

from the desk of.....

Greg Preston
Director

In this 2009-2010 annual issue of the "Indiana Agricultural Statistics" publication you will find information about Indiana's entire agricultural industry. This is the 84th edition and is published by the cooperative efforts of Purdue University and USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

This Federal/University cooperative effort has existed since 1925 and continues to enhance the opportunity for agricultural research programs for State specific statistical projects in support of agricultural researchers and decision makers. Some of those projects include Agronomic Survey of Indiana Corn and Soybean Growers, Plant Disease and Fungicide Use Survey, and Timber Price Survey. Results of these special research efforts are published by the individual research programs. Results from these special surveys are not a part of this publication but please feel free to contact us for reference to those researchers for additional information.

This publication satisfies the growing need for accurate, reliable and unbiased information and data. This data is used to provide facts to decision makers that determine the future of Indiana's agricultural industry. The goal for this publication remains unchanged. It is to provide the public with data to help them understand the current situation of Indiana's farming community and future opportunities. We strive to exceed this goal.

Indiana agriculture continues to be a growing segment of the State's economy, with Indiana ranked in the top ten nationally for farm receipts. Hoosier farmers should take pride in the fact that even with adverse weather conditions, rising production expenses and prices, Indiana agriculture continues to thrive. Indiana continues to rank near the top nationally in the production of corn, soybeans, popcorn, blueberries, peppermint, spearmint, processing tomatoes, fresh market melons, and vegetables for processing. Indiana livestock producers put our state's rank at the top for hogs, chickens, eggs, and turkeys.

The information in this annual summary is collected from farmers using surveys throughout the year. The voluntary response and cooperation of Indiana farmers, agricultural business firms, USDA Farm Service Agency County Staff, Purdue University County Extension Staff, NASDA Enumerators, and others across the state makes this Publication possible. The Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service pledges confidentiality of all individual reports and business data. We take every action necessary to ensure this pledge is upheld.

We are again pleased to feature the photography talents of 24 individual 4-H members within Indiana's 2009-2010 Agricultural Statistics Annual Summary. These photographs, exhibited at the 2009 Indiana State Fair, provide a glimpse of Indiana's agriculture from future farmers' perspective. We are grateful to all of the 4-H members who submitted their photos for publication.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the agricultural community, with your help, in providing timely, accurate, and unbiased data. Please let us know your comments and suggestions.

Sincerely,

Greg Preston
Director
USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office

