

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF AGRICULTURE IN VIRGINIA

March 15 – 21, 2015 is Virginia Agriculture Week and Virginia Agriculture Literacy Week, a perfect time to check your knowledge about Virginia agriculture.

1. Where does agriculture fall in Virginia's economy:
 - 1st – it is the largest industry
 - 15th – it falls behind things like tourism, manufacturing and technology
 - 23rd – it's fairly far down the list
2. How many dairy cows reside on Virginia dairy farms:
 - 72,000
 - 95,000
 - 115,000
3. How many farms are there in Virginia:
 - More than 46,000
 - About 12,000
 - Nearly 75,000
4. Which category contains products **not** grown or produced in Virginia:
 - Beef, cotton, peanuts, wine
 - Oysters, dairy, tobacco, nursery/greenhouse
 - Pork, apples, lamb, potatoes
 - Cotton, soybeans, industrial hemp, carrots
5. How many Century Farms are there in Virginia (farms that have been operated by the same family for more than 100 years):
 - 94
 - 3,043
 - 1,312
6. What is Virginia's largest export product:
 - Pork
 - Seafood
 - Soybeans
 - Tobacco
7. What is Virginia's number one agricultural product:
 - Pork
 - Wine grapes
 - Broilers (chickens)
 - Wheat
8. Which of the following products rank in the Top 15 nationally:
 - Leaf tobacco

- Fresh market tomatoes
- Apples
- Turkeys

9. What percentage of farms in Virginia are family-owned and operated:

- 15 percent
- Approximately 40 percent
- Nearly 90 percent
- 63 percent

10. What percentage of Virginia's land mass is covered by farms:

- 9 percent
- 21 percent
- 32 percent
- 44 percent

How did you do? According to the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, agriculture is the state's largest industry, contributing \$52 billion to the state's economy every year. Our dairy farms support 96,000 dairy cows and there are more than 46,000 thousand farms of all kinds in the state.

On Question 4, category #4, the one that contains industrial hemp, lists a product not currently grown in Virginia. This may change in the near future; the 2015 General Assembly passed a bill allowing research into growing hemp as a crop in the state. Also, while individuals may grow carrots, they are not a commercial crop in the state.

Virginia currently has 1,312 Century Farms; soybeans are our largest export product and broilers are the #1 product. Question 8 is tricky; all four products hold national rankings: leaf tobacco ranks 3rd, fresh market tomatoes are 5th, and apples and turkeys both rank 6th.

Nearly 90 percent of farms in Virginia are family-owned and operated and farms cover 32 percent of Virginia's land mass.