

AGRICULTURE STATISTICS FOR MANITOWOC COUNTY

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By Scott Gunderson

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Once again in 2012, Manitowoc County was a leader in the state of Wisconsin in total milk produced per cow. The 2012 (the latest data available) average production per cow was 25,000 pounds (12.5 tons). The state average milk yield per cow in 2012 was 21,436 pounds. In 2012, Manitowoc County dairy producers also sold over one billion pounds of milk for the sixth straight year. Only Clark, Marathon, and Fond du Lac County dairy farmers produced more milk. Total Manitowoc County milk output in 2012 was 1,275,000,000 pounds.

Manitowoc County has approximately 1,440 farms with a total of 248,000 acres averaging 172 acres per farm. Excluding pasture, Manitowoc County has approximately 205,000 acres of cropland. The Wisconsin Agriculture Statistics Service defines a farm as, "Any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the year."

As of 2014, Manitowoc County had 241 dairy farms with 55,000 cows for an average of 228 cows per farm (up from 204 cows per farm in 2013; 183 cows per farm in 2012; and 171 cows per farm in 2011). The average number of dairy cows per farm in Wisconsin is about 120. Manitowoc County dairy farms range in size from 20 cows to over 5,000 cows. Virtually all of these dairy farms are family owned and many are multi-family businesses. Currently, Manitowoc County has approximately 105,000 dairy and beef cattle with over 97 percent of the total being dairy cows, heifers and calves. There are a total of 594 square miles in the county, which means there are about 86 cows per square mile. Manitowoc County routinely ranks in the top three Wisconsin counties in the number of cows per square mile.

In addition to ranking fourth in milk production per cow in the state, Manitowoc County ranks fourth out of the 72 Wisconsin counties and 25th in the United States in total annual milk production. Furthermore, Manitowoc County ranks fifth in the state in the number of dairy cows. Manitowoc County dairy farmers produce enough milk to supply every person in the county with over 4.5 gallons of milk or nearly four pounds of award-winning cheese each and every day.

Manitowoc County 's Rank in the Wisconsin Dairy Industry	
Annual Milk Production per Cow	4 th
Total Annual Milk Production	4 th
Number of Dairy Cows	5 th
Manitowoc County ranks 25th in the United States in total milk production.	

In 2013, Manitowoc County farmers harvested 19,500 acres (an acre is about the same size as a football field) of alfalfa, 81,400 acres of corn (silage and grain), 24,200 acres of soybeans, and 14,000 acres of wheat. Other crops included oats, barley, snap beans, carrots, and sweet corn. Historically, Manitowoc County ranks among the top ten Wisconsin Counties in the following categories: corn silage production, total forage produced, winter wheat, and snap beans. In 2013, Manitowoc County was the largest producer of corn for silage in Wisconsin, with 890,000 tons harvested. The following table shows crop yields (in either bushels per acre or tons per acre) from 2005 to 2013.

Crop Yields from 2005 to 2013 Expressed in Either Bushels per Acre or Tons per Acre

Crop	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Bu/Acre									
Corn Grain	144	141	140	134	144	159	159	149	152
Soybeans	38	42	37	35	37	50	46	53	38
Oats	69	73	73	66	74	64	NA	NA	NA
Winter Wheat	49	74	71	66	73	68	64	76	49
Barley	57	55	69	44	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tons/Acre									
Corn Silage	16.0	18.0	17.0	18.5	15.0	18	19	17.5	19
Alfalfa Hay	2.6	3.9	3.5	4.0	2.7	3.2	3.0	3.3	3.2
All Types of Hay	2.6	3.7	3.4	3.9	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Snap Beans	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.7	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

NA means that the data is not published by the United States Department of Agriculture, and is therefore not available.

Using the 2013 figure of \$6,421 per acre (up from \$5,900 per acre in 2012 and \$4,857 per acre in 2011) for agricultural land sales continuing in agricultural use, without buildings and improvements, the value of the 248,000 acres in farms in Manitowoc County would total nearly \$1.6 billion.

