

The Economic Importance of Food and Fiber

A Spotlight on Hart County, Georgia

Prepared for:
Hart County Cooperative Extension Service
April, 2005

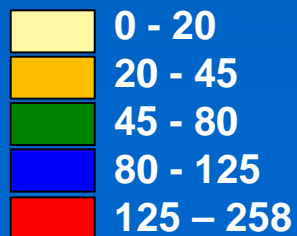
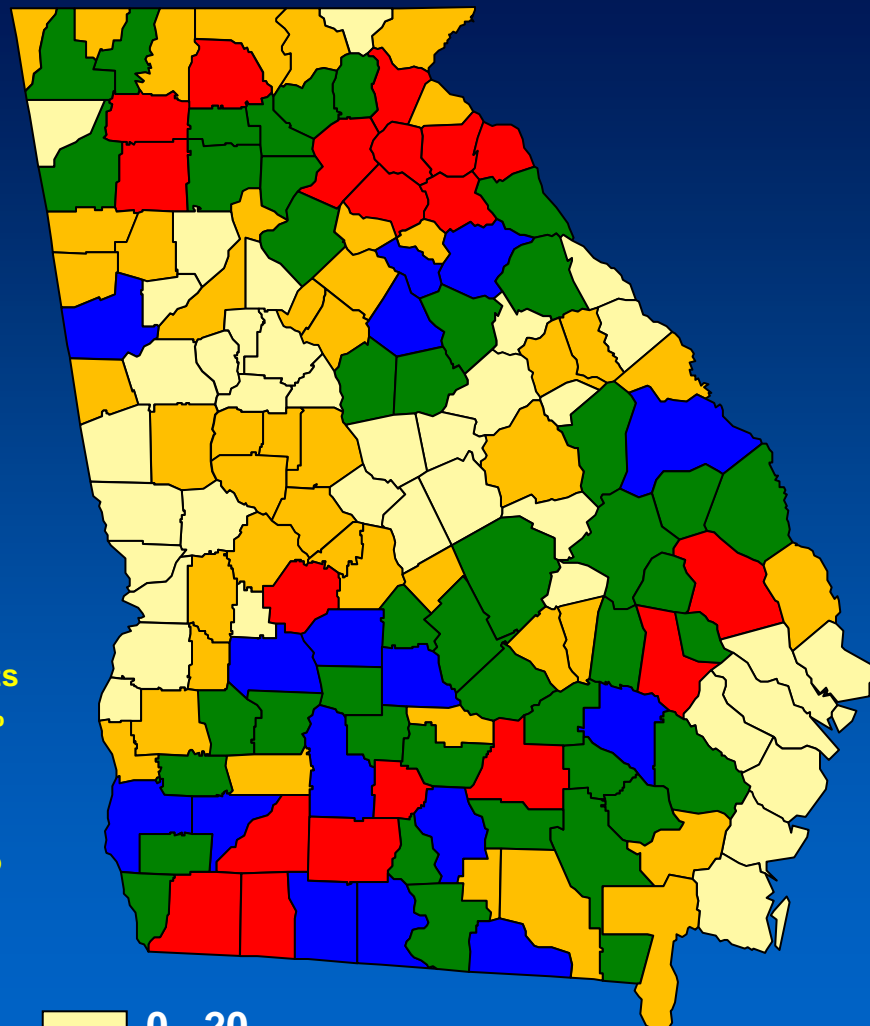
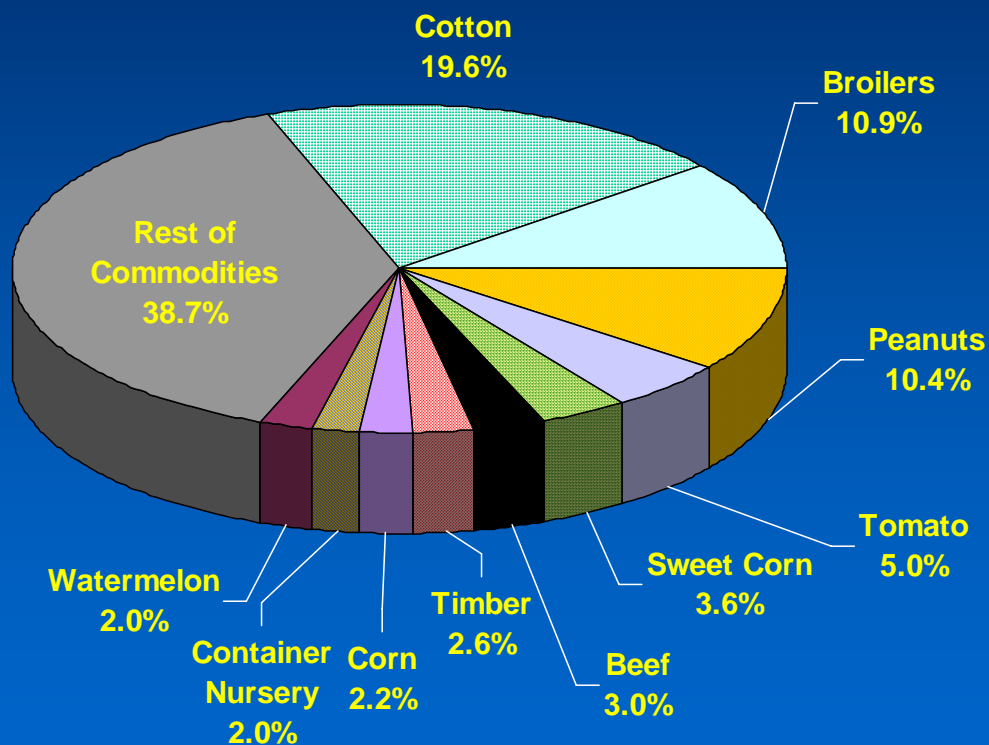
by:
The Center for Agribusiness and
Economic Development
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
The University of Georgia

