

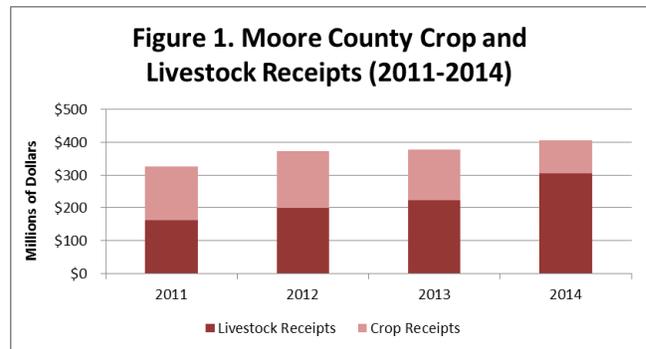
**AT A GLANCE**

- Moore County's agricultural value exceeded \$404.7 million in 2014 (Figure 1).
- The 5,545 agricultural-related employees account for 59.4% of all private-sector employment.
- Moore County ranks 2nd in sorghum, 6th in corn, 6th in dairy, 8th in wheat and 11th in fed-beef sales among all Texas counties.
- Moore County ranks 10th among all Texas counties with total agricultural receipts from 2011-2014 averaging \$370 million, generating county- and state-level impacts of \$505 million and \$747.4 million, respectively.
- Moore County ranks 23rd nationwide in the market of value of cattle and calves sold and 24th in sorghum, according to the 2012 Census of Agriculture.
- This analysis does not include the impact of agriculturally related public sector employees or the 261 farm and ranch operators.

## The Impact of Agribusiness MOORE COUNTY 2015

Most of Moore County's 900-square-mile land area is used for agricultural purposes, with 260,003 acres in permanent pasture and another 263,647 acres in cropland. Agricultural receipts reached a four year high in 2014 with dramatically higher livestock prices outweighing losses in crop receipts (Figure 1).

Crop production is an important part of the local economy, generating an average of \$147.4 million annually in the 2011-2014 time period. Approximately 122,000 irrigated acres provide flexibility with respect to the type of crops that can be grown in the county. However, the traditional crops of corn, sorghum, cotton, wheat and hay dominate with average annual sales of \$52.4 million, \$40.5 million, \$19.6 million, \$14.7 million and \$12.7 million, respectively (Table 1). Overall, Moore County ranks 2nd in sorghum production, 6th in corn, 8th in wheat and 10th in total agricultural receipts among the state's 254 counties.



	Value (\$1,000,000)	State Rank	County Economic Impact* (\$1,000,000)	State Economic Impact* (\$1,000,000)
<b>Crops:</b>				
Corn	\$52.4	6	\$80.5	\$120.9
Wheat	\$14.7	8	\$22.5	\$33.9
Cotton	\$19.6	38	\$27.7	\$35.7
Sorghum	\$40.5	2	\$62.2	\$93.5
Ensilage	\$7.0	13	\$9.7	\$13.2
Hay	\$12.7	25	\$17.7	\$23.8
Other Crops	\$0.5	163	\$0.7	\$0.9
<b>Total Crop Receipts</b>	<b>\$147.4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>\$221.0</b>	<b>\$321.8</b>
<b>Livestock and Livestock Products:</b>				
Fed Beef - Value Added	\$93.2	11	\$119.3	\$184.9
Cow-calf and Stockers	\$14.2	125	\$18.1	\$28.1
Hogs	\$0.0		\$0.0	\$0.0
Dairy	\$115.1	6	\$146.4	\$212.3
Other	\$0.0		\$0.0	\$0.0
<b>Total L &amp; LP</b>	<b>\$222.5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>\$283.8</b>	<b>\$425.3</b>
<b>Other Ag-Related</b>	<b>\$0.2</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>\$0.2</b>	<b>\$0.3</b>
<b>Total Agricultural Receipts**</b>	<b>\$370.0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>\$505.0</b>	<b>\$747.4</b>

\*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 \$222.5 million in value-added sales annually. The dairy industry is now the primary component of livestock production in the county, providing value-added sales of \$115.1 million annually in the 2011-2014 time period. Moore County is ranked 6th among Texas counties in dairy sales and 11th in fed-beef production. Fed beef contributes average annual receipts of \$93.2 million. Cow-calf and stocker operations average \$14.2 million in annual sales (Table 1).



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 \$370 million in cash receipts from farm- and ranch-production leads to a total county-level economic output contribution of \$505 million (Table 1). 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 Moore County is still spent in Texas, so the farm-

	<b>Number of Employees</b>	<b>Annual Payroll \$1,000,000</b>
<b>Private Sector</b>	<b>4,959</b>	<b>\$196.40</b>
<b>Farm and Ranch</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>\$12.84</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,545</b>	<b>\$209.24</b>

\*Employment estimates do not include ag-related public sector/government employees. Level production leads to a larger state-level output of \$747.4 million.

Agribusinesses take many forms including: manufacturing, retail trade and food service, wholesale trade, agricultural services and transportation. A total of 4,959 people were employed in Moore County agribusinesses during 2013, with an associated payroll of \$196.4 million, according to the 2013 Texas County Business Patterns publication (Table 2). In addition, 586 people were either employed full- or part-time on local farms, ranches and confined livestock operations, earning \$12.8 million annually. It should be noted that the impact of agriculture on the Moore County economy is underestimated, since the economic contributions of public sector employees working in agriculture and the 261 farm and ranch operators are not considered in this analysis.



*(AgEco-FS-17: Dr. Steve Amosson, Kay Ledbetter and Michelle Jones, Amarillo; Dr. Rebekka Dudensing, Ruoxi Lu and Jonathan Ellison, College Station; Dr. Bridget Guerrero, Canyon; and Marcel Fischbacher, Moore County. Revised August 2015).*