



Oregon

Capital: Salem
Population: 3,504,700
Founded: February 14, 1859 (33rd State)
State Bird: Western Meadowlark
State Tree: Douglas Fir
State Flower: Oregon Grape
State Beverage: Milk
State Nut: Hazelnut
State Fish: Chinook Salmon
State Rock: Thunder Egg
Number of Counties: 36
Largest City: Portland **Population:** 536,240

A Look at Oregon Agriculture



Climate



- Oregon's climate is ideal for the production of numerous crops.
- Oregon has three distinct growing areas, the Oregon coast, the Willamette Valley, and Eastern and Southern Oregon.
- Oregon averages 31" of rainfall, however areas on the Oregon coast average over 90 inches per year while Eastern and Southern Oregon are much drier. 14 of our 36 counties average 15" of rainfall or less.
- Oregon summers are very dry. We rely heavily on irrigation. Nearly 78% of water usage in Oregon goes for farm irrigation, compared to 40% nationally.

Crops



- Crops account for 69% of the state's total sales.
- Greenhouse & Nursery products, hay, grass seed, wheat, Christmas trees, onions, potatoes and pears are the leading crops in Oregon.
- Oregon leads the nation in the production of blackberries, hazelnuts, loganberries, black raspberries, ryegrass seed, orchardgrass seed, sugarbeets for seed, crimson clover, fescue seed, boysen and youngberries, red clover seed, potted florist azaleas, Christmas trees and dried herbs.
- Oregon ranks #2 in the nation for the production of peppermint, Dungeness crab, onions, hops, snap beans for processing, red raspberries, spearmint and prunes and plums.
- The other facts and trivia are correct.

Soil



- Oregon has approximately 2,000 different types of soil.
- The depth of Oregon's topsoil averages about 10". This varies greatly from the coastal areas, forests, valleys, and Southern and Eastern regions of the state.

General



- In 2003, there were 40,000 farms in Oregon.
- Oregon has 17,200,000 acres in farmland.
- Oregon's average farm is 420 acres.
- More than 220 different commodities can be found throughout Oregon.
- Oregon exports about 80% of its agricultural products, about half goes out of state and half goes out of the country.
- Five of the top six agricultural counties are within an hour's drive of Oregon's two largest cities.

Animals



- Beef cattle and dairy products are the most important livestock commodities to Oregon.
- Groundfish, crab, shrimp, tuna, salmon, and oysters are important to the commercial fishing industry in Oregon.
- Beef by-products include marshmallows, soap, footballs, mayonnaise, candles, photo film, and pharmaceutical supplies.
- Livestock and poultry account for 31% of the state's total sales.
- The livestock category is dominated by cattle and calves. Dairy numbers have increased while the beef inventory has decreased.
- Specialty livestock such as goats and llamas have increased significantly.



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