
Terms And Definitions

The following Terms and Definitions are used in connection with surveys conducted by NASS. This reference provides a common resource for understanding agriculture and survey terminology for conducting agricultural survey interviews with farmers, ranchers or agribusinesses.

1/4 Section - See "Quarter Section."

½ Section - See "Half Section."

2 x 4 - A common dimensional size of lumber, often used for structural support in buildings. Actual size is 1 ½ x 3 ½ inches, and usually sold in lengths from 8 to 16 feet.

4-H - Organized groups of young people (ages 8 to 20), through which State universities and the USDA's Extension Service carry on educational programs in agriculture and homemaking projects, career development, citizenship, leadership, and other youth development activities. The four H's stand for head, heart, hands, and health.

Abandonment or Abandoned Acres - [Crops] A crop not harvested, pastured, or used in any way. It is plowed or worked into the soil.

Abattoir - A slaughterhouse.

Abortion - [Livestock] The expulsion or loss of the fetus before the completion of pregnancy. [Plants] The dropping of the fertilized flower or fruit prior to maturity.

Accrual Accounting - An accounting system where business expenses are deductible in the tax year when the operation became liable for them, whether paid or not.

Acid Rain - Rain with an acidity greater than the normal PH of about 5.6. It develops when sulfur and nitrogen pollutants in the atmosphere combine with water vapor to form sulfuric or nitric acids. These harmful acids fall to earth as precipitation or as dry particles.

ACMA - Acronym for American Catfish Marketing Association, an association of catfish processors with annual sales of \$250,000 or greater.

Acre (A.) - Unit of land area commonly used in the U.S.; equals 43,560 square feet.

Acre Foot - Water volume equal to 43,560 cubic feet, or 325,850 gallons or the amount of water covering one acre to a depth of one foot.

Acre Inch - Water volume equal to 3,630 cubic feet, or 27,154.2 gallons or the amount of water covering one acre to a depth of one inch.

Acreage - An indefinite quantity of land; a collective number of acres.

Acreage Allotment - As established from time to time by Congress, the individual farm's share, based on its previous production, of the national acreage needed to produce sufficient supplies of a particular crop.

Acreage Base: Crop - A farm's average acreage of wheat, feed grains, upland cotton, or rice planted for harvest, plus land not planted because of acreage reduction or diversion programs during a period specified by law.

Acreage Base: Farm - The total of crop acreage bases (wheat, feed grains, upland cotton, and rice) for a farm in a year, the average acreage planted in soybeans, and the average acreage devoted to conserving uses.

Acreage Contract - An owner or producer may enroll all or a portion of the eligible cropland on the farm as contract acreage. Also, an owner or producer who enters into a contract may subsequently reduce, but not add to the quantity of contract acreage covered by the contract.

Acreage, Eligible Contract - Eligible contract acreage must have been included in the annual acreage reduction program for at least one out of the last five crops, or have been considered planted. The definition of considered planted includes

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acreage that may not have participated, but was reported to the local FSA office and cropland subject to a CRP contract whose term expired, or was voluntarily terminated after 1-1-95 or is released by the Secretary of Agriculture between 1-1-95 and 8-1-96.

Acreage Grid - A clear plastic device placed over an aerial photo to estimate the number of acres within a specific area on the photo. The scale of the acreage grid must be the same as the scale of aerial photography.

Acreage, Noncontract - Noncontract acreage is the portion of eligible contract acreage which an owner or producer did not enroll in the program.

Active Ingredients - The ingredients in fertilizer or pesticides which chemically react with soil, plant, animal, or pest to give the desired effect.

Active Solar Design - An assembly of collectors, storage devices and distribution equipment along with mechanical devices to transfer solar energy in a controlled manner.

Actual Nutrients - The reporting primary plant nutrients expressed in terms of active ingredients or units of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium applied. A unit usually equals 1 pound.

Address Field - The line on the mailing label that displays the route number, box number, or street address of the operator.

Adjuvant - Chemical added to a pesticide to increase its effectiveness or safety.

Adulterated - The binding of a pesticide to surfaces of soil particles or organic matter.

Advance Recourse Loan - A price-support loan made early in a crop year that enables a farmer to hold his crops for later sale, usually within the marketing year. Farmers must repay the loan with interest and reclaim their collateral.

Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics - The committee, appointed by the secretary of agriculture, consists of 25

members representing a broad range of interests, including agricultural economists, rural sociologists, farm policy analysts, educators, state agriculture representatives, agriculture-related business and marketing experts, and associates of major national farm organizations. The purpose of the committee is to advise the secretary of agriculture on the scope, timing, content, etc. of the census and surveys of agriculture, and the type of information to obtain from respondents.

Aerial Fertilization - The broadcast distribution of fertilizers on the soil surface from aircraft.

Aerial Photo - A photo of a known land area or ground feature taken from an airplane or other airborne device to give a view of the land from above. Because photos have a known scale, distances and land areas can be determined from the photo.

Aerial Seeding - Broadcast seeding from aircraft, especially used in wet areas, such as rice fields, and for some small grain crops on upland fields when heavy rain prevents the use of conventional seeding methods.

Aflatoxin - A toxic mold that is naturally produced in soil and decaying vegetation, grains, and seeds. When found at excessive levels in grain this mold may make feeds unfit for animal or human consumption.

Agitation - The process of stirring or mixing in a sprayer.

Aggregator - An individual/firm that purchases a commodity from a producer and combines it with similar purchases from other producers in order to make a bulk sale to a packer, shipper or terminal market.

Agribusiness - Producers and manufacturers of agricultural food, fiber, and services, such as fertilizer and farm equipment manufacturers and dealers, wholesalers, processors, transporters, marketers, and retail outlets.

Agricultural Commodity - Any plant or part of a plant, or animal or part of an animal product, produced by a person primarily for sale, consumption, propagation or other use by humans or animals.

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Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) - A USDA agency that sets standards for grades of cotton, tobacco, meat, dairy products, eggs, fruits, and vegetables; operates grading services; and administers Federal marketing orders.

Agricultural Operation - Establishments primarily engaged in the production of crops or plants, vines and trees (excluding forestry operation) and/or the keeping, grazing or feeding of livestock or poultry for animal products, for animal increase or value increase. Agricultural operations are divided into two major NAICS industry groups: 111 - crops and 112 animal production. See NAICS definition below.

Agricultural Policy - A broad term used to encompass those government programs most directly affecting the prices and incomes received by farmers.

Agricultural Production - The classification of agricultural production includes: establishments (farms, ranches, dairies, orchards, nurseries, greenhouses, etc.) primarily engaged in the production of crops, plants, vines, or trees (excluding trees for lumber production) and the keeping, grazing or feeding of livestock or livestock products for sale. Livestock include cattle, sheep, goats, hogs, and poultry. Also, included are animal specialties such as horses, rabbits, bees, fur-bearing animals and fish in captivity. The classification includes establishments engaged in the production of bulbs, flower seeds, vegetable seeds, and also specialty operations such as sod farms, mushroom cellars, and cranberry bogs.

Agricultural Research Service (ARS) - A USDA agency which conducts basic, applied, and developmental research on regional, national, and international concerns in the fields of livestock, plants, soil, water and air quality; international development; energy; food safety and quality; nutrition; food processing, storage, and distribution efficiency; and non-food agricultural products.

Agricultural Statistics Board (ASB) - A panel of agricultural statisticians assembled to review agricultural survey indications and to set national and state estimates for crop and livestock production, prices, stocks, etc. The Board meets in Washington, D.C. under tight security until release of the report.

Agricultural Work - Work done on a farm or ranch in connection with the production of agricultural products, including nursery and greenhouse products and animal specialties such as furs, fish, apiaries, etc. Certain work which may take the operator, employee, etc. off the farm, such as trips to buy feed, supplies, or machinery parts, deliver products to a local market, or handle other farm related business.

Agriculture - The science or art of cultivating the soil, producing crops, raising livestock, and, in varying degrees, the preparation of these products for man's use and disposal.

Agriculture Service - Includes establishments primarily engaged in performing soil preparation services, crop services, veterinary services, farm labor and management services and landscape and horticultural services on a fee or contract basis. Feedlots and poultry hatcheries operated on a fee or contract basis are considered agriculture operations, not agriculture services.

Agronomy - The art and science of soil management and crop production.

AI - Abbreviation for artificial insemination.

Alfalfa - A perennial legume that at maturity will have multiple slender stems reaching a height of 15-25 inches with trifoliolate

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- linear oblong leaves and purple blooms. Alfalfa, the principal hay crop grown in the U.S., can also be made into silage, pellets, meal or cubes or with very careful managements, used successfully as a pasture crop. When harvested prior to bloom, it is low in fiber and high in energy. It is a very palatable and nutritious forage rich in vitamins and minerals and produces the greatest amount of protein per acre of any livestock feed. It is prized as a primary component in dairy cattle rations and is an important feed for horses, beef cattle, sheep, and milking goats.
- Air Cured** - Drying and curing tobacco either outside or in a tobacco barn with natural air.
- Air Drainage** - The flow of cold air downhill. Freeze sensitive crops are planted on hillsides so that on calm spring nights the cold air will drain down and away from the crop.
- All-in, All-out** - A hog management system where the production area or building is filled or emptied of hogs all at once.
- ALS Herbicides** - Herbicides that bind to the acetolactate synthase (ALS) enzyme in the plant.
- ALS Resistance** - Resistance is caused by a modified ALS enzyme that no longer allows herbicide binding at the site of action. When a modified ALS enzyme has been identified, the enzyme is likely to be resistant to other ALS inhibitor herbicides as well.
- Alternate Furrowing** - Delivery of water to alternate furrows to improve irrigation efficiency with a furrow irrigation system (i.e., gated pipe, siphon tube systems).
- Alternate Middle Row Spraying** - A variable spraying pattern that alternates the middle row to be sprayed. This procedure reduces the amount of pesticides used per application by one half.
- ALS** - Acronym for Agricultural Labor Survey.
- American Egg Board (AEB)** - The assessment arm of the Egg Industry. They usually use funds collected for promotion and research.
- American Farm Bureau** - A farmer organization founded in the early twentieth century for the purpose of protecting the economic interests of farmers and ranchers.
- American Pima Cotton** - An extra long staple cotton formerly known as American-Egyptian cotton in the U.S., grown chiefly in the irrigated valleys of Arizona, New Mexico, and West Texas. Represents only 1 percent of the U.S. cotton crop. Used chiefly for thread and high-valued fabrics and apparel. Developed as the Sea Island cotton became extinct in the U.S.
- Amino Acids** - The biochemicals serving as the building blocks of proteins; 20 different amino acids exist in plants and animals. Essential amino acids are those which animals cannot produce and rely upon feed supply to provide.
- Ammonium Nitrate** - A common chemical fertilizer having the fertilizer analysis of 33-0-0.
- Ammonium Phosphate** - A common chemical fertilizer having the fertilizer analysis of 16-27-0.
- Ammonium Sulfate** - A common chemical fertilizer having the fertilizer analysis of 20-0-0.
- Amortization** - A detailed plan to repay a loan in a specified period of time.
- Angora Goats** - Any of a breed or variety of domestic goat raised for production of its long, silky hair, called mohair.
- Anhydrous Ammonia** - A common chemical fertilizer having the fertilizer analysis, 82-0-0.
- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)** - A USDA agency established to conduct regulatory and control programs to protect animal and plant health.
- Animal Month** - A month's tenure upon the range by animals of any class.

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Animal Unit (AU) - A standard measure based on feed requirements (an average daily consumption of 26 lbs. dry matter per day) used to combine various classes of livestock with size, weight, age, and use.

Animal Unit Month (AUM) - Tenure of one AU for one month. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) calls an AUM a Head Month.

Annual - A plant that completes its life cycle from seed to plant, flower, and new seed in one year or less. Annuals in one state may be perennials in another state.

Antibiotic - A chemical compound generally produced by molds that has the ability to inhibit growth of certain bacteria. They are very effective against illness caused by bacteria, but are ineffective against viruses.

Antidote - A substance used to counteract pesticide poisoning.

Antimicrobial Agent - See "Antibiotic".

APHIS - See "Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service".

Apiary - Bee colonies, hives, and other bee equipment assembled in one location for the production of honey.

Apiculture - The science and art of raising honey bees.

Application Rate - The amount of pesticide applied to a site; usually expressed as a liquid or dry measure per unit area.

Aqua Ammonia - A common chemical fertilizer having the fertilizer analysis, 20-0-0.

Aquaculture - The propagation and raising of aquatic plants or animals in a controlled or selected environment, such as ponds, raceways, tanks, or cages, for all or part of their life cycle.

Aquifer - A naturally occurring underground reservoir of water that can be tapped for wells.

Area Sample - A sample of segments selected from an area sampling frame. The area sampling frame is representative of the state's geography and land uses.

Area Sampling Frame - All land area in the State divided into sampling units called segments.

Arid Region - A geographical region receiving less than 25 cm. of annual precipitation. Most crop production in arid regions requires irrigation.

Arms Length Sale - See "Bonafide Sale."

Army Worm - A yellow and gray larva of a certain moth; so called because it travels in large groups or "armies", destroying crops and grasses.

Artificial Insemination - The depositing of semen in the female uterus by artificial rather than by natural means.

ASA - Acronym for American Soybean Association, an organization of soybean producers.

Assessed Value - The value of land on which the real property tax is based.

Assessments - The valuation of farm or ranch land for property tax purposes according to its market value.

Assets - Market value of real estate, buildings, implements, livestock, grain stocks, purchased inputs and supplies on hand, rights, such as water rights, allotments, cash, accounts, etc. which have commercial value.

Atrophic Rhinitis - A hog condition that damages the fine filtering membrane tissues in the nose causing them to waste away. In some herds, the disease causes severe stunting of young pigs while showing no effect in other herds.

AU - Abbreviation for Animal Unit.

Auction - A public sale of assets or commodities through competitive bidding to the highest bidder.

Auction Barn - A facility for gathering livestock or other commodities for sale by auction. The auction bidding and sale are conducted at the facility. Also, referred to as Sale Barn.

Auction Pool - A cooperative method of marketing where individually owned products are pooled and sold to the highest bidder.

Auctioneer - The agent for sellers at an auction who conducts the bidding and sells the goods at the highest price. After the sale is

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- completed, the auctioneer becomes the agent for the buyer.
- AUM** - Abbreviation for Animal Unit Month.
- Avian** - Pertaining to poultry and/or fowl.
- Axial Flow Combine** - A combine using a rotating mechanism inside a stationary threshing cage to thresh the grain. The increased threshing area compared to a conventional combine results in faster and cleaner grain harvesting.
- Babcock Test** - A test for butterfat quantity in milk and milk products.
- Baby Beef** - Steers, 15 months old or under, that have been fed a specific ration from birth. They usually are well bred and do not weigh over 1,000 pounds.
- Backfat** - The amount of fat covering on the back of a live animal or a carcass. The measurement is usually taken over the ribs and is used to determine yield grade.
- Backfire** - A fire set intentionally ahead of an advancing forest or prairie fire to burn brush, etc. and stop or control the main fire.
- Backgrounding** - Preparing young cattle for the feedlot by getting them used to confinement facilities and feeds. Also, the drylot growing of feeder calves with harvested forage feeds.
- Backhaul** - Hauling cargo on the return trip.
- Bacon** - The side or back portion of a hog carcass, with ribs removed; cured by salting and smoking.
- Bait** - A food or other material which will attract a pest to a pesticide or to a trap.
- Balanced Fertilizer** - A soil additive containing the proper proportions of each essential mineral element to develop a plant or crop.
- Balanced Ration** - A daily allowance of livestock or poultry feed; mixed to furnish all necessary nutrients in the proportions and amounts needed for normal functioning and growth.
- Balance of Trade** - The difference between the amount of exports and imports. The balance is positive if exports exceed imports or negative when imports exceed exports.
- Balance Sheet** - A list of assets and liabilities in dollar terms to show the equity or net worth of an individual or business.
- Bale** - Cotton, hay, wool, straw or fodder which has been compacted and tied with wire or twine into units allowing it to be handled and moved.
- Bale Accumulator** - A trailing attachment for conventional hay balers that collects and automatically unloads about 8 - 12 bales.
- Bale Chopper** - A tractor-powered implement that chops up bales of hay for use as a feed or as bedding for livestock.
- Bale Ejector** - An attachment for conventional hay balers that throws bales into a trailing wagon to eliminate hand loading.
- Bale Mover** - A device for mechanically moving large bales of hay; attaches to a tractor 3-point hitch or front-end loader, mounted in a truck bed, or trailed behind a tractor or truck.
- Balling Forceps** - A pair of tongs for administering medicine, especially pills, capsules, etc., to animals; used to place medicine on the back of the tongue.
- Balling Gun** - Dispenser with a plunger mechanism in the barrel used to place medicine in the form of pills or capsules in the back of an animal's mouth or down its throat so the animal cannot spit the medicine out.
- Band** - Flock of sheep. Large flocks are broken up into separate bands for easier handling, such as yearling band, aged band, drop band, etc.
- Band Application** - [Pesticide] A herbicide application made in a narrow band, usually over or alongside a row. [Fertilizer] A method of applying fertilizer in bands near plant rows, where the fertilizer will be more efficiently used rather than applying it to the entire soil surface.
- Bang's Disease** - See "Brucellosis."
- Bantam** - Any dwarf or miniature breed of domestic poultry.

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- Bar Coded Labels** - Mailing labels which display machine-readable parallel, black lines representing identification information such as the census file number and other desired codes. Bar coded labels increase the speed and accuracy of the check-in process and accomplish extremely fast sorting into processing groups and states by use of rapid laser scanner/sorter machines.
- Barbadoose Sheep** - A hair sheep ranging in color from light tan to dark mahogany red with black breed markings on the face, legs, belly, chin, and chest. May be referred to as “Blackbelly” or “Blackbellies”.
- Barbed Wire** - Fencing made of twisted wires, to form one strand, and to which sharp pointed wires (barbs) are attached at short intervals. These barbs are intended to scratch livestock as they rub against the barbed fence wire discouraging them from breaking down or damaging the fence and leaving the field.
- Bark** - [Cattle] The fat covering on a carcass.
- Barn** - A farm building used for the storage of hay, grain, farm implements, and/or the housing of livestock.
- Barnyard** - Fenced lot next to a barn to enclose livestock.
- Barrel (Bbl.)** - A volume unit of measure, used as a standard for selling and trading certain commodities in certain areas of the country.
- Barren** - [Land] An area unable to support vegetation. [Livestock or Crop] Incapable of producing offspring, seed or fruit.
- Barrow** -[Hogs] A male hog who was castrated before reaching breeding age and before the development of secondary sex characteristics.
- Base Acreage** - The average acreage of a crop on a farm that is used in acreage limitation programs and to calculate farm program acreage. It is usually the actual planted acreage of the crop on the farm in the previous year, although the previous 2-year average could be used when adjusted for disasters, crop rotations, and other factors as necessary to make it fair and equitable.
- Basis** - The difference between two prices, such as a commodity cash price and its futures price assuming the same quality standards. Basis reflects the marketing costs of storage, transportation, and supply and demand.
- Battery** - A series of cages used for raising chicks without a hen; for fattening chickens and broilers for market; for confining laying hens to increase egg production.
- Bbl.** - Abbreviation for barrel.
- Bd.** - Abbreviation for board.
- Bearing Acres** - Plantings of sufficient maturity to be commercially producing even though they may not yet be producing at full mature capacity.
- Bedding** - [Floriculture] Flowering and vegetable plants seeded and grown indoors with the intent to transplant them outdoors when conditions permit. [Livestock] Straw, leaves, sawdust, sand, peat moss, pine straw, etc., to make a bed where an animal may lie.
- Bee** - Any of several social honey producing bees.
- Bee Pasture** - Vegetation visited by bees for nectar or pollen.
- Beef** - Meat derived from cattle nearly one year old or older.
- Beef Cattle** - Any breed of cow, heifer, bull, or steer raised primarily for meat consumption.
- Beef Cows** - Cows, regardless of breed, kept primarily to raise or nurse calves.
- Beehive** - Domicile prepared for a colony of bees.
- Beekeeper** - One who keeps bees for income.
- Beeswax** - A secretion from glands on the underside of a bee's abdomen that is molded to form honeycomb.

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- Beneficial Insects** - Insects collected and introduced into locations because of their value in biologic control as prey on harmful insects and parasites. Natural insect enemies used to control important insect pests.
- Biennial** - A plant requiring 2 years, or at least part of two growing seasons, with a dormant period between growth stages to complete its life cycle.
- Bin** - A storage structure used for storage of grains.
- Bin Burn** - The discoloration and deterioration of bin stored grain due to heat.
- Bin Run** - Designating products (grain, potatoes, etc.) as taken from the bin and not graded for size and quality.
- Biodegradable** - A substance that decomposes by microorganisms usually present in the soil.
- Biological Control** - Control of pests using natural means, e.g., control of aphids by ladybugs.
- Biological Yield** - The gross/total amount of crop produced by plants expressed as a rate per unit; for example, bushels per acre or pounds per tree.
- Biotechnology Seed Varieties** - Genetically modified seed varieties that have been developed to possess particular "input" or "output" traits.
- Birth Weight** - The weight of a calf taken within 24 hours after birth. Heavy birth weights tend to be correlated with calving problems, but the conformation of the calf and the cow are contributing factors.
- Black Frost** - A blackening of vegetation which occurs when the temperature drops low enough below the freezing point to destroy vegetation, including staple crops; there is no actual deposit of frost crystals.
- Blackbelly Sheep** - See "Barbadose Sheep".
- Blending** - [Textiles] The mixing of other fibers with cotton. The resulting textile product combines the unique properties or characteristics of the fibers in the blend, often providing a superior final product in some uses.
- Blight** - A disease characterized by general and rapid killing of leaves, flowers, and stems.
- BLM** - Acronym for Bureau of Land Management.
- Bloat** - Excessive accumulation of gases in the rumen of an animal; often caused by grazing on legume forage. May cause death.
- Block** - An area of land that is the same as a field.
- Block Salt** - A cube of about 10 in. of compressed, sometimes medicated salt for consumption by domesticated animals.
- Blood Meal** - Dried, ground animal blood which is heated to coagulation, drained, and then pressed to remove remaining water. The meal is 80% hard-to-digest protein, but it is mixed into some livestock feeds.
- Bloom** - [Crops] The blossom or flower part of a plant. [Livestock] Refers to the beauty and freshness of a female in early lactation or animals in peak condition for show or sale.
- Blue Mold** - A disease in tobacco plant beds. It is characterized by cupped leaves with a whitish or violet-colored moldy growth over the lower surfaces. It kills young plants and the leaf tissues of older plants.
- Boar** - A male hog, usually kept for breeding purposes.
- Board (Bd.)** - [Lumber] Lumber of all widths one-inch thick and more than 4 inches wide.
- Board of Trade** - See "Chicago Board of Trade."
- Board Foot** - The amount of lumber equivalent to a measurement of 1 foot x 1 foot x 1 inch (12" x 12" x 1").
- Bog** - A wet, lake basin depression filled with acid peat and covered with mosses, etc. Are cultivated to raise cranberries.
- Boll** - The rounded seed pod of cotton or flax.
- Bolus** - A large pill for dosing animals.
- Bonafide Sale** - The voluntary transfer of property by willing persons, acting knowledgeably and prudently, where the owner receives compensation for the property. Sales reflect market price.

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- Bonded Warehouse** - Warehouse owners approved by the U.S. Treasury Department, and under bond or guarantee for the strict observance of the revenue laws; used for storing goods until duties are paid or goods are otherwise released.
- Boot** - The sheath of the last (flag) leaf in small grains through which the grain head emerges.
- Borrowing Capacity** - The amount of credit an operator has with lending institutions.
- Bottom Lands** - Lands, usually flood plains, adjacent to a river or stream.
- Bovine** - Pertaining to cattle.
- Bovine Growth Hormone** - See "Bovine Somatotropin."
- Bovine Somatotropin (BST)** - A natural hormone that has been linked to milk production in dairy cows. Injections of BST in lactating dairy cows may increase milk production by up to 25%.
- Box** - Measurement of fruit entering a packinghouse that weighs 85 pounds and equals 1 3/5 bushel.
- Brace Root** - A type of root growing above ground, acts as part of the stem and serves to support the plant like a guy wire. Frequently seen in corn.
- Bran** - The outer layers of a grain removed in milling. Used as livestock feed or human food.
- Brand** - [Livestock] Permanent scar on an animal's hide used to identify ownership or a unique herd number. It is made by applying an extremely hot or cold iron to the animal's hide. [Pesticide] The specific, registered manufacturer's name of a pesticide product; same as trade name or proprietary name. [Equipment] The company or manufacturer of a product.
- Bred** - A pregnant female animal.
- Breed** - Animals having a common origin and distinguishing characteristics.
- British Thermal Unit (BTU)** - A standard unit for measuring heat energy. The quantity of heat needed to raise the temperature of one pound of water one degree Fahrenheit.
- Broadcast** - To sow seeds or fertilizer in all directions by scattering.
- Broadcast Application** - The uniform pesticide application to an entire field or area.
- Broad-Spectrum Pesticide** - A pesticide that is effective against a wide range of species; usually applied to insecticides and fungicides.
- Broiler** - A young domestic breed chicken grown for meat purposes only.
- Broiler-Feed Ratio** - Number of pounds of broiler ration equal in value to one pound of live broiler; that is, the price received by farmers for one pound of broiler divided by the price of a pound of broiler feed.
- Brood** - [Bee & Honey] The collective name for the egg, larvae, and pupae in a honeybee colony. [Mature animals] A female animal or hen kept for breeding purposes, usually because of their strong mothering and nurturing instincts. [Young animals] The young of any animal.
- Brood Chamber** - The section of the hive in which a brood is reared and food may be stored.
- Brooder** - A hooded device used to control air temperature for poults and chicks during the first several weeks of age.
- Brooder House** - A structure in which chicks are raised without a mother.
- Broodfish** - Fish kept for egg production, including males. Broodfish produce the fertilized eggs which go to hatcheries. The most desirable size for broodfish is 3 to 10 pounds or 4 to 6 years.
- Browse** - Small woody plants with tender shoots used as feed by goats, sheep, and cattle.

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- Brucellosis** - A bacterial disease of hogs or cattle. Its symptoms are abortions, paralysis in the rear-end of the animal, inflammation of the testicles in males or the uterus in females, and in some cases sterility. The disease is spread by eating contaminated feed and water or using infected boars for breeding.
- BST or Bst** - Bovine somatotropin.
- Bt (Bacillus Thuringiensis) Variety** - Developed through bioengineering, Bt corn contains an insecticidal protein. The protein, which is present in all green parts of the Bt corn plant, kills various insects, including corn borer. Bt cotton was developed to control three major cotton pests: the tobacco budworm and the cotton and pink bollworms. Include varieties that have been genetically modified to contain more than one gene that can resist different types of insects. For example, a corn variety with Bt traits for both corn borer and rootworm should be included as a Bt variety. This example is NOT a stacked gene variety since it resists two different types of insects.
- BTU** - Abbreviation for British thermal unit.
- Bu.** - Abbreviation for bushel.
- Bubblers** - A low-pressure emitter with an irrigation system (usually drip) that does not spray but allows water to bubble through the emitter.
- Buck** - Male goat, slang for male sheep.
- Bud** - A region of plant tissue with the potential for developing leaves, branches, flowers, or combinations of leaves and flowers.
- Buffer Strips** - An untreated border or strip next to a susceptible target area to provide protection.
- Buffer Zone** - A 5 foot row length separating the final pace from the beginning of the count unit for Objective Yield Surveys.
- Bulb** - A modified stem of a plant that contains stored food for the undeveloped shoots.
- Bulk Tank** - A refrigerated, stainless steel container used to cool and store milk. They vary in size depending on the farmer's herd size. If properly cooled, milk may be safely held up to two days before being taken to a milk processing plant.
- Bull** - Male cattle capable of and usually kept for breeding purposes.
- Bull Rows** - See "Male Rows."
- Bump Weaning** - A weaning process in hogs where there is an attempt to save all living piglets versus some approaches which kill or destroy any runt or undersized piglets.
- Bunch** - The unit by which fresh-cut miniature carnations and pompon chrysanthemums are sold. There is no standard size and may vary depending upon the State where they were grown and the time of year.
- Bunch Grass** - A grass that grows in tufts and does not spread by rhizomes or stolons.
- Bunk Feeder** - A long trough used to feed livestock. Feed may be distributed with an elevator or auger running the length of the feeder or by driving a feed wagon along the feeder.
- Bunker Silo** - A horizontal silo consisting of two vertical side walls usually 8 to 10 feet high, 18 feet apart and as long as desired.
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)** - Federal Agency created in 1934 to manage and administer 264 million acres of public land. Over 18,000 leases cover 164 million acres of grazing land primarily in the western states.
- Burn** - [Livestock] Crippled or bruised livestock usually sold for a token price.
- Burned Lime** - Liming compound formed when limestone is heated to drive off carbon dioxide, leaving the oxide form.
- Bushel (Bu.)** - A volume unit of measure, often used as a standard for selling and trading crop commodities. In practice, commodities are traded on a weight basis whereby, a USDA standard weight and moisture content representing a bushel has been established for each commodity.
- Butcher** - Killing, cutting-up and processing of an animal carcass for meat and usable by-products.

