



NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
DELTA REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE (serving Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi)
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 12, 2019

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USDA to Survey Certified Organic Farms in Mississippi

Jackson, Mississippi - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will gather information about farm economics and production practices from Certified Organic producers across Mississippi, as part of the 2019 Organic Survey which is a follow up of the 2017 Census of Agriculture. The 2019 Organic Survey results will expand on the 2017 Census of Agriculture data by looking at several aspects of organic agriculture during the 2019 calendar year, including production, marketing practices, income, expenses and more.

"The latest Census of Agriculture results show continued interest in organic agriculture among consumers, producers, and businesses," said Esmerelda Dickson, State Statistician of the NASS Mississippi Field Office. "NASS produces the most comprehensive source of data on organic farming in the United States. Good data and informed decisions about organic programs and services start with having a robust survey response. We thank the producers in advance for their participation."

Producers who receive the 2019 Organic Survey are required to respond by federal law (Title 7 USC 2204(g) Public Law 105-113), as this survey is part of the Census of Agriculture Program. The same federal law that requires response also requires NASS to keep all individual information confidential. Farmers and ranchers are asked to complete their surveys online via NASS' secure website. The online questionnaire is user friendly, accessible on most electronic devices, and saves producers valuable time by calculating totals and automatically skipping questions not applicable to their operations. Additionally, responding online improves data quality and saves resources. The deadline for response is Jan. 10, 2020. Results will be available October 2020. For information about the Organic Survey, visit www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus. For more information call the NASS Delta Regional Field Office at (800) 327-2970.

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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.

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