



GEORGIA
FOUNDATION
FOR AGRICULTURE



Center for Agribusiness
and Economic Development
College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



IMPACT REPORT:

COVID-19 AGRICULTURE SURVEY

This is based on survey May 1-21. Covid-19 statistics, policies and circumstances have changed and continue to evolve. A future follow-up survey will attempt to capture the changes over time.

04 Key Takeaways

05 Who participated in the study?

06 How is COVID-19 affecting Georgia farms?

10 How are farmers #StillFarming?

12 Resources



MAHINDRA 3525

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1 82% of farmers indicated a loss of revenue attributed to COVID-19. Those that are experiencing a decline in weekly sales are on average seeing revenue down by \$8,500 per week and those that are anticipating an annual loss, on average will lose \$49,000.

2 The farmers were significantly more concerned with the potential financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic than they were about getting sick or the emotional strain from the COVID-19 situation.

3 Over half of the farmers indicated they are implementing social distancing measures to protect them and their customers. Approximately 20% were providing protective equipment to their employees. Only 5% indicated that they have closed their operation because of COVID-19.

4 Nearly 70% of the farmers indicated they were not participating in any relief program while only 22% were participating in a federal program. Those that were participating were most likely to have used the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). Over three quarters of the farmers indicated that these COVID relief programs would not provide sufficient relief.

5 Livestock producers indicated that they experienced significant losses due to COVID-19.

WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE STUDY?

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS

862

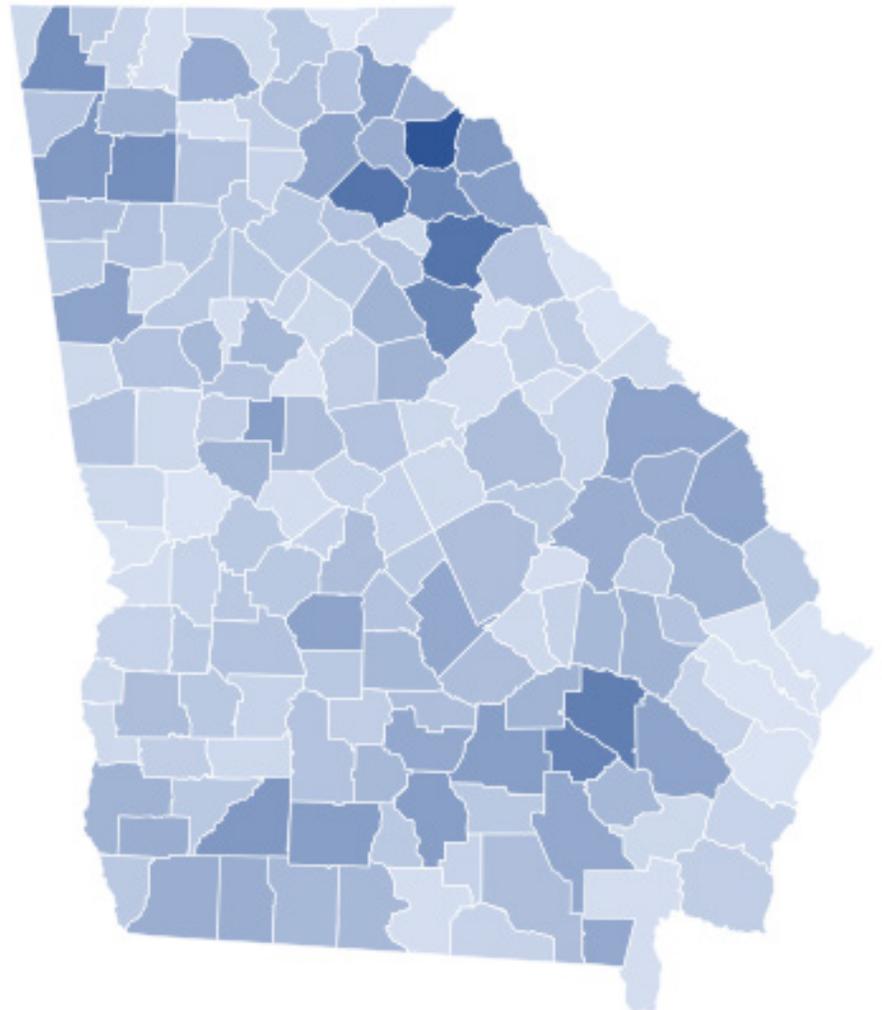
AVERAGE FARM INCOME OF RESPONDENTS

\$184,808

AVERAGE FARM SIZE OF RESPONDENTS (ACRES)

