

Dynamic Agriculture for Resilient Communities



NH Agriculture Today

- Diverse
- Dynamic
- Large number of small farms



Economic Values



Over one billion dollars in sales of agricultural and horticultural products and services and in spending by agriculture-related tourists

Environmental Values



- Stewardship of nearly 500,000 acres of open land
- Protecting ground and surface water supply and quality
- Preserving habitat and biodiversity

New Hampshire Character and Cultural Values

- Working landscape beloved by residents and visitors
- Rural character and traditions
- Community roots
- Education and recreation opportunities



NH Agriculture Today

Top industry segments

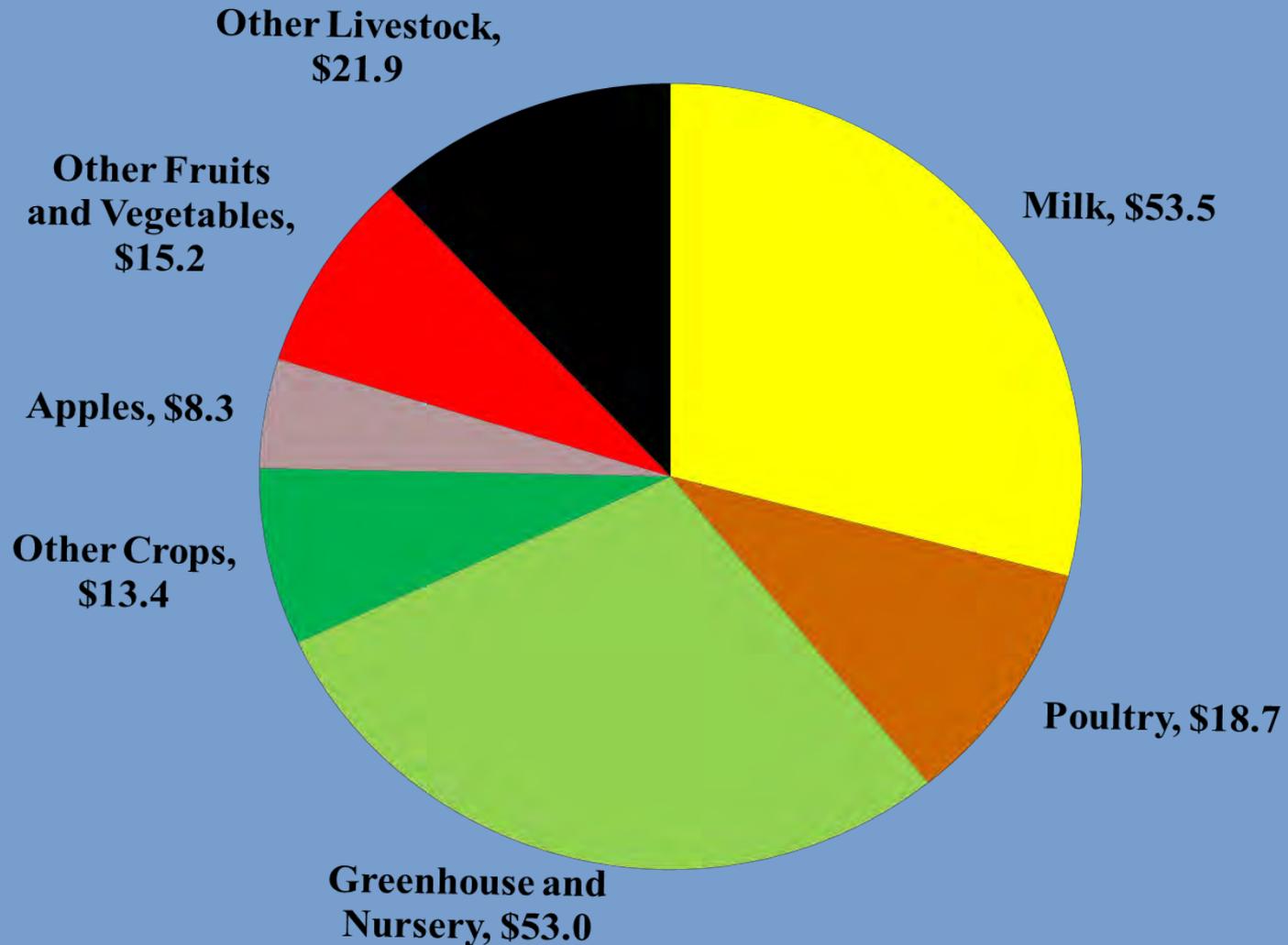
Ornamental Horticulture



Dairy



New Hampshire 2012 Agricultural Cash Receipts million dollars



Total 2012 Agricultural Cash Receipts = \$183.9 million



