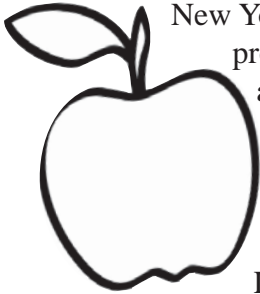


Intro to Agriculture

Agriculture, growing plants and raising animals, is important to New York State. About 23% of the state's land area, or 7 million acres of land, are used by the 36,300 farms to produce food products.

Milk is New York's leading agricultural product and ranks third in the United States for milk production.



New York ranks second in the nation for our production of apples. Our leading varieties are McIntosh, Empire, Red Delicious and Golden Delicious.

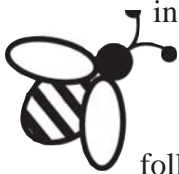
Grapes for juice and wine place New York third in US production behind California and Washington State. The four major grape producing areas are near Lake Erie, the Finger Lakes, the Hudson Valley and eastern Long Island.

In 2011, New York produced 564,000 gallons of maple syrup which ranked our state second in the nation behind Vermont.



Farmers in New York grow many other crops and raise birds and animals too! Be sure to look for our next

installment when we start "buzzing" about bees, pollination and honey.



Look for the following "Bee" features:

- **Basic Bee Facts**
- **Busy As A Bee** - common expressions from bees
- **Sweet As Honey** - uses for honey including a recipe
- **Bee Word Search and Crossword Puzzle**

Newspaper Activity: Look through the newspaper (print or electronic) for stories, pictures or ads that show examples of New York State agriculture.

How many examples did your class find?