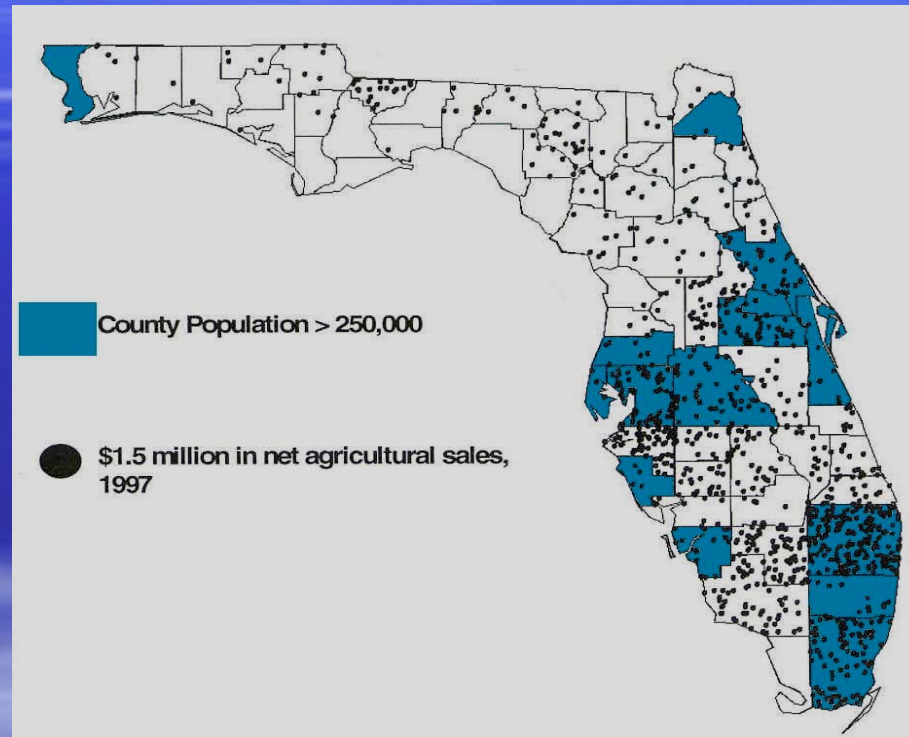


Tropical SubTropical Agriculture Research (TSTAR)



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Tropical SubTropical Agriculture Research (TSTAR)

Special Grant: Administered through USDA-CSREES

Leverages state and federal funding for the advancement of agriculture, natural and human resources in tropical and subtropical regions



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Tropical SubTropical Agriculture Research (TSTAR)

- ❑ Much of the research conducted in the temperate United States is not applicable to tropical areas:
 - ❑ Large differences in climate, soils, crops, insects and diseases, socio-economic constraints.
 - ❑ New germplasm collection, maintenance, breeding and genetic engineering for novel products
 - ❑ Plant disease in the year-round growing season,
 - ❑ Control of alien pests and weeds
 - ❑ Post-harvest processing
 - ❑ Value-added processing and marketing