New Hampshire farms are diverse in size, appearance, type of production, use of technology, and markets served.



Nearly all are family-owned businesses; most non-family farms are operated by educational institutions or non-profit organizations.



New farmers include young people, career-changers and active retirees—with and without farm backgrounds.

New Hampshire Farms

- Integrated within our communities
- Diverse products and services for local to international markets
- Stewards of nearly a half-million acres
- Major contributor to our state's character and quality of life



Granite State Future Survey

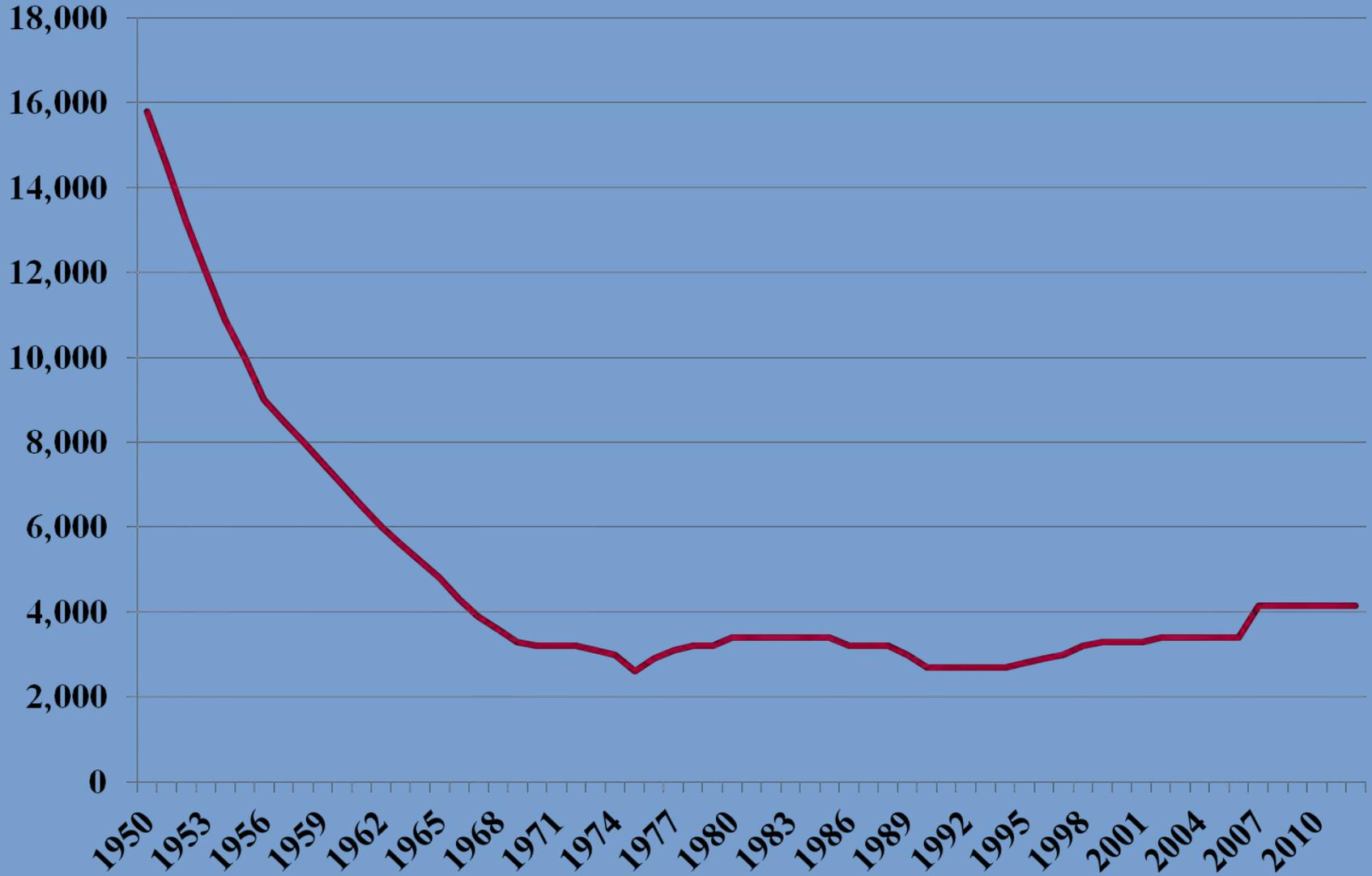
- Residents say the top activity that their community should actively encourage is *promoting local agriculture*: 91%
- Having *farms, farm stands and forestry* is important aspect of a community: 83%
- *Preserving farms and agricultural land* is high community priority: 79%

