

NASS Survey Training

Pecan Production & Disposition Inquiry - January 2021

(PECAN PDI)



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



NOD-Training Group
December 2020



Survey Overview

- Used by USDA agencies to determine crop disaster aid payments, along with other program benefits.
- Helps producers develop marketing plans for their operations.
- Enables the industry to forecast transportation and storage requirements and evaluate export potential.
- Used by grower organizations to help form policy positions.

Survey Information

- Project Code: **918 – American Pecan Council EPA**
- Questionnaires:
 - Mailed out around December 23rd
 - 2 Versions:
 - V1: Improved only, AZ, GA, NM
 - V2: Improved and Native/Wild, OK, TX
- Release:
 - *Pecan Production*, January 21, 2021, 3pm ET

Definitions

- **Native or 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.
- **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.

Survey Questions

- Introduction/Screening
 - Name/Address Verification
 - Any pecan acreage in 2020?
 - No: Do you have any commercial shelling equipment?
 - Will the operation have any pecan acreage in the future?
- Total acres of pecan trees maintained in 2020
 - Total acres of pecan trees that were bearing age in 2020
- Total pounds harvested (in shell)
 - Of total harvest, how many sold or will be sold? (in shell)
 - Improved & Wild/Native asked separately in Questionnaire Version 2 (OK, TX)

Survey Questions

- Sales of improved and native pecans
 - Price
 - Average price/lb. **OR** Total dollars
 - In shell
- Has the total 2020 crop been marketed?
- Any commercial shelling equipment?
 - For own or custom use
- Comments about crop for locality

Out of Business

- If operator says, they are out of business and/or no longer farming:
 - Determine if they are TRULY out of business:
 - Land used for any agricultural purposes in the next year?
 - Grow any field crops, hay, or specialty crops such as fruits, vegetables, or floriculture?
 - Own or raise any livestock or poultry?
 - Have any facilities for storing whole grains, pulse crops, or oilseeds?
 - Own or operate any CRP/WRP, pasture, woodland, idle land?
 - Has the operation been sold, rented, or turned over to someone else?
 - Leave good notes

Things to Watch Out For

- Sum of parts must equal total (if applicable)
 - Improved + Native = Total Pounds
- Bearing acres cannot be greater than total acres
 - Include all bearing acres, not just acres they harvested from
- Be sure you are getting tree acres and not number of trees
- Variety name given = NOT native/seedling
- If trees scattered in a pasture, be sure to get tree acres and not entire pasture acres
- Total pounds sold cannot be greater than pounds harvested

Conclusion

- Leave plenty of notes on this survey!
 - Damage to trees (storm, disease, insect, etc.)
 - Prices
 - Anything odd about the operation/crop
- Contact you supervisor or Regional Field Office with any questions
- Practice on your iPad
- Thanks and have a great survey!