

2023
APRIL 18



USDA SPRING DATA USERS' MEETING

Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City - Omaha Branch



2023 USDA Data Users' Meeting
April 18, 2023
Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City - Omaha Branch
2201 Farnam Street
Omaha, NE 68102

AGENDA

Central Time

- 12:30pm **Enter Facility/Security**
- 1:00pm **Welcome and Overview**
Joe Parsons, National Agricultural Statistics Service
- 1:10pm **Agency Reviews**
Foreign Agricultural Service.....1
World Agricultural Outlook Board7
National Agricultural Statistics Service10
Economic Research Service.....14
Farm Service Agency22
Agricultural Marketing Service24
U.S. Census Bureau30
- 2:15pm **Open Forum - Questions and comments from participants**
- 2:55pm **Break**
- 3:15pm **Open Forum Continues**
- 4:15pm **Concluding Comments**
- 4:30pm **End**

**Update on Information and Data Products Available from
USDA’s Foreign Agricultural Service
April 2023**

Global Agricultural Information Network (GAIN)

USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) provides timely reports on foreign markets through the Global Agriculture Information Network (GAIN) database. The GAIN database houses reports from 98 offices covering 177 countries that include timely intelligence and analysis on global agriculture, agricultural markets, and foreign government policies affecting agricultural trade. In 2022, approximately 2,229 GAIN reports were submitted and published for web-based retrieval. Although a decrease of 31 percent from the prior year, the decrease can be primarily attributed to the reduction of reporting on the impact of COVID-19. In 2022, GAIN reports were downloaded over 1.22 million times.

Users can access GAIN reports dating back to 1996 from the GAIN homepage:

<https://gain.fas.usda.gov/#/>.

For questions about the GAIN search engine please contact 1-GAINAppSupport@fas.usda.gov.

To receive GAIN reports via email, register at:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAFAS/subscriber/new>

FAS – U.S. Agricultural Export Yearbook

The 2022 Agricultural Export Yearbook will be published on the FAS website in April 2023. The yearbook provides a statistical summary of U.S. agricultural commodity exports to the world and the United States’ primary trading partners. The 2022 Yearbook will be available at

<https://www.fas.usda.gov/data>.

All U.S. export data found within the Yearbook are collected and published by the U.S. Census Bureau of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Foreign country export data are sourced from the reporting countries’ national statistical agencies as reported through Trade Data Monitor (TDM). The 2022 U.S. Agricultural Export Yearbook consists of two sections: 1) commodity exports, and 2) country of destination exports. The Yearbook utilizes FAS product groups as defined in FAS’ Global Agricultural Trade System (GATS) using the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) at the ten-digit level and aggregated into classifications that include the primary commodity and its derivatives. FAS has titled these product groups as “BICO (HS-10).” BICO is an FAS designation that stands for Bulk, Intermediate & Consumer Oriented goods.

The 13 Yearbook product groups or commodity aggregations are based on the United States’ largest export categories. The country Yearbook pages include the United States’ top seventeen export destinations. Each commodity and country page includes a list of drivers that influenced exports, market conditions affecting supply and demand, and policy and market access issues that impact the United States’ ability to export.

Global Agricultural Trade System (GATS)

USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Global Agricultural Trade System (GATS) includes U.S. agricultural, fishery, and forestry trade statistics dating back to 1967, through the inception of the harmonized coding system in 1989 to present. U.S. trade data are updated monthly according to the U.S. Census Bureau's reporting system. Users can access the GATS homepage at <https://apps.fas.usda.gov/gats/default.aspx>.

For questions, please contact Jason Carver (Jason.Carver@usda.gov) or Alex Beckman (Alexander.Beckman@usda.gov).

Production, Supply and Distribution (PSD) Online

USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) PSD Online provides reports and the option for custom queries for data on production, supply, and distribution of agricultural commodities for the U.S., key producing and consuming countries and aggregated regions, going back to 1960.

The international portion of the data is updated with input from agricultural attachés stationed at U.S. embassies around the world, FAS commodity analysts, and country and commodity analysts with the Economic Research Service (ERS). The U.S. domestic component is updated with input from analysts in FAS, ERS, the National Agricultural Statistical Service, and the Farm Service Agency. Interagency work on the database is carried out under the aegis of the World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB).

The official USDA supply and distribution data is published monthly in: WAOB, WASDE; in the foreign agricultural commodity circular series issued by FAS; and in the regional situation and outlook reports and monthly commodity newsletters of ERS.

Users can access PSD online at <https://apps.fas.usda.gov/psdonline/app/index.html#/app/home>.

For questions, please contact us at <https://apps.fas.usda.gov/psdonline/app/index.html#/app/contact>.

Export Sales Reporting (ESR)

Authorized under Section 602 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978, the Export Sales Reporting (ESR) Program requires exporters of reportable U.S. commodities to report each week all their export sales regardless of the quantity, to the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). There are 40 commodities currently covered under the program to include wheat, wheat products, barley, corn, grain sorghum, oats, rye, soybeans, soybean cake and meal, soybean oil, flaxseed, linseed oil, cotton, sunflower seed oil, cottonseed, cottonseed cake and meal, cottonseed oil, rice, cattle hides and skins, wet blues, beef, and pork. Users can access the ESR System at <https://apps.fas.usda.gov/export-sales/esrd1.html>. In addition to being available online through the ESR webpage and the ESR Query System, weekly and daily reports are now available through email via GovDelivery to all users who sign up. To receive ESR daily reports via email, register at: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAFAS/subscriber/new>

The August 2022 launch of the Export Sales Reporting and Maintenance System 2.0 (ESRMS 2.0) met challenges which forced FAS to revert to legacy ESRMS. Legacy ESRMS will continue to be used by exporters until FAS addresses concerns and corrects issues identified during the launch of ESRMS 2.0.

FAS held six outreach sessions with exporters to gain further insight on their needs regarding data entry and reports. Additional outreach sessions will be scheduled in April and May, 2023 to ensure all exporters have attended at least one session. FAS received results from the ESR Data Consumption Survey issued in December 2022. In summary, the respondents to the survey indicated that they want to have all historical data available to them and are satisfied with the data they gather via the Export Sales web pages, ESR Query System and/or API. Feedback sessions with data users will be scheduled to introduce the ESRMS 2.1 platform and discuss their needs. In the spring and early summer, FAS will conduct additional user acceptance testing and training sessions prior to launching ESRMS 2.1.

For more information, contact the Export Sales Reporting team at esr@usda.gov.

FAS Data Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)

USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) data API portal provides users the ability to obtain programmatic access to publicly available agricultural commodity data from the Global Agricultural Trade System (GATS), Production, Supply & Distribution (PSD), and Export Sales Report (ESR) databases.

The FAS Open Data Services can be found at <https://apps.fas.usda.gov/opendataweb/home>.

For technical questions, please contact the FAS Web Admin Team at FASWebAdminTeam@usda.gov.

Agricultural Tariff Tracker

To help exporters obtain information about tariff reductions resulting from free trade agreements (FTAs), FAS launched the Agricultural Tariff Tracker in 2013. The Ag Tariff Tracker has tariff, tariff rate quota (TRQ), and safeguard information for the United States' existing free trade agreements with 11 FTA partners. In 2019, terms of the U.S.–Japan Trade agreement were added to the Ag Tariff Tracker.