The Numbers

- 2012 Agricultural Census shows 5% increase in farms vs 4% decrease nationwide
- 2002-2012 Total 30% increase
- Smaller farms
- Growth of agritourism
- 70+ Summer Farmers Markets
30 Winter Farmers Markets



New Hampshire Number of Farms; 1950-2012



More Numbers

- #1 in the nation for organic sales as a percentage of all farm sales
- #6 in the nation for CSAs as a percent of all farms
- #3 in the nation for women principal farm operators as a percentage of total operators

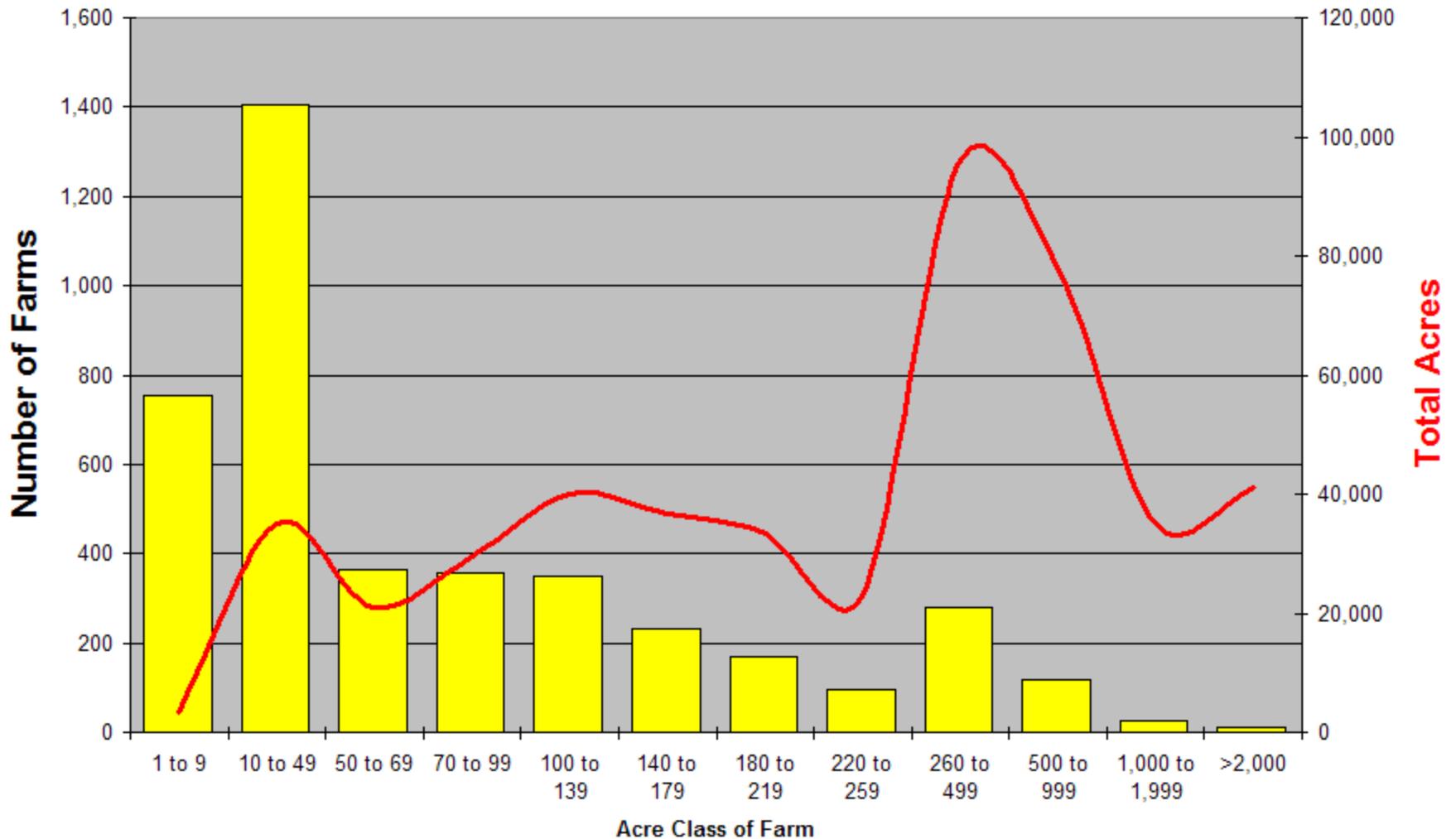


New Hampshire Ranks Nationally

- #1 Direct Market Sales as a Percentage of all Farm Sales
- #2 Percentage of all Farms that have Direct Sales
- #3 Direct Market Sales as Percentage of all Sales
- #5 Average Direct Market Sales per farm



Number of Farms by Size in N.H. -- 2007



Source: NASS Ag Census data, 2007

Why it matters to your town

1982-2010 Land Use Change in NH*:

- Cropland acres -25%
- Pastureland acres -28%
- Developed land acres +80.5%

- Rockingham County lost 1/3 of its prime farmland in just five years, 1997-2002

* National Resources Inventory USDA-NRCS



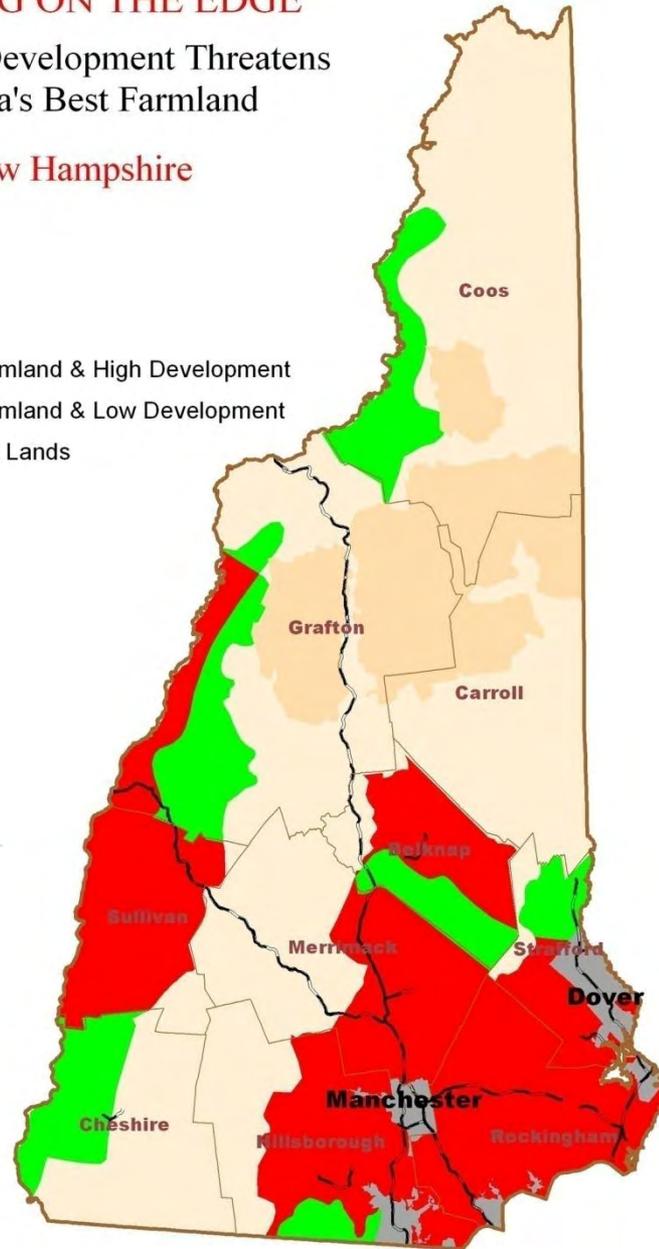
FARMING ON THE EDGE

