



Embassy Suites by Hilton Chicago Downtown Magnificent Mile

511 North Columbus Drive

Chicago, IL 60611

Tuesday, October 18, 2016



**2016 USDA Data Users' Meeting
October 18, 2016
Embassy Suites by Hilton Chicago Downtown Magnificent Mile
511 North Columbus Drive
Chicago, IL 60611**

AGENDA

- 12:30 pm Registration
- 1:00 p.m. Welcome and Overview Joe Parsons
National Agricultural Statistics Service
- 1:10 p.m. Agency Reviews.....
Mike Lynch, Agricultural Marketing Service
Mark Jekanowski, Economic Research Service
Patrick Packnett, Foreign Agricultural Service
Brad Karmen, Farm Service Agency
Lance Honig, National Agricultural Statistics Service
Seth Meyer, World Agricultural Outlook Board
Joseph DeCampo, U.S. Census Bureau
- 2:30 p.m. Open forum for questions and comments from participants
- 2:45 p.m. Break
- Open forum continues*
- 3:45 p.m. Concluding Comments
- 4:15 p.m. End



Data Users' Meeting Participants

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Brad Anderson	Nesvick Trading Group, LLC
Mark Ash	USDA\ERS
William Baker	USDA\FAS
Daniel Basse	AgResource Company
Jason Beall	Kellogg Company
Ankush Bhandari	Gavilon, LLC
Karen Braun	Thomson Reuters
Alan Brugler	Marketing & Management LLC
Randall Buckhaults	Sanderson Farms
Courtney Buerger Schmidt	Wells Fargo
Justin Caine	Caine Futures LLC
Kevin Caine	Caine Futures LLC
Ashlee Carlson	University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Dan Cekander	DC Analysis
William Chambers	USDA\Office of the Chief Economist
Jose Clavijo	Thomson Reuters
Don Close	Rabo Agrifinance
Eric Coufal	University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Andrew Crafton	CME Group
Joseph DeCampo	U.S. Census Bureau
Jake Delman	GlobalView Software
Steve Doench	
Tony Dorn	USDA\NASS-HQ
Ashley Downs	Cornell University
Michael Driscoll	Geosys
Benjamin Duncanson	The Farm Credit Council
Dale Durchholtz	AgriVisor LLC
D. Scott Eenigenburg	DB Marketing INC



Data Users' Meeting Participants

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Tanner Ehmke	CoBank
Ben Eicher	Advance Training
Herman Ellison	USDA\NASS\EMR (VA FO)
Jose Luis Escobar	INEGI
Taylor Fenton	McVean Trading
Harold Ferguson	AMS Federal Milk Order 30
T. Randall Fortenbery	Washington State University
Tyler Fulton	<u>h@ms Marketing Services</u>
Peter Gibbons	Widget+Express
Jerry Gidel	The Price Futures Group
Jeffrey Gillespie	USDA/ERS
John Ginzel	Linn Group
Matthew Gregg	USDA\NASS-HQ
Tina Hall	USDA\NASS-HQ
Hubert Hamer	USDA\NASS-HQ
Chad Hart	Iowa State University
Meagan Hassebrock	Conagra Brands
Sarah Havala	Topco
Melo Heloisa	Agroconsult
Matt Herrington	World Perspectives, Inc.
Seanicaa Herron	USDA\Office of the Chief Economist
Michael Hirtzer	Thomson Reuters
Joanna Hitchner	USDA\Office of the Chief Economist
Lance Honig	USDA\NASS-HQ
P.J. Huffstutter	Thomson Reuters
Calvin Hui	Gator Trading
Julie Ingwersen	Reuters
Takeshi Itoh	Researcher



Data Users' Meeting Participants

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Darin Jantzi	USDA\NASS\NPR (ND FO)
Mark Jekanowski	USDA\ERS
Lisa Jenkins-DePeiza	USDA\NASS-HQ
Michael Jewison	USDA\Office of the Chief Economist
Gardar Johannesson	The Climate Corporation
Mark Johnson	GlobalView Software
Knox Jones	AES
Kuejai Jungiaturapit	DHF Team
Altin Kalo	Steiner Consulting
Bradley Karmen	USDA\FSA
Brad Katz	The Kraft Heinz Comp.
Dan Kerestes	USDA\NASS-HQ
Willis Kidd	Citadel
Andrew King	BP
Bruce Knorr	Farm Futures Magazine
Gavin Koo	Harvard Management Company
Stamatina Kotsakou	University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Christa Lachenmayr	Commodities Futures Trading Commission
William Lapp	Advanced Economics Solutions
Wayne Lee	The Climate Corporation
Dana Leise	Conagra Brands
Janet Linder	USDA\AMS
Dan Loftus	USDA\NASS\UMR (MN FO)
Ken Lovett	USDA/ERS
Zisa Lubarov-Walton	USDA\NASS-HQ
Olga Lyandres	Delta Institute
Mike Lynch	USDA\AMS
Paul Marchand	h@ms Marketing Services



