

NASS Survey Training

Agricultural Survey – June 1, 2021

(CROPS APS)



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

NOD-Training Group
April 2021



Key Items

- The survey asks:
 - Small Grains: acres **planted** and acres to be **harvested**
 - Row Crops: acres **planted** and to be planted
 - Forage Crops: acres cut **for dry hay** in 2021
 - Genetically Modified/Genetically Engineered Seed Use for corn, soybeans, and cotton
 - **Storage Capacity** and **Grain in Storage**
 - Value of Sales

Why is this important?

- NASS reports help to create a level playing field for everyone involved in agriculture.
 - Large companies have their own information gathering systems and would have an unfair advantage over farmers and small agribusiness firms if NASS's unbiased reports did not exist.
- Government agencies at various levels are important users of NASS statistics
 - Federal farm programs require information on acreage, production potential, stocks, prices, and income.

Why is this important?



- Producers use the data to make crucial decisions for their operations and to finalize their cropping and marketing plans.
- Agribusinesses use the information to evaluate export potential and international customers look to the data for assurance that the United States will continue to be a reliable supplier of major commodities.
- Universities, extension agents, private and government economists, the farm media and others use the data to identify and analyze emerging issues and trends such as the growth in biotech acres.

General Survey Information

- Project Code: **123 - June Crops/Stocks Survey**
- Questionnaires:
 - Mailing date: May 21st
 - Web reporting instructions included
- Releases:
 - *Acreage and Grain Stocks*
 - June 30th, 12 p.m. EST

AGRICULTURAL SURVEY - June 1, 2020

OMB No 0535-0213
Approval Expires: 09/30/2021
Project Code: 123
Survey ID: 2020
Version: 5

 United States Department of Agriculture
 NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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Please make corrections to name, address, and ZIP Code, if necessary.

The information you provide will be used for statistical purposes only. Your responses will be kept confidential and any person who willfully discloses ANY identifiable information about you or your operation is subject to a jail term, a fine, or both. This survey is conducted in accordance with the Confidential Information Protection provisions of Title V,Subtitle A, Public Law 107-347 and other applicable Federal laws. For more information on how to protect your information please visit: <https://www.nass.usda.gov/confidentiality>. Response is voluntary.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB number is 0535-0213. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 20 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

FIPS	Office Use		
	POB	Tract	Subtr.

1. Please verify name and mailing address of this operation.
Make corrections (INCLUDE the correct operation name) on the label and continue.

2. Please answer the following question(s) for the total acres you (name on label) operate.

a. Will you grow any crops or cut hay in 2020?
b. Is any of the land in this operation cropland?

Yes - Go to Item 3 No - Continue
 Yes - Go to Item 3 No - Continue



Additional Survey Information: Interviewer's Manual

- Chapter 8
 - Completing the interview: screening questions; operation description; changes in operator
- Chapter 9
 - Acres operated; types of land (include/exclude); recording rules for crops; specific crop details
- Chapter 10
 - Grain and oilseeds in storage; hay stocks
- Chapter 17
 - Previously reported data
 - How to handle changes: screening questions; operation description; changes in operator

Introduction

- Questions used to determine:
 - Whether the operation is still in business
 - If the operation has any of the items of interest
 - Crops, cropland, stocks, storage capacity, etc
 - Name and address verification
 - Operation structure
 - Individual
 - Partners
 - Hired Manager

Out of Business

- If operation didn't have any agricultural production or land
 - Carefully go through the screening questions so we can accurately update our records
 - Leave good notes about the situation
 - What happened? New operator? Any other info?

Section 1-Acres Operated

- Asks about:
 - Acres **owned**
 - Acres **rented from** others or used rent free (+)
 - Acres **rented to** others (-)
- Total Acres (=)
- Acres used on a fee per-head or animal unit month (AUM) basis
- Of the total acres how much is **cropland**?

Refresher on Cropland:

- Cropland is land which can produce a crop for harvest. Cropland includes land cropped, idle land suitable for cropping, land in orchards, berries, vineyards, nursery, greenhouse, wild hay, and short rotation woody crops. Exclude woodland, marshes, farmsteads, wasteland suitable only for pasture. Pasture is not considered a crop, but cropland used for pasture is included.
 - See page 905 of the IM for list of includes and excludes

Section 2-Crops: Small Grains

(varies by State)

- You will be collecting information about:
 - Wheat (Winter, Durum, and/or Other Spring)
 - Barley
 - Oats
 - Rye



Section 2-Crops: Small Grains

- For each small grain crop, asking:
 - Acres **planted** for all purposes (includes grain or seed, cover crop, nurse crop, grazed off, cut for hay/haylage, abandoned)
 - Exclude mixtures of wheat, oats, barley, and other grains
 - Acres **left** to be planted (for selected crops)
 - **AND** acres to be **harvested for grain or seed**
 - Leave a note for any acres not harvested

Section 2-Crops: Row Crops

(varies by State)