The value of the 1,275,000,000 pounds of milk paid to Manitowoc County dairy farm owners in 2012 was approximately \$247 million. This dollar figure is based on an average milk price per 100 pounds (about 12 gallons) sold of \$19.40.

How important is agriculture to Manitowoc County's economy?

The \$247,000,000 of milk sold in 2012 from Manitowoc County dairy farmers is equivalent to:

- \$4,750,000 each week
- \$677,000 each day
- \$28,196 per hour
- \$470 per minute

Total farm and farm-related employment (i.e. allied industries/businesses) in Manitowoc County is approximately 12 percent of the total County employment, or 5,100 jobs. The following Manitowoc County statistics are based on a University of Wisconsin-Extension economic study, conducted by Dr. Steve Deller.

- Agriculture provides jobs for 5,105 Manitowoc County residents.
- Agriculture accounts for \$1.5 billion in economic activity.
- Agriculture contributes over \$360 million to the County's total income.
- Agriculture pays over \$16 million in taxes. This figure does not include all property taxes paid to local schools.

Other agricultural items of interest include:

Non-irrigated cropland cash rent for Manitowoc County averaged \$148 per acre in 2014 compared to \$127 per acre in 2013 and \$117 per acre in 2012.

Wisconsin ranks first in the nation in total cheese production, producing over 2.8 BILLION pounds of cheese each year. Wisconsin produces 26 percent of the total cheese produced in the United States each year.

Wisconsin ranks second in the nation in dairy cows, with 1,270,000 cows.

Wisconsin ranks second in the nation in total milk production, producing over 27.5 BILLION pounds of milk each year.

Wisconsin's Rank in the Nation's Agricultural Production 2013	
DAIRY	
Milk Production	2
Cheese, total (excluding cottage cheese)	1
American Cheese	1
Cheddar Cheese	1
Italian Cheese	2
Mozzarella Cheese	2
Dry Whey, human food	1
LIVESTOCK & POULTRY	
Milk Cows	2
Milk Goats	1
Mink Pelts	1
CROPS	
Corn for silage	1
Oats	3
Forage (dry equivalent), all	4
Potatoes, all	3
Cherries, tart	4
Maple Syrup	4
Cranberries	1
Carrots, processing	2
Sweet Corn for processing (all)	3
Green Peas for processing	3
Snap Beans for processing	1
Cucumber for pickles	3

Updated February 16, 2015 by Scott Gunderson, Manitowoc County UW-Extension Dairy Agent.

Sources of information include: Dr. Steven Deller, Professor of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Wisconsin Extension; Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service; National Agricultural Statistics Service; and University of Wisconsin Extension.

If you have any questions regarding these statistics, please e-mail:
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DAIRY CONVERSION FACTORS AND OTHER INTERESTING FACTS

- One quart of milk weighs 2.15 pounds - one gallon 8.6 pounds - 46.5 quarts of milk equals 100 pounds.
- Specific gravity of milk at 60°F is 1.032
- 100 pounds of 4% milk will yield approximately:
 - 10 pounds cheese and 90 pounds whey or
 - 5 pounds butter and 90 pounds skim milk or
 - 13 pounds dried whole and 1 1/4 pounds 40% cream
- 100 pounds skim milk will yield approximately:
 - 16 pounds cottage cheese and 84 pounds whey or
 - 3 pounds casein and 94 pounds whey or
 - 9 pounds nonfat dry milk
- 100 pounds whey will yield approximately:
 - 5 pounds lactose and
 - 1 pound protein and
 - 1/3 pound milkfat

To make one pound of:	Requires:
Butter	21.2 pounds whole milk
Whole Milk Cheese	10.0 pounds whole milk
Evaporated Milk	2.1 pounds whole milk
Condensed Milk	2.3 pounds whole milk
Whole Milk Powder	7.4 pounds whole milk
Powdered Cream	13.5 pounds whole milk
Ice Cream (1 gal)	12.0 pounds whole milk (15 pounds when including butter and concentrated milks)
Cottage Cheese	6.25 pounds skim milk
Nonfat dry milk	11.0 pounds skim milk