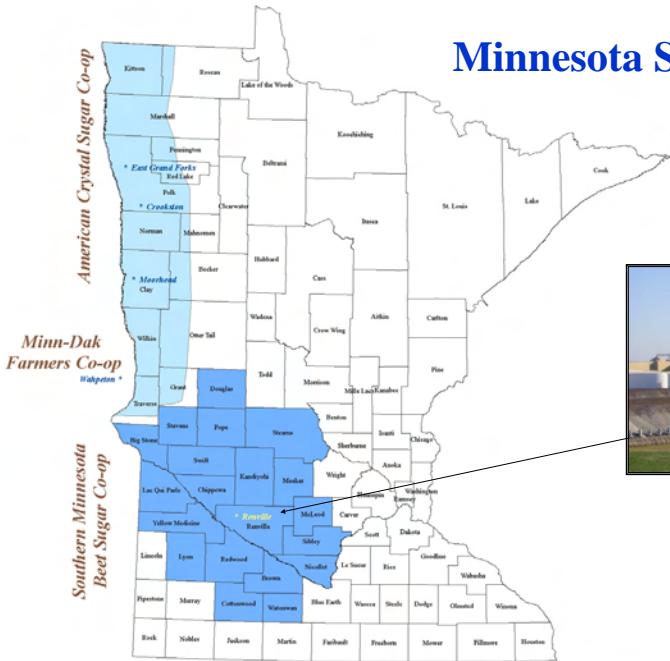


Minnesota Sugar Industry



Minnesota (MN) Facts:

- 32,500 jobs in MN rely on the U.S. sugar industry.
- \$1.7 billion of economic activity is generated in MN each year by the U.S. sugar and corn sweetener industry.
- MN is the largest beet-producing region in the U.S.
- MN has 2 sugarbeet processing facilities American Crystal Sugar Co (3 factories) and Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative (1 factory). Beets are also produced in North Dakota by Minn-Dak Farmers Cooperative.

Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative (SMBSC) Facts:

- As measured by the total tons of beets sliced each year, SMBSC's plant in Renville is the largest in the World. It shares that "Title" with a British Sugar plant in Wigginton, England.
- SMBSC is a Cooperative owned by approximately 565 Shareholders, raising approximately 120,000 acres of sugarbeets, in 17 counties in southwestern Minnesota.
- Given our recent modernization as well as improvements to Shareholder production quality, SMBSC has become one of the most efficient beet sugar production factories in the United States.
- On an annual basis SMBSC produces nearly 7.5 million hundred weights (cwt) of refined sugar from about 2.6 million tons of sugar beets.
- Including beet payments, payroll, and the money SMBSC pays for supplies, fuel, chemicals, and taxes SMBSC places nearly \$170 million yearly into the local economy.
- SMBSC employs approximately 350 full time Employees as well as an additional 350 Employees during the six week harvest period.
- SMBSC products include:
 - Refined sugar marketed through Cargill Sweeteners
 - Sold to customers in bulk truckload and rail car quantities as well as in 50# bags and super sacks (2,000#s)
 - Liquid sugar sold in truck load quantities
 - By-Products marketed through Midwest Agri-Commodities
 - Dried pulp and pelleted pulp sold for cattle feed
 - Molasses and Low Sugar Molasses (SMS) sold for cattle feed and industrial uses
 - Betaine marketed internationally through FinnSugar

