

9.7% Growth Gap in Animal Feed Plants — ALEX Intelligence 2026

9.7% Gap in Feed Plant Growth — Who's Winning?

Utah vs. Florida: Where AgTech AI Infrastructure Is Expanding Fastest

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THE DATA

9.7%

Spread Between the Fastest and Slowest Growth in Animal Feed Plants (2022)

This gap reflects a growing divergence in agtech infrastructure investment across the U.S.

The 9.7% spread between Utah's 32.0% growth and Florida's 7.1% in animal feed plants underscores a fundamental shift in where agtech infrastructure is being deployed. While Utah and Tennessee lead with double-digit expansion, Florida—despite its agricultural prominence—lags behind, suggesting a misalignment between production scale and input supply chain modernization. This imbalance is not just economic; it's a signal of where AI-driven logistics and predictive feed formulation are being prioritized.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns 2019 and 2022, NAICS 3111 (Animal food manufacturing) · ALEX Intelligence computation

<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-09-16-agtech-dive-3111-state>



A drone is shown from a top-down perspective, hovering over a field of crops. The drone has four rotors and a camera mounted underneath. The background is a blurred view of the field and some distant structures. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter.

01

AgTech AI Is Following the Feed

The data reveals that AI and automation in agriculture are not spreading uniformly. Instead, they are concentrating in regions where foundational agtech infrastructure—like feed manufacturing—is already expanding rapidly. This creates a feedback loop: regions with fast-growing feed plants attract more AI-driven supply chain analytics, precision feeding systems, and farm robotics, while slower-growing regions risk falling behind in digital integration. The AgTech AI Council must prioritize infrastructure alignment, not just algorithmic innovation.



02

AI's Hidden Supply Chain Bias

The disparity between Florida and Utah is not just about agriculture—it's about where AI infrastructure is being built. High-growth states like Utah are likely deploying AI for real-time feed formulation, predictive maintenance, and logistics optimization. In contrast, slower-growing states may lack the data density and hardware foundation needed to deploy AI effectively. This suggests that AI adoption in agriculture is not driven solely by farmer demand, but by the presence of robust, AI-ready supply chains. The AgTech AI Council should assess regional infrastructure readiness before launching new AI pilots.

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