Data Users' Meeting Participants

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Anamaria Martins	JB Drax
Aly Masud	IMC
Alexis Maxwell	BCG
Bill McCray	Informa Economics IEG
Katelyn McCulloch	AFBF
Jody McDaniel	USDA\NASS-HQ
Michael McDonald	Trading Group LLC
Keith Menzie	USDA\Office of the Chief Economist
Peter Meyer	PIRA Energy
Seth Meyer	USDA\Office of the Chief Economist
Steve Meyer	EMI Analytics
David Miller	Iowa Farm Bureau
Alyssa Mistelbacher	FarmLink Marketing
Jose Montes	SuKarne
Clay Mullins	Express Markets
Vernita Murray	USDA\NASS-HQ
Mark Nelson	Kansas Farm Bureau
John Newton	AFBF
Mark Nucera	Mark Nucera dba M.A.
Ryan Oates	COFCO Agri.
Emily O'Donnell	University of Nebraska-Lincoln
David Oppedahl	Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago
Patrick Packnett	USDA\FAS
Ryan Palmer	Brugler Marketing & Management
Joe Parsons	USDA\NASS-HQ
Brett Pendell	Smithfiled Foods
Ryan Pfirman-Powell	
Charles Piszczor	CME Group Inc.



Data Users' Meeting Participants

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Taylor Pope	Clayton Pope Commodities
Clayton Pope	Clayton Pope Commodities
Lori Porter	Drake Trading Group
Warren Prosser	S.W.A.T, LLC
Daniel Redo	Thomson Reuters
Daniel Reimer	Maple Leaf Foods
James Robb	LMIC
Bob Rosa	Sanderson Farms
Robert Rowbotham	Grande Cheese Company
Drew Sanders	Commodity Futures
Barry Schmidt	GlobalView Software
Randy Scollan	Doane Advisory Services (division of Farm Journal Media)
Mirvat Sewadeh	USDA\ERS
Shayle Shagam	USDA\Office of the Chief Economist
Justin Shepherd	DHF Team
Oscar Shi	Millennium
Linda Smith	Farm Credit Services of America
Taylor Smith	COFCO Agri.
Butch Speth	USDA\AMS
Jessica Spreitzer	U.S. Meat Export Federation
Len Steiner	Steiner Consulting
Matthew Steiner	Louis Dreyfus Company
Matt Stommes	Wells Fargo
Hunter Stone	Louis Dreyfus Company
Kai Strasse	Kellogg Company
Jennifer Sumi	LaSalle Group/Rosenthal Collins Corp.
Donald Thinschmidt	Citigroup
Suzanne Thornsbury	USDA\ERS
Marty Thornton	Heartland Bank and Trust Co.



Data Users' Meeting Participants

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Brian Timmerman	S.W.A.T, LLC
John Trischar	Thomson Reuters
Casimir Van Der Byl	McVean Trading
Cory Walters	University of Nebraska-Lincoln
David Weaber	EMI Express
Tom Wegner	Land O' Lakes, Inc.
David Widmar	Purdue
Cassandra Wilder	SDFR Policy Research Center @ Alcorn State University
Jeff Wilson	Bloomberg News
Jamee Woods	USDA\FAS
Dan Wooldridge	Moving Parts, LLC



The mission of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service is to facilitate the competitive and efficient marketing of agricultural products.

USDA DATA USERS' MEETING 2016

The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) includes four commodity programs: Cotton and Tobacco; Dairy; Specialty Crops; and Livestock, Poultry, and Seed. The programs provide standardization, grading, and Market News services for those commodities. They enforce such Federal Laws as the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (PACA), the Federal Seed Act, Country of Origin Labeling (COOL), Dairy Product Mandatory Reporting (DPMR), and Livestock Mandatory Reporting (LMR). AMS commodity programs oversee marketing agreements and orders, administer research and promotion programs, and purchase commodities for Federal food programs. In addition, AMS encompasses five programs providing services spanning across commodity areas: Compliance and Analysis, Information Technology Service, Science and Technology, Transportation and Marketing, and the National Organic Program.

The four commodity programs supply Data.gov with links to annual historical summaries and respective databases.

