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Number of Farms Declining in Nebraska

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) - The U.S. Department of Agriculture says in a new report that the number of farms and ranches in Nebraska continues to slide.

In an annual report released Thursday the USDA says Nebraska farms fell to 49,100 last year, 500 fewer than the year before. The small farm category, those with annual sales of less than \$100,000, fell by 800 farms while larger farms exceeding \$100,000 in sales increased by 300.

Land in farms and ranches in Nebraska totaled 45.2 million acres, down 100,000 acres from 2013. The average size of operation, at 921 acres, was up 8 acres from the year earlier.

Nationally, the number of farms fell by 18,000 to 2.1 million. Total land in farms is at 913 million, down from just over 1 billion acres in 2013.

Associated Press