563

Respondent by County



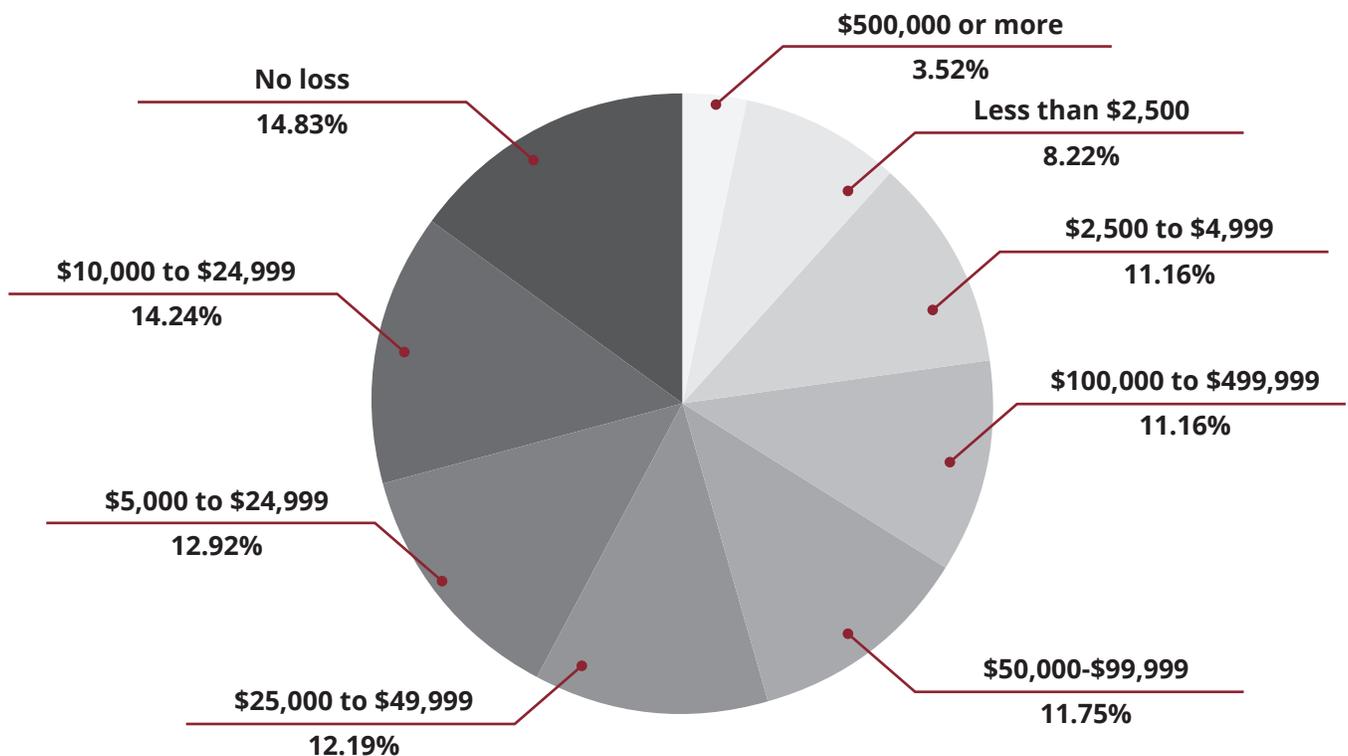
HOW IS COVID-19 AFFECTING GEORGIA FARMS?

Most concerned with financial impact

LEVEL OF CONCERN WITH COVID ISSUES (N=689)			
COVID Issue	Very	Slightly	Not at all
Becoming sick with COVID-19	29.44%	51.87%	18.69%
Financial impact of COVID-19	73.61%	22.58%	3.82%
Emotional impact of COVID-19	35.73%	45.61%	18.66%

Nearly 82% of farms anticipate a loss in revenue in 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

