NASS Survey Training

2022 Conservation Practice Adoption Motivation Survey (CPAMS)
(NRCS CPAMS Confined Livestock Practices)
(NRCS CPAMS Crop Practices)

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

NOD-Training Group
May 2022
National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

NRCS is a USDA agency in the Farm Production and Conservation mission area

Mission: Conserve natural resources in agriculture

- Preserve agricultural productivity
- Improve environmental quality
Why does NRCS want to do this survey?

C – Conservation
P - Practice
A – Adoption
M – Motivation
S - Survey

- NRCS Strategy: Encourage farmers to use conservation practices
  - Conservation is voluntary
  - Work with farmers to develop and support farm-specific conservation plans
  - Provide technical and financial assistance for implementing plans
  - Programs usually cover only a part of actual costs
- Understanding producer motivations is critical to NRCS success
  - Long term, sustained conservation is largely up to producers
  - **How can NRCS tailor conservation assistance to support sustained conservation?**
Some things NRCS is trying to find out

- Are incentives too low for some practices, thereby depressing adoption?
- Are we paying too much for some practices that would be adopted anyway?
- Is technical assistance sufficient in some cases?
- Are some practices prone to dis-adoption when financial assistance stops?
- How important are incentives in achieving operation-wide adoption?
Each version has some unique questions pertaining to specific conservation programs or practices..... However, both versions have some matching sections or questions

- **2 versions:**
  - V1 – Crop Practices
  - V2 - Confined Livestock

- **Similar sections across versions:**
  - Land use and livestock
  - Technical assistance
  - Demographics
  - Value of sales
• Project Code: **943-NRCS CPAM**
• Questionnaires:
  • Crop Practices & Confined Livestock mail May 9
• Web reporting available
May 9, 2022

Why am I getting this letter?

You have been selected to participate in the Conservation Practice Adoption Motivations Survey (CPAMS) of cooperatives. Beginning May 9, USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will collect conservation practice data from producers across the United States. Your information is important, and we know your time is valuable, so we will offer multiple options to respond.

This survey is a joint project between NASS and USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) aimed at better understanding conservation practice adoption and the role of technical and financial assistance. The survey results will be used to guide the implementation of NRCS programs in the future.

Once you receive your survey, we recommend you respond online using NASS’s new Respondent Portal at accounts.usda.gov. On the portal, you can complete your surveys, access data visualizations and reports of interest, link to other USDA agencies, get a local weather update and more.

Survey results will be published on NASS’s website in a report and in the Quick Stats database September 15, 2022.

The information you provide will be used for statistical purposes only. In accordance with federal law, your responses will be kept confidential.

Thank you for your participation and support of U.S. agriculture. If you have any questions, please contact us at 866-424-7858.

Sincerely,

Joseph L. Francee
Chair, Agricultural Statistics Board
Interviewer’s Manuals for each version

Purpose
• Provide you with the tools to successfully administer the NRCS CPAM Survey

Contents
• Terms and definitions
• Detailed background information and objectives
• Enumerator procedures
• General question formats and responses
• Specific instructions for particular questions

Read! Know! Keep Handy!
Version 2 – Confined Livestock Practices

• Screening – Did you, regardless of ownership, raise any swine, poultry, milk cows, veal calves, or feeder cattle (including backgrounders) on your operation during 2021?
  – If “No”, What is the current status of your livestock operation? (Sold, Rented out, Idle for more than a year)
    • Then skip to the conclusion

• If no livestock in 2021, the operation does not qualify for the survey
Section 1 – Land Use and Livestock

• The purpose of this section is to collect operational data in order to classify the operation later for comparison of operations of different sizes and types.
  – Land use
  – Conservation programs
  – Livestock inventories
  – Organic production
Section 1 – Land Use and Livestock

• Total acres operated
  – Same as other surveys (owned + rented – rented out)..... Except... in this survey we want to include acres rented on an animal unit month (AUM) basis
  • Animal unit month (AUM) – the amount of forage required by an animal unit for one month. An animal unit is generally one mature cow of approximately 1,000 pounds and a calf as old as 6 months, or their equivalent.
Section 1 – Land Use and Livestock

