



STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

USDA Publishes 2016 Sales Data for Agriculture Cooperative Businesses

Washington, Oct. 12, 2017 – Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development Anne Hazlett announced today that the nation’s farmer, rancher and fishery cooperatives remained on solid financial footing in 2016.

USDA data from the annual [Top 100 Ag Co-op list](#) shows that the nation’s nearly 2,000 agricultural cooperatives – businesses owned and operated by farmers, ranchers and fishermen – reported \$6.9 billion in net income for 2016. Ag co-ops employed 187,369 people in 2016, slightly more than in 2015.

Hazlett also noted that Secretary Perdue recently signed a [Cooperative Month proclamation](#) that salutes the nation’s 30,000 cooperative businesses. In addition to agriculture, co-ops play a major role in providing electricity and telecommunications services, credit and financial services, groceries, housing and services in many other sectors of the economy.

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