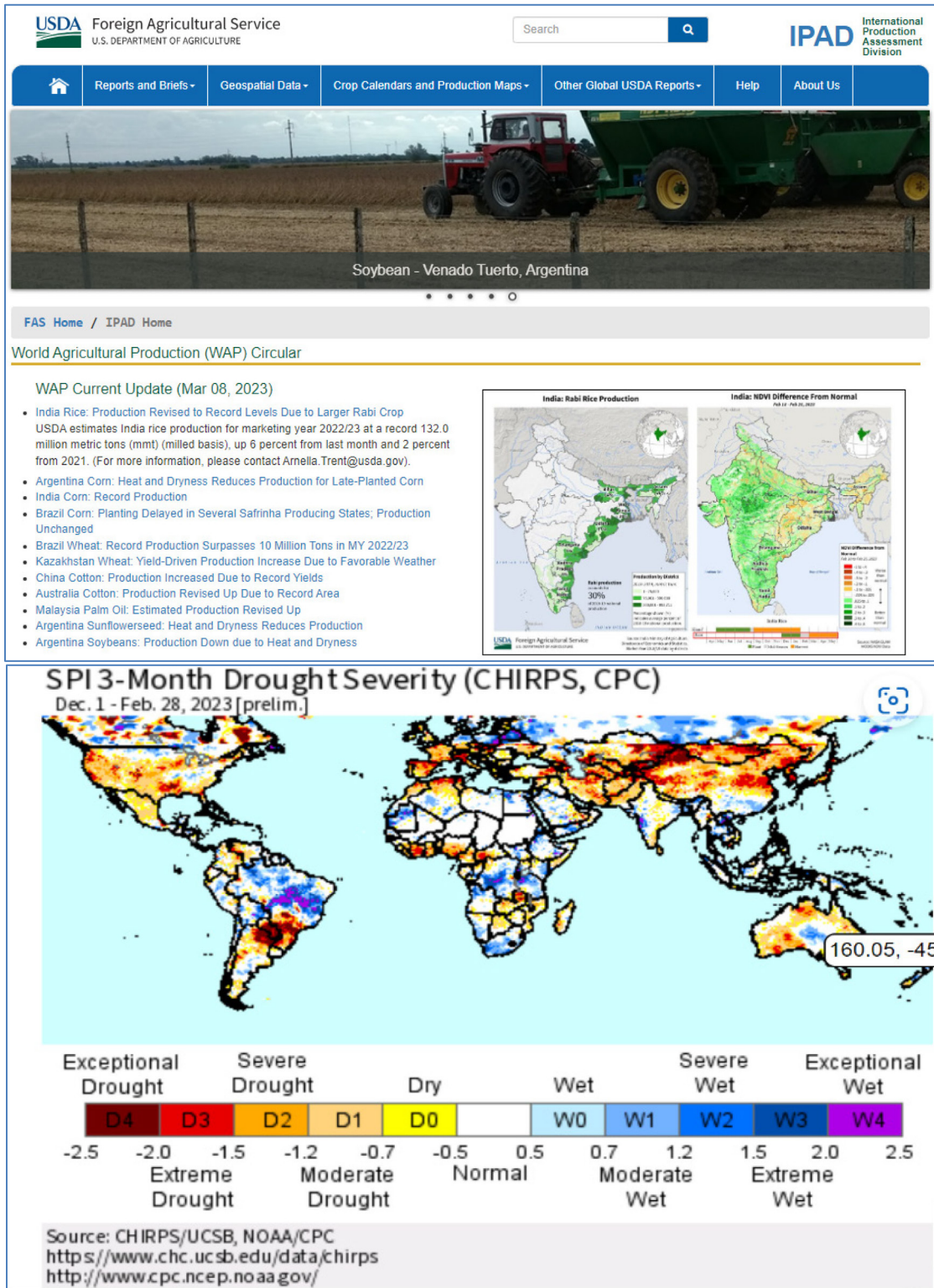
This tool is available at <https://apps.fas.usda.gov/agtariifftracker/Home/Search> on the Trade Policy/Trade Agreements topic page of the FAS website: <https://www.fas.usda.gov/topics/trade-agreements>. For questions, please contact Jason Carver (Jason.Carver@usda.gov).

Production Estimates

FAS maintains a website that is a dynamic global crop production portal with key information including World Agricultural Production (WAP) briefs, Commodity Intelligence Reports (CIR), geospatial applications, crop production maps, and crop calendars at a subnational level for the top-20 producing countries (Figure 1, <https://www.ipad.fas.usda.gov>).

FAS is currently working to integrate the IPAD crop production portal with the new FAS website. The current focus is to transition crop production maps, crop calendars and production-related reports, with additional items to be added in the future. The goal is to make production-related reports, data and graphics easily available to the public through the FAS website.

Figure 1. FAS home page for global crop production



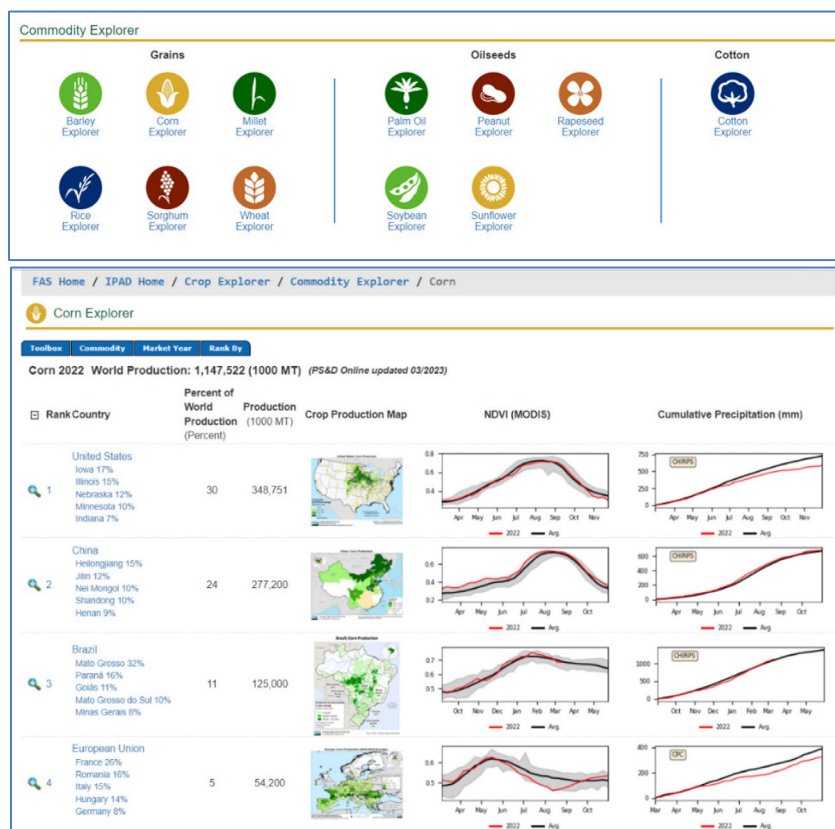
The FAS website for global crop production also hosts an application called Crop Explorer that displays global and routinely updated data on precipitation, average temperature, maximum/minimum temperature, evapotranspiration, soil moisture, SPI (Standardized Precipitation Index) Drought Severity, NDVI (Normalized Difference Vegetation Index) vegetation conditions, snow cover, production maps, etc. Crop Explorer supports monitoring of conditions for 12 different crops: cotton, corn, barley, millet, rice, sorghum, wheat, soybeans, sunflower, rapeseed, peanuts, and palm oil. (<https://ipad.fas.usda.gov/cropexplorer/>).

Crop Explorer also monitors SPI Drought Severity in 5-day time steps to quickly identify the severity of droughts that may reduce crop yields during the growing season. Efforts are underway to expand the crop production maps and calendars to the top-30 producing countries.

The Crop Explorer website was upgraded to monitor the latest crop conditions and seasonal rainfall received for specific crops grown within primary production states. The upgraded Crop Explorer monitors specific crops with related web apps called Corn Explorer, Soybean Explorer, Wheat Explorer, Cotton Explorer, etc. For example, the dashboard view for Corn Explorer shows corn production maps at sub-national (state and county) levels, cumulative rainfall, and NDVI crop conditions for all major corn producing countries and regions (Figure 2).

For more information, please contact Curt Reynolds at curt.reynolds@usda.gov.

