



# STATE OF AGRICULTURE 2025: SCHOHARIE COUNTY, NEW YORK

Presented by: The Office of Agricultural Development,  
Schoharie County



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# NY STATE TRENDS

## Economic Impact of Agriculture

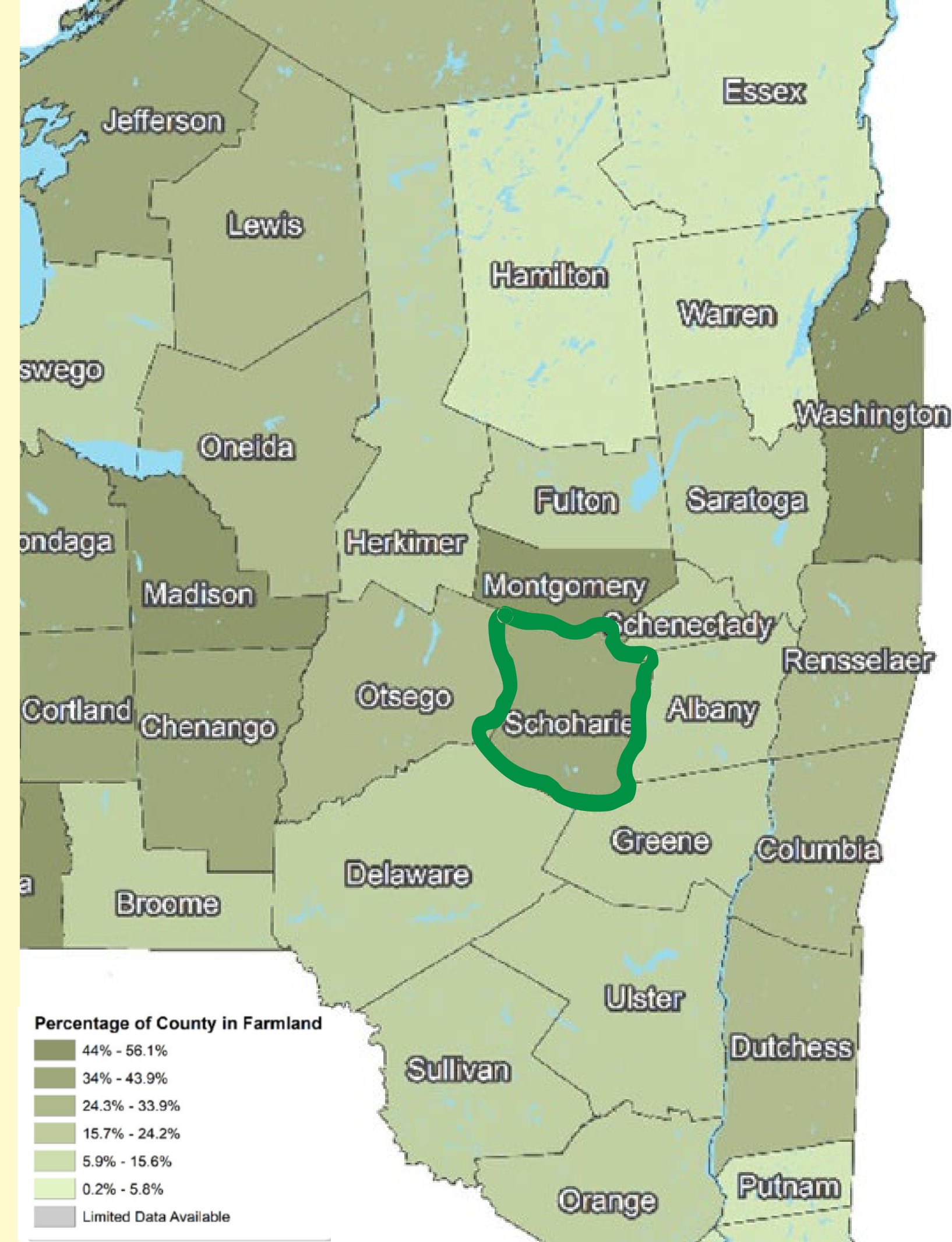
### The agricultural economy of NY is growing

- In 2022, farming contributed to \$2.7 billion to the state's GDP, this is up from \$2.4 B in 2017.
- In 2019, Farming and related business directly supported 163,148 jobs, an increase of 12.3% since 2014.

