

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact:

Midwest Food Products Association Jason Culotta, President (608) 255-9946 Jason.culotta@mwfpa.org

Wisconsin Snap Bean Production Leads Nation

Madison, WI: The Midwest Food Products Association (<u>MWFPA</u>) applauds the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) figures showing the Badger State maintained its Number One ranking nationally in production of processing snap beans in 2023. These may be viewed at nass.usda.gov.

Last year, the production of snap beans for processing in Wisconsin totaled 329,591 tons and was valued at \$52.1 million for the year – keeping the state first nationally in production ahead of New York, Michigan, Florida, and Oregon.

Wisconsin perennially places among the top five states in growing and processing crops such as potatoes, sweet corn, peas, snap beans, carrots, cucumbers and cabbage for sauerkraut.

Snap beans are typically harvested while still in their pods. They are rich in vitamins, containing vitamins A, C, and K, and are a great source of micronutrients such as iron and potassium while also containing trace amounts of protein.

Wisconsin also maintained its third-place ranking for processing sweet corn in 2023, producing 502,466 tons at a value of \$58.3 million. The production of sweet corn for processing is heavily concentrated in the Midwest and the State of Washington.

"Wisconsin is a major food processing state, hosting companies with international name recognition," said Jason Culotta, president of MWFPA. "MWFPA is proud to support and advocate for its Wisconsin member plants and their operations in this region."

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MWFPA represents the interests of the region's dynamic food products industry. The Association lobbies on legislative and regulatory matters, promotes safe food processing practices, investigates new technologies, funds industry research, and plans industry events. It represents processing facilities in Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.