Alabama’s fruit and vegetable industry has a $161.5 million economic impact and provides 1,121 jobs.

Vegetables and melons alone have a $65.86 million economic impact.

Peaches are the state’s leading commercial fruit, two-thirds of which are grown in Chilton County.

Peach production accounts for $6.2 million in sales for the state.

Alabama ranks seventh among U.S. states for sweet potato production.

More than 1,750 acres of sweet potatoes are grown annually on 67 Alabama farms.

In 2015, Alabama had more than 100 acres of satsuma trees.

Approximately 16,340 acres on 1,081 Alabama farms are planted in pecan trees.

Alabama ranks 12th among U.S. states for watermelon production.

There are 167 farmers markets in Alabama.

The blackberry is Alabama’s state fruit.

The fruit, vegetable and tree nut industry in Alabama generates an additional 50 cents in the state economy per dollar of output.

On average, fruit and tree nut production generates over 17 jobs per $1 million in direct sales.

The five largest fresh market crops in the U.S. in terms of acreage are lettuce, potatoes, sweet corn, tomatoes and watermelon.

Green peas, potatoes, snap beans, sweet corn and tomatoes are the top further-processed crops.

More than half of American horticulture farms are family or individually owned, but corporations account for three-fourths of sales.

In 2012, 29 percent of farms selling directly to consumers specialized in vegetable, fruit and nut farming.

Farms with direct sales to consumers were 6.9 percent of the nation’s 2.1 million farms in 2012.

Sources: Auburn University, FarmFlavor.com, USDA.gov