Bartow County Quick Facts:

- Bartow County is 470 square miles, has 176,555 acres in forestland and 63,894 acres on 458 family owned farms. Forests and farms cover 80% of the total land area in Bartow.

- The 2014 Bartow County Population was estimated at 101,736 people.

- Bartow has the 24th largest population out of 159 counties in Georgia and is projected to have 143,750 citizens by 2030.

- The total Food & Fiber sector in Bartow employees over 6,400 people with an economic output of $1.4 billion dollars. This represents 17% of the county economy.

References:

U.S. Census Bureau
http://factfinder2.census.gov

The Georgia County Guide Center for Agribusiness & Economic Development,
University of Georgia
www.countyguide.uga.edu

USDA National Ag Statistics Service
www.nass.usda.gov

Bartow County Cooperative Extension
www.ugaextension.com/bartow

A Salute To Georgia’s Forestry Production:
Timber production adds $14.4 billion dollars to the Georgia economy each year and contributes nearly 61,500 jobs. Georgia leads the nation with over 24.7 million acres of renewable forestland.

The top two exports from Georgia ports by volume are pulp wood and paperboard. Georgia is considered the “wood-basket” of the world.

Forests affect nearly every aspect of our lives by providing green space and raw materials for home building, paper, packaging, and other uses.

Agriculture:
The Foundation

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Agriculture: The Foundation

**Bartow County** has a strong and diverse agricultural sector which co-exists with a rapidly growing suburban population within its county borders. The 63,894 acres of farmland in Bartow produces a multitude of agricultural products. Bartow County ranks in the top 50 out of 159 counties in Georgia for Total Farm Gate Value.

**Poultry** is the number one agricultural enterprise in Bartow County. On-farm production is approximately $58 million dollars. There are currently 163 commercial poultry houses in Bartow County.

**Livestock** - Beef cattle are still a viable part to the agricultural economy with over 15,300 animals on farms. Goats are a rising commodity in Bartow County accounting for nearly 650 head. Other livestock include sheep, swine, alpacas, and honeybees. Livestock production accounts for $23 million dollars of on farm sales.

**Equine** - Bartow County has a growing recreational horse population. We now have an estimated 1,000 horses valued at over $3.2 million dollars. There are currently 20 licensed boarding stables in Bartow.

**Horticulture** is a solid component in Bartow’s agricultural production. We have several ornamental nurseries and greenhouses in Bartow with 32 acres of field and container grown plants. Bartow also has over 1,000 acres in commercial turfgrass production. Ornamental plants, turfgrass, and vegetable production accounts for over $13.9 million dollars in on farm sales. Landscaping businesses generate approximately $15 million dollars in added value services to parks, recreation, and green industries in Bartow.

**Row and Forage Crops** - Bartow is home to one of the last remaining cotton gins in North Georgia. Over 7,400 acres of row crops such as corn, cotton, and soybeans account for $6 million dollars in annual production value. Forage crops such as wheat, hay, and alfalfa add another $2 million dollars in annual production value.

$107 Million
Was Generated in 2014 by Agricultural Industries in Bartow County.

Getting Started in Agriculture?
Search UGA for Business Plans and Feasibility Reports:
www.caes.uga.edu/center/caed

Contact the Farm Service Agency for Venture Capital or Cost Share Programs:
www.fsa.usda.gov/

Bartow County’s Top 5

#1 - Poultry & Eggs:
$58,571,974

#2 - Livestock & Equine:
$23,107,528

#3 - Horticulture Industry:
$13,954,033

#4 - Row & Forage Crops:
$8,423,049

#5 - Forestry & Timber:
$1,864,007

Why Should We Protect our Agricultural Enterprises?

- Agriculture contributes significantly to the county tax base with the least demand for services.
- Agricultural land, forests and urban landscaping provide greenspace for groundwater recharge.
- Greenspace helps to filter our air and water pollution.
- Many people are moving here to share in the beauty of rural America.
- Agriculture provides the plants and animals we enjoy around our homes.
- Without food, clothing, and shelter we cannot meet the greater needs of society.
- Agriculture is Georgia’s largest industry and arguably the most important industry-we all have to eat!