- **Corn**
- **Sorghum**
- **Soybeans:**
 - All
 - Single cropped, double cropped
- **Upland Cotton**
- **Pima Cotton**
- **Peanuts**
- **Rice:**
 - Long Grain
 - Medium Grain
 - Short Grain
- **Potatoes:**
 - Reds & Blues
 - Yellows
 - Whites
 - Russets & Others

Section 2-Crops: Row Crops

(varies by State)

- **Dry Edible Beans**
- **Chickpeas**
 - Small and large
- **Dry Edible Peas**
 - Includes Austrian winter peas and wrinkled seed peas
- **Lentils**
- **Sweet Potatoes**
- **Sunflowers:**
 - Oil varieties
 - Non-oil varieties
- **Canola**
- **Flaxseed**
- **Tobacco:**
 - Burley
 - Dark Fire-Cured
 - Dark Air-Cured
 - Flue-Cured
 - Pennsylvania Type
 - Maryland Type
- **Safflower**
- **Rapeseed**
- **Mustard Seed**
- **Proso Millet**
- **Sugarbeets**
- **Sugarcane**

March Projections

Corn Planted Acreage Up Less than 1 Percent from 2020

Soybean Acreage Up 5 Percent

All Wheat Acreage Up 5 Percent

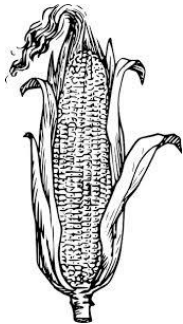
All Cotton Acreage Down Less than 1 Percent

Corn planted area for all purposes in 2021 is estimated at 91.1 million acres, up less than 1 percent or an increase of 325,000 acres from last year. Compared with last year, planted acreage is expected to be up or unchanged in 24 of the 48 estimating States.

Soybean planted area for 2021 is estimated at 87.6 million acres, up 5 percent from last year. Compared with last year, planted acreage is up or unchanged in 23 of the 29 estimating States.

All wheat planted area for 2021 is estimated at 46.4 million acres, up 5 percent from 2020. This represents the fourth lowest all wheat planted area since records began in 1919. The 2021 winter wheat planted area, at 33.1 million acres, is up 9 percent from last year and up 3 percent from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 23.2 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 6.42 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.48 million acres are White Winter. Area expected to be planted to other spring wheat for 2021 is estimated at 11.7 million acres, down 4 percent from 2020. Of this total, about 10.9 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. Durum planted area for 2021 is expected to total 1.54 million acres, down 9 percent from the previous year.

All cotton planted area for 2021 is estimated at 12.0 million acres, down less than 1 percent from last year. Upland area is estimated at 11.9 million acres, up slightly from 2020. American Pima area is estimated at 142,000 acres, down 30 percent from 2020.



Section 2-Crops: Row Crops

- Row crop questions begin with corn and/or sorghum:
 - **Planted** acres
 - Acres **left** to be planted
 - **AND** acres to be **harvested** for either **grain or seed**
- For the remaining row crops, we ask only about **planted** acres and acres **left** to be planted for selected crops
 - Any acres that were planted and then abandoned or destroyed should still be recorded as planted.
 - Make notes of any abandoned acres

Section 2-Crops: Row Crops

- Dry Edible Beans, Dry Edible Peas, and Lentils can be challenging to get into the correct categories
 - If any of the above are reported please verify with the operator
 - There are several classes of Dry Edible Beans
 - Please leave a note as to which classes were planted if possible

Major Classes of Dry Edible Beans

- Black (a.k.a. Turtle)
- Blackeye (a.k.a. Pinkeye or Cow)
- Cranberry (a.k.a. October)
- Great Northern
- Dark Red Kidney
- Light Red Kidney
- Large Lima (CA only)
- Baby Lima (CA only)
- Navy (a.k.a. Pea)
- Pink
- Pinto
- Small Red
- Small White
- Other:
 - Adzuki
 - Anasazi
 - Fava
 - Jacobs Cattle Bean
 - Lupine
 - Myohte
 - Tebo
 - White Adzuki
 - White Kidney
 - Yellow Eye

Crops: Tillage Questions

- **Tennessee only:**
 - Additional tillage questions for Winter Wheat, Corn, Soybeans, and Upland Cotton:
 - Of the planted acres of these crops how much was:
 - No till
 - Minimum tillage
 - Conventional tillage
 - **NOTE:** Planted acres *must* equal the sum of tillage method acres

Section 2-Crops: Dry Hay

- Forage questions ask about acres of **dry hay** to be harvested
 - Acres cut and to be cut for **dry hay** in 2021
 - *Exclude* acres which will only be cut for haylage, greenchop, or straw
- Dry hay crops broken out by:
 - Alfalfa Hay & Alfalfa Mixtures
 - Small Grain Hay
 - All Other Hay