Agriculture in Georgia

- Georgia's 2003 Farm Gate Value of agricultural production was \$9.9 billion.
- Total food and fiber production and directly related businesses account for \$29.5 billion of Georgia's \$544 billion economy.

Production Agriculture: 2003

GA Farm Gate
Total Value
\$9.9 Billion



Farm Gate Value
in \$ Millions

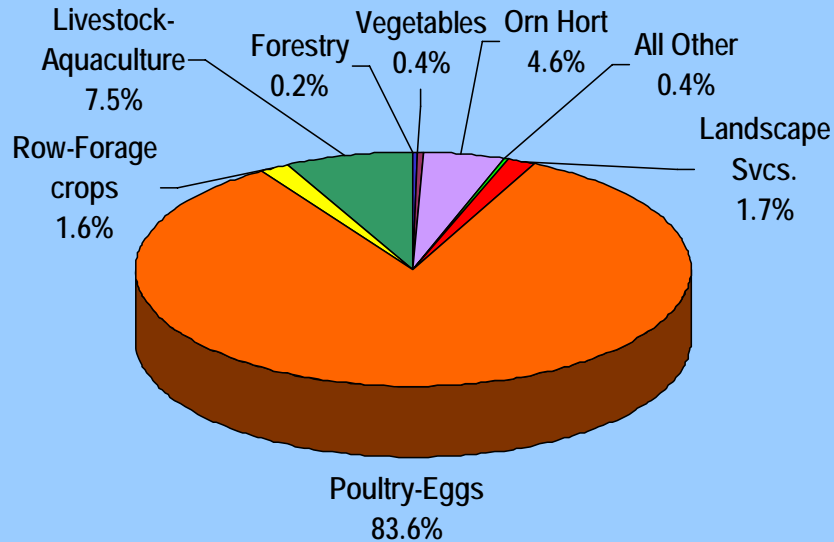
What We Know about Hart County

- Agricultural production in Hart County generated \$237.5 million in 2004.
- The highest value commodity group was poultry/eggs, representing 83.6% of the total agricultural production value.