>>>In Schoharie County, our market value of products sold was \$63M or 2.3% of NY's total ag sales<<<

### Farm incomes are growing

- Gross farm income grew 47.8% since 2017 (more quickly than expenses which grew by 42.8%).
- Net income grew by 63.1%.



# NY STATE TRENDS

## Farm Trends Overview

### Number of farms AND land in farms are decreasing

- NY has lost 14% of its farms and 9% of its farmland since 2012, and at a faster rate than their neighbors and the U.S.

### Our farms are getting bigger

- Between 2012 -2022, average farm size increased by 5% from 202 acres to 212 acres.

### Majority of our farms are considered 'small farms'

- In 2022, over 90% of NY farms made less than \$350k in gross cash farm income.
- 75% of farms are under 200 acres

### Agritourism is the fastest growing farm income category

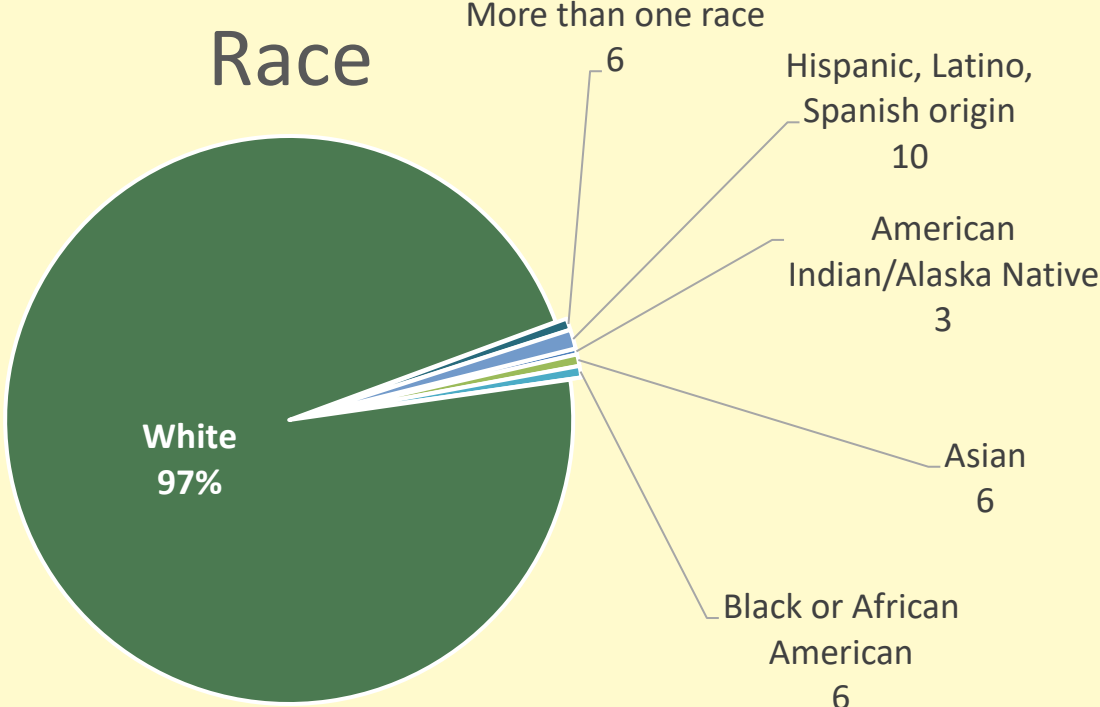
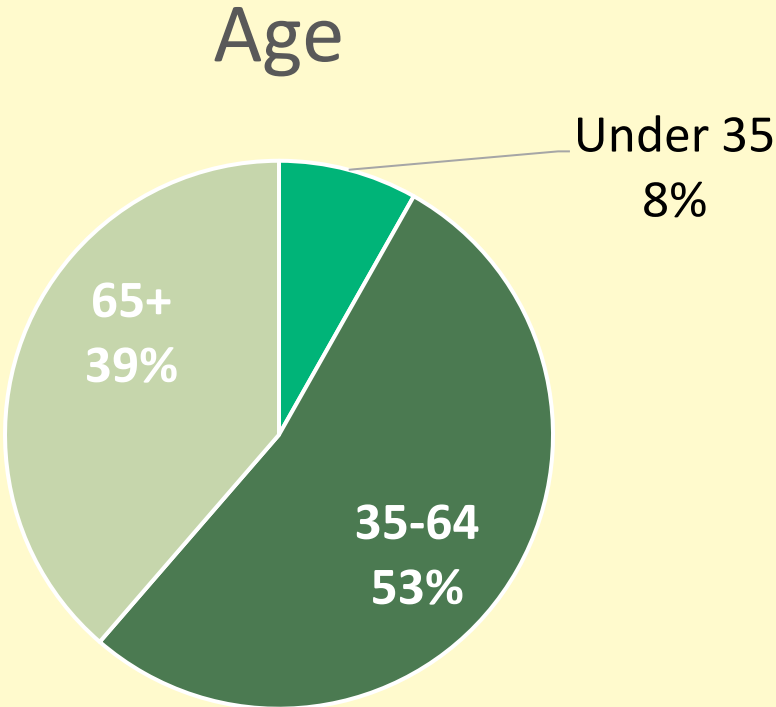
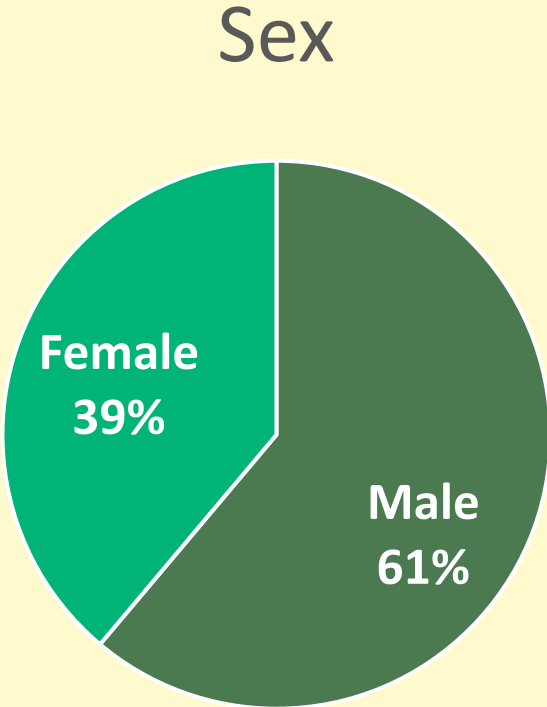
- Agritourism income grew by 78% between 2012-2022 and includes income from hunting, fishing, farm or winery tours.
- It comprised 13.5% of farm -related income in 2022.

