Growing Value in North Dakota Agriculture

Agriculture is a leading industry in North Dakota, consistently ranking high in crop and livestock production. North Dakota offers tremendous opportunity in value-added agriculture, such as food processing and manufacturing, as only a small percentage of production is processed in-state.

A State Poised for Economic Growth

North Dakota has all the key elements for successful food processors with the potential for future growth. North Dakota is focused on developing and expanding markets for crops, livestock and bio-fuels. The state offers an array of incentives to encourage continued growth in the industry. Enhanced with attractive business incentives, North Dakota is drawing some of the world’s most successful companies to the state. Cavendish Farms, Roman Meal, JR Simplot, Pro Gold and Minot Milling are just a few of the businesses taking advantage of North Dakota’s legendary business climate and workforce.

Top 10 Export Countries from North Dakota

7. Panama

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration

Industry Facts

$4.1 Billion Agriculture Exports Abroad

26,000 Farms and Ranches Across 39.3 Million Acres

50 Farmers Markets

Updated 06/15/2021
DID YOU KNOW?

Wheat is produced in all 53 counties in North Dakota. Around 19,200 farms grow wheat — 74% spring, 25% durum and 1% winter wheat.

Beef cattle are raised in every North Dakota county with about 1.86 million beef cattle and calves across the state. That’s more than two cattle for every person in North Dakota.

The state has 68 licensed dairy herds that produce more than 40 million gallons of milk each year.

There are approximately 12,127 head of bison in North Dakota. They are raised for meat and hides.

North Dakota has 6 renewable fuel facilities

NORTH DAKOTA LEADS THE NATION

North Dakota leads the nation in the production of the following commodities:
- dry beans, all
- pinto beans
- canola
- flaxseed
- honey
- rye
- sunflower, all
- sunflower, non-oil
- sunflower, oil
- wheat, all
- wheat, durum
- wheat, spring

(USDA 2021 report on 2020 production)

PROCESSING AND PRODUCTION INCENTIVES
- North Dakota offers a range of agricultural processing and production incentives along with ease of access to local financing institutions – including the only state-owned bank in the nation
- Sales tax exemptions on construction materials
- Property tax exemption of up to five years for new or expanding businesses and up to 10 years for ag processors
- In lieu of property tax exemption, in full or part, a company may negotiate a fixed or graduated property tax rate for up to 20 years
- Corporate income tax exemption of up to five years for new or expanding manufacturers
- Wage and salary corporate income tax credit for new businesses
- Income tax credit for research expenditures
- Sales and use tax exemption for manufacturing equipment
- No personal property tax, including equipment, inventory, materials in process and accounts receivable
- Numerous grants and low-interest loans
- Assistance for job training and workforce development
- Lowest workers compensation premium rates in the United States

For more information, contact Kevin Sonsalla at ksonsalla@nd.gov