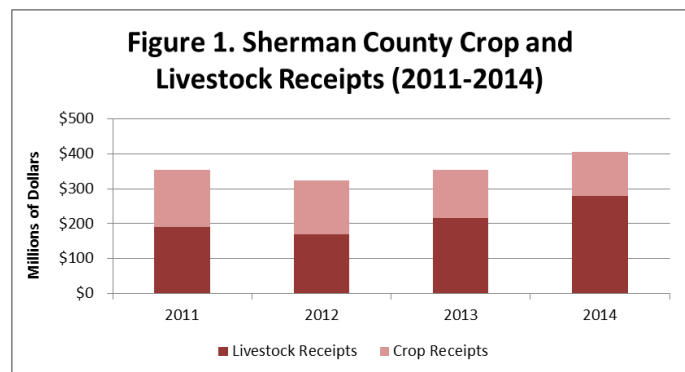


AT A GLANCE

- *Sherman County's agricultural value exceeded \$405.9 million in 2014 (Figure 1).*
- *Sherman County ranks 2nd in hog sales, 4th in corn sales, 7th in wheat sales, 9th in fed-cattle production and 17th in dairy sales (Table 1).*
- *Approximately 664 agricultural-related workers make up 89% of all private sector employment. (Table 2).*
- *Sherman County ranks 12th among Texas counties with total agricultural receipts from 2011-2014 averaging \$359.5 million. Estimated county- and state-level impacts are \$446.2 million and \$725.6 million, respectively (Table 1).*
- *This analysis does not include the impact of agriculturally related public sector employees or the 313 farm and ranch operators.*

The Impact of Agribusiness SHERMAN COUNTY 2015

Most of Sherman County's 923-square-mile land area is used for agricultural purposes, with 244,026 acres in permanent pasture and another 339,142 acres in cropland. Approximately 126,600 irrigated acres provide flexibility with respect to the type of crops grown. Primary crops include corn, wheat, cotton and hay with average annual sales of \$83 million, \$16.3 million, \$14.5 million and \$13.1 million, respectively. Overall, Sherman County ranks 4th in corn production, 7th in wheat, 11th in ensilage and 12th in total crop receipts among the state's 254 counties (Table 1).



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Sherman County livestock sales ranked 15th among Texas counties from 2011-2014, averaging \$214.1 million in value-added sales. The dairy industry entered the county in 2013 and ranks 17th in the state with \$20 million in sales. Fed beef is a major contributor to livestock receipts. Feedlot operations have annual sales of \$140.2 million. As a result,

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Table 1. Average Annual Agricultural Cash Receipts, Sherman County, 2011-2014.

	Value (\$1,000,000)	State Rank	County Economic Impact* (\$1,000,000)	State Economic Impact* (\$1,000,000)
Crops:				
Corn	\$83.0	4	\$101.5	\$191.6
Wheat	\$16.3	7	\$20.0	\$37.7
Cotton	\$14.5	48	\$17.0	\$26.5
Sorghum	\$9.8	22	\$12.0	\$22.6
Ensilage	\$8.3	11	\$9.7	\$15.7
Hay	\$13.1	23	\$15.1	\$24.5
Other Crops	\$0.3	170	\$0.4	\$0.6
Total Crop Receipts	\$145.4	13	\$175.6	\$319.2
Livestock and Livestock Products:				
Fed Beef - Value Added	\$140.2	9	\$183.2	\$278.2
Cow-calf and Stockers	\$25.1	70	\$32.8	\$49.8
Hogs	\$28.7	2	\$31.2	\$41.3
Dairy	\$20.0	17	\$23.2	\$36.9
Other	\$0.0		\$0.0	\$0.0
Total L & LP	\$214.1	15	\$270.5	\$406.2
Other Ag-Related	\$0.1	237	\$0.1	\$0.2
Total Agricultural Receipts**	\$359.5	12	\$446.2	\$725.6

*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.

Sherman County ranks 9th among Texas counties in fed-beef production. Cow-calf and stocker operations totaled \$25.1 million in value-added production, annually. The swine industry receipts averaged \$28.7 million from 2011-2014. Consequently, Sherman County ranks 2nd in Texas hog production (Table 1). The value of livestock production jumped significantly (\$63.5 million) between 2013 and 2014 in response to higher prices for milk, hogs and beef (Figure 1).



The value of crop and livestock receipts is not the only agricultural component benefiting the Sherman County 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 restaurants and buying groceries, clothing, etc. In turn, the employees of these businesses purchase supplies and spend wages at other businesses.

Table 2. Sherman County Ag-Related Employment

	Number of Employees	Annual Payroll \$1,000,000
Private Sector	190	\$6.10
Farm and Ranch	474	\$9.62
Total	664	\$15.72

As money circulates through the economy, it multiplies the original \$359.5 million in cash receipts from farm and ranch production to a total county-level economic output contribution of \$446.2 million. A great deal of the money spent outside Sherman County is still used in Texas. Therefore, farm and ranch-level production leads to a larger state-level impact of \$725.6 million (Table 1).

Agribusinesses take many forms: manufacturing, retail trade and food service, wholesale trade, agricultural services and transportation. According to the 2013 Texas County Business Patterns publication, a total of 190 people were employed in Sherman County agribusinesses during 2013 with an associated payroll of \$6.1 million. In addition, 474 people worked either full- or part-time on local farms, ranches and confined livestock operations, earning \$9.6 million annually. It should be noted that the impact of agriculture on the Sherman County economy is underestimated, since the economic contributions of public sector employees working in agriculture and the 313 farm and ranch operators are not considered in this analysis.



(AgEco-FS-24: Dr. Steve Amosson, Kay Ledbetter and Michelle Jones, Amarillo; Dr. Rebekka Dudensing, Ruoxi Lu and Jonathan Ellison, College Station; Dr. Bridget Guerrero, Canyon; and Alexa Reed, Sherman County. Revised August 2015)