



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# California Farm News

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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## FINAL CALL TO BE COUNTED IN THE 2007 AGRICULTURE CENSUS Census of Agriculture Forms Accepted Until Mid-June

SACRAMENTO – Officials from the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) are calling and knocking on the doors of California’s farmers and ranchers to remind them that it’s not too late to respond to the 2007 Census of Agriculture.

“Nearly 75,000 responses have already been received in California,” says Vic Tolomeo, director of the NASS California Field Office. “I sincerely thank those who have fulfilled their responsibility by completing and returning their Census forms. But, there’s still a good number we need to hear from to make this the most accurate Census on record.”

While the official response deadline was February 4, NASS will continue to accept responses through mid-June.

“It’s not too late to respond! We want to make sure that every farm and ranch in California is counted,” adds Tolomeo. “So, if you have not done so already, please complete and return your 2007 Census of Agriculture form today. By responding, producers are helping themselves, their communities and California agriculture.”

The Census of Agriculture, conducted every five years, is the only source of consistent and comprehensive agricultural data for every state and county in the nation. The information collected is used by town planners, policymakers, agribusinesses and others to make important growth-generating decisions.

“The Census is an opportunity for local farmers to demonstrate the importance of California agriculture and strength of rural America to the rest of the country,” says Tolomeo. “But, more importantly, Census data are used to affect policy and business decisions that will shape our communities for future generations.”

Whether or not they are actively engaged in agricultural activity, everyone who received a Census of Agriculture form is required by law to respond. Forms can be returned by mail or submitted online. For more information about the 2007 Census of Agriculture, or for assistance in completing the form, call toll-free (888) 424-7828 or visit [www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov). The Census is your voice, your future and your responsibility.

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