



August Grape Inquiry Training Materials

Below you will find links to a video, PowerPoint presentation, survey information sheet, and practice interviews for NASS's August Grape Inquiry. The practice interviews can be used to get familiar with the data collection instrument/s.

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Strategic Planning and Business Services Division
Strategic Planning Branch
Workforce Performance and Staff Development Section

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Survey Training

Grape Inquiry – August



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

General Survey Information

- Project Code: **134 - Noncitrus Fruit Survey**
- Questionnaires:
 - Mailed out around July 21st
 - Web reporting option available
- Only four states: CA, WA, NY, OR
- Release:
 - *Crop Production*
 - Around August 12, 12PM EST



Screening

- Grow or manage any grape acres?
 - If “No”, Will this operation have or manage any in the future?
 - Then find out what the operation’s current status is.
- Leave ample notes describing what has happened to the operation if they no longer have grapes.

Additional Screening for CA

- Is this operation a vineyard management firm?
 - If “YES”, Complete this form for **all operations managed** by this firm.
 - If “NO”, Is this operation managed by a vineyard management firm?
 - If “YES”, What is the name of the firm that manages your grapes?

Survey Questions

- Total acres of grapes
 - Of these, how many were **bearing age** this year
- Expected **total** production for current year
 - Quantity & unit
 - pounds per unit if not lbs. or tons
 - Raisin and Table type: Is it dried or fresh weight?
- Comments about current crop for their locality

Survey Questions

- Slight variation in acreage questions
 - NY & OR - total acres of grapes only
 - CA and WA total acres of grapes and then this broken out by type:
 - CA
 - Raisin type
 - Table type
 - Wine type
 - WA
 - Juice type
 - Wine type



Types of Grapes

- “Type” of grapes refers to certain varieties of grapes, not how the grapes were utilized
 - For example: Table type grapes have certain properties that make them very suitable to sell for fresh eating but could be used to make raisins, wine, or juice
 - If they are a “table type” variety they should be reported under “table type” even if they were used for some other purpose

A few Grape Varieties

- Raisin type varieties:
 - Black Corinth, Dovine, Fiesta, Selma Pete, Sultana, Thompson Seedless
- Table type varieties:
 - Autumn King, Autumn Royal, Crimson Seedless, Fantasy Seedless, Flame Seedless, Luisco, Perlette, Princess, Red Globe, Ruby Seedless, Scarlet, Scarlet Royal, Sugranineteen, Sugraone, Summer Royal, Sweet Celebration, Sweet Scarlet, Vintage Red
- Wine type varieties:
 - Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Carmenere, Chardonnay, Gewurztraminer, Grenache, Malbec, Merlot, Muscat Ottonel, Nebbiolo, Pinotage, Pinot Grigio/Gris, Pinot Noir, Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc, Semillon, Shiraz/Syrah, Tempranillo, Viognier, Zinfandel
- Juice type varieties:
 - Concord, Catawba, Niagra, Delaware, Dutchess, Fredonia, Alwood, Beta, Bluebell

[Watch For]:

- Current total acres differs from previous
- Low bearing to total acres ratio
- Yield/production seems high or low
- Units other than what is asked for: leave a note!

**Leave notes explaining any unusual situations.
If the data seems odd, but is correct, leave a
note explaining why.**

Conclusion

- Referring to *current* crop year *expected* production
- Watch the decimal points:
 - Acres, pounds per unit
- Encounter anything odd or unexpected leave a note
- Practice before interviewing
- Reach out with any questions you may have
- Have a... **GrrrrrAPE... Survey!**



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August Grape Inquiry - Information

Overview

- Project code: 134 – Non-Citrus Fruit Survey
 - Mails out around: July 21 each year
- Purpose: To collect acreage as of August 1st and expected production of grapes for the current crop year. Collecting this data provides the industry with a reliable source of information, and growers can use this data to help make informed decisions for their operations.

Screening:

- Did this operation have any grape acres?
 - If “NO”, Has this operation been sold, rented, or turned over to someone else?
- If the operation is completely out of business, please leave notes as to what happened to the operation, new operator contact information, etc. This information is needed to update our records.



Survey Questions:

- Total acres of grapes
 - Of these, how many were bearing age this year
 - Vines will be about 3 to 4 years of age before they start to produce well.
 - All acres of bearing age should be recorded even if they did not produce a crop during the survey year due to freeze damage, disease, drought, etc.
- Expected production
 - A wide variety of units can be reported for expected production. If a unit other than tons or pounds are reported, we then need the weight of one of the units reported so we can calculate total production.
 - For example: an operator may report that he expects to harvest 4000 crates of grapes. We then need to know how much one of those crates weigh so we can calculate total production.

