A Look at Kansas Agriculture

Capital: Topeka
Population: 2,818,747
Founded: January 29, 1861 (34th)
State Bird: Meadowlark
State Tree: Cottonwood
State Flower: Sunflower
Number of Counties: 105
Largest City: Wichita - 344,284
Nickname: The Sunflower State
Number of Farms: 65,500
Average Farm Size: 707 acres
Total Farmland: 46 million acres

Climate & Soil

- Average Yearly Precipitation: 25.52 inches
- Average January Temperature: 28.7 degrees
- Average July Temperature: 79.6 degrees
- Average Yearly Rain in Western Kansas: 17 inches
- Average Yearly Rain in Eastern Kansas: 42 inches
- Average Topsoil Depth: 7-16 inches
- Number of Soil Series: 390 (A series is defined as a group of soils that have similar horizons and properties.)
- State Soil: Harney Silt Loam.

Crops & Livestock

- In 2009, Kansas ranked first in sorghum grain produced, 2nd in wheat flour milled, all wheat produced and cropland. As of Jan. 1, 2010, Kansas ranked third in cattle and calves on farms and feedlot with 8,370,000. The state also ranked third in sunflowers produced, fifth in hay production, seventh in corn grain and ninth in soybean production.
- In 2009, approximately 9.3 million acres of wheat were planted in Kansas. The state harvested 8.8 million acres.
- In 2009, approximately 4.1 million acres of corn were planted in Kansas. Approximately 4 million acres were harvested.
- Kansas’ dairy cattle produced 2.4 billion pounds of milk in 2009.
- As of Dec. 1, 2009, there were 1.8 million head of hogs in Kansas.

General

- The average Kansas farmer is 57 years old.
- Approximately 88% of the state’s land is under agricultural production.

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