CURRENT ISSUES OF INTEREST

Market Analysis & Reporting Services:

In October 2014, AMS began developing a new dynamic web based reporting tool, the Market Analysis & Reporting Services (MARS), which will assist all commodity areas of Market News in the collection and dissemination of information from remote locations. MARS will facilitate the flow of data from the data provider to the market reporters and on to the public, and allow users to build unique content throughout the data model. This year, Market News reporters began using MARS to report feeder cattle auctions, and developers plan to add additional livestock markets as well as specialty crops, dairy, poultry, eggs, grain, and cotton commodity markets during 2017.

Federal-State Cooperation:

AMS Market News currently has cooperative agreements with 29 States for commodity market reporting activities. These cooperative working relationships enable resources at the Federal and State levels to be leveraged to expand the breadth, depth, and dissemination of market reporting to the benefit of the industry and information users. In particular, State reporters cover livestock auction markets and other local reporting activities such as farmers markets that would otherwise be costly and difficult to cover using Federal resources.

Local and Regional Market Reporting:

The AMS Market News local and regional webpage allows data users to easily view over 125 Farmers Markets, 7 Farmers Auctions, Farm-to-School prices for 4 states, a national local and organic retail report, and Direct-to-Consumer sales reports for 5 states. This year, Market News revised 4 Federal-State cooperative agreements in collaboration with State Departments of Agriculture to capture additional local and regional food market prices and volumes.

Organic Market Reporting:

AMS Market News received a critical boost in the 2014 Farm Bill under the Organic Data Initiative to meet data user needs. With additional funds appropriated for 2017 and 2018, Market News will expand its organic market price reporting with additional staff and outreach and increase its organic contact base, the number of organic commodities reported, and number of organic markets reported.

In April 2016, AMS launched a new webpage showcasing Market News organic price reports including a new bi-weekly National Organic Summary detailing grains, feedstuffs, eggs, and dairy products from a more robust contact base to improve price information reported from diversified producers.

Market Information Organization of the Americas:

Specialty Crops Market News (SCMN) serves as the chair of the Market Information Organization of the Americas (MIOA), a network of institutions from 33 Western Hemisphere countries that track and report markets for agricultural products with the purpose of facilitating the timely and consistent exchange of market information. Current MIOA initiatives include:

- Evaluating Short Message Service (SMS) usage in 5 MIOA countries
- Improving selected market information systems technology in 12 limited resource member countries with implementation to be completed in 2016
- Completed an online English/Spanish product dictionary covering 40 major products in 7 countries
- Providing regional and in-country training of specialists in market information
- Building a market information Knowledge Library of training and reference materials
- Developing market information curriculum with 4 agricultural universities

Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News Reporting:

On September 30, 2015, the Agriculture Reauthorizations Act of 2015 (Act) reauthorized the Livestock Mandatory Reporting program (LMR) for an additional 5 years, amended the lamb reporting requirements by lowering the reporting thresholds of a lamb packer and a lamb importer which became effective on May 31, 2016, through publication of a direct final rule, and amended swine reporting requirements for negotiated formula and late day purchases which became effective on October 11, 2016, through publication of a final rule.

The Act also specified that a study be conducted by the USDA (AMS and the Office of the Chief Economist) in consultation with the livestock and meat industry to analyze current livestock marketing practices; identify future legislative or regulatory recommendations; analyze price and supply information reporting services of USDA related to cattle, swine, and lamb; and address any other issues that the Secretary considers appropriate to be completed by March 1, 2018. AMS commissioned a baseline “as is” study of the livestock and meat industry and LMR which was completed August 2016 to help inform this

review as a first step. AMS will hold a series of structured industry stakeholder meetings in 2016-2017 to openly discuss the marketing methods and current challenges with reporting livestock and meat markets, and reach consensus on items each commodity area would like changed in the next reauthorization of LMR in 2020.

AMS Market News is committed to providing data for the industry that accurately depicts the evolving needs of the commodity markets and industries we serve. As such,

- AMS recently enhanced wholesale pork reporting by adding individual ham muscles (insides, outside, and knuckles) to the ham primal providing a stronger and more reflective pork carcass cutout value. This change will be implemented on October 31, 2016.
- AMS also recently introduced a new edition of the National Monthly Grass Fed Beef Report. The report, now published in a PDF format, include more regional information, graphic representations, and retail comparisons to commodity beef prices.
- In addition, AMS has developed an enhancement to the weekly national whole/broiler/fryer report showing more detailed market price information for light, medium, and heavy weight birds.
- AMS began publishing a new monthly cage-free egg report highlighting estimated production information, retail features and wholesale prices.
- In October 2016, AMS enhanced the depth of its live cattle reporting by including slaughter cattle purchases through the Fed Cattle Exchange (FCE) in its national and regional direct negotiated slaughter cattle reports. The FCE provides a web-based interface where feedlots can offer pens of market-ready cattle for sale and packers can bid on those offerings in a timed format.

