

*from the desk of...*

## Nathaniel Warenski State Statistician

In this 2023-2024 annual issue of the “Indiana Agricultural Statistics” publication you will find information about Indiana’s entire agricultural industry. This is the 98th edition and is published by the cooperative efforts of Purdue University and USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service.

We are again pleased to feature the photography talents of 15 individual 4-H members within Indiana’s 2023-2024 Agricultural Statistics Annual Summary. These photographs, exhibited at the 2023 Indiana State Fair, provide a glimpse of Indiana’s agriculture from future farmers’ perspective. We are grateful to all the 4-H members who submitted their photos for publication.

I would like to thank you for completing surveys throughout the year. The information provided helps us publish this report and many others for Indiana and the nation. At NASS, we strive for excellence. As part of the commitment, we aim to use the latest and best data points and sources of information. Even though we do use various sources of data, the most valuable piece of information is the data you provide on surveys.

This data is used to provide facts to decision makers that determine the future of Indiana's agricultural industry. The uses of the data are as diverse as the agriculture of Indiana. 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. While we strive to exceed this goal, the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, assures that all individual reports and business data are held in the strictest confidence. We take every action possible to protect your data.

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, maple syrup, spearmint, watermelons, and pumpkins. Indiana livestock producers put our state’s rank at the top for hogs, chickens, eggs, and turkeys.

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. Results of these special research efforts are published by the individual research program. Not all results from the special surveys are a part of this publication but please feel free to contact us for reference to those researchers for additional information. One of the cooperative projects include the Indiana Popcorn Survey. The results of this report can be found on page 31.

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,

Nathaniel Warenski  
State Statistician  
USDA, NASS, Great Lakes Region  
Serving Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio

