

REGIONAL NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE MOUNTAIN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE P.O. BOX 150969 · Lakewood, CO 80215-0969



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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USDA TO MEASURE FINANCIAL WELL-BEING OF FARMERS AND RANCHERS

LAKEWOOD, Colo. – December 2, 2024 – Beginning in late December, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will spend several months gathering information about farm economics and production practices from farmers and ranchers across the region, as the agency conducts the third and final phase of the 2024 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS).

"ARMS is the only survey that measures the current financial well-being of producers and their households as a whole," said Rodger Ott, Director of the NASS Mountain Regional Field Office. "The data will help inform decisions on local and federal policies and programs that affect farms and farm families."

In an effort to obtain the most accurate data, NASS will reach out to over 40,000 producers nationwide, including 1,000 in the Mountain Region, between December 2024 and April 2025. The survey asks producers to provide in-depth information about their operating revenues, production costs, and household characteristics. The 2024 ARMS 3 survey will include additional questions about owned and rented land as part of the Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL) survey.

"In February, our interviewers will begin reaching out to those farmers who have not yet responded," said Ott. "We appreciate their time and are here to help them with the questionnaire so that their information will continue supporting sound agricultural decision-making."

Information provided to NASS is kept confidential, as required by federal law. The agency only publishes data in aggregate form, ensuring that no individual respondent or operation can be identified.

The expense data gathered in ARMS will be published in the annual *Farm Production Expenditures* report on July 25, 2025. That report and others are available at <u>nass.usda.gov/Publications</u>. More reports based on ARMS data and more information about ARMS are available at <u>ers.usda.gov/arms</u>.

For state specific questions, please contact your USDA NASS State Statistician at 1-800-392-3202:

Arizona, Colorado – Rodger Ott Montana – Eric Sommer New Mexico – Margie Whitcotton Utah – John Hilton Wyoming – Leslee Lohrenz

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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.