Terms And Definitions

- Butterfat** - The fat found in milk.
- Buyer's Invoice** - An itemized listing of all commodities or goods purchased by a buyer on a given date. Some firms maintain separate invoices for different classes of animals.
- Cablegation** - A modified gated pipe system which uses a moving plug attached by a cable inside the pipe to deliver water sequentially to furrows.
- Calf** - Any young cattle weighing less than 500 pounds.
- Calf Crop** - The number of calves produced by a given number of cows over a specified period of time.
- Call Back** - A situation where a respondent has been contacted and for a variety of possible reasons must be recontacted. A call back may be needed to clarify a response from the original interview because of its relationship to other reported data, or to meet with the person best able to provide the information requested.
- Call Contract** - See "Delayed Pricing Contract."
- Calorie** - The amount of energy required to raise the temperature of one gram of water by one degree Celsius.
- Calving** - The process of giving birth in cattle.
- Candling** - Examination of an egg in front of a light to observe features related with hatch ability and edible quality, such as air cell size, yolk shadow position, presence of blood or meat spots and presence or lack of germ development.
- Cane Mill** - A facility for grinding sugarcane into raw sugar.
- Cannibalism** - A poultry habit of pecking at other fowls. Blood may be drawn and in severe cases the victim may be killed.
- Canopy** - The foliage (leaves, stems, flowers, etc.) formed collectively by the tops of plants growing close together.
- Canopy Management** - Controlling growth of the plant and its leaves through the use of pruning in order to control pests or diseases.
- Cap** - [Bee & Honey] Covering a cell with beeswax.
- CAPI** - Acronym for Computer Assisted Personal Interview. A hand-held or laptop computer used instead of a paper questionnaire, to complete a survey interview.
- Capon** - Castrated male chicken.
- Carcass** - The body of a slaughtered meat animal after organs, hide, head, and other nonedible parts have been removed.
- Carcass Weight** - See "Dressed Weight."
- Carcinogen** - Any cancer producing substance.
- Carding** - A yarn manufacturing process by which fibers are sorted, separated, partially aligned, and cleaned of foreign matter.
- Cargo Preference Act** - Whenever the U.S. contracts for or furnishes to any nation without provision for reimbursement, any equipment, materials or commodities, the U.S. shall ship using U.S. flag vessels, if they are available at fair and reasonable rates, at least 50% of the gross tonnage.
- Carrier** - [Shipping] Rail, ship, barge, airline or trucking companies involved in transporting goods.
- Carrier Material** - [Fertilizer] See "Inert Material."
- Carrying Capacity** - [Range Management] Maximum population of a species possible without damaging the vegetation or related resources. It may vary from year to year because of fluctuation in forage production.
- Carryover** - [Grain Stocks] The supplies, volume, or stock of a farm commodity not yet used at the end of a marketing year; carried over into the next marketing year. [Pesticides] Chemical pesticide residuals remaining in the soil a year or more after being applied. Residual levels are influenced by chemical type, amount of rainfall, and soil type. The carryover from some chemicals may effect the growth of certain crops planted in later years.
- Carton** - A unit for measuring fruit leaving a packinghouse that weighs 425 pounds and equals 4/5 bushel. Two cartons equal one box.

Terms And Definitions

- Cash Accounting** - An accounting system in which business expenses are deductible in the tax year in which they are paid, regardless of when delivery was made or scheduled to be made.
- Cash Crop** - A crop produced for direct cash sale.
- Cash Grain Farm** - A farm on which corn, grain sorghum, small grains, soybeans, or field beans and peas account for at least 50 percent of the value of products sold.
- Cash Price** - The actual price paid for an item, less any discounts or rebates.
- Cash Receipts** - Receipts which include sales and trade-in allowances from transactions on the farm, concerning animals poultry and dairy products, crops, machinery, farm improvements, work off the farm, etc.
- Cash Rent** - Fixed, predetermined dollar amount paid for the use of land, buildings, equipment, livestock, etc.
- Castration** - The removal of male testicles or to otherwise make a male incapable of breeding.
- Catch** - [Livestock] Indicates conception has taken place after breeding. [Crops] The degree of plant emergence for crops such as small grains, forage crops or turf grass which have been broadcast or drilled in narrow rows.
- Catfish Bargaining Board (CBA)** - A nonprofit cooperative organization for marketing farm-raised catfish.
- CATI** - Acronym for Computer Assisted Telephone Interview.
- Cattle on Feed** - Cattle or calves for slaughter market on full feed and expected to produce a carcass grading select or better.
- Cattle on Shares** - An arrangement very similar to a production contract. Typically, a cattle owner (like a contractor) will place cattle on an operation with excess grazing land (like a contractee), and the land owner will receive a share of the calves as the fee for grazing the cattle.
- Caustic Paste** - A paste applied to the head of a calf to prevent horn development by destroying the development tissues.
- CBOT** - Acronym for Chicago Board of Trade.
- CCC** - Acronym for Commodity Credit Corporation.
- Cell** - Single unit of space in a honeycomb in which honey is stored or honeybees can be raised.
- Cellulosic Fibers** - All fiber of plant or vegetable origin. These fibers include natural fibers such as cotton, linen, and jute, and manmade fibers such as rayon and acetate.
- Census of Agriculture** - A count taken every five years (for years ending in "2" or "7") of the number of farms, land in farms, crop acreage and production, livestock numbers and production, farm spending, farm facilities and equipment, farm tenure, economic data and so forth. State and county data are published.
- Center Pivot** - A sprinkler device which distributes water through a series of sprinklers attached to a self-propelled pipe. The pipe is anchored at one end and travels in a complete or partial circle from the anchored end. It is held above the crop by towers with wheels which provide mobility.
- Cereal Crop** - A grass crop grown primarily for its seed, which is used for feed or food, e.g., wheat, oats, barley, rye, corn.
- Certified Seed** - Seed that meets rigid standards of purity and germination and is so designated by an authorized agency.
- Certified Applicator** - A person certified to use restricted use pesticides; a certified private applicator also may direct the use of restricted use pesticides. A commercial applicator must be certified to use or direct the use of any pesticide.
- CFA** - Acronym for Catfish Farmers of America.
- CFC** - A group of Chloro Fluoro Carbon compounds; commonly used as refrigerants in air conditioners or other cooling equipment.
- Chaff** - The lighter plant-tissue fragments released in threshing.

Terms And Definitions

- Check Data** - Information derived from inspections, marketings, acreages contracted or certified, assessments, ginnings, and other sources that have some direct relation to a commodity and can be used, with varying degrees of confidence, to supplement survey data in the preparation or revision of estimates.
- Check-Off** - A fee collected on each unit of a commodity going to market. Fees collected are administered by a producer selected board, usually to fund research and promotion of products made from the commodity.
- Cheese** - Food made from milk curds.
- Chemical Fallow** - The application of herbicides to keep cultivated land free of vegetative growth by destroying weeds or to conserve moisture for the next crop.
- Chemigation** - The application of an agricultural chemical by injecting it into irrigation water.
- Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT)** - A commodity exchange specializing in trading grain's futures contracts. The CBOT is located in Chicago, IL.
- Chick Starter** - A balanced feed for the quick growth of a baby chick, consisting of ground grains, meat scraps, leaf meal, soybean meal, dried milk, limestone, iodized salt, vitamins, antibiotics, and other items.
- Chilling Injury** - Damage to such horticultural products as papaya, sweet potato, and cucumber from exposure to cold but above-freezing temperatures.
- Chilling Requirement** - A cold period required by certain plants to break dormancy and resume growth; often expressed in terms of the number of hours required at 7 degrees C. or less.
- Chronic Exposure** - Exposure to small, repeated doses of a pesticide over a period of time.
- Cider** - The juice pressed from apples; unless pasteurized it ferments rapidly.
- C.I.F.** - Abbreviation for Cost, Insurance, and Freight.
- Cigar Binder** - A type of tobacco, usually broadleaf used to bind the filler portion of cigars.
- Cigar Filler** - Tobacco leaves placed in the core of a cigar. The leaf fragments are as long as the cigar in superior brands and short or shredded in low-priced cigars.
- Cigar Wrapper** - A shade-grown tobacco leaf of the Cuban variety tobacco group used as the outside wrapper of cigars. Plants are shaded by a screen of open-mesh cotton fabric during growth to protect the leaves from getting holes.
- Citrus Caretaker** - An organization or person caring for or managing citrus groves for others.
- Citrus Caretakers Enumeration** - A special field enumeration of citrus fruit grove managers or grove management organizations in Florida, Texas, and Arizona, conducted several months prior to the regular census mailing. These caretakers manage or perform services on large acreages of groves that are owned by many people who usually do not have the necessary information to complete an Ag Census form. The caretaker is considered to be the farm operator and he completes on report form for his entire management operation. Many of the grove owners are not on the census mailing list, therefore, this direct enumeration provides more complete and accurate information with the least respondent burden.
- Claims Filed** - A designation describing a situation where the respondent claims that he has completed and returned a census report when contacted on a follow-up. Most valid claims filed situations are caused by undetected name and address duplication on the census mailing list; however, they can be the result of duplicate labeling and mailing of a portion of the mail file.
- Classified** - A farm, ranch or agribusiness eligible to be selected for a particular survey based on their control data.
- Clay** - [Soil] Small soil particles having a diameter less than 0.002 mm. [Soil Texture] See "Soil Texture (1) Clay."

Terms And Definitions

Clay Loam - See "Soil Texture (2) Clay Loam."

Clear-cut - An area from which all the trees have been removed.

Climate - The sum total of all atmospheric influences, principally temperature, moisture, wind, and evaporation which characterize a region and give it individuality by influencing the nature of soils, vegetation, and land use.

Closed Range - Rangeland suitable for grazing but closed to grazing by domestic animals.

Cloth - A textile product obtained by felting, fusing, weaving, knitting, braiding, or bonding of fibers.

Cob - The chaffy stem where kernels of corn grow.

Cock - The adult male fowl.

Cockerel - A male chicken less than a year old.

Cold Frame - A small, transparent, low to the ground, unheated, covered shelter used to protect plants from low temperatures.

Collar - A distinctive band, of a different color, marking, or texture, placed around the neck of an animal for identification.

Colony - Social community of several thousand worker bees, usually containing a queen with or without drones.

Colostrum - Milk produced by female mammals for the first few hours or days after giving birth. It is high in antibodies and nutrients needed by newborns.

Colt - A young male horse or mule under four years of age.

Comb - See "Honeycomb."

Combine - A machine that harvests and threshes in one operation.

Comments - Information about an operation, kept on file to remind the enumerator in later interviews of an unusual situation.

Commercial Applicator - A person who uses or directs the use of any pesticide, either directly or through an employee, for any purpose or on any property, other than as a private applicator. The term does not apply to a person who applies a pesticide, other than a restricted use pesticide, solely for household purposes in and around the person's residence.

Commission Charges - Charges levied by a commission firm to the seller of the livestock. Charges are for freight, yardage, feed, and the collection of payment from the purchaser. It is generally a percentage of the gross value of sale.

Commission Firm - A firm through which sellers can introduce their livestock into a terminal market. The firm collects a fee for each animal sold and does not take title to the livestock.

Commodity - Any agricultural or agricultural by-product available for sale.

Commodity, Contract - The crop specified in the production flexibility contract. Eligible commodities are wheat, corn, sorghum, barley, oats, upland cotton, and rice.

Commodity Credit Corporation(CCC) - A government owned and operated entity created to stabilize, support, and protect farm income and prices. CCC helps maintain balanced and adequate supplies of agricultural commodities and in their orderly distribution. It aides producers through loans, purchases, payments, and other operations, and makes available materials and facilities required in the production and marketing of agricultural commodities. CCC also is authorized to sale agricultural commodities to other government agencies or foreign governments, and make food donations to domestic, foreign, or international relief agencies. It assists in the development of new domestic and foreign markets and marketing facilities for agricultural commodities.

Commodity Exchange - A brokerage house specializing in the trading of commodity futures contracts.

Terms And Definitions

Commodity Futures Trading Commission

(CFTC) - An independent government commission which regulates commodity trading at the 11 U.S. futures exchanges. CFTC also regulates the activities of numerous commodity exchange members, public brokerage houses, commodity trading advisors, and commodity pool operators.

Common Use - A term to describe grazing land used by more than one operation at the same time.

Companion Crop - See "Nurse Crop."

Complete Feed - A feed ration which, through the use of feed additives, is nutritionally balanced for a particular livestock group.

Compost - A mixture consisting largely of decayed organic matter that is used for fertilizing and conditioning soil.

Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing

(CATI) - A system of telephone survey or census enumeration which uses interactive terminals linked to a computer. The interviewer reads survey or census questions from the terminal screen display and enters the responses interactively. The CATI system automatically displays names to be called and keeps track of call back appointments and the status of every case in the telephone survey backlog.

Concentrate - See "Feed Concentrate."

Concentration - The amount of active ingredient in a given volume or weight of formulation.

Condiment Plant - A plant which yields spices or other seasoning material.

Condition - [Livestock] Refers to the amount of body weight, the quality of the hair coat, and the general health of animals.

Confidentiality - The assurance from NASS to respondents, backed by federal law, that individual information collected on authorized USDA surveys will not be released to any person, organization or institution, including court subpoenas.

See the "NASDA Employee Handbook" for regulations.

Confinement - Raising livestock where they are retained in an area with a minimal square footage per animal for maximum year round production.

Conservation - Wise or economical use of natural resources.

Conservation District - Any unit of local government formed for the purpose of carrying out a local soil and water conservation program.

Conservation Plan - A combination of land uses and practices to protect and improve soil productivity and to prevent soil deterioration from erosion or other adverse effects.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) - A program established by the USDA in 1985 to take land prone to erosion out of production for 10 to 15 years and devote it to conserving uses. In return, farmers may receive an annual rental payment for carrying out approved conservation practices on the conservation acreage.

Conservation Tillage - Any of several tillage and planting methods that leave a minimum of 30 percent of the soil surface covered by crop residue following planting. The method should provide for seed germination, plant growth, and weed control yet maintain effective ground cover throughout the year and disturb the soil as little as possible. It reduces soil loss and energy use while maintaining crop yields and quality. Weeds are controlled primarily with herbicides.

Conserving Use - Land idled from production and planted in a soil-conserving crop, such as annual, biennial, or perennial grasses, or other soil-conserving crops.

Consumer Price Index - An index to measure the average change in prices over time for a fixed set of goods and services. Prices are collected in 85 urban areas from over 18,000 tenants, 18,000 housing units for property taxes, and about 24,000 establishments (grocery and department stores, hospitals, service stations, etc.).

Terms And Definitions

- Contact Herbicide** - A herbicide that kills a plant by coming in contact with the plants leaves.
- Continuous Farrowing** - A continuously used hog farrowing facility, never completely vacated as in an All-In, All-Out System.
- Contour Farming** - Field operations such as plowing, planting, cultivating, and harvesting at right angles to the ground's natural slope to reduce soil erosion, protect soil fertility, and use water more efficiently. Furrows, crop rows, and wheel tracks across the slope act as miniature terraces.
- Contract** - A binding agreement, either written or verbal, between the farm operator (contractee) and another party (contractor) specifying one or more conditions for the production and/or marketing of a farm commodity.
- Contract Acreage** - See "Base Acreage".
- Contract Crop** - A crop eligible for production flexibility payments: wheat, corn, sorghum, barley, oats, rice, and upland cotton.
- Contractee or Contract Grower** - A person who is responsible for producing or raising a contractor's commodity (poultry, livestock, crops) for a fee or other financial considerations.
- Contractor** - A person or firm offering a contract agreement to a producer (contractee). The contractor typically owns the commodity (crop, poultry, or livestock), and may supply the feed, medicine and other such items, but does not care for the commodity.
- Contract Production** - Producing crops or livestock under an agreement where the owner of the commodity (contractor) supplies some or most of the inputs for production and the farmer (contractee) usually provides inputs such as labor, utilities, housing, machinery, and/or equipment. The contractee is limited in the control over the amount produced and the production practices used. Usually, the contract is established at the beginning of the production cycle for a given number of acres, or number of animals or birds. The contractee has a minimum amount of risk since the amount of payment to be received is agreed upon prior to or during the production period. The contractee does not receive the commodity's full market value and may have quality or other adjustments.
- Contract Sale** - A sale negotiated for a future date. May be based on the delivery date market price or a predetermined price.
- Contract Work** - Work performed on a farm or ranch, such as fruit or vegetable picking, where the provider of the service (crew leader, contractor, etc.) is paid for the use of materials, equipment or labor as agreed to informally or as specified in a contract. Payment is usually on a per unit basis, or for the entire job.
- Control Data** - Information on file about individual farm or ranch operations which defines the type and size of the operation, i.e. acres of cropland, grain storage capacity, livestock numbers by species, etc.
- Conventional Gravity** - Any of several types of irrigation methods in which water flows by gravity from its source through the field.
- Conventional Moldboard** - A plow equipped with a moldboard which receives the furrow slice and turns it partially or completely over.
- Conventional Sprinkler** - A less efficient sprinkler irrigation system such as hand move, permanent or high pressure center pivot sprinkler systems.
- Conventional Tillage** - A tillage system where 100% of the soil's surface layer is mixed or inverted by plowing, power tillage or multiple discing. The number and type of operations varies with the crop and area.
- Converted Wetlands** - Wetlands that have been drained or otherwise manipulated for the purpose of producing agricultural commodities.
- Cool Season Plant** - A plant in which peak growth occurs during the spring or fall. It does not grow well under hot conditions.

Terms And Definitions

Cooperative - A voluntarily organized association controlled by its members or patrons. Individuals pool their resources and share in the profits.

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service - A USDA agency providing farmers and rural people leadership, evaluation, and coordination in support of state and county educational programs. It also provides access to agricultural research and information on federal regulations and policy, food safety, agricultural marketing, disaster awareness, sustainable agriculture, waste management, water quality, and youth at risk. The former Extension Service is now a part of this Agency.

Corduroy - A pile-filling fabric with ridges of pile running lengthwise, creating a ribbed surface.

Corn (*Maize*) for grain - An annual stemmed cereal plant that can grow to 7 or 8 feet tall with one or two large grain ears pollinated from tassels. Corn produces many more bushels of grain per acre than any other feed grains. It is used as a food crop, animal feed, and as a source of oil, syrup and other products. Corn, grown throughout the country, requires good soil and large amounts of water making the Midwest the best producing area. It also requires a large amount of fertilizer, more than any other crop, particularly nitrogen.

Corn (*Maize*) for silage - See "Silage".

Corn-Hog Ratio - Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 pounds of live hogs; the price per hundredweight received by farmers for hogs divided by the bushel price of corn.

Corner Catcher - A center-pivot mainline system extension that swings out at the corners.

Corporate Farm - A legally incorporated farm; can be of any size, including family farms.

Corporation - A corporation is a legal form of organization separate from its owners (shareholders). It is created (incorporated) under the laws of the individual states. The state then recognizes its existence as a corporation and permits it to engage in activities (for example, farming) provided for in its articles of incorporation. Corporations may include both large incorporated companies and family corporation farms that filed articles of incorporation.

Corral - A fenced in area for holding or capturing horses, cattle, or other animals.

Cost, Insurance, and Freight - [Ocean Shipping] The seller's price that includes the cost of goods, marine insurance, and transportation (freight) charges to the point of destination.

Cost of Production - The average amount in dollars per unit used in growing or raising a farm product, including all purchased inputs and sometimes including allowances for management and the use of owned land. The cost may be expressed in units of a bushel, pound, ton or per-acre, depending on the product involved.

Cotton - A soft, white vegetable fiber obtained from the seed pod of the cotton plant. The two principal types of cotton grown in the U.S. are upland cotton and American Pima cotton.

Cotton Board - A quasi-government organization whose members are appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture from nominees of cotton producer organizations. The board receives and disburses grower assessments to finance the Cotton Incorporated program.

Cotton Compress - The equipment which forms the ginned raw cotton into a bale. The first compression, primarily to modified flat or universal bale dimensions, is performed at the gin. Further compression of flat or modified flat bales is performed at cotton warehouse locations.

Cotton Council - See "National Cotton Council of America."

Terms And Definitions

Cotton Council International (CCI) - The overseas operations of the National Council of America. The CCI's primary objective is to develop markets for U.S. exports.

Cotton Count - [Yarn] A numbering system based on the number of 840 yard lengths in a pound. The higher the number the finer the yarn. A single strand of #10 yarn is expressed as 10s or 10/1. A 10s has 8,400 yards to the pound; a pound of 20s yarn is 16,800 yards long. [Woven Cloth] The number of warp ends and filling picks per inch. If a cloth is 68 X 72, there are 68 ends and 72 picks per inch in the fabric. An end is a warp yarn or thread that runs lengthwise or vertically in cloth. The ends interlace at right angles with filling yarn (picks) to make woven fabric. [Knitted Fabric] Count indicates the number of wales and courses per inch. A course is a crosswise row of loops or stitches,

similar to the filling of woven fabric. A wale is a lengthwise series of loops in a knitted fabric.

Cotton Exchange - A membership organization which provides facilities where cotton futures contracts are bought and sold.

Cotton Gin - A machine that separates cotton fibers from the seed on which they were produced.

Cotton Incorporated - A private corporation acting as the marketing and research organization representing U.S. cotton growers.

Cotton Quality - Three major components of cotton quality, grade, staple and micronaire, are included in official USDA cotton quality classifications. Added fiber properties, including length, uniformity, and strength, are also recognized as important and are increasingly being measured by instrument testing. Grade depends on the color, trash content, and preparation (smoothness) of the cotton sample.

Cotton Square - Unopened cotton flower bud.

Cotton Staple - Used in reference to the length and fineness of cotton fiber.

Cotton System - A process originally used to manufacture cotton fiber into yarn and now used extensively for producing spun yarns of manmade fibers, including blends.

Cottonseed - Seed of cotton with the lint removed. Cottonseed oil is extracted from the seed through a crushing process. The residue (cottonseed cake or meal) is used as livestock feed.

Cottonseed Cake - Residue left after extraction of oil from cottonseeds. It contains more than 36% protein and is sold according to its protein or nitrogen content.

Cottonseed Hulls - The outer covering of the cottonseed. It is residue after the extraction of the oil and used extensively as a livestock feed.

Cottonseed Meal - The residue of cottonseed kernels after the extraction of oil. It is used as a protein supplement in livestock feed.

Count Limb - A randomly selected tree limb on which fruit or nut counts are made for Objective Yield Surveys.

Count Unit - A small plot in an Objective Yield Survey sample field where observations and counts are made. A unit is laid out by following specific procedures in marking its boundaries with florist stakes and flagging ribbon.

Counter-Cyclical Payments - Provides participating farmers with a payment if the target price exceeds the effective price for the commodity, otherwise the counter-cyclical payment rate equals zero for the commodity.

Coverage - The degree of completeness and accuracy in the count of producing units and items counted by the census, e.g., farms, land in farms, etc.

Terms And Definitions

- Cover Crop(s)** - Any of several plants, such as rye, wheat, or oats, sown in the fall to make sufficient growth before winter to aid in protecting soil from wind and water erosion. In the spring it is plowed under and used as green manure. A spring planted cover crop is planted to protect a slower germinating or growing crop (i.e., small grains planted as a cover crop for newly seeded alfalfa.)
[Orchards] A close-growing crop grown primarily to protect and improve soil between trees and vines in orchards and vineyards.
- Covered Production Area** - Any growing area with a permanent or temporary cover such as glass, fiberglass, or plastic over greenhouses.
- Cow** - Female bovine that has had at least one calf.
- Cow-Calf** - A cow with nursing calf.
- Creamery** - A business which buys milk and/or cream and prepares finished dairy products, such as various kinds of milk, cheese, butter, ice cream, etc., for the market.
- Credit** - The ability to obtain loan or services based upon a promise to pay. Credit is a resource that can be used or held in reserve. Even a debt-free operation may have credit, but in the case of the debt-free operation, all of its credit is in reserve.
- Creep Feed** - To give extra feed by means of small opening in panels that permit only smaller-sized animals to enter.
- Crib** - A type of storage structure for ear corn.
- Criteria Letters** - Questionnaires mailed to possible farm operators to determine if the operation is a farm. The questionnaires collect information such as telephone numbers, farm names, and partners names as well as basic control data.
- Crop** - A plant which is harvested for use by people or livestock.
- Crop Dusting** - Spreading insecticides, fungicides, herbicides in the form of powder or spray from a helicopter, airplane, or tractor-mounted duster.
- Crop Insurance** - Farmers select from various types of insurance policies to partially protect their income. One common type of policy helps minimize losses due to natural causes such a drought, excessive moisture, hail, wind, frost, insects, and disease. The farmer selects the amount of average yield to insure (usually 50 to 75%) and can select the percent of the predicted price he or she wants to insure (usually 55 to 100% of the crop price established annually by the Risk Management Agency). If the harvest is less than the yield insured, the farmer is paid an indemnity which is calculated by multiplying the yield difference by the insured percentage of the price selected when the insurance was purchased.
- Crop Reporter** - A person, usually a farmer or rancher, who completes a report to NASS on various agricultural or environmental questions. Questions include estimating the crop outlook or its percentage of normal, number of sows farrowing, number of cattle for market, acres of crops, etc. for the farming operation or locality.
- Crop Residue** - That part of a plant left in the field after harvest or abandonment; leaves, stubble, roots, straw, etc.
- Crop Rotation** - The growing of different crops in a repeating sequence on the same land.
- Crop Surplus** - See "Carryover."
- Crop Termination** - Ending the growing season after harvest by removing fruit or nuts (mummies, etc.) which remain on trees or vines.
- Crop Turn** - [Floriculture] When the same growing area is used to grow more than one crop. This is the same as refilling.
- Crop Year** - The year in which a crop is harvested.

Terms And Definitions

- Cropland** - Land which can produce a crop for harvest (pasture and timber are not considered crops). Cropland includes land cropped, idle land suitable for cropping, land in orchards, etc. Do not include woodland, marshes, or land suitable only for pasture.
- Cropland Harvested** - See "Harvested Cropland".
- Cropping System** - Cropping patterns and the interaction with available technology, farm resources, and other farm enterprises.
- Cross Pollination** - The condition in which pollen from one plant is used to fertilize a flower on a different plant.
- Crossbred** - Offspring produced from the mating of purebreds of the same species but different breeds.
- Crustaceans** - Shellfish including crabs, lobsters, shrimp, prawns, crawfish, crayfish, clams, and other similar marine creatures.
- Crutchings** - See "Tags."
- Cud** - The rechewing of coarse feed particles in ruminants. Feed is chewed well enough to be swallowed; later, the feed is regurgitated to be rechewed.
- Cull** - [Livestock] An animal taken out of the herd/flock because it is below herd/flock standards. [Crops] Fruit or vegetables not meeting the commercial marketing standards.
- Cultivate** - To loosen the soil and remove weeds among growing plants.
- Cure** - To preserve a product by drying, smoking, pickling, etc., such as hay, meat, or tobacco.
- Curing Barn** - See "Tobacco Barn."
- Custom Blend** - Mixing of fertilizer materials to meet specific requirements of a crop in a field.
- Custom Feedlot** - A firm engaged in fattening or finishing animals on a fee basis. The firm does not hold title to the animals.
- Custom Work** - Agricultural work performed by men and machines which is hired. Machine and machine operator are hired as a unit.
- Cut Cultivated Greens** - Leatherleaf ferns and other cultivated greens used in arrangement of flowers. Excludes greens grown in the wild.
- Cut Flowers** - Standard and pompon gladioli, chrysanthemums, hybrid tea and sweetheart roses, standard and miniature carnations, and all other flowers that have been removed from a growing plant. (Examples: Aster, Daffodil, Daisies, Freesia, Gardenia, Gypsophila, Iris, Snapdragon, Statice, Tulips, Violets, Zinnia.)
- Cwt.** - Hundredweight or 100 pounds.
- Dairy** - Businesses related to the production, processing, or distribution of milk and its products. More specifically, can refer to a plant in which milk is processed and where dairy products are manufactured and sold.
- Dairy Cattle** - Cattle kept specifically for the production of milk used for sale or home use.
- Dairy Herd Improvement Association (DHIA)**
A cooperative organization of approximately 25 or more farmers. Its purpose is the testing of dairy cows for milk and fat production and recording feed consumed.
- Damping-Off** - Any of several fungous diseases which attack and cause rotting of seedlings and cuttings, eventually killing the young plant.
- Data Collection** - The process of completing interviews or field counts, or otherwise accounting for (refusal, inaccessible, out-of-business) all selected sample units in a survey.
- DCP Program** - Direct and Counter-cyclical Program. The DCP provides payments to eligible producers on farms enrolled for the 2002 through 2007 crop years. There are two types of DCP payments - direct payments and counter-cyclical payments. Both are computed using the base acres and payment yields established for the farm.
- Dealer** - A person or firm buying commodities for speculative purposes. The commodities are for immediate resale and usually held for only a short time. Dealer takes title to the commodity.