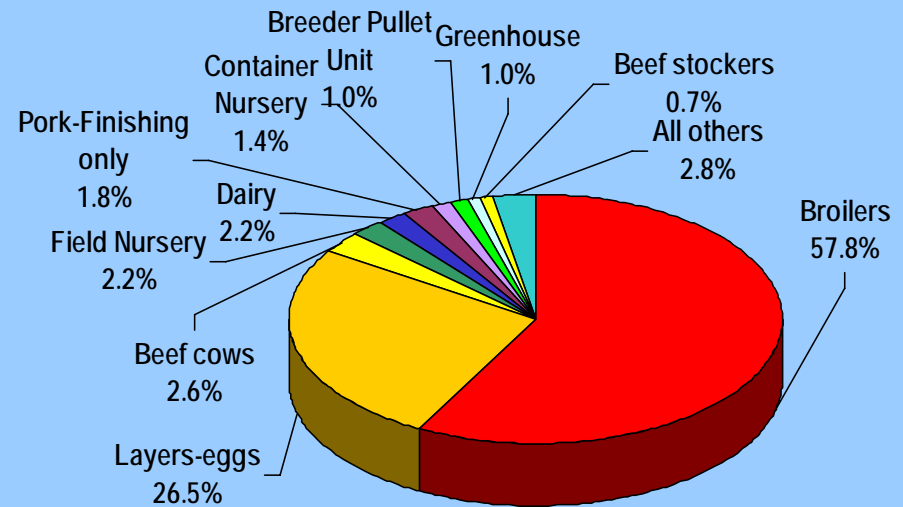
Hart County

2004 Agricultural Production Value

2004 Agricultural Production and Landscape Services



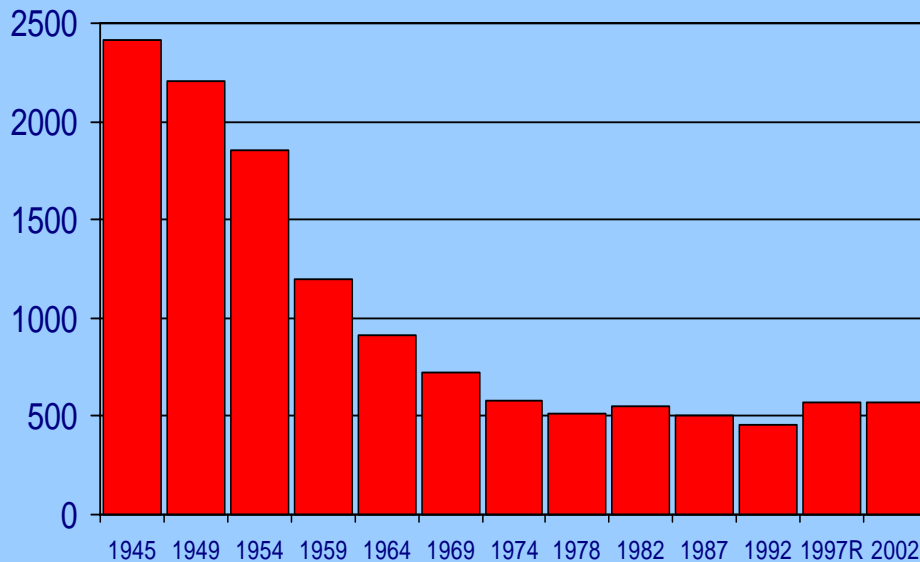
2004 Top Farm Gate Commodities



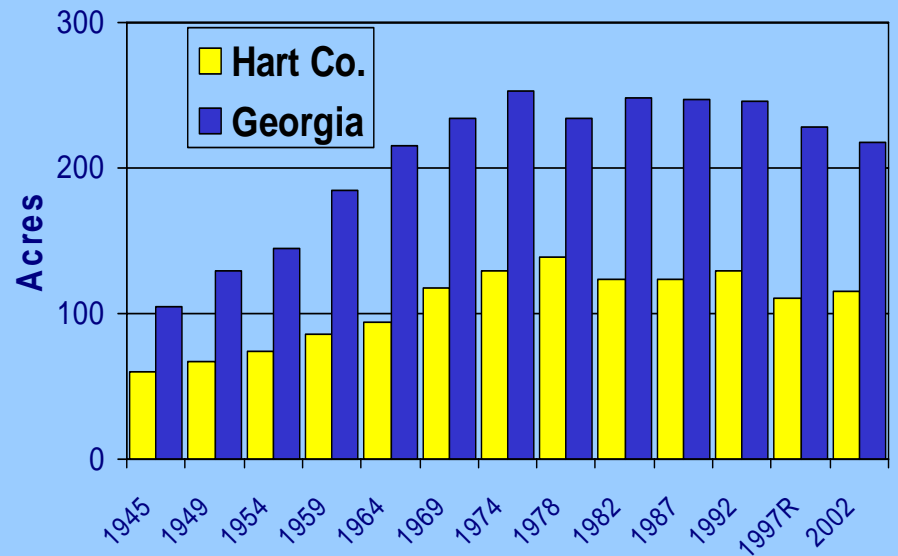
