NASS Survey Training

Agricultural Survey – June 1, 2022
(CROPS APS)

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

NOD-Training Group
April 2022
General Survey Information

- Project Code: 123 - June Crops/Stocks Survey
- Questionnaires:
  - Mailing date: May 19th
  - Web reporting instructions included
- Releases:
  - Acreage and Grain Stocks
  - June 30th, 12 p.m. EST
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 2022
  – 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.
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 Down 4 Percent from 2021
Soybean Acreage Up 4 Percent
All Wheat Acreage Up 1 Percent
All Cotton Acreage Up 9 Percent

Corn planted area for all purposes in 2022 is estimated at 89.5 million acres, down 4 percent or 3.87 million acres from last year. Compared with last year, planted acreage is expected to be down or unchanged in 43 of the 48 estimating States.

Soybean planted area for 2022 is estimated at a record 91.0 million acres, up 4 percent from last year. Compared with last year, planted acreage is up or unchanged in 24 of the 29 estimating States.

All wheat planted area for 2022 is estimated at 47.4 million acres, up 1 percent from 2021. If realized, this represents the fifth lowest all wheat planted area since records began in 1919. The 2022 winter wheat planted area, at 34.2 million acres, is up 2 percent from last year but down less than 1 percent from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 23.7 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 6.89 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.62 million acres are White Winter. Area expected to be planted to other spring wheat for 2022 is estimated at 11.2 million acres, down 2 percent from 2021. Of this total, about 10.5 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. Durum planted area for 2022 is expected to total 1.92 million acres, up 17 percent from the previous year.

All cotton planted area for 2022 is estimated at 12.2 million acres, up 9 percent from last year. Upland area is estimated at 12.1 million acres, up 9 percent from 2021. American Pima area is estimated at 176,000 acres, up 39 percent from 2021.
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 2022
    • 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 2022?
• Some states then ask an “all other crops” question
• Acres that will be double cropped in 2022
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 2022 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 **2021** 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 2022, 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.
June Crops APS & NERD

- June Crops APS will include NERD
- What is **NERD**?
  - **Non Edited Respondent Data**
    - Formally **Previously Reported Data**
  - We now use Raw, unedited data from respondent/operator
  - Sources: Web, Field, Phone, Mail
June Crops APS & NERD

• What will you or the operator see?
  • Prefilled data from the operator during a previous survey in each applicable data box.
    • All data available will be displayed when you enter the record.
  • Data will show on the Web (CASI) and CAPI instruments, only

Example of Non-Edited Respondent Data data in CAPI

*Which survey the data came from is not included in this pilot*
June Crops APS & NERD

Items that may have Non-Edited Respondent Data. This list is for the nation.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target Survey</th>
<th>Item Code</th>
<th>Item Code Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>June APS</td>
<td>901</td>
<td>Land Owned, Acres</td>
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<td>June APS</td>
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<td>Land Owned, Acres</td>
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<td>Winter Wheat Planted</td>
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<td>June APS</td>
<td>836</td>
<td>Winter Wheat Fall Seeded Acres</td>
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<td>Winter Wheat Harvested</td>
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<td>553</td>
<td>Durum Wheat Planted</td>
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<td>June APS</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>Spring Wheat Planted</td>
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<tr>
<td>June APS</td>
<td>535</td>
<td>Barley All Planted</td>
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<td>533</td>
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<td>838</td>
<td>Rye All Seedings</td>
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<td>June APS</td>
<td>530</td>
<td>Corn All Planted Acres</td>
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<td>Soybeans Planted Acres</td>
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<td>524</td>
<td>Cotton Upland Planted Acres</td>
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<td>690</td>
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<td>Cotton Pima Planted Acres</td>
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<td>605</td>
<td>Rice Long Grain Planted Acres</td>
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<td>Rice Medium Grain Planted Acres</td>
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<td>Rice Short Grain Planted Acres</td>
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<td>June APS</td>
<td>607</td>
<td>Beans Dry Edible All Planted Acres</td>
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### June Crops APS & NERD

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<td>Chickpeas (Garbanzo Beans) Small All Planted Acres</td>
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<td>Chickpeas (Garbanzo Beans) Large Planted Area</td>
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<td>Sorghum Planted Acres</td>
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<td>Sorghum and Sudan All Planted Acres</td>
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<td>Tobacco Flue-Cured (Types 11-14) Harvested Area</td>
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<td>June APS</td>
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<td>Peas Dry Edible Planted Acres</td>
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<td>715</td>
<td>Lentils Planted Acres</td>
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<td>Canola All Planted Acres</td>
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<td>June APS</td>
<td>1684</td>
<td>Canola Fall Seeded Acres</td>
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June Crops APS & NERD