Terms And Definitions

- Debeaking** - A process using an electrically heated blade to burn off a part of the upper beak of chickens or turkeys. This prevents pecking, cannibalism, and egg eating among fowls.
- Debt-Asset Ratio** - A ratio describing the extent to which the farm's assets have been borrowed against; that is the total debt outstanding on a specific date, divided by the farmer's current market value of owned assets of the farm business. See "Financial Health."
- Deferred Grazing** - Method of grazing rangelands where only parts of an area are used at any one time permitting the vegetation to recover and the forage condition to improve.
- Defoliant** - A chemical agent that causes the leaves to drop from a plant causing the crop to dry sooner to facilitate harvesting.
- Degradable** - A substance that will gradually break down under the right conditions.
- Degree Days** - See "Growing Degree Day Units."
- Degreening** - Removal of the green coloring from fully mature fruit. Ethylene gas is normally used.
- Dehorn** - To remove the horns of livestock by cutting, burning, or applying an acid paste to the horn area. The method used depends on the stage of horn development.
- Delayed Pricing Contracts** - A procedure where the farmer agrees to deliver a commodity at harvest while the price is determined at later date, sometimes months later. Since the farmer gives up ownership, this differs from the storing of the commodity for sale at a later date.
- Delinting** - The process of separating the very short fibers remaining on the seed after the longer fibers have been removed in the ginning process.
- Denier** - A metric system of measuring fibers. It is the weight in grams of 9,000 meters of the fiber.
- Denim** - A relatively heavy, yarn, dyed, twill fabric traditionally made of cotton with colored warp yarns and undyed fill yarns. Mostly used to make trousers.
- Dent** - A stage in the development of corn where the exposed top of the kernel develops a dimple or dented impression. This stage signifies the corn seed is mature and has begun the natural drying stage. The corn is ripe and ready for harvest when the moisture content gets low enough for safe storage,.
- Depreciation** - An annual business cost equal to a portion of the original cost of capital assets, such as buildings and equipment, representing the loss in value of these items due to wear, tear, and obsolescence.
- Desiccant** - See "Defoliant."
- Detassel** - To remove the tassel from a corn plant and prevent undesired pollination. This is done in commercial production of hybrid seed corn.
- Dew Point** - The temperature at which a mixture of air and water vapor will reach 100% relative humidity or at which condensation will begin.
- DHIA** - Acronym for Dairy Herd Improvement Association. A cooperative of farmers who monthly measure their dairy cows' milk production and tests each cow's milk for protein and fat content.
- Diammonium Phosphate** - A common chemical fertilizer having the fertilizer analysis of 18-46-0.
- Digestion** - The breakdown of food to simpler nutrients, which can be easily absorbed by the bloodstream.
- Dihybrids** - The kits resulting from the crossing of two mutation mink.
- Dilute** - To make less concentrated by adding water, another liquid, or a solid.
- Dip** - Complete or partial immersion of a plant, animal or object in a pesticide.
- Direct Payments** - Provides participating farmers with a predetermined payment each year.
- Direct Sales** - The sale of fruit and vegetable commodities by a farmer directly to the consumer; crops to the processor or feeder; livestock to local slaughter plants.

Terms And Definitions

- Directed Spray Application** - One in which a herbicide is directed specifically at target weeds in an effort to minimize contact with the crop.
- Disappearance** - U.S. textile mill raw fiber consumption plus raw fiber exports.
- Disaster Payment** - Federal aid provided to farmers for crops and/or livestock feed when planting is prevented, or crop yields are abnormally low because of adverse weather and related conditions. Starting in 1982, disaster payments, as a rule, were available only to those producers who had no access to Federal crop insurance.
- Discount** - [Buyer] A deduction from an original price or debt, allowed for paying promptly or in cash. [Seller] A deduction from the market price for poor quality or less than market standard commodities.
- Disease** - Any morbid condition that impairs the full productive potential of a plant or animal.
- Disk** - An implement composed of circular plates set at an angle with the line of pull. Used to prepare soil for seeding.
- Dispersing Agent** - An additive that reduces the attraction between particles.
- Distress Sale** - An owner's involuntary transfer of property involving a legal attachment proceeding or in anticipation of such proceeding, such as foreclosure, bankruptcy, or condemnation.
- Dockage** - Foreign material in marketable grain which is easily removed by normal cleaning methods.
- Docking** - The removal of an animal's tail a short distance from the body of the animal; cutting off most of the solid part of the tail.
- Doe** - Female goat or rabbit.
- Dogie** - A stray or motherless calf; an orphan.
- Dolomitic Lime** - Limestone (calcium carbonate) which also contains levels of natural magnesium.
- Domestic Consumption** - U.S. textile mill raw fiber consumption plus raw fiber equivalent of imported textiles, less raw fiber equivalent of exported textiles.
- Dormancy** - A state of suspended growth or the lack of outward visible activity caused by environmental or internal factors.
- Double Crop** - The growing of two crops for harvest in one year from the same field.
- Dough** - The stage in the development of a cereal grain in which the inside of the kernel has a consistency like dough.
- Drench** - [Crops] Saturating the soil with a pesticide. [Fruit] Application of a chemical by wetting the fruit usually before entering the packinghouse; usually applied with a coarse spray of water with or without an added chemical. [Livestock] Oral administration of a pesticide to an animal.
- Dressed Fish** - Fish which have undergone some type of processing, such as viscera removal or head removal, etc.
- Dressed Weight** - The weight of an animal carcass after slaughter but before cutting into retail cuts.
- Dressing Percent** - The percentage which the dressed weight is of the live weight. $\text{Dressed weight/Liveweight} = \text{Dressing Percent}$
- Drifting** - [Pesticides] The carrying of spray or dust by wind from the intended area when spraying weeds or insects. [Bees] The moving of bees from one hive to another because of loss of direction caused by wind or other circumstances.
- Drill** - An implement for planting seeds which forms a small furrow, deposits the seed, covers the seed, and packs soil over it. It can also deposit fertilizer, insecticides, or other soil preparations into the soil, alone or with the seed.
- Drilled** - Designating those seeds or crops which have been planted below the soil surface in rows by means of a drill or seeder.

Terms And Definitions

- Drip** - [Irrigation] The application of small quantities of water, usually daily, directly to the root zone through various types of systems. [Chemical] Placement of a perforated traverse bar over a crop to allow a solution to pass through and wet the commodity.
- Drone** - The male bee hatched from an unfertilized egg. It is larger than workers, gathers no honey, and has no sting.
- Drop** - Each place a vehicle stops to unload cargo.
- Drop Code** - Refers to the list sampling frame Record Status (RS) codes 1 - 50. Each code is assigned a specific meaning (RS=01 is deceased, RS=02 is retired, etc.).
- Drop Nozzle Application** - A directed spray application using drop extensions.
- Drop Tubes** - Tubes attached to and which hang from the main water supply line on a center pivot, with special low-pressure emitters attached to the end of the drop tube.
- Drowned-Out Area** - An area in a field where repeated or prolonged ponding or flooding has occurred to the extent that the planted crop has been killed or damaged so badly that it will not yield a harvestable crop in that area.
- Drumming** - Cleaning of mink pelts in cylinder or drum, usually with fine sawdust or chemicals.
- Dry Cow** - A cow which has ceased to give milk from one lactation and is probably within 60 days of calving and beginning another lactation.
- Dryer, Batch** - Facilities outside of a bin into which a batch of wet grain is added and dried. The batch dryer is then emptied and another batch is added. These dryers are used almost exclusively with high temperature drying but may also be used for cooling.
- Dryer, Bin** - Facilities attached to a grain bin which dry grain added to the bin. Bin dryers are commonly used with both high and low temperature drying as well as aeration.
- Dryer, Continuous Flow** - Facilities outside a bin in which wet grain is continuously added at the top and is dried as it moves down through the facility. These dryers are used almost exclusively for high temperature drying although they may have stages where the grain is cooled.
- Drying, Aeration** - Removal of moisture by blowing air through the grain; involves no heating.
- Drying, High Temperature** - Removal of moisture by blowing air heated 100 - 200 degrees through the grain. If the air blown through the grain is heated to 25 or more degrees above the temperature around the dryer, the drying method is considered high temperature.
- Drying, Low Temperature** - The use of fans to blow air (heated to 5 - 10 degrees higher than the temperature around the dryer) through the grain.
- Dryland Farming** - A system of producing crops in semiarid regions usually with less than 20 inches of annual rainfall without the use of irrigation. In alternate years, part of the land may lie fallow to conserve moisture.
- Dual Breeds** - Breeds of livestock which may be used for more than one purpose; dairy and beef in cattle, wool and mutton in sheep, etc., depending on the production situation.
- Dual Utilization** - When two or more different crops are grown or two different uses are made of the same crop in one growing season. The term has a broader definition than double crop. For example, fall planted cover crops are included as a form of dual utilization but are not considered as double cropping.
- Dubbing** - The process of cutting the combs and wattles from cockerels when they are 12 to 18 weeks old to prevent injury from freezing or from fighting.
- Due Date** - [Enumerators] The date assigned

Terms And Definitions

- materials must be received in the State office. [State office] The date assigned materials must be received in Headquarters.
- Duplicate** - Two or more name and address records which represent the same person(s) or the same operation(s). After mailout of questionnaires, the term describes two or more reports that represent the same operation.
- Durable Press** - Performance characteristics of treated textile products, mostly apparel. Referred to as "permanent press" or "wash and wear."
- Dwelling** - Any house, apartment, mobile home, trailer, or other housing accommodation if occupied or suitable for housing, if unoccupied.
- Durum Wheat** - Wheat grown primarily in North Dakota, with Montana, South Dakota, and Minnesota being the other leading states. Durum wheat has the hardest kernel of all wheats and is used to make semolina, which is used to make macaroni, spaghetti, and other pasta products.
- Dysentery** - Any of the various intestinal diseases characterized by chronic diarrhea.
- Ear Notching** - Making notches in animals' ears for identification.
- Ear Tag** - Metal or plastic device attached to an animal's ear for identification or to control flies.
- Earlage** - Ears of corn (kernels and cob) chopped into small pieces and made into silage. Used mainly as a high energy feed for cattle.
- Ecology** - Study of an organism's interrelationship with one another and their environment.
- Economic Research Service (ERS)** - A USDA agency that is an important user of NASS data. ERS studies various topics related to agriculture and issues research publications and commodity outlook and situation reports.
- Ecosystem** - The natural interaction of all components in the environment, including all levels of plants, animals and microorganisms.
- Editing** - Reviewing entries for reasonableness and validity completed questionnaires. Unusual but correct responses should be flagged and explained with notes indicating it was verified with the respondent. With impossible data relationships, probe for the correct responses.
- Effective Price** - The direct payment rate for a commodity plus the higher of that commodity's national average loan rate or the U.S. season average price received by producers.
- Effluent** - Sewage after purification treatment.
- Egg** - [Livestock and Plants] The reproductive body produced by a female which after fertilization develops into the embryo. [Poultry] The oval reproductive body enclosed in a shell that when fertilized, the young develop. Eggs for human consumption are usually not fertilized.
- Egg-Feed Ratio** - Number of pounds of poultry ration equal in value to 1 dozen eggs; that is, the price of 1 dozen eggs divided by the price of a pound of poultry feed.
- EIN** - Employer Identification Number.
- Elevator** - [Grain] A business which buys grain from the farmers, and has facilities for the handling and storage of grains, dried beans, and other seed crops. [Implements] A device to move grain, hay, feed, or other commodities by belt, chain, bucket, etc. in a vertical or horizontal direction or any variation thereof.
- Embargo** - A governmental trade restriction suspending shipment of a country's commodities to another for political or economic reasons.
- Embryo** - [Livestock] Very earliest stage of individual development, during first part of pregnancy. [Poultry] Developing of the individual within the egg. [Plant] A young, viable plant seed which will grow when exposed to the proper conditions for germination.

Terms And Definitions

- End** - A warp yarn or thread running lengthwise or vertically in the fabric. Ends interlace at right angles with filling yarn (picks) to make woven fabric.
- End Gun** - A large sprinkler gun attached at the end of a center pivot system which allows the irrigation system to irrigate additional acres.
- End-use** - The final product form of a commodity for consumption, including food, apparel, household products, and industrial items.
- Enhanced List Maintenance System (ELMO)**
The system designed to update, add to, and retrieve names, addresses, phone numbers, SSN and EIN from the Name & Address Master.
- Ensilage** - See "Silage."
- Enumerator** - A person trained to conduct interviews or make field counts and record the information gathered in the interviews or counts.
- Environmental Impact** - Changes in the environment, positive or negative, created or caused by some form of management.
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** - A federal agency established to coordinate effective governmental action on the part of the environment. It sets regulations for industry and consumers in the proper disposal of waste to prevent general contamination.
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)** - A program providing cost-share, technical, and educational assistance and incentive payment to crop and livestock producers in implementing structural and management practices to protect soil and water resources. EQIP contracts are for agricultural land that poses a serious problem to soil, water, or related resources. The program establishes 5- to 10-year contracts to provide technical assistance and pay up to 75 percent of the costs of conservation practices such as manure management systems, pest management, and erosion control.
- Equity** - The probable balance remaining after the selling of assets and paying off existing debt. It is a measure of net worth calculated as total operator assets minus operator debt outstanding.
- Erosion** - The loosening and movement of soil particles by wind and/or water.
- Estate** - The holdings and possessions of a person upon the death or certified incompetency of the individual. It is normally short lived. Land in estate must be listed as managed land or as land owned by the estate, serving as landlord, with the land being operated by someone else.
- Estate Sale** - The sale of property to settle an estate.
- Estimate** - An approximate measure of the actual quantity of an item, usually calculated from sample data.
- Ethanol** - A fuel produced by converting crops such as corn, sugarcane, or wood into alcohol sugar. It may be blended with gasoline to enhance octane, reduce exhaust pollution, and reduce reliance on petroleum fuels. See "Gasohol."
- Evapotranspiration** - The loss of soil moisture to the atmosphere by plant transpiration and evaporation from the soil surface.
- Eviscerate** - To remove the lungs, heart, stomach, etc., from a fowl or animal when preparing the carcass for human consumption.
- Ewe** - Female sheep.
- Exclusive Use** - A term used to describe grazing land that is used by only one operator at a time.
- Expenditure** - The cost incurred by purchasing a commodity or service, including cost of the item, sales tax, excise tax, shipment or delivery charges, finance charges, and installation charge.
- Expenses, Capital** - Expenses for additions to the capital assets used in production activities. These items are usually depreciated.
- Expenses, Operating** - Total expenses incurred by the operation during a year associated with the production of gross income.

Terms And Definitions

- Exports** - The goods and products which are sold to buyers in foreign countries.
- Extension Service (ES)** - USDA's educational agency. One of the three partners in the Cooperative Extension Service with State and local governments. All three share in financing, planning, and conducting education programs.
- Extractor** - A machine that rotates honeycombs at a speed sufficient to remove the honey from the comb.
- Extra Long Staple Cotton (ELS)** - Cottons having a staple length of $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches or more, according to the classification used by the ICAC. Also characterized by fineness and high fiber strength, contributing to finer and stronger yarns, needed for certain end-uses such as thread and higher valued fabrics. U.S. growths include American Pima and, formerly, Sea Island cotton.
- Extreme Operator (EO)** - A group of the largest operators in the State based on the number of cattle, dairy cows, hogs, sheep, grain storage facilities, or cropland acres they operate.
- Fabric** - See "Cloth."
- Face** - The side of a fabric which, by reason of weave, finish, or other characteristic, presents a better appearance than the other side, or back.
- Fallow** - Cropland left uncropped during one growing season to conserve moisture in the soil, control weeds and allow the decomposition of crop residue.
- Family Farm** - A farm where the operator and his/her family make most of the day-to-day management decisions, supply the equity capital, and a significant part of the labor needs.
- Family Living Index** - An index to measure price changes for food, clothing, health and medical care, entertainment, and household furnishings, relative to a base period.
- Family Sale** - The sale of property between related persons.
- Fan-and-Pad Cooling** - A cooling device where air is pulled through wet pads by fans. Large quantities of heat are absorbed as water evaporates.
- Fanning Mill** - A seed cleaner where screens and air flow separate weed seed and foreign material from seed.
- Farm** - Any place which produced and sold or normally would have produced or sold \$1,000 worth of agricultural products during the year.
- Farm Bureau** - See "American Farm Bureau."
- Farm, Contract** - A farm which has land that is considered eligible for the program and the owner or producer chose to enroll all or a portion of the eligible land in the program.
- Farm Credit Bank (FCB)** - Lending institutions created to provide a source of funds as well as supervision and support to Federal Land Bank Associations (FLBA), Production Credit Associations (PCA), Agricultural Credit Associations (ACA), and Federal Land Credit Associations (FLCA). FLBAs make long-term mortgage loans for land and other purchases, PCAs make short and intermediate-term operating loans, ACAs make and participate in long-term real estate mortgage loans, and FLCAs are associations to which direct long-term real estate lending authority has been transferred.
- Farm Credit Service (FCS)** - The name used by FLBAs, PCAs, ACAs and FLCAs when operating under joint management in a district. See "Farm Credit Bank."
- Farm Credit System (FCS)** - A nationwide network of farmer-owned lending institutions and specialized service organizations providing loans to the agriculture sector. It provides about one-third of the total credit used by America's farmers, ranchers and farmer cooperatives. The Farm Credit Bank is the portion of the System dealing most directly with the farmers.
- Farmers Home Administration (FHA)** - An agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture that can provide loans to farmers.

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Farm, Noncontract - A farm which, even if it was considered eligible for the program, the owner or producer chose not to enroll in the program.

Farm Parcel - One of the property classes that include farms, ranches, farmstead, and land associated with agriculture, such as woodland, idle land, and waste land. Exclude residential, commercial, and industrial developments.

Farm Price - The price a farmer receives for his products at the farm.

Farm Service Agency (FSA) - An Agency of the USDA which administers farm commodity and conservation programs for farmers and makes loans. FSA programs are primarily directed at agricultural producers or, in the case of loans, at those with farming experience.

Farmer - See "Operator."

Farmer Owned Reserve - Government program designed to provide protection against wheat and feed grain production shortfalls and provide a buffer against unusually sharp price movements. Farmers place their grain in storage and receive extended nonrecourse loans for 3 years, with extensions as warranted by market conditions. Interest on the loan may be waived, and farmers may receive annual storage payments from the Government. Grain cannot be taken out of storage without penalty unless the market price reaches a specified release price. When the release price is reached, grain may be removed from the reserve but it is not required.

Farmstead - That part of the farm consisting of the main set of buildings, adjacent yards or corrals, family garden, and family orchard.

Farrowing - The process of giving birth in hogs.

Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform (FAIR) Act - A farm act that removed the link between income support payments and farm prices by providing for seven annual fixed but

declining production flexibility contract payments. Participating producers received payments largely independent of farm prices, in contrast to the past when deficiency payments were dependent on farm prices.

Federal Crop Insurance - A voluntary risk management tool for farmers to protect them from the economic effects of unavoidable adverse natural events. Administrative costs are appropriated by the Congress and 30 percent of the insurance costs are federally subsidized.

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) - A wholly owned Federal corporation within USDA that administers the Federal Crop Insurance Program.

Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) - A USDA agency that establishes official U.S. standards for grain and other assigned commodities and administers a nationwide inspection system to certify those grades.

Federal Land Bank Association (FLBA) - See "Farm Credit Bank and Farm Credit Service".

Feed - The diet provided to livestock or poultry.

Feed Additive - Anything added to a feed or ration to increase its efficiency or to give it more desirable characteristics.

Feed Concentrate - Feed component high in energy or protein and low in fiber content. Can be fed straight or mixed with grains.

Feed Grain - Any of several grains commonly used for livestock or poultry feed, such as corn, sorghum, oats and barley.

Feed Supplement - A feed, such as many of the high protein or vitamin feeds, that is used to balance or improve existing rations.

Feeder - [Livestock] Young livestock on grass and/or a warm-up or maintenance ration until being put on feed for slaughter market or being selected as replacement stock. [Farmer] A farm operator who fattens livestock for sale.

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- Feeder Pig** - A young pig, usually recently weaned and at least 8 weeks old or 40-100 pounds in weight, to be fed for slaughter.
- Feedlot** - The confined area where animals are fed.
- Fence** - To enclose an area. Some common fencing materials are wire with a small electrical charge, boards, barbed wire, etc., fastened to posts.
- Fertigation** - Application of fertilizer(s) to a crop through irrigation.
- Fertilization** - [Soil] Adding nutrients to soil or plants for use by plants. [Reproduction] The union of egg and sperm in livestock or male and female cells in plants.
- Fertilizer** - Any material put on or in the soil or on plant leaves to improve the quality or quantity of plant growth. See "Micro-nutrient," "Nitrogen," "Phosphate," "Potash," and "Trace Element."
- Fertilizer Analysis** - The percentage of nitrogen, phosphate, and potash (N, P₂O₅, K₂O), specified in that order, contained in a blend of fertilizer. Fertilizer may also be blended with various micronutrients or trace elements.
- Fetus** - Stage of individual development within the uterus during pregnancy.
- FFA (Future Farms of America)** - An organization comprised of high-school students enrolled in the study of vocational agriculture.
- Fiber** - A slender strand of natural or manmade material usually having a length at least 100 times its diameter and characterized by strength, flexibility, and cohesiveness.
- Fiber Crop** - A crop grown for its fiber content, e.g., cotton, flax, sisal, etc.
- Field** - A continuous area of land devoted to one crop or land use. Farmstead, pastureland, woods, wasteland, etc. are considered fields.
- Field Bee** - Worker bee 2 weeks old and older that collects food for the hive.
- Field Run** - Designating products (potatoes, onions, etc.) harvested in the field and ungraded as to size and quality.
- Field Sanitation** - Removal of dead fruit, limbs, debris and other potential pest or disease attracting materials from the fields to reduce the pest/disease risk.
- Fieldwork** - Any work performed on farms or ranches, including nurseries and greenhouses, for the purpose of planting, cultivating, growing, harvesting, drying, processing, or packing any fruits, vegetables or other crop. Supervising others or operating machines engaged in these activities is also included.
- Filament** - An individual strand of fiber indefinite in length. Manmade fibers are indefinite in length. Silk is the only natural filament fiber and may run several hundred yards in length.
- Filling** - An individual yarn which interlaces with warp yarn at right angles in woven fabric. Also known as pick or filling pick. Usually has less twist than warp yarn.
- Filly** - A young female horse or mule under four years of age.
- Financial Health** - Income and solvency measures classify farm businesses into one of four categories; (1) favorable: Positive income, debt-asset ratio less than 0.40. These farms are in good financial positions and are considered financially stable. (2) marginal income: Negative income, debt-asset ratio less than 0.40. These farms generally face an income problem. (3) marginal solvency: Positive income, debt-asset ratio above 0.40. These farms are generating positive returns, despite higher debt repayment requirements, and (4) vulnerable: Negative income, debt-asset ratio above 0.40. These farms are highly leveraged and have income deficiencies limiting their viability.
- Fingerling** - Fish usually from 2 to 6 inches long.
- Finish** - [Livestock] Refers to fatness in animals; highly finished is very fat. [Floriculture] Plants ready for retail sale.
- Finishing** - Those processes through which a fabric passes after being taken from the loom, such as bleaching, dyeing, lacquering, waterproofing, sizing, and removing defects.
- Finished Plants** - Plants ready for retail sale.

Terms And Definitions

FIPS (Federal Information Processing

Standard) - Is a numeric system of coding states and counties. States are arranged in alphabetical order and then assigned a number - Alabama is 01 and Wyoming is 56. Counties within a state are numbered in the same manner.

Fire Blight - A major disease of pears and apples.

Fire Cured - A method of curing tobacco leaves by using open fires in the tobacco barn. The leaves are exposed to the fire's smoke while drying.

Fired - The condition of a plant's lower stem or stalk, often used to describe the impact of dry or drought conditions on a crop.

Fiscal Policy - Policy made by executive branch and Congress dealing with the amount of money expended and the amount of revenue raised by the federal government.

Flat - A shallow box containing soil where seeds are sown or seedlings are transplanted.

Fleece - Natural hair shorn from sheep or lambs.

Fleece Weight - Pounds of wool shorn from a single sheep or lamb, usually 7-12 pounds for sheep and 3-6 pounds for lambs.

Flexibility Contract - A commodity program that provides income support to participating farmers over the next seven years. To be eligible, farmers had to have: a crop acreage base at the FSA office, and been a participant in a farm commodity program for at least 1 of the previous 3 years, or have land that was enrolled in CRP. Participating farm operators must continue to comply with conservation provisions related to highly erodible land and wetlands preservation to receive contract payments. Farmers have few, if any, restrictions on what crops they can plant on land enrolled in the program. The distribution of payments to individual farmers depends on how many operators participate and the number of contract acres each has in

the program. This program offers a boost to cash-flow over the seven-year program but ends in 2002.

Flexibility Contract, 7-Year Production - To participate, producers with eligible cropland must have signed a production flexibility contract. They must continue to comply with the requirements of conservation and wetland protection on all farms, comply with planting flexibility, and use the contract acreage for an agricultural or related activity. If in compliance over the next 7 years, annual contract payments will be received. Producers are also eligible to receive marketing assistance loans on all production of contract commodities on the farm with a production flexibility contract, even if produced on noncontract acres. All producers are eligible for loans on extra-long staple (ELS) cotton and oilseeds on any production.

Flock - Several birds or domestic mammals, such as sheep, which are tended as a unit.

Flood Plain - An area that floods during heavy rains or snow melt from surface water runoff.

Floriculture - The production, cultivation and distribution of cut flowers, flowering potted plants, foliage plants, and bedding plants being grown as ornamentals.

Flour - The fine-ground product obtained in the commercial milling of wheat.

Flower - The structure of plants involved in the sexual reproduction process.

Flue Cured - A method of curing tobacco leaves in which tobacco barns are heated through ducts or flues. The tobacco leaves are not exposed to smoke while drying.

Fluid Milk - The fluid product of a dairy farm or factory in contrast with the more solid products, such as cream, cheese, and butter.

Terms And Definitions

- Flushing** - The process of increasing feed fed to female animals about two weeks before the breeding season so they will be gaining weight when bred. This is thought to increase the number of eggs produced in ovulation.
- Foal** - A young horse, mule or donkey (colt or filly), also, to give birth to a foal.
- Foam** - Application of a chemical by using a plastic curtain to wet fruit.
- F.O.B.** - Abbreviation for free on board.
- F.O.B. Origin** - A business agreement where the producer or handler is responsible for assembling and loading the cargo onto transportation that has been arranged and paid for by the receiver. The receiver takes title to the goods at the point of origin as they are loaded for transport.
- Fodder** - Feed for livestock, specifically the dry, cured stalks and leaves of corn and sorghum. In the case of corn, the ears may be removed from the stalk before harvesting.
- Foliar Application** - Application of a pesticide to the aerial portions of either a crop or weed.
- Foliar Fertilization** - The practice of applying plant nutrients in solutions to the foliage of crops.
- Follow-On Survey(s)** - Survey(s) of a sample of farm operations in-scope for the census of agriculture or a base agriculture survey, that are conducted after completion of the main census or base survey.
- Follow-up** - Action to obtain a response from nonrespondents by mailing a letter, card or form or by telephoning.
- Food Chamber** - Hive body containing honey-filled combs on which bees are expected to live.
- FDA** - Acronym for Food and Drug Administration.
- Food Grain** - Cereal seeds most commonly used for human food, chiefly wheat and rice.
- Food-Size Fish** - Fish grown commercially for food, from pound upward and over 12 inches in length.
- For Hire Fleet** - Trucking company with fleets of vehicles and drivers, which are not normally driven by the owners, and are available for hire.
- Forage** - Grasses, legumes, and other crops used as feed for livestock, such as hay, pasture, silage, or green chop.
- Foraging** - [Bee & Honey] The process of searching for and collecting nectar, pollen, water, and propolis by worker bees.
- Forced Molt** - Hens forced into the molting process through drastic changes in feeding and lighting.
- Forcing** - [Floriculture] Producing a marketable pot plant or cut flower out of season by manipulation of growing conditions.
- Forecast** - An estimate of probable final production outcome, based on current conditions and the assumption that normal growth and harvesting conditions will prevail from the time of forecast through harvest.
- Form 483-S** - IRS form for reporting rental income and expenses.
- Form 941** - Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return for Other Than Household or Agriculture Employees (IRS).
- Form 943** - Employer's Annual Tax Return for Agricultural Employees (IRS).
- Form 990-C** - IRS form used by tax exempt cooperatives.
- Form 1040-C** - Profit (or Loss) from Business or Profession (IRS). (Attachment to Form 1040, Individual Income Tax Return, farm operators excluded).
- Form 1040-E** - IRS form for reporting income from pensions, annuities, rents, royalties, estates and trusts.
- Form 1040-F** - Schedule of farm income and expenses (IRS) (attachment to form 1040).
- Form 1065** - Partnership Return of Income (IRS).
- Form 1120** - Corporation Income Tax Return (IRS).
- Form 1120-S** - Small Business Corporation Income Tax Return (IRS).