Cotton Market News Reporting:

Cotton Market News has developed additional comma-separated cotton price data files that are available through e-mail requests sent to CottonMN@ams.usda.gov. Data for the past four marketing years, as well as the 2016-2017 marketing year to date is available. Select cotton price series are available in excel format. The following series are currently available.

- Daily prices for all seven spot markets for base quality beginning with January 1, 2001 through the current month.
- Marketing Year High and Low beginning with the 1993-1994 Marketing Year
- U.S. Average price for base quality beginning with the 1990-1991 Marketing Year

Dairy Market News Reporting

Dairy Market News has expanded its South American reporting with the addition of reports on dairy market overviews and whole milk powder markets. The program has also expanded reporting of organic prices. The dataset for the weekly *National Retail Report – Dairy* was made available on the Portal database site. Monthly average price reports for international dairy product prices are being computed and released.

Specialty Crops Market News Reporting:

Specialty Crops Market News (SCMN) added a number of new packages, origins, and varieties to its market reports as they have emerged in the marketplace or in response to industry requests to track and report specific products.

Following a faulty software update this year, the SCMN Portal had incomplete historical data, mostly concerning international markets. SCMN expects full recovery of the public facing data as the official permanent records were not impacted.

By the end of 2016, the new International Trade Data System (ITDS) is expected to be implemented through the joint efforts of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Patrol, and USDA. This system will allow the SCMN supply reports branch to obtain real time volume information for every product entering into the country through land, air, or sea ports, improving the timeliness and accuracy of SCMN data and reports.

Market News Reports:

Organic

New reports:

LSWNOS	Greeley, CO	Weekly National Organic Summary Report
LSBNCOR	Greeley, CO	Bi-Weekly National Comprehensive Organic Report

Local and Regional

New reports:

RA_LO104	Raleigh, NC	North Carolina Pasture Raised Poultry Report
LSMNGFBEEF	Des Moines, IA	National Grass Fed Beef Report (change to pdf)
LSWIOWAFM	Des Moines, IA	Iowa Farmers Market (change to pdf)
NW_LO102	Des Moines, IA	National Monthly Pasture Raised Pork Report
NW_LO103	Des Moines, IA	Iowa Farm to School Report
LSMARFTS	Little Rock, AR	Arkansas Farm to School Report
SF_LO101	Sioux Falls, SD	North & South Dakota Grass Fed Beef and Lamb Report
LSWNDFM	Sioux Falls, SD	North Dakota Farmers Market

Dairy

New Reports:

MD_DA130	South America – Dairy Market Overview
MD_DA137	South America – Whole Milk Powder (WMP)

Livestock, Poultry, and Grain

New Reports:

PYMCAGEFREE	Des Moines, IA	Monthly USDA Cage-Free Shell Egg Report
NW_LS761	Des Moines, IA	Clarinda Weighted Average Slaughter Cattle Report
NW_LS447	Des Moines, IA	By-Product Drop Values (Cattle)
NW_LS448	Des Moines, IA	Major Packer Hide Report
NV_LS181	Nashville, TN	Browning Livestock Market – Lafayette, TN
NV_LS182	Nashville, TN	East Tennessee Livestock Graded Holstein Steer Sale
NV_LS183	Nashville, TN	East Tennessee Livestock Graded Feeder Cattle Sale
NV_LS184	Nashville, TN	Lower Middle Tennessee Cattlemen’s Association Video Board Sale
CO_LS153	Columbia, SC	Chester Livestock Exchange –Goat and Hog Report
JK_LS161	Jackson, MS	Cattlemen’s Livestock Auction
IS_LS130	Indianapolis, IN	United Producers, Inc. – Little York, IN
IS_LS133	Indianapolis, IN	White River Valley Feeder Auction Association – Worthington, IN
RA_LS553	Raleigh, NC	Cleveland Agriculture & Livestock Exchange, Shelby Goat Auction
RA_LS756	Raleigh, NC	Cleveland County Agriculture Exchange – Shelby Wtd Avg
RA_LS146	Raleigh, NC	Cleveland County Agriculture Exchange – Shelby Auction
JC_LS326	Jefferson City, MO	Montgomery County Sheep and Goat
TO_GR311	Torrington, WY	High Plains Hay Exchange Internet Auction (Monthly)
WH_LS755	Kearney, NE	Burwell Livestock Market Video Auction
OK_LS322	Oklahoma City, OK	Noble Livestock Auction
LSDNSCREVIEWAM	St. Joseph, MO	Slaughter Cattle Review – Morning (pdf)
LSDNSCREVIEWPM	St. Joseph, MO	Slaughter Cattle Review – Afternoon (pdf)

