

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

March Agricultural Survey

The “day to day decisions” question and partner information is very important. Correct information here is key to accurately summarizing the data

Remember, this is our “planting intentions” survey. Many areas of the country will still be too cold or the soils too wet for any planting to have actually occurred. We are focused on what the respondent intends to do this crop year.

Collecting crop data on:

Acres planted and to be planted for all purposes

Acres to be harvested for grain or seed is asked for winter wheat (also asked for other wheat types in a few states)

Commodities asked varies by state

For hay crops we are looking for:

Acres to be cut for *dry* hay

You *may* encounter growers with none of the survey commodities—that’s OK. A “zero” is still a valid report and useful information

Watch out for “beans” and make sure you know whether they are soybeans or various types of dry edible beans and that the information is recorded correctly

Record hay acres only once regardless of number of cuttings expected. Exclude any acres to be harvested *only* for haylage. Don’t confuse small grain hay with straw

Exclude any storage capacity/grain stored in rented or leased space in **commercial elevators**. Make sure to include *only* whole grains or oilseeds (exclude any storage used for ground or cracked corn, corn silage, or roasted soybeans)

All whole grains or oilseeds stored on the operation (regardless of crop year, end use, etc) should be reported

If the producer tells you he has stocks for a commodity but refuses or doesn’t know the amount, make sure to leave a note. Knowing the presence of that commodity on the operation is useful information

Farmers may report grain storage structure sizes in dimensions, rather than bushels. Make a note of the dimensions so that volume can be estimated

If stocks are reported in tons (where the typical unit of measure is bushels or pounds) verify that it is not silage or something other than whole grain in storage

Statisticians value any extra information you can provide. Make sure to leave notes for any odd situations; large changes; etc.

For “Out of Business” records, be sure to follow the screening questions carefully. Leave notes as to what has happened to the operation. Try to collect contact information for any new operators if the operation has been sold, rented out, or turned over to someone else.