



NEWS RELEASE



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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AGRICULTURAL SURVEY TO BE CONDUCTED SOON

LINCOLN, Neb., May 13, 2005 -- What are the June 1 grain and oilseed stocks levels? How many acres of corn, soybeans, grain sorghum, and wheat will be planted or harvested in Nebraska and the United States this year? What will spring planting conditions mean for American agriculture?

There is always speculation about plantings each new crop season and the levels of grain and oilseed stocks. Agricultural producers are the main source for the facts. To gather reliable, objective information, the Nebraska office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service will be surveying farmers and ranchers for the June Agricultural Survey.

The Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service will be conducting the survey and representatives will contact producers between May 28 and June 15. Some contacts will be by phone, others in person. This survey is particularly vital because it will provide the first clear indications of the potential production of major commodities in 2005.

The information gathered is widely used. Producers rely on the data to reach valid production, marketing, and investment decisions. Agribusinesses, university personnel, government, legislatures, consultants, and farm organizations use the information in a variety of ways that benefit Nebraska and U.S. agriculture.

"We safeguard the confidentiality of all individual survey responses," Mark Harris, Director of the Nebraska office in Lincoln says. "Information from individual operations is combined with other responses to produce the published reports. NASS works with farmers and ranchers to provide meaningful, accurate, and objective statistics that help keep U.S. agriculture informed." Harris also noted "The June Hog report will be released June 24 and the Acreage and Grain Stocks reports will be released June 30."

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