Discontinued Reports:

OK_LS321	Oklahoma City, OK	OKC West - El Reno Sheep and Goat Auction Report
NW_LS110	Des Moines, IA	National Grass Fed Beef Report (text, changed to pdf)
NW_LO101	Des Moines, IA	Iowa Farmers Market (text, changed to pdf)
NW_LO100	Des Moines, IA	Des Moines Farmers Market (text, changed to pdf)
HY_PY041	Des Moines, IA	Western Region Egg Comments
CO_LS180	Columbia, SC	Hodge Livestock Network Video Auction Newport, TN
RA_LS281	Raleigh, NC	North Carolina Feeder Pig Sale
TV_LS166	Thomasville, GA	White County Goat Sale
TV_LS164	Thomasville, GA	Blackshear Livestock Auction
JK_LS149	Jackson, MS	Mize Livestock Auction
JK_LS152	Jackson, MS	Integrity Livestock Auction
JC_LS324	Jefferson City, MO	Mexico Sheep and Goat
LM_CT130	St. Joseph, MO	Slaughter Cattle Review – Morning (text, changed to pdf)
LM_CT131	St. Joseph, MO	Slaughter Cattle Review – Afternoon (text, changed to pdf)



United States Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service

ERS Market Outlook Program Update

Mark Jekanowski
Deputy Director for Outlook

October 18, 2016

ERS Commodity Outlook Products

- Situation and Outlook reports:
 - Monthly: feedgrains, oilseeds, wheat, rice, cotton, sugar, livestock (incl. dairy and poultry)
 - Quarterly: US ag trade
 - Semi-annually: Vegetable/pulses, Fruit and Tree nuts
- “Special Topic” Outlook reports (examples include):
 - The Rice Market in South Korea (RCS-161-01)
 - Global Macroeconomic Developments Drive Downturn in U.S. Agricultural Exports (AES-94)
 - From Where the Buffalo Roam: India’s Beef Exports (LDMP-264-01)
 - Brazil’s Corn Industry and the Effect on the Seasonal Patterns of U.S. Corn Exports (AES-93)



United States Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service

Online Data Products

Popular examples include:

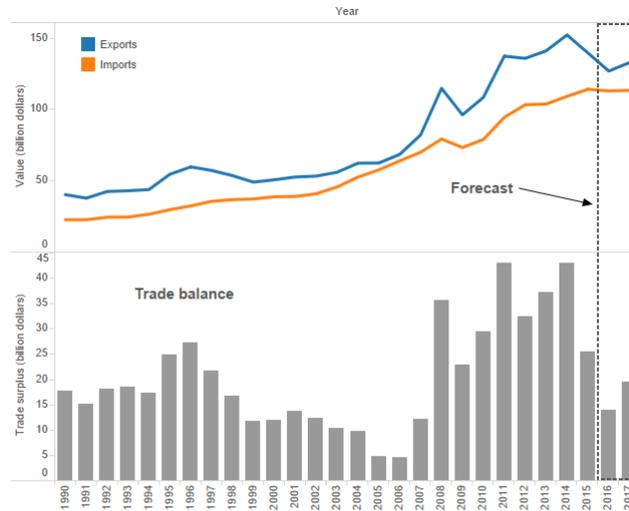
- **Feed Grains Database** <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/Feedgrains/>
- **Meat Price Spreads** <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/MeatPriceSpreads/>
- **Commodity Costs and Returns** <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/CostsAndReturns/>
- **Livestock and Meat Trade Data** <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/MeatTrade/>
- **Farm Income** <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/FarmIncome/>
- **Wheat Data** <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/Wheat/>
- **Dairy Data** <http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/dairy-data.aspx>
- **U.S. Bioenergy Statistics** <http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/us-bioenergy-statistics.aspx>
- *And many more...*



