



A Look at *Mississippi* Agriculture

Capital: Jackson

Population: 2,938,618

Founded: December 10, 1817 (20th)

State Bird: Mockingbird

State Flower: Magnolia

State Tree: Magnolia

Number of Counties: 82

Largest City: Jackson - 184,256

Nickname: Magnolia State

Number of Farms: 42,000

Average Farm Size: 273 acres

Total Farmland: 11.4 million acres



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Climate & Soil

- Mississippi is warm and moist with long summers and short winters.
- The average temperature for July 81° F and the average January temperature is 46° F.
- The average precipitation is about 50" in the northwest and about 65" in the southeast.
- Most of the fertile earth is silt that is deposited by floodwaters of the Mississippi River.

Crops & Livestock

- Broiler (meat) chicken and soybeans are Mississippi's most valuable agricultural products.
- Cotton is grown in the northwest part of the state, and the northeast part grows the majority of the cotton.
- Cattle farms are common in all parts of Mississippi except the Mississippi Delta.
- Mississippi ranks fourth nationally for the production of rice. The crop was valued at \$178 million dollars in 2009.

General

- Mississippi ranks fifth nationally for poultry and poultry products. It's approximate value in 2009 was \$384 million dollars.
- Livestock and crops each provide about half of the state's total farm income.
- Aquaculture, or fish farming, is also an important part of the state's agricultural production.