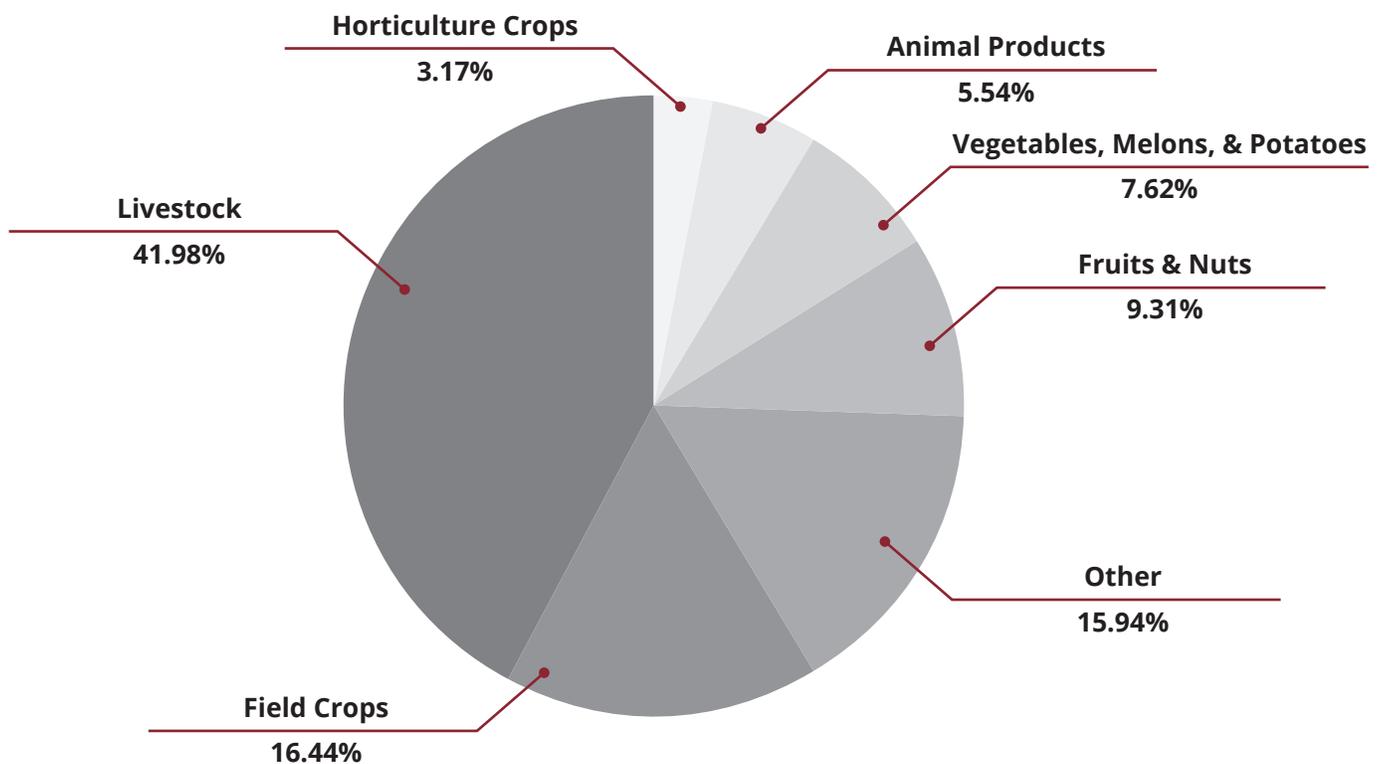
Expected Amount of Loss Due to COVID



HOW IS COVID-19 AFFECTING GEORGIA FARMS?



Commodities most affected by COVID



HOW IS COVID-19 AFFECTING GEORGIA FARMS?



Featured Sector: Livestock

LIVESTOCK HAS BEEN THE MOST AFFECTED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY.

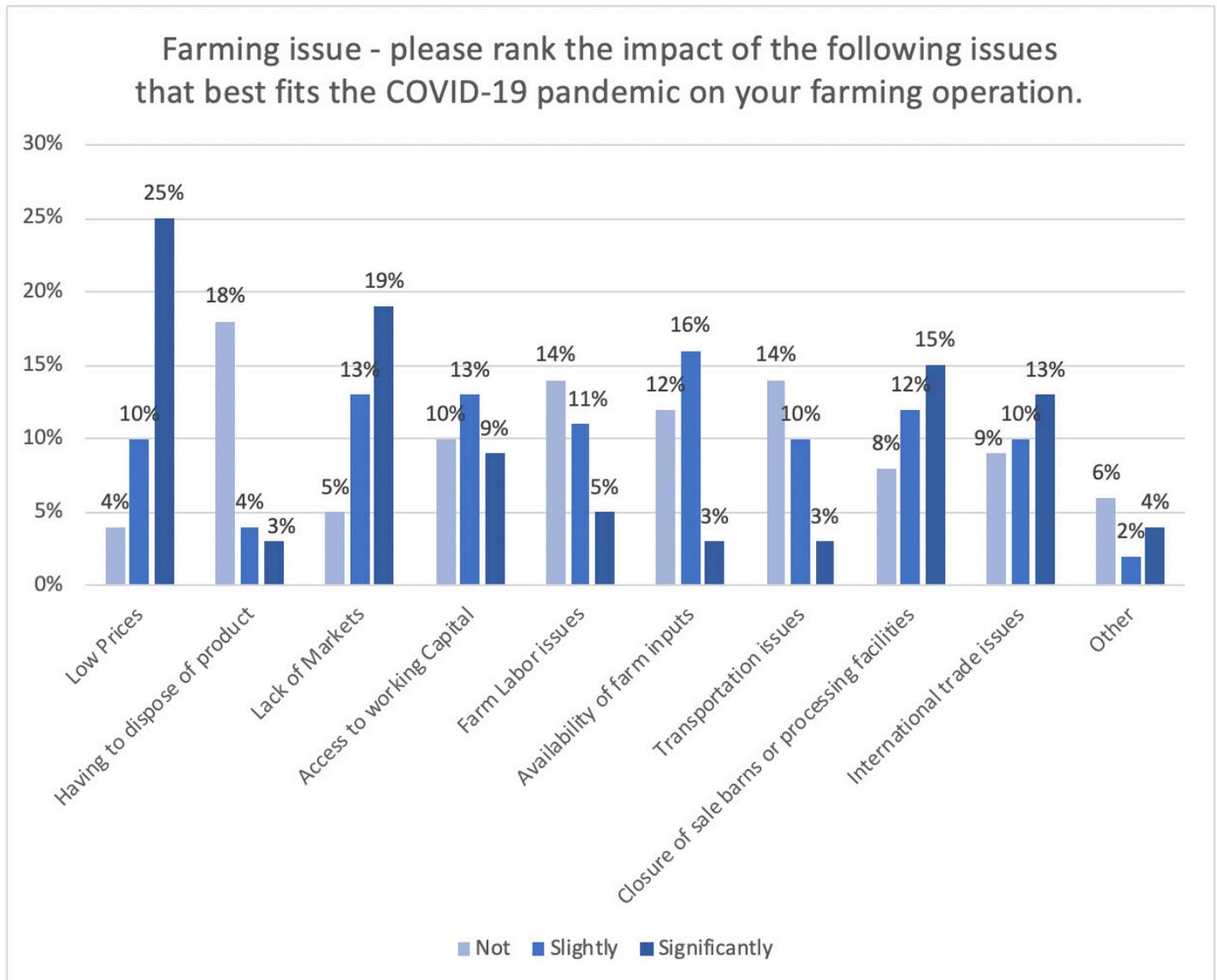
WHICH ANIMALS ARE BEING THE MOST AFFECTED?

