FACT SHEET

CENTRAL VIRGINIA

AGRIBUSINESS, FOOD PROCESSING AND TECHNOLOGY

Central Virginia's rural landscape is home to greenhouses, wineries, craft beverage producers, cattle farms, and more. Robotics and other advanced technologies provide opportunities for skilled and unskilled laborers.



Battlefield Farms

QUICK FACTS

377
Number of agribusinesses

5,509
Number of workers

$38,216
Average annual salary

$911 Million
Contribution to gross domestic product

EAT YOUR GREENS!

Taylor Farms (formerly Better Future Farms) operates an **innovative hydroponic greenhouse** and processing facility in Louisa County. They are the nation's largest salad and fresh-cut vegetable producer.

Central Virginia PARTNERSHIP for ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

CentralVirginia.org
LivingCentralVA.org

Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development
1001 Research Park Blvd, Suite 301
Charlottesville, VA 22911

Contact: Helen Cauthen, President
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Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development

Make Central Virginia the location for your next *Bold* venture!

CENTRAL VIRGINIA ADVANTAGES

- Unique mixture of rural areas and vibrant urban communities with access to I-64, connecting to almost half of the US population within a one-day delivery by truck.
- Virginia Cooperative Extension of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University provide research and educational opportunities for agribusiness through local offices in every Central Virginia county. Emergent UVA Sustainability lab at Morven Farm where students can work on projects with real-world applications.
- Piedmont Virginia Community College and Germanna Community College offer courses in biotechnology, horticulture, and viticulture, as well as certificates in brewing and winemaking.
- Agriculture & Forestry Industries Development Fund (AFID) offers Virginia agribusiness opportunities to expand operations and can cover utility extension, broadband capacity, transportation access, and site improvements.




Virginia Distillery Company

DEMONSTRATED RECORD OF SUCCESS

Albemarle Baking Company, an award-winning bakery, has been a local favorite for nearly 30 years. The business began with just three people and grew to over 20, and now offers online and wholesale purchasing.

Bell Nursery, an ornamental flower producer distributing through Home Depot, is a Veriflora Sustainably Grown certified grower using 100% wind generated power.

Bright Farms produced non-GMO, pesticide-free salad greens sold to local markets and grocery stores in greater Washington, DC, Baltimore and Northern Virginia.

Merchant's Grocery Company (HQ) is a wholesale food distributor serving over 600 convenience and grocery stores.

Devils Backbone Brewing Company began as a local craft brewing company, but was acquired by Anheuser-Busch in 2016.

Grelen Nursery, one of the largest retail tree nurseries in Virginia, grows trees and shrubs on a 600-acre farm. Buyers can walk the fields and pick their own plants.

Tropical plant provider, **Willow Run Greenhouse**, supplies interiorscapers, retail garden centers, and florists in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Twin Oaks Tofu, a worker-owned cooperative, incorporates eco-friendly practices into tofu production by using renewable energy for heating and reusing the nitrogen-rich "waste-water" byproduct as fertilizer.

Virginia Distillery Company produces an American Single Malt whisky using fresh spring water fed from the surrounding Blue Ridge Mountains and hand-hammered copper pot stills crafted in Scotland.

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