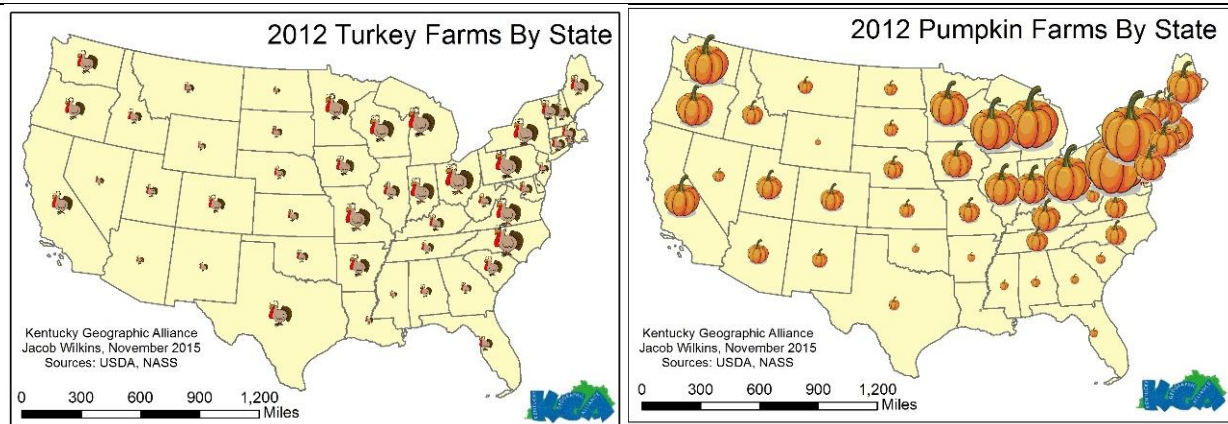

KENTUCKY IN THE NEWS

The Kentucky Geographic Alliance -- November 2015



Where do the turkeys and pumpkins come from? According to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), as well as the National Agricultural Statistics Service, a variety of states produce pumpkins and turkeys.

2012 data from the [USDA](#) indicates that the majority of turkey farms are located in the northeast states, with some along the west coast as well. A similar relationship exists with pumpkin farm distribution. According to these data, North Carolina has the highest number of turkey farms (590), while Pennsylvania has the highest number of pumpkin farms (1,578). Pennsylvania also has the highest number of combined turkey and pumpkin farms (2,063).

There are a number of interesting geographic concepts in these maps. First, we are showing the number of *farms* that produce turkeys and pumpkins. The number of turkeys and pumpkins being *produced* at each farm would change the maps. The size, productivity and specialty of farms in New England are different than the upper Midwest (Michigan apples for pie and stuffing). Contributing factors to these data could be: climate, population distribution, and soil productivity. In addition, farmers tend to produce similar products in local areas. An example of this concept comes from a [map of turkeys sold](#) in 2007. The results of this map show a unique distribution to the number of turkey farms by state in 2012.

The Kentucky Geographic Alliance usually maps products (or ideas) that are produced and exported from Kentucky (Coal, Corvette, Camry...), but now we get to show you what is being imported and consumed in our state.