### Labor and feed comprised 40% of farm expenditures ; hired labor grew by 68% between 2012-2022

# Farmer Demographics

## Age, race, sex, experience of Schoharie farmers

Most farmers are male, white, and more than a third are over 65.



**8% are 'Young Producers'**  
*under 35 yrs old*

**7% are owned by Veterans**  
*63 farmers*



# 85%

**Have internet**

Up from 43% a decade ago

# 190

**New and Beginning Farms**

farming under 10 yrs

# 41%

**Farm primarily**

58% work off the farm

# Land Trends

## Number of farms -5%

- We've lost 29 farms since 2012

## Land in farms +10%

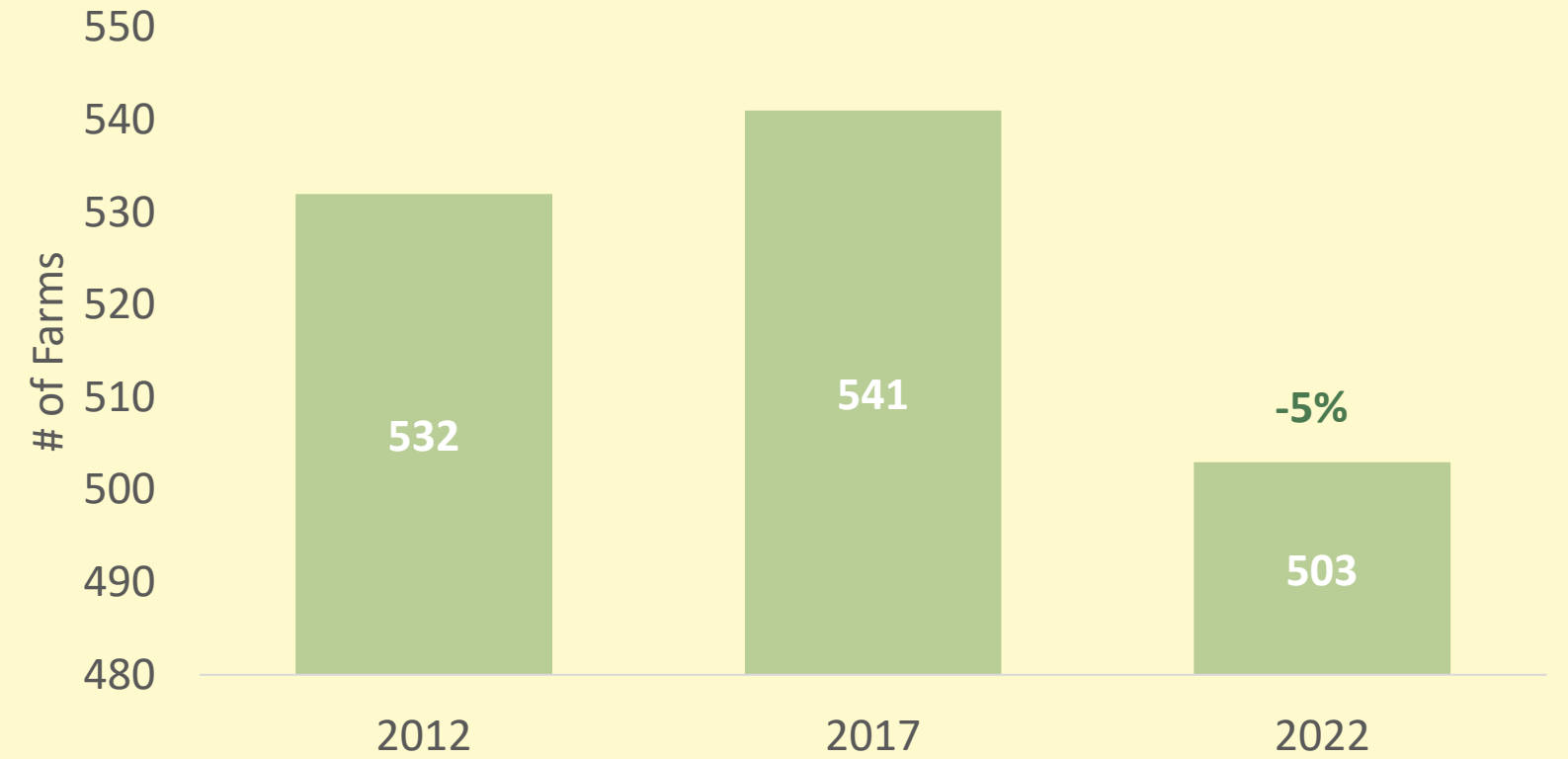
- We gained 10,261 more acres in farmland between 2012 and 2022 (+10%)
- Average size of farm has increased by 17%

