

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Agricultural Survey

September 1, 2023

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

Principal county information ensures that the data is allocated to wherever the bulk of the value of production occurs

- If acreage is about the same in different counties, chose the county with the most acres, write notes
- If they farm in multiple counties and feel it is important that we know this, write notes
- If yields were vastly different between the counties they farm in, write notes

Collecting crop data on:

Acres planted

Acres Harvested for grain or seed

Grain and seed production OR yield per acre

Acres for all other purposes

For Winter Wheat, Durum Wheat, Other Spring Wheat, Oats, Barley, Rye (commodities vary by state)

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

If production/yield is unknown, probe to get as much information as possible and record in a note: how big of a bin did it fill; was it better/worse/the same as last year; etc

Remember – all acres planted must be accounted for.

Don’t record small grain hay, haylage or silage production in the grain and seed production question, this should go in as “Acres for all other purposes”.

Some operations may have very large areas of small grains for a cover crop. These operations may not consider this a “crop”. The planted acres and acres for all other purposes need to be recorded.

Make sure to record information for nurse crops and cover crops. For example:

1. Oats are planted as a nurse crop with alfalfa: record the acres planted and the acres harvested for grain or seed OR acres for all other purposes if harvested for silage
2. Barley is planted as a cover crop: record the acres planted and then the acres for all other purposes

If a crop is planted and then grazed off, record the acres planted and then acres for all other purposes. For example:

1. A grower plants winter wheat and grazes cattle on it. The wheat is grazed off and not harvested. Record the acres planted and then the acres for all other purposes

Capture any other acres planted but not harvested (flooded, droughted out, planted but then replanted to another crop, etc). Record the acres planted and then the acres for all other purposes. Please leave a note describing the situation.

Be sure to verify harvested acres in cases of extremely low yields where crop insurance is involved. Sometimes the farmer will not be required to harvest the entire crop and will only harvest a small portion (or test strips) to determine the yield. In this situation, only the acres that were actually harvested should be reported as acres harvested for grain or seed, and the rest of the acreage, not harvested, should be reported under acres for other purposes.

Typically production and/or yields for acres harvested for grain or seed should be reported in "bushels". If tons are reported, please be sure to verify that the crop was harvested for grain or seed because the respondent could be reporting hay or silage.

Make sure to leave notes for any high or low yields; large portion of acres planted not harvested for grain or seed/used for other purposes; etc.

Exclude any storage capacity/grain stored in rented or leased space in commercial elevators

Any 2023 harvested corn, soybeans, sorghum, etc. in storage (stocks) should not be recorded. Only 2022 and earlier years should be reported for these crops

However, any small grains stored on the operation (regardless of crop year and when harvested) should be reported on the September 1 Agricultural Survey.

If the producer tells 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.