Figure 2. Commodity Explorers and Dashboard View of Corn Explorer



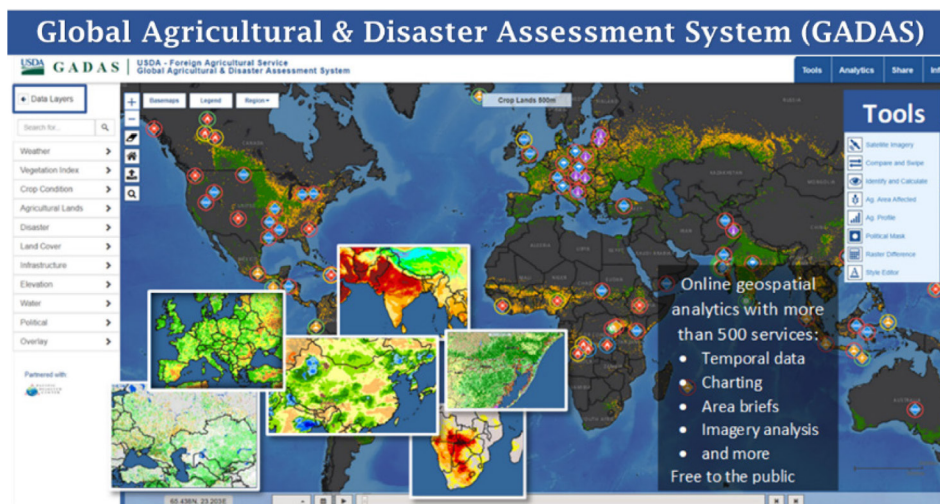
Global Agricultural and Disaster Assessment System (GADAS)

GADAS is a state-of-the-art Geographic Information System (GIS) that integrates a vast array of highly detailed earth observation data streams with cropland datasets to facilitate agricultural and disaster assessments, into an easy-to-use, web-based environment. GADAS provides analysts with a wide variety of routine geospatial products (maps, charts, tables) they require for comprehensive situational investigations and recurring assessments. GADAS can be accessed directly at (<https://geo.fas.usda.gov/GADAS/index.html>) or through (<https://www.ipad.fas.usda.gov>).

GADAS will help USDA/FAS remain a global leader in the use of location-based technologies for agricultural monitoring and global food security intelligence. The system combines daily weather, climate, crop conditions, satellite imagery, and other geospatial data with custom-built applications that quickly support the visual comparison of agricultural production-related data. GADAS is also designed to provide hourly updates of natural disasters (cyclone tracking, drought evolution, flooding impacts) as well as tools for rapid pre- and post-disaster agricultural assessments. Web-based GIS improves collaboration between teams in FAS working around the world.

For questions, please contact Lisa Colson at lisa.colson@usda.gov.

Figure 3. GADAS home page





Office of the Chief Economist

U.S. DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE

World Agricultural Outlook Board

Questions about World Agricultural Outlook Board programs may be directed to Mark Jekanowski Chairman, WAOB, Mail Stop 3812, South Building, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250-3812; Mark.Jekanowski@usda.gov

The World Agricultural Outlook Board's (WAOB) primary mission is to provide reliable and objective economic forecasts for farmers and other participants in the food and fiber system. Functions include coordinating USDA forecasts of domestic and international agriculture; providing economic analysis related to global commodity markets; monitoring markets and agricultural weather; and disseminating relevant commodity market information.

Mark Jekanowski, WAOB Chairman, oversees the creation of the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE)* report and chairs the Program Committee for USDA's annual Agricultural Outlook Forum. Former positions include Deputy Director of Outlook at USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS), Chief of the Crops Branch at ERS, and Senior Vice President at Informa Economics.

The Interagency Commodity Estimates Committees (ICECs), chaired by WAOB senior economists, clear all USDA commodity outlook reports to ensure consistency with official USDA estimates. The committees develop supply and demand estimates for the United States, over 100 individual countries, and global totals. Four USDA agencies are represented on the committees: Economic Research Service, Foreign Agricultural Service, Farm Service Agency, and the Agricultural Marketing Service.

Report Usage: Each year, WAOB issues 12 monthly *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE)* reports; and publishes 52 weekly *Weather and Crop Bulletin* reports. On average, the WASDE is accessed by over 100,000 users worldwide each month. It is one of USDA's Principal Federal Economic Indicators and directly impacts commodity markets. The WASDE report is available at: <https://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity/wasde>

USDA Baseline: WAOB oversees the annual publication of the USDA's agricultural long-term projections, popularly known as the "Baseline Report," which provides a conditional assessment of market conditions projected over the next ten years based on current policies, normal weather, and other specific assumptions. This interagency report and the underlying data are required for formulating the President's budget and can serve as a useful input to long-term strategic planning exercises within the government and private sector. The latest edition, *USDA Agricultural Projections top 2032*, can be found at <https://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity-markets/baseline>.

Mark Brusberg, Chief Meteorologist, is a key contributor and the main point of contact for drought-related activities involving the Department and other Federal Partners, especially the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Mr. Brusberg serves on the Executive Council of the NOAA-led National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) and leads several projects related to the work done by NIDIS and other drought-oriented groups

on behalf of the Department. He currently serves in a leadership capacity on the National Drought Resilience Partnership (NDRP), an intergovernmental task force offering leadership in the coordination and administration of activities designed to help mitigate the impacts of drought on vulnerable segments of the Nation's economy. He is also a lead USDA representative to the Interagency Council for Advancing Meteorological Services (ICAMS).

Mr. Brusberg chairs USDA's Combined Drought and Water Management Team, a venue for other agencies within the Department to share information and coordinate responses on projects and programs involving drought and water resources. As the Departmental lead on Drought, he facilitates partnerships between USDA and other groups, including the NDRP, NIDIS, ICAMS, and the National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC).

Agricultural Weather Monitoring and Assessments: WAOB's staff of meteorologists generate timely weather and crop assessments in support of the monthly *Crop Production* and *WASDE* reports issued by National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) and WAOB, respectively. The meteorologists also provide weekly updates of crop weather to USDA Radio and often appear on local and national radio and television broadcasts. As recognized experts within the Department, they are often tasked with attending Capitol Hill briefings, reviewing legislation and testimony, and contributing to various USDA publications. Another key duty is to meet with foreign delegations and domestic groups regarding the process of using weather and climate products to produce operational agricultural assessments. WAOB meteorologists publish the *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin (WWCB)*, which provides weekly assessments of global agricultural weather. Data and products are supplied to the *WWCB* by NASS and NOAA's Climate Prediction Center, through a formal agreement establishing the Joint Agricultural Weather Facility. The *WWCB* tends to average over 10,000 downloads per week from the USDA site, with additional downloads from the Cornell site. On a rotating basis, WAOB meteorologists prepare the weekly *U.S. Drought Monitor* and the monthly *North American Drought Monitor*. WAOB continues to engage our international counterparts and lends support to activities led by the World Meteorological Organization and Global Water Partnership. WAOB weather products can be found at: <https://www.usda.gov/oce/weather-drought-monitor>

Agricultural Outlook Forum 2023: The Agricultural Outlook Forum (AOF) is USDA's largest and premier annual gathering. The breadth and timeliness of the AOF program has consistently drawn a diverse group of participants including producers, processors, policymakers, government officials, and non-governmental organizations to discuss current and emerging issues affecting the agriculture sector. After holding the Forum exclusively on a virtual platform for two years due to the pandemic, the 2023 AOF returned to an in-person venue in Arlington Virginia, with all sessions also livestreamed on a virtual platform. Nearly 1,500 people registered to attend in-person and 4,500 attended virtually from all over the U.S. and around the world.

During the Forum, USDA's chief economist shared the Department's initial forecasts for the U.S. agricultural economy, commodity markets, and foreign trade for the new marketing year and discussed the farm income situation. Forum Sessions covered a range of topics relating to food prices, global agricultural trade, supply chain disruptions and foreign investment in U.S. agriculture, among other topics. The entire event can be viewed at: <https://www.usda.gov/oce/ag-outlook-forum>.

INTERAGENCY COMMODITY ESTIMATES COMMITTEES



Note: The World Agricultural Outlook Board reviews and approves the World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report. The Board's analysts chair the Interagency Commodity Estimates Committees (ICECs) that prepare the monthly report.

Wheat: Mark Simone, ICEC Chair, WAOB, mark.simone@usda.gov
Andrew Sowell, ERS; Rachel Trego, FAS; Bruce McWilliams, FPAC.

Rice: Mark Simone, ICEC Chair, WAOB, mark.simone@usda.gov
Nathan Childs, ERS; Rachel Trego, FAS;

Feed Grains: Michael Jewison, ICEC Chair, WAOB, michael.jewison2@usda.gov
Todd Hubbs, ERS; Agata Kingsbury, FAS; Gustavo Ferreira, FPAC.

Oilseeds: Keith Menzie, ICEC Chair, WAOB, keith.menzie@usda.gov
Maria Bukowski, ERS; Agata Kingsbury, FAS; Gustavo Ferreira, FPAC.

Cotton: Stephen MacDonald, ICEC Chair, WAOB, stephen.macdonald3@usda.gov
Leslie Meyer, ERS; Graham Soley, FAS; Kent Lanclos, FPAC.

Sugar: Stephen Haley, ICEC Chair, WAOB, stephen.haley2@usda.gov
Vida Abadam, ERS; Souleymane Diaby, FAS; Barbara Fecso, FPAC.