## Cropland, Pastureland, Woodland acres

- 61% of land in farms are for crops
- 11% is pasture
- 20% is woodland

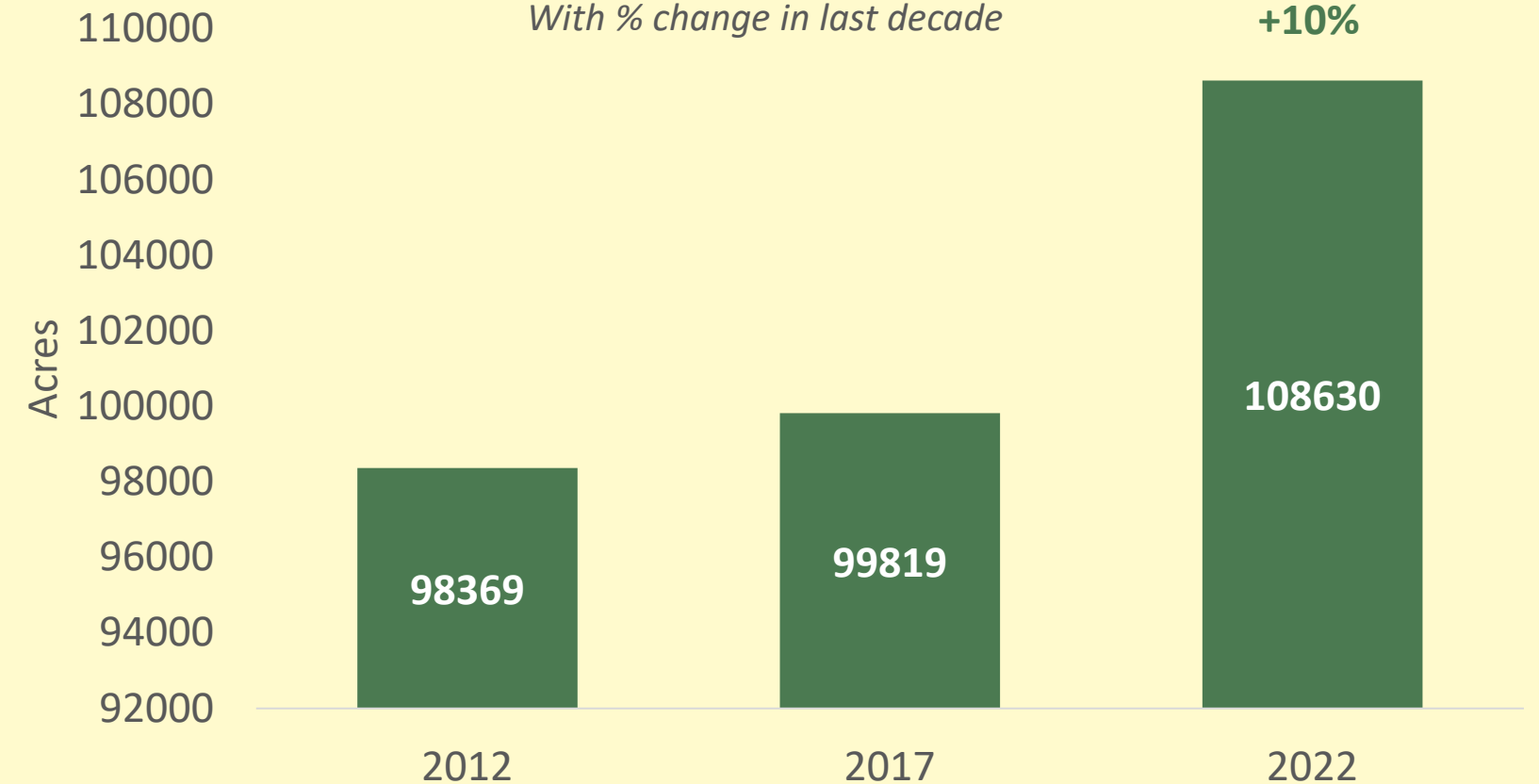
Number of farms: 2012-2022

*With % change in last decade*



Land in farms: 2012-2022

