

Production Systems Background Statement

The 13 western states and the Pacific Trust Territories represent 50% of the U.S. land area; cover more than 25% of the globe and, according to the latest data from the [National Agricultural Statistic Service](#), accounts for 23.1% of the value of all crops. More than 400 different commodities, most of which are specialty crops, are commercially produced in the West. Examples include:

- Four western states (CA, WA, OR and ID) produce 64% of the value of specialty crop production of the top ten specialty crop producing states.
- California (#1) and Oregon (#3) account for more than 40% of the total value of nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod production in the U.S.
- Western states account for over 50% of the total value of U.S. milk/dairy product sales; California is #1 and Idaho is 5th.
- Three western states (CA, OR, WA) produce more than 71% of all fruit grown in the U.S. with a value exceeding \$13.7 billion.
- California was the largest producer of horticultural crops with over \$2.3 billion in sales in 2009; almost twice as much as the next largest state, Florida (\$1.3 billion), Oregon ranked third at \$791 million
- Three western states, CO, CA and WY ranked 2nd, 3rd and 6th in sheep sales.
- More than a half of all U.S. organic sales are grown in California (38.4%), Washington (9.3%) and Oregon (5.2%).

Subtopics (for Summer Meeting discussion purposes)

- Specialty Crops
- Major Crops
- Livestock
- Fisheries