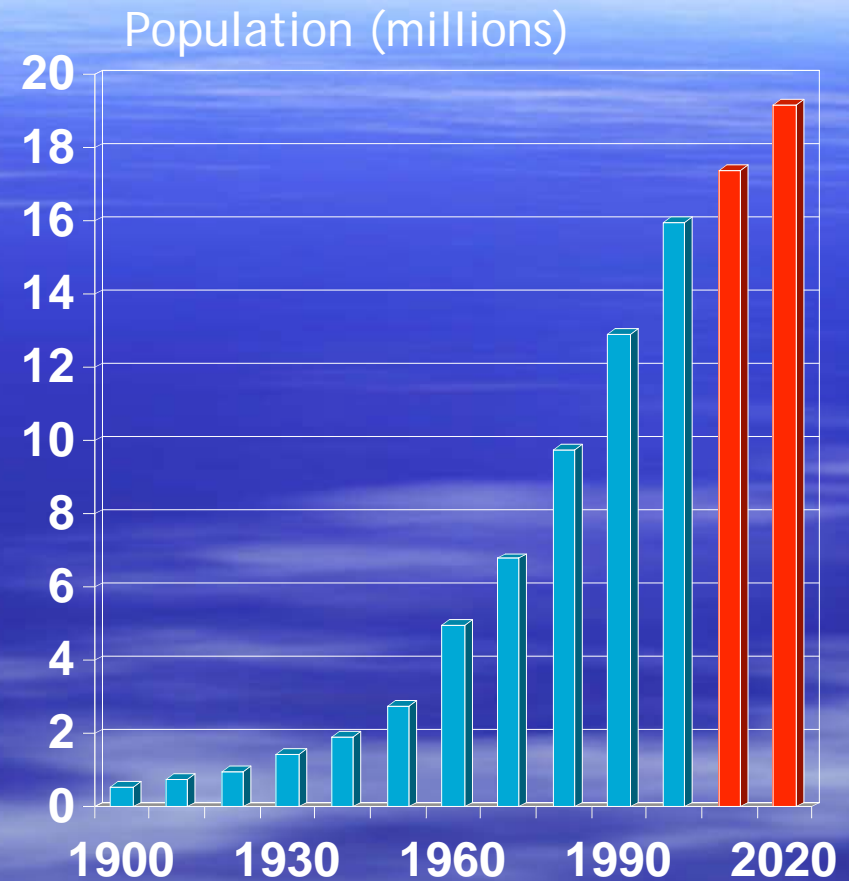
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Florida Population & Demographics

	2000	2025
Population (millions)	15.9	20.7
> 65 years of age	15%	> 25%
Hispanic	17	28
African American	15	21



❑ 35 of 67 counties touch the coastline, represents 77% of residents

❑ 50 million visitors to Florida in 2000



Florida Farm Numbers & Acreage

Number of Farms in Florida

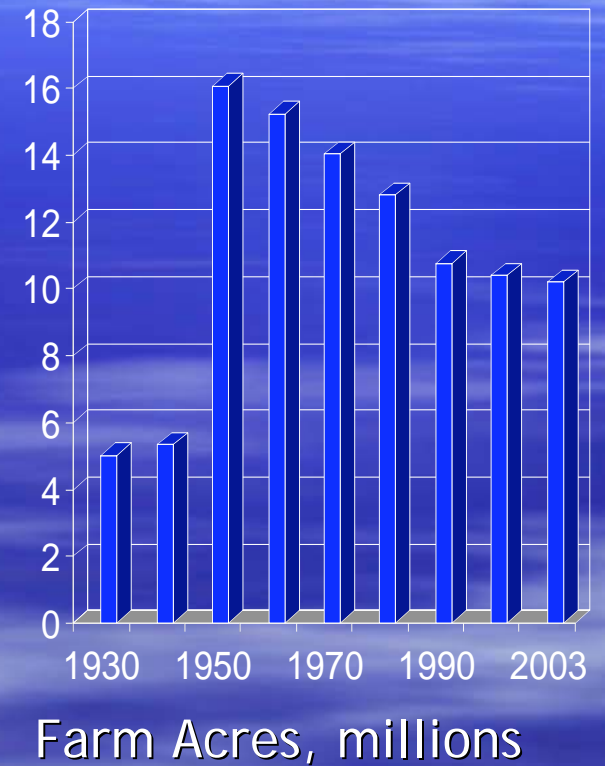
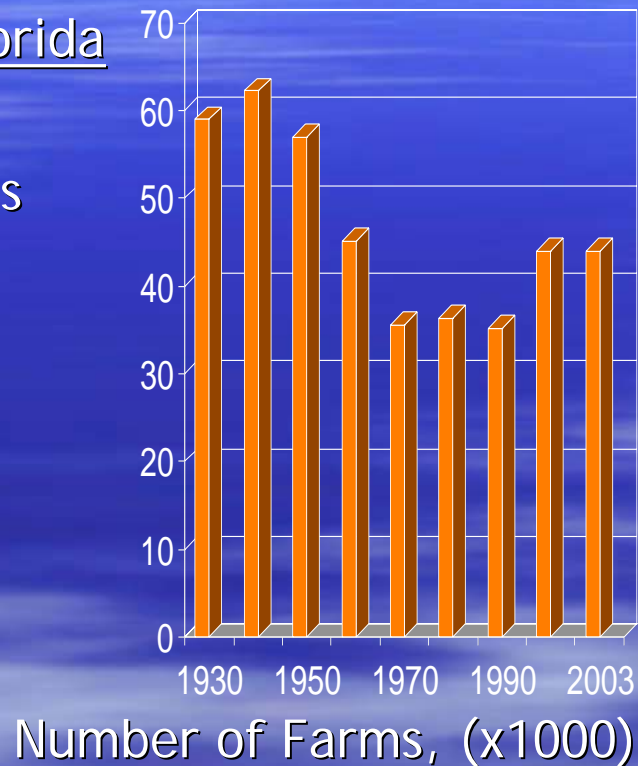
1940: 62,000 Farms

