

NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE NORTHWEST REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE Olympia, Washington

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Still time to respond to the 2022 Census of Agriculture

USDA to follow up with Washington producers who have not yet responded

Olympia, WA – February 24, 2023 – Farmers and ranchers in Washington still have time to be counted in the 2022 Census of Agriculture, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). Although the deadline for submitting the ag census has just passed, NASS will continue to accept completed census questionnaires through the spring to ensure all farmers and ranchers take advantage of the opportunity to be represented in the widely used data.

"I want to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to those that have already completed their Census of Agriculture. It is vitally important that all Washington ag producers take part in representing their industry" says Dennis Koong, Director, Northwest Regional Field Office. "Even though the February 6th date has passed, it is not too late for your voice to be counted! The data provided will be a valuable piece of history and will inform decisions that will help shape the future of American agriculture."

NASS will continue to follow up with Washington producers through the spring with mailings, phone calls, and personal visits. Farmers and ranchers are encouraged to complete their ag census either online at agcounts.usda.gov or by mail as soon as possible.

Federal law under Title 7 USC 2204(g) Public Law 105-113 mandates that everyone who received the 2022 Census of Agriculture questionnaire complete and return it, even if they are not currently farming. The same law requires NASS to keep all submissions confidential, use the information for statistical purposes only, and publish aggregate data to prevent disclosing the identity of any individual producer or farm operation.

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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