

2019

Annual Produce Farm Inventory Report



Greetings MN produce growers!

We'd like to extend a thank you to everyone who participated in the 2019 Grower Questionnaire distributed by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's (MDA) Produce Safety Program. In total, we received 599 responses from farmers across the state who shared information about their farm activities, crops, markets and average sales. Everyone who responded received an official letter from the MDA identifying their farm's status under the Produce Safety Rule (PSR) and what, if any, requirements of the rule applied to their farm business for the 2019 calendar year.

Thanks to your support, we are well on our way to building a comprehensive produce farm inventory that will help us understand what produce is being grown, where it is sold, and who is involved. The more we can understand about produce farming in Minnesota, the better we are able to support farms in adopting produce safety practices and working with partners to explore additional resources like market development, production support and education.

Our Grower Questionnaire is the main tool we use to help us build the produce farm inventory, identify farms' statuses under the PSR and work to support all produce farms in Minnesota with resources and education on produce safety. This annual report shares findings from our current inventory. As we launch our 2020 Grower Questionnaire, we hope you take the time to respond and help us build a produce farm inventory for Minnesota. We look forward to your responses and hope you find value in learning more about our program and what we know about the produce industry in Minnesota.

Outreach And Education Activities

The Produce Safety Program works closely with the University of Minnesota Extension to co-host trainings and provide education and resources to farmers across the state in order to help them understand the requirements of the PSR and ways to implement produce safety on farms.

- 23 Food Safety Modernization Act Produce Safety Rule Grower Trainings have been hosted in Minnesota since 2017.
- 273 individual farms from Minnesota have attended.
- 2 Spanish language FSMA Produce Safety Rule Grower Trainings were hosted to serve both Latino farmers and H-2A produce farm employees.
- Training teams consist of 1-2 farmer educators in addition to UMN and MDA staff. Farmer trainers provide a wealth of knowledge by sharing their on-farm experience implementing produce safety.
- 11 FSMA Produce Safety Rule Grower Trainings are planned for 2019-2020.

Training Schedule 2019 / 2020

Registration Open Now At
www.psp.tix.com

DATE	LOCATION
December 3	Crookston
December 18th	Waseca
January 15	Saint Cloud
January 22	Wadena
January 30th	Rogers
February 11th	Grand Rapids
February 26th	Farmington
March 10th	Wilmar
March 19th	Isanti
April 9th	Winona
April 14th	Lamberton

Previous Training locations



University Of MN Extension Resource Development

UMN Extension partners have developed many educational resources for farmers about how to implement produce safety on farms. Highlights from this work include:

- FSMA Produce Safety Rule Video: this 7-minute video allows Minnesota growers, and others, to understand their coverage status under the FSMA PSR.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pt4G1AH7bhA&t=5s>
- Water lab resources: UMN Extension partners identified 28 water testing labs that conduct allowable testing methods for the Produce Safety Rule. A map and list of these labs is located on their website.
<https://extension.umn.edu/growing-safe-food/water-testing-labs-fsma>
- 9 new factsheets about Produce Safety and Good Agricultural Practices have been developed on topics including GAP audits, Farm status under the PSR, and Water testing protocols for farms.
- In the last 6 months, UMN Extension's "How to build a handwashing station for \$20" was the most viewed factsheet in the Northeast Center to Advance Food Safety resource clearinghouse.
<https://extension.umn.edu/growing-safe-food/farm-handwashing-important-food-safety>

\$20 Handwashing Station



Photo Credit: Anne Sawyer


Farm Inventory



1,806 total produce farms currently in our produce farm inventory.



599 of those farms provided information in 2019 through our Grower Questionnaire.