*With % change in last decade*



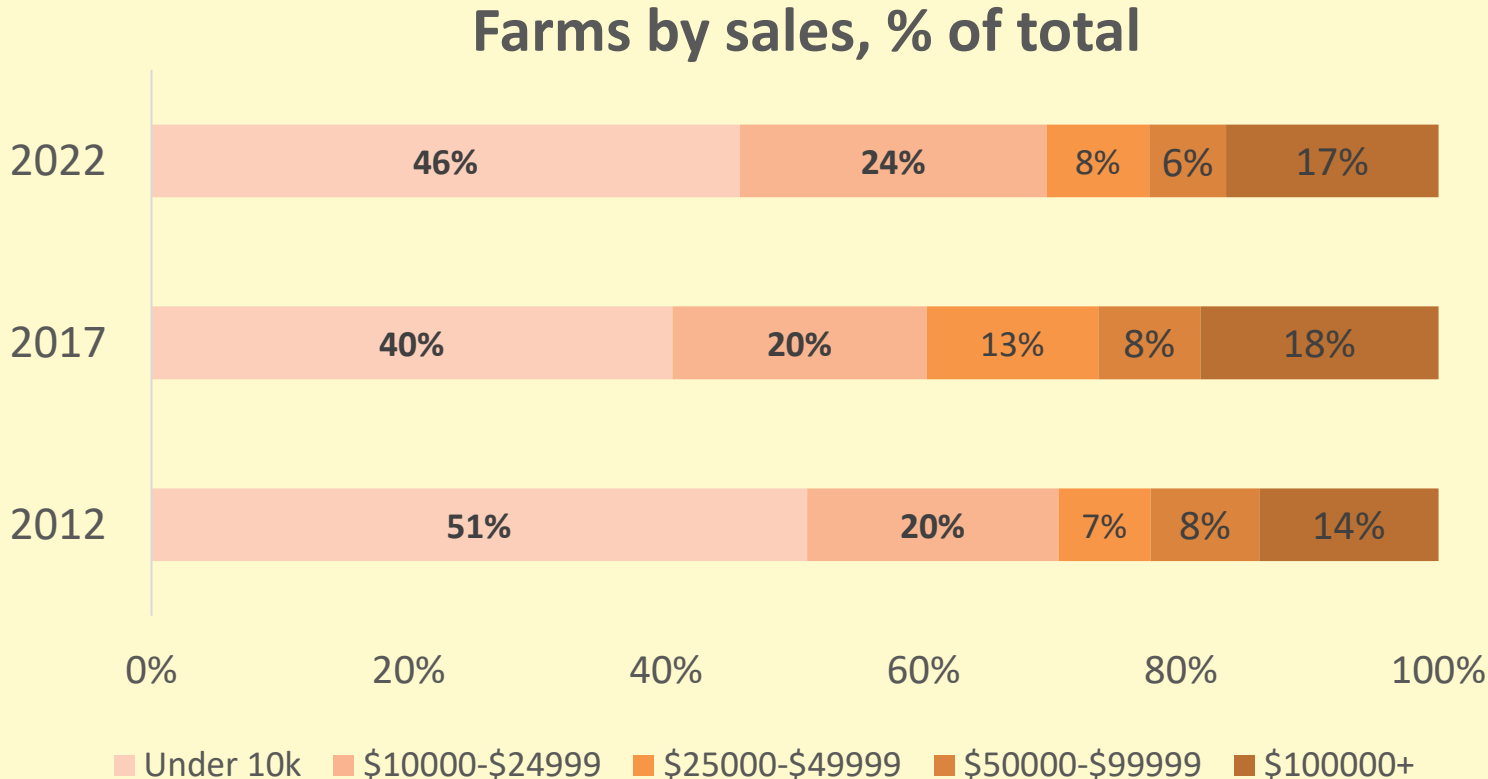
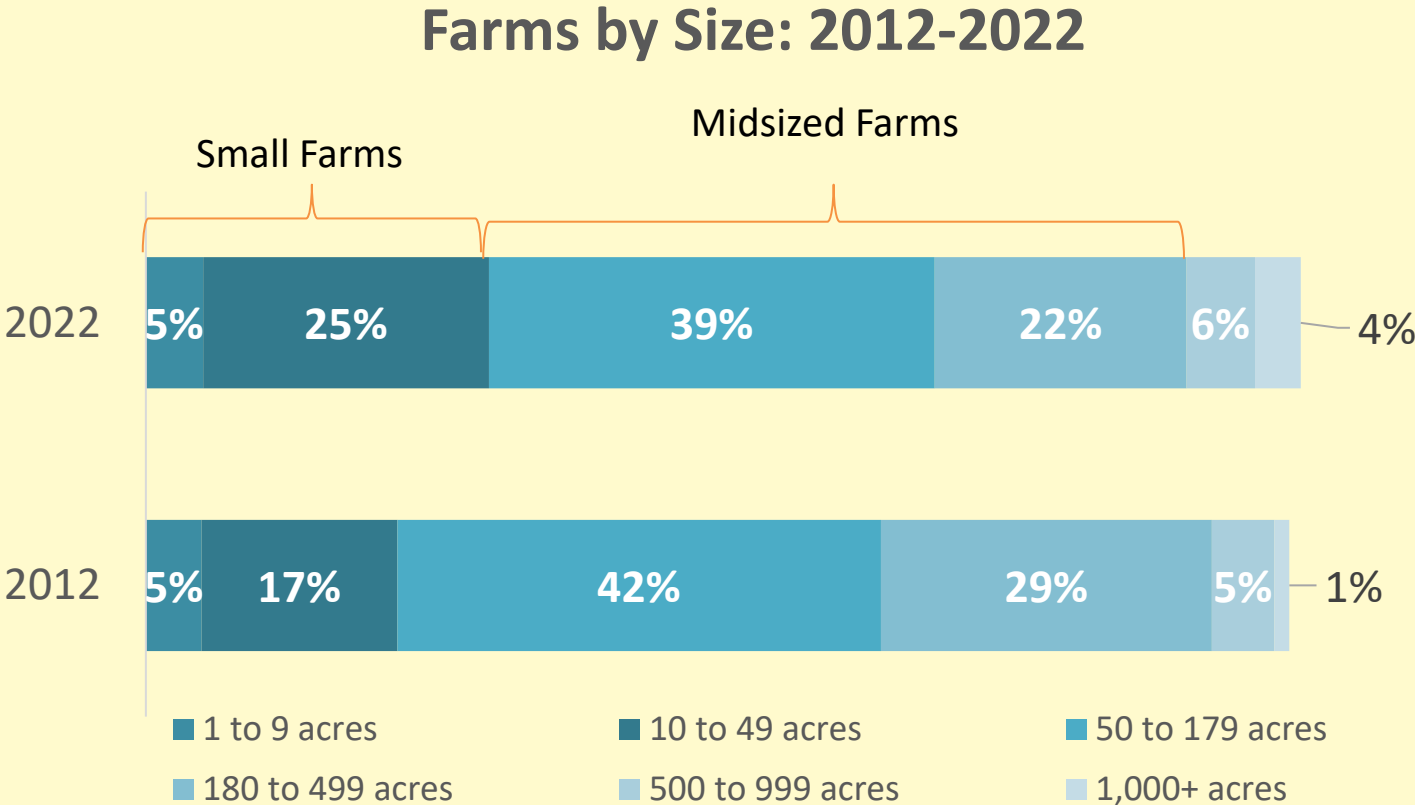
# Farm Size & Income

