

U.S. *Agriculture* Facts

(Virginia and West Virginia Too!)

1 There are *2.1 million farms* in the U.S., and more than 98% of them are operated by families. In West Virginia, 95% farms are family-owned, and in Virginia, it is 90%.

Cattle and calves, corn and dairy products are the top 3 U.S. farm products. In Virginia, it is broilers, cattle and calves and turkeys and in West Virginia it is broilers, cattle and calves, and hay. **2**

3 Across all commodities, farmers and ranchers receive about *15 cents* of every dollar spent on food at home and away from home. In 1980, they received *31 cents*.

Across the U.S. more than 20% of all farmers are *beginning farmers* (in business less than 10 years) and 30% of farm operators are *women*. In Virginia, 17% of primary farm operators are *female*. **4**

5 About 8% of U.S. farms market foods *locally*, through direct to consumer or intermediated sales.

West Virginia ranks 10th for *apple* production, 12th for *trout* production and 14th for *turkey* production in the U.S. Virginia ranks 3rd for *leaf tobacco*, and 8th for *apples, grapes and peanuts*. **6**