



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

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Press Release Announcement – May 18, 2012 - For Immediate Release

USDA TO GATHER DATA ON CROP ACREAGE AND STOCKS

[PHOENIX, ARIZONA] – How many acres of cotton and alfalfa did farmers plant this growing season? Which percentage of those acres was planted to biotech varieties? Will actual planted acreage be above or below farmers' reported planting intentions? These are a few of the critical questions the Arizona Field Office of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will soon ask producers statewide as part of the June Agricultural Survey.

"The June Agricultural Survey, also known as the Crops/Stocks Survey, is the most important survey conducted each spring by NASS," explained Steven Manheimer, director of the NASS Arizona Field Office. "This survey will provide the first clear indication of the potential production and supply of major commodities in the United States for the 2012 crop year.

NASS will mail the survey questionnaire in late May, asking producers to provide information about the types of crops they planted in 2012, how many acres they intend to harvest and the amounts of grain and oilseed they store on their farms. NASS encourages producers to respond via the Internet but also welcomes mail or fax responses and offers non-responding producers the opportunity for a telephone or personal interview.

NASS will compile and analyze the survey information and publish the results in a series of USDA reports, including the annual *Acreage* report and quarterly *Grain Stocks* report, both to be released on June 29, 2012. Survey data also contribute to NASS's monthly and annual *Crop Production* reports, as well as the annual *Small Grains Summary* and USDA's monthly *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. "NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only state- and national-level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified," stated Manheimer.

All reports are available on the NASS web site: www.nass.usda.gov. For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Arizona Field Office at 1-800-645-7286.

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