

Juneau County Agricultural Profile 2002

<u>Item</u>	
Farms	805
By Principle Occupation:	
Farming full time	432
Other	373
Average age of farmer	53.9
Land in Farms	179,959 - A
Average Farm Size	224 - A
Corn Grain	30,964 - A
Soybeans	23,560 - A
Pasture, all types	23,415 - A
Alfalfa and other forage	22,007 - A
Corn Silage	4,371- A
Potatoes	2,210 - A
Oats for grain	1,727 - A
Cranberries	1,672 - A
Winter Wheat	1,010 - A
All Cattle & Calves	25,004
Dairy Cows	8,880
Dairy Herds	126
Sheep and lambs	1,097
Horse and ponies	1,084

Dairy goats, bees, emus, laying hens, apples, asparagus, strawberries, buckwheat, ginseng, forest products, sorghum, sudan grass, sunflowers, and mint are among other animals and crops found in the county.

2002 Cash Farm Receipts

Market Value of Agriculture Products Sold	Unit
Total Sales	50,939,935 - 100%
Dairy	17,386,000 - 34.1%
Grain crops	11,931,000 - 23.3%
Fruits & berries	8,255,000 - 16.1%
Cattle & hogs	6,607,000 - 13.4%
Vegetables	5,825,000 - 11.3%
Misc. livestock & Other crops & hay	935,000 - 1.7%

- Statistics are taken from the "2002 Census of Agriculture," at <http://www.nass.usda.gov.census>



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AGRICULTURE

IN

JUNEAU COUNTY



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JUNEAU COUNTY AGRICULTURE

Juneau County, in the South-Central part of Wisconsin, has a total area of 517,063 acres. Of this total 511,303 acres is land and 5,760 is water. The county consists of small cities, and villages. In 2000, the population of Juneau County was 24,316. Mauston, the county seat and the largest city, had a population of 3,740.

The Wisconsin River forms the eastern boundary of the county. The northwestern corner of the county is the location of the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge and the Central Wisconsin Conservation Area. These wildlife areas cover approximately 100,000 acres of land.

Juneau County has a diverse natural resource base of forest, lakes, streams, and farmland. Dairying is the major agricultural enterprise. Potatoes and cranberries are also significant as are alfalfa, corn, soybean, and other crops.

The diversity of Juneau County's resource base lends itself to a mix of agriculture, business and recreation.

CLIMATE

The climate of Juneau County is characterized by marked changes in weather common to Wisconsin. There is a tendency toward extremes in all of the climatic elements.

The average date of the last 32 degree freeze in spring is May 17, the first in fall is September 18. The growing season, defined as the number of days between the last 32 degree freeze and the first in fall, averages 135 days.

Precipitation is usually adequate for agricultural purposes, averaging around 32 inches annually, but soil moisture can become deficient in July and August. Severe drought affecting all crops is rare.

GEOGRAPHY

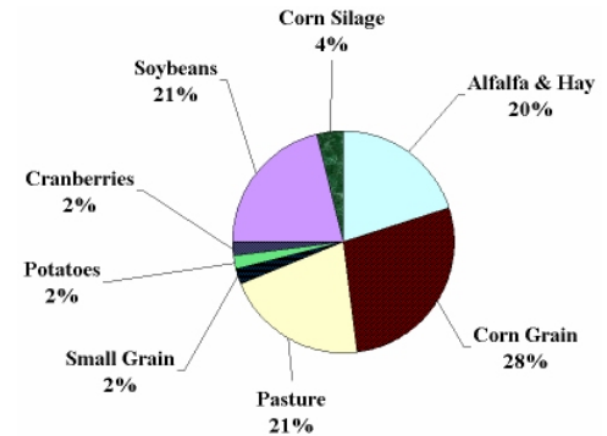
Juneau County lies entirely within the Driftless Area—the unglaciated portion of the state. Most of the county consists of a rather level sandy plain which is a portion of the Central Plain of Wisconsin. The lowland itself is due to the erosion of the weak Cambrian sandstone bedrock rather than to the surface covering of sand and gravel of glacial origin.

The land north and east of Interstate 94 lies in the Central Plain while that south and west of this highway is part of the Western Upland. The change from Central Plain to the Western Upland is very abrupt. The upland itself can have extreme elevation differences between hills and valleys. Heavy silt loams overlying limestone bedrock are the predominant soil type in this area.

The Driftless Area, in which the county lies, was never covered by the continental ice sheets during the Glacial Period (or Pleistocene Ice Age).

Although no part of Juneau County is believed to have been covered by the continental glaciers, the Central Plain is overlain with glacial deposits which resulted from the waters of Glacial Lake Wisconsin which covered over 80 percent of the land area of the county.

Percent of Crop Acreage
2002



Farms by Size

