



# FLORIDA

## Agriculture in Florida

- Agricultural production in Florida contributes more than **\$9 billion** to the state's economy.
- As of the last USDA Census of Agriculture in 2012, Florida has more than **47,740 farms** producing on more than **9.5 million acres** of farmland.
- Of these farms, **96.3% are non-corporate farms** owned by individuals, partners or families.
- The top agricultural commodities produced in Florida are oranges, floriculture, cattle and calves, and sugarcane.

## Crop Insurance in Florida

- Over **1.6 million acres** of cropland were covered by insurance in Florida in 2016, not including policies for livestock.
- Almost **\$3 billion in ag liability** was protected by crop insurance in Florida in 2016, including coverage for:
  - Apiculture,
  - Nurseries,
  - Diversified farms through Whole Farm Revenue protection, and
  - A variety of fruits and vegetables including 3,588 acres of blueberries, 2,015 acres of avocado, 15,610 acres of tomatoes, and 2,556 acres of cabbage.
- There are **12 companies** and approximately **415 agents** licensed to sell crop insurance in Florida. Additionally, numerous adjusters evaluate crop insurance claims in Florida. Each of these sectors represent good-paying jobs in rural America and ensure top-notch service to Florida's 47,740 farms.
- In 2016, more than **\$56 million in indemnities** were paid to Florida farmers for losses they incurred above and beyond their deductibles, which are on average 25% of the value of the crop. **Florida farmers paid an estimated \$9 million** for this coverage.

**Tom Zacharias, President, National Crop Insurances**

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*The answer isn't health care, transportation, technology or even government. Agriculture is Florida's second-biggest job supplier, according to the University of Florida.*

*A year of hard work and investment can be wiped out in an instant by a late-season hurricane, an early frost or an unexpected outbreak of insects or plant disease.*

*Crop insurance was long viewed as a tool primarily used by corn, soybean and wheat farmers in the nation's midsection. But lately, specialty crop participation along the coasts is growing and insurance protection is available on more than 100 different crops nationwide.*

*More than \$1.3 billion in annual insurance protection is being purchased for Florida orange trees alone with another half a billion for nursery crops. And thank goodness farmers are purchasing these policies.*