## Farm Size

- **Small farms:** Number of very small farms has stayed the same (1 -9 acres) but 10 -49 acre farms have increased
- **Midsized farms** have decreased (50 -500 acres)
- **Very large farms** have increased from 6% to 10% of farms (500+ acres)

## Farm Income

- **The share of farms making under 10k in sales has decreased** from 51% to 46% since 2012
- **Net cash farm income** per farm is \$27,418 (-14% since 2017)
- **Total farm production expenses** per farm is \$107,7444 (+51% since 2017)





# What are we growing

## Top crops by acres

Forage (Hay/haylage)	43,728
Corn (silage and grain)	10,656
Soybeans for beans	1,240
Vegetables	458

## Top crops by sales

1	Other crops and hay	\$7.6M
2	Grains, dry beans, peas	\$5.5M
3	Vegetables	\$2.4M
4	Fruits, tree nuts, berries	\$2.1M
5	Christmas trees	\$31k

## Top livestock products by sales

1	Milk from cows	\$36M
2	Cattle and calves	\$5.7M
3	Horses	\$441k
4	Sheep, goats	\$413k
5	Other Animals/products	\$341k



# Farms by the numbers

With percent change in number of farms in the last decade 2012 - 2022

HAY

283

↓ -16%

LIVESTOCK