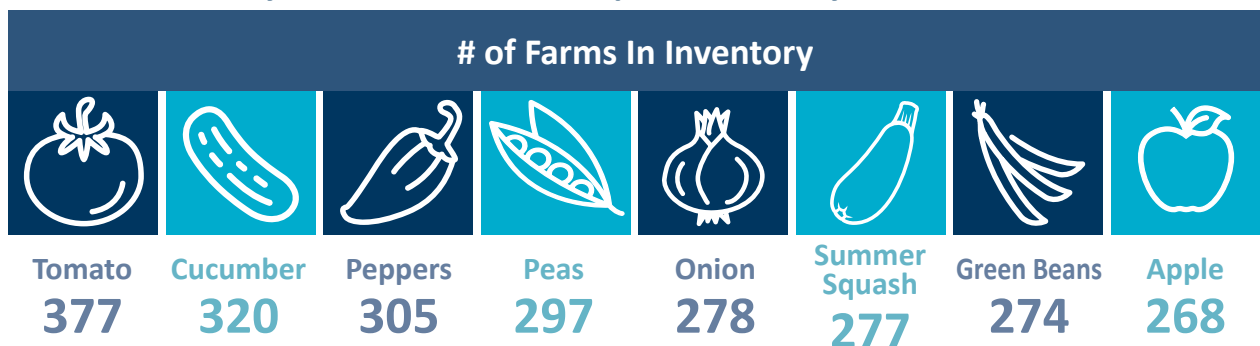


18 inspections of Large Covered farms completed in the summer of 2019.

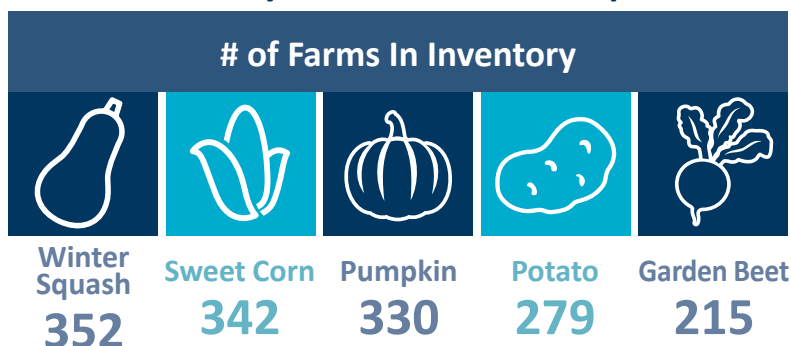
Breakdown of Farm Sizes In The Inventory

DATE	AVERAGE ANNUAL PRODUCE SALES	TOTAL INVENTORY #
Large	\$500,000 or more	37
Small	\$250,000 - \$500,000	24
Very Small	\$27,528 - \$250,000	137
Excluded	Less than \$27,528	356