Today: 44,000 Farms

Farm Acreage

1954: 18.0 million

Today: 10.2 million



Florida Agricultural Statistics

★ Ranks 8th nationally in agricultural sales: \$6.8 billion

★ California	\$26.1 B	Kansas	\$7.9 B
★ Texas	12.7 B	Illinois	7.5 B
★ Iowa	10.8 B	Minnesota	7.5 B
★ Nebraska	9.6 B	Florida	6.8 B

□ Florida's Leading Agricultural Cash Receipts

□ Greenhouse/Nursery	\$1.63 B	Cattle	\$333 M
□ All citrus	1.45 B	Peppers	218 M
□ Sugarcane	518 M	Potatoes	212 M
□ Tomatoes	508 M	Strawberries	153 M
□ Dairy	356 M		



Florida Agricultural Statistics

★ Florida leads the nation in the production of 20 commodities:

★ Oranges

★ Tomatoes

★ Sugarcane

★ House Plants

★ Bell Peppers

Snap Beans

Sweet Corn

Ferns

Tangerines

Cucumbers

Tropical Fish

Squash

Tangelos

Radishes

Gladioli

Escarole

Temples

Grapefruit

Watermelon

Eggplant



Tropical SubTropical Agriculture Research (TSTAR)

TSTAR Partitioned Into 2 Regions

Caribbean

University of Florida

University of Puerto Rico

University of the Virgin Islands

Pacific

University of Hawaii

University of Guam



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Tropical SubTropical Agriculture Research (TSTAR)

Program Goals

- ❑ Develop strategies and tactics to stem the influx of exotic diseases, insects and weeds and to control and/or eliminate existing non-indigenous species and diseases.
- ❑ Provide research that maintains and enhances production of established tropical and subtropical agricultural products.



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Tropical SubTropical Agriculture Research (TSTAR)

Program Goals

- ❑ Develop agricultural practices that are environmentally acceptable through an agro-ecosystems approach.
- ❑ Enhance the role of value-added agriculture in tropical island ecosystems.
- ❑ Expand and diversify presently unexploited food and fiber products which have potential for commercial production in the U.S. tropical and subtropical regions.



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Tropical SubTropical Agriculture Research (TSTAR)

Program Goals

- ❑ Expand tropical and subtropical agriculture's linkages to related industries and economic sectors.
- ❑ Develop and deliver user friendly decision support packages to help client needs.
- ❑ Enhance linkages of the agriculture and food system with nutrition, health, and socio-economic status of the people in the tropical and sub-tropical regions.



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Tropical SubTropical Agriculture Research (TSTAR)

Peer - Review Grant Driven Program

- ❑ Based on NRI model - consistent with TSTAR Program Goals

Conferences - Workshops

- ❑ Enhance linkages among scientists and industry



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