



Agriculture Is Vital to Maine's Economy

- In 2014 Maine's agriculture industry contributed more than \$950 million to the state's economy.
- Maine has 8,200 farms and 1.45 million acres of farmland. More than 93 percent of farms are less than 500 acres, with an average farm size of 178 acres.
 - 7,629 farms have less than 500 acres.
 - 332 farms have between 500-1000 acres.
 - 212 farms have more than 1000 acres.
- Maine ranks second in the nation in the production of maple syrup and Maine's Somerset County produces more maple syrup than any other county in the country.
- Farming in Maine predates the arrival of European settlers in the seventeenth century. Indians who owned the land had already begun farming beans, squash, and corn.
- The potato is northern Maine's primary agricultural product and the vegetable plays a vital role in the economic prosperity of the region.

Crop Insurance Is Vital to Maine's Agricultural Sector

- Crop insurance protected \$82 million of liability on growing crops in Maine in 2015. There were 122,709 acres insured and more than \$3.4 million was paid to farmers in indemnities for production and/or revenue losses.
- The top commodities (liability) for crop insurance protection in 2015 were:
 - Potatoes - \$61 million, protecting 50,278 acres.
 - Blueberries - \$9.2 million, protecting 15,698 acres.
 - Corn - \$3.7 million, protecting 17,297 acres.