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- Forward Contract** - Selling and pricing procedure where the price received by the farmer is determined at the time the contract is made, with delivery to be made at a specified later date.
- Forward Pricing** - Contracting or agreeing with an input provider to purchase a given quantity of supplies at a given price.
- Fossil Fuel** - Energy derived from decomposed plants and animals of a prehistoric era.
- Foundation Seed** - Seed stock handled to maintain specific genetic identity and purity as closely as possible under supervised or approved methods of production.
- Frame** - [Bee & Honey] Wood case for holding a honeycomb. [Objective Yield] A device used to aid in laying out count units for certain objective yield surveys. Design and size of the frame vary for each crop. [Sampling] See "Sampling Frame."
- Freemartin** - A sexually imperfect female calf, normally sterile, born as the twin of a male.
- Free-of-charge** - An arrangement where a producer may use a resource owned by someone else and not have to pay for its use.
- Free On Board (FOB)** - Used in quoting prices of goods at a certain location. Prices do not include transportation costs.
- Fresh Market** - Designating fresh produce as opposed to canned, dried, or preserved produce.
- Freshen** - See "Calving."
- Fringe Benefits** - Employer provided cash payments for any such items as health insurance, life insurance, holiday pay, vacation pay, sick leave, time-off with pay, employer's share of Social Security, Workers' Compensation, and Medicare, pensions, and retirement plans.
- Frost Heaving** - Physical uplifting of the soil as a result of frequent freezing and thawing. It can be very harmful because of uprooting of stands of tap rooted plants such as alfalfa.
- Frost Injury** - Any injury to a plant which results from low temperatures after plants have started into spring growth, during a period of vegetative activity, or before the plant has matured and entered the period of winter dormancy.
- Fruit** - A mature plant ovary containing seed.
- Fruit-Set** - The process where a fertilized ovule becomes committed to further development, leading to the eventual production of a fruit.
- Fry** - A newly hatched fish up to 2 inches in length.
- FSIS** - Food Safety and Inspection Services.
- Full Feed** - Cattle receiving an equivalent of 10 lbs. of grain or concentrate per day. Cattle could be receiving 8 lbs. of grain and 8 lbs. of hay, silage, etc., and still be considered on full feed. Approximately 4 lbs. of silage or forage equals 1 lb. of grain.
- Full Figured** - Mink pelt in prime condition with guard hairs and underfur well developed.
- Fumigation** - The use of poisonous gases for destruction of pests, mainly rodents and insects. Fumigation can also destroy microorganisms, but may be less effective since not all gases which kill animals, such as rats, are toxic to bacteria or other microorganisms.
- Fungi** - A lower form of parasitic plant life which often reduces production and/or lowers the grade quality of its host.
- Fungicide** - A chemical used to kill fungi.
- Furrow Application** - Placement of an insecticide or fungicide in a narrow line in the soil directly over the seed at planting time.
- Futures Contract** - An agreement between two people, one who sells and agrees to deliver and one who buys and agrees to receive specific kinds and amounts of a particular commodity at a specific time, place and price.
- Futures Market** - The formal marketing system that lets farmers promise to deliver or by commodities at a set price.

Terms And Definitions

- Gallons per Minute** - Measure of water flow-rate. The quantity of water flow (or pumped) during one continuous minute measured in gallon units.
- Galvanized** - Steel or iron coated with zinc to resist corrosion.
- Garden** - A plot of ground devoted to growing of vegetables, flowers, herbs, fruits, etc., for home or family use.
- Gas** - [Fruit] Application of a non-liquid, non-solid chemical to a crop in a ventilation controlled room.
- Gasohol** - Blend of gasoline and ethanol composed of 90 percent gasoline and 10 percent ethanol by volume.
- Gastroenteritis** - A hog disease causing an inflammation of the stomach and the intestine. Symptoms are scours, decreased appetite, weight loss, vomiting and even death.
- Gated Pipe** - A pipe, usually plastic (PVC) or aluminum, that is fitted with spaced, closeable gates or holes that permit the water to flow into furrows or basins.
- GATT** - Acronym for General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, an international organization responsible for reviewing tariffs, subsidies and other practices within a country which may affect free market trade between countries.
- Gauge** - Any of a number of devices designed to measure something, e.g. rain gauge, wire gauge, etc. [Building materials] A measuring standard to specify the thickness of sheet metal, wire, etc. The larger the gauge number, the thinner the material.
- Geld** - An animal made sterile (for example, horse).
- Gelding** - A castrated male horse.
- Genetic Engineering** - One of several "new" biotechnology methods referred to as recombinant DNA. This technique uses enzymes to "cut and paste" DNA molecules, making it possible to move genes from one organism to another, related or unrelated, bypassing the sexual reproduction process.
- Germination** - The sequence of events occurring in a viable seed, starting with the absorption of water, that leads to the growth and development of a young plant.
- Gestation Period** - The time during embryo and fetus development, from conception to birth.
- Gilt** - Female pig that has never farrowed.
- Glean** - To gather the grain, cotton, etc., remaining in the field after harvest.
- Gosling** - A young goose.
- Government Program Land** - Non-government land enrolled in a government program such as the former long-term (10 year) Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Acres in Conservation Reserve (ACR), Conserving Uses (CU), or any other federal land diversion program.
- Grade** - [Livestock] An animal not eligible for registration; however, one or both of its parents may be purebred. [Marketing] Various methods of classifying commodities as defined by industry standards; examples, according to type, use, fineness of fiber, amount of fat, etc.
- Graft** - The jointing of parts of one plant to the root or trunk material of a different plant. Grafting is important in fruit tree and vine production.
- Grain Hay** - Grain crops harvested for dry hay. No grain production will result from these acres. See "Small Grain Hay".
- Grain Stocks** - Any unprocessed whole grains or oilseeds on hand regardless of intended use, even those to be used for feed or seed. Does not include any grains or oilseeds which are cracked, ground, crushed, rolled, flaked, steamed or cooked. Silage and haylage are also excluded.
- Grain Storage Capacity** - Storage capacity of all structures normally used (bins, cribs, sheds, etc.) to store whole grains or oilseeds usually reported in bushels. Excluded are ground storage and structures not normally used to store whole grains or oilseeds.
- Granary** - A storage facility, especially for threshed or husked grain.
- Grange** - A farmer organization.

Terms And Definitions

Granular - A dry formulation of pesticide active ingredients mixed with or coated onto inert carrier material and other components in small particles. The carrier materials may be clays, sand, carbon, or ground corn cobs.

Grassed Waterways - A natural drainage way within a field which is kept in grass to prevent soil erosion. Includes channels used as outlets for terraces and for the disposal of runoff from diversion channels, stabilization structures, contoured rows, and natural depressions.

Grasses - A class of plants, including cereals, sugar cane, turf sods, sorghum, and millet, that are important for human food, domestic animal feed, ornamental use, and soil holding characteristics.

Gray or Greige Fabric - Woven or knitted goods direct from the loom or knitting machine, before receiving any finishing treatment.

Grazing Allotment - The area of rangeland controlled by a public agency which is leased to a rancher on a fee per head or animal unit month (AUM) basis.

Grazing Association - A member owned, operated, and managed nonprofit association of farmers and ranchers, organized to provide shared seasonal grazing for their livestock.

Grazing Fee - The charge on an AUM, cow-calf, or fee per head basis, levied on a farmer or rancher to graze livestock on land in accordance with the terms of a grazing allotment or association.

Grazing Period - A specified time when a farmer or rancher may graze on specific grazing land.

Grazing Permit - A document authorizing the use of public or other lands for grazing purposes under specified conditions which is issued to the livestock operator by a PIGA.

Grazing Land, Public or Industrial - Lands administered through permits or licenses allowing one or more ranchers to graze a

specified number of animal units in a specified area during a certain period of time, from seasonal to year-round. Payment for use of this land is on an AUM or fee per head basis. Land may be controlled by Federal, State or local agencies or owned by corporations, such as paper mills, railroads, or energy companies.

Grazing Land Association, Public or

Industrial (PIGA) - Associations established to administer and enforce the rules and regulations for a specific area of Public or Industrial Grazing Land.

Green Chop - Forage chopped in the field while succulent and green and fed directly to livestock. If allowed to ferment it will turn to silage.

Green Manure - A crop that is grown for soil protection, and then plowed under while still green and growing to improve soil fertility and organic matter.

Greenhouse - Any of several different types of heated, glass or plastic covered rigid framed structures used for the growing of plants.

Greenhouse Effect - The effect of the earth's atmosphere on incoming and outgoing radiation. The atmosphere acts like the glass in a greenhouse in its selective transmission of radiant energy.

Greenweight - Pounds of outdoor tobacco as removed from the barn, after stripping and before sweating. For shade tobacco, as removed from the barn before sweating.

Gross Farm Income - All the income within a calendar year that farm operators realize from farming before deducting production expenses. It includes cash receipts from the sale of farm products, government payments, value of food and fuel produced and consumed on farms where grown, rental value of farm dwellings, and an allowance for change in the value of year-end inventories of crops and livestock.

Gross Value - Value of a commodity after adjusting for discounts and premiums, not including deductions for handling, cleaning (except dry edible beans), storage, grading, drying, etc.

Terms And Definitions

Ground - [Grain] A process where grain is crushed or cracked to enhance the grains' digestibility. [Soil] See "Soil."

Ground Water - All water in and saturating soil.

Grove - An orchard; a small stand of trees.

Growing Degree Day Units (GDU) - A system to relate the cumulative effects of temperature above a given base to plant growth. The base temperature varies with type of crop. Using corn as an example, GDU is calculated by subtracting a base temperature of 50 degrees F. from the average of maximum and minimum temperatures for the day (corn does not grow much at temperatures below 50 degrees F). As the temperature rises, corn grows faster if moisture is plentiful. At a temperature higher than 86 degrees F, the roots have increasing difficulty taking in water fast enough to keep the plant growing at full speed. GDU is calculated by the following equation:

$$\text{GDU} = (\text{Max. temp.} + \text{Min. Temp.}) / 2 - 50$$

Min. temperatures below 50 degrees F are counted as 50, and temperatures above 86 degrees F are counted as 86.

Growing-on - Taking a plant started by another grower/supplier and growing until it is finished.

Growing Season - The period from the last spring freeze to the first killing frost in the fall.

Growth - An irreversible increase in cell size or in the number of cells causing an increase in dry weight.

Growth Hormone - A chemical substance that interacts with the growth process to increase the rate of normal growth.

Growth Regulator - A chemical substance which alters normal growth and development or if deficient, causes abnormal growth.

Gypsum - Calcium sulfate often applied to the soil surface to supply calcium and to correct the alkaline content of soils.

Habitat - Arrangement of food, cover, and water required to meet an animal's biological needs.

Half Section - An area of land or a field that is one half of a surveyed section or 320 acres in size. Also expressed as ½ Section.

Ham - The thigh portion of a hog carcass.

Hammer Mill - A feed grinding device or mill in which hammer-like projections are mounted on the surface of a cylinder which revolves at a high speed within a heavy perforated metal enclosure and shatters the grain material by beating it to pieces. When the grain pieces become small enough from the hammering action, they pass through the perforations and are then used as feed. The fineness of the feed is controlled by the size of the perforations.

Hand - A subjective measurement of the reaction obtained from the sense of touch created when handling a fabric, reflecting the many factors which lend individuality and character to a material.

Hanging Baskets - Flowering and foliage type. Bedding plants that are placed in hanging baskets for indoor or patio decorations.

Hanging Weight - See "Dressed Weight."

Hard Fibers - Comparatively stiff, elongated, woody fibers from the leaves or leaf stems of certain perennial plants. These fibers are generally too coarse and stiff to be woven; used in twine, netting, and ropes. Examples are abaca, sisal, and henequen. See "Soft Fibers".

Hardpan - An impervious layer in soil, which restricts root penetration as well as movement of air and water.

Harvest - To cut, reap, pick, or gather any crop or product of value.

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- Harvest Loss** - The loss of grain or forage as a result of the harvesting process. It is the difference between biological yield and net harvested yield. The condition of the harvesting equipment (design, wear, etc.), the crop (lodged, disease, etc.), the terrain (muddy, hilly, etc.), the weather (dry, rainy, snowy, etc.) and the harvester's or the harvesting equipment's ability to deal with harvesting conditions all affect harvest loss.
- Harvested Acres** - Acres of a crop actually harvested. May be smaller than planted acres if there is abandonment brought on by weather, pest damage, other disasters, or market prices too low to cover harvesting costs. See "Harvested Cropland".
- Harvested Cropland** - Land from which crops were or will be harvested at any time during the year. This also includes any land with fruit, nut trees, vineyards, orchards, citrus groves, and greenhouse crops regardless of whether or not any quantity was harvested (except for abandoned orchards). Includes land in nursery crops and greenhouse area also.
- Hatch** - To bring forth young from the egg by natural or artificial incubation.
- Hatchery** - A facility where eggs are incubated until they hatch.
- Hay** - A crop which has been cut and cured by drying for storage; principally legumes, grasses, or grain crops.
- Hay Mow** - A loft or space in a barn where hay is stored.
- Hay Stocks** - All hay on hand or stored on the total acres operated, regardless of ownership or intended use.
- Haylage** - High moisture hay crop stored as silage.
- Hazard** - The potential adverse effect on man or the environment by the use of a pesticide.
- Head** - [Plants] Any tightly-formed fruit cluster such as a head of wheat, or a compact, orderly mass of leaves such as a head of cabbage or lettuce. [Livestock] Number of animals.
- Head Month** - A month's use and occupancy of range by one animal, except for sheep or goats. A full head month's fee is charged for a month of grazing by adult animals; if the grazing animal is weaned or 6 months of age or older at the time of entering the range; or will become 12 months of age during the permitted period of use. For fee purposes, 5 sheep or goats, weaned or adult, are equivalent to one cow, bull, steer, heifer, horse, or mule.
- Heading Back** - Type of pruning cut in which the terminal portion of the shoot is removed but the basal portion is not.
- Hectare** - A measure of land area (metric) equal to 10,000 square meters or about 2.5 acres.
- Hedge Row** - Trees grown closely together so the branches intertwine to form a continuous row.
- Hedging** - In the futures market, the execution of opposite sales or purchases of contracts to offset purchases or sales of commodities. This practice gives some protection to sellers and buyers of grain against uncertainties that are the result of unstable grain prices.
- Heifer** - Female bovine that has never given birth.
- Hen** - Female chicken usually over one year old.
- Herbicide** - Any chemical used to control, suppress, or kill plants, or to severely interrupt their normal growth processes. Some kill essentially all plants, but others are selective.
- Herbicide Resistant** - Biotech seed varieties which provide the plant resistance to the effects of certain herbicides which would otherwise harm that plant.
- Herbivores** - Animals that feed mainly on plants.
- Herd** - A group of animals (especially cattle, horses, swine), collectively, considered as a unit in farming or grazing practice.
- Hide** - The tanned or untanned skins of animals; especially of cattle, horses, sheep, and goats.
- High Density** - The compression of a flat, modified flat, or gin standard bale of cotton to high

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- density of about 32 pounds per cubic foot. Previously used for exported cotton; currently replaced by universal density compression of about 28 pounds per cubic foot.
- Highgrading** - Logging where only the best or choice trees are taken.
- Highly Erodible (HEL) Land** - Erodibility is a function of rainfall, soil erodibility, field slope, and length. NRCS uses these characteristics and a measure of soil loss tolerance to construct an erodibility index. If the index is greater than 8, the field is highly erodible.
- Hill** - [Crops] Plants growing from one or more seed pieces in close proximity to form a cluster of plants. (potatoes and beans)
- Hilling** - Piling of soil around plants or rows of plants.
- Hired Farm Labor** - The employment of a directly paid worker or workers by the farm operator. Paid members of the operator's family are to be included. Any work which was necessary to the agricultural operation of the place that was paid for in cash. (Personal or business checks are considered cash).
- Hired Manager** - A person who is paid a salary, wage, or commission to operate land for another person, corporation, or other organization. A hired manager is makes the day-to-day decisions on the operation and may supervise others.
- Historical Data** - Data from previous censuses, and surveys. This term applies to published totals as well as data stored internally for individual farm records.
- Hive** - A home for honeybees provided by man; it usually consists of a base, removable supers, and a top.
- Hog Business Entity** - A individual, partnership, or managed operation that owns hogs.
- Hog-Corn Ratio** - See "Corn-Hog Ratio."
- Hog Facilities** - Locations and buildings associated with the hog business entity(ies) used to produce or raise hogs and pigs. Such buildings would be used for breeding, gestating, farrowing, and finishing.
- Hogged Off** - To pasture hogs on a crop grown for stock feed; eliminates the harvesting process.
- Hog Operation Types** -
- 1) Nursery** - A swine facility where weaned pigs are raised until they reach the size of feeder pigs.
 - 2) Farrow-to-Wean** - A swine facility that includes breeding stock and new born pigs that are not yet weaned. The weaned pigs are sold to other producers to raise until they are sold for feeder pigs (see "Nursery") or are raised until they are marketed for slaughter (see "Finish").
 - 3) Farrow-to-Feeder** - A swine facility that includes breeding stock and pigs ranging from newborn to feeder pig size. The feeder pigs are sold to other producers (see "Finish") to raise until they are marketed for slaughter.
 - 4) Farrow-to-Finish** - A swine facility that includes breeding stock and pigs and are raised from birth until sold for slaughter.
 - 5) Finish** - A swine facility that includes market hogs, but not breeding stock, that are fed until they are sold for slaughter.
- Hogshead** - A very large cask or barrel often filled with 1000 to 2000 lbs. of cured tobacco.
- Holding** - Maintaining finished merchandise purchased from other growers until sold to final consumer.
- Homestead Exemption** - An exemption from all or part of the property taxes which are levied on the value of the house and adjoining land where the head of the family lives.
- Homogenization** - A process of breaking up milk fat into tiny particles so that the cream will not separate from the milk.
- Honey** - An aromatic, sweet food material derived from plant nectar through collection by honeybees; modified by the bees into a denser liquid and stored in honeycombs.

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Honey Flow - Period when bees are collecting nectar from plants in plentiful amounts.

Honeybee - See "Bee."

Honeycomb - The waxy structure built by honeybees from beeswax in which honey is stored by bees.

Hormone - Chemical substance produced in the body that has a specific effect on the activity or function of a certain organ. Increased dosages of specific hormones can be given to plants or animals to effect certain growth or development processes.

Horticulture - The intensive cultivation of plants.

Host Free Zone - An area in which the natural habitat for a pest is eradicated such that the pest has no suitable area in which to breed.

Household - The operator, spouse, and all individuals living in the operator's residence who share the financial resources of the farm operator. Include students living away from home who are dependent upon the operator's household for support.

HPLA - Acronym for "Hens and Pullets of Laying Age." See "Layer."

Humus - The advanced stages of organic matter breakdown by microorganisms and chemical reactions in the soil. It is usually a dark color.

Hundredweight - A marketing term referring to 100 pound of a commodity. Abbreviated "cwt."

Husk - The leaves enclosing the ear of a corn plant.

Hutch - A boxlike pen used to shelter livestock.

Hybrid - The offspring from a cross of two genetically dissimilar parents. [Mink] The kits from the mating of a mutation mink with a standard ranch mink.

Hydraulic - A system where fluids, usually oil, under pressure are used as a mechanism to transfer power.

Hydric Soil - Soil that, in its undrained state, is flooded long enough during a growing season to support the growth and

regeneration of vegetation associated with saturated soils.

Hydrocooling - The cooling of fresh produce by flooding the product with cold water.

Hydroponics - The science of growing plants in solutions containing the necessary nutrients and minerals, instead of in soil.

Ice Packed - The packing meat or produce where alternate layers of ice and the commodity are placed in a shipping box or crate.

Idle Land - Farm land that is tillable and capable of producing a crop without major clearing of trees and stones or drainage of water but is not being cropped, pastured, or fallowed.

Implement - Any farm machine used to perform various field operations when raising crops.

Imports - The goods and products that a country buys from foreign countries.

Import Quota - The maximum amount for importing in a specified time period.

Improved Gravity - Improving water runs by compacting or shortening runs, utilizing gated head pipes to prevent seepage, leveling land using laser technology and practicing intensive management techniques to conserve water by uniform application of water to the field.

Improvements - Houses or other buildings, fences, clearing of rocks, wells or other related capital assets that increase land's productivity or value.

Imputation - Systematic estimation for survey nonresponse.

Industrial Fabrics - Fabrics used for nonapparel and nondecorative uses. These uses fall into several classes: (1) a group of fabrics used in industrial processes such as filtering, polishing, and absorption; (2) fabrics combined with other materials to produce a different type of product such as tires, hose, and electrical machinery parts; and (3) fabrics incorporated directly in a finished product such as tarpaulins, tents, and awnings.

In Heat - A period when female mammals will accept mating.

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Inaccessible - A sample unit which cannot be contacted, interviewed, enumerated, etc., during the survey period.

Inbreeding - [Livestock] The mating of closely related individuals, generally including such matings as sire and daughter, or son and dam. [Plants] The self-fertilization for a number of generations to produce a population of similar and highly homozygous individuals.

Income, Off-farm - A figure that includes all income from off farm sources received by farm operator households.

Incorporated - See "Corporation."

Incubator - An apparatus or chamber which provides favorable environmental conditions for the hatching of eggs.

Independent Grower - The grower makes all decisions on growing and marketing farm products. This contrasts with production and marketing agreements entered into by contractors and contractees.

Index Numbers - A computed number measuring the relative change in the price of items included in the specific index from some base period. As an example, a price index for feed items of 250 (based on 1967=100) implies the current aggregated price for the items included in this feed index cost 2½ times as much now, than the same or comparable items did in 1967.

Individual - See "Operating Arrangement, (1) Individual."

Inert Material - The inactive materials added to an active ingredient in fertilizers and pesticides to help its preparation, storage, shipment, or use.

Infection - Invasion of the body by germs or parasites other than insects.

Inoculation - [Disease] To introduce disease producing organisms into plants or animals to influence the production of antibodies. See "Vaccines" and "Vaccination". [Legumes] Introduction of nitrogen fixing bacteria on the seed or into the soil.

Input - Items such as seed, fertilizer, chemicals, feed, machinery, fuel, labor, and land used in the production of an agricultural product.

Input Provider - The company or individual that sells or contributes products used in the production of agricultural commodities.

Input Traits - Plant traits that influence the production practices of a crop. For example, Round-Up ready soybeans allow the operator to apply that chemical to acres intended for soybean production. Prior to this biotech change, this was not possible.

Insecticide - A chemical killer of insect pests.

Institutional Farm - A farm or ranch operated as part of an Indian reservation, religious group, university, government agency, prison, etc.

Institutional Worker - Any farm laborer, director, supervisor, or administrator, etc. employed on an institutional farm.

Integrated Pest Management - The control of one or more pests by a broad spectrum of techniques ranging from biological means to pesticides. The goal is to keep damage below certain economic levels without eliminating the pest completely.

Integrator - See "Contractor".

Intentions - An estimate of probable future action based on current plans reported; i.e. acres to be seeded to corn or sows to be farrowed.

Intercropping - The growing of two or more crops on the same land at the same time. Example: cotton grown in the same field with sorghum such as two rows cotton and two rows sorghum. Also known as interplanting.

International Cotton Advisory Committee

(ICAC) - A worldwide association of governments which assembles, analyzes, and publishes data on world production, consumption, stocks, and prices. ICAC closely monitors developments in the world cotton market and promotes inter-governmental cooperation in developing and maintaining a sound world cotton economy. Headquartered in Washington D.C.

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- International Institute for Cotton (IIC)** - A nonprofit organization of cotton producing countries founded in 1966. Its purpose is to increase world consumption of cotton and cotton products through utilization research, market research, sales promotion, education, and public relations. Headquartered in Brussels, Belgium.
- Interplanting** - Same as intercropping.
- Interview** - Asking questions of someone or taking objective measurements of something representing a selected sample unit, and recording the question responses or the measurements on a questionnaire, form, or into a computer device, such as in CATI or CAPI.
- Irradiation** - Subjecting products to ultra-violet light to increase vitamin D and destroy pests.
- Irrigated Field** - A field watered at least once during the growing season by any artificial or controlled means, such as sprinklers, furrows or ditches, and spreader dikes (including partial, supplemental, and preplant irrigation).
- Irrigation** - Artificial watering of land by surface flooding, sprinkling, or subirrigation methods to stimulate plant production in place of, or in addition to, natural precipitation.
- Irrigation Set** - The area of the field irrigated by an irrigation system as it moves across a field while not ceasing operation.
- Item Code** - A 3 or 4-digit code assigned to a specific crop, livestock, product or question item for keying, editing and tabulation purposes.
- Kernel** - The whole grain of corn, wheat, etc.
- Kid** - A young goat less than one year old.
- Kidding** - The process of giving birth in goats.
- Killing Frost** - A frost or temperature condition sufficiently low to kill staple crops.
- Kiln Dried Lumber** - Lumber dried by artificial heat to a moisture content less than that obtained through natural air seasoning.
- Kilogram** - A measure of weight equal to 1,000 grams or about 2.2 pounds.
- Kit** - A young mink.
- Knitting** - A method of constructing fabric by interlocking a series of loops of one or more yarns. The two major classes of knitting are warp knitting and weft knitting. In warp knitting, yarns run lengthwise in the fabric; in weft knitting, the thread runs back and forth crosswise in a fabric. Warp knit fabrics are flatter, closer, and less elastic than the weft knit. Tricot and Milanese are typical warp knit fabrics, while jersey is a typical weft knit.
- Lactation** - The period in which an animal is producing milk.
- Lactose** - The mildly sweet sugar in milk.
- Lagoon** - A pond used to hold manure or water runoff.
- Lamb** - A young sheep, usually less than 1 year old.
- Lamb Crop** - The number of lambs produced by a given number of ewes, usually expressed as the percent of lambs weaned of ewes bred.
- Lambing** - The process of giving birth in sheep.
- Land Capability** - A measure of the suitability of land for use without damage.
- Land Plaster** - See "Gypsum."
- Landlord** - The owner of land or buildings which are rented to another person for cash, a portion of the crop or livestock, other proceeds, or free.
- Landlord Operator** - A landlord who operates or is a partner in another farm.
- Lard** - The fat rendered from the fatty tissues of hogs at the time of slaughter. It is used as a food product for frying or as shortening.
- Larva** - Stage between egg and pupa in the life cycle of insects.
- Layer** - Hens (including those being molted) or pullets producing eggs. They are usually at least 20 weeks of age. See "HPLA."
- Layering** - A vegetative method of propagating new individuals by producing adventitious roots before the new plant is severed from the parent.
- Leaching** - The downward movement of salts or nutrients through the soil by water; it

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- accounts for nutrient losses but can also be beneficial in ridding a soil of excess salts.
- Legume** - A family of plants with a fruit called a legume or pod. It can convert free nitrogen from the air by means of nitrogen-fixing bacteria contained in nodules on the roots, to build up nitrogen in the soil. Examples of legumes are alfalfa, clovers, peas, peanuts, vetches, soybeans, beans and cowpeas.
- Lepto** - See "Leptospirosis."
- Leptospirosis** - A bacterial infection which may occur in many species of animals including man, but is associated with the hogs. It causes sows in late gestation to abort, farrow dead pigs, or farrow weak, live pigs that die in a short time. It is spread through the urine of infected pigs.
- Lessee** - Party which leases equipment or property.
- Levee** - An earthen dam placed at varying distances from the banks of a river to serve as a containing, protective barrier to adjacent low land during flood periods.
- Liability** - Outstanding debt such as money, goods, services, etc., which a person or business legally owes to another, regardless of payment terms.
- Lime** - Ground limestone (calcium carbonate) that helps correct an acidic soil condition.
- Linehaul Vehicle** - An over-the-road truck used to transport cargo long distances.
- Lint** - Cotton fiber.
- Linters** - The short fibers remaining on cottonseed after ginning. Too short for usual textile use, they are used for batting and mattress stuffing and as a source of cellulose.
- Liquid Manure** - Manure, with no bedding, which has had water added in the cleaning process of flooding the floor and collecting the runoff into a sealed storage device.
- Liquidity** - The ease of turning an asset into money.
- LISA** - Low Input Sustainable Agriculture.
- List Sample** - A sample of potential farm operators or agribusinesses selected from a LSF.
- List Sampling Frame (LSF)** - A list of agricultural operators in a State. Each classified operation name becomes a sampling unit. The name may be an individual, manager, farm or ranch, corporation, institution, etc.
- Litter** - A group of pigs farrowed by a sow in one farrowing.
- Live Weight** - The gross weight of a live animal as compared to the slaughtered dressed weight.
- Livestock** - Any domestic animal produced or kept primarily for farm, ranch, or market purposes, including beef and dairy cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, and horses.
- Loading Chute** - A narrow ramp to move livestock from a pen or corral onto a truck or trailer.
- Loam** - [Soil] A soil not definitely sandy or clayey, but well supplied with organic matter. [Soil Texture] See "Soil Texture (3) Loam."
- Loan, Marketing** - A nonrecourse price support loan which may be repaid at less than the announced loan rate whenever the world market price or posted county price is less than the commodity loan rate.
- Loan, Marketing Assistance** - A loan received from the CCC at a designated rate per unit of production. A quantity of commodity is pledged and stored as collateral. Most loan rates continue to be based on 85 percent of the preceding 5-year average of farm prices, excluding the high and the low. Maximum loan rates are specified for some crops.
- Loan, Nonrecourse** - Eligible producers may obtain a loan from the CCC by pledging crops in storage as collateral. Farmers redeem their loans by paying them off with interest, or if a farmer cannot sell the commodity and repay the loan when it matures, turn the stored commodity over to the government. The government has no choice but to accept the pledged commodity as complete settlement for the loan.
- Loan Rate** - The price per unit (bushel, bale, pound, or cwt.) at which the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) will provide loans to farmers to hold their crops for later sale.

