



UW-Extension

## Horticulture contributes to Sheboygan County diversity

Sheboygan County sales of Christmas trees, fruits and vegetables, greenhouse, nursery and floriculture products total \$6.3 million. Landscape and grounds maintenance businesses create additional full-time jobs and many seasonal job.

## Local food sales account for \$643,000 to economy

More and more Sheboygan County farmers sell directly to consumers from roadside stands, farmers' markets, auctions, CSA farms, and pick-your-own operations, with 101 farms generating \$643,000 in local food sales.

## Farmers are stewards of about half the county's land

Sheboygan County farmers own and manage 190,155 acres, or 58 percent, of the county's land. This includes cropland, rangeland, pasture, tree farms and farm forests. As stewards of the land, farmers use conservation practices, such as crop rotation, nutrient management and integrated pest management, to protect environmental resources and provide habitat for wildlife.



University of Wisconsin-Extension

University of Wisconsin-Extension is part of the local and statewide network of organizations and agencies that support Wisconsin's \$88.3 billion agriculture industry. A recent statewide survey of nearly 1,000 agricultural service providers from throughout Wisconsin found that UW-Extension helps enhance economic impact by improving agribusiness services to farmers, increasing agribusiness or farm profitability, expanding agribusiness networks, and helping to reduce agribusiness or farm environmental impacts.

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AGRICULTURE – WORKING EVERY DAY FOR WISCONSIN

## Sheboygan County Agriculture:



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**Agriculture works hard for Sheboygan County every day. Family-owned farms, food processors and agriculture-related businesses generate thousands of jobs and millions of dollars of economic activity while contributing to local income and tax revenues.**

Sheboygan County is a diverse mix of rural and urban spaces, a thriving tourism destination and an agricultural powerhouse. The agricultural sector includes hundreds of family-owned farms, as well as related businesses that provide equipment, services and products farmers need to process, market and deliver food and agricultural products to consumers.

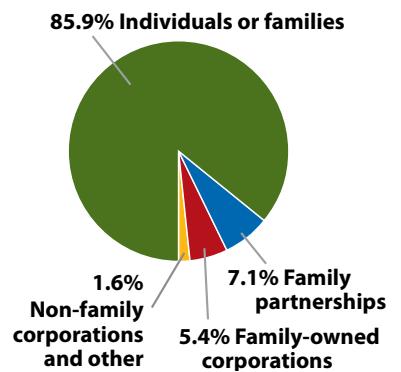
Sheboygan County ranks near the top of the state's dairy processing industry. It is proud to claim nine dairy processors, four cheese factories and two major sausage makers. Sheboygan County is also home to a thriving mink business, known worldwide for the highest quality pelts as well as North America's largest mink farm.



## How important is agriculture?

- Agriculture provides **jobs for 8,662** Sheboygan County residents.
- Agriculture accounts for **\$3.1 billion in economic activity**.
- Agriculture contributes **\$739 million** to the county's total income.
- Agriculture pays **\$42.7 million in taxes**. This figure does not include all property taxes paid to local schools.

## Who owns the farms?



## Agriculture provides 12% of Sheboygan County's jobs

Sheboygan County agriculture provides **8,662 jobs**, or 11.7 percent, of the county's workforce of 73,966. Production jobs include farm owners and managers and farm employees. Agricultural service jobs include veterinarians, crop and livestock consultants, feed, fuel and other crop input suppliers, farm machinery dealers, barn builders and agricultural lenders, to name a few. Processing jobs include those employed in food processing and other value-added industries that support food processors. Every job in agriculture generates an additional 0.94 jobs in the county.

## Agriculture contributes \$739 million to county income

Sheboygan County agriculture accounts for **\$739.1 million**, or 12.5 percent, of the county's total income. This includes wages, salaries, benefits and profits of farmers and workers in agriculture-related businesses. Every dollar of agricultural income generates an additional \$0.79 of county income.



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## Agriculture pumps \$3.1 billion into local economy

Sheboygan County agriculture generates **\$3.1 billion in economic activity**, about 25 percent, of the county's total economic activity. Every dollar of sales from agricultural products generates an additional \$0.26 of economic activity in other parts of the county's economy.

### *Here's how agriculture stimulates economic activity:*

- The direct effect of agriculture equals \$2.49 billion and includes the sale of farm products and value-added products.
- Purchases of agricultural and food-processing inputs, services and equipment add another \$449.2 million in economic activity. For example, this includes business-to-business purchases of fuel, seed, fertilizer, feed and farm machinery, as well as veterinary services, crop and livestock consultants and equipment leasing.
- This business-to-business activity then generates another \$200.8 million in economic activity when people who work in agriculture-related businesses spend their earnings in the local economy.

## Agriculture pays almost \$43 million in taxes

Economic activity associated with Sheboygan County farms and agriculture-related businesses generates **\$42.7 million** in local and state taxes. This figure does not include all property taxes paid to support local schools. If it did, the number would increase dramatically.

**Table 1.** Taxes paid by agriculture

Sales tax	\$9.95 million
Income tax	\$12.7 million
Property tax	\$13.4 million
Other	\$6.6 million
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$42.7 million</b>

**Table 2.** Sheboygan County's top commodities (sales by dollar value, 2012)

1. Milk	\$108.9 million
2. Grain	\$55.2 million
3. Other animals & animal products	\$36.3 million
4. Cattle & calves	\$30.3 million
5. Other crops & hay	\$4.3 million



## Dairy is a key Sheboygan County industry

Dairy farming is the major agricultural industry in Sheboygan County. On-farm production and milk sales account for \$131 million. Processing milk into dairy products generates another \$2.1 billion.

- There are nine plants that process dairy products as well as four cheese factories in Sheboygan County.
- On-farm milk production accounts for 518 jobs, and dairy processing accounts for 4054 jobs.
- At the county level, each dairy cow generates \$4,163 in on-farm sales to producers.
- At the state level, each dairy cow generates over \$34,000 in total sales.