- California and Washington ask the same questions, but the grapes are broken out by type.
 - California will ask for acreage and expected production of raisin type, table type, and wine type.
 - Washington will ask for acreage and expected production of juice type and wine type.
- “Type” of grapes refers to certain varieties of grapes, not how the grapes were utilized
 - For example: Table type grapes have certain properties that make them very suitable to sell for fresh eating but could be used to make raisins, wine, or juice
 - If they are a “table type” variety they should be reported under “table type” even if they were used for some other purpose

Some things to keep in mind:

- Looking for current year expected production and not what they produced in the previous year
- Watch your decimal points on acres and pounds per unit
- There could be a wide range of yields across your area
- Please leave plenty of notes explaining anything you think the statisticians may need to know

Grape Inquiry Practice Exercises

These practices are based on the CA version questionnaire. Skip the questions that are broken out by “type” if the data collection instrument does not ask them.

Exercise 1

You are speaking with the **operator**

Name and address information are **correct**

Does this operation have any grape acres? **Yes**

Is this operation a vineyard management firm? **No**

Is this operation managed by a vineyard management firm? **No**

On August 1, how many total acres of grapes were on this operation? **21.0**

Of the 21.0 total acres of grapes, how many were of bearing age? **20.0**

Does this operation have any raisin type grape acres? **No**

Does this operation have any table type grape acres? **No**

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Exercise 1

You are speaking with the **operator**

Name and address information are **correct**

Does this operation have any grape acres? **Yes**

Is this operation a vineyard management firm? **No**

Is this operation managed by a vineyard management firm? **No**

On August 1, how many total acres of grapes were on this operation? **21.0**

Of the 21.0 total acres of grapes, how many were of bearing age? **20.0**

Does this operation have any raisin type grape acres? **No**

Does this operation have any table type grape acres? **No**

Does this operation have any wine type grape acres? **Yes**

How many acres of wine type grapes were on this operation? **21**

Of the 21.0 acres of wine type grapes, how many were of bearing age? **20**

What is the expected total production of wine type grapes harvested (in tons)? **160 tons**

Comments about the grape crop in your locality? **Could have done better but it was pretty dry.**

Exercise 2

You are speaking with the **spouse**

Name and address information are **correct**

Does this operation have any grape acres? **Yes**

Is this operation a vineyard management firm? **No**

Is this operation managed by a vineyard management firm? **Yes**

What is the name of the vineyard management firm that manages your grapes? **Wee Bee Raisins Inc.**

On August 1, how many total acres of grapes were on this operation?
160.0

Of the 21.0 total acres of grapes, how many were of bearing age?
140.0 (we have 20 acres of vines we just planted last year that are not producing yet)

Does this operation have any raisin type grape acres? **Yes**

How many acres of raisin type grapes were on the operation? **160.0**

Of the 160.0 acres of raisin type grapes, how many were of bearing age?
140.0 (20 acres not old enough to bear yet)

What is the quantity of the expected total production of raisin type grapes harvested? **28,000 Crates**

If not reported as pounds or tons, how much did each unit weigh (in pounds)? **100.0**

Is this expected production of a fresh weight basis or a dried weight basis?
Fresh

Does this operation have any table type grape acres? **No**

Does this operation have any wine type grape acres? **No**

Comments about the grape crop in your locality? **Had a little trouble with leafhoppers.**

Exercise 3

You are speaking with the **operator**

Name and address information are **correct**

Does this operation have any grape acres? **Yes**

Is this operation a vineyard management firm? **No**

Is this operation managed by a vineyard management firm? **No**

On August 1, how many total acres of grapes were on this operation?

60.0

Of the 60.0 total acres of grapes, how many were of bearing age? **60.0**

Does this operation have any raisin type grape acres? **No**



Does this operation have any table type grape acres? **Yes**

How many acres of table type grapes were on the operation? **60.0**

Of the 60.0 acres of table type grapes, how many were of bearing age?
60.0

What is the quantity of the expected total production of table type grapes harvested? **0 (Hard frost this spring killed all the blooms)**

Is this expected production of a fresh weight basis or a dried weight basis? **Would have been fresh**

Does this operation have any wine type grape acres? **No**

Comments about the grape crop in your locality? **Hope my insurance pays out since I lost my entire crop to frost - along with several other producers.**



Exercise 4

You are speaking with the **Operator**

Name and address information are correct

Does this operation have any grape acres? **No**

Has this operation been sold, rented, or turned over to someone else?
No

Will the land be used for any agricultural purposes by you or anyone else in the next year? **Yes (No more grapes but have cattle)**

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