United States Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service

Data Visualizations

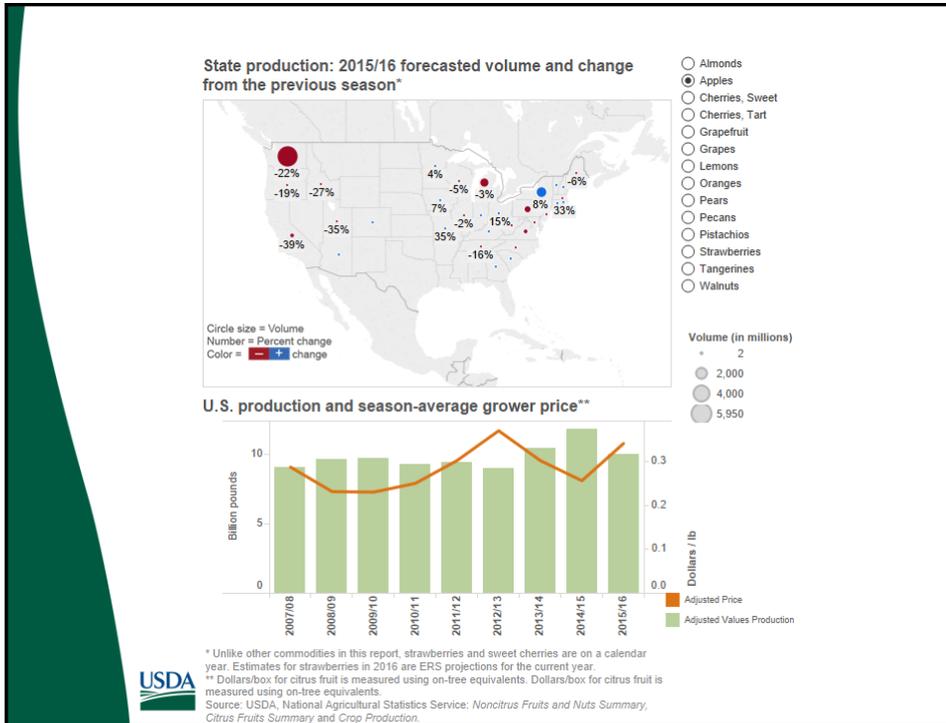
U.S. agricultural trade and trade balance



Note: August publications include the final forecasts for the current fiscal year as well as next fiscal year's initial projections.



Source: Compiled by USDA, Economic Research Service using data from the U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.
United States Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service



Recent Hiring and Staffing Needs

- Recent Hires:
 - Dr. Jeffrey Gillespie: Chief, Animal Products and Cost of Production
 - Cross-Commodity Analyst, Specialty Crops: Travis Minor
 - Senior Wheat Analyst: Jennifer Bond

- Hiring underway or soon:
 - Senior Cattle/Beef Analyst
 - Senior Poultry Analyst
 - Cross-Commodity Analyst, Field Crops
 - Senior Agricultural Baseline Coordinator
 - Several junior or mid-level analyst positions focused in Field Crops, Specialty Crops, Trade, and Livestock

Ag Econ Scholars Program

- An ERS investment to expand the pipeline of M.S. and Ph.D. students trained and motivated to be market analysts or applied economists.
 - University partners include, Kansas State, Purdue, University of Nebraska, UC Davis, Florida A&M, University of Arkansas, and University of Minnesota.



United States Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service

Contact

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United States Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service

Update on Information and Data Products Available from USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service October, 2016

FAS Continues to Have Great Success with GovDelivery

For the past several years, FAS has been relying on GovDelivery to disseminate reports and information to the public. In addition to receiving information by country or commodity, FAS has added the ability to sign up for our commodity circulars (World Markets and Trade Reports) as well as for information regarding our upcoming trade missions. GovDelivery has made FAS part of a network of more than 2,000 agencies and organizations worldwide, connecting to more than 70 million potential subscribers. Over the past year, FAS has sent more than 700 messages to nearly 8.5 million recipients.

The most popular subscription categories included:

- **FAS Press Releases** with nearly 26,500 subscribers
- **Global Agricultural Information Network (GAIN) Reports** with nearly 25,000 subscribers
- **World Agricultural Production Reports** with more than 22,700 subscribers

GAIN System Redesign

The Global Agricultural Information Network (GAIN) system allows the FAS global network of agricultural experts in over 90 offices covering 170 countries to efficiently create and submit reports providing timely intelligence and accurate analysis on global agriculture, agricultural markets, and foreign government policies affecting agricultural trade. Approximately 2,000 reports are created on an annual basis, and these reports are uniformly catalogued and published for web-based retrieval.

