

NASS Survey Training

Pecan Production & Disposition Inquiry - February 2025

(PECAN PDI)



**United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service**



Workforce Performance and Staff Development Section
January 2025



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 2nd, 2025

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 2024?
 - 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 2024
 - Total acres of pecan trees that were bearing age in 2024
- 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 2024 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 2024?
- How many acres of improved pecan trees maintained in 2024?
 - How many of the acres had bearing age trees
- Total pounds of 2024 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 2024?
 - How many bearing age?
 - If unsure, can provide number of trees for both questions
- How many total pounds of the 2024 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 your supervisor or Regional Field Office with any questions
- Practice on your iPad
- Thanks and have a great survey!