Sprawling Development Threatens America's Best Farmland

New Hampshire

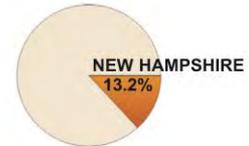
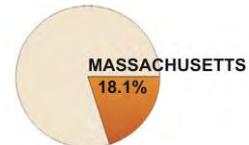
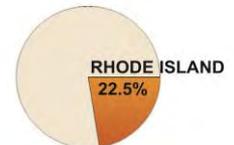
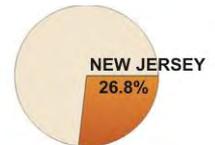
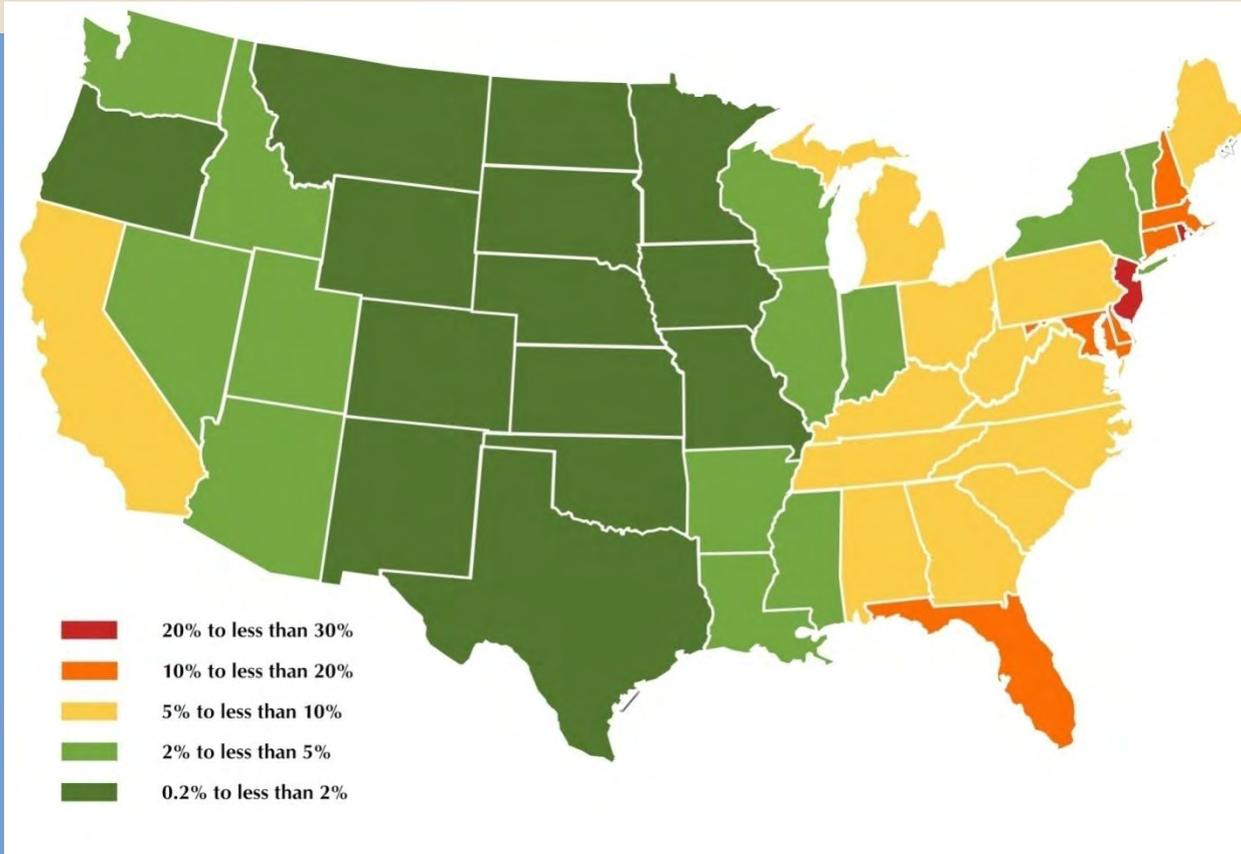
Legend:

