

ALASKA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

2002

PREPARED BY

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DEDICATION

Doug Hasslen, Washington and Alaska State Statistician is retiring after 38 years of dedicated service to NASS. He has served as the State Statistician in Washington State for the last 16 years, as well as serving in Wisconsin, Washington D.C., Ohio, Idaho, and Nevada. In 1998 the administration of the Alaska office was added to his many and varied duties. Doug's commitment to providing quality data about Alaska agriculture and his dedication to the Alaska farmer has brought him to our great state on numerous occasions. His involvement with our surveys and conferences has familiarized him with the Alaska growers and their unique concerns and interests. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Doug for all his support and wish him a happy and fulfilling retirement.



"Alaska Agricultural Statistics 2002" is the 41st annual publication, dating back to 1960. Collection and publication of data has been made possible through cooperative funding from the State of Alaska Division of Agriculture, the Cooperative Extension Service of the University of Alaska, and the National Agricultural Statistics Service of the United States Department of Agriculture.

This publication contains information on agriculture in Alaska's diverse districts and climates. Included are statistics on crops, livestock, number of farms, cash receipts, value of production, etc. The data was compiled from surveys conducted throughout the year.

Without the cooperation of the Alaskan producers, agribusinesses, county extension agents, university staff, weather reporters and other government agencies the publication of this bulletin would not be possible. A special thank you goes to the farmers and ranchers who took time from their busy schedules to respond to our surveys.

Individual survey results obtained by the National Agricultural Statistics Service are kept strictly confidential. The data collected, as well as names and addresses, are not released to anyone outside this agency, including other USDA and government entities. Information is summarized and published such that no individual operation can be identified. Summarized results are released to everyone free of charge

The 2002 Census of Agriculture will be mailed to all farms and ranches in Alaska in December of 2002. The Agricultural Census is conducted nationally every five years and provides the most complete picture of agriculture in our state. Your participation is needed to help make this Census as accurate as possible. Alaska's unique agriculture and small number of farms makes each and every report very important. Please send in your forms and show how agriculture counts in Alaska!

SUZAN BENZ
Agricultural Statistician