Meat Animals: Shayle Shagam, ICEC Chair, WAOB, shayle.shagam@usda.gov
Sherry Wise, AMS; Mildred Haley, ERS; John Brower, FAS; Georgi Gabrielyan, FPAC.

Poultry: Shayle Shagam, ICEC Chair, WAOB, shayle.shagam@usda.gov
Peyton Ferrier, AMS; Grace Grossen, ERS; Claire Mezoughem, FAS; Georgi Gabrielyan, FPAC.

Dairy: Shayle Shagam, ICEC Chair, WAOB, shayle.shagam@usda.gov
Carolyn Liebrand, AMS; Angel Teran, ERS; Jeffery Dwyer, FAS; Georgi Gabrielyan, FPAC.

The 2023 WASDE report release dates are: Jan. 12, Feb. 8, Mar.8 Apr. 11, May 12, Jun. 9, Jul. 12, Aug. 11, Sep.12, Oct. 12, Nov.9, and Dec.8

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

STATISTICS DIVISION

What's New and What's Changing?

NASS Mission Statement:

To provide timely, accurate, and useful statistics in service to U.S. Agriculture

Crops

NASS is moving the *Grain Crushings and Co-Products Production Annual Summary* report from March to September beginning in 2023. This report incorporates updated previous year data from NASS surveys as well as data obtained from the Energy Information Administration (EIA). EIA has begun publishing annual revisions to the previous crop year in August, therefore the new NASS release timeframe will allow these critical data to be included in the revision process.

NASS is permanently moving the in-season updating of acreage estimates for corn, sorghum, soybeans, and sugarbeets to the September *Crop Production* report. The necessary data, including survey data, satellite-based data, and the latest information from USDA's Farm Service Agency and Risk Management Agency, are sufficiently complete to support the review one month earlier than was previously done.

Beginning in 2023, NASS is planning several changes to the questionnaire for the annual maple syrup survey. These changes are the result of a thorough review at the request of the industry to make the form easier to complete and remove items no longer of interest. This will also lead to some adjustments to the publication tables. All changes were communicated through a Federal Register Notice.

Beginning in 2023, NASS will add in-season updating of acreage estimates for winter wheat, other spring wheat, Durum wheat, barley, and oats to the August *Crop Production* report. This update will utilize survey data, satellite-based data, and the latest information from USDA's Farm Service Agency and Risk Management Agency – similar to the in-season updates for most major row crops in September and October.

Livestock

On January 11, 2023, NASS *Cost of Pollination* report was released with 2017 and 2022 data.

Environmental, Economics and Demographics

On October 28, 2022, the *Conservation Practices Adoption Motivation Survey* (CPAM) highlights were released. CPAM is a two-year cooperative effort with NRCS to measure farmers' and ranchers' conservation practices adoption behaviors and adoption reasons on cropland, grazing land, forest land and concentrated livestock feeding operations. The focus of the 2022 survey was crops and livestock conservation practices, while the 2024 survey will focus on grazing and forest land on farms.

On November 23, 2022, the *Farm Labor* data was released. This was the second year that coefficients of variation associated with model-based estimates are published.

On December 15, 2022, the *Organics* data was released. The 2021 Organic Survey was conducted under the authority of the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997. The primary purpose of the Organic Survey is to provide acreage, inventory, production, value of sales and sales outlets and production practices on certified organic farms. The Organic Survey provides comprehensive data at the State and National level for organic crops, livestock, and marketing and production practices. The previous release was on October 22, 2020. The briefing streamed on [NASS's YouTube channel](#) at 3:05 p.m. ET.

On February 17, 2023, the *Farms and Land in Farms* data was released. This will be the second year since 2020 where the June Agricultural Survey was used to compute indications of farm numbers and acres of land in farms.

On April 28, 2023, the monthly *Agricultural Prices* will be released that uses an updated annual benchmark methodology for all monthly prices paid indexes. This is the second year the new methodology is being used. With the new benchmarking method, the annual average of administrative data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Energy Information Administration (EIA) is now being used as a component of the index formula. Previously, this component was the most recent March estimate of the administrative data. This update better reflects the trends of the annual survey and accounts for the updated data collection time period from March of the current year to the entire previous year.

On May 12, 2023, *Field Crop Chemical Usage* data will be released. Originating in 1990, the NASS Chemical Use data series is USDA's official source of statistics about on-farm chemical use and pest management practices.

On July 19, 2023, *Vegetable Chemical Usage* data will be released. This report is released every other year. Originating in 1990, the NASS Chemical Use data series is USDA's official source of statistics about on-farm chemical use and pest management practices.

The *Cash Rents* county level data will be released on August 25, 2023. NASS was directed through the "Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008" and amended by the "Agricultural

Act of 2014” to collect cash rents data for use by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) in program administration. This is the third year that Bayesian small area models will be used for county-level rented acre totals and rental rates.

Census of Agriculture Program

Data collection for the 2022 Census of Agriculture is well underway. NASS began mailing to just under 3 million farms and ranches in November 2022. The data collection phase is scheduled to continue through the spring. Editing, analysis, and data review will continue throughout 2023. Release is tentatively planned for February 2024.

NASS is encouraged by the number of responses received from its enhanced online reporting system. This new web-based data collection instrument provides respondents streamlined reporting of census of agriculture data with better options to ‘save and return’ along with the ability for the producer to print a copy for their records. The online tool speeds up reporting for the respondent by customizing the instrument based on the types of crops and livestock they produce.

Two Special Studies (follow-on surveys) are planned for fiscal year 2024. The 2023 Irrigation and Water Management Survey (IWMS) and the 2023 Census of Aquaculture. The 2023 IWMS is an integral part of the Census of Agriculture and is conducted every five years under the authority of the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-113) where participation is mandatory. The primary purpose of IWMS is to provide a wide range of irrigation-related data covering water usage, irrigation practices, irrigation by type, irrigation by crop, expenses, sources of information, purchase of energy for pumping water by power source, and use of recycled or reclaimed water. Data collection is set to begin in January 2023 with a release intended for later in the year. The IMWS (formerly Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey) data series goes back to 1979. It was last released in November 2019.

The other Special Study being planned for FY 2024 is the 2023 Census of Aquaculture. It is also conducted under the authority of the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997 and participation is mandatory. The primary purpose of the Census of Aquaculture is to provide inventory, production, value of sales and sales outlets, and distribution of fish not sold. The Census of Aquaculture will provide comprehensive data at the State and National level for aquaculture products such as shellfish, egg production, food or sport fish, baitfish, ornamentals, crustaceans, mollusks, catfish, crawfish, koi, minnows, oysters, perch, soft-shell crabs, trout, and turtles. Data collection is set to begin in December 2023 with the release intended before the end of 2024. This will be the fifth Census of Aquaculture conducted by NASS with the last release in 2018.

Modernization

USDA NASS is committed to high standards of customer service and making it easy for farmers, ranchers, and data users to interact with us. NASS is modernizing their online systems to improve the customer experience around reporting data and accessing NASS official federal agricultural data and reports. We are making accurate data available on schedule in ways that customers like yourself have told us they want.

NASS has continued its ongoing efforts to modernize its customer interfaces, making responding to surveys and accessing NASS data and reports *faster, friendlier, and easier*. This modernization effort also allows NASS to work more efficiently. Modernization will be focused in two main areas, Data Collection and Data Dissemination.

Data Collection - NASS recently released the new Respondent Portal and all new data collections now flow through this modern entry point. Immediate benefits of the portal are

- Streamlined authentication process provides a convenient, central point to respond to all NASS surveys.
- Creating and using a user account allows respondents to see past survey responses.
- Incremental development and improvements over the next few years will further meet customer expectations.
- Improve performance and speed of the portal and offer additional options for reporting data to NASS including an upload feature.
- Providing a customized digital experience designed around the user's needs and behaviors. Farmers and ranchers will be able to build and save custom homepages to compare their data with other (national, state, county) data.
- Integration with USDA's Farmers.gov website, allowing farmers, ranchers, and agribusinesses to expand their access to multiple USDA agencies' information to make decisions for their operation that are fact based and data driven.

Data Dissemination - In December 2022, the milk production data was released in the new modern format. As NASS continues to evolve and optimize its data products and services, new content and functionality will be added. Economic and field crop information is expected to be made available in the new format in late 2023. The new format can be viewed at <https://data.nass.usda.gov/dairy/milk-production/>.

