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National Agricultural Statistics Service



California Farm News

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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USDA SURVEYS CROP ACREAGE AND STOCKS ACROSS THE STATE

SACRAMENTO – How many acres of corn, wheat, and cotton have farmers planted this season? Has the total area planted to principal crops declined, as expected? Are more grain stocks continuing to be stored on-farm versus off?

During the upcoming June Survey, representatives of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will be scouting 155,959 square miles of land throughout California to help answer these and other critical questions about the production and supply of major commodities for 2009.

"The June Survey is one of the largest and most comprehensive surveys conducted each year by NASS," explains Vic Tolomeo, Director of the USDA-NASS California Field Office. "The results will provide the first clear indications of the potential production and supply of major commodities in the United States for the 2009 crop year."

During the first two weeks of June, USDA-NASS representatives from the California Field Office will contact approximately 4,000 selected agricultural producers across California, either by mail, telephone or personal interview. Information on farm numbers, crop acreage, grain stocks, livestock inventory, land values and the value of sales will be collected. This information will be compiled and analyzed before being published in a series of USDA reports, including the quarterly *Grain Stocks* and the annual *Acreage* reports, both to be released June 30.

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, thus ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified," says Tolomeo.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, visit the NASS website at www.nass.usda.gov/Publications. To obtain any completed report, call the NASS order desk at 1-800-727-9540.

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