NASS Survey Training

Pecan Production & Disposition Inquiry - February 2024

(PECAN PDI)

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Workforce Performance and Staff Development Section
January 2024
Survey Overview

• Used by USDA agencies to determine crop insurance and disaster aid payments, along with other program benefits.
• Helps producers develop marketing plans for their operations.
• Enables the industry to forecast transportation and storage requirements and evaluate export potential.
• Used by grower organizations to help form policy positions.
Survey Information

• Project Code: **142 – Tree Nut Survey**

• Questionnaires:
  – Mailed out around January 30th
  – 2 Versions:
    • V1: Improved only, AZ, GA, NM
    • V2: Improved and Wild Native, OK, TX

• Release:
  – *Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts - Annual*, May 7th, 2024
Definitions

• **Wild Native or Seedling:** Growing wild, usually unattended and not cultivated.
  – However, there are some large areas where they are well-managed and cultivated.
  – The nut is smaller than the improved type but its flavor and full firm meat make it especially adaptable for commercial uses.

• **Improved Varieties:** These trees are the result of careful grafting and budding.
  – Usually planted in managed, cultivated groves.
  – Shell is much thinner than that of the seedling and consequently its meat yield is normally higher.
Survey Questions – Vers. 1

• Introduction/Screening
  – Name/Address Verification
  – Any pecan acreage in 2023?
    • No: Do you have any commercial shelling equipment?
      – Will the operation have any pecan acreage in the future?

• Total acres of pecan trees maintained in 2023
  – Total acres of pecan trees that were bearing age in 2023

• Total pounds harvested (in shell)
  – Of total harvest, how many sold or will be sold? (in shell)
Survey Questions – Vers. 1

• Sales of pecans
  – Price
    • Average price/lb. OR Total dollars
    • In shell

• Has the total 2023 crop been marketed?

• Any commercial shelling equipment?
  – For own or custom use

• Comments about crop for locality
Survey Questions – Vers. 2

• Did this operation have any improved pecan acreage in 2023?

• How many acres of improved pecan trees maintained in 2023?
  – How many of the acres had bearing age trees

• Total pounds of 2023 Improved variety harvested
  – How many pounds sold
    • Average price/lb or Total Dollars Received
    • In Shell weight
Survey Questions – Vers. 2

• How many acres of wild native pecan trees maintained in 2023?
  – How many bearing age?
  – If unsure, can provide number of trees for both questions

• How many total pounds of the 2023 wild native varieties pecan crop were or will be harvested?
  – How many pounds sold
    • Average price/lb or Total Dollars Received

• Any commercial shelling equipment?
  – For own or custom use
Out of Business

• If operator says, they are out of business and/or no longer farming:
  – Determine if they are TRULY out of business:
    • Land used for any agricultural purposes in the next year?
    • Grow any field crops, hay, or specialty crops such as fruits, vegetables, or floriculture?
    • Own or raise any livestock or poultry?
    • Have any facilities for storing whole grains, pulse crops, or oilseeds?
    • Own or operate any CRP/WRP, pasture, woodland, idle land?
    • Has the operation been sold, rented, or turned over to someone else?
  – Leave good notes
Things to Watch Out For

• Sum of parts must equal total (if applicable)
  – Improved + Native = Total Pounds

• Bearing acres cannot be greater than total acres
  – Include all bearing acres, not just acres they harvested from

• Variety name given = NOT native/seedling

• If trees scattered in a pasture, be sure to get tree acres and not entire pasture acres

• Total pounds sold cannot be greater than pounds harvested
Conclusion

• Leave plenty of notes on this survey!
  – Storm damage
  – Prices
  – Anything odd about the operation/crop
• Contact you supervisor or Regional Field Office with any questions
• Practice on your iPad
• Thanks and have a great survey!