Most Commonly Grown Produce Crops Covered By The PSR



Most Commonly Crown Produce Crops That Aren't Covered By The PSR



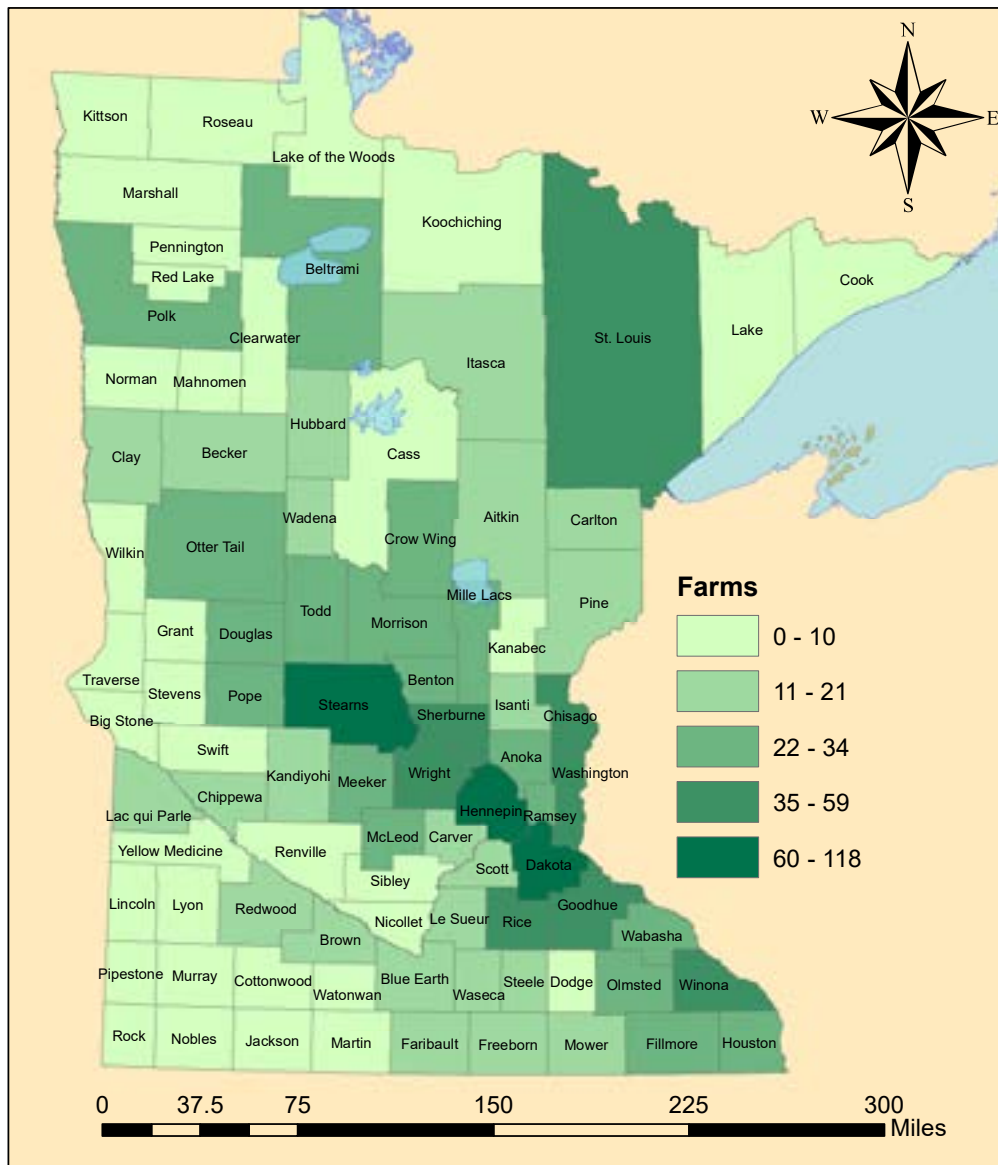
Top Produce Sales Outlets In Minnesota

Markets	Total # Of Farms Using Market
On Farm	741
Farmer's Market	472
Retail (grocery store, restaurant, school, intuition, etc.)	353
U-Pick	198
CSA	196
Wholesaler	143
Off Farm Stands	103
Food Processor/Manufacturers	46
Food Hub	35

Unique stats from the Produce Farm Inventory

- 50% of farms in the inventory are registered MN Grown Members
- 13% of farms in the inventory are certified organic
- 44 food coops across the state are buying produce from MN growers
- Over 250 farmers markets throughout the state support local produce farms
- 141 different produce commodities are grown around the state
- The average number of commodities per farm is 10.3
- 1 farm reported growing 77 unique produce commodities and 42 farms reported growing over 50 different produce commodities
- Currently we've identified 1,806 produce farms in Minnesota which is about 3% of the state's total farms.

Produce Farms In Inventory By County



Title: Farms By County101819

Date: October 18, 2019

Purpose: Display the amount of farms by county in the farm-inventory in a non-confidential choropleth manner.

Sources: Designed through "ESRI ArcMap 10.6.1"

Managed by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture

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In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this information is available in alternative forms of communication upon request by calling 651-201-6000. TTY users can call the Minnesota Relay Service at 711. The MDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

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