Total AG Value = \$237.5 million

Trends in Hart County: Number of Farms & Average Farm Size

Number of Farms, Hart County



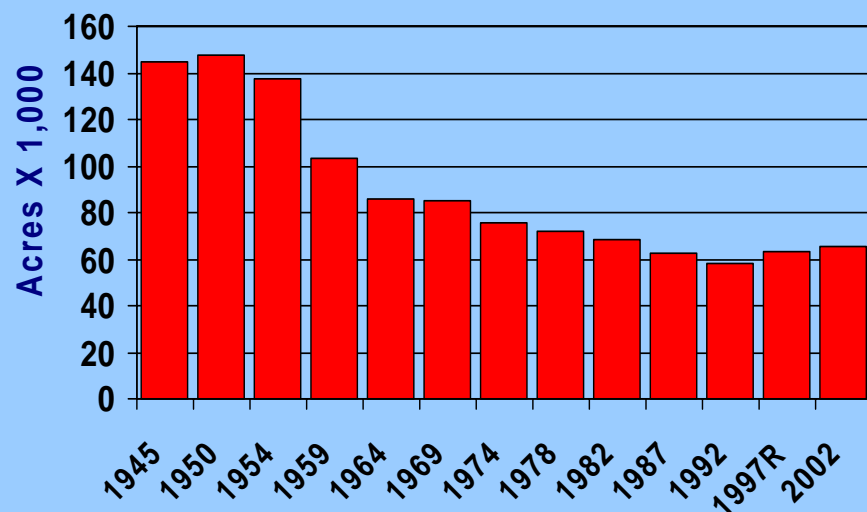
Average Farm Size



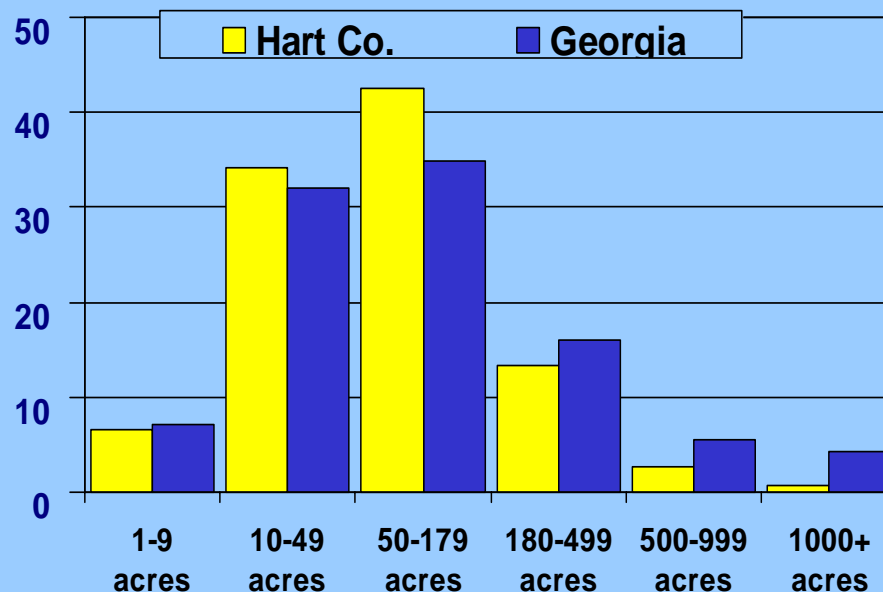
Source: 1945-2002 (quinquennial) Censuses of Agriculture

