

NASS Enumerator Survey Training
Tobacco Price Inquiry - March 2022
(TOBACCO PR)



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

NOD-Training Group
February 2022



Survey Overview

- USDA uses prices received data to determine the value of agricultural production.
- The Risk Management Agency (RMA) uses state level price data to administer insurance programs.
- The Farm Service Agency (FSA) uses prices received estimates in computing counter cyclical and disaster payments.

Survey Information

- Project Code: **172 - Prices Received**
- Questionnaires:
 - Mailed March 1st
 - Web reporting option available
- Release:
 - *Agricultural Prices*
 - May 31, 2022, 3PM (EST)

Additional Information

- Types of Tobacco & Avg. Price/lb.*
 - **Flue Cured** \$1.979
 - **Fire Cured** \$2.755
 - **Burley** \$2.004
 - **Maryland** \$1.96
 - **Dark Air Cured** \$2.461
 - **Pennsylvania Seedleaf** \$2.98
- Type of tobacco production varies geographically
- Tobacco is normally sold by the **pound** AND under **contract**
 - BUT auctions are still around

Additional Information

- “Curing” is the process by which green tobacco leaves are dried
- Four methods of curing:
 - Air Cured: tobacco is hung in well ventilated barns to dry out
 - Flue Cured: tobacco is dried via an external heat source that is piped in via flues
 - Fire Cured: tobacco that is dried using burning/smoldering wood.
 - Sun Cured: tobacco is left out in the open to sun dry
 - Not common in US

Introduction/Screening Questions

- Series of questions used to determine:
 - Whether the operation is still in business
 - Name and address verification
- Screening question/items of interest for the survey:
 - Did this operation harvest any tobacco in 2021?
 - Has this operation sold any of the 2021 tobacco crop?

Survey Questions

- For each type of tobacco:
 - Quantity **sold under contract** AND
 - Average price (per lb.) OR total dollars received
 - Quantity **sold at auction/open market** AND
 - Average price (per lb.) OR total dollars received
- Type(s) of tobacco will vary by state
- Total 2021 crop been marketed?

Out of Business

- If operator says, they are out of business and/or no longer farming:
 - Determine if they are TRULY out of business
 - Operation been sold, rented, or turned over to someone else?
 - Will land be used for any agricultural purposes by them or someone else in the next year?
 - Will they grow any field crops, hay, or specialty crops such as fruits, vegetables, or floriculture?
 - Own or raise any livestock or poultry?
 - Have any facilities for storing whole grains, pulse crops, or oilseeds?
 - Own or operate any CRP/WRP, pasture, woodland, idle land?

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

Reluctant Responses

- “I haven’t sold all my tobacco yet, call me back in another month.”
 - By reporting even part of your sales, you are making more information available so that you and other farmers will be able to make well informed decisions.

Things to Remember

- Watch decimal points
- Anything odd or unexpected: Be sure to leave a comment explaining the situation
 - Statisticians depend on your notes
 - As they review data, set their estimates and communicate with HQ
 - Your “extra” information is vital to accurate results
- Practice some exercises on your iPad
- Contact you supervisor/local office for any questions specific to your area
- Thanks and have a good survey!