



**United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
2014 Census of Horticultural Specialties – Connecticut**



Northeastern Region – New England Field Office
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Horticultural Specialties Highlight

The 2014 Census of Horticultural Specialties provides detailed production and sales data for floriculture, nursery, and other specialty products. This special study is part of the larger census of agriculture program. All operations that reported producing and selling \$10,000 or more of horticultural specialty products were included in the 2014 Census of Horticultural Specialties.

In 2014, the United States had 23,221 horticultural operations that produced and sold \$13.8 billion in floriculture, nursery, and other horticultural specialty products. Connecticut had 492 horticultural operations that sold \$286.7 million in horticultural products in 2014, compared to 335 horticultural operations that sold \$181.6 million in horticultural products in 2009. Horticulture producers in Connecticut had \$238.3 million in total production expenses in 2014. Hired labor expenses in Connecticut accounted for 34 percent of the total production expenses. Of the 5,565 hired workers in Connecticut, 3,260 worked less than 150 days compared to 2,305 who worked 150 days or more.

Top Horticultural Specialty Crops Sold: 2014

Items	All sales		Wholesale sales		Retail sales	
	Operations	Value (\$1,000)	Operations	Value (\$1,000)	Operations	Value (\$1,000)
All horticultural specialty crops						
United States	23,221	13,789,048	14,885	11,859,976	14,710	1,929,073
Connecticut	492	286,732	190	244,625	435	42,108
Annual bedding/garden plants						
United States	7,964	2,567,534	3,367	2,044,090	6,197	523,444
Connecticut	219	98,434	87	81,756	190	16,678
Potted herbaceous perennial plants						
United States	6,291	944,850	2,710	794,915	4,805	149,936
Connecticut	152	55,396	48	47,741	122	7,655
Potted flowering plants for indoor or patio use						
United States	4,059	1,084,274	2,010	993,437	2,891	90,837
Connecticut	73	12,129	24	8,976	60	3,153
Foliage plants for indoor or patio use						
United States	2,644	721,889	1,386	702,029	1,591	19,860
Connecticut	20	243	1	(D)	19	(D)
Cut flowers and cut lei flowers						
United States	1,998	462,098	974	417,108	1,350	44,990
Connecticut	52	371	7	42	49	328
Nursery stock						
United States	8,226	4,266,631	(NA)	3,834,953	(NA)	431,678
Connecticut	124	106,557	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Propagative horticultural materials, bareroot and unfinished plants						
United States	1,067	695,126	832	670,651	303	24,475
Connecticut	8	482	5	(D)	3	(D)
Sod, sprigs, or plugs						
United States	1,289	1,138,465	(NA)	858,280	(NA)	280,185
Connecticut	8	5,695	(NA)	4,394	(NA)	1,300
Food crops grown under protection						
United States	2,521	796,664	(NA)	606,025	(NA)	190,639
Connecticut	97	2,059	(NA)	520	(NA)	1,539
Transplants for commercial vegetable and strawberry production						
United States	693	371,817	(NA)	339,123	(NA)	32,694
Connecticut	28	176	(NA)	63	(NA)	113

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.
(NA) Not available.

Top Horticultural Production Expenses and Number of Hired Workers: 2014

Item	United States	Connecticut
HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTION EXPENSES		
All horticultural production expenses	23,221	492
operations	10,997,042	238,287
\$1,000		
Seeds, plants, vines, trees, etc. purchased	20,114	453
operations	1,789,013	47,728
\$1,000		
Containers purchased	14,692	316
operations	573,656	16,005
\$1,000		
Hired labor expenses, all	17,086	342
operations	4,086,606	80,316
\$1,000		
Gasoline, fuels, and oils purchased	22,207	477
operations	562,895	14,159
\$1,000		
All other production expenses ¹	11,517	253
operations	542,804	10,499
\$1,000		
GREENHOUSE, NURSERY, AND OTHER HORTICULTURAL LABOR		
Hired workers	17,086	342
operations	274,759	5,565
workers		

¹ Includes customwork, storage and warehousing, insurance premiums, etc. Excludes potting soils and growing media, fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioner, chemicals, contract labor, utilities, repairs, supplies, and maintenance costs, rent and lease expenses, interest paid on all debt, property taxes paid in 2014, marketing expenses, and packaging expenses.

Value of Horticultural Specialty Crops Sold by Marketing Channels: 2014

Item	United States	Connecticut
Consumers (direct sales)	15,406	429
operations	2,119,414	49,843
value (\$1,000)		
Retail florists	2,907	97
operations	200,932	1,366
value (\$1,000)		
Retail garden centers/nurseries, excluding mass marketers	7,605	160
operations	2,360,602	64,547
value (\$1,000)		
Supermarkets/grocers	3,025	103
operations	1,047,659	10,424
value (\$1,000)		
Other mass marketers	2,668	82
operations	2,884,785	119,501
value (\$1,000)		
Interiorscapers	1,523	60
operations	65,702	356
value (\$1,000)		
Landscape contractors	8,096	149
operations	1,948,110	16,984
value (\$1,000)		
Wholesale florists	2,631	67
operations	538,711	1,399
value (\$1,000)		
Landscape redistribution yards	3,029	82
operations	673,231	14,216
value (\$1,000)		
Non-profit groups (fund raisers)	3,255	106
operations	92,316	2,195
value (\$1,000)		
Other marketing channels	4,518	112
operations	1,857,424	5,902
value (\$1,000)		

Land Area Used for Horticultural Production: 2014

Geographic area	Greenhouses		Shade structure area		Natural shade area		Area in the open	
	Operations	Area (1,000 sq ft)	Operations	Area (1,000 sq ft)	Operations	Acres	Operations	Acres
United States	14,593	894,907	4,058	429,708	1,804	5,404	12,927	497,339
Connecticut	371	30,802	25	82	40	25	285	5,063

Horticultural Specialty Operations and Sales by Legal Status for Tax Purposes: 2014

Geographic area	Total		Family or individual		Partnership		Corporation		Other - cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	
	Operations	Value (\$1,000)	Operations	Value (\$1,000)	Operations	Value (\$1,000)	Operations	Value (\$1,000)	Operations	Value (\$1,000)
United States	23,221	13,789,048	12,193	1,968,588	1,873	1,140,653	8,736	10,541,841	419	137,966
Connecticut	492	286,732	197	15,565	38	(D)	208	252,169	49	(D)

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.