• Total acres operated broken down by land use:
  Cropland
    (How many of these acres were under an easement against development for non-ag uses in 2021?)
  + Grazing Land
    (How many of these acres were under an easement against conversion to crop production or non-ag use in 2021?)
  + Woodland (not pastured)
  + Other land
  = Total acres operated (This should be equal to Item 2)

• Of the total acres operated, how many were under a permanent or long-term easement or enrolled in a land retirement program in 2021?
  – Does include CRP, WRP, CREP, FWP, etc.
  – Exclude land in 3ai or 3bi
Section 1 – Land Use and Livestock

• Total number of livestock and poultry, broken out by type, on December 31, 2021
  – Beef cows, milk cows, other cattle and calves, all hogs and pigs, all poultry, all other livestock
Section 1 – Land Use and Livestock

• During 2021, did this operation produce products according to USDA’s National Organic Program (NOP) standards or have acres transitioning (Yes or No)

• Did the operation participate in a sustainable sourcing contract that requires specific farming practices (Yes or No)
Section 2 – General Approach to Conservation

• This section asks some general questions about the operation’s approach to (or thoughts on) conservation practices
  – Item 1 – has 7 questions (answers = Agree, Neither Agree or Disagree, or Disagree)
    • Example: I seek out information about conservation practices and their implementation
  – Item 2 – Thinking in general about the conservation practices that you have used in your farm operation, what are your objectives when deciding to use conservation practices? (check all that apply – 10 items)
    • Example: Improving water quality
Section 3 – Technical Assistance

• This section is devoted to finding out which sources of technical assistance (TA) the operation has used in the past.

• Technical Assistance – Direct consultation with the farmer, rancher, or landowner that may include developing a conservation plan for the operation or the planning, design, and layout for structures (such as grassed waterways, terraces, waste storage facilities, fences, and livestock water facilities in pastures) and management practices (such as nutrient management, irrigation water management, grazing management, and forest stand improvement). Technical assistance does not include community workshops, internet resources, farm shows and conventions, and information not directly specific to the operation.
Section 3 – Technical Assistance

• TA can come from:
  – Federal agencies
  – State or local agencies
  – Private sources (free or paid)

• Nine questions/statements about TA
  – NA, Agree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, or Disagree
    • Technical assistance is available to me
    • I am comfortable using free technical assistance from federal gov’t employees
    • Etc., Etc., Etc.......
Now on to Practices Particularly Associated with Confined Livestock

• Sandy Means
  – NRCS - Environmental Engineer
  – Animal Manure and Nutrient Management Team
  – Specializing in Manure Management and Animal Mortality Treatment
Practice Overview
Confined Livestock
Enumerator Training for CPAMS
FARMSTEAD FOCUS – CONFINED LIVESTOCK

- Existing Broiler Houses #1-4
- Planned WSF and Roof
- Planned Roof Runoff System
- Existing Composter
- Planned HUA
- Planned Closure
- Existing Broiler Houses #5-7
FARMSTEAD FOCUS – CONFINED LIVESTOCK
Farmstead
## ANIMAL WASTE MANAGEMENT
### SYSTEM FUNCTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRODUCTION</td>
<td>Amount and nature of waste that is produced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLECTION</td>
<td>Initial gathering of waste from animal confinement area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRANSFER</td>
<td>Movement of waste after collection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STORAGE</td>
<td>Containment until treatment or utilization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TREATMENT</td>
<td>Solid Separation, Moisture Adjustment Anaerobic, Aerobic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTILIZATION</td>
<td>Land Application, Feeding, Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SECTION 4
WASTE STORAGE FACILITY
Section 4 - Waste (Manure) Storage Facilities (continued)

3. Are the waste storage facilities on your operation required by regulation?
   INCLUDE regulation from Federal, State or local governments

   1329
   1 [ ] Yes 3 [ ] No

4. At any point during the calendar year are your waste storage facilities completely full?

   1330
   1 [ ] Yes - Complete Item 4a, 4ai and 4a(ii) below, then go to Item 5 3 [ ] No - Go to Item 4b

   a. What do you do with the manure that cannot be stored on your operation?

   i. Do you sell or give away excess manure to other operations?

