NASS Survey Training
NATIONAL AGROFORESTRY SURVEY 2022

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

NOD Training Group
January 2022

Survey Information

- Project Code: **944 - Agroforestry**

- Questionnaires:
  - Mailed January 25th

- Release:
  - Information used by Forest Service. No NASS release of data

Survey Overview & Purpose

- Agroforestry is the intentional combination of agriculture and forestry to create productive and sustainable land use practices.

- The purpose of the National Agroforestry Survey is to gain a better understanding of agroforestry use in the United States. Currently, there is no national estimate detailing how many producers are using each of the five agroforestry practices.

Screening

- Raise or sell any livestock?

- Own and/or operate cropland, pastureland, woodland, rangeland, or other land with agricultural or forestry activities?

- Receive any Federal or state agricultural payments and/or participated in a Federal or state agricultural program?

Survey Sections

- **Section 1 - Windbreaks, Shelterbelts and Hedgerows**

- **Section 2 – Silvopasture**

- **Section 3 - Riparian Forest Buffers**

- **Section 4 - Alley Cropping and Intercropping with Trees and Crops**

- **Section 5 - Forest Farming / Multi-Story Cropping**

- **Section 6 - General Knowledge**

Survey

- Sections 1 - 5 very similar
  - Asks many of the same questions

- Most questions ask if the operation participates in certain activities related to the 5 agroforestry practices in survey
  - Options for most of the questions are: 'Yes, No, Don't Know.'

Section 1 - Windbreaks, Shelterbelts and Hedgerows

- Windbreaks, Shelterbelts and Hedgerows: rows of trees and shrubs that are used to create a more favorable environment for soils, crops, livestock, wildlife, and people. In some cases, they are designed to slow wind, while other times they are designed for visual screening, snow management, odor control, shade for livestock/buildings/people, enhancing pollination, field/property borders, etc.

Section 2 – Silvopasture

- Grazing livestock on a site with trees is considered **silvopasture** if all three components of the system (livestock, trees, and forage) are deliberately integrated and managed.
    - Some examples of silvopasture include:
    - woodland, forest, or forest edge that is managed to produce forage, livestock and trees simultaneously
    - grazing land where trees were added to pasture
    - orchards where livestock are integrated
    - grazing natural savannas

Section 3 - Riparian Forest Buffers

- A riparian forest buffer is an area adjacent to a stream, river, lake, or wetland that contains a combination of trees and shrubs and is often used for erosion control, bank stabilization, and nutrient runoff control.

- They are also called:
  – stream management zones
  – vegetated buffer strips
  – woody riparian buffers
  – riparian forest corridors.

Section 4 - Alley Cropping and Intercropping with Trees and Crops

- Alley cropping is the cultivation of crops or forages between rows of trees/shrubs. Orchards and tree plantations are considered as alley cropping if crops or forages are grown/harvested from between the rows of trees/shrubs.

- Intercropping is the deliberate cultivation of trees with crops or forages on the same field but does not need to be in defined rows and alleys.

Section 5 - Forest Farming / Multi-Story Cropping

- Multi-Story Cropping/Forest Farming is the deliberate cultivation of crops under a canopy of trees. The canopy is often modified to provide levels of light that favor growth and enhanced production of the understory crops.

- Crops may include edibles (fruits, vegetables, nuts, mushrooms, etc.) tapping trees for syrup, nursery or landscaping plants, woodland herbal/medicinal plants, and decorative/floral products. A tree farm or plantation is not considered forest farming unless understory crops are intentionally cultivated underneath the canopy of trees.

Section 6 - General Knowledge

- Only completed if operation reported one of the 5 agroforestry practices

- Starts with questions about their source of information on agroforestry

- Asks about source of operator's funding for agroforestry practices

- Ends with asking about sales from agroforestry products

Extra Resources

- '2022 National Agroforestry Survey Questionnaire Training' PowerPoint

- 2022 National Agroforestry Survey Extra Information Sheet:

  - Contains link to a detailed YouTube video covering each section.

  - Terms & Definitions used on the survey

Conclusion

- Encounter anything odd or unexpected?
  – Leave a detailed note
- Know what to watch out for
- Work through some practices on your iPad
- Contact your supervisor/local office for any questions specific to your area
- Thanks and have a good survey!