“All Other Hay” Varieties

- Lespedeza [les-pa-dee-zuh]
- Sudan
- Sorghum-Sudan Crosses
- Sudan Crosses
- Birdsfoot Trefoil [tree-foil]
- Ryegrass
- Fescue
- Tall Fescue
- Bermuda
- Timothy
- Pasture Land Cut for Hay
- Orchard Grass
- Grass Hay
- Brome Grass
- Clover
- Clover and Clover Mixtures
- Clover and Grass Mixtures
- Red Clover and Clover Mixtures
- Other Tame and Wild Hays
- Peanut
- Meadows Cut for Hay

Section 2-Crops

- How many acres of new alfalfa or alfalfa mixtures have been or will be seeded in 2021?
- Some states then ask an “all other crops” question
- Acres that will be double cropped in 2021

Section 2a-Genetically Modified/Genetically Engineered (GMO/GE) Seed Use

- To help the USDA and the agricultural industry measure and evaluate the use of biotechnology, NASS estimates corn, soybean and cotton acreage planted with biotech seed varieties
 - Commonly referred to as ‘genetically modified’ (GMO) or ‘genetically engineered’ (GE) varieties.

Section 2a-Genetically Modified/Genetically Engineered (GMO/GE) Seed Use

- Seed Traits:
 1. **Bt varieties** have insecticidal proteins which provides protection from damaging insects.
 2. **Herbicide resistant varieties** provide resistance to certain herbicides (such as glyphosate – the active ingredient in Round-Up) which would normally harm the plant.
 3. **Stacked varieties** have both Bt and herbicide resistance.

Section 2a-Genetically Modified/Genetically Engineered (GMO/GE) Seed Use

- Corn and/or Cotton acres planted/to be planted with:
 - Stacked gene varieties (combination)
 - Bt only varieties
 - Herbicide resistant only varieties
- Soybean acres planted/to be planted with:
 - Herbicide resistant only varieties

Modified/Genetically Engineered (GMO/GE) Seed Use

- You cannot have more acreage reported in section 2a than you did in section 2.
 - Example: In section 2, the operator reports 100 acres of corn planted for all purposes.
 - In the genetically modified section, he reports 100 acres of stacked gene corn. Then, in error, he also reports 100 acres of Bt corn and 100 acres of herbicide resistant corn for a “total” of 300 acres. Technically, the corn is herbicide resistant and is also Bt but should have only been reported as stacked gene

Section 3-Storage Capacity and Grains Stored

- Asks questions about any storage facilities normally used to store grain **on the operation**, and if they had any grain or oilseeds in storage **on the operation**
- Grain storage capacity usually remains fairly consistent
 - Leave notes if changes have been made
 - Examples: built more grain bins, quit renting a farm that had grain bins, etc.

Section 3-Storage Capacity and Grains Stored

- Grains/oilseeds stored will vary by state.
- The last question for some states will ask if any of the reported stocks were from the 2021 harvest.
 - These need to be excluded
 - Watch for any wheat that may have already been harvested
- Be sure respondent is reporting stocks in the units asked on the survey (bushels, CWT, barrels, etc.)

Section 3-Storage Capacity and Grains Stored (2)

- Sometimes respondents are hesitant to answer the stocks section or are unsure of the amounts stored.
- If a respondent won't/can't give you the amount stored:
 - See if they would be willing to just tell you what commodities are on hand.
 - Record “Don't know” for the commodities on hand and “Zero” for all others

Section 4-Value of Sales

- Question 1 asks respondents to give their **2020** total gross value of sales.
 - If “None” or “Less than \$1000” reported:
 - Routed into the point section
 - Collect information on all the ag activity on the operation
- Question 2 asks which category represents the largest portion of the gross income reported.
 - You can only choose one category

Things to Watch Out For



- Large acreages
 - Or big changes in acres
- Large AUM acreage
 - Especially if it's not that common in your state
- Small portion of acreage harvested for grain or seed
 - Small grains, corn, sorghum
- Double or triple counting GM varieties when they should only be reported under “Stacked Gene”
- Large changes in grain storage capacity
- Large amount of grain in storage
 - IF any small grains have been harvested in 2021, be sure they are not included in stocks.

Reluctant Response

- “Prices go down every time one of these reports come out!”
 - You are right to be concerned about prices. And while prices can fluctuate, historically they tend to go up about as often as they go down after NASS reports are released. The information you and other producers provide actually helps stabilize markets and minimizes price volatility.

Reluctant Response (2)

- “Crop reports only help large companies.”
 - I understand why you might feel that way. If unbiased reports are not made by us, farmers would be at the mercy of large companies. These companies and private forecasters make their own estimates, but our reports help keep them honest. And, our reports are released to the media and other data users at the same time so no one has advance access to the data.

Conclusion

- One of our most important surveys of the year
 - Establishes a “base” for the rest of the growing season
- Leave good notes
 - Any time you need to explain a situation
 - Or want to provide info to the office
 - You are our “eyes and ears” out in the field
- Work through some practices on your iPad
 - BEFORE interviewing!
- Contact your supervisor/local office with any questions specific to your area

Thanks for all of your hard work. Have a great June!