

Russell County

Data from the 2017 Census of Agriculture

Number of Farms	672 Farms
Land in Farms	92,485 Acres
Land in Farms Use	Cropland - 46% Pasture - 30% Woodland - 22% Buildings/Other - 3%
# of Farmers	1,075
Market Value of Ag Products Sold	\$37,513,000
Rank in State of 120	52nd
Grain Sales	\$6,041,000
Tobacco Sales	\$360,000
Vegetable Sales	\$82,000
Fruit/Nut/Berry Sales	\$31,000
Nursery/Greenhouse	\$136,000
Hay Sales	\$1,594,000
Poultry & Egg Sales	\$13,000
Cattle Sales	\$22,216,000
Milk Sales	\$6,077,000
Hog Sales	\$3,000
Sheep/Goat Sales	Not Reported
Horse Sales	Not Reported
Aquaculture Sales	Not Reported
Other Animal Sales	\$34,000



County Crops and Livestock:

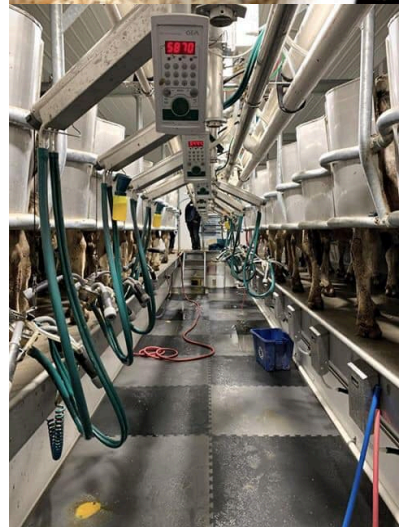
Hay
 Corn
 Vegetables
 Tobacco
 Fruit
 Chickens
 Cattle
 Goats
 Hogs
 Sheep
 Horses
 Turkeys

Farm Profiles

Russellway Holsteins

Ross Russell purchased his first farm in 1978 and started milking 27 cows. The farm grew over the years, and new barns were added for more cows. Today, Ross and Lisa Russell, with son Wesley Pierce, milk 330 Holstein cows. Ross and Lisa have 6 children and 9 grandchildren who have all enjoyed the farm growing up.

“We are proud to be a part of producing the most natural, nutritious, wholesome food possible.”



McGowan Family Dairy Farm

McGowan Family Dairy Farm is located in Jabez, KY. Audrey and Tim McGowan began managing the farm in 2009, but it has been a family operation since 1969. They milk 200 cows and sell their milk to Prairie Farms.

Source: Eunice Schlappi, Kentucky Department of Agriculture and Audrey McGowan

Roy Family Dairy

Roy Family Dairy Farm is located on the lower end of Gosser Ridge in Russell Springs, Kentucky. It is owned by Larry and Reva Roy and operated by their oldest son Shane. They currently milk 120 cows, raise beef cattle, and grow 1000 acres of grain.

The Roy and Wilson families have been in the dairy business for many years. Larry and Reva built their first milk barn back in 1976. Shane and his brothers, Larry Neil and Nick all worked in the milk barn growing up thru high school. Shane worked away from the farm for about 10 years, helping his parents whenever he could. Larry and Reva built a new milk barn in 1999 and in 2001, Shane returned to the dairy full time. Shane worked beside both his parents until the end of 2015 when Larry and Reva retired. Shane has been running the operation ever since with the help of his wife's nephew, Mitchell Meece.



Ciccarelli Farms

Andy and Margrit Ciccarelli were living in Switzerland and had a dream of having their own dairy farm. Unable to find a place close to home, they decided to respond to a newspaper article seeking managers for a farm in Russell Springs. In 1993, they emigrated from Switzerland to Kentucky with their three daughters, Lilith, Marlen, and Heidi. They began by managing a 300-acre farm, welcoming a fourth daughter, Anna, and eventually were able to make the land their own in 1999.

The Ciccarelli family continued to expand and improve the dairy farm. Today, they farm on 500 acres and milk 80 cows twice a day. The milk is sold to Prairie Farms.

They also grow all their own hay and silage and use several horses on the farm.



Lawless Dairy

Lawless Dairy began in 1987 when Michael and Christy Lawless purchased the farm that they still own to this day. Michael was a dairy farmer for 28 years before his passing in 2015. His family still carries on his legacy by keeping the dairy up and running.

They own about 80 cows, and milk half of those daily. The Lawless family say the cattle are like family to them, and each one is known by name. Michael and Christy's granddaughters, Lexia and Skyla Lawless, help on the farm and love showing the cows.



KC Farms

KC Farms is owned by the Carpenter family in Russell Springs, Kentucky. The farm began in 1947, and it was the first Grade A dairy in Russell County. Today, they milk 90 Jersey cows, raise Angus beef cattle, and grow many crops.