NASS Links

Visit the NASS website (www.nass.usda.gov) and follow us on Twitter [@usda_nass](https://twitter.com/usda_nass) to stay up to date.

Link to the USDA, NASS Agricultural Statistics Board Calendar:

www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/Calendar/2023/2023ReleaseCalendar_6Months_85x11_Color.pdf

Link to the 2023 NASS Guide to Products and Services:

www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/2023GuideProductsServices.pdf



United States Department of Agriculture

ERS' mission is to anticipate trends and emerging issues in agriculture, food, the environment, and rural America and to conduct high-quality, objective economic research to inform and enhance public and private decision making. ERS also provides a wide range of data products covering different commodity markets and the agricultural economy.





Economic Research Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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To ensure the quality of its research reports and satisfy governmentwide standards, ERS requires that all research reports with substantively new material be reviewed by qualified technical research peers. This technical peer review process, coordinated by ERS' Peer Review Coordinating Council, allows experts who possess the technical background, perspective, and expertise to provide an objective and meaningful assessment of the output's substantive content and clarity of communication during the publication's review.

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USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

High-Quality, Objective Economic Research

ERS research programs provide timely, independent, and objective information about the U.S. agricultural economy, its resources, and its links to the general economy and food markets. Our research integrates market information and economic theory to inform decision makers in the Government, the U.S. Congress, agribusinesses, farm and industry groups, the media, and the general public.

Our research covers a range of economic and policy topics, including:

Commodity Markets & Outlook

Timely, in-depth analyses and information important to understanding and anticipating developments in agricultural commodity markets. The Outlook program covers the major field crops (feedgrains, oilseeds, wheat, rice, cotton, and sugar), livestock and products, specialty crops (fruits, nuts, vegetables, and pulses), and agricultural trade.

Farm & Rural Economy

Farm sector performance and farm households' well-being; farm size and concentration; investments in rural communities and drivers of rural economic performance; and demographic change and its impact on rural communities.

Global Markets & Trade

Major markets and competitors; economic impacts of existing and potential exports and imports, trade barriers, and existing/potential trade agreements.

Resources & Environment

Economic impacts of conservation programs, efficacy of policies designed to protect the environment, and the use of technology to enhance agricultural

Food & Nutrition

Economic research and analysis on policy-relevant issues related to the food sector (food safety, food prices, and markets); consumer behavior related to food choices (food consumption, diet quality, and nutrition); and food and nutrition assistance programs (SNAP, WIC, National School Lunch Program).

Timely Data on the Agricultural Economy and Commodity Markets

ERS creates more than 60 data products covering the agricultural economy, commodities and food markets. Collectively, ERS data products were accessed **3.8 million times** in fiscal year 2022.

Our work on data products includes transforming raw survey data to make the information accessible to users, as well as developing new datasets based on economic models or through the compilation of data from diverse sources.

ERS releases four types of data products:

- **Survey Data** such as the Agricultural Resource Management Survey, which is a primary source of information on the financial conditions, production practices, and resource use of U.S. farm businesses.
- **Model-Based Results**, including estimates from our economic models, such as the Food Dollar series, which measures annual expenditures by U.S. consumers on domestically produced food; and the Agricultural Trade Multipliers, which estimate the amount of economic activity and jobs generated by agricultural exports.
- **Economic Indicators and Summary Statistics** compiled from an array of official sources. Examples include Farm Income estimates, Cost of Production estimates, and detailed data on commodity supply/use and U.S. agricultural trade.
- **Charts and Visualizations**, including Charts of Note released daily, Tableau visualizations, and an extensive inventory of chart galleries that display key trends and relationships across market variables.

Modernization of Data Delivery

To expand the reach of our data products, ERS is continuously innovating to develop data dissemination tools and channels that meet the changing needs and expectations of our users. Ongoing efforts include:

1

Developing Structured and Automated Databases
to facilitate open and centralized access to a broad range of data.

2

Expanding Use of Application Programming Interfaces
to allow users and developers to design new ways to access and present data.

3

Developing a New Data Dissemination Web Platform
that will serve as a one-stop shop for our most used data, including commodity market data.

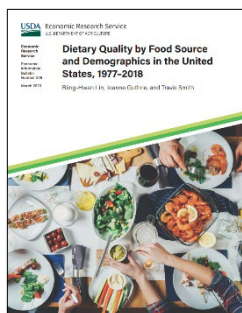
4

Leveraging Tableau and Other Visualization Software
to present data in a modern, user-friendly format.

Recent Publications by the Economic Research Service

ERS releases periodic outlook reports covering developments in commodity markets, including seven monthly releases on field crops and livestock/dairy/poultry, two biannual reports covering specialty crops, and quarterly U.S. Agricultural Trade Outlook reports.

Other ERS outlooks, economic research reports and economic informational bulletins include:



Dietary Quality by Food Source and Demographics in the United States, 1977–2018

Food prepared away from home has become a mainstay in U.S. consumers' diets, accounting for more than 50 percent of total food expenditures since 2009 and more than 30 percent of total food energy intake since 2011. This report analyzes data from nationally representative food consumption surveys conducted between 1977 and 2018 to examine U.S. consumers' dietary quality relative to the Federal dietary guidance and how this varies by food source.



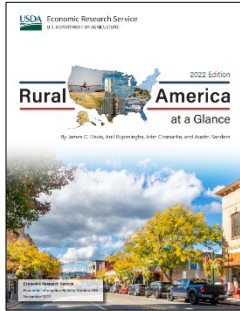
Precision Agriculture in the Digital Era: Recent Adoption on U.S. Farms

Digital agriculture—the ongoing transformation of farming that includes digitalization and automation of farming tasks—may be a part of the solution to challenges facing U.S. agriculture, including rising production costs, climate change, and labor shortages, among others. This report documents trends in the U.S. farm sector's adoption of digital agriculture technologies between 1996 and 2019, with emphasis on changes since 2016, using data from USDA's Agricultural Resource Management Survey.



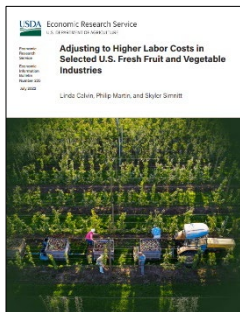
United Kingdom Agricultural Production and Trade Policy Post-Brexit

The United Kingdom (UK), an important regional agricultural producer with historical prominence in global agricultural trade, left the European Union (EU) and is now responsible for constructing agricultural policy and negotiating trade agreements. This report explores trends in UK agricultural production and trade while the historical UK–EU coupling and potential trade opportunities post-Brexit are considered.



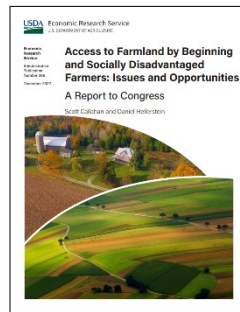
Rural America at a Glance: 2022 Edition

This report looks at recent population trends, the changing structure of economic sectors, the labor force, and job growth in rural areas. After a decade of overall population loss from 2010 to 2020, nonmetropolitan areas grew at a faster rate than metropolitan areas during 2020—21 due to a sharp turnaround in migration flows occurring in the first year and a half of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.



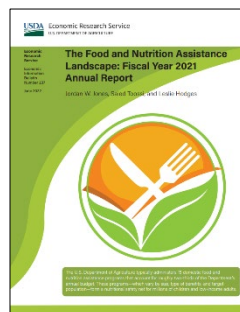
Adjusting to Higher Labor Costs in Selected U.S. Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Industries

This report examines how U.S. producers of selected labor-intensive fresh fruit and vegetables are addressing the rising costs of labor. Farm labor costs increased from 2010-19 for several reasons, including fewer newly-arrived unauthorized workers, rising State minimum wages, and new requirements to pay overtime wages to some farm workers. Rising labor costs often cause producers to adjust their production and management practices to compensate for the changing cost structure.



