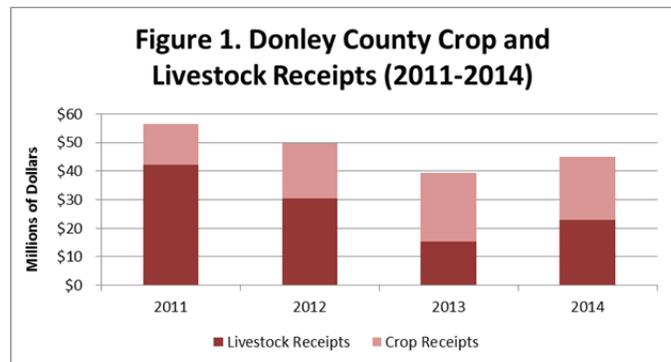


AT A GLANCE

- Donley County's agricultural value exceeded \$45 million in 2014 (Figure 1).
- The 476 agricultural-related employees account for 64% of all private-sector employment (Table 2).
- Donley County ranks 25th in ensilage and fed beef sales among all Texas counties (Table 1).
- Donley County from 2011-2014 averaged in total agricultural receipts of \$49.1 million generating county- and state-wide level impacts of \$66.5 million and \$95.5 million, respectively (Table 1).
- This analysis does not include the impact of agriculturally related public sector employees or the 380 farm and ranch operators.

The Impact of Agribusiness DONLEY COUNTY 2015

Most of Donley County's 927 square miles are used for agricultural purposes with 517,126 acres in permanent pasture and another 67,970 acres in cropland. Approximately 15,000 irrigated acres provide flexibility with respect to the type of crops that can be grown in the county. The droughts of 2011 and 2012 adversely affected crop production while increasing livestock receipts due to herd liquidations (Figure 1). Relief from the drought combined with higher cattle prices are starting to lead to a recovery in agricultural receipts.



Crop production is an important part of the local economy, generating an average of \$20 million annually in the 2011-2014 time period (Table 1). Cotton and peanuts are the primary crops grown with average annual sales of \$8.9 million and \$4.2 million (within the Other Crops category), respectively.

	Value (\$1,000,000)	State Rank	County Economic Impact* (\$1,000,000)	State Economic Impact* (\$1,000,000)
Crops:				
Corn	\$1.1	84	\$1.6	\$2.6
Wheat	\$0.4	108	\$0.6	\$1.0
Cotton	\$8.9	61	\$12.0	\$16.1
Sorghum	\$0.2	129	\$0.3	\$0.5
Ensilage	\$1.5	25	\$1.9	\$2.8
Hay	\$3.3	100	\$4.3	\$6.2
Other Crops	\$4.6	86	\$6.0	\$8.6
Total Crop Receipts	\$20.0	108	\$26.7	\$37.8
Livestock and Livestock Products:				
Fed Beef - Value Added	\$14.6	25	\$20.1	\$29.1
Cow-calf and Stockers	\$13.0	135	\$17.9	\$25.8
Hogs	\$0.0		\$0.0	\$0.0
Dairy	\$0.0		\$0.0	\$0.0
Other	\$0.0		\$0.0	\$0.0
Total L & LP	\$27.7	105	\$38.0	\$54.9
Other Ag-Related	\$1.4	176	\$1.9	\$2.8
Total Agricultural Receipts**	\$49.1	132	\$66.5	\$95.5

*Does not include impacts of forward-linkages through the processing sectors.

** Rounding of numbers may affect totals and prevent some commodities with low receipts from appearing in the table.

Livestock production is a critical part of the local economy, contributing \$27.7 million in value-added sales annually. Fed beef is the primary component of livestock production in the county, with feedlot operations helping to provide value-added sales of \$14.6 million annually in the 2011-2014 time period (Table 1). Donley County is ranked 25th among Texas counties in fed-beef production. Cow-calf and stocker operations also contributed significantly to the economy, adding \$13 million in value-added production.



Of course, the direct value of agricultural production is not the only benefit to the local economy. Many production expenses are paid to local suppliers. Farmers and ranchers also spend part of their wages and profits in the county - eating at local restaurants and buying groceries, clothing, etc. In turn, the employees of these businesses purchase supplies and spend wages at local businesses. Money is multiplied as it circulates through the economy. The original \$49.1 million in cash receipts from farm and ranch production leads to a total county-level economic output contribution of \$66.5 million. Some money does leave the region as people and businesses purchase goods and services outside the county or state. However, a good deal of the money that is spent outside Donley County is still spent in Texas, so the farm-level production leads to a larger state-level output of \$95.5 million.

	Number of Employees	Annual Payroll \$1,000,000
Private Sector	203	\$3.50
Farm and Ranch	273	\$2.85
Total	476	\$6.35

Agribusinesses take many forms including: manufacturing, retail trade and food service, wholesale trade, agricultural services and transportation. A total of 203 people were employed in Donley County agribusinesses during 2013, with an associated payroll of \$3.5 million, according to the 2013 Texas County Business Patterns publication (Table 2). In addition, 273 people were either employed full- or part- time on local farms, ranches and confined livestock operations, earning \$2.9 million annually (2012 Census of Agriculture). It should be noted that the impact of agriculture on the Donley County economy is underestimated since the economic contributions of public sector employees working in agriculture and the 380 farm and ranch operators are not considered in this analysis.

*Employment estimates do not include ag-related public sector/government employees

(AgEco-FS-9: Dr. Rebekka Dudensing, Ruoxi Lu and Jonathan Ellison, College Station; Dr. Steve Amosson, Kay Ledbetter and Michelle Jones, Amarillo; Dr. Bridget Guerrero, Canyon; and Leonard Haynes, Donley County. Revised August 2015)