LIVESTOCK	PERCENTAGE
Cattle, Beef	54.32%
Poultry	13.81%
Goats	6.28%
Equine (Horses, Donkeys)	4.55%
Hogs	4.24%
Sheep	3.92%
Cattle, Dairy	3.61%
Honeybee Colonies	0.94%

HOW IS COVID-19 AFFECTING GEORGIA FARMS?

Other issues affecting the farm

Of the respondents, 25% were significantly concerned with low prices created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Lack of market opportunities made up for another 19% of those with significant concerns. Respondents reported only slight concerns with availability of farm inputs, access to working capital and lack of markets. The 3 least concerning issues to most of the respondents were having to dispose of product, transportation issues, and farm labor issues.



HOW ARE FARMERS #STILLFARMING?

77%

HAVE IMPLEMENTED
PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

5.36%

COMPLETELY CLOSED FOR
BUSINESS

52.38%

HAVE ENCOURAGED SOCIAL
DISTANCING OF STAFF AND/
OR CUSTOMERS

19.64%

HAVE IMPLEMENTED
PREVENTATIVE SAFETY
MEASURES FOR STAFF AND
EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING
HAND SANITIZING, GLOVE
AND PROTECTION MASKS

8.33%

PARTIALLY CLOSED THEIR
BUSINESS, SUCH AS
SUSPENDING CERTAIN
SERVICES OR MOVING
THEM ONLINE.

14.29%

HAVE IMPLEMENTED OTHER
PREVENTATIVE MEASURES



We started offering curbside delivery. We already had a wireless credit card machine so that was a big benefit during this time. We started selling our strawberries along with lots of other produce.

-Sheila Rice, Calhoun Produce, Inc.

HOW ARE FARMERS #STILLFARMING?

DISTRIBUTION AND PERCENTAGE OF SALES PRIOR TO COVID-19

	PERCENT
Wholesale	24%
Other	23%
Processor (ex. CoPacker, Gin, Poultry Processing, etc.)	18%
Farm Market	14%
Farm Market Roadside Stand	9%
Online	7%
Grocery store or supermarket	3%
Institutional (Direct to Schools, Hospitals, Assisted Living, etc)	2%

42% of respondents primarily sold wholesale and direct to processors prior to COVID. Due to the closing of restaurants and processors, many farming operations experienced a shift in sales.

77%

DO NOT FEEL THAT THE RESOURCES WILL SUFFICIENTLY PROVIDE RELIEF TO THEM AND THEIR BUSINESS.

68%

OF RESPONDENTS HAVE NOT PARTICIPATED IN ANY FEDERAL PROGRAM.

PARTICIPATION IN ANY LOCAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL COVID-19 RELIEF PROGRAMS? *(Please check all that apply)*

ASSISTANCE	PERCENTAGE
No Participation	68.21%
Federal	22.21%
State	5.81%
Local	3.77%

Please participate!

FOR MORE RESOURCES, VISIT **GFB.ORG!**