Access to Farmland by Beginning and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers: Issues and Opportunities

The aging of the population of U.S. farmers, increasing concentration of farmland ownership, and competition for land from urban and environmental uses may have implications for land available for beginning or socially disadvantaged (SDA) producers. Beginning and SDA producers may have fewer financial resources or face other constraints when buying or otherwise accessing land to enter farming or expand their farm operation. This report examines factors influencing land access to beginning and SDA farmers using survey,



The Food and Nutrition Assistance Landscape: Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report

The USDA administers 15 domestic food and nutrition assistance programs that together affect the lives of millions of people and account for roughly two-thirds of USDA's annual budget. In response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, USDA launched additional temporary programs and implemented numerous policy changes that expanded the scope and coverage of existing programs. This report uses preliminary data from USDA, Food and Nutrition Service and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service to examine program trends and policy changes in USDA's largest U.S. food and nutrition assistance programs through FY 2021.

Examples of Data Products by the Economic Research Service

Primary–Survey Data

- ARMS Farm Financial and Crop Production Practices, which are developed jointly with USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)

Model Results Estimates

- Food Dollar
- Agricultural Trade Multipliers
- International Baseline Data
- Season-Average Price Forecasts

Summary Statistics

- Foreign Agricultural Trade of the U.S.
- U.S. Bioenergy Statistics
- Feed Grains Database
- Livestock & Meat Domestic Data

Charts and Visualizations

- Charts of Note → Now available via mobile app
- Cross-Commodity Visualization

Farm Service Agency

On-Farm Grain Storage in Areas with Limited Commercial Capacity Due to Severe Storms

Producers in counties affected by eligible disaster events in Kentucky, Minnesota, South Dakota, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, and Tennessee can apply for cost-share assistance through the Emergency Grain Storage Facility Assistance Program (EGSFP). The new program provides cost-share assistance for the construction of new grain storage capacity and drying and handling needs, in order to support the orderly marketing of commodities. An initial allocation of \$20 million in cost-share assistance is available to agricultural producers in affected counties impacted by the damage to or destruction of large commercial grain elevators as a result of natural disasters from Dec. 1, 2021, to Aug. 1, 2022. The application period opens later this month and closes Dec. 29, 2023.

Rice Production Program

FSA plans to provide up to \$250 million in assistance to rice farmers. USDA is sharing information early so producers can prepare for program signup, which will include a pre-filled application in an effort to simplify and streamline the application process.

On Dec. 29, 2022, President Biden signed into law H.R. 2617, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, which provided the authority and funding for USDA to make payments to rice producers based on data already on file with the USDA, including planted acres and acres prevented from being planted.

Conservation Reserve Program Signup for 2023

Agricultural producers and private landowners can begin applying for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) General signup starting February 27 through April 7, 2023. CRP is a cornerstone voluntary conservation program offered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and a key tool in the Biden-Harris administration's effort to address climate change and help agricultural communities invest in the long-term well-being of their land and natural resources.

Producers and landowners enrolled more than 5 million acres into CRP through signups in 2022, building on the acceptance of more than 3.1 million acres in the largest Grassland CRP signup in history. There are currently 23 million acres enrolled in CRP, with 1.9 million set to expire this year. USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is aiming to reach the 27-million-acre cap statutorily set for fiscal year 2023.

Organic Dairy Marketing Assistance Program

The new ODMAP, to be administered by USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), is intended to help smaller organic dairy farms that have faced a unique set of challenges and higher costs over the past several years that have been compounded by the ongoing pandemic and drought conditions across the country. Many small organic dairy operations are now struggling to stay in business and FSA plans to provide payments to cover a portion of their estimated marketing costs for 2023. Final spending will depend on enrollment and each producers projected production, but ODMAP has been allocated up to \$100 million.

Signup for 2023 Assistance for On-Farm Food Safety Expenses for Specialty Crop Growers

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds specialty crop producers of available assistance to help cover certain costs of complying with regulatory and market-driven food safety certification requirements. FSA will accept applications for 2023 costs from Feb. 1, 2023, to Jan. 31, 2024.

FSA is making available up to \$200 million through the FSCSC program, which is part of USDA's broader effort to transform the food system to create a more level playing field for small-scale agricultural operations and a more balanced, equitable economy for everyone working in food and agriculture.

Sign up continues for 2020/2021 Natural Disaster Assistance (Emergency Relief Program (ERP) Phase 2) and 2020 Pandemic Assistance (Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program (PARP)).

USDA announced two new programs that wrap-up and fill remaining gaps in previous natural disaster and pandemic assistance. To be eligible for ERP Phase Two, producers must have suffered a decrease in allowable gross revenue in 2020 or 2021 due to necessary expenses related to losses of eligible crops from a qualifying natural disaster event. Assistance will be primarily to producers of crops that were not covered by Federal Crop Insurance or NAP, since crops covered by Federal Crop Insurance and NAP were included in the assistance under ERP Phase One.

To be eligible for PARP, an agricultural producer must have been in the business of farming during at least part of the 2020 calendar year and had a 15% or greater decrease in allowable gross revenue for the 2020 calendar year, as compared to a baseline year.

The ERP Phase 2 and PARP application period is open from January 23, 2023 through June 2, 2023.

Farm Loan Program Improvements

USDA has developed a simplified direct loan application to provide improved customer experience for producers applying for loans from the Farm Service Agency (FSA). The simplified direct loan application enables producers to complete a more streamlined application, reduced from 29 to 13 pages. Producers will also have the option to complete an electronic fillable form or prepare a traditional, paper application for submission to their local FSA farm loan office. The paper and electronic versions of the form will be available starting March 1, 2023.

In October 2022, USDA launched the Loan Assistance Tool, an online step-by-step guide that provides materials to help an applicant prepare their farm loan application in one tool. Farmers can access the Loan Assistance Tool by visiting farmers.gov/farm-loan-assistance-tool and clicking the 'Get Started' button. The tool is built to run on any modern browser like Chrome, Edge, Firefox, or the Safari browser. A version compatible with mobile devices is expected to be available by the summer. It does not work in Internet Explorer.

The simplified direct loan application and Loan Assistance Tool are the first of multiple farm loan process improvements that will be available to USDA customers on farmers.gov in the future.

The mission of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is to facilitate the competitive and efficient marketing of agricultural products.

USDA DATA USERS' SPRING MEETING 2023

The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) administers programs that create domestic and international marketing opportunities for U.S. producers of food, fiber, and specialty crops. AMS also provides the agriculture industry with valuable services to ensure the quality and availability of wholesome food for consumers across the country.

Nearly 4,000 AMS professionals work every day to support the country's diverse agricultural operations, which range from individual farmers to international businesses and employ 1 in 12 people. AMS services and its millions of dollars in annual grant investments also create opportunities by supporting economic development in small towns and rural communities that stand as the backbone of American values.

Much of the agency's support for agriculture is provided through commodity-specific efforts, such as its Dairy; Specialty Crops; Livestock and Poultry; and Cotton and Tobacco Programs. AMS also oversees the National Organic Program; Science and Technology Program; and the Transportation and Marketing Program. AMS also provides regulatory oversight for over 20 research and promotion programs and enforces other Federal regulations such as the Packers and Stockyards Act, the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (PACA) and the Seed Act.

CURRENT ISSUES OF INTEREST

My Market News

The Market Analysis & Reporting Services (MARS) and its public facing website, [My Market News](#) and related API continue to expand its offerings to data users in 2023.

Market News continues to implement Market Analysis and Reporting Services' (MARS) advanced technical capabilities and additional market types. In FY 2023, MARS and its public facing website, My Market News, continued to add more market types and reports to those available to the public. Through My Market News, users can now access data for over 735 unique market reports disseminated from over 45 Market News offices across the country. Currently, users can access dairy, cotton quality, truck rates, trends, poultry, egg, livestock and video auctions, hay, auction hay, direct livestock trading, tobacco, rice, feedstuffs, grain and bioenergy information through My Market News. Market information for retail, national feeder cattle summary, egg pricing, wool, international imports and exports, and the Specialty Crops market types of terminals, shipping point, and movement will transition to My Market News by the end of 2023.

Additionally, through both the MARS and LMR Application Programming Interfaces (API), customers can now access data from over 875 unique market reports. The APIs allows users to automatically download data in custom formats. After a one-time setup, the API will continue to deliver the requested information to the user in

the established format without further action. Other updates that have been implemented on the site over the past year include the functionality that allows users to identify corrected data sets both by report and through the [My Market News API](#) and [Livestock Mandatory Reporting \(LMR\) API](#).

