

Latino Farmers in Michigan: An Overview

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ABSTRACT

Michigan Latino farmers contribute to the largest and fastest-growing minority-farming group in the U.S. However, they are subject to lack of financial resources, limited land ownership, difficulty in obtaining bank loans, low sales, insufficient training, meager farm equipment, language barriers, and limited information resources. This report considers these barriers, providing research results from a survey of Latino farmers in Michigan and focuses primarily on berry, livestock, and other-produce farmers. These farmers are a diverse group of individuals with different practices and processes. This study demonstrates that a study focusing on specific types of farmers can identify specific issues pertaining to those types of farmers. For example, this study shows that Latino berry farmers tend to engage in agricultural planning and practices that lead to improved sales.