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<td>732</td>
<td>Tobacco Light Air-Cured Burley (Type 31) Harvested Area</td>
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<td>June APS</td>
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<td>Tobacco Fire-Cured (Types 21-23) Harvested Area</td>
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<td>June APS</td>
<td>730</td>
<td>Tobacco Dark Air-Cured (Types 35-37) Harvested Area</td>
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<td>June APS</td>
<td>682</td>
<td>Flax All Planted Acres</td>
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<td>June APS</td>
<td>859</td>
<td>Tobacco Cigar Filler PA Seedleaf (Type 41) Harvested Area</td>
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<td>June APS</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>Tobacco Light Air-Cured Southern MD Belt (Type 32) Harvested Area</td>
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<td>June APS</td>
<td>874</td>
<td>Tobacco Other Types Harvested Area</td>
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<td>June APS</td>
<td>808</td>
<td>Stocks On-Farm Capacity</td>
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<td>June APS</td>
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<td>Stocks On-Farm Capacity</td>
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June Crops APS & NERD

• **How you will use NERD:**
  – Enumerators will ask respondents questions using pre-filled NERD
  • Enumerators will first **remind** respondents of the previous reporting time
Pecan Production and Disposition Inquiry NERD Pilot

- **How you will use NERD:**
  - “Last time we recorded XX, is this STILL correct”
    - “We is NASS or NASDA”
      - Be careful not to say “Last time you REPORTED”
    - The information we have recorded as their NERD may not have been reported by the specific person that is being interviewed now.

- Your goal is to use words that remind the operator what was reported for their operation. Remember when the data was reported is not included in this pilot.
Use the "Reminder / Still Method"

Example of the question:
“Last time we recorded that this operation had **40 Acres RENTED** or **LEASED FROM others. Is this information **still** correct?”

Respondent says **"YES"**: The enumerator should accept the prefilled information as the current answer and move on to the next question.

Respondent says **"NO"**: The enumerator should ask the standard question as it is worded in the instrument and change the prefilled answer to reflect the respondent’s current answer.
June Crops APS

• How do I update or erase NERD data?
  • This step is similar to entering data. Tap in the box with data and erase.
  • If the data is correct, you may move to the next question.

Example of NERD data in CAPI

Note: Data is based on availability. Some records will have data others will not.
June Crops APS & NERD

- Enumerators reporting OOB, Refusal, & Inaccessible records
  - Do not have to worry about removing NERD data from CAPI. These records will be scrubbed before being read into Blaise. Please follow your normal procedures.

- If you are entering Complete data (9901 =1) from paper you will have to change all non-valid NERD pre-filled in CAPI.
June Crops APS & NERD

• FYI- Producers will be notified of the presence of NERD
  
  – NERD Impact Statement: Presurvey Letter
  
  – NERD Impact Statement: CASI
June Crops APS & NERD

- Pre-Survey Letters will be sent from each RFO with the NERD Impact Statement.
  - NERD Impact Statement:
    - Some answers in your online questionnaire may be pre-filled with information from previous NASS surveys of your operation.

Example of pre-survey letter

What do I do next?

Complete your survey:

- Online at accounts.usda.gov. Online reporting is fast, convenient, and secure. All you need is your unique survey code on the enclosed form to begin. Some answers in your online questionnaire may be pre-filled with information from previous NASS surveys of your operation.

- By mail or fax. Complete the questionnaire and mail it back in the prepaid return envelope provided or fax it to [Click to enter FAX # - text].
June Crops APS & NERD

• NERD Impact Statement: CASI
  – All producers and enumerators with NERD populated in CASI will view the Impact Statement below. The goal of the statement is to ensure producers review and update NERD when valid.

You may notice that some questions in this survey may be pre-filled with information we have from previous surveys of this operation. We hope this information helps you complete the survey.

Please click NEXT to continue.
June Crops APS & NERD

• Major Highlights
  – NERD will be pre-filled for all applicable fields.
    • Some records will have NERD others will not.
  – Use the pre-filled fields to verify current totals
    • Use the reminder/still method “Last time we recorded”.
  – If pre-filled data is still correct, you may skip to the next question
  – If a record is OOB, refusal, or inaccessible you may leave the NERD data in the record. Once you submit the record a program will scrub all NERD.
  – Operators will receive a written and virtual notification for NERD
  – Contact your NASDA Coordinator for questions and concerns

NERD

Contact your NASDA Coordinator for questions and concerns

Contact your NASDA Coordinator for questions and concerns
Special Request for OoB Records

• 2022 Census of Agriculture
  – Mails out this December
  – We need to contact every operation that was in business for any part of 2022
  – If an operation is Out of Business
    • Please ask if they were in business at any time during 2022 and leave a note
    • We can update the record to still be mailed the Census form
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!