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A Wisconsin Crop and Livestock Reporting Service
Summary of Price County Agriculture

Price County is located to the north of the central part of Wisconsin. Eight counties form the boundaries of Price County. The city of Phillips is the seat of county government. The land area of the county is 816,216 acres. This does not include the acreage in surveyed lakes and streams which accounts for an additional 9,600 acres. In land area Price ranks sixth among the 71 counties of Wisconsin.

Because of the almost constant warfare between the Sioux and Chippewa Indians who lived in the area, there was little inducement for any early permanent settlement by white men. The region was very heavily timbered with pine and occasional large tracts of small growth maple and basswood as late as 1881. Most of the first settlers were attracted to Price County by the forests, and from 1880 to 1900 the population increased rapidly. Lumbering was followed by diversified farming and dairying.

The greater part of the county's surface is gently rolling to rolling with some rough areas, and the topography is mostly the result of glaciation. The soils of Price County have been derived primarily from the weathering of glacial drift deposited by the Late Wisconsin Ice Sheet. The soils are shallow silt loams and rolling to rough sandy loams.

While the region of which Price County is a part was originally a dense forest, the total woodland acreage now is about 60 percent of the county's land area. Wooded swampland accounts for 10 percent and open marsh for about 6 percent of the land area. When a survey was made about 20 years ago, the county ranked fourth in the state in the acreage of aspen and birch and seventh in the acreage of hemlock.

The climate of Price County is similar to that for the state although temperatures for the year average a little below the Wisconsin average. Precipitation averages about 32 inches annually or an inch above the state's average. Like the state, the rainfall in the spring and summer months accounts for more than half of the precipitation. The average growing season is 122 days.

Some Data on Price County Agriculture
(Also see accompanying tables)

<u>Livestock on Farms, January 1, 1955</u>		<u>Crop Acreages - 1954</u>	
All cattle and calves	27,600	All corn	3,200
Cows and heifers 2 years and over	17,900	Corn for grain	290
Hogs	1,300	Corn for silage	2,880
Horses and mules	700	Oats	7,400
Stock sheep	600	Barley	100
		Rye	10
Chickens	38,000	All wheat	40
Egg production, 1954	6,138,000	Buckwheat	20
		All tame hay	31,720
		Alfalfa hay	960
		Clover and timothy hay	28,790
		Wild hay	790
		Potatoes	160
		Soybeans for all purposes	50
		Corn for canning	20
		Peas for canning	10
<u>Dairy Products - 1954</u>			
Milk production - pounds	94,800,000		
Creamery butter - pounds	188,314		
American cheese - pounds	4,154,203		

Population and Farm Data for Price County, Wisconsin
From United States Census, 1900-50

Year	Total population	Farm numbers, acreage, size, tenancy, and value				
		Number of farms	Land in farms	Average farm size	Percent of tenancy	Value of farm-land and buildings
	Number	Number	Acres	Acres	Percent	Dollars
1900	9,106	885	84,236	95.2	1.7	
1910	13,795	1,352	119,005	88.0	3.0	2,703,480
1920	15,841	1,935	161,894	83.7	4.2	7,579,443
1925		2,343	192,388	82.1	4.3	9,277,755
1930	14,248	1,997	182,778	91.5	4.7	7,612,536
1935		2,514	224,764	89.4	6.8	6,103,500
1940	15,215	2,513	226,246	90.0	7.6	5,625,472
1945		2,287	257,148	112.4	2.3	7,534,779
1950	13,420	2,085	271,942	130.4	2.3	12,027,048*
Rank 1950	56	41	44	46	70	56

*Estimated from census sample of value per acre and value per farm.

Total Land Area, Farm Acreage, and Utilization of Farmland
Price County, Wisconsin

Town	Total land area 1/	Farm acreage 2/	Percent of farmland in: 2/				
			Cropland harvested and idle Percent	Woodland not pastured Percent	Woodland pastured Percent	Pasture not wood-land 3/ Percent	All other land 4/ Percent
	Acres	Acres	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Catawba	34,897.76	12,138	22.0	32.9	24.3	15.3	5.5
Eisenstein	50,135.67	12,170	20.4	26.5	25.9	13.2	14.0
Elk	34,018.90	15,731	19.4	26.1	29.2	12.3	13.0
Emery	69,781.28	16,582	18.4	31.2	37.0	8.6	4.8
Fifield	99,083.40	8,359	18.3	35.6	25.8	16.4	3.9
Flambeau	62,237.12	14,764	16.2	25.9	21.4	17.1	19.4
Georgetown	34,291.60	6,942	25.5	20.4	23.8	23.8	6.5
Hackett	45,396.31	8,418	16.0	38.8	33.5	5.2	6.5
Harmony	23,003.10	11,525	23.1	29.9	22.2	14.9	9.9
Hill	22,604.35	11,847	15.2	38.4	30.5	12.4	3.5
Kennan	45,988.95	16,580	24.1	17.3	45.2	9.9	3.5
Knox	30,919.66	18,483	20.1	37.8	30.5	8.0	3.6
Lake	59,741.43	21,737	21.4	27.0	21.8	18.2	11.6
Ogema	52,683.13	27,222	23.4	25.3	24.6	16.9	9.8
Prentice	46,443.39	16,459	20.2	33.1	21.7	18.8	6.2
Spirit	26,309.47	16,899	18.3	35.8	32.1	9.9	3.9
Worcester	78,680.55	29,806	23.3	26.0	20.5	20.1	10.1
Incorporated places		6,280	30.0	19.9	18.5	27.6	4.0
County	816,216.07	271,942	20.9	29.1	27.1	14.7	8.2

1/Computed by the Crop Reporting Service and published in the 1935 Wisconsin Blue Book.

2/From the 1950 United States Census.

3/Includes cropland pastured and other pastured lands.

4/Includes wasteland, house yards, barnyards, roads, ditches, etc.