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Nebraska Farmers and Ranchers Experience 10 Percent Increase in Expenses

(KLZA) The amount of money Nebraska's farmers and ranchers invested in their businesses grew 10 percent last year.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture says Nebraska farmers and ranchers spent \$17.32 billion in 2011.

Livestock expenses remained the biggest category accounting for about 21 percent of spending. Those expenses stayed roughly flat at \$3.58 billion.

Land rent grew 8 percent to \$2.08 billion in 2011.

The average expenditure per farm or ranch grew 11 percent to \$370,085 in 2011. That's up from \$333,475 the previous year.

The USDA says the results are based on data from Nebraska farmers and ranchers who took part in the Agricultural Resource Management Study.

Associated Press