NASS Survey Training

Fruit and Nut Production and Disposition Inquiry
February 2021
(FRUIT NONCITRUS TREE PDI)

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

NOD-Training Group
February 2021
Survey Overview

• Collecting information on final 2020 crop year production, utilization, and prices
  – Acreage
    • Total & Bearing
  – Total production
  – Fresh market and processing sales and prices
  – Other end uses
Survey Overview

• Final 2020 marketing and price info asked now because
  – Some fruit can be placed in cold storage and marketed later on after harvest
  – Some prices that growers receive are not finalized until after the entire crop has been marketed
• Some fruit crops may still be in storage, so the operator may need to estimate how much will be sold through each category and prices
General Survey Information

• Project Code: **134 - Noncitrus Fruit Survey**
• Questionnaires:
  – Mailed out around January 25
  – Web reporting option (EDR) available
• Release:
  – *Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts – 2020 Summary*
  – May 5, 2021, 3:00 pm
Fruit and Nut Crops
(varies by state)

- Apples
- Apricots
- Avocados
- Sweet Cherries
- Tart Cherries
- Dates
- Kiwifruit
- Macadamia Nuts
- Nectarines
- Olives
- Papayas
- Peaches
- Freestone Peaches (CA)
- Clingstone Peaches (CA)
- Pears
- Plums
- Prunes
Screening for Fruit Tree Acres

• Any fruit tree acres in **2020**?
  – If “**NO**”, go to conclusion
    • How many total acres of fruit, citrus, grape, berry, and tree nut crops were on this operation in 2020?

• No actual screening questions/way to handle operations that are out of business
  – Leave good notes if the operation is completely out of business (no agricultural activity)
  – What happened? New operator? Any other info?
Survey Questions

• Additional screening for each fruit crop:
  – Any [specific fruit crop] tree acres in 2020?

• Acres during 2020:
  – Total acres
  – Of these, how many were of bearing age?
    • Even if limited or no production

• Total quantity harvested during 2020
  – Include fruit harvested and not used
  – With low production expected in some areas, be sure to verify whether production is per acre or total
  – Utilization questions must sum back to quantity harvested
Survey Questions

• Quantity sold and prices for:
  – Fresh market (Broken into separate categories as prices can vary)
    • Local/direct sales to consumers
      – Would include sales at U-pick, roadside stands, farmers markets, etc.
    • Wholesale sales (bulk sales, F.O.B. sales, grower packed sales, etc.)
  – Processed
    • Commercial processing
      – NOT broken down by different end uses
Survey Questions

• Quantity:
  – Processed by this operation
    • Things like: juice, cider, canned fruit, preserves, jellies, etc.
    • Exclude items for home use
  – Harvested but not sold (and won’t be sold)
    • Can be due to poor quality, spoilage, market restrictions, etc.
Survey Questions

• A wide variety of units can be reported
  – Often with varying weights
  – AND different units within one report
    • Example: Production in pounds, sales by the ton, and priced by the carton

• Prices are “at local shipping point after packing and marketing charges”
  – Collecting what the grower actually received
Survey Questions

• Has the entire [fruit crop] been marketed?
• How many total acres of fruit, citrus, grape, berry, and nut crops were on this operation in 2020?
• Comments about the 2020 growing season
Things to watch out for:

• Current total and/or bearing acres differs from previous reports
• Bearing acres greater than total acres
• Yield seems high or low
  – Total production / bearing acres
• No bearing acres but production reported
• High or low sales price
Things to watch out for:

• Sum of disposition does not equal total production
  – Individual items cannot be more than total production
  – Sum of items cannot be more than total production
  – Sum of items must equal total production

• Large quantity of fruit harvested but not sold

• Bearing acres reported but no production or not harvested amount reported
Things to remember

• Referring to 2020 crop year
• Remember, *bearing age* acres
  – Even in cases of limited or no production this year
• Watch the decimal points:
  – Acres, pounds per unit, prices
• Be mindful of differences across your area
  – May see a wide variety of yields, prices, etc
  • Leave good notes
Notes/Comments

• Anything odd or unexpected? Be sure to leave a comment explaining the situation
  – Statisticians depend on your notes, as they review the data, communicate with HQ, and set estimates
  – Extra information from record comments is especially important for these “specialty” type crops.
  – Leave notes about low production numbers
Conclusion

• Any questions or concerns contact your supervisor or Regional Field Office

• Hope you have a fruitful survey!