

# 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 30<sup>th</sup>
  - 2 Versions:
    - V1: Improved only, AZ, GA, NM
    - V2: Improved and Wild Native, OK, TX
- Release:
  - *Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts - Annual*, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 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!