In February 2022, AMS introduced the USDA Market News Mobile Application v1.0 (app) with free iOS and Android versions available to download through the Apple and Google Play stores. The App was updated in June to v.2.0 to expand access across all commodity groups. The app gives users instant access to nearly 1,500 reports covering conventional and organic livestock, poultry, grain, dairy, cotton, and specialty crop market reports. The app lets users search for current and historical reports by location, State, or commodity. Users can also add reports to their favorites for easier access, share reports via text or email, subscribe to reports, and share the aggregated data behind reports via email. The app provides real-time notifications when a new report is published without any delays. This new tool is part of a multi-year initiative to improve the Market News customer experience by providing easier access to data through the latest media technologies.

In May v3.0 of the App will be released. This version will provide additional tools that allow users identify reports containing international, retail, and organic data. The update will also simplify the search process for the state and commodity search screens, make newly released reports more visible to users.

Federal-State Cooperation

AMS Market News has Federal-State Cooperative Agreements with 30 states for commodity market reporting activities. Beginning in FY 2023, these agreements were converted into the USDA ezFedGrants (eFG) Grants and Agreements System. The eFG system is used for processing Federal financial assistance transactions and provides significant efficiencies to all users managing grant and agreement portfolios. AMS worked closely with its state partners to ensure a successful transition to the new system. These cooperative working relationships enable resources at the Federal and State levels to be leveraged to expand the breadth, depth, and dissemination of market reporting to the benefit of the industry and information users. State reporters cover livestock auction and grain elevator markets, and other local reporting activities, such as farmers markets, that would otherwise be costly and more difficult to cover using Federal resources alone.

Organic Market Reporting

The Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018 (Act) re-authorized \$5 million to USDA for the collection and reporting of data on the production and marketing of organic agricultural products. As required by the Act, USDA collects and distributes reporting on prices of organic agricultural products; develops and implements surveys on organic production, handling, and distribution; and conducts analysis on the data for publication in reports. Of the \$5 million allocation, \$3.5 million was provided to the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) to support organic production and market data activities.

AMS is currently engaged in several key activities to support organic production and market data activities, as required by the Act, under the Organic Data Initiative (ODI). Key among these is the collection and distribution of market information for organic and conventionally produced agricultural products. Each business day, AMS Market News reporters collect price, demand, and movement information and make it available online at no cost to ensure market transparency and assist in the marketing and distribution of agricultural commodities. AMS Market News currently reports over 240 organic commodities, and tracks and reports organic markets at three main levels – shipping point or point of entry (for imports), wholesale, and retail. Reporting of organic

commodities at shipping point usually includes tracking the volume of movement, which consists of domestic shipments or crossings from Mexico/imports from other countries. Market News provides some comprehensive reports for the organic sector, such as the daily *National Specialty Crops Organic Summary*. AMS has a webpage showcasing Market News organic reports including a *Weekly Retail Organic Price Comparison Report* that shows the price differences between organic and conventional products to assist stakeholders in analysis of commodity sales and consumers' willingness to pay for organic products.

In FY 2023, AMS continues to expand its outreach and educational efforts to the organic sector to promote the availability and usage of the existing market information and resources, identify new data needs, and build stronger relationships with stakeholders.

Market Information Organization of the Americas/International Collaboration

AMS Market News serves as the chair of the Market Information Organization of the Americas (MIOA), a cooperation network of institutions from 33 countries that operate like Market News. These institutions track and report major markets within their nations to ensure the availability of reliable information for their agro-industrial complex, relevant ministries, and government agencies. MIOA works to harmonize efforts, identify, and share best practices, and support trade and economic development through the availability of critical market data. MIOA supports the concept that timely and unbiased market information helps provide market transparency – a basic public good. MIOA and AMS Market News have partnered to create the *MIOA Toolbox*, a five-part series of modules available in English, Spanish, and Portuguese. This series has provided hundreds of leading market information specialists, data analysts, and various strategic partners from the 33 member countries with key information on the strategies, new tools, and good practices to improve market reporting across the Americas. The five modules are titled:

- *Components of a Successful MIS*
- *Value of and Strategies for Accurate Market Information*
- *Market Reporter: Profile and Good Practices for Success*
- *Good Practices for MIS in Preparation for Emergencies*
- *Outreach, Education and Promotion for MIS*

AMS Market News, along with the other data agencies of USDA, is partnering with the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) to deliver capacity building programs in the Dominican Republic and the State of Maharashtra, India. AMS is drawing upon the *MIOA Toolbox* for these training programs for market information specialists. Information specialists from other countries have sat in on these advanced training programs, greatly increasing the reach and impact of these programs. Additional projects for improving Market Information Systems with guidance from AMS Market News are also underway in Ecuador, Peru, and Paraguay.

Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News Reporting

Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News (LPGMN) continues to focus much of its efforts on improving our customers' experience by providing greater access to LPGMN data through more modern tools, including transitioning market data and reports to *My Market News*. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (Act), passed in March 2022, extended LMR authorization through September 30, 2022, and the Continuing Appropriations and Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2023 extended LMR reauthorization through December 16, 2022. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 signed on December 29, 2022, extended LMR authorization through September 30, 2023. The March Appropriations Act provided funding to the

Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News Division to develop and maintain a Cattle Contracts Library (CCL) pilot program like the Swine Contract Library maintained by the Packers and Stockyards Division. Development of the CCL is underway and expected to be released publicly no later than September 30, 2023.

Data users are encouraged to access the *My Market News* API, the LMR API, and the legacy LMR Web Service to consume LPGMN data more effectively, efficiently, and on demand. Data users can also access LMR report data through the XML Format link at the bottom of each PDF report, and through the LMR API. The LMR API offers access to all LMR, Dairy Mandatory, and Federal Milk Marking Order reports and data.

Cotton Market News Reporting

During the 2022-2023 cotton crop year, Cotton Market News is monitoring the quality of the crop and adding special reports to the to the Weekly Cotton Market Review as quality issues are identified. Cotton Quality Data files are available in My Market News. The weekly cotton quality data file contains classification information for all bales classed in each week. The file contains data for Upland and Pima cotton. The identification includes the Cotton Program's Classing Office number or the two-digit State Code in which the bale was ginned, depending on the file accessed. The data does not contain individual bale identification (gin and bale number). This data can be used to produce statistical reports for various combinations of cotton quality information. Cotton Price Excel and CSV files are available in My Market News. Historical files continue to be loaded and files will be available going back to at least the 2014-2015 marketing year. Additional Cotton Price datasets are available by request. E-mail CottonMN@usda.gov or Barbara.Meredith@usda.gov if you are interested in Cotton Price datasets.

Dairy Market News Reporting

Dairy Market News (DMN) continues to enhance My Market News, improving access to information and data for the dairy industry. Class II, Class III, and Class IV weekly cream multiples and prices were added to the domestic East and West Fluid weekly regional reports. In February 2023, Dairy Market News added several new package sizes to the weekly retail ad collection entries, allowing for improved coverage of organic butter, cheese, and ice cream product ads. Enhancements to APIs at the My Market News landing pages are available, with updates made regularly to meet customer needs. API documentation is displayed on the homepage of each Dairy Market News report in the My Market News system. Dairy Market News reports will be transitioning to PDF format, from txt format, soon.

Reports of mandatory dairy product survey prices and Federal order statistics are published by the Dairy Market Information Branch (MIB) on the My Market News website, the AMS website, and Cornell's USDA Economics, Statistics and Market Information System (ESMIS). The underlying data for these reports are available in Datamart and the associated API, both part of the Livestock Mandatory Reporting system. Sample API workbooks are also available on the My Market News website.

Specialty Crops Market News Reporting

Specialty Crops Market News (SCMN) added new packages, origins, and varieties to its market reports as they emerged in the marketplace, or in response to industry requests to report new products or enhance existing products. The *National Retail Report – Specialty Crops* has grown to be one of the mostly closed tracked

reports published by Market News. SCMN tracks approximately 410 supermarket chains, with over 30,300 individual outlets. Overall, SCMN tracks over 785 unique specialty crop commodities at three market levels (retail, wholesale, and shipping point) plus the movement, which consists of domestic shipments, crossings from Mexico, and import volumes. To better meet specialized information needs, the *U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement Seasonal Perishable Products Weekly Update*, was created to highlight the seasonal market situation on several of the most widely imported specialty crops commodities, with additional commentary and market price and volume data visualizations.