      1331
      1 [ ] Yes 3 [ ] No

   ii. Do you spread excess manure on your own fields?

      1332
      1 [ ] Yes 3 [ ] No
5. Have changes in weather affected your management of waste storage?

xxx
1. [ ] Yes - Continue 3. [ ] No - Go to Item 6

a. Have any of the following changes affected your management of waste storage?

i. Increased precipitation ................................................................................................. 1. [ ] Yes 3. [ ] No

ii. Decreased precipitation ............................................................................................. 1. [ ] Yes 3. [ ] No

iii. Seasonal change in precipitation ............................................................................... 1. [ ] Yes 3. [ ] No
6. Did you install any of the waste storage facilities on your operation (as opposed to taking them over from another operation)?

   xxx 1 □ Yes - Continue            3 □ No - Go to Section 4 - Waste Treatment on page 8

   a. Were the waste storage facilities you installed:

      i. New (no prior facility on the same location)? ......................................................... xxx 1 □ Yes 3 □ No

      ii. Renovation of existing facilities? ................................................................. xxx 1 □ Yes 3 □ No

   b. Did the facilities you installed result in an overall increase in waste storage capacity? ...... xxx 1 □ Yes 3 □ No
SECTION 5 – Animal Mortality Facilities

4. What type of day-to-day animal mortality management do you implement on your operation? Check all that apply.

- Rendering
- Composting
- Burial
- Freezer
- Incineration
- Gasification
SECTION 5 – Animal Mortality Facilities
### Section 6 - Waste (Manure) Separation Facilities

1. Do you have waste (manure) separation facilities on your operation?

**INCLUDE**
- filters or screens
- settling tanks
- settling basins
- settling channels used to separate manure solids from liquids

Complete the table below and follow the instructions at the end of the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waste (Manure) Separation Facilities</th>
<th>Are waste separation facilities in use on your operation?</th>
<th>Of facilities in use, how many were taken over from another operation?</th>
<th>Of facilities in use, how many were installed by you?</th>
<th>Number of facilities in use (Col 5 = Col 3 + Col 4)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 □ Yes, 3 □ No</td>
<td>1503</td>
<td>1504</td>
<td>1502</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1501
SECTION 6 – WASTE SEPARATION FACILITIES

3. What types of waste separators have you implemented? Check all that apply.

- [ ] Inclined screen
- [ ] Screw press
- [ ] Roller press
- [ ] Belt press
- [ ] Settling basin
- [ ] Weeping wall
- [ ] Vibratory screen
- [ ] Rotating screen
- [ ] Centrifuge
- [ ] Geotextile container
SECTION 6 – WASTE SEPARATION FACILITIES
SECTION 6 – WASTE SEPARATION FACILITIES
SECTION 7: COMPREHENSIVE NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT
SECTION 8: WASTE UTILIZATION
SECTION 9: DIVERSION OF RUNOFF
Section 10: STABILIZATION OR PROTECTION OF HEAVILY USED AREAS
Section 11 - Demographics

Section 12 - Value of Sales

• A few general demographics questions much like many of our other surveys
• Gross value of sales in 2021 and what the largest portion of gross income came from

Demographics and value of sales are just used to classify farms for comparison purposes.
Things To Remember

• A fairly lengthy survey, but there are several skips if the operation did not participate in some programs
  – Let Blaise guide you

• Several Yes/No questions and pick from the list opinion questions. Not many questions that will require the use of farm records
Why should a producer participate?

Information gathered through this study will be used by NRCS to help guide conservation programs used by American farmers and ranchers through improved technical and financial assistance.
Conclusion

- Read the Interviewer’s Manual (IM) and keep it handy
- Comments, Concerns, Questions?
- Practice Exercise
- Have a good survey!