The current GAIN system was deployed in 2009 and suffers from design and systems compatibility issues in our overseas offices that have made it increasingly difficult for staff to create reports efficiently. FAS is in the initial stage of revamping the GAIN system to overcome these operational challenges. From the public user perspective, all existing functionality will be maintained in the new system and improvements will include:

- Mobile first design to ensure full functionality on mobile devices (tablets, smartphones)
- Subscription capability to allow readers to subscribe and receive emails when new reports are available
- Enhanced search functionality to improve accuracy and efficiency in finding reports
- Incorporation of current GAIN reports and legacy reports in the same system

GAIN Reports Available Through FAS Website

For the past few years, FAS has been integrating Global Agricultural Information Network (GAIN) Reports directly into the FAS website, www.fas.usda.gov. The goal is to make the reports easier to find by making them appear on pages relevant to both their subject matter and the countries of origin. The integration will also make things easier on the public by allowing the user to stay on the FAS site to get the materials and not have to search the GAIN system separately. FAS has also begun highlighting key reports on the main pages for each relevant country – particularly those related to exporting regulations and strategies.

FAS continues to review reporting requirements for our overseas FAS offices based on developments in relevant countries and global commodity markets. For example, in 2016, commodity reports were added for poultry (South Africa), grains (United Arab Emirates), oilseeds (Australia), and deciduous fruit (South Korea). Wine reports were discontinued, affecting seven countries. For more information, contact Corey Jenkins at Corey.Jenkins@fas.usda.gov.

Additions and Modifications to FAS Data Products

Global Agricultural Trade System (GATS)

In 2013, a significant enhancement to the Global Agricultural Trade System (GATS) database was the addition of agricultural, fishery and forest products data from the United Nations Commodity Trade Statistics Database (UN Comtrade). Public users can now query official annual trade statistics reported by foreign countries that reflect international merchandise flows detailed by commodity and partner country. As of the summer of 2014, users can now select UN data by English or Spanish commodity groupings. The availability of UN data, combined with U.S. export and import data from the U.S. Census Bureau, means GATS users have increased ability to gather and analyze agricultural trade data.

In 2013, revisions to the BICO aggregate groups were made to provide more specificity for major products previously grouped in broader aggregates. Changes include the creation of several new stand-alone categories (e.g. Corn from Coarse Grains, and Beef & Beef Products and Pork & Pork Products from Red Meats). In addition, a new aggregate group, “Agricultural Related Products,” includes Forest and Fishery products and the newly added aggregates for Distilled Spirits, Ethanol and Biodiesel.

In 2013, a new processed food product group was also made available. For standard queries, users can access the new group by selecting “Processed Food” under the “Product Group” drop-down menu. FAS also developed a fully-formatted report that summarizes annual trade data for the 19 categories and 67 sub-categories at the HS 6-digit level. For more information, please contact Jason Carver at Jason.Carver@fas.usda.gov.

Data Visualizations

Over the last two years, FAS has begun to develop graphics and infographics in an effort to broaden the audience for FAS data and program information. Public response has been very positive – particularly regarding the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) materials. Over the next year, FAS will be looking to expand in these efforts, hoping to improve the visuals in our International Agricultural Trade Reports (IATRs) and other reports and add interactive charts and graphs to the FAS website.

FAS charts and infographics are available at on the Data and Analysis page of the FAS website, while TPP supplemental materials are available on the Trade Policy / Trade Negotiations/ Trans-Pacific Partnership topic page.

Agricultural Tariff Tracker

To help exporters obtain information about tariff reductions resulting from Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), FAS launched the Agricultural Tariff Tracker in 2013. This tool is available on the Trade Policy/Trade Agreements topic page of the FAS website. The initial Ag Tariff Tracker release had tariff, tariff rate quota (TRQ), and safeguard information for existing trade agreements with 10 FTA partners. The Tracker was updated in 2016 to include the terms of trade for all 12 countries in the TransPacific Partnership (TPP) agreement, 5 of which will be new FTA partners when implemented. For more information please contact Jason Carver at Jason.Carver@fas.usda.gov or Jeff Jones at Jeffrey.Jones@fas.usda.gov.

