

Agriculture Makes a Huge Economic Impact in Carroll County

Webb Flowers Carroll County Extension

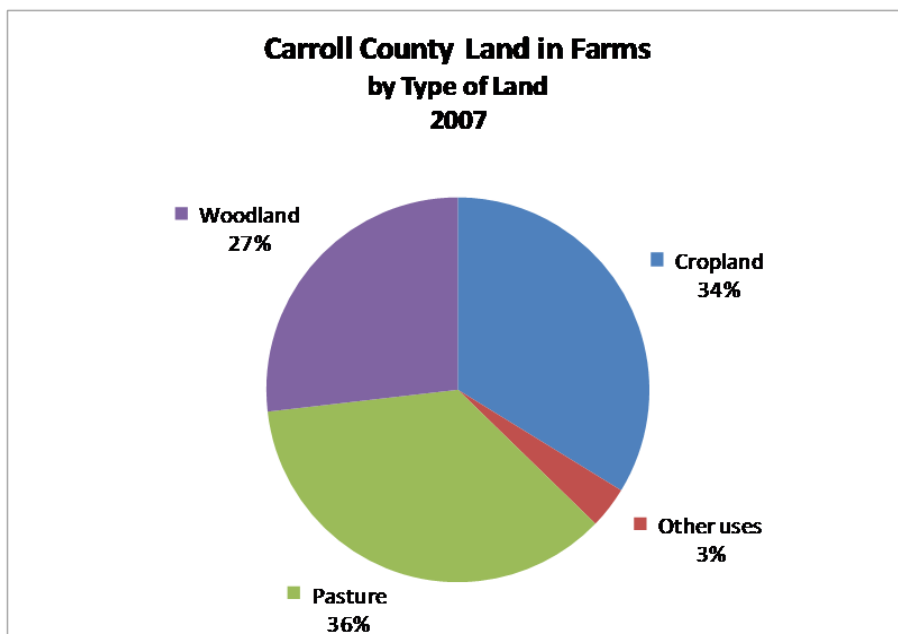
The following information is an attempt to provide as accurate as possible the Impact that Agriculture makes to Carroll Co.

2002 Carroll County Farm Economic Impact

Carroll Co. Agricultural Commodities	Sales (\$)	Output Impact (\$)	Employment Impact (jobs)	Value Added Impact (\$)
Beef	16,531,000	32,430,086	763	9,623,141
Dairy	2,606,000	5,112,383	120	1,517,023
Vegetables	2,074,000	3,436,301	102	2,347,270
Crops hay	2,038,000	3,376,654	101	2,306,527
Fruits/berries	1,230,000	2,037,922	61	1,392,065
Nursery	897,000	1,521,175	41	1,216,441
Christmas trees	256,000	466,348	6	231,222
Total	\$25,632,000	\$48,380,868	1,194	\$18,633,688

2007 Carroll County Farm Economic Impact

Carroll Co. Agricultural Commodities	Sales (\$)	Output Impact (\$)	Employment Impact (jobs)	Value Added Impact (\$)
Beef	23,444,000	45,997,128	763	13,644,408
Dairy	2,148,000	4,214,376	120	1,250,136
Vegetables	3,554,000	5,888,978	102	4,023,128
Crops hay	586,000	971,002	101	663,352
Fruits/berries	2,359,000	2,569,440	61	2,670,388
Nursery	1,515,000	2,570,955	41	1,368,045
Christmas trees	258,114	470,284	6	233,077
Total	\$33,864,114	\$62,682,163	1,194	\$23,852,534



The information in the tables above are from the NASS 2002/2007 Agricultural Census Report, which is produced on a 5 year rotation. Sales represents what farmers receive for the commodity they produced, Output Impact represents additional local economic impact for supplies and services provided by local merchants. Employment Impact represents the employment on farms; Value Added Impact represents additional economic impact from further processing of commodities grown in Carroll County. Another significant benefit we have in Carroll County is the large handful of further processors and wholesalers that purchase commodities grown outside of Carroll County and adds additional value to, which SW VA Farmers Market Manager, Kevin Semones estimates to be in the \$35 million range.

The 2007 Census recorded 1,001 farms as compared to 953 in 2002 in Carroll County and a population of 29,252. These figures place Carroll County above the average of 2% of the U.S. population as farmers.

There are many changes occurring in local, U.S. and world economies. Fuel, energy, fertilizer, feed, transportation, land prices/demand and many other costs of production for agriculture, forestry and nearly all other industries have increased significantly in the last 5 years. Food safety and food security are powerful assets for Carroll County citizens to recognize as positive strengths for enhancing agriculture, forestry and related further processing industries. Carroll County is in all practical senses a rural agriculture and forestry based county. With the heavily populated U.S. east-coast close at hand, let's not overlook the importance and impact that agriculture and forestry makes to Carroll County and the millions of east-coast consumers!

Contributors of agriculture economic impact information for Carroll County are: *Alan W. Hodges, PhD*, Associate Extension Scientist University of Florida, Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences, Food & Resource Economics Department and *Jeffrey Alwang, PhD*. Extension Specialist, Agricultural Economics Virginia Tech.

For more detailed information, contact me at the Carroll County Extension office 276-730-3113.