-  High-Quality Farmland & High Development
-  High-Quality Farmland & Low Development
-  Federal & Indian Lands
-  Urban Areas
-  Other Lands



Percentage of Agricultural Land Converted

States that developed the largest percentage of their agricultural land





Farms close to homes provide open space, connections to land, nature, access to local food and occasional frictions.

Federal and State Regulations



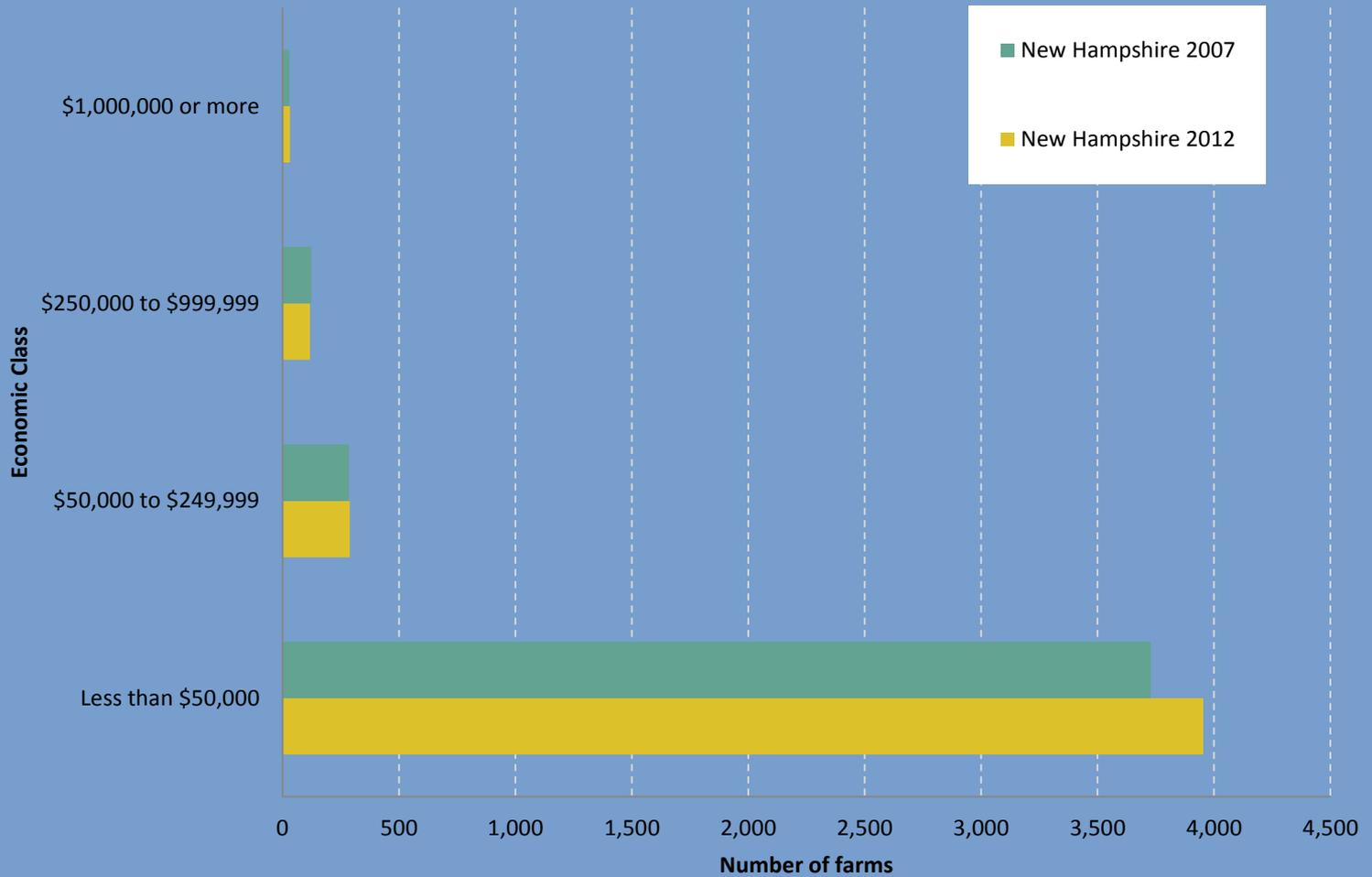
- Wetland and highly erodible soils
- Food safety and sanitation
- Pesticide use
- Water quality, nutrient management
- Market-driven certifications and requirements

The Challenge: Profitability

- High investment/High risk business
- 2012 Net cash income per farm: $-\$2,286$; 2007 Net: $+\$6,414$
- Economic profitability needs strengthening to achieve sustainability.



Farms by Economic Class, 2007 and 2012



Planning and Zoning RSA 672:1

- III-b. Agriculture makes vital and significant contributions to the food supply, the economy, the environment and the aesthetic features of the state of New Hampshire, and the tradition of using the land resource for agricultural production is an essential factor in providing for the favorable quality of life in the state. ...





TOWN OF
Lee
NEW HAMPSHIRE

[Home](#) [Departments](#) [Boards/Committees](#) [Forms & Documents](#) [Minutes & Agendas](#)

[Search Site](#)

Agricultural Commission

[Printer-Friendly Version](#)

- [About Lee](#)
- [Bids & RFPs](#)
- [Property Assessments](#)
- [Map of Lee](#)
- [Volunteer](#)
- [Community Links](#)
- [Business Links](#)
- [Federal/State Links](#)
- [Oyster River Cooperative School District](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Subscribe to E-Alerts](#)

Contact: [Erick Sawtelle](#)
603-234-7907

Address: Agricultural Commission
7 Mast Road
Lee, NH 03861

Phone: 603-659-5414

Fax: 603-659-7202

Meeting Info: Last Tuesday of each month
7:00 pm
2nd Floor of Town Hall



[Meeting Agendas](#)

[Meeting Minutes](#)

Additional Links:

Farmer's Market	Farmer's Market Facebook Page	2014 Upcoming Events Brochure
Backyard Farming Initiative	Agriculture and Farm Brochure	Agricultural Series Living Healthy with Living Things
Meet the Agricultural Commission	2014 Meeting Schedule	

Thank You for Supporting Local Farms