277

↑ +1%

GRAIN

68

↓ -22%

DAIRY

37

↓ -41%



# Farms by the numbers

With percent change in number of farms in the last decade 2012 - 2022

ORCHARDS

41

↑ +105%

VEGETABLES

35

↓ -39%

FLOWERS

20

↑ +25%

GREENHOUSE

5

↓ -38%



# Farms by the numbers

With percent change in number of farms in the last decade 2012 - 2022

HONEY

34

↑ +183%

MAPLE

34

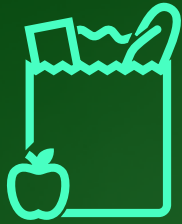
↑ +36%

EQUINE

20

↑ +5%

# Local Food Sales and Trends



104

Farms with  
Direct -to - Consumer  
Market sales

Down from 121 in 2012



61

Farms with  
Retail, Food Hub, or Wholesale  
Sales

Down from 69 in 2012

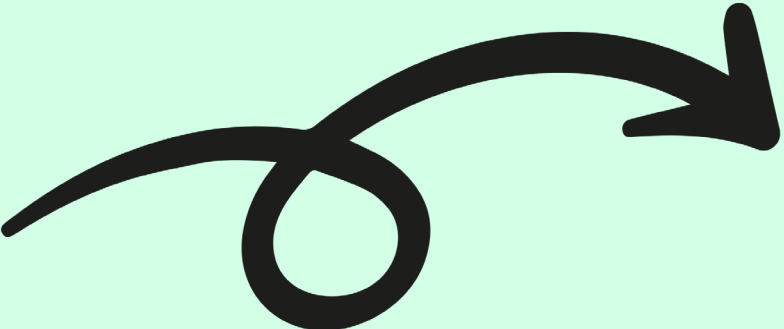


56

Value Added  
Operations

Up from 48 in 2012

# Growing Trend: Agritourism



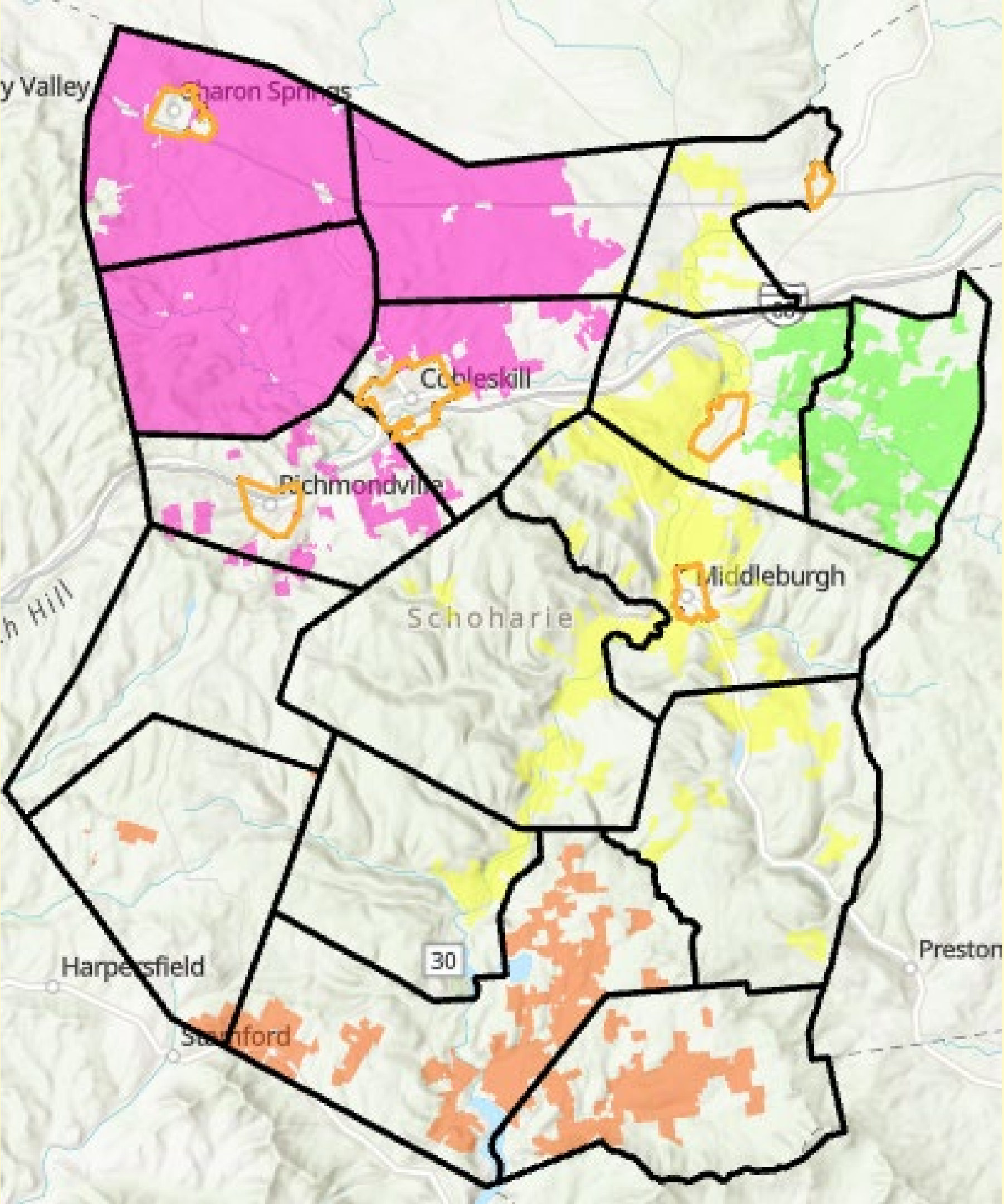
# Protecting Farmland in Schoharie County

## How we protect farmland

- Property Tax Relief for Agricultural Lands
- Agricultural Districting
- Schoharie Land Trust / Conservation Easements
- Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan for County

Town plans:

- Wright
- Carlisle
- Seward



# THANK YOU