Terms And Definitions

- Lobbyists** - Individuals and organizations trying to influence decisions by Congress and other officials.
- Locality** - The neighborhood the respondent knows. Should not exceed an area bigger than a county.
- Lodged** - A condition where plants are bent at or near the soil surface and lie more or less flat on the ground making harvest more difficult and often increasing harvest loss.
- Log** - Any section of the trunk, or of the thicker branches, of a felled tree, after trimming. Logs are sawed into lumber of specific dimensions. Logs are usually a minimum of 16" in diameter at the thick end.
- Loganberries** - The plant, thought to be a cross between a red raspberry and a dewberry, is a semierect type of blackberry and usually grows on thornless canes. Fruits are sweeter, ripen sooner and are in looser clusters than blackberries. Plants grow horizontally, compared to the erect habit of most blackberries, so plants are tied to supports. Loganberries need protection from freezing temperatures requiring removing the canes from supports and covering them with straw.
- Logged Off** - To harvest nearly all trees suitable for logs from a woods for lumber production.
- Long** - [Market] Designating one who has bought a futures contract and has not yet sold another futures contract to offset his position in the market. A contract is bought in expectation of selling for a higher price, another contract with terms equal to the contract bought. Once an offsetting contract is sold, the purchaser is no longer long in the market.
- Long Staple Cotton** - Refers to cotton fibers whose length ranges from 1-1/8 inches to 1-3/8 inches. Fibers whose length is 1-3/8 inches or more are known as extra long staple (ELS).
- Long Ton** - See "Metric Ton".
- Loom** - A machine which weaves fabric by interlacing a series of lengthwise (vertical) parallel threads, called warp threads, with a series of crosswise (horizontal) parallel threads, called filling threads.
- LP Gas** - Liquefied petroleum gas such as butane or propane.
- Lost Sample** - In the Objective Yield Survey, those sample fields where the entire field is destroyed (grazed, cut for hay, or is no longer standing for grain harvest) after the first visit to the field and the units were laid out.
- Low Input Sustainable Agriculture (LISA)** - Farming techniques designed to use lower levels of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, fuel, etc. Techniques include limited tillage, the prudent application of pesticides and fertilizer, more row cultivation, crop rotation, and utilization of cover crops and intercropping.
- Low Volume Application** - (1) A spray application rate at less than 5 gallons per acre but greater than one-half gallon per acre. (2) A spray application rate at less than that specified on the label but greater than 1/2 gallon per acre.
- LSF System** - A system used by NASS to manage its list sampling frame. It consists of a series of computer programs and computer data files designed to meet NASS sampling needs.
- Lug** - A crate or box approximately 6 x 12 x 24 inches, inside measurement, used as a container for berries, grapes, etc., during harvesting or transportation to processing plants or to market.
- Lugs** - The leaves on the bottom portion of the tobacco plant.
- Lumber** - The dimensional sized boards, planks, wood strips, etc. suitable for building and construction obtained from the sawing of logs.
- Mailing Date** - The date enumerators must mail materials at a post office to meet the due date.
- Maize** - See "Corn".

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Major Name Change - Any change to the primary name on the label which would prevent the changed name from being matched with the original primary name in an alphabetic listing of the List Sampling Frame. For example, the name 'Gable, Tom' would probably not be matched if it is learned that the proper spelling is 'Goebbel, Tom'.

Male Rows - The rows of plants used as pollinators to assure cross pollination during the commercial production of hybrid seed.

Mammary Gland - Gland that secretes milk.
See "Udder."

Managed - See "Operating Arrangement, (2) Managed."

Manmade Fibers - Industrially produced fibers, as contrasted with such natural fibers as cotton, wool, and silk. Examples are nylon, rayon, acetate, acrylics, polyester, and olefin.

Manufacturing Milk - Raw milk produced or used for the manufacture of dairy products, such as cheese, butter, powdered milk, etc. It may or may not be of lower quality than milk used for bottled milk and may sell for less.

Manure - Excreta of animals (feces and urine sometimes with bedding), collected from barns and other areas housing livestock. It is usually disposed of by spreading on or injecting into the soil. As the manure decomposes it adds organic matter and serves to fertilize the soil.

Manure Pit - A large pit or container building used for storage of manure.

Maple Syrup - A sweet, concentrated food product made during the spring of the year by boiling the natural sap of the sugar maple tree to the proper concentration.

Maple Sugar - Boiling of sugar maple tree sap past the maple syrup stage, leading to crystallization of the syrup into sugar.

Mare - A mature female horse.

Marketing Contract - An agreement between a producer and a firm or agent to market or

purchase a commodity, usually for delivery or payment in the future. The terms of marketing contracts are generally determined by the producer (contractee) with the primary responsibility of the agent being to provide the market for the commodity. The producer may exercise a high degree of control over the production of the commodity and receives a payment close to the market value of the product.

The buyer does not control the production of the commodity. The contract establishes for delivery and payment which may allow the buyer to take control of the commodity before the final price or payment is made.

Market Gardening - Growing an assortment of vegetables for local or roadside markets.

Market Hog - A finished hog ready for slaughter.

Marketing Allotment - Provide each processor or producer of a particular commodity a specific limit on the volume of sales for the year, above which penalties would apply.

Marketing Assistance Loans -

Marketing Assistance Loans are loans for determined crops where the farmers decide how much of their current year's production they want a loan on and pledge that amount as collateral.

Farmers can use funds for immediate needs and enables them to wait until prices have improved to settle their loans and market their commodities. They have a 9 month maturity and accrue interest. These loans are nonrecourse, meaning that the government must accept the collateral as full payment of the loan at loan maturity if a producer so chooses. Some commodities have a national loan rate while others have a county loan rate. Farmers can receive benefits from marketing assistance loans in four ways, two of which are now subject to payment limits: 1) Marketing Loan Gains (MLGs) 2) Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs) 3) Gains from the

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certificate exchange process and 4) Forfeiture gains.

1) Marketing Loan Gains - MLGs are when producers repay a marketing assistance loan anytime before loan maturity at the alternative loan repayment rate announced by USDA, if the alternative rate is less than the loan rate plus accrued interest. The alternative repayment rate for upland cotton and rice are announced weekly and are commonly called "adjusted world prices" (AWPs). For most other crop, the alternative repayment rates are announce daily and are commonly called "posted county prices" (PCPs).

2) Loan Deficiency Payments - LDPs are similar to MLGs except that farmers receive LDPs on current production not placed under loan.

3) Gains from the certificate exchange process - Another way for farmers to reestablish unencumbered control of their loan collateral. There are three steps 1) The producer takes out a marketing assistance loan 2) The producer turns the collateral over to the CCC. The certificate's unit price is the alternative loan repayment rate for the commodity (PCP or AWP) at the time of the certificate purchase. 3) The

producer exchanges the certificates for the quantity of the commodity that was previously under loan and regains control of the collateral.

4) Forfeiture gains - A gain when the market value of collateral forfeited is less than the loan balance. The producer forfeits ownership of the loan collateral to the government when the loan reaches maturity.

Market News Service (MNS) - A branch of Agricultural Marketing Service. Its function is to provide market reports depicting current conditions on supply, demand, prices, trends, movement, and other pertinent information affecting the trade in livestock, meat, and wool.

Market Spread - The difference between the retail price of a product and the farm value of the ingredients in the product. This spread includes the charges made by marketing firms for assembling, storing, processing, transporting, and distributing the product.

Market Value - The price real estate, other property or a commodity would receive in the current market.

Market Year or Marketing Year - A one year period, beginning at the start of the new harvest for a commodity and extending to the same time in the following year. The beginning of harvest has been averaged to establish a standard U.S. marketing year for each commodity, For example, the U.S. cotton marketing year begins on August 1 and ends on July 31 of the following year.

Marketing Assessment - Require producers to repay nonrecourse price support loans at less than the announced loan rates whenever the world market price or posted county price for the commodity is less than the commodity loan rate.

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- Marketing Board** - A central government authority in certain foreign countries that directs all purchases and sales of a given commodity in both the domestic and foreign markets. The most frequently performed function of a marketing board is the management of exports.
- Marketing Order** - Federal authorization for agricultural producers to promote orderly marketing by influencing such factors as supply and quality, and to pool funds for promotion and research. Marketing orders are initiated by the industry, and are approved by the Secretary of Agriculture and by a vote among its members (usually a two thirds majority). Once approved, a marketing order is mandatory.
- Marsh** - A flat, miry, treeless area commonly covered by standing water, with a native growth of grasses, etc.
- Mash** - A complete poultry ration composed of ground grains, soybean meal, meat scraps, dried skimmed milk, alfalfa meal, limestone, salt, fish oil, vitamins, or other fortifying materials.
- Mastitis** - A chronic and acute inflammation of the mammary gland of milking animals. Infected animals have reduced milk production and milk produced is not marketable.
- Mastitis-Metritis-Agalactia (MMA)** - One of the major problems of sows and gilts at farrowing time. They may occur singly or in various combinations. Metritis is an inflammation of the uterus, and agalactia means literally no milk or interference with milk secretion. See "Mastitis."
- Maternity Pen** - A special pen in a barn where animals about to give birth may be isolated from the rest of the herd. It is usually of good size, well bedded, warm, and with good sanitation.
- Matron** - A mare that has produced a foal.
- Maturity Line** - A dark ring appearing in the butt end of a broken ear of corn. The line moves down the kernel toward the cob as the plant gets closer to maturity. At maturity the line has reached the tips of the kernels.
- Meadow** - An area covered with perennial fine-stemmed grasses and often used to produce hay.
- Mercantile Exchange** - A commodity exchange specializing in trading livestock futures contracts. It is sometimes called the Merc, and is located in downtown Chicago, IL.
- Metric Ton or Long Ton** - A measure of weight equal to 1,000 kilograms, or about 2,200 pounds.
- Micronaire Reading** - The results of an airflow instrument used to measure cotton fiber fineness and maturity.
- Micro-Nutrient** - A mineral required in a relatively small amount for plant growth.
- Mid America Exchange** - A commodity exchange trading smaller contract sizes than the CBT.
- Middling** - The designation of a specific grade of cotton. Grades are determined by the amount of leaf, color, and the ginning preparation of cotton, based on samples from each bale of cotton. Middling is a high quality white cotton.
- Migrant Worker** - Any farm laborer who moves from one locality to another according to variations in time of harvesting crops, or one who lives in a locality only for the time required to the produce and harvest crops.
- Military Time** - A system of time as a unit of a 24-hour day rather than as a time within AM or PM. See the NASDA Employee Handbook, Appendix A, Clock Hour Conversion, for a Military time table.
- Milk** - [Livestock] The natural food produced by female mammals to nurse their young. [Crops] A stage of development in a kernel of grain.
- Milk Cow** - Cow, excluding a nurse cow, regardless of breed kept primarily to produce milk for home use or for sale.
- Milk-Feed Ratio** - Number of pounds of dairy concentrate ration that are equal in value to one pound of milk; that is, the price received by farmers for 1 pound of milk divided by the price of a pound of dairy concentrate feed.

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Milk Fever - A common disease in milk cows occurring right after calving. The cow is unable to get up and its legs act as if paralyzed. The disease is caused by low blood calcium levels and is usually treated by giving an intravenous injection of calcium solutions.

Milk Goats - Straight haired goat breed, selected for production of milk.

Milk: Grade A - Raw milk produced on dairy farms in which the average bacterial plate count does not exceed Grade A standards. This milk is primarily for the fluid market, although it may be diverted to manufacturing use.

Milk: Grade B - Raw milk which violates the bacterial standard for Grade A raw milk, but conforms with all other requirements for Grade A raw milk. Primarily a manufacturing milk.

Milk Nonfat Solids - Food materials in milk after fat and liquid are removed.

Milk Production - Collection of milk for sale or home consumption.

Milk Replacer - A dry commercial substitute for the cow's milk usually mixed with liquid.

Milk Shed - The rural area from which an urban community draws its fluid milk supply.

Milk Solids - Food materials in milk after liquid is removed.

Milking Machine - A mechanical device used to draw milk from the udder.

Milking Parlor - A specially arranged and equipped room where cows are individually fed concentrates and machine milked.

Mill - [Textile] A business concern or factory which manufactures textile products by spinning, weaving, or knitting.

Mill Consumption - The quantity of a fiber processed in manufacturing establishments.

Millage Rate - The actual tax rate imposed by the State or local government on the assessed value of real estate.

Milo - See "Sorghum".

Minimum Tillage - See "Conservation Tillage."

Minor Name Change - Any change to the primary name on the label that does not interfere with the matching of the changed name to the original name in an alphabetic listing of the List Sampling Frame. For example, the name 'Goebel, Tom' would probably still be matched if it is learned that the proper spelling is 'Goebbel, Tom'.

Miticide - A chemical agent to control mites.

Mixed Grain - A combination of two or more small grain crops (such as wheat, rye, barley, or oats) mixed together, seeded and harvested all from one field.

MMA - See "Mastitis-Metritis-Agalactia."

Modified Cash Rent - Rent paid in cash but determined by production and/or commodity price rather than predetermined and fixed.

Moduled Seed Cotton - Cotton compressed into large modules in the field after harvest so it may be held temporarily on the farm or at the gin while awaiting ginning. About 40 percent of the U.S. cotton is moduled.

Mohair - The long hair from the Angora Goat.

Moisture Test - A test performed on a commodity sample to determine the percent moisture in the commodity. Each grain, forage, etc., has specific marketing moisture standards.

Mollusk - Mollusks (there are over 50,000 species) are some of the most well known of invertebrate sea creatures, like snails, clams, mussels, squid, and octopods. In general, mollusks have 3 body regions: a head, a visceral mass for the internal organs, and a "foot" or muscular lower part of the body. Mollusks usually have a shell (although some do not) and are valued for their meat, shells, or pearls.

Molt - A process during which hens stop laying and shed their feathers. Occurs naturally every 12 months or may be artificially induced.

Monammonium Phosphate - A common chemical fertilizer having the analysis 11-48-0.

Monetary Policy - Policies carried out by the Federal Reserve Board to influence the supply of money and the rate of interest.

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Motes - Cotton waste material from the cotton ginning process, mostly from the lint cleaning.

Motor Carrier - A firm that uses over-the-road trucks to transport goods.

Mouthing - Inspecting an animal's teeth to determine age (usually sheep and horses).

Mulch - Any material applied to the soil surface to protect roots of plants from heat, cold, or drought, and to contain weeds.

Mulch-Till - A conservation tillage system in which the total soil surface is worked with tillage tools such as a chisel, disk, or field cultivator prior to planting. Mulch-till incorporates part of the crop residue into the top few inches of the soil, helping increase roughness and moisture retention where it's needed.

Multi-Fiber Arrangement (MFA) - The MFA, negotiated under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), provides a set of complex rules which signatory nations agree to abide by when negotiating bilateral agreements to control trade in cotton, wool, and manmade fiber textiles and apparel.

Multi-Frame Sample - Involves using an area and list frame together. An area sample measures list incompleteness. Each area tract operator is matched against the list of ag operators on the list frame to determine if it is overlap or nonoverlap.

Multi-Purpose Chemicals - Spray or dust, containing a combination of chemicals to control more than one thing such as insects as well as diseases.

Mummified - Young that died sometime during gestation and were born dead and degenerate (discolored and shriveled or decomposed).

“Must” Codes - A 1-digit code in the mail label to indicate that the case was designated as a mailed “must” in the current census.

Mutations - Relatively permanent changes in hereditary material involving a physical change in chromosome relations or a biochemical change in the structures that make up genes. [Mink] Refers to all natural ranch mink colors developed by breeding since the original dark brown shade.

Mutton - [Sheep] The flesh of a grown sheep (at least one year old) used for food. [Goat] Castrated male goat.

Mutton Breeds - Meat-type sheep breeds selected for carcass quality and growth rate.

Name & Address Master - The storage in ELMO of the name(s), address, control data, and other information for the list sampling frame, the area sampling frame operators, and the release frame.

Nannie - See "Doe."

Naps - Large tangled masses of fibers often resulting from ginning wet cotton. Naps are not as detrimental to quality as neps.

National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) - A USDA agency responsible for collecting, estimating, and publishing current statistics on the Nation's agriculture.

National Cotton Council of America (NCC) - The central organization representing all seven sectors, or interests, of the raw cotton industry of the U.S.: producers, ginners, warehouses, merchants, seed crushers, cooperatives, and manufacturers (spinners). NCC is a voluntary private industry association established in 1939. NCC programs include technical services, foreign operations, communication services, economic services, and government liaison. Headquartered in Memphis, TN.

National Sample - A sample of farms selected in such a manner that every farm in the United States in the census files having the characteristics specified has an equal or known probability of selection.

National Processing Center (NPC)- This facility located in Jeffersonville, In mails and receives the census report forms and captures the data for NASS edits.

National Turkey Federation (NTF) - An organization of turkey producers.

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- Native Cover** - A plant growth in which the species are wild or native in contrast to the seeded pastures of cultivated land.
- Natural Fibers** - Fibers of animal (wool, hair, or silk), vegetable (cotton, flax, or jute) or mineral origin (asbestos or glass).
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)** - A USDA agency charged with the national soil and water conservation program in cooperation with landowners, operators, developers, community planning agencies, and other local, state, and federal agencies. Soil Conservation Service is now part of NRCS.
- NAWG** - National Association of Wheat Growers, an organization of wheat producers.
- NCA** - National Cattlemen's Association, an organization of cattle producers.
- NCGA** - National Corn Growers Association, an organization of corn producers.
- NPC** - See "National Processing Center".
- Nectar** - Sweet secretion, primarily a solution of dissolved sugars in varying proportions, produced in the nectarines of many flowering plants and is the basic raw product of honey.
- Needle Teeth** - Eight small, sharp, tusk-like teeth which pigs have at birth.
- Nematicide** - Any substance used to kill parasitic, root-infesting nematodes.
- Nematode** - Microscopic, worm-shaped parasitic animals. Damage to many crops can be severe.
- Neps** - Very small, snarled, difficult to remove masses or clusters of fibers that look like dots or specks in the cotton lint. If not removed, they will appear as defects in the yarn and fabrics.
- Neppy** - Cotton fiber that is full of knots and snares that cannot be removed by the spinner.
- Net Cash Farm Income** - The amount of funds generated by the farm business used for debt repayment, to expand the business, or to pay for family consumption or other obligations. Definition for net farm income derived differently for census purposes. See "Net Cash Farm Income of the Operation" and "Net Cash Farm Income of the Operator" in the 2002 Census of Agriculture glossary.
- Net Farm Income** - The money and nonmoney income a farm operator realizes within a calendar year from farming as a return for labor, investment, and management after production expenses have been paid. Computed as gross income minus production expenses. Definition for net farm income derived differently for census purposes. See "Net Cash Farm Income of the Operation" and "Net Cash Farm Income of the Operator" in the 2002 Census of Agriculture glossary.
- Net Harvested Yield** - The total crop production harvested and recovered for sale, feeding, etc., expressed as a quantity per unit of area.
- Net Worth** - The net ownership of a farmer or individual in his business; the difference between the assets and liabilities; the owner's equity. Net Worth is not calculated in the census.
- New Crop Lambs** - Lambs born during the lambing season defined as October 1 (September 1 in California) and December 31.
- New Operator** - Also referred to as successor. An operator who takes over control of an agriculture operation through sales, rental or other arrangements. Mailing lists tend to become outdated rapidly due to the change in farm operation control. Many names on the mail list will change from one year to the next. Therefore, it is very important to find out the successor's name, address, and date of succession for large operations in order to improve coverage.
- New Segment** - A segment not surveyed in the previous year's area sample. Each year 20 percent of the segments are new.
- NFO** - Acronym for National Farmers Organization, a farmer organization.

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Nitrogen - A chemical element essential to life and one of the primary plant nutrients. Animals get nitrogen from protein feeds, plants get it from soil, and some bacteria get it directly from air. Nitrogen is one of the three primary ingredients in complete fertilizers. Nitrogen content is the X in a fertilizer's analysis of X-0-0.

Nitrogen Fixation - The conversion of atmospheric nitrogen into a stable form used by plants. This process is accomplished naturally by bacteria living in legume plants.

NMPF - Acronym for The National Milk Producers Federation, an organization of milk producers.

No-Till - Method of planting crops without seedbed preparation. Seeds are planted directly into sod or the previous crop stubble. The only soil disturbance is in the opening of small slits in the soil created by coulters, row cleaners, disk openers, in-row chisels, or rotary tillers, so seed can be placed at the intended depth. There is usually no cultivation during crop production with chemicals used for weed control. No-till can help reduce erosion by up to 90 percent by cutting down on runoff. It also helps build up the organic matter content of the soil.

Node - Enlarged regions of stems that are generally solid, to which leaves may be attached and at which buds are frequently located. Stems have nodes, roots do not.

Nonagricultural Land - Land permanently withdrawn from agriculture, such as roadways, railroads, factory sites, towns, etc. Parcels of idle land, including woods should not be considered nonagricultural unless permanently withdrawn from agricultural use.

Non-Bearing Acres - New or immature tree/vine plantings not yet commercially producing.

Noncellulosic Fibers - Fibers made from petroleum derived chemicals. The major types are polyester, nylon, acrylic, and polypropylene.

Nonfarm Income - Includes all income from nonfarm sources (excludes money earned from working for other farmers) received by owner-operated families residing on a farm and by hired farm labor residing on a farm.

Nonoperator Landlord - A landlord who does not operate or is not a partner in another farm.

Nonoverlap (NOL) - A tract operator in an area frame sample whose name is either not on the list sampling frame or is not eligible to be selected, from the list sampling frame.

Non-Point - Usually associated with pollution coming from a large area with no single, well-defined source.

Nonresponse - Failure of a respondent to reply to a survey questionnaire; may be item nonresponse (refuse to answer one or more questions), survey nonresponse (refuse to answer any or most of the questions), or inability of enumerator to locate respondent during the survey period.

Nonwoven Fabrics - Material made primarily of randomly arranged textile fibers held together by an applied bonding agent or by fusion.

Noxious Weed - Any weed injurious to the farm crops, to other useful plants, or to livestock. Usually, these are perennials and very difficult to destroy or control. Some may be poisonous to livestock or parasitic to other plants. Many states specify which weeds are noxious and have control requirements for them. Canadian thistle, Russian thistle, field bindweed, chickpea, Johnson grass, morning glory, etc. are some weeds recognized as noxious.

N-P-K - Chemical symbols for nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium, chief ingredients of fertilizers.

Nurse Bee - Young worker bees that feed larvae.

Nurse Cow - A cow used to supply milk for nursing calves other than her own.

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- Nurse Crop** - A crop grown with another crop; often used to secure a return from the land in the first year of a new seeding or to help the other crop get established (i.e. oats sown with alfalfa).
- Nursery** - [Plants] Any place where plants, shrubs, and trees are grown either for transplanting or as grafting stock.
[Livestock] A building especially designed and controlled for raising young animals, usually calves or pigs.
- Nut** - A dry, single seeded fruit with a hard, woody covering.
- NWG** - Acronym for the National Wool Growers, an organization of sheep and wool producers.
- Occupied Dwelling** - Any primary residence (legal or illegal) for a person or family. If a person or family spends their time between two or more residences, it is where they spent most of the year.
- Occupied Farmstead** - See "Occupied Dwelling."
- Off Farm Stocks** - All whole grains and oilseeds stored in a commercial storage facility (elevator, processor, etc.), regardless of ownership or intended use. Includes grain and oilseeds in temporary or permanent storage facilities or on the ground.
- Off Feed** - An animal that has stopped eating or eats very little (usually from having eaten too highly concentrated feed or too great a quantity).
- Off Flavor** - An unacceptable flavor in milk, eggs or other meat caused by the diet of the animal, or in cooked fish by algae growth in the fish prior to cooking.
- Oilseed Crops** - Primarily soybeans, cottonseed peanuts, sunflower seeds, and flaxseed used for the production of oils and high protein meals. Lesser oil crops are canola, safflower, rapeseed, mustard seed, castor beans, and sesame.
- Oilseed Meal** - The product obtained by grinding the cakes, chips, or flakes remaining after most of the oil is removed from oilseeds. Oilseed meals are high in protein and mainly used as a feedstuff for livestock or poultry. They are also used as a raw material in processing edible vegetable-protein products.
- On Farm Stocks** - All whole grains and oilseeds on hand or stored on the total acres operated, regardless of ownership or intended use. Includes grain and oilseeds in temporary or permanent storage facilities or on the ground.
- On Feed** - Livestock intended for slaughter market that are being fed a fattening ration such as grain or other concentrates or on excellent pasture. Cattle are expected to produce a carcass that will grade "select" or better, while sheep have no minimum grade expectations.
- On-Off Dates** - The date upon which a rancher can move his livestock onto a grazing allotment and the date by which they must be removed.
- Oncogenic** - Capable of producing or inducing tumors in animals.
- Open-end Spinning** - Processing fibers directly from a fiber supply, such as a roving sliver, to the finished yarn, in contrast to ring spinning. Three basic open-end methods are mechanical, electrostatic, and fluid or air. Advantages over ring-spun yarns include increased speed, less labor, and less floor space for equipment.
- Open-Fire Cure** - A method of curing tobacco by hanging it on scaffolds in a tobacco barn and building fires under it.
- Operating Arrangement** - The managerial organization of farm or ranch operations by which day-to-day decisions are made. Operating arrangements are classified as: (1) Individual - A land operating arrangement in which one person makes the day-to-day management decisions. This includes incorporated family farms even though a legal partnership involving spouse, sons, daughters, etc. exists. (2) Managed - A land operating arrangement in which day-to-day management decisions are made by a hired manager. The ranch foreman or farm manager must have managerial authority to make the day-to-day decisions instead of the land owner. Managers are usually paid a

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- salary, although bonuses may be tied to production or performance. (3)
- Partnership** - A land operating arrangement where two or more persons contribute some combination of land, labor, capital, equipment, materials, and management. Each person participates in day-to-day management decisions and shares in profits or losses, but not necessarily on an equal basis.
- Operating Arrangement, Multiple** - Farming operations operated separately and distinctly from each other by an operator. Example: a person is the sole proprietor of one agricultural operation, and is also the senior partner in an agricultural partnership operation and is also a manager of a third agricultural operation. A separate census report is required for each of these operations.
- Operation** - Establishments primarily engaged in the production of crops or plants, vines and trees (excluding forestry operation) and/or the keeping, grazing or feeding of livestock or poultry for animal products, for animal increase or value increase. Questionnaires with "This Operation" or "On This Operation" terminology reference the questionnaire label.
- Operator** - The person responsible for all or most of the day-to-day decisions such as planting, harvesting, feeding, or marketing for the tract or total land operated. The operator could be the owner, hired manager, cash tenant, share tenant or a partner. If land is rented or worked on shares, the tenant or renter is the operator.
- Orchard** - An acreage of planted fruit or nut trees.
- Order Buyer** - A person or firm purchasing livestock on behalf of another person or firm (packer, feedlot) according to specifications. The buyer is paid a fee for his services and may or may not take title to the animals.
- Organic Farm** - A production system which avoids or excludes the use of synthetically compounded fertilizers, pesticides, growth regulators, and livestock feed additives. Organic farming systems rely upon crop rotation, crop residues, animal manures, legumes, green manure, off farm organic wastes, mechanical cultivation, and aspects of biological pest control to maintain soil productivity and tilth, to supply plant nutrients, and to control insects, weeds, and other pests.
- Organic Matter** - Decomposing plant or animal materials in the soil, exists in all stages of decomposition.
- Other Hay** - The Other Hay category should only be used if the harvested hay does not fit the other categories (i.e., alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures, wild hay, small grain hay) that may be identified on a questionnaire. Examples of Other Hay crops include bluegrass, timothy, fescue, bermuda, and sudan grasses and clover (if it is not part of an alfalfa mixture).
- Out-of-Business** - A previous farm or ranch operator who no longer makes the day-to-day decisions on land suitable for agriculture; raises no crops, livestock, or poultry; has no on-farm grain storage facilities. They may own farmland which is being operated by someone else. See "Retired", and "Sold-out."
- Outdoor Tobacco** - Term used in the Connecticut River Valley, the tobacco growing area of Connecticut and Massachusetts, to distinguish cigar binder tobacco from the shade-grown wrapper type grown there.
- Outlier** - A very unusual survey value when compared with most other responses to same question.
- Overlap (OL)** - Tract operators in the area frame sample who are also on the list frame and eligible for sampling.
- Output Traits** - Plant traits that influence how the grain, oilseed, or lint is used. For example, white corn is a biotech output trait of corn used to satisfy a particular market for that product.
- Overseeding** - Seeding into a crop already

