South Dakota has 29,968 Farms

Agritourism activities fit within five main categories:
- **Direct sales**: consumers buy directly from farmers
- **Education**: learning experiences, such as school tours
- **Hospitality**: includes farm stays, on-farm dinners
- **Outdoor recreation**: outdoor farm experiences
- **Entertainment**: on-farm activities such as festivals

According to the 2017 Agricultural Census, South Dakota has **1,072 Farms offering Direct Sales or Agritourism**

**Direct Sales or Agritourism**
- **540 Farms with only Direct Sales**
- **492 Farms with only Agritourism**
- **40 Farms with both Direct Sales and Agritourism**

Each of these three subsets of farms is detailed on its own page in the remainder of this information sheet.

Data source: 2017 Census of Agriculture data. Special data request. Contact: Claudia Schmidt, Penn State, cschmidt@psu.edu. In the questionnaire for farms and ranches, two questions were included that pertain to agritourism (USDA NASS Census of Agriculture 2017):

1. “Report the gross dollar amount received before taxes and expenses in 2017 for income from agritourism and recreational services, such as farm tours, hayrides, hunting, fishing, etc.”
2. “How much was received in 2017 for the food produced and sold directly to consumers: farmers markets, on-farm stores or farm stands, roadside stands or stores, u-pick, CSA (Community Supported Agriculture), online marketplaces, and so on? Include edible agricultural products for human consumption. Exclude nonedible products such as hay, cut flowers, Christmas trees, nursery products, and so on; commodities produced under production contracts; products purchased and resold.”

Please note that NASS gets information on up to 4 “producers” per farm, so the summed number of producers exceeds the number of farms. The three categories are mutually exclusive as presented here. In the publicly available census data the number of farms receiving income from agritourism totals 532, the category of farms receiving income from direct sales totals 580.

South Dakota
540 Farms with only Direct Sales

Most operators are full owners

- Tenants: 13.1%
- Part Owners: 26.5%
- Full Owners: 60.4%

Most farms are more than 10 years old

- >10 years: 58.6%
- 5-9 years: 20.4%
- 3-4 years: 13.0%
- <2 years: 8.0%

42.3% of operators are female

The largest proportion of farmers are 55-64 years old

22.6% of farms make less than $10,000 annually from direct sales

Farms with direct sales sell a variety of products (top four)

- Beef cattle: 36.9%
- Oilseed and grain: 11.7%
- Vegetable and melon: 10.7%
- Diversified livestock: 10.7%

49.1% of farms are less than 50 acres in size

- 1-9 acres: 25.2%
- 10-49 acres: 23.9%
- 50-99 acres: 8.3%
- 500-999 acres: 7.4%
- 1,000-1,999 acres: 7.4%
- 70-99 acres: 5.6%
- 50-69 acres: 4.6%

Data source: 2017 Census of Agriculture data. Special data request. Contact: Claudia Schmidt, Penn State: cschmidt@psu.edu.
South Dakota
492 Farms with only Agritourism

48.0% of operators are full owners

- Tenants: 6.9%
- Part Owners: 45.1%
- Full Owners: 48.0%

Most farms are more than 10 years old

- >10 years: 80.3%
- <2 years: 3.6%
- 2-4 years: 4.9%
- 5-9 years: 11.2%

34.2% of operators are female

- Female: 34.2%
- Male: 65.8%

8.1% of farms are less than 50 acres in size

- >2,000 acres: 8.7%
- 1,000-1,999 acres: 0.7%
- 500-999 acres: 1.3%
- 260-499 acres: 1.6%
- 100-49 acres: 2.7%
- 140-179 acres: 0.9%
- 70-99 acres: 1.6%
- 100-139 acres: 0.9%

Farms with direct sales sell a variety of products (top four)

- Beef cattle: 33.3%
- Oilseed and grain: 31.1%
- Diversified crops: 16.5%
- Diversified livestock: 13.4%

The largest proportion of farmers are 55-64 years old

- 55-64 years: 31.3%
- 45-54 years: 17.6%
- 35-44 years: 9.9%
- 25-34 years: 5.1%
- <25 years: 1.4%
- >75 years: 9.0%

12.4% of farms make less than $10,000 annually from only agritourism

Data source: 2017 Census of Agriculture data. Special data request. Contact: Claudia Schmidt, Penn State: cschmidt@psu.edu.
South Dakota
40 Farms with both Direct Sales and Agritourism

Most operators are full owners

- 52.5% Full Owners
- 40.0% Part Owners
- 7.5% Tenants

Most farms are more than 10 years old

- >10 years, 59.0%
- 5-9 years, 35.9%
- <2 years, 2.6%
- 3-4 years, 2.6%

41.0% of operators are female

- Female
- Male

35.0% of farms are less than 50 acres in size

- 1-9 acres
- 10-49 acres
- 50-69 acres
- 220-259 acres
- 260-499 acres
- 500-999 acres
- >2,000 acres

Farms with direct sales sell a variety of products (top four)

- 40.0% Beef cattle
- 22.5% Diversified livestock
- 10.0% Oilseed and grain
- 10.0% Vegetable and melon

The largest proportion of farmers are 45-54 years old

Data source: 2017 Census of Agriculture data. Special data request. Contact: Claudia Schmidt, Penn State: cschmidt@psu.edu.
Agritourism in South Dakota

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