

# NASS Survey Training

## Pecan Shellers & Processors Inquiry – 2020 Crop (PECAN PROC PROD)



**United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service**

NOD-Training Group  
February 2021



# Survey Overview

- For the **2020** pecan crop
- Collecting information from *processors* on:
- Total amount of 2020 pecans handled
  - Amount of pecans shelled
  - Unshelled pecans sold
  - Pecans in storage
- Provides valuable information to the entire pecan industry on the status of the 2020 crop

# General Survey Information

- Project Code: **142-Tree Nut Survey**
- Questionnaires:
  - Mailed out around February 22<sup>nd</sup>
  - Web reporting is available and instructions mailed along with questionnaire
- Release:
  - *Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts-Annual*
  - May 5, 3 p.m. EST



# Results for 2017-2019 Crops

**Pecan Sold In-shell, Shelled, and Meat Production of Nuts Sold Shelled – United States 2017-2019**

State	Sold In-shell			Sold shelled (In-shell basis)		
	2017 (1,000 pounds)	2018 (1,000 pounds)	2019 (1,000 pounds)	2017 (1,000 pounds)	2018 (1,000 pounds)	2019 (1,000 pounds)
United States .....	31,857	35,411	35,605	272,993	205,519	219,995
State	Meat production of nuts sold shelled					
	2017 (1,000 pounds)		2018 (1,000 pounds)		2019 (1,000 pounds)	
United States .....	126,396		88,373		115,937	



# Introduction and Screening

- Introduction/Screening
  - Name/Address Verification
  - Use any commercial shelling equipment for **2020** pecans?
    - If “No”, end of survey. Make notes...
- For actual survey questions
  - Report for plant or plants operated in 2020
  - Report for 2020 crop to date
  - Provide best estimate if exact figures are unknown
- Questions are broken out by:
  - Improved
  - Wild Native (Seedling)



# Definitions

- **Improved Varieties:** These trees are the result of careful grafting and budding.
  - Usually planted in managed, cultivated groves.
  - Shell is much thinner than that of the seedling and consequently its meat yield is normally higher.
  - The appearance is nicer and larger, making it a favorite of home cooks and gourmet commercial users.
- **Wild Native/Seedling:** Growing wild, usually unattended and not cultivated.
  - However, there are some large areas where they are well-managed and cultivated.
  - The nut is smaller than the improved type but its flavor and full firm meat make it especially adaptable for commercial uses.

# Survey Questions

- Total pounds shelled (unshelled basis)
  - Of total, what is the meat equivalent production (shelled weight)
- Pounds of pecans (in shell) sold
- Unshelled 2020 pecans owned by plant, or possessed on consignment
  - Of these how many do you intend to shell
- Total quantity of **2020** pecans handled
  - Shelled + sold in shell + unshelled stocks

# Reluctant Responses

- Why is this important?
  - That's a good question. We contact both processors and growers to get a complete and accurate picture of pecan production and utilization for the entire crop year.
- Small operation
  - I'm glad you brought that up. All operations are important, big or small. The management practices of a smaller operation are different from the larger ones, and this is your chance to let your voice be heard. Information you provide can help others become aware of the challenges facing small operators.

# Conclusion

- Remember, collecting data on **2020** pecan crop
- When in doubt, comment it out.
- Be sure to practice on your iPad
  - *Before* interviewing!
  - Fairly straight forward survey...but there are some important relationships in the questions
- Any questions/comments?
  - Contact your supervisor or local office