USDA announces details for the upcoming Census of Agriculture



[Springfield, Illinois] – [October 2022] – Illinois's farmers and ranchers will soon have the opportunity to be represented in the nation's only comprehensive and impartial agriculture data for every state, county and territory. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will mail the 2022 Census of Agriculture to millions of agriculture producers across the 50 states and Puerto Rico this fall. USDA will mail nearly 100,000 Census questionnaires to Illinois ag producers.

The 2022 Census of Agriculture will be mailed in phases, starting with an invitation to respond online in November followed by paper questionnaires in December. Farm operations of all sizes, urban and rural, which produced and sold, or normally would have sold, \$1,000 or more of agricultural products in 2022 are included in the ag census.

"Ag census data inform decisions that impact our communities and businesses," said Mark Schleusener, NASS state statistician for Illinois. "The results will shed light on all types and sizes of farms in Illinois and across the country. By responding, Illinois ag producers make sure the best data is available for better decisions."

Collected in service to American agriculture since 1840 and now conducted every five years by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), the Census of Agriculture tells the story and shows the value of U.S. agriculture. It highlights land use and ownership, producer characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures, among other topics. Between ag census years, NASS considers revisions to the questionnaire to document changes and emerging trends in the industry. Changes to the 2022 questionnaire include new questions about the use of precision agriculture, hemp production, hair sheep, and updates to internet access questions.

To learn more about the Census of Agriculture, visit <u>www.nass.usda.gov/agcensus</u> or call 800-727-9540. On the website, producers and other data users can access frequently asked questions, past ag census data, <u>partner tools</u> to help spread the word about the upcoming ag census, special study information, and more. For highlights of these and the latest information on the upcoming Census of Agriculture, follow USDA NASS on twitter @usda_nass.

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NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.

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