also sold.

General

- New Hampshire ranks 48th nationally for agricultural exports.