



# News Release

United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Arkansas Field Office

10800 Financial Centre Parkway, Suite 110, Little Rock, AR, 72211



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Contact: Jason Lamprecht  
(501) 228-9926

## USDA To Gather Data on Crop Acreage and Stocks

Little Rock, AR – How many acres of each crop have farmers planted this year? Did the spring rains alter farmers' planting decisions? How has the biofuels boom influenced the balance of crop acres? These are just a few of the critical questions the Arkansas Field Office of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will be asking producers statewide as part of the June Agricultural Survey.

"The June Agricultural Survey, also known as the Crops/Stocks Survey, is one of the most important surveys conducted each year by NASS," explained Becky Cross, director of the NASS Arkansas Field Office. "This survey will provide the first clear indication of the potential production and supply of major commodities in Arkansas and the United States for the 2008 crop year."

"Data from the June Agricultural Survey benefit farmers and ranchers by providing timely and accurate information to help them make critical decisions for their operation. When finalizing cropping and marketing plans, this survey will be one of the most important sources of information for producers," added Cross.

Beginning the end of May, selected Arkansas producers will be contacted by mail, telephone, or farm visit and asked to provide information on the crop acreage they planted for the 2008 crop year. NASS will also collect data on quantities of grains, oilseeds and rice stored on the farm. This will be the first collection of rice quantities during the June Agricultural Survey in recent decades as a result of industry requests. The information will be compiled and analyzed then published in a series of USDA reports, including the annual *Acreage* report and quarterly *Grain Stocks* report, both to be released on June 30, 2008.

As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. "NASS safeguards the confidentiality of all responses and publishes only state- and national-level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified," stated Cross. All reports are available on the NASS Web site: [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov). For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Arkansas Field Office at 800-327-2970.

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