

AT A GLANCE

- Roberts County's agricultural value exceeded \$21.7 million in 2014 (Figure 1).
- The 144 agricultural-related employees account for 67.1% of all private-sector employment (Table 2).
- Roberts County ranks 36th in ensilage and 60th in corn production among the 254 Texas counties (Table 1).
- Roberts County from 2011-2014 averaged in total agricultural receipts \$19.6 million, generating county- and state-level impacts of \$26.9 million and \$40 million, respectively (Table 1).
- This analysis does not include the impact of agriculturally related public sector employees or the 107 farm and ranch operators.

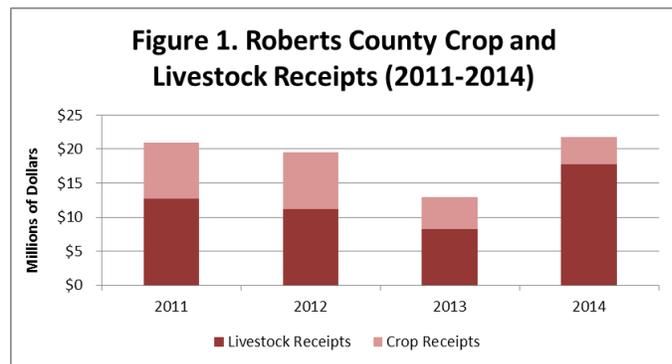
The Impact of Agribusiness ROBERTS COUNTY 2015

Most of Roberts County's 924-square mile land area is used for agricultural purposes, with 513,179 acres in permanent pasture and another 49,269 acres in cropland.

With only 6,000 irrigated acres, there is limited flexibility with respect to the type of crops that can be grown in the county. However, the traditional crops of corn, wheat and

cotton dominate with average annual sales of \$2.6 million, \$1.1 million and \$1.1 million, respectively. Overall, Roberts County ranks 36th in ensilage production and 60th in corn among the 254 Texas counties (Table 1).

Cow-calf and stocker operations are the primary components of livestock production in the county, providing value-added sales of \$12.5 million annually in the 2011-2014 time period (Table 1). The dramatic rise in beef prices increased livestock receipts \$9.5 million between 2013 and 2014 (Figure 1).



	Value (\$1,000,000)	State Rank	County Economic Impact* (\$1,000,000)	State Economic Impact* (\$1,000,000)
Crops:				
Corn	\$2.6	60	\$3.8	\$6.1
Wheat	\$1.1	88	\$1.6	\$2.6
Cotton	\$1.1	116	\$1.5	\$1.9
Sorghum	\$0.3	114	\$0.4	\$0.6
Ensilage	\$0.4	36	\$0.5	\$0.7
Hay	\$0.8	168	\$1.1	\$1.5
Other Crops	\$0.0		\$0.0	\$0.0
Total Crop Receipts	\$6.3	176	\$8.9	\$13.5
Livestock and Livestock Products:				
Fed Beef - Value Added	\$0.0		\$0.0	\$0.0
Cow-calf and Stockers	\$12.5	141	\$17.9	\$24.8
Hogs	\$0.0		\$0.0	\$0.0
Dairy	\$0.0		\$0.0	\$0.0
Other	\$0.0		\$0.0	\$0.0
Total L & LP	\$12.5	165	\$17.9	\$24.8
Other Ag-Related	\$0.9	187	\$0.1	\$1.7
Total Agricultural Receipts**	\$19.6	215	\$26.9	\$40.0

*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.

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 the local restaurant and buying groceries. 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 \$19.6 million in cash receipts from farm and ranch production leads to a total county-level economic output of \$26.9 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 Roberts County is still spent in Texas, so the farm-level production leads to a larger state-level output of \$40 million (Table 1).



Table 2. Roberts County Ag-Related Employment		
	Number of Employees	Annual Payroll \$1,000,000
Private Sector	33	\$0.90
Farm and Ranch	111	\$0.78
Total	144	\$1.68

Agribusinesses take many forms including: manufacturing, retail trade and food service, wholesale trade, agricultural services and transportation. A total of 33 people were employed in Roberts County agribusinesses during 2013, with an associated payroll of \$900,000, according to the 2013 Texas County Business Patterns publication. In addition, 111 people were either employed full- or part-time on local farms and ranches, earning

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

\$800,000 annually (Table 2). It should be noted that the impact of agriculture on the Roberts County economy is underestimated, since the economic contributions of public sector employees working in agriculture and the 107 farm and ranch operators are not considered in this analysis.

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