



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
2301 N Cameron St, Rm G-19 · Harrisburg, PA 17110

Upcoming survey information is contained in this release. You can also find it on our site at www.nass.usda.gov/pa/ and click on the Pennsylvania Publications link.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NASS to Measure 2009 Small Grains Production

HARRISBURG, PA, Aug 4, 2009 – The 2009 harvest of small grains is nearly complete and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will now measure U.S. farmers' final production of those grains, including wheat, oats, barley and rye.

During the first two weeks of September, the Pennsylvania Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will contact more than 1,000 producers statewide as part of the September Agricultural Survey, also known as the Crops/Stocks Survey. Results will provide the basis for official USDA estimates of 2009 acreage, yield and production for small grains.

"This is one of the most important surveys NASS conducts each year," explained Kevin Pautler, Director, NASS Pennsylvania Field Office. "Not only will we be gathering final data on 2009 small grains production, but we'll also be collecting information on quantities of grains and oilseeds stored on farms statewide. Data from the September Agricultural Survey benefits farmers by providing timely and accurate information to help them make critical year-end business decisions and evaluate the success of the growing season," added Pautler.

NASS will contact randomly-selected Pennsylvania producers by mail or telephone and ask them to provide information on their 2009 production and on-farm stocks of soybeans, wheat, oats, sorghum, barley, and whole grain corn.

As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. "NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only state- and national-level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified," Pautler said.

Survey results will be published in several reports, including the annual *Small Grains* summary and the quarterly *Grain Stocks* report, both to be released on September 30, 2009. These and all NASS reports are available on the agency's web site: www.nass.usda.gov. For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Pennsylvania Field Office at 1-800-498-1518.

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