

## Introduction to Texas Agriculture

### Texas Top Ten

**Objective:** Students will understand the economic importance of agriculture in Texas and be able to list the top ten crops and livestock grown by Texas farmers and ranchers.

**Procedure:** Hand out *Texas Top Ten* chart and read directions to students. Instruct students to work with a partner to list and rank (based on cash receipts) the top ten crops and/or livestock in the column labeled "1<sup>st</sup> Guess". After students have had an appropriate amount of time ask them to tell what they listed and in what order.

Next, hand out the *Texas Top Ten* sheet that shows the top ten commodities randomly pictured on the page. Now instruct the students to rank those based on cash receipts, in the column marked "2<sup>nd</sup> Guess". Compare the two columns and discuss the differences.

Next, either have students write the correct answers in the last column as the teacher reads off the *Texas Agricultural Cash Receipts by Commodity*, or hand out a copy of the sheet to each student and have them read the table and write the correct answers.

Discuss how farmers and ranchers make their living by selling agricultural commodities they raise on their farm or ranch. Those commodities are then processed and shipped to a grocery store or other retail outlet where we purchase them as food, clothing and other products we use every day.

**Material:** Texas Top Ten Commodity Chart  
Texas Top Ten Random Order Page  
Texas Agricultural Cash Receipts by Commodity

"Texas Agricultural Cash Receipts by Commodity" can be updated yearly by going to the website:  
[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Texas/Publications/Annual\\_Statistical\\_Bulletin/index.asp](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Texas/Publications/Annual_Statistical_Bulletin/index.asp)  
and clicking on the link "Cash Receipts by Commodity".

# Texas Top Ten

Texas farmers grow a wide variety of agricultural commodities. Let's see how many of them you know! Try to list the top ten agricultural commodities (ranked by cash receipts). They may be crops (plants) or livestock (animals).



Texas Top Ten Commodities			
Rank	1 <sup>st</sup> guess	2 <sup>nd</sup> guess	Correct answer
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

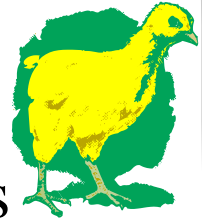


# Texas Top Ten

Wheat



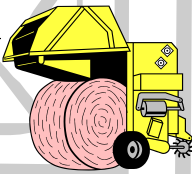
Broilers



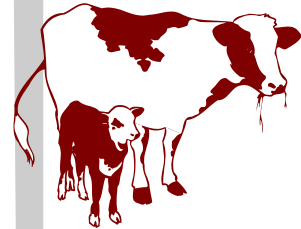
Eggs



Hay



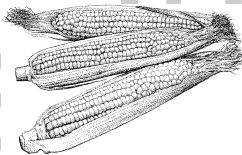
Cattle and Calves



Cotton/Lint and Seed



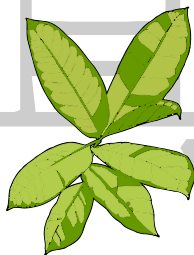
Corn



Sorghum Grain



Greenhouse and Nursery



Milk



**Cash Receipts – Leading Commodities, Texas, 2009**

Rank	Commodity	Receipts <sup>1</sup>	Percent of Total
<i>Thousand dollars</i>			
	All Commodities	16,573,054	100.0
	Livestock and Products	10,640,865	64.2
	Crops	5,932,189	35.8
1	Cattle and calves	6,938,721	41.9
2	Broilers	1,650,227	10.0
3	Greenhouse and nursery	1,284,269	7.7
4	Cotton, lint and seed	1,188,629	7.2
5	Milk, wholesale	1,172,129	7.1
6	Corn	1,002,127	6.0
7	Sorghum grain	376,553	2.3
8	Eggs	347,480	2.1
9	Wheat	324,534	2.0
10	Hay	262,925	1.6
11	Rice	163,798	1.0
12	Peanuts	129,658	0.8
13	Hogs	129,461	0.8
14	Potatoes	96,529	0.6
15	Pecans	89,250	0.5
	All Others	1,416,764	8.5
	Industrial Timber Harvest <sup>2</sup>	494,816	

<sup>1</sup> Excluding government payments. <sup>2</sup> Delivered value, see footnote on page 27 for definition. Timber not considered an agricultural commodity and not included in "All Commodities" above.

**Agricultural Cash Receipts by Commodity, Texas, 2009**

