



AGRIQUACULTURE CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

LOUISIANA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOUNDATION

ABOUT THE AGRIQUACULTURE CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

Established in 2024 with the support of Congressman Troy A. Carter, Sr., who represents Louisiana's 2nd Congressional District, the AgriAquaculture Center of Excellence (ACE) is the largest closed-loop aquaponic aquaculture center in Louisiana. Located in Harvey, **the ACE encompasses over 10,000 square feet of operating and greenhouse space dedicated to cultivating fresh, locally sourced vegetation and advancing the AgriAquaculture industry in the region.** This state-of-the-art facility functions as both a business incubator and a workforce training center, aiming to empower small businesses in AgriAquaculture—particularly those owned by residents in rural communities, Jefferson Parish, and the greater New Orleans metropolitan area.

MISSION & VISION

Our primary mission is to promote economic resilience and job creation within the AgriAquaculture sector by supporting small businesses through comprehensive technical assistance, educational programs, and collaboration opportunities. By creating an empowering a network of industry leaders and partners, the ACE center will foster innovative business solutions that drive economic growth, resilience, and employment opportunities across southern Louisiana.



VISIT OUR FACILITY:
651 Leson Court,
Harvey, LA 70058



HOW WE DRIVE SUSTAINABILITY

Addressing Food Security and Resilience

- Promotes local farming to reduce food deserts
- Builds sustainable food systems for community stability
- Provides year-round indoor access to food production

Outreach, Engagement and Technical Assistance Support

- Support for local small business and farm owners
- Facilitate partnerships and outreach engagement
- Expand development, production, and distribution of local items

Workforce Development and Community Empowerment

- Training in sustainable farming, hydroponics, and aquaponics
- Increase in STEM and agricultural education
- Reduces reliance on distant supply chains

PROGRAMS OFFERED AT THE AGRIQUACULTURE CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

- **Technical skills:** farming, aquaponics, Agri tech & STEM
- **Business training:** operations, finance, and management
- **Market expansion:** support for small farmers and local producers including marketing and import/export opportunities
- **Workforce readiness:** training, certification, and hands-on experience for job preparation

LEARN MORE:



The Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization that was established in 2018, to help drive the economic growth of Louisiana by empowering and sustaining the small business community through the development of local chambers.

The AgriAquaculture Center of Excellence (ACE) is the largest closed-loop aquaponic aquaculture center in Louisiana.



The Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation facility funding for the AgriAquaculture Center for Excellence was provided in part by Congressman Troy A. Carter, Sr.





LOUISIANA Farms



25,006
Total farms



8 MILLION
Acres of farmland

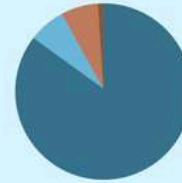


319 ACRES
Average farm size



14
USDA certified organic farms

Who operates Louisiana farms?



- 85% Families/Individuals
- 7% Partnerships
- 7% Corporations
- 1% Other

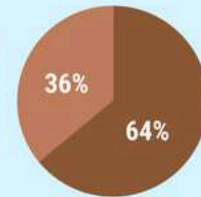


13,778
New or beginning farmers



3,791
Farmers with military service

15,160
Female farmers



27,391
Male farmers



FARM FLAVOR
Data & charts provided by Farm Flavor

The USDA Census of Agriculture provides a detailed picture of U.S. farms and ranches every five years. It's the leading source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every state. This infographic reflects the most recent census, which shows data released in February 2024.

Farm Products



\$4.8 BILLION

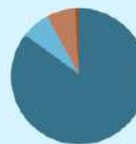
Market value of agricultural products sold

\$1.4 BILLION
Livestock

\$3.4 BILLION
Crops

LOUISIANA Farmers

Who operates Louisiana farms?



- 85% Families/Individuals
- 7% Partnerships
- 7% Corporations
- 1% Other

AGRICULTURE IS A \$7.3 BILLION INDUSTRY IN LOUISIANA

LSU AG CENTER

REVOLUTIONIZING THE INDUSTRY

The ACE aims to position Southeast Louisiana as a national leader in AgriAquaculture by driving economic growth, promoting food security, and expanding opportunities for underrepresented communities through workforce development and business incubation. It supports local farmers, fosters entrepreneurship, and builds a sustainable regional economy while addressing climate change and economic challenges.



EXPAND YOUR BUSINESS WITH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

VISIT LACHAMBERFOUNDATION.ORG

The Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation provides comprehensive technical assistance programs to support small businesses, with the AgriAquaculture Center of Excellence offering specialized solutions for this industry.