Production, Supply and Distribution (PS&D) Online

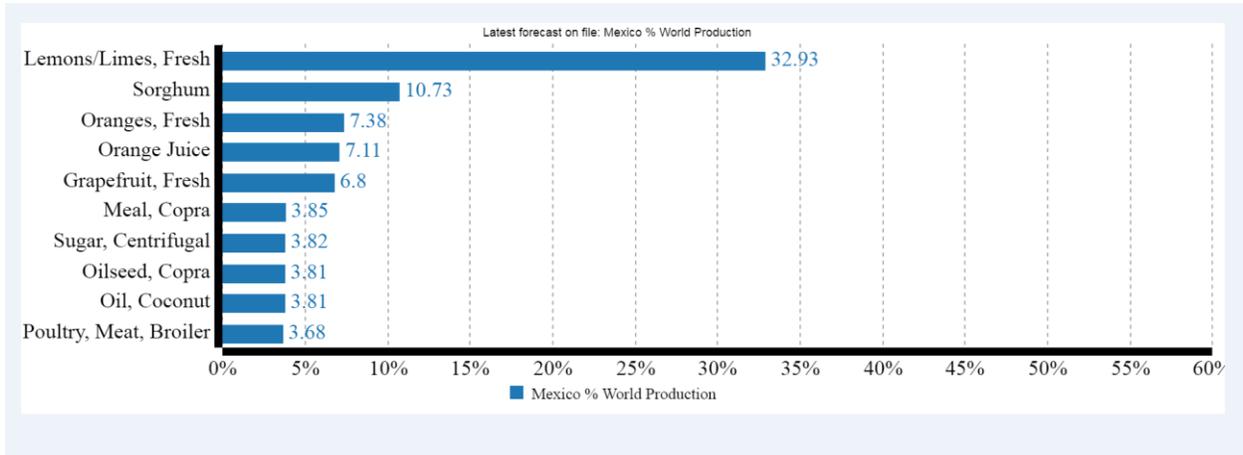
PSD Online 2.0 is due to be released to the public in October 2016. The site will have a contemporary look and feel, will work with all commonly-used browsers, will run on tablets and laptops and will produce downloadable visualizations of PSD data.

The re-engineered site will still serve as FAS' repository for published PSD datasets, reports, and circulars, and will also have a database querying function. The site will contain FAS' publishing schedule and supporting data such as the definition of local marketing years and regions used in the application.

The most significant functional change to the site is the ability to easily produce charts and graphs ranging in complexity from Country and Commodity overview pages with predefined parameters that are produced with one click to the production of sophisticated visualizations that are produced through drilling down into charts and data and making custom selections for inclusion in the visualizations. These graphics allow users to see changes in forecasts over time as well as detailed regional and world information.

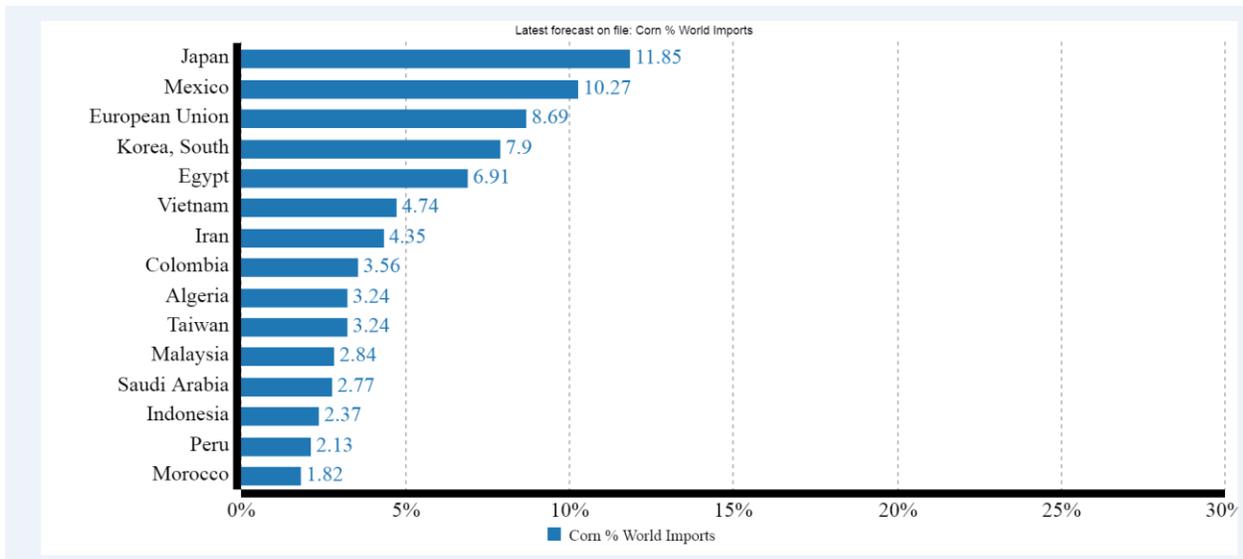
Country Overview Example

The Country Overview produce five simple visualizations for the country selected that focus on production, consumption, imports, exports, and stocks to show with which commodities the country has the greatest impact vis-à-vis the rest of the world.