Trends in Hart County: Land in Farms & Farms by Size

Land in Farms
Hart County



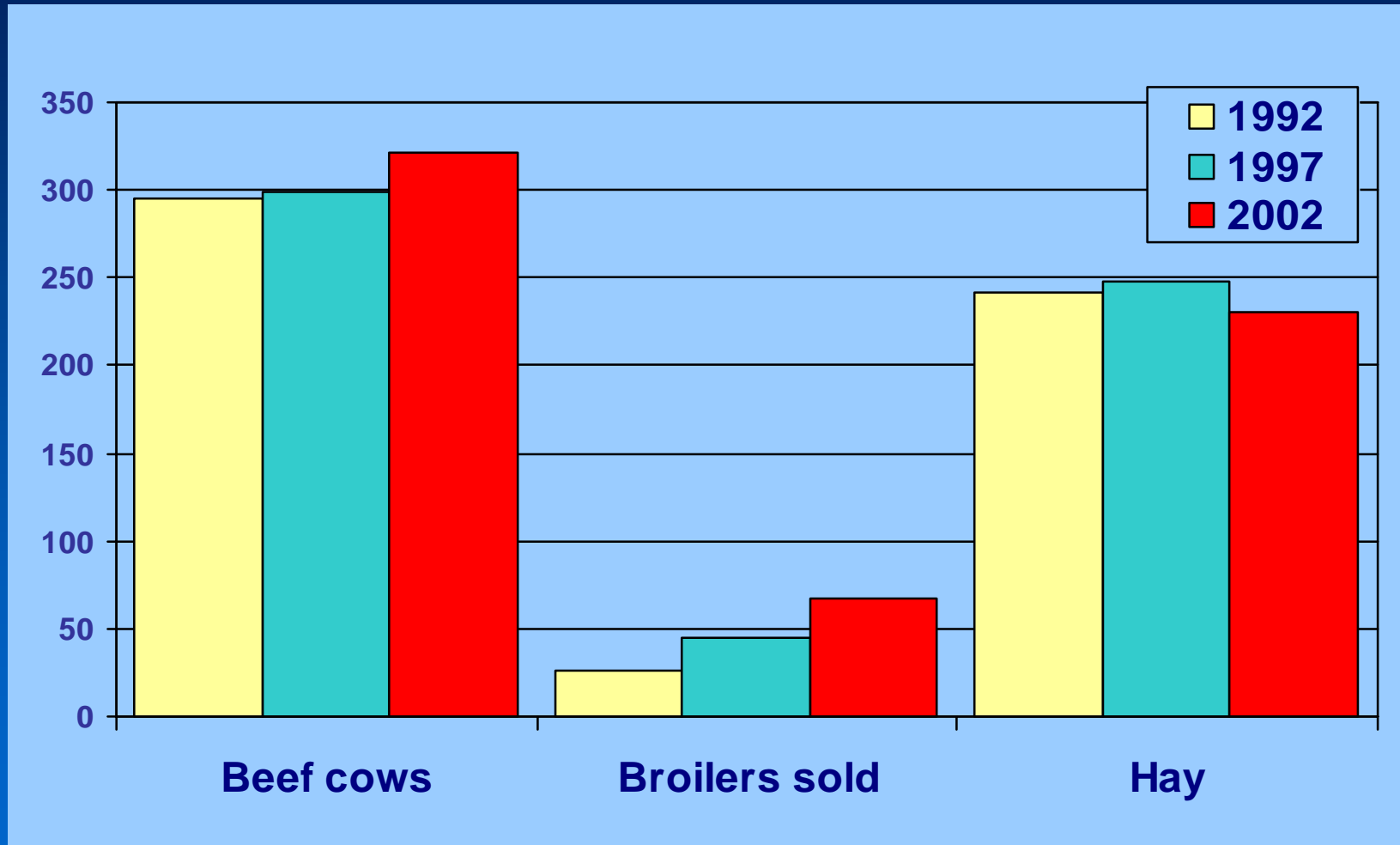
Percent of Farms by Size, 2002



Source: 1945-2002 (quinquennial) Censuses of Agriculture

Trends in Hart County

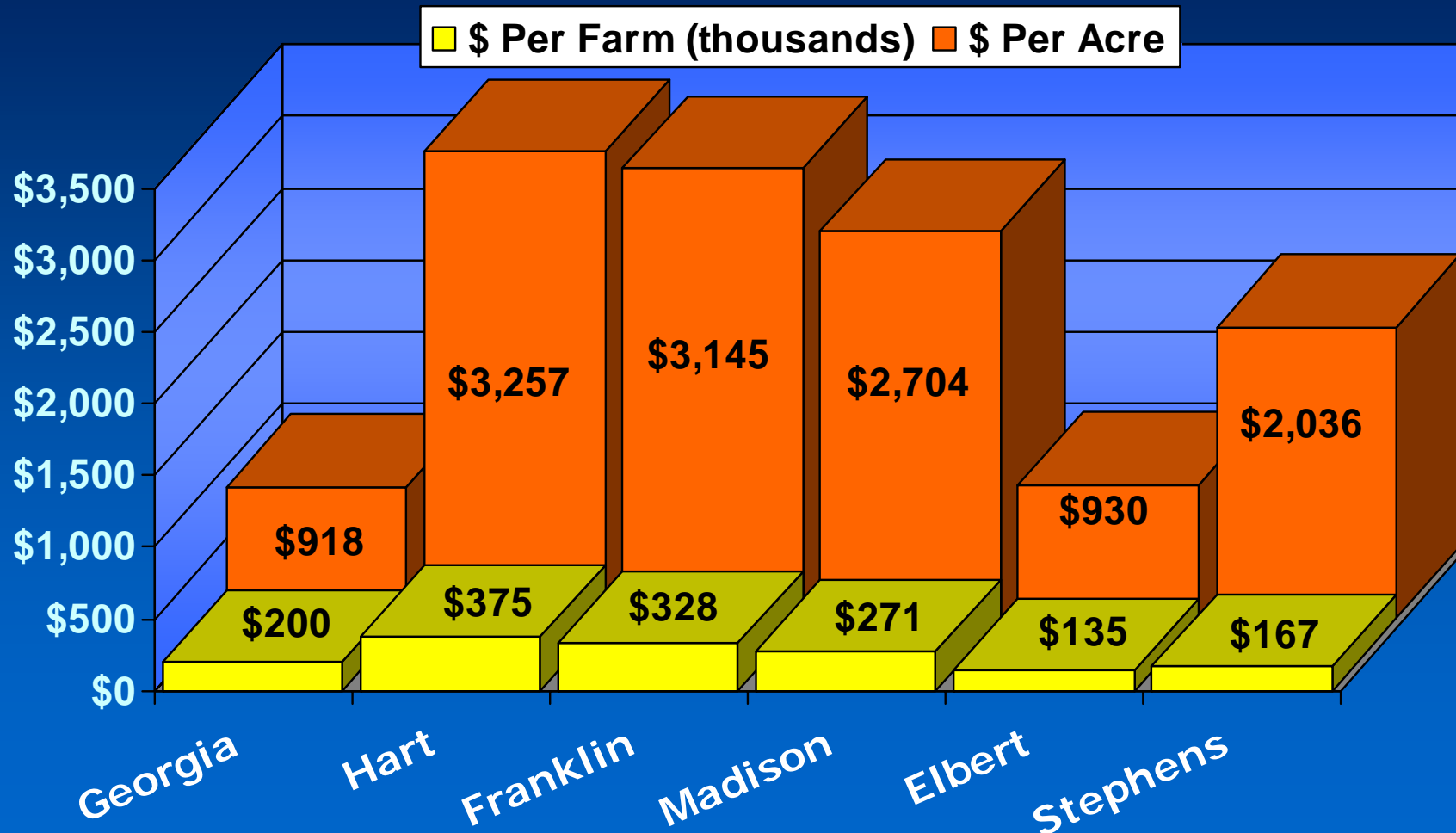
Number of Farms by Commodity



Source: 1992-2002 (quinquennial) Censuses of Agriculture

How Do We Compare ?

Georgia, Hart and Surrounding Counties Farm Gate Value



Sources: [2002 Census of Agriculture](#) and [2003 Farm Gate Value Report](#)

What We Did

- The Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development performed an analysis of each county's economy, focusing on the role of food and fiber.



