Acadiana's Bountiful Harvest - 1992

$462,471,323

Crops, animals, and marine production.

By Jim Bradshaw
Business Editor

Farmers and fishermen harvested $462,471,323 in crops and animals in Acadiana in 1992, well above the $396,213,035 posted by the eight-parish region a year earlier.

1991 saw one of the poorer harvests in some time in Acadiana, because of a freeze that damaged the sugar cane crop the winter before and a wet spring that all but eliminated soybean planting.

According to unofficial figures supplied by the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service, Vermilion Parish ranked as Acadiana's top producer in 1992, with a total of $30,916,569 in crops.

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Extension data

St. Landry Parish was the closest second, at $84,281,642.

It was followed by Iberia Parish ($61,873,611), Evangeline Parish ($51,688,342), St. Martin Parish ($45,680,648), and St. Mary Parish ($41,973,947).

The harvest in Lafayette Parish was worth $27,212,572. Sugar cane was Lafayette's top crop, worth $8.3 million.

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Rice was the second richest crop, at $98,188,742.

The 1992 soybean harvest was worth $14,350,000. Cattle and calves sold in Acadiana were worth $26,854,548.

Shrimp, fish and crabs harvested from Acadiana's waters and the nearby Gulf added $27,284,500 to the area's economy, and crawfish harvested in ponds and from the wild brought in another $26,822,763, the figures show.

Statewide, the total harvest totaled $339,393,713, according to the data.

This included $2,263,456,498 in crop production, $666,242,813 in production, and $496,631,642 from marine fisheries.

Forestry was again Louisiana's top agricultural enterprise statewide, with a total value of $762,380,145.

This was followed by cotton ($359,609,671), cattle and calves ($266,810,659), marine fisheries ($256,944,747), sugar ($236,277,140), soybeans ($224,593,214), poultry ($218,841,950), rice ($136,000,546) and aquaculture ($100,646,180).