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- established, such as seeding a forage crop in the spring on a field of winter wheat established the previous fall.
- Overspray** - The application of pesticide beyond the boundaries of the target area to be treated, by the failure to control the direct flow or application of pesticide from the application equipment.
- Ovum** - The female reproductive cell, the egg.
- Ovum Transplant** - An operation where the cow's ovum is transplanted into the uterus of another cow. The receiving cow is bred and carries the calf during the gestation period. This practice increases the number of offspring that can be born from a cow with desirable characteristics.
- OYS** - Acronym for Objective Yield Survey.
- Packer** - [Livestock] A slaughter and meat processing business. [Crops] Pertaining to the business of packing fresh or processed fruits and vegetables or meats.
- Pack** - A subunit of a flat which facilitates retail sales. There may be 6 or 8 packs per flat.
- Package Bee** - Bees produced for sale, supplied by the pound, and transported in a box with a wire screen on two opposite sides. The most popular size package contains two or three pounds of adult bees, without brood or comb.
- Packinghouse** - An establishment where food products are prepared and packaged for market.
- Packout** - The percent of a commodity received by the packinghouse that is boxed and shipped to market.
- Paddock** - Small fenced in grazing units within a larger pasture. Livestock are moved or rotated among paddocks allowing the vegetation in some paddocks to regrow while other units are grazed.
- Parcel** - A unit of land described by boundaries on which taxes are levied.
- Parity** - [Livestock] The number of times a female has given birth. [Economic] A relationship which defines a level of purchasing power for farmers equal to an earlier base period. Some farmers, rather than using the technical definition above, think of parity as simply "a fair price plus a reasonable profit."
- Parity Index** - See "Prices Paid Index."
- Parity Price** - The price giving a unit of a farm commodity the same purchasing power or exchange value in terms of goods and services bought by farmers, as farm commodities had in the base period, 1910-1914.
- Parity Ratio** - The ratio of the prices received index over the prices paid index, using 1910-1914 as the base period. It measures the relative purchasing power of products sold by farmers.
- Partial-Year Operator** - An operator for a portion of the annual survey cycle. See "Operator".
- Partner** - An individual within a partnership.
- Partnership** - See "Operating Arrangement, (3) Partnership."
- Passive Solar Design** - A design incorporating the use of solar energy in a building for purposes of heating and cooling without relying on moving parts.
- Pasteurization** - Process of heating food material, usually a liquid, to a specific temperature for a specific length of time. This heating process destroys some pathogenic bacteria and delays the development of others.
- Pasture** - An enclosed area of untilled ground covered with vegetation and grazed by animals.
- Patronage Refund** - A payment from a cooperative to its regular customers from the profits based on quantity or value of business done with the cooperative.
- Payment, Advanced** - A provision in the farm program where a program participant receiving payments may choose to receive a portion of the projected final payment early in the year. However, at the end of the program year, if the final payment is less than

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- the advance amount, producers must refund the excess portion.
- Payment, Cost-share** - Payments made under a program where a participant in the farm program receives partial cash assistance from the government when the participant pays for the cost of a service or good.
- Payment, Final** - This term is used in conjunction with deficiency payments and transition payments. Advanced payments are made to participants on the basis of projected payments. The final payment is the actual payment level that the participant is authorized under the terms of the program which is determined at the end of the year.
- Payment Limitations** - Limitations set by law on the amount of money any one person may receive in farm program payments each year under the feed grain, wheat, cotton, rice and other farm programs.
- Payment, Loan Deficiency** - Payments made to a producer who, although eligible to obtain a marketing assistance loan, agrees to forgo the loan in return for the payment. A loan deficiency payment is available only when the adjusted world price is below the loan rate.
- Payment Quantity** - The payment quantity of a contract commodity for each fiscal year equals 85 percent of the contract acreage multiplied by the farm program payment yield.
- Payment, Transition** - The payment participants receive are referred to as transition payments because over the 7-year period of the program, the payments will decline. At the end of the program, the producers will operate under free market conditions with no payments received.
- Payment Yield** - The farm commodity yield of record (per acre), determined by a procedure outlined in the farm bill legislation. Payment yields can be based on a 4-year farm historic yield or a county average yield or a combination of both.
- Peat-Lite Mix** - A growth medium of peat and either vermiculite or perlite often used for potted plants.
- Pedigree** - A written statement giving the record of an animal's ancestry.
- Pegging** - A stage of development of the peanut plant where the fertilized flower produces an elongated ovary which enters the soil. Once underground, the ovary develops into a pod and eventually into the peanut.
- Pelleted Formulation** - A dry formulation of pesticides and other components in small particles.
- Pelt** - The natural, whole skin covering, including the hair or fur of the smaller animals, such as mink or fox.
- Pen** - An enclosed area used to confine livestock.
- Pencil Shrink** - The estimated weight loss of livestock from the point of weighing to final destination. Payment is made on the estimated weight at the destination.
- Penny (d.)** - [Building Materials] Standard used to designate the length of nails. The larger the penny size, the longer the nail.
- Perennial** - A plant with a life span greater than 2 years.
- Permanent Pasture** - Pasture planted and established with perennial or self-seeding annual plants that have been maintained through several years of grazing.
- Permanent Sod** - A soil management system in which a sod is periodically mowed but no tillage is carried out. Benefits include prevention of soil erosion, maintenance of good organic matter levels, and improved soil structure.
- Pesticide** - A substance or mixture of substances to control insects, rodents, fungi, weeds, and other forms of plant or animal life considered being pests. Pesticides include insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, and nematocides.
- Pesticide Product Formulation** - The concentration of a pesticide and other ingredients which make up the product.
- Pesticide Residue Free** - A crop that does not contain any detectable pesticide residue.

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- PH Number** - Number that indicates acidity or alkalinity of a solution. Number 7 indicates a neutral solution. Numbers above 7 indicate an alkaline solution, and numbers below 7 indicate an acidic solution.
- Pheromone** - A chemical substance produced by an insect or animal and serves as a stimulus to other individuals of the same species for one or more behavioral responses.
- Pheromone Traps (Lures)** - A trap that uses a chemical sex attractant to capture insects.
- Phosphate** - A term indicating a fertilizer which supplies phosphorus, one of the three primary ingredients in a complete fertilizer. The phosphate content in a fertilizer's analysis is indicated as the XX's in 0-XX-0.
- Photodegradation** - A process of breaking down a substance through reaction to light.
- Phytotoxic** - Injurious or lethal to plants.
- Pick** - A filling yarn or thread that runs crosswise in woven goods.
- Pick Your Own** - A system of direct marketing in which the customer harvests the product. Well adapted to strawberries, raspberries, some tree fruits, and many vegetables.
- Pickup** - [Shipping] Each place the carrier stops to load cargo.
- Pig** - A young hog weighing less than 120 pounds.
- Pig Crop** - The number of pigs produced by a given number of sows, usually expressed as the percent of pigs weaned to sows bred.
- Pig Pneumonia** - A viral pig disease infecting the lungs. Less severe cases may cause only occasional coughing while more severe cases exhibit hard coughing and breathing, thumping, and obvious weight loss. Infected pigs are 10 to 20 per cent less efficient in weight gain and are more susceptible to bacterial infections of the lungs than healthy pigs.
- PIGA** - Abbreviation for Public, Industrial, or Grazing Land Association.
- Pile** - The cut or uncut loops which make the surface a pile fabric. Some common pile fabrics include velvet, corduroy, terry toweling, furniture covering, and rugs and carpets.
- Pima Cotton/Ameri-Pima Cotton** - Grown in Southwest U.S. and Peru, this superior quality, long-staple cotton is named for the Pima Indians who helped to raise it in Arizona test fields in the early 1900s. Its longer length makes Pima cotton softer, smoother, and stronger than other cotton fibers which becomes even more comfortable with age. Its fewer imperfections in the yarn, allow for creating finer finished lustrous garments and bedding.
- Pinching** - Breaking off the terminal growing point, allowing the axillary buds to start growing.
- Placements or Placed on Feed** - Cattle put into a feedlot, fed a ration to produce a carcass to grade select or better, and are intended for the slaughter market.
- Plant Growth Regulator** - A substance which increases, decreases, or changes normal growth and/or reproduction of a plant.
- Plant Nutrients** - Elements required for normal growth and development of plants.
- Plant Propagative Material** - Seeds, bulbs, corms (similar to head of garlic), rhizomes (e.g. iris bulbs), tissue culture slips and/or plugs.
- Planting Flexibility** - Under the farm bill, except for fruits and vegetables, any commodity or crop may be planted on contract acreage on a farm. The planting for harvest of fruits and vegetables (other than lentils, mung beans, and dry peas) is prohibited on contract acreage, except in the following situations: Harvesting double-cropped fruits and vegetables on contract acreage is permitted, without loss of payments, in any region which has a history of double-cropping contract commodities with fruits and vegetables. An individual farm does not have to have a double-cropping history, only the region. Harvesting of any fruits or vegetables on contract acreage is permitted, with an acre-for-acre loss of contract payments for each

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- contract acre planted to fruits or vegetables, if the Secretary of Agriculture determines that there is a history of planting fruits and vegetables on the farm. Harvesting of specific fruits or vegetables on contract acreage is permitted, with an acre-for-acre loss of contract payments for each contract acre planted to the specific fruit or vegetable, if the Secretary of Agriculture determines that a producer has an established planting history of the specific fruit or vegetable. In such a case, the quantity harvested cannot exceed the producer's average annual planting history of the specific fruit or vegetable during the 1991--1995 crop years (excluding any crop year with zero acres planted). Haying and grazing restrictions have been eliminated, except for CRP acres. There are no minimum planting requirements for contract commodities. There are no restrictions as to what a producer can plant on non-contract acres.
- Plant Tissue Test** - Plant tissue analysis provides information on how the plant is using particular nutrients and gives clues for deciphering nutrient deficiency or excess problem
- Pleasure Horse** - A light horse of any breed used for riding, driving, or nonprofessional racing or show.
- Plot** - A small parcel of land, usually rectangular in shape and of a definite size, used in calculating yields in crops.
- Plow** - Any of various implements designed to perform primary deep tillage operations on the soil, usually in preparation for planting.
- Plow Down** - To bury by plowing material lying on a field's surface (fertilizer or green manure).
- Ply** - The number of single yarns twisted together to make a composite yarn. When applied to cloth, it means the number of layers of fabric combined to give the composite fabric.
- Pneumonia** - [Hogs] See "Pig Pneumonia."
- Pod** - A dry, many-seeded fruit that splits open, such as a soybean or pea.
- Point** - A term used in quoting the price of raw cotton. One point is equal to 1/100 of a cent.
- Point Farm** - An operating arrangement which has agricultural production, land, commodity inventory, or government payments equivalent to \$1,000 or more based on the point system.
- Point of First Sale** - The point in the marketing channel where the firm selling the product gives up the ownership of the product.
- Point System** - A system that permits determination of whether an operation meets a potential minimum level of total value of agricultural products sold even if no products were sold. A set number of points equivalent to dollars are applied to each acre of crops and head of livestock reported.
- Polled** - Animals, especially cattle, that normally do not develop horns.
- Pollen** - Microspore male bodies produced by plants capable of fertilizing the ovary of that or another plant.
- Pollination** - The transfer of the pollen from the male portion to the female portion of that flower or another flower of the same species. The first step in producing a fruit or seed.
- Pollinators** - An agent that pollinates blossoms or flowers.
- Pollution** - Substances that make another substance unclean, dirty, or impure.
- Pomology** - Horticulture branch dealing with fruits.
- Ponding** - Small ponds in fields formed from the collection of runoff water due to poor soil drainage and heavy precipitation or irrigation.
- Pool Auction** - See "Auction Pool."
- Pooled Grain** - Grain which has been delivered to a cooperative for collective marketing. Farmers agree to share marketing expenses and returns on a basis equal to the amount of commodity they are marketing. Farmers may receive one or more advance payments, but will not receive full payment until the cooperative markets the grain.
- Poor Stand** - A seeding of any crop which germinates poorly and produces an uneven distribution of young plants.

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- Population** - A defined set of farm operations to which a survey pertains. The elements must be defined in space and time as well as content. For example, the population to be surveyed might be described as all farms in the state of Wisconsin in operation on June 1.
- Pork** - The meat of hogs or pigs.
- Postemergence** - After the appearance from the soil of a specified weed or crop.
- Postharvest** - All activities following harvest.
- Pot-Bound** - Growing a plant in a pot until its root system has become densely matted; a method used by florists to promote flowering.
- Potash** - A term used to indicate fertilizers which supply high levels of potassium. The potash content in a fertilizer's analysis is indicated as the XX's in 0-0-XX.
- Potassium Chloride** - A common chemical fertilizer having the fertilizer analysis, 0-0-60.
- Potassium Nitrate** - A common chemical fertilizer having the fertilizer analysis, 13-0-44.
- Potassium Sodium Nitrate** - A common chemical fertilizer having the analysis, 15-0-14.
- Potassium Sulfate** - A common chemical fertilizer having the fertilizer analysis of 0-0-49.
- Potted Flowering Plants** - African violets, chrysanthemums (excluding Hardy/Garden mums), finished florist azaleas (showing color), Easter and other lilies, poinsettias, and other potted flowering plants. Referred to as "pot crops" by the industry.
- Potted Foliage Plants** - Any of a variety of indoor or patio plants grown for their greenery.
- Poult** - A young turkey before its sex can be determined. Sometimes applied to the young of other fowl.
- Poultry** - Any or all domesticated fowls raised primarily for their meat, eggs, or feathers, such as chickens, turkeys, ducks, and geese.
- Pour-on** - Pesticide application to livestock by pouring the material along its back.
- Power-Take-Off (PTO)** - System of shafts used to transmit power from a tractor's engine to an attached implement. Standard PTO speeds are 540 rpm and 1000 rpm.
- Predator** - Any animal, including insects, that preys upon and devours other animals. A predator is distinguished from a parasite, which lives only on one host at a time and usually does not destroy the host.
- Preemergence** - Before the emergence of a specified weed or crop.
- Preferential Assessments** - The valuation of farm or ranch land for property tax purposes according to its current use value rather than its market value. It attempts to preserve farmland and land devoted to agricultural and open space from the economic pressure of encroaching.
- Prefinished Plants** - [Floriculture] Plants not ready for retail sale. These plants are finish grown by a grower who purchased the plants from another grower.
- Premium** - An added payment by the buyer to the producer over and above the market price of similar products of equal grade and quality.
- Prewashing** - The area before washing on the packing line where the commodity is sprayed with water and/or a chemical additive to remove field dirt and pathogens.
- Price, Farm** - The season average price received by farmers is a sales weighted average of prices received by farmers during the marketing season at the point of first sale, usually on the farm or at a local delivery point.
- Price, Futures** - The current price of a commodity established at a futures exchange to be delivered at a future date. Futures contracts are primarily traded by merchants to hedge their price risks but also are used by growers, mills, and others to reduce risks of adverse price movements.
- Price, International** - There is no statistically valid, single estimate of a world price for any agricultural commodity.

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Price, Mill - The price of a commodity delivered to a buyer at the mill. These prices, including landing and brokerage costs, are quoted for commodities at given grades and commodity descriptions.

Price Paid by Farmers - The price farmers pay for goods and services necessary for them to produce and market commodities.

Prices Paid Index - An index to measure changes in average prices paid by farmers for goods and services used in family living and in production, together with interest, taxes and farm wage rates, relative to a base period. The index of prices paid is called the parity index when using the base period 1910-1914=100.

Price Received by Farmers - The price farmers receive for commodities they sell in their local market or at the point where they deliver their product. The farmer delivers the product to market, so transportation discounts should not be subtracted from the price received.

Prices Received Index - An index to measure changes in average prices received by farmers for agricultural commodities they sell, relative to a base period.

Price, Spot - A spot or cash market price is the price a commodity of various qualities was sold in different areas. These exchanges provide a means of establishing premiums and discounts to producers and for settling futures contracts.

Prick Off - In the greenhouse, to lift very small seedling plants from the seed beds and transfer them to transplant flats.

Primary Name - The first line of the name and address on the mailing label, representing an individual, partnership or operation name of a farming, ranching or agribusiness operation.

Primary Nutrients - The three major plant nutrients which are nitrogen, phosphorus (phosphate) and potassium (potash).

Primary Sampling Unit (PSU) - An area of land, typically square to rectangular in shape. A PSU size is based on the shape, size and complexity of the resources being inventoried.

Private Carrier - A motor carrier which primarily hauls its own cargo.

Private Variety - A variety developed by a private company which can be patented.

Probability Sample - A sample where every sampling unit of the sampling frame (area or list) has a known, nonzero chance of being selected.

Probing - A means of providing the respondent with encouragement or stimulus, to keep thinking about the question that has been asked. It indicates to the respondent that the question is important, and provides additional time for the respondent to organize his or her thoughts and feelings.

Processing Plant - Business and corresponding buildings designed to carry out the operations, such as pasteurizing milk, curing meats, canning and preserving fruits, etc., required to prepare agricultural products for sale and consumption.

Processor - One who processes or prepares agricultural products by cooking, curing, etc.

Production Area - That area devoted to producing a crop. It would include all areas that are necessary for production but not devoted to it. The area may be indoors or outdoors.

Production Contract - An oral or written agreement whereby the owner of the commodity (contractor) supplies some or most of the inputs for production and generally the terms of the contract are very specific in nature. See "Contract Production."

Production Control Program - Any government program intended to limit production. At various times these programs have been called acreage reduction, reduced acreage, set-aside, diverted acreage, acreage allotments, marketing quotas, PIK, and soil bank.

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Production Credit Association (PCA) -

Lending groups, owned by their farmer-borrowers, that provide short and intermediate term loans for up to 10 years from funds obtained from investors in the money markets. See "Farm Credit Bank" and "Farm Credit System."

Production Expenses - A measure of all costs associated with the production of gross farm income including purchased inputs, labor, interest, net rent paid to nonoperator landlords, depreciation, and property taxes.

Production Flexibility Contract - Owners and producers of farms with eligible cropland who want to participate in the farm program must have signed a production flexibility contract. The producer must comply with the conservation and wetland protection requirements on all their farms, comply with the planning flexibility requirements, and use the contract acreage for an agricultural or related activity. The benefits are: transition payments over the 7-year period and eligibility for marketing assistance loans.

Production Flexibility Contract Payment -

Another term for the contract transition payments received by program participants.

Production Index - An index of 12 subgroup indices to measure changes from a base period in prices paid for most of the items farmers buy in producing their crops and livestock.

Professional Scouting - See "Scouting."

Program Crop (FSA) - A crop that FSA is allowed to distribute program payments.

Prop Root - See "Brace Root."

Propagation - To increase through reproduction.

Pruning - The removal of live or dead branches, roots, and other parts from trees, shrubs, vines, etc., for the purposes of improvement.

Pseudo - See "Pseudorabies."

Pseudorabies - An acute, highly contagious viral disease that is most severe in young pigs. Newborn pigs affected by pseudo often go from a normal appearance into a coma and death in 6 to 24 hours. With young pigs, litter mortality rate is very high. Often, bred sows abort when infected; those not aborting, deliver dead or mummified pigs.

PTO - Abbreviation for Power-Take-Off.

Public or Industrial Grazing Land - See "Grazing Land, Public or Industrial."

Public or Industrial Grazing Land Association (PIGA) - See "Grazing Land Association, Public or Industrial."

Public Law 480 (PL 480) - The principal legislative authority for channeling U.S. food and fiber to needy countries. First enacted in 1954, PL 480 was extended by the Food for Peace Act of 1966 and subsequent legislation.

Public Variety - A variety developed by a public university, public research lab or with public funds making the seed stock available to anyone.

Pullet - A female chicken or turkey under one year.

Pulpwood - Wood used in the manufacture of paper, fiberboard, and so on.

Pupa - Stage in the life cycle of a developing insect when the larval body is reorganized into that of the adult.

Purchased Water - Water purchased by the operator and/or landlord by paying a fee for water used on a field and originating from an off-farm source. Even if an irrigation district, water-supply ditch association, or canal company does not charge a water fee, but only charges the producer for the cost of water delivery or for the maintenance cost of water delivery facilities, report the water as purchased water.

Purebred - An animal of pure breeding, registered or eligible for registration in the herd book of the breed to which it belongs.

QAS - Acronym for Quarterly Agricultural Survey.

Quarter Section - An area of land that is one fourth of a surveyed section and 160 acres in size. Also expressed as 1/4 Section.

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Quicklime - See "Burned Lime."

Queen - A fully developed, mated female bee, whose lives to lay eggs. Normally, she is the mother of all other bees in the colony. A queen bee is larger and longer than a worker bee.

Queen Cell - The cell in which the queen develops. This cell is the largest built and hangs vertically in the hive while the others are horizontal.

Questionnaire - A form or computer program (CATI, CAPI) used to ask specific questions from and to record the responses given by selected sample units to the survey questions.

R-Value - Measure of resistance to heat flow, used comparatively in rating insulation materials. The higher the R-value the greater the insulating ability of the material.

Raisin - A dried seedless grape used for food.

Ram - Male sheep, usually kept for breeding purposes.

Ranch - Similar to a farm, except primarily involved in raising livestock, usually on pasture or rangelands.

Ranch Parcel - See "Farm Parcel."

Rancher - Ranch operator.

Range - See "Rangelands."

Rangelands - Unimproved, non-irrigated pasture or grazing land not suitable for growing crops. Ground covered by natural vegetation only.

Raptor - Bird of prey.

Ration - The amount of feed an animal receives in a 24-hour period.

Ratooning - The practice of harvesting a second crop from the original seeding, usually in rice or sugarcane.

Raw Fibers - Textile fibers in a natural state before manufacturing activity has taken place; for example, cotton as it comes from the bale.

Real Estate - Real property, such as land and improvements (clearing, wells, etc.); and houses and buildings and their attachments.

Receiver - The recipient of goods or produce such as a wholesaler, an individual retail outlet, or a major grocery chain.

Receiving - [Fruit] The area at a packinghouse where fruit is first delivered from the grove, unloaded, and trash and debris are removed before moving into the packinghouse.

R-factor - A measure of resistance in a material to the transfer of heat from one side to the other in a material.

Reference Date - The date used as a reference point for asking respondents survey questions. For example, the reference date for the Agricultural Surveys is the first day of the month, for Farm Costs and Returns Survey it's a specific year.

Referendum - The referral of a question to voters to be resolved by balloting; for example, marketing quotas, acreage reduction, or marketing agreements.

Refilling - Using the same area to grow the same crop or a mix of crops more than once during the year. Also referred to as multiple cropping.

Refusal - A person representing a sample unit who will not cooperate in the survey and who refuses to provide sufficient information to satisfactorily complete the questionnaire, or who will not give an enumerator permission to complete the field counts or measurements.

Registered - [Livestock] Recorded pedigrees of Purebred animals in their respective breed registry. [Seed] Seed produced from foundation and other registered seed, and used to produce certified seed.

Release Date - The date the survey results are published and released.

Remote Sensing - Detection of information from a distance. Usually the information is collected from measurement instruments aboard aircraft or space satellite.

Render - [Commercial] To process dead animals (killed as a result of something other than normal slaughter) for tannage, pet food, mink food, etc. [Home] While butchering an animal, the process of heating the natural fat to separate the usable lard or tallow from the unusable fat.

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- Rent** - Reimbursement to the owner (landlord) from the user (tenant) for land, buildings, equipment, livestock, etc., used in production.
- Replacement** - An animal selected to be kept for a breeding herd.
- Resident Farm Operator (RFO)** - A farm operator whose residence is located within the boundaries of a segment. In the case of a partnership, there is only one operator per farm. The partner making most of the day-to-day decisions is considered to be the operator. When partners share equally in decision making, the oldest partner is considered to be the operator.
- Resident Tract** - A tract within the segment boundaries which contains an occupied dwelling.
- Residential Areas** - Populated areas within a segment such as housing developments.
- Residue** - [Crops] Decaying plant material on the soil's surface. [Pesticide] The quantity of pesticide or its degraded products remaining on or in the soil, plant parts, or animal tissue.
- Residual Supplier** - A country which furnishes supplies to another country only after the latter has obtained all it can from preferred sources.
- Respondent** - The person who provides the information necessary to complete a survey interview.
- Response Code** - A questionnaire coding requirement that identifies the status of its data collection. Response Codes can indicate that a questionnaire is complete, a respondent has refused, a respondent was inaccessible, the records was out-of-scope, and so forth.
- Retailer** - [Food] A person or firm that sells small quantities of a product directly to consumers.
- Restricted Use Pesticide** - A pesticide which is designated as such by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) because it is felt that it may generally cause, without additional regulatory restrictions, unreasonable adverse effects on the environment, including injury to the applicator. A restricted use pesticide may be used only by a certified applicator.
- Retired** - A previous farm or ranch operator who is now out-of-business because he/she has reached an age to retire from farming or ranching. He/she may still own farmland, which is being operated by someone else. See "Out-of-Business."
- Revisions** - A change made by the Agricultural Statistics Board to an earlier published USDA estimate. Revisions are made as a result of more current information or additional information learned about the commodity since the original estimate was published.
- Ridge-Till** - Method of planting crops that leaves the soil undisturbed from harvest to planting. Ridges, formed while cultivating the current season's crop, serve as next year's seedbed. At planting, residue from the previous year's crop is moved between the ridges with sweeps, disk openers, coulters, or other row cleaners, so there is less on the ridge to interfere with planting. Herbicides and cultivation work together to control weeds, and cultivating helps rebuild the ridges. Ridge-till is good for poorly drained areas because the elevated soil drains faster and warms more quickly in the spring.
- Ripe** - Mature seeds which are fit for germination, or fruit which has attained full development.
- Rooster** - Male chicken usually kept for breeding purposes.
- Root** - Vegetative plant part which anchors the plant in the soil, absorbs water and minerals from the soil, and may store food in some types of plants.
- Rotation** - See "Crop Rotation."

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- Roughage** - Coarse livestock feed such as hay and silage, high in fiber and low in total digestible nutrients.
- Round Weight** - A term for fish live weight.
- Roving** - An intermediate stage of yarn making between sliver and yarn; the last operation before spinning into yarn.
- Row** - Plants planted in a continuous straight line. Rows are evenly spaced to facilitate mechanical cultivation and harvest operations.
- Row Space** - For crops planted in rows, the distance from the center of one row to the center of the next row.
- Royal Jelly** - Food secreted by worker bees and placed in queen cells for larval food.
- RTC Weight** - Ready to cook weight of defeathered, eviscerated, and processed birds.
- Ruminant** - Cud chewing animal with a digestive system of four stomachs, the rumen, reticulum, omasum and abomasum (cattle, sheep, goats).
- Runner** - See "Stolon."
- Running Bale** - Any cotton bale of varying weight as it comes from the gin. To maintain comparability, bale weights are commonly converted to 480-pound net weight equivalents.
- Runoff** - That portion of total precipitation that finds its way into drainage channels.
- Runt** - Designating a small or poorly nourished animal, especially a young pig.
- Rural** - Country rather than city, usually associated with agriculture.
- Rural Land** - See "Rural Parcel."
- Rural Parcel** - A parcel outside of an urban area (cities, towns, villages). Includes agricultural and forest land, idle land, waste land, individual, recreational, and residential tracts. It excludes multi-tract recreational, and residential, commercial, and industrial developments.
- Rusts** - A parasitic fungi which attack plants, including most food and feed grains. It stunts the plants normal growth and development.
- Salary** - A fixed payment at regular intervals for services. Often associated with professionals given a responsibility certain performance standards or quotas. Used for positions such as managers and administrators. See "Wages."
- Sale Barn** - See "Auction Barn."
- Sample** - Sampling units selected from a sampling frame. See "Area Sample"; "List Sample"; and "Multi-Frame Sample."
- Sample Field** - A field within a segment designated to contain one or more survey samples, usually objective yield samples. Fields are identified by field number on aerial photographs.
- Sampling Frame** - A population or list of all possible units which meet a specified criteria to draw a sample.
- Sampling Unit** - An identifiable unit of a sampling frame that may be selected when drawing a sample. For an area frame sample it may be a segment, tract or field and for a list frame sample it is a name.
- Sand** - [Soil] Soil particles finer than gravel but coarser than silt, ranging in size from 0.05 to 2.00 mm. in diameter. [Soil Texture] See "Soil Texture (4) Sand."
- Sandy Clay** - See "Soil Texture (5) Sandy Clay."
- Sandy Clay Loam** - See "Soil Texture (6) Sandy Clay Loam."
- Sandy Loam** - See "Soil Texture (7) Sandy Loam."
- Scalping** - A method of range renovation where vegetation is turned over in strips to improve water infiltration, hasten organic matter decay, and reduce water and soil nutrient competition.
- Scarification** - To scratch, chip, or nick the seed coat to enhance absorption of water in the seed causing germination. Some seeds must be scarified before they germinate.
- Scours** - Diarrhea or loose-running feces. [Hogs] See "Gastroenteritis."
- Scout** - Crop specialist who visits fields to make assessments of crop development. Monitors field insect populations, presence of weeds, and disease damage to crop. Gathers

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- information about pest population levels, activity, size and/or density.
- Scouting** - A process of checking a field for the presence of weeds, insects, or diseases and gathering information about pest population levels, activity, size, and/or density.
- Scouting Program** - A complete program where a scout regularly monitors a field or all crop fields. The scout recommends to the operator specific control measures for problems found.
- Sea Island** - An extra long staple cotton originally from the Bahama Islands. Produced in SC, GA, and FL until early 1920's when U.S. production virtually ceased due to competition from foreign ELS cotton, production of American-Egyptian cotton in Western States, and production problems with Sea Island cotton. Commonly about 1½" in length but ranged up to 2".
- Secondary Name** - The second line of name and address information on the mailing label. It represents an individual or group of individuals associated with a partnership or operation name of a farm, ranch or agribusiness.
- Secondary Nutrients** - Essential plant nutrients needed in less quantity than primary nutrients but in greater quantity than micronutrients. These nutrients are calcium, magnesium and sulfur.
- Section** - A surveyed and recorded unit of land equal to 640 acres; 1 mile x 1 mile.
- Seed** - An embryonic plant with sufficient nutrients required during germination and early growth until the plant is able to produce its own food.
- Seed Corn** - Corn raised to produce seed stock. It may involve complicated pollination programs designed to retain desirable hereditary traits.
- Seed Cotton** - The raw product which has been harvested but not ginned, containing the lint, seed, and foreign matter.
- Seed Potatoes** - Pieces of potato planted to produce a crop.
- Seedbed** - The upper portion of the soil prepared by natural or artificial means to receive seed and promote germination and growth.
- Seedling** - The early growth stage of a plant grown from seed as it emerges above the ground.
- Segment** - Land areas with identifiable boundaries. Segments serve as sampling units in an area frame. They are assigned a permanent number and outlined in RED on aerial photos. Segments generally range in size from one-half square mile to three square miles.
- Segment Boundaries** - Centerline of physically observable boundaries such as roads, railroads, streams, ditches, etc., and the inside of red-inked lines for areas such as woods, desert land, or rangelands that have no observable boundaries.
- Selective Herbicide** - A herbicide which kills only certain groups of plants, e.g., 2,4-D kills broadleaf plants but not grasses.
- Selective Pesticide** - A chemical that is more toxic to some species than to others.
- Self-Feeder** - Feeding equipment that supplies feed continuously so animals may eat at will.
- Self Pollination** - Pollen from a plant is used to fertilize a flower on the same plant.
- Seller's Invoice** - An itemized listing of all goods or commodities delivered to a firm by a seller in one delivery.
- Serial Application** - The application of one pesticide to a site immediately or shortly after the application of another.
- Service Work** - Work of a service nature in a farm related business such as veterinary, commodity grading, marketing services, milk testing, etc.
- Set** - A plant, e.g., tomato or tobacco, which is first sown in flats or beds and later transplanted in the field; a small bulb (onion, garlic), shoot, tuber (potato), etc., for planting.
- Shade Tobacco** - See "Cigar Wrapper."
- Shattering** - Falling off and consequent loss of potentially harvestable grain or fruit caused by strong winds, heavy rains or hail.

