

# NEW YORK FARM BUREAU 2016 STATE PRIORITIES



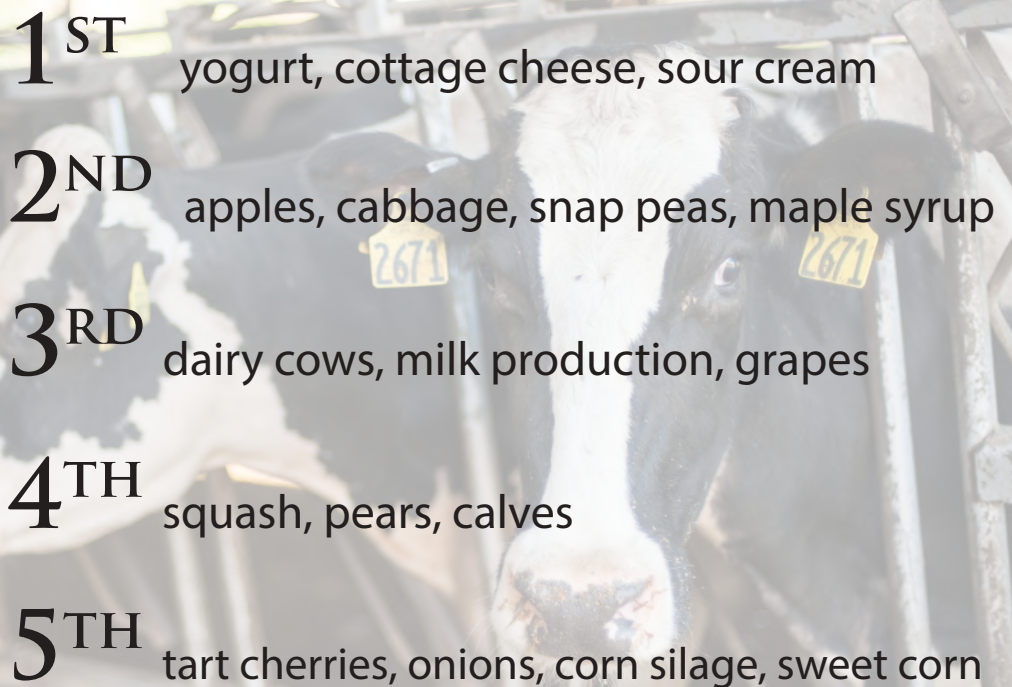


# NEW YORK BY THE NUMBERS

In 2014, there were **35,537** farms in NEW YORK STATE, and **7,183,576** acres in farmland. \*\*\*

\*\*The value of agricultural production in NYS in 2015 was **\$6.36 billion.**

## NEW YORK'S NATIONAL RANKINGS\*\*

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- 1<sup>ST</sup>** yogurt, cottage cheese, sour cream
  - 2<sup>ND</sup>** apples, cabbage, snap peas, maple syrup
  - 3<sup>RD</sup>** dairy cows, milk production, grapes
  - 4<sup>TH</sup>** squash, pears, calves
  - 5<sup>TH</sup>** tart cherries, onions, corn silage, sweet corn

## TOP 10 NYS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS\*

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1. Milk
  2. Corn for grain
  3. Hay
  4. Cattle and calves
  5. Apples
  6. Floriculture
  7. Cabbage
  8. Sweet corn
  9. Potatoes
  10. Tomatoes

\*\*\*Dairy and milk production accounts for nearly **26,000** jobs in NYS.

Grain and oilseed farming employs nearly **15,500** jobs.

Veggie and melon farming is responsible for **7,750** jobs.

All sectors of agriculture in NYS are responsible for **197,745** jobs.



# 2016 PRIORITIES

- **Strongly oppose any minimum wage increase or unworkable employer mandates.**
- **Support critical funding for agricultural animal health, promotion and research in the final 2016/2017 state budget, including:**
  - *New funding for a FFA Start-Up program and funding for secondary agricultural education programs, including BOCES*
  - *New funding for a local fair infrastructure initiative*
  - *Increased funding for the Environmental Protection Fund, including the Agricultural Nonpoint Source Pollution program and Soil and Water Conservation Districts to meet the water quality requirements of the new CAFO permit and water quality compliance requirements across the state, such as Chesapeake Bay regulations.*
- **Transfer farm assessment functions from the Department of Taxation and Finance to the Department of Agriculture and Markets**
- **Ensure parity for road and bridge funding between upstate and downstate New York**
- **Ensure a fair and effective implementation of the Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) process**





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## CIRCLE OF FRIENDS AWARD

New York Farm Bureau is a grassroots organization that does not endorse candidates. In order to recognize our legislative supporters, we have a Circle of Friends program that is awarded at the end of every legislative session. This award is given to those state legislators who have a superior voting record on issues of importance to New York agriculture.

While the Circle of Friends award is not an official endorsement, it allows Farm Bureau to publicly thank specific legislators for their dedication and hard work on behalf of the agricultural industry. During each session, New York Farm Bureau’s Public Policy Division issues position statements on various bills relating to agricultural issues and our state policy.

The Circle of Friends award is distributed on the basis of a legislator’s voting record and sponsorship of bills that Farm Bureau has either supported or opposed throughout the course of the legislative session. Only bills of statewide importance to farmers will be included within the Circle of Friends program.

New York Farm Bureau announces award recipients at the end of each year and presents the award to legislators at our annual Lobby Day in Albany.