

NASS Survey Training

Pecan Shellers & Processors Inquiry – 2021 Crop (PECAN PROC PROD)



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



NOD-Training Group
February 2022



Survey Overview

- For the **2021** pecan crop
- Collecting information from *processors* on:
- Total amount of 2021 pecans handled
 - Amount of pecans shelled
 - Unshelled pecans sold
 - Pecans in storage
- Provides valuable information to the entire pecan industry on the status of the 2021 crop

General Survey Information

- Project Code: **142-Tree Nut Survey**
- Questionnaires:
 - Mailed out around February 22nd
 - Web reporting is available and instructions mailed along with questionnaire
- Release:
 - *Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts-Annual*
 - May 4, 3 p.m. EST

Results for 2018-2020 Crops

Pecan Sold In-shell, Shelled, and Meat Production of Nuts Sold Shelled – United States 2018-2020

State	Sold In-shell			Sold shelled (In-shell basis)		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
United States	(1,000 pounds) 35,411	(1,000 pounds) 35,605	(1,000 pounds) 40,063	(1,000 pounds) 205,519	(1,000 pounds) 219,995	(1,000 pounds) 265,297
State	Meat production of nuts sold shelled					
	2018		2019		2020	
United States	(1,000 pounds) 88,373		(1,000 pounds) 115,937		(1,000 pounds) 132,648	



Introduction and Screening

- Introduction/Screening
 - Name/Address Verification
 - Use any commercial shelling equipment for **2021** pecans?
 - If “No”, end of survey. Make notes...
- For actual survey questions
 - Report for plant or plants operated in 2021
 - Report for 2021 crop to date
 - Provide best estimate if exact figures are unknown
- Questions are broken out by:
 - Improved
 - Wild Native (Seedling)

Definitions

- **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.
 - The appearance is nicer and larger, making it a favorite of home cooks and gourmet commercial users.
- **Wild Native/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.

Survey Questions

- Total pounds shelled (unshelled basis)
 - Of total, what is the meat equivalent production (shelled weight)
- Pounds of pecans (in shell) sold
- Unshelled 2021 pecans owned by plant, or possessed on consignment
 - Of these how many do you intend to shell
- Total quantity of **2021** pecans handled
 - Shelled + sold in shell + unshelled stocks

Reluctant Responses

- Why is this important?
 - That's a good question. We contact both processors and growers to get a complete and accurate picture of pecan production and utilization for the entire crop year.
- Small operation
 - I'm glad you brought that up. All operations are important, big or small. The management practices of a smaller operation are different from the larger ones, and this is your chance to let your voice be heard. Information you provide can help others become aware of the challenges facing small operators.

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

- Remember, collecting data on **2021** pecan crop
- When in doubt, comment it out.
- Be sure to practice on your iPad
 - *Before* interviewing!
 - Fairly straight forward survey...but there are some important relationships in the questions
- Any questions/comments?
 - Contact your supervisor or local office