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- Share Rent** - Method of paying rent, where the owner receives a share of the crop, livestock (or product, such as milk or wool) as payment for use of land, buildings, equipment, livestock, etc.
- Sharecropper** - A tenant who shares the crop, livestock, and/or livestock products with the landowner, who often extends credit to and closely supervises the tenant. The sharecropper generally supplies only labor.
- Shearing** - The operation of using shears to clip wool from sheep or goats.
- Shed** - A simple building for shelter of livestock, storage of feed, farm equipment, etc.
- Sheep Off** - To pasture sheep in a field after the crop has been harvested.
- Sheet** - A standard size of plywood, insulation, paneling, and other building materials. A sheet is 4 feet by 8 feet and available in various thicknesses.
- Shelterbelt** - A plant barrier of trees, shrubs, or other approved perennial vegetation designed to reduce wind erosion.
- Shipping Season** - The time period during which a crop is marketed. Normally beginning shortly after harvest starts and ending before the next crop season harvest begins.
- Shoat** - A young hog of either sex which is weaned but which usually weighs less than 150 pounds.
- Shoot** - A plant stem, 1 year old or less, that has leaves.
- Short** - One who has sold a futures contract and has not yet bought another futures contract to offset his position in the market. A contract is sold in expectation of buying back at a lower price, another contract with terms equal to the contract sold. Once an offsetting contract is bought, the purchaser is no longer short.
- Short Rotation Woody Crop** - Trees grown for pulp or tree stock having a typical growth cycle of 10 years or less (Christmas trees, cottonwood for pulp, tree farms).
- Shote** - See "Shoat."
- Shrinkage** - [Livestock] The animal weight lost between feedlot and market scales due to transit or other handling processes. [Crops] The weight lost in grain, vegetables, or potatoes during storage through the loss of moisture.
- Side-Dress** - To apply fertilizer to soil at the side of a row, usually by a cultivator fitted with a fertilizer distributing attachment or by a machine especially designed for this purpose.
- Silage** - Feed for livestock, kept juicy and succulent by fermenting chopped green corn, corn ears, legumes or grasses. Crops are stored in silos or mounds to restrict the supply of oxygen, this is necessary to create the fermentation process. The chief crops stored this way are corn, sorghum, and various legumes and grasses. The main use of silage is as cattle feed.
- Silk** - The long, hairlike membrane coming from the ear of the corn plant, each of which is connected to an ovary (kernel) on the ear. Each silk must be pollinated to form a full ear of kernels. After pollination the silks become dry and turn brown.
- Silo** - A structure for making and storing silage. Silos can either be upright (vertical) or trench or bunker (horizontal) type structures.
- Silt** - [Soil] Small, mineral, soil particles, ranging from 0.002 to 0.05 mm. in diameter. [Soil Texture] See "Soil Texture (8) Silt."
- Silt Loam** - See "Soil Texture (9) Silt Loam."
- Silty Clay** - See "Soil Texture (10) Silty Clay."
- Silty Clay Loam** - See "Soil Texture (11) Silty Clay Loam."
- Simple Layering** - A method of layering in which the stem behind the end of the branch is covered with soil to promote rooting and the tip remains above ground.
- Sire** - A male animal that is the parent of an animal.
- Skep** - Beehive made of straw.
- Skip-Row Planting** - Planting with uniform spacing, one or more rows of a commodity (especially cotton), then skipping one or more rows.
- Skirted** - Wool from which belly-fleece and other inferior type fleece has been removed.
- Slaughter** - The butchering of cattle, sheep, and other animals for food.

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Slaughter Plant - A business and corresponding buildings designed to butcher meat animals.

Slaughter Weights - The average weight at which a livestock species goes to slaughter market.

Sled Row - The unplanted area of skip rows between the planted rows of tobacco for the movement of equipment and machinery. Normally, a sled row is the share of two rows that is left between each four rows of planted tobacco. Also called a truck row.

Sliver - A strand or rope of fibers without twist. In yarn manufacture, a sliver is formed by the carding machine and is of greater diameter than roving.

Slope - Any land surface with an incline or decline, such as a hillside or terrace.

Small Grain - Any of the cereal crops, such as wheat, oats, barley, rye, and rice.

Small Grain Hay - Includes small grains such as wheat, oats, and rye harvested as hay instead of grain. Small grains harvested for hay are a source of feed for a feedlot. Sometimes a small grain is intended to be harvested for grain, but if grain quality and quantity has poor potential, grain prices are low, or a second crop will need to be planted before the grain is ripe, then harvesting for hay is an alternative.

Smoker - Device used to blow smoke on bees to reduce stinging.

Smothering - The suffocation of a plant, usually due to ice or water remaining on the plant and the surrounding soil for a prolonged period.

Sod - A tight growth of grass or other plants.

Sodbuster - A farmer who plows highly erodible land currently in sod to plant cultivated crops, often with more than the allowable amount of erosion occurring.

Sodium Nitrate - A common chemical fertilizer having the fertilizer analysis, 16-0-0.

Soft Fibers - Flexible fibers of soft texture obtained from the inner bark of dicotyledonous plants. Soft fibers are fine enough to be made into fabrics and cordage. Examples are flax, hemp, jute, kenaf, and ramie. See "Hard Fibers".

Soft Pork - A soft, flabby, oily pork which is the result of hogs being fed high fat content feeds in which the fat is liquid at ordinary temperatures. Some example feeds are soybeans, peanuts, mash, and certain garbage.

Soil - Earth material that will support rooted plants. It is made up of inorganic particles, organic matter, organisms, water, and air.

Soil Application - Application of a pesticide to the soil rather than to a growing crop or weed.

Soil Compaction - The pressing of soil particles closer together, reducing the soil's capacity to hold organic matter, organisms, water and air, which are essential for optimum plant growth. It is often caused by driving on or tilling soil with heavy equipment or when the soil is very wet.

Soil Fertility - The soil quality that provides nutrients in proper amounts and balance for the growth of crops when other factors such as temperature, moisture, etc., are favorable.

Soil Map - A map designed to show the distribution of soil types on the earth's surface.

Soil Moisture - Soil water available for plant use.

Soil Profile - A vertical section of a soil that shows the layering beneath the soil surface.

Soil Structure - The natural arrangement of individual soil particles into separate aggregates, varying in form and size.

Soil Survey - The systematic classification and mapping of soils in an area.

Soil Test - A variety of lab and field examinations of soil samples to determine the amounts, kinds, and availability of plant nutrients.

Soil Texture - The relative proportions of sand, silt, and clay particles in the soil.

(1) **Clay:** 40%+ clay size particles.

(2) **Clay Loom:** 27 to 40% clay, 15 to 53% silt, and 20 to 45% sand.

(3) **Loam:** 7 to 27% clay, 28 to 50% silt, and < 52% sand.

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- (4) **Sand:** 85%+ sand and <10% clay.
- (5) **Sandy Clay:** 45%+ sand, 35%+ clay, and < 20% silt.
- (6) **Sandy Clay Loam:** 20 to 35% clay, <28% silt, and 45%+ sand.
- (7) **Sandy Loam:** <20% clay, <50% silt, and 43 to 52% sand.
- (8) **Silt:** Soil with 80% or more silt and less than 12% clay.
- (9) **Silt Loam:** 50%+ silt and 12 to 27% clay, or 50 to 80% silt and <12% clay.
- (10) **Silty Clay:** 40% + clay and 40%+silt.
- (11) **Silty Clay Loam:** 27 to 40% clay and <20% sand.
- Soil Tilth** - The overall physical condition of the soil, frequently regarding its suitability as a seedbed.
- Solar Energy** - Energy, in the form of heat, generated by the sun.
- Sold-out** - A previous farm or ranch operator or operation that is now out-of-business due to selling the entire farming or ranching operation; no longer owning any farmland; crop, livestock, or poultry facilities or grain storage facilities. See "Out-of-Business."
- Soluble Powder** - A finely ground, dry powder formulation where the technical active ingredient as well as the other formulation components will dissolve in water or other liquid for which the powder is formulated.
- Solvency** - A measurement of what would be left if all an operation's assets were converted to cash and all its liabilities were paid.
- Sorghum (Milo)** - Sorghum is used primarily for livestock feed. It is a plant similar to corn, but the grain grows on a head like wheat, rather than on ears. Sorghum grows to a height of about 3 feet, but some types, especially those used for silage, will grow much taller, creating more plant to be chopped for feed. Stalk residue remaining after harvesting for grain can be used as pasture for cattle after a few days, following a killing frost. In drought years milo stalks contain prussic acid, which is fatal to cattle. One sorghum variety has leaves that are pressed to create molasses.
- Sow** - Female pig that has farrowed at least once.
- Sow, Brood** - See "Brood."
- Spay** - To remove the ovaries of a female animal making her unable to produce eggs and thus, unable to produce young.
- Special Farrowing** - The modification of furrows to reduce runoff, capture precipitation and improve irrigation efficiency.
- Specific Pathogen Free (SPF)** - A special birthing process performed under sterile conditions using sterile procedures. The process is only performed in special operations, usually hog operations interested in selling selective breeding stock. A Caesarean section procedure is usually used to achieve sterile conditions. This procedure is used to prevent exposure of baby pigs to common diseases, as could occur during normal farrowing procedures.
- Speculation** - Trading in futures contracts in which traders take the risk of price change, hoping for a financial gain.
- Speculative Commodities** - Commodities designated by USDA regulations because they are traded on organized commodity exchanges. Forecasts and estimates for these commodities are prepared under special precautions. See "Agricultural Statistics Board."
- Speculator** - People who underwrite the risk for the hedging process. Speculators usually have no commodity to deliver or do not intend to take delivery on any contracts. They will try to offset their market position before the contract is due.
- Spike** - [Floriculture] A stalk or stem of gladiolus having more than one bloom or flower.
- Spinning** - The process of drawing fibers in roving or rope form, twisting the appropriate number of turns per inch and winding the yarn on a bobbin or other suitable holder.
- Spinning Quality** - The ease with which fibers lend themselves to yarn-manufacturing processes.
- Spot Price** - See "Price, Raw Cotton."
- Spot Treatment** - Application of a pesticide to small, discrete areas.

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- Spray** - Pressurized application of a chemical by placing fixed or traveling (wig-wag) nozzles over the crop.
- Springer** - A pregnant cow or heifer due to calve shortly.
- Sprinkler Irrigation** - Overhead application of water to a crop by any of a wide range of systems, e.g. center pivot.
- SSN** - Abbreviation for Social Security Number.
- Stacked Gene Variety** - Biotech seed varieties that include both genetically modified insect resistance and genetically modified herbicide resistance. Only include varieties that have both. If the variety contains more than one gene for resistance to different types of insects but not herbicide resistance, it is NOT a stacked gene variety.
- Stag** - Male animal castrated as a mature animal, normally after being used for breeding.
- Stalk** - The main stem of a plant, which often supports leaves, stems, flowers, fruit, etc.
- Stallion** - A male horse used for breeding purposes.
- Staple** - Fiber of such plants as cotton and flax, wool, etc., especially with reference to length.
- Staple fibers** - (1) Natural fibers whose length usually ranges from about 1 inch to 1½ inches, such as cotton. (2) Manmade fibers cut to the length of various natural fibers to facilitate blending and processing with other fibers.
- Starting Corner** - [Objective Yield] The first corner reached when approaching a field; the point of entry into the field.
- State Land** - Lands which belong to and are administered by a state, and are leased to individuals.
- Statistically Defensible Survey** - A survey whose procedures and specifications can withstand court challenge or other investigation. The survey should have an adequate sample size, randomly selected respondents, carefully worded questions, professional interviewing, reasonable editing, correct summarization, and appropriate publication.
- Statistics** - Totals, averages, percentages, and other numbers computed from population or sample data.
- Steer** - Castrated male cattle.
- Stem** - The portion of the plant that supports the bloom and on which the bloom grows.
- Sterile** - [Plants] Florets which were not fertilized during the period of pollination. [Livestock] Animals incapable of reproduction.
- Stillborn** - Giving birth to a dead but fully developed fetus.
- Stock Sheep** - Sheep in the breeding flock, including ewes and rams used for breeding, wethers one year old and older, ewe lambs and ram lambs.
- Stocker** - [Cattle] Cattle being backgrounded prior to finishing. Sometimes referred to as yearling cattle. [Fish] Fish usually 6 to 12 inches in length and less than ¾ pound. [Livestock] See "Feeder."
- Stockyard** - A holding area for livestock being sold through commission firms.
- Stolon** - Stems that, as they grow, bend over with their weight so that the tips touch the soil, often continuing growth along and on the soil. Roots may be produced at nodes touching the soil.
- Storage Capacity** - Capacity of all permanent and temporary storage structures normally used to store grain. These facilities can be silos, cribs, bins, granaries, buildings, trailers, trench storage, etc.
- Stover** - The stem and leafy parts of a corn plant after the ears have been removed.

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- Stratification** - The classification of sampling units in a population into homogeneous groups. An area frame is stratified based on land use, such as intensity of cropland, rangeland, wasteland, urban areas, etc. A list frame is stratified based on operation control data, such as number of livestock, grain storage capacity, cropland, and total acres operated.
- Straw** - The dried stems of small grains remaining after grain harvest is complete.
- Strick Low Middling 11/16 Inch Cotton** - The grade and staple length used as a basis on which the CCC, USDA, establishes its loan rates. Higher qualities receive loan premiums and generally higher market prices, while lower qualities receive lower loan rates and lower prices. See "Cotton Quality."
- Strip-Till** - A conservation tillage method where the soil is left undisturbed prior to planting. Tillage in the row is done at planting using tools such as a roto-tiller, an in-row chisel, or other row cleaners. Weeds are controlled with herbicides and/or cultivation.
- Strip Cropping** - Growing crops in a systematic arrangement of strips or bands to serve as barriers to wind and water erosion.
- Stubble** - That portion of the forage or grain plant remaining after harvest is complete, usually the root and a portion of the stem or stalk.
- Sub-irrigation** - Water supplied through underground tile or perforated pipe in sufficient amounts to maintain a water table close to the soil surface to supply water for crop needs.
- Sub-Tract** - See "Tract and Sub-Tract".
- Subsampling** - A general term for selecting a sample from a sample.
- Subsidy** - Any national tax rebate on exports, financial assistance on preferential terms, financial assistance for operating losses, or expenses for production, processing, or distribution of a product.
- Subsistence Farm** - A low income farm where production emphasis is for use by the operator and his family rather than sale.
- Sucker** - A tiller or shoot arising from a bud.
- Suckle** - To nurse at the udder.
- Summer Fallow** - See "Fallow."
- Summer Range** - Rangeland grazed during the summer growing season.
- Super** - A top compartment of a beehive above the brood nest area in which bees deposit their nectar and honey.
- Supima** - Trademark of an ELS cotton, commonly referred to as American Pima cotton, produced in Arizona, New Mexico, and West Texas. Supima Association of America is a producer association headquartered in Phoenix, Arizona.
- Supplement** - See "Feed Supplement."
- Surface Irrigation** - The application of water directly on the soil surface, e.g. flooding the entire area or flooding furrows.
- Surface Water Sources** - Water stored in natural ponds or lakes, flowing in streams and rivers, and water stored in man-made reservoirs.
- Surfactant** - A chemical added to a pesticide which improves the emulsifying, dispersing, spreading, and/or wetting properties of the pesticide.
- Surge Flow** - A gated-pipe, furrow irrigation system where a surge control valve is used to control the direction and water flow rate. This system minimizes irrigation runoff.
- Surge Flow with Cutback** - Delivery of water to the field where after the initial surge irrigation, water flow rate is cutback sufficiently to maintain water in the furrow while delivering a more uniform supply of water to the furrow.
- Survey** - The collection of data pertaining to specific sample units. A sample is selected and information collected from individual sampling units. Data reported by the selected sampling units, when summarized, provides an indication of what the total would be if all the sample units within the sampling frame had reported.
- Survey Management System** - A management program used to take sampled record information from ELMO and prepare those

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- records for data collection. The program also provides information related to enumerator performance.
- Survey Period** - The time period during which survey data collection can occur. Primarily determined by the survey's reference date and due date. See "Data Collection", "Date, Due", and "Date, Reference."
- Susceptibility** - [Pesticide] Capacity to be adversely affected by pesticide treatment.
- Swampbuster** - Persons who drain natural wetlands to convert land to other uses, mainly annual crops in the case of farmers.
- Swarm** - Natural division of a colony of bees.
- Sweet Corn** - A variety of corn with kernels high in sugar that is eaten by humans as fresh or processed corn.
- Sweetening** - [Crop] Seeding additional seed into an already established crop without destroying original seeding. This is usually done because the original stand was too thin.
- Swine** - A hog or a pig.
- Swine Influenza** - A very contagious disease in hogs. Infected pigs lose their appetite, become weak, run a fever, and may develop a cough. The disease runs its course in 3 to 7 days and death loss is usually very low. Infected pigs take longer to reach market weight because of weight loss and infected sows may abort during gestation.
- Synthetic Fibers** - Fibers made from petroleum derived chemicals that were never fibrous in form; categorized as noncellulosic fibers.
- T-Value** - The maximum rate of soil erosion under which a high level of crop production can be maintained indefinitely.
- Tags** - Mohair (goats) and wool (sheep) clipped from face and crotch area.
- Tailing** - Material unthreshed after going through the cylinder and concaves of the thresher.
- Tallow** - Fat rendered from the tissue of cattle and sheep used in candle, or soap manufacture, etc.
- Tame Hay** - Hay cut from domesticated, cultivated crops such as clover, timothy, etc., as opposed to hay cut from wild or native grasses.
- Tank Mix** - Two or more pesticide products mixed in the spray tank by the applicator immediately before application and applied to the field as a single treatment.
- Tankage** - A highly nutritive feed concentrate consisting of processed meat by-products. It is high in protein and minerals.
- Tare** - The weight of the ties (or bands) and wrapping materials around a bale of cotton. The quoted net weight of a bale excludes the tare, whereas the gross weight includes tare.
- Target Crop** - A crop selected for inclusion in a survey.
- Target Operator / Operation** - Reference to the operator / operation listed on the questionnaire label. See "Operator", "Operation", and "Operating Arrangement".
- Target Price** - The 2002 Act establishes target prices for eligible commodities.
- Tariff** - A system of duties (taxes) imposed by a government on imported goods.
- Tassel** - The male flower of the corn plant.
- Tenant** - A person who reimburses the owner with money, labor, or a share of the product, for the use of the owner's land.
- Term Permits** - Grazing rights or privileges, for national forests, issued to qualified applicants for ten year periods.
- Terminal Market** - A city or market into which large amounts of produce are brought for sale and distribution.
- Terrace** - Raised earthen embankments in a field supported that direct rainfall to an outlet such a waterway or tile intake. Terraces are usually classified by the method of runoff disposal, the shape of the terrace cross section, or by the alignment between terraces.

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- Tex** - A system of yarn numbering that measures the weight in grams of 1,000 meters of yarn. A 30 tex yarn weighs 30 grams per 1,000 meters.
- Textile** - Any product made from fibers, including yarns, fabrics, and end-use products such as apparel, home furnishings, and industrial applications.
- Texture** - The number of warp threads (ends) and filling yarn (picks) per square inch in a woven fabric. For example, 88 x 72 means there are 88 ends and 72 picks per square inch in the fabric.
- TGE** - See "Transmissible Gastroenteritis."
- Thinners** - Chemical products produced to decrease fruit set or to thin the fruit production.
- Thinning** - Type of pruning cut where entire shoots are removed; an extension of, or complement to, heading back.
- Thumps** - A respiratory disturbance in pigs which resembles hiccoughs. Pigs breathe rapidly and with difficulty. Associated with swine influenza and pig pneumonia.
- Tiled** - An area of land which has had an underground drainage system installed to remove excess water from the soil.
- Tillable Acres** - That part of a farm's land which can be used for crops without additional drainage, clearing, or irrigation.
- Tillage** - The practice of working the soil to bring about more favorable conditions for seed germination, root growth, and weed control to improve plant growth.
- Tiller** - A shoot which arises from the crown of a grass plant.
- Tilth** - See "Soil Tilth."
- Timber Tract** - See "Short Rotation Woody Crops".
- Tip Layering** - Layering in which rooting takes place near the tip of the current season's shoot which falls to the ground naturally.
- Tobacco Barn** - A barn specially designed for curing tobacco.
- Tobacco, Shade** - See "Cigar Wrapper."
- Tolerance** - Capacity to withstand pesticide treatment without adverse effect on normal growth and function. The amount of pesticide residue that is permitted by federal regulations to remain on or in a crop.
- Tom** - A male turkey less than 1 year old.
- Ton (T)** - Weight equal to 2,000 pounds.
- Tonne** - See "Metric Ton."
- Top-Dress** - To apply fertilizer or manure on top of the ground without working it into the soil.
- Topping** - The cutting off or removal of the top portion of plants. [Tobacco] This practice is commonly done to prevent plants from developing flowers and allowing plants to use more of their nutrients to grow larger leaves. [Seed Corn] Detasseling is a form of topping.
- Topsoil** - The naturally forming, upper layer of soil rich in organic matter; it is easily lost by erosion.
- Total Confinement** - Production under a roof with no access to exposed lots or pastures.
- Toxicity** - The capacity of a substance to produce illness or cause an adverse effect; the measure of damage resulting from exposure to a substance.
- Trace Element** - A chemical substance essential in very small amounts for both plants and animals.
- Tract** - An area of land inside a segment under one type of land operating arrangement. It may have one or more parcels of land. A tract may consist of agricultural land (ag tract), nonagricultural land, residential areas, and/or some other land use. A tract consists of land the operator owns and operates as well as land rented from others.
- Tract and Subtract(s)** - Terms used to describe an operating arrangements on list frame surveys with the tract being the primary operating arrangement and the subtracts being additional operating arrangements for an operator.
- Tractor** - A self-propelled machine with a gasoline or diesel engine that supplies power to other machines in one of 5 ways: (1) pulling at the drawbar; (2) pushing from the front; (3) rotary power from the power-take-off (PTO); (4) hydraulic power; and, (5) electric power

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- (direct current from a generator). This machine is used to perform much of the work on farms.
- Trade Deficit** - The amount a country's imports exceeds exports.
- Tranquilizer** - A chemical substance which has the ability to calm or pacify an animal when injected into the bloodstream.
- Transfer** - [Land] A change in the ownership of a parcel, including voluntary sales, forced sales (bankruptcies, etc.) and non-sales (gifts or inheritances). This also includes the rights, responsibilities, and decision making ability that go with ownership.
- Transmissible Gastroenteritis (TGE)** - A digestive disease in hogs. Pigs may vomit, scour profusely, and lose weight rapidly. Young pigs often die in 5 to 7 days, some within 48 hours. Most survivors remain stunted. Mortality may approach 100% in pigs less than a week old.
- Transpiration** - Release of water vapor by plants.
- Transplant** - A seedling which has been moved one or more times, or the transferring of a seedling from the seedbed into the ground.
- Trap Crops** - Any crop planted for the purpose of attracting insects, fungi, etc. away from other nearby crops.
- Trash** - Leaves, stalks, husks, etc. left on the ground after harvest.
- Tray** - A wide, flat-bottomed, topless, shallow container used for picking, carrying, handling, drying, or storing produce. [Grapes] Heavy weight, brown paper treated to withstand weather upon which raisin grapes are placed to dry. Trays generally measure 24" x 36", although some new types are 30" x 30".
- Treated Acres** - The actual physical acres of a crop that were treated with chemical products.
- Treated Wood** - Lumber that has been soaked, dipped, sprayed, or treated with any of a variety of petroleum by-products to give long term resistance to rot, decay, or insect damage.
- Treatment Acres** - The total number of acres covered by applications of a product regardless of single or multiple applications.
- Tree Farm** - A tract of land on which trees are grown as a managed crop.
- Trench Silo** - A trench dug in a hillside, sometimes lined with wood or concrete retaining walls used as a silo to store forage. Must be well drained; used in arid or semiarid climates.
- Trickle Irrigation** - See "Drip Irrigation."
- Truck Broker** - A firm, for a fee, coordinates transportation deals for carriers and receivers and provides other administrative, information, safety, and bookkeeping services.
- Truck Farm** - A farm producing one or several kinds of vegetables which are shipped to and sold at markets.
- Tuber** - The enlarged, fleshy portion of an underground stem or shoot which bears minute, scalelike buds or eyes.
- Tumble Weed** - Any weed that breaks away from the ground, usually at or near the surface, at the end of the growing season and because of its shape is often blown considerable distances, scattering seeds as it goes.
- Turkey-Feed Ratio** - Number of pounds of turkey ration equal in value to one pound of live turkey; or, the price per pound farmers receive for turkey divided by the price per pound of feed.
- Twenty** - A term commonly used to indicate an area of land or a field that is 20 acres in size.
- Twist** - The number of turns per unit of length of the fiber, strand, roving, or yarn. In the U.S., it is measured by the number of turns per inch.
- UAA - Undeliverable as Addressed** - Mailings returned by the post office and marked undeliverable with reason shown.
- Udder** - Mammary glands of cattle and certain other female animals.
- Underground Outlets** - Systems of water runoff control carrying water through an underground pipe to disposal areas. The underground outlet consists of vertical intake risers carrying water to an underground outlet such as tile drainage.