What We Asked

County Economy Modeled

- How much of a county's total current economic output comes from food and fiber production and directly related processing? (A Snapshot of the Economy)
- What is the total (direct and indirect) *Impact* of food and fiber production and directly related industries?

Hart County Economy

Production Agriculture-OUTPUT

	Output in \$ Millions	Percent
Agriculture	237.476	18.7
Mining	7.336	0.6
Construction	53.706	4.2
Manufacturing	576.992	45.5
Trans/Public Util	74.543	5.9
Trade	50.487	4.0
Fin/Ins/Real Est	31.741	2.5
Services	146.680	11.6
Government	88.917	7.0
Total	\$1.268 billion	--

Hart County Economy

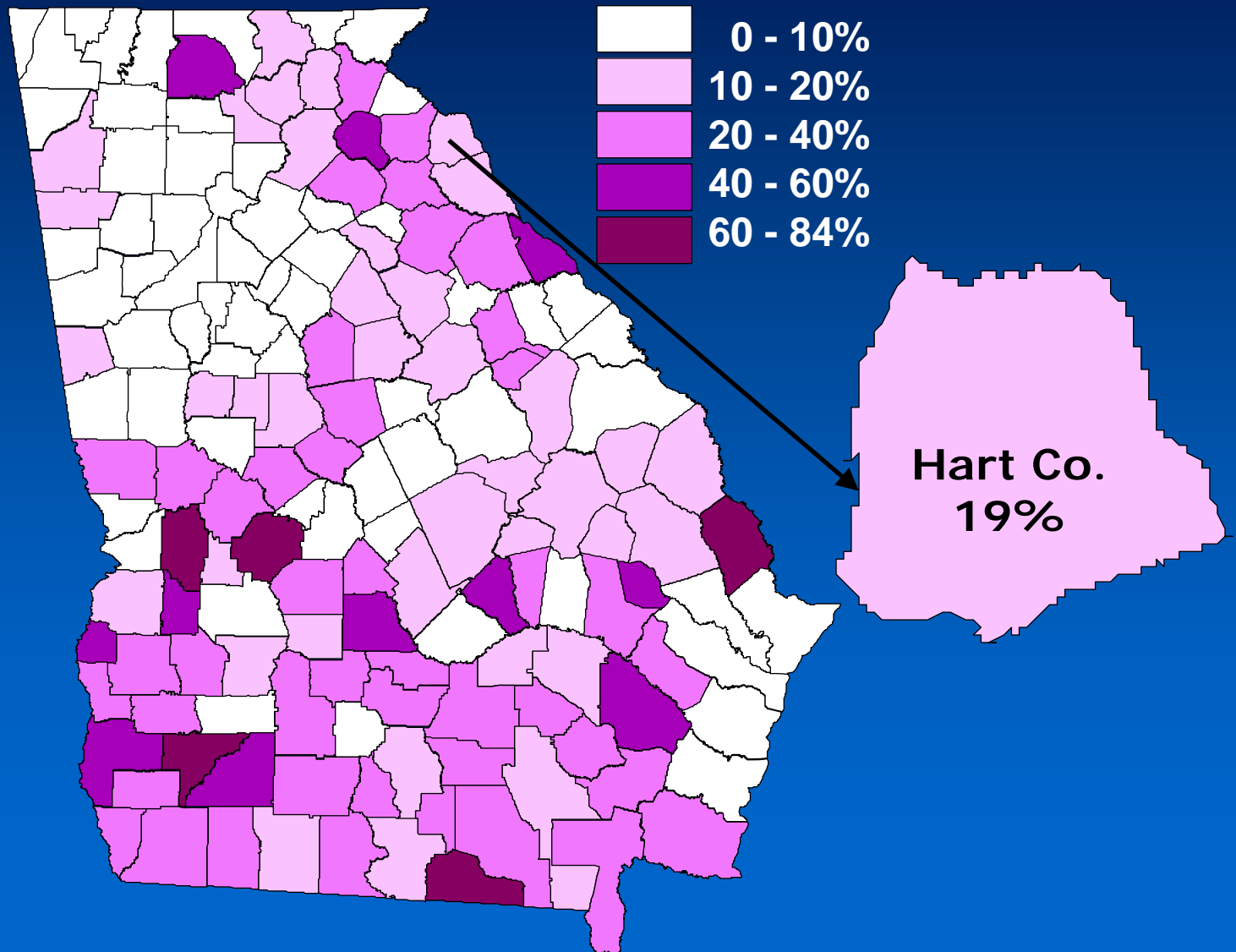
Production Agriculture + Directly Related Businesses

	Output in \$ Millions	Percent
<i>Agriculture + Direct</i>	240.932	19.0
Mining	7.336	0.6
Construction	53.706	4.2
Manufacturing	573.536	45.2
Trans/Public Util	74.543	5.9
Trade	50.487	4.0
Finance/Ins/RE	31.741	2.5
Services	146.680	11.6
Government	88.917	7.0
Total	\$1.268 billion	--

An Economic Snapshot of Hart County

- How much of Hart County's total economic output comes from food and fiber production?
- AG value alone of \$237.5 million consisting of Farm Gate Value and landscaping services comprises 18.7% of the county's economy.
- AG plus directly related businesses (ex. animal food mfg., farm mach. mfg., etc.) comprise 19% of the county's economy.