SCMN gained access to the Automated Commercial Environment/International Trade Data System (ACE), implemented through the joint efforts of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Homeland Security, and the Customs and Border Patrol (CBP). SCMN transitioned to using the ACE system as the primary source of import data, starting with the northern border on January 2, 2020. On January 3, 2021, SCMN continued the transition to ACE for all other points and ports of entry, excluding Mexico Crossings through Nogales, Arizona. The ACE data using the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) codes is timelier, allowing SCMN to have daily reports for hundreds of commodities, and it reflects the more actual volumes, as it covers all ports and points of entry.

SCMN worked closely with industry leaders to request new HTS codes from the International Trade Commission (ITC) to increase the specificity of the ACE data and provide transparency for commodities that have significant economic value in the marketplace. Since July 2021, SCMN is responsible for the creation of 101 new HTS codes, 26 of which are organic. Currently, 31 commodities are being held in abeyance for the October 2022 ITC 484 (f) Committee meeting and more than a dozen additional commodities are being researched for the March 2023 submission.

Agricultural Transportation Open Data Visualization Platform – AgTransport

The [AgTransport](#) platform offers farmers, commodity analysts, elevator operators, shippers, and other stakeholders' access to USDA data that can help them make timely market decisions about moving agricultural products across the country and around the world. This free, open data platform contains numerous datasets and dashboards about the four modes—rail, truck, barge, and ocean vessel—used to transport agricultural products.

AgTransport facilitates easy analytics. Users can gain personalized insight through interactive charts, and they can generate and save their own unique visualizations and data views that will be updated automatically over time. If they wish, users also can share their visualizations with others in the tool's open data community. AgTransport makes data available in many different, open formats and automatically generates and maintains an Application Programming Interface (API) for each dataset.

There have been many new features added to the platform with the latest expansion in July. One feature helps users visualize data about international transport costs to better understand international trade competitiveness. New interactive datasets have been added related to highway infrastructure from the report, [The Importance of Highways to U.S. Agriculture](#), released in December 2020. There is also an [online version](#) of the 2021 [Compendium of Agricultural Transportation Research](#), which offers insight on all major transport modes by highlighting the main findings and methods from recent research between 2015 and 2021.

Other features on the platform include:

- Grain Transportation Cost Indicators and Global Competitiveness Dashboard with data on Brazil, Mexico, and Japan
- Interactive Rail Dashboard with expanded Data, Maps, and Analysis, featuring 14 years of Surface Transportation Board Public Waybill data in an easy-to-use, accessible format.
- Agricultural Rail Service Metrics Dashboard
- Barge Dashboard with additional rivers and locks added to the waterway Lock Performance Management Data
- Ocean Port Profiles Dashboard
- Bulk and Container Ocean Fleet Data
- Grain Trucking Indicators
- Refrigerated Truck Dashboard with Rates, Volumes, and Availability
- Dashboard for selected Grain Price and Basis Data
- Digitized Modal Share Analysis for Transportation of U.S. Grains
- Biofuels Dashboard, including Ethanol, Biodiesel, and DDGs



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. Census Bureau
Washington, DC 20233-0001

The U.S. Census Bureau provides information that tells the story of our changing economy. The Economic Indicators, Economic Census and our quarterly and annual economic surveys give Federal, state, and local governments, policy makers, and business and community leaders the information needed to make informed decisions that shape our economy.

Issues of Interest to Data Users

1. Accessing Data from the U.S. Census Bureau

- **USA Trade Online**

USA Trade Online is a dynamic data tool that gives users access to current and cumulative U.S. export and import data. With multiple data sets and capabilities, USA Trade Online can assist different types of customers from a wide range of industries and fields. This tool offers data by Harmonized System, North America Industry Classification System (NAICS), and the Department of Agriculture code. This powerful software allows users to create customized reports and colorful charts detailing international trade data at different levels.

<https://usatrade.census.gov/index.php>

- **Monthly Trade Data in the Census Data API**

The U.S. Census Bureau has detailed monthly international trade data in its [Application Programming Interface](#) (API). The Census Data API has international trade data from 2013 to present. The international trade statistics provide monthly and cumulative year-to-date export and import totals with multiple layers of detail. The statistics also include two datasets with U.S. exports and imports by Department of Agriculture code.

The Application Programming Interface provides researchers and developers free access to its demographic and economic data.

<https://census.gov/data/developers/data-sets/international-trade.html>

- **Global Market Finder (GMF)**

The Global Market Finder is an interactive data visualization tool that paints a picture of the export market for a particular commodity. The user just needs to select the Schedule B code they are interested in and the tool will display all the countries that the U.S. exports to, shows value by method

of transportation, and unit price. Users can drill down to specific countries and download the data that they have pulled.

<https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/interactive/export-markets.html>

- **Census Business Builder**

The Census Business Builder (CBB) is a suite of services that provide selected demographic and economic data from the Census Bureau tailored to specific types of users in a simple to access and use format. The CBB includes:

- o Demographic, socioeconomic, and housing data from the American Community Survey
- o Business data from the County Business Patterns, Nonemployer Statistics, Economic Census, and Survey of Business Owners
- o Trade data on total imports and exports, broken out by mode of transportation (Air & Vessel), for selected three- and four-digit agriculture, mining, and manufacturing NAICS codes at the national and state level.
- o Building Permits data at the county and place level

In addition, it provides Agriculture data from the Census of Agriculture (USDA).

<https://www.census.gov/data/data-tools/cbb.html>

2. **Principal Economic Indicators**

The U.S. Census Bureau's Economic Indicators keep the world informed by providing the first official measures of the U.S. economy. Our Economic Indicator surveys provide monthly and quarterly data that are timely, reliable, and offer comprehensive measures of the U.S. economy. These surveys produce a variety of statistics covering construction, housing, international trade, retail trade, wholesale trade, services, and manufacturing. The survey data provide measures of economic activity that allow analysis of economic performance and inform business investment and policy decisions. The data can be accessed via the Economic Indicator Briefing Room and the Economic Indicator Database.

- Economic Indicator Briefing Room

The Economic Indicator Briefing Room web site provides access to the latest data, full release reports, historical data, and time series and trend charts. [census.gov/economic-indicators](https://www.census.gov/economic-indicators)

- Economic Indicator Database

Select an economic indicator and customize your data selection. Ability to download the data to a spreadsheet and create your own time series charts. [Business and Industry: Time Series / Trend Charts \(census.gov\)](https://www.census.gov/business-and-industry/time-series-trend-charts)

- For questions regarding Economic Indicators, please contact:
Ms. Catherine Buffington, Chief, Economic Indicators Division
U.S. Census Bureau
Washington, DC 20233-6010
Phone: (301)-763-1838
Email: Catherine.D.Buffington@census.gov

3. International Trade

Each month, the U.S. Census Bureau releases the *U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services* (FT900) report, which is one of the principal economic indicators for the United States. This report can be found along with other information on our website <https://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/index.html>

Webinars are archived at: <https://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/outreach/index.html>

- 15 CFR PART 30 — Foreign Trade Regulations

For information on the FTR and filing requirements, please emd.askregs@census.gov or use the International Trade Helpline number, 1-800-549-0595 and select option 3.

- Questionable data should be brought to our attention as soon as possible. Potential data errors caught early are easier to verify and improve the quality of data going forward. To request data verification, please contact Mr. Gregory Kondilas (gregory.kondilas@census.gov), Chief of our International Trade Indicator Micro Analysis Branch.

4. Other Economic Data from the U.S. Census Bureau

The Census Bureau produces economic data across the entire economy on a monthly, quarterly, yearly, and five-year basis, including industries related to agriculture. These industries can include:

- o NAICS 113 Forestry and Logging
- o NAICS 114 Fishing, Hunting and Trapping
- o NAICS 115 Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry
- o NAICS 311 Food Manufacturing
- o NAICS 4244 Grocery and Related Product Merchant Wholesalers
- o NAICS 4245 Farm Product Raw Material Merchant Wholesalers

- o NAICS 445 Food and Beverage Stores

- COVID-19 Data Hub

The U.S. Census Bureau's COVID-19 Hub contains demographic and economic data designed to help guide decision-making related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The interactive platform includes key demographic data from the American Community Survey and key data on businesses with one or more paid employees from the County Business Patterns program. In addition, the COVID-19 Data Hub brings together data from multiple Federal agencies including the USDA's Emergency Food Assistance Program and private sector organizations. The hub was built in collaboration with ESRI and leverages many features of the ArcGIS platform and solution templates.

<https://covid19.census.gov/>