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- Undrawn** - Designating killed poultry with the feathers removed but with the insides intact.
- Universal Density Bale** - A bale of cotton compressed to 28 pounds per cubic foot.
- Unit** - See "Count Unit."
- Untied Egg Producers (UEP)** - A national egg producer organization.
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)** - A Department within the Federal government having a cabinet level Secretary reporting to the President. It functions to propose legislation and establish regulations in the best interest of agriculture.
- Upland Cotton** - The predominant type of cotton grown in the U.S. and most of the world. The fiber staple length ranges from $\frac{3}{4}$ inch to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches, averaging nearly $1\frac{3}{32}$ inches.
- Urea** - A nonprotein, organic compound of nitrogen, made synthetically by a combination of ammonia and carbon dioxide, and used in fertilizers and as a livestock feed supplement. [Fertilizer] The fertilizer has analysis of 45-0-0.
- Utilization [Crops]** - Uses of a crop. For example, planted oats can have several utilizations: whole grain, grain hay, green chop, grazed acres. (If not utilized, see "Abandonment".)
- Vaccination** - An injection of a vaccine to produce immunity or tolerance to disease.
- Vaccines** - Products containing high numbers of weakened or killed organisms known to cause a particular disease.
- Vacuum Cooling** - A cooling system for fresh leafy vegetables (lettuce). The wet product is put into a vacuum chamber and the atmospheric pressure is lowered. As water evaporates, the heat of vaporization quickly removes heat from the product.
- Value of Land and Buildings** - The farm operator's estimated current market value of the land and buildings of the operation which should include the operator's dwelling, if part of the place, and farm buildings, but excludes manufacturing or processing plants and buildings used for non-agriculture purposes.
- Vapor Drift** - The movement of vapors created when applying pesticides from the area of application to adjacent areas.
- Variety** - A group of related plants or animals that differ from similar groups by characteristics too trivial to be recognized as a species.
- Veal** - Young calves fed by hand, or allowed to nurse a cow, their milk ration is supplemented with grain to prepare them for slaughter. Calves are usually sold and slaughtered before 3 months old, weighting from 100 to 200 pounds.
- Vegetable** - The edible part of any plant.
- Vegetative Cover** - Perennial grasses, legumes, or shrubs with an expected life span of 5 years; trees are also used as a cover.
- Vernalization** - The induction of certain plants to flower following a cold period.
- Veterinarian** - A doctor licensed to attend to animals' medical needs.
- Vinegar** - A liquid made from sugary and starchy materials, usually apples and grapes, with subsequent acetic fermentation; must contain at least 4% acetic acid.
- Vineyard** - A plantation, farm, or land where grapes are grown.
- Virus Pig Pneumonia (VPP)** - See "Pig Pneumonia."
- Vitamin** - An organic substance which performs specific and necessary functions for normal growth and maintenance. It is required in relatively small concentrations.
- Volunteer** - Any plant growing from self-sown seed (corn growth from kernels lost while harvesting). In some cases, especially small grains, volunteer crop may be thick enough to harvest as a crop.
- VPP** - See "Pig Pneumonia."
- Wages** - Money paid to an employee for work (often manual work) done; usually figured on an hourly, daily, weekly, biweekly, monthly, or piecework basis. See "Salary."
- Warm-up Ration** - A cattle ration of grain and/or silage which prepares animals for placement in a feedlot on full feed.

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- Warp** - The yarns that run lengthwise in a woven or warp-knit fabric.
- Washing** - [Wool] The process used to remove the suint (dried sheep perspiration), or natural grease, and dirt from the fleece. The wool is treated first in alkaline liquor to soften the grease and then washed in fresh water. [Crop] The area of the packing line after prewashing but before grading where the crop is washed with some form of a foam application of soap. Sometimes a fungicide or other product may be added.
- Wash and Wear** - A term applied to any garment which can be washed, dried, and then worn again with little or no ironing. Also called "durable press" or "permanent press."
- Water Quality Program** - Farm Bill program to help producers develop plans and implement practices to protect water quality. Producers with approved plans receive cost assistance.
- Water Right** - A legal right to use the water of a natural stream. It may entitle a person to use the canal to full capacity, to a measured extent, or for a definite period of time, and to change the place of diversion, storage, or use of water as long as it does not infringe upon others' rights.
- Water Sources** - Water sources include only surface and/or ground water. Surface water consists of water stored in natural ponds or lakes, water that flows in streams and rivers, and water stored in man-made reservoirs. Surface water may originate on farm, but also includes all water supplied by an off-farm water supplier. Ground water is water stored beneath the ground surface in aquifers. Water pumped from on-farm wells is ground water.
- Water Tolerant** - A plant which will continue to thrive in soil with considerable moisture.
- Watershed** - The total land area, regardless of size, above a given point on a waterway that contributes runoff water to the flow at that point.
- Waterway** - A natural or artificially constructed course for the flow of water runoff from heavy rainfall or snow melt.
- Waxing** - [Fruit] The area of a packing line after washing and grading where wax is applied to fruit in a water emulsion by dip, foam, or spray.
- Wax Moth** - An insect whose larvae destroy a beehive's wax combs.
- Waxy Corn** - A variety of corn with waxy kernels high in starch. It is used as feed and corn meal.
- Wean** - To separate nursing young from their mother so they can no longer nurse.
- Weaner** - A young animal reaching the age where it can be weaned or it has been weaned.
- Weaning Weights** - Average weight when livestock species are weaned.
- Weed** - A plant growing where it is not wanted.
- Weft** - The filling yarns that run crosswise in woven fabric or weft-knit fabric.
- Weight of Fabric** - Three methods measure fabric weight: (1) linear yards per pound (2) ounces per linear yard, and (3) ounces per square yard.
- Well Casing** - The outer metal or concrete liner of an in-ground well. Within the well casing will be the pipe through which the water is pumped.
- Wether** - Castrated male sheep.
- Wetlands** - Land characterized by an abundance of moisture and is inundated by surface or ground water often enough to support a prevalence of vegetation adapted for saturated conditions.
- Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)** - A voluntary program offering landowners financial incentives to enhance wetlands in exchange for retiring marginal agricultural land. To be eligible, land must be restorable and provide significant wetland and wildlife habitat. The program offers landowners three options: permanent easements, 30-year easements, and restoration cost-share agreements of a minimum 10-year duration.

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- Wettable Powder** - A finely ground, dry powder formulation which mixes with water to form a suspension (does not dissolve) for application in spray equipment. Continuous agitation is required to maintain suspension.
- Whey** - The part of milk left after cheese is made.
- White Corn** - A variety of corn with white kernels used for making white corn meal.
- Wholesale** - The selling or buying of goods or commodities in large quantities, usually at a lower price per item.
- Wholesaler** - [Food] A person or firm that sells larger quantities of a product normally to retailers.
- Wild Hay** - Hay made from native or wild, uncultivated grasses and plants.
- Wilderness** - Lands intentionally managed, or left alone, to maintain their primitive character.
- Wilt** - Loss of freshness and a drooping of the foliage of a plant due to a lack of moisture. Plants roll their leaves in an effort to reduce moisture loss through the surface of their leaves.
- Windbreak** - A natural (grove of trees) or artificial (wall) barrier intended to stop or slowdown the wind as it blows across a field, or upon exposed livestock.
- Windrow** - The gathering of grains or forage in a row to facilitate mechanical harvesting.
- Winter Froage** - Combination of wheat, barley, and oats harvested as greenchop or silage, fed mainly to dairy cattle to increase milk production during the winter months.
- Winter-Hardiness** - The ability of a plant to tolerate severe winter conditions and to retain its vigor the next season.
- Wood Shavings** - Very short thin strips of wood resulting from planing boards. Sometimes used as animal bedding.
- Woodland** - Wood lots or timber tracts, natural or planted. Exclude cropland (bearing orchards, etc.) and pasture, but include woodland occasionally grazed.
- Woody Crops** - See "Short Rotation Woody Crops".
- Wool** - The fleece shorn from sheep. Wool is spun into yarn or thread and eventually made into garments.
- Wool Breeds** - White-faced sheep breeds selected for their adaptability to environmental and forage conditions, reproductive efficiency, milking ability, wool production, and longevity. Ewe lambs are generally selected from these breed types or crosses among these breeds.
- Wool Pool** - A grouping of the wool of many producers into a single total amount so it can be sold on the market as a single unit. Such commodity pools are very helpful in securing a more satisfactory market than the individual producer could command for his small quantity.
- Wool Sorting** - The process of separating fleeces into groups according to fineness and length of the staple.
- Worker** - [Labor] Person doing work. [Bees] The female bee, other than the queen, whose organs of reproduction are only partially developed. Workers gather nectar and pollen, tend to the brood, bring water, protect the hive, etc.
- Worker Bee** - The name given to a sexually underdeveloped female bee.
- World Price** - Often refers to the C.I.F. price of an imported agricultural commodity at the principle port of importation of a major importing country or area (see "Prices").
- World Trade Organization (WTO)** - Established by the Uruguay Round Agreement to replace the GATT on January 1, 1996.
- Woven Fabric** - Fabric made by interlacing two sets of yarn at right angles. The warp yarns run lengthwise in the fabric; the filling (weft) yarns are passed over and under the warp yarns.
- Yardage** - A per head fee charged by the stockyards company at the terminal markets or fee charged by a feedlot owner to a cattle owner, of the use of the pen, waters, scales, and other facilities.
- Yarn** - A continuous strand of twisted (spun) fibers of any kind and of varying staple length, usually used in the weaving or knitting of fabric.

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Yarn Size - Numbering of yarns or threads by weight. A “1s” cotton yarn has 840 yards in a pound; a “30s” cotton yarn has 25,200 yards in a pound; a “30/2” is a two-ply yarn containing two strands of 30s.

Yean - To give birth to young, especially by goats and sheep.

Yeanling - A newborn or young sheep or goat.

Yearling - An animal at least 1 year old, but less than 2 years old.

Yield Map - A map prepared from data collected by a yield monitor attached to harvesting equipment. A yield map shows the variation in yields for small areas within a field and is a key component in the detailed planning inherent in precision farming.

Yield Monitor - A monitor mounted on harvesting equipment that measures yields continuously as the harvester moves through a field. These yield measures can be tied to specific locations in the field through GIS and converted into yield maps. Such yield maps can then be compared with the fertilizer or pesticide application map, and used to customize a new application map of the next season.

Yolk - [Poultry] The yellow part of a fowl’s egg from which the embryo develops. [Wool] All the substances, such as perspiration, present in the fleece when sheared.

Zero Tolerance - No amount of the pesticide chemical may remain on or in the raw agricultural commodity when it is offered for shipment.

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2002 Census of Agriculture

Glossary

Introduction: This glossary contains terms and definitions associated with conducting, processing, and tabulating the 2002 United States Census of Agriculture.

Index of Frequently Used
Abbreviations/Acronyms

ADVFU - Advanced Follow-up
BDC - Blaise Data Capture
CASIC - Computer Assisted Survey
Information Collection
CATI - Computer Assisted Telephone
Interview
COS - Computer Out-of-Scope
DLT - Decision Logic Table
EDSKIP - Edit Skip Code
FHA - Farmers Home Administration
(formerly FmHA)
I/S - In-Scope
ITC - Incoming Telephone Call
LRCFU - Low Response County Follow-
up
MIS - Management Information System
NAICS - North American Industrial
Classification System
NNI - Nearest Neighbor Imputation
NRCS - Natural Resources Conservation
Service (formerly SCS)
O/S - Out-of-Scope
POS - Possible Out-of-Scope Codes
PRD - Previously Reported Data
RD - Referral Disposition Code
S O/S - Suspicious Out-of-Scope
TAGGED - Records selected for
enumeration by the SSO
TVP - Total Value of Products Sold
UAA - Undeliverable as Addressed
VLBALL - Value of all Land and
Buildings
Acres in Place - All land on which
agricultural operations were or
will be conducted at any time in
the census year under the day-to-
day control or supervision of one
or more operators but constituting

a single operation. Control may be exercised through ownership or management or through a lease, rental or cropping arrangement. Land managed for someone else is always considered to be a separate place. It may consist of one or more tracts.

Advanced Follow-up - These are operations that did not respond in previous censuses and have not yet responded to the current census. These records will be prioritized so that cases in counties with low response rates will be contacted first. This will reduce the low response county follow-up work.

Agriculture Report Form Guide, 2002

Census of Agriculture - (AC02-R-2) - A publication prepared by the Census Planning Branch for use in assisting farmers and ranchers in completing their 2002 Census of Agriculture Report forms. The "Guide" is mailed out to county agriculture extension agents, high school vocational-Ag teachers, FSA, NRCS, and FHA county offices of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Analyst Out-of-Scope (O/S) Reports - Reports determined by an analyst as being out of scope because records were duplicated with another operation in the Census of Agriculture, O/S status was determined through ELMO criteria (i.e., inactive status codes, enumerator comments showing inactivity) or other sources. A census status code of 59 indicates a case has been set O/S by an analyst during census data review.

Census - An enumeration in which all elements of the population are counted.

Census Coverage - The degree of completeness and accuracy in the

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count of producing units and items counted by the census, e.g., farms, land in farms, etc.

Certainty Level - Agricultural Census reports which are designated to be included in the sample of farms getting the "long form" or "sample form" with a probability of one. A Certainty level report may or may not equal the "Must" level for a particular state. Sample weights for Certainty reports will equal 1.0. (Also see Sample Report Form and Weight definitions).

Check Digit - A digit used in data capture to verify correctness of an entry, in most cases the Census File (or some other identification) Number. Usually this digit is precomputed and shown as the last number of the punched information being checked.

Check-in Status Code - A 2-digit code assigned to a report in the National Processing Center (NPC) in Jeffersonville, Indiana or by the computer edit to indicate the type of response. The primary purpose of census status coding is to determine and remove as quickly as possible from follow-up mailings those establishments or farming operations which have satisfied their reporting requirements for the census. The status coding system also permits maintaining complete and accurate status information on each agriculture operation. The first digit (primary code) indicates the major response status, the second code provides additional information. Primary Check-in Status codes are: 0 = Unsatisfied - no returns, 1 = Form Remail, 2 = UAA, 3 = Correspondence, 4 =

Form Received/Satisfied, 5 = Out-of-Scope, 6 = In-Scope, 7 = Split County Parent

Check-in Unit - This processing unit is located in the National Processing Center (NPC) in Jeffersonville, Indiana and is responsible for receipt and check-in of Agricultural census questionnaires and other materials. This unit opens incoming mail bags, sorts envelopes by type, and prepares for check-in via bar code scanner/sorter machines, hand-held wands, or data capture.

Cold Deck - Refers to the method of imputing missing values into records from preset parameter values rather than from actual respondent reported values. The Total Value of Products Sold (TVP) and Production Contract edits in the 2002 Census of Agriculture used preset parameter values for calculating contractor sales and contractor expense values. Preset parameter values were also used in the TVP edit to compare operator reported sales versus edit calculated operator sales. The preset parameter values do not typically change during the edit process.

Computer Edit - The part of the computer program that verifies and tests the consistency of data relationships of the data captured for each report. Computer edit specifications are documented in Decision Logic Tables (DLT's) for the census.

Computer Out-of-Scope (COS) Reports - Reports which have been determined by the computer data edit program as having less than the minimum total value of agricultural products sold (TVP) or an equivalent number of points computed from applying specified points to reported crops and livestock. The Census of Agriculture minimum TVP level is \$1,000. Types

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of COS records are located in the 2002 PRISM Code Book.

Content Test - A pretest of the census report form using one or more forms with varying content to test response rates and quality of report completion.

Coverage Adjustment - Coverage weight is assigned to farms in the census to represent other like farms within the farm population not identified on the Census Mail List. Coverage Adjustment is done at the state level.

Data Duplicates - Refers to two or more sets of data about the same operation existing in the census data file, but under different State POID's.

Data Review - Review of computer edited data. Data problems are flagged by computer edit (warning, required review and critical are flag types). Historical or previously reviewed data (P.D.) are provided for comparisons to current data.

Decision Logic Table (DLT) - A formalized logical arrangement of conditions and actions used for computer specification documentation and communication.

Detailed Record Layout - Documentation of all keycodes and their associated definitions for the 2002 Census of Agriculture. Located in the 2002 PRISM Code Book.

Deterministic Editing - Process of assigning values based on preexisting information on a census form.

Disclosure Analysis - For tabular data, disclosure analysis is used to identify cells of aggregate data that are at risk of revealing individual data reported to us by a respondent. Cell suppression is

used to protect those cells that reveal too much information. Disclosure analysis is comprised of two phases; first, the disclosure risk associated with each table cell is assessed. Based on agency standards, data cells are determined to be sensitive to a disclosure if a data user can estimate the value reported by a respondent too closely. The **p-percent rule** is used to measure the sensitivity of these individual data cells. A table cell that is indeed sensitive according to the sensitivity rule is called a **primary suppression** and is suppressed from the publication. The second phase selects **complementary suppressions** and is necessary because the primary suppressions are not enough to protect sensitive cells. Since the primary suppressions are part of additive relationships within the data structure, additional cells must be suppressed so that the value of the primary suppression cannot be mathematically derived from these relationships.

Donor Imputation - See "Nearest Neighbor Imputation".

Dup POIDs - Duplicate Person Operator Identification Numbers. A situation where two reports are found with identical mailing labels (identical POID's, identical names, codes, etc.). One report is then marked "Void-Dup" and is sent to be destroyed. These "Dup POID Cases" should not be confused with the term "duplicate reports" which refers to two or more reports with different POID's containing information about the same operation.

Edit Flag - A code or value set by the computer edit for specific situations.

Warning - Edit/Imputation changed a reported value or provided a value which originally was missing or

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blank. Usually requires no action by an analyst.

Required Review -

Edit/Imputation changed a reported value or provided a value which originally was missing or blank. Analyst action is usually verifying that updated or provided value is accurate.

Critical - Edit/Imputation was unable to update reported value or provide value from an edit parameter or "nearest neighbor". Analyst intervention required to update or estimate value.

Edit Skip Codes (EDSKIP) - Codes indicating which (if any) sections of the computer edit are to be skipped when editing a record. A list of the edit modules allowed to be edit skipped when submitting data to the edit from Data Review are located in the 2002 PRISM Code Book.

Extension - Request by an establishment or operation to delay the deadline date for filing their census report and to stop any follow-ups until after the extension date. This action can be accomplished interactively.

Family Held Corporation - One in which 51 percent or more of the stock is owned by persons related by blood or marriage.

Farm Criteria Code - A 2-digit code in the computer edit that identifies various combinations of agricultural situations that would retain a place as a census farm based on a point system to estimate potential sales. Farm Criteria Codes are located in the 2002 PRISM Code Book.

Form Recodes - A 1-digit code which identifies a report as Sample or Nonsample and if a Sample form, classifies it as Noncertainty, Certainty or "Must". The code also identifies computer edit conversions from Nonsample to Certainty or "Must" and conversions from Sample Noncertainty to Certainty or "Must". All form recode values greater than one are sample or long forms. A form recode value equal to one is a nonsample or short form Form Number/Types are located in the 2002 PRISM Code Book

Farm Definition Code - A 1-digit code set in the computer edit to define farms. Farm Definition Codes are located in the 2002 PRISM Code Book.

Final Mail Size Code - The final value of sales size code assigned to each operation on the mail list prior to mail out based on a source priority list. It appears in the mailing label and can be used to identify and sort out large cases for selective follow-up by telephone.

Follow-up Extension - Action taken to delay the date of the next follow-up on a case by entering a check-in status code of 3-1 and the month and day of the extension.

Follow-up Mail Code - A 1-digit code appearing in the mail label indicating which mailout-initial, 2nd, 3rd, etc., the label was created from. The database value of FOLNO will remain "0" until a form is checked in, at which time the label value will be posted to the database.

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Form Number/Type - Alphanumeric designation that identifies the various

Geo-Transfer - Process of changing principal county or reported county on ELMO of an operation from one county to another county either within state or state to state.

Historical Replication - The computerized process of using ELMO control data or 1997 Census of Agriculture data as input data to produce a data record for a POID. This process is done for nonrespondents to the 2002 Census of Agriculture for POIDs with large size (e.g., acres, sales) codes and which are determined to be in-scope based on secondary source or other information.

Imputation - See “Cold Deck”, “Donor”, Previously Reported Data”

In Scope (I/S) - Report forms (cases) which meet the criteria for a farm or ranch and are included in the Census of Agriculture or survey being conducted. A census status code of 61 indicates a case has been computer edited and will be tabulated as an I/S record.

Key Code (Item Code) - A 2,3, or 4 digit code assigned to a specific crop, livestock, product or question item for

data capture, editing and tabulation purposes.

Last Call follow-up - Last Call CACTI occurs after a state has met the 75 percent response rate criteria for each county. Last Call is used to increase the overall U.S. response rate.

Linkage Codes - A series of codes which indicate that there is a relationship between two or more reports. Linkage codes are located in the 2002 PRISM Code Book.

Low Response County Follow-up - All counties must reach at least a 75% response rate, and Low Response County Follow-up is used to meet this goal.

Match - A term describing name and address comparisons from one or more sources to a name and address on the Ag Census Mail file and is considered to represent the same person or farm operation. Matching criteria specify the essential characteristics which must agree or not conflict between the two names and addresses in order to be declared a match.

Must Cases - Operations exceeding a certain total value of products sold or acreage are designated as “must” cases for the census. A report form or a satisfactory explanation of why they are not in agriculture production during

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the census year must be obtained for them.

Must Codes - A 1-digit code in the mail label to indicate that the case was designated as a mailed “must” in the current census. Must codes are located in the 2002 PRISM Code Book.

NAICS - North American Industrial Classification System is organized in a hierarchical structure. The first two digits designate what in NAICS is known as a “subsector;” the third digit designates the industry group, and the fourth digit designates the industry. The NAICS coding system is expanded beyond the four digits used in the former SIC (Standard Industrial Classification Code) to meet national needs. The detail can be expanded to the sixth digit. The NAICS coding structure for agriculture is located in the 2002 PRISM Code Book.

Nearest Neighbor Imputation - The process of selecting a record (generally called the donor record) within a predetermined distance (usually within same state and county) with similar characteristics (i.e., number of acres) and donating specific values from that record to a recipient record. Donated values were generally either

direct values (i.e., “Yes/No”, or a specific numeric value) or ratioed values (i.e., Ratio of a recipient record’s variable (e.g., Total land or TVP) divided by that same variable on the donating record. The ratio is then multiplied by a donor record’s item value which is then supplied to the recipient record).

Net Cash Farm Income of the operation - In the 2002 Census of Agriculture, this represents the Total Value of Products Sold by both operator and contractor, Government Payments and Off-Farm Related Income minus total expenditures incurred by both operator and contractor. In the 1997 Census of Agriculture, Off-Farm Related Income was not included in the calculation of net cash farm income of the operation.

Net Cash Farm Income of the operator - In the 2002 Census of Agriculture, this represents the Total Value of Products Sold by an operator, Government Payments and Off-Farm Related Income minus total operator expenditures only. In the 1997 Census of Agriculture, Off-Farm Related Income was not included in the calculation of net cash farm income of the operator.

Nonresponse Weight - This weight is derived from the respective ratios of total respondents and

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nonrespondents to respondents. A nonresponse weight of 2 represents 1 nonrespondent and is assigned to a respondent operation presumed to be similar in sales to the nonrespondent. Nonresponse weighting is done at the county level.

Nonsample Report Form - The version of the 2002 Census of Agriculture report form which does not include Section 17 - Production Expenses, Section 18 - Fertilizers and Chemicals Applied, Section 19 - Machinery and Equipment, Section 20 - Market Value of Land and Buildings, Section 21 - Farm Labor; referred to as the sample sections.

Out-of-scope - See “Analyst” or “Computer” out-of-scope.

Place - See “Acres In Place”.

Possible Out of Scope Codes (POS Codes) - A 1-digit code assigned during the computer edit which identifies conditions which make the operation out-of-scope for the Census. POS Codes are located in the 2002 PRISM Code Book.

Principal County - For census purposes, this is defined as the county where the largest value of the agriculture products was raised or produced by a farm operator. It usually is where the operator reports all or the

largest proportion of his total land. With few exceptions, land reported by an operator in two or more counties is tabulated in the principal county.

Previously Reported Data (PRD) - The process of using historical data for analysis, edit and/or imputation purposes. Historical data for the 2002 Census of Agriculture included recent survey history (i.e., within 2 years), current ELMO control data or 1997 Census of Agriculture data.

Referral Disposition Code (RD Code) - Referral disposition codes are assigned by the user or system after any action is taken against the record in Data Review. The possible values and their meanings are located in the 2002 PRISM Code Book.

Regionalized Report Forms - Different versions of the agriculture census report forms that are designed to list the predominant crops grown in each region. There are 14 regionalized versions for each of the Nonsample, Sample and Must report forms. Rhode Island and Alaska receive only the Sample type report form. The XX shown in the preceding form numbers will identify the regional version. States in the regions are located in the 2002 PRISM Code Book.

Replication - See Historical Replication.

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Report Forms - See Form Number/Type and Regionalized Report Forms.

Sample Code - Used in follow-on surveys to indicate the selection of a case for mailing.

Sample Report Form - The longer version of the 2002 Census of Agriculture report forms that includes questions asked of all respondents in addition to a set of questions asked of a sample of respondents. The Sample report forms are mailed to a sample of approximately 25 percent of the names on the census mail list. This sample includes all pre-identified Certainty "Must" cases and Certainty Nonmust cases (both selected with a probability of one) and a systematic sample of remaining records. Sampling rates are dependent upon the number of farms in a county and size of operation. For counties with less than 100 farms, all names/addresses on the mail list receive the Sample form; for counties with 100-199 farms, every second name/address receives a Sample form; for counties with 200-299 farms, every fourth name/address receives a Sample form; for counties with 300-999 farms, every sixth name/address receives a Sample form; for the

remaining counties, every eighth name/address receives a Sample form. Data items in sample sections 17 to 21, (production expenses, fertilizer/chemical usage, machinery and equipment inventory, market value of farm land and buildings and farm labor) will, therefore, be expanded by sample weights (1, 2, 4, 6, or 8) derived from the sampling rate to represent totals for all census forms.

Sample Weight - This weight represents a ratio of the total number of responding farms on the census mail list receiving and responding to a long or sample form. For example, a long or sample form with a sample weight equal to 20 contains economic data from sample sections 17 to 21, (production expenses, fertilizer/chemical usage, machinery and equipment inventory, estimated market value of farm land and buildings and farm labor) for 20 farms which received a nonsample or short form. Sample weighting is done at the county level.

Secondary Source Information - Information about an agricultural operation from a person or organization other than the farm operator or his/her immediate household, or employee staff, or attorney or bookkeeper.

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Split-County Record - During the Census enumeration, some operations that contain large acreage or livestock inventories in two or more counties are given Census report forms for each county in which they farm.

Split-State Record - During the Census enumeration, some operations that contain large acreage or livestock inventories in two or more states are given Census report forms for each state in which they farm.

Status Code - See Check-in Status Codes.

Suspicious Out of Scope (S O/S)- Records made out of scope prior to the edit, and for the most part, these will contain no data (i.e., just notes indicating nonfarm).

Tagged Records - Tagged Records are operations that require special handling by State Statistical Offices (SSOs). SSOs are responsible for coding, collecting, and capturing data for all tagged records.

Tenure - The ownership status of land. There are three categories of tenure. Full owners own all the land which they operate. Part owners own some of the land which they operate and rent the rest from

a landlord. Tenants rent all of the land which they operate. Tenure codes are located in the 2002 PRISM Code Book.

Title 7, U.S. Code - Title 7, United States Code specifies that the census of agriculture is required by law.

Total Value of Products Sold (TVP) - The dollar value of all agricultural products sold from an agricultural operation in a specified year. A TVP code appears in the mail label to identify the measure of size of sales for the case.

Total Value of Products Sold plus Government Payments (TVPG) - The dollar value of all agricultural products sold from an agricultural operation plus government payments received for an agricultural operation in a specified year.

TVP - See "Total Value of Products Sold".

Type of Organization Code - A 1-digit code appearing in the mail label indicating whether the agricultural activities are conducted by an individual or family (Code 1), a partnership (Code 2), a corporation (Code 3), or other (Code 4).

Volume 1, Geographic Area Series - Includes the publication of Census of Agriculture tabulated data collected for the census year and displaying tables and text for

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individual counties and state totals. Each state is published as a book or part, (some states require two parts) and are not usually published until later in the second year after the census year.

Volume 2, Subject Series - Included the publication of the following parts from the 1997 Census of Agriculture:

Part 1 - Agricultural Atlas of the United States

Part 3 - Ranking of States and Counties

Part 4 - History

Part 5 - ZIP Code Tabulations of Selected Items

Note: Part 2 - Coverage Evaluation was dropped from Volume 2 for the 1997 Census of Agriculture.

Weight - A factor applied to data to adjust for missing or sample data. There were eight types of weights generated for the 2002 Census of Agriculture:

Weights 1 to 4 below were assigned to all items in sections 1 - Acreage through 16 - Income from Farm-Related Sources, and sections 22 - Type of Organization

through 24 - Operator Characteristics for all census forms (short or nonsample and long or sample forms:

1. *Nonresponse weight* is a noninteger nonresponse weight.

2. *Coverage nonresponse weight* is a noninteger nonresponse weight (adjusted for coverage).

3. *Final nonresponse weight* is an integerized nonresponse weight.

4. *Final coverage nonresponse weight* is an integerized nonresponse weight (adjusted for coverage). This is the final weight used for census tabulation purposes of items in sections 1 through 16, and sections 22 through 24 for short or nonsample forms and long or sample forms.

Weights 5 to 8 were assigned to long form or sampled items in sections 17 - Production Expenses, 18 - Fertilizers and Chemicals Applied, 19 - Machinery and Equipment, 20 - Market Value of Land and Buildings, and 21 - Farm Labor:

5. *Sample weight* is a noninteger sample weight (adjusted for nonresponse)

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6. *Coverage sample weight* is a noninteger sample weight (adjusted for nonresponse and coverage)

7. *Final sample weight* is an integerized sample weight (adjusted for nonresponse)

8. *Final coverage sample weight* is an integerized sample weight (adjusted for nonresponse and coverage). This is the final weight used for census tabulation purposes of items in sections 17 through 21 for long or sample forms.