Food and Fiber Production, Processing and Direct Manufacturing as % of Total Output

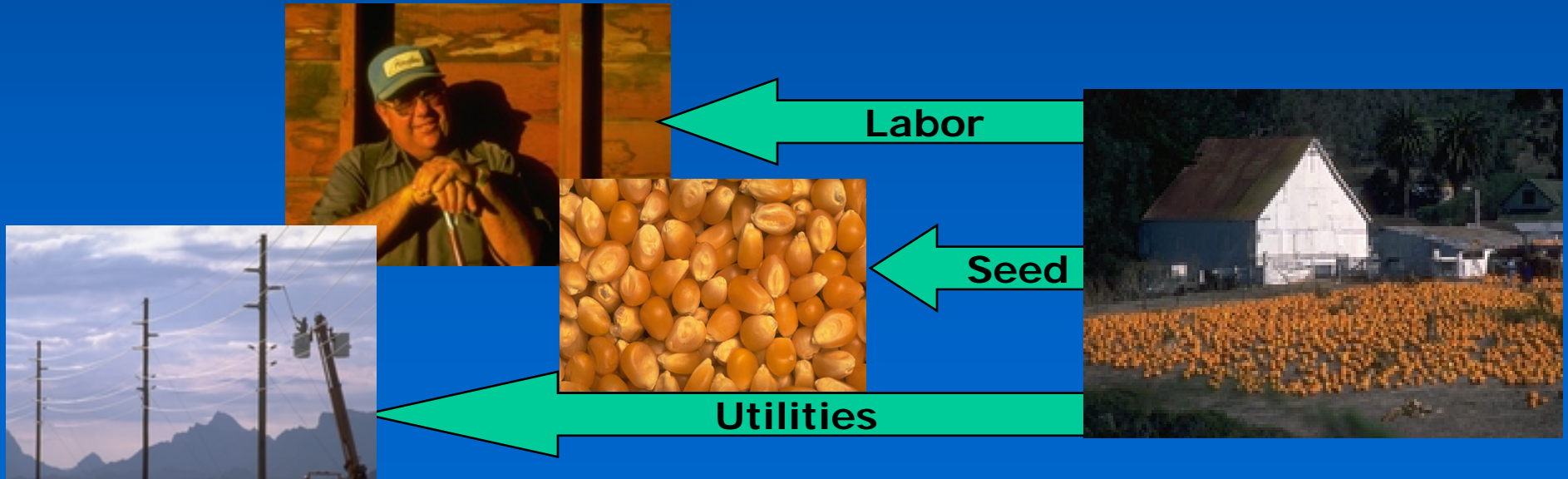


What is the Impact?

- What is the total (direct and indirect) *impact* of food and fiber production and directly related industries?
- This scenario illustrates how other industries are affected by the presence of food and fiber in the county. The indirect impacts measure output created due to food and fiber production and processing in the county.

What Impact Means: A Brief Explanation

- The *impact* numbers capture the ripple effects that food and fiber create in the county's economy. Many other sectors rely in part on the existence of food and fiber for sales.



Hart County

Production Agriculture *IMPACT*

	Direct \$ (millions)	Indirect \$ (millions)
Agriculture	237.476	18.875
Mining	0	0.017
Construction	0	0.616
Manufacturing	0	2.743
Utilities	0	6.393
Trade	0	4.634
Fin/Ins/Real Est	0	3.587
Services	0	10.308
Government	0	4.408
Total	\$269.5 million – 21.3% of total economy	

Hart County

Agriculture and Directly Related Businesses *IMPACT*

	Direct \$ (millions)	Indirect \$ (millions)
Agriculture + Direct	240.932	18.884
Mining	0	0.029
Construction	0	0.626
Manufacturing	0	2.902
Utilities	0	6.487
Trade	0	4.735
Fin / Ins / Real Est	0	3.632
Services	0	10.498
Government	0	4.455
Total	\$293.2 million – 23.1% of total economy	

Hart County

Production Agriculture + Directly Related Industries Employment *IMPACT*

	Direct	Indirect
Agriculture + Direct	1,673	220
Mining	0	0
Construction	0	11
Manufacturing	0	15
Utilities	0	31
Trade	0	100
Fin/Ins/Real Est	0	50
Services	0	216
Government	0	6
Total Employment	2,322	

What These Numbers Mean: A Brief Explanation

- Direct impact is \$240.9 million. This includes food and fiber production, processing and directly-related manufacturing.
- Indirect impact from the *Trade* sector is \$4.7 million. This captures the effects of farmers (direct source) buying supplies (seed, fertilizer, work boots) from local stores. These stores must increase their output to meet farmer demand.

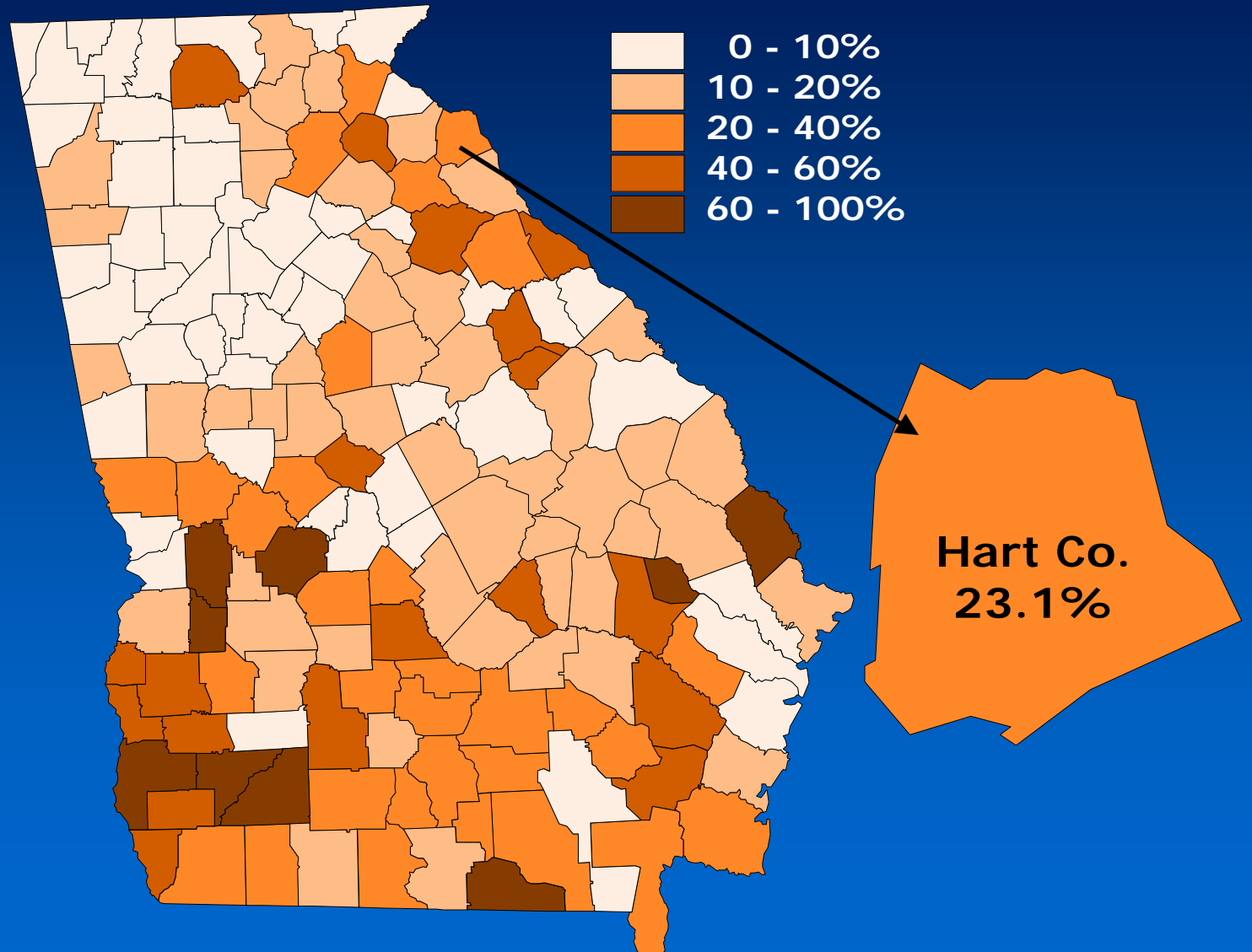
What These Numbers Mean: A Brief Explanation (continued)

- As local stores increase their output, they may demand more stock from local wholesalers (also in the *Trade* sector). Local wholesalers demand more from local manufacturers, thus increasing activity in the *Manufacturing* sector.
- Local stores also hire employees to assist farmers. They take home wages and buy groceries at the local store which increases demand there.

Hart County Food and Fiber Impact Conclusions

- The total impact of food and fiber production, processing and direct manufacturing is \$293.2 million.
- The total output is \$1.268 billion.
- Thus, food and fiber (directly and indirectly) account for 23.1% of the total output.

Food and Fiber Production, Processing and Direct Manufacturing Impact as % of Total Output



Contact Information

Prepared by:
Sue Boatright and Dave Waters
Center for Agribusiness & Economic Development

*“Adding Value to Georgia's Agricultural Economy
Through Research and Extension“*

*To learn more about your county, go to:
<http://www.caed.uga.edu/>
...click on “Georgia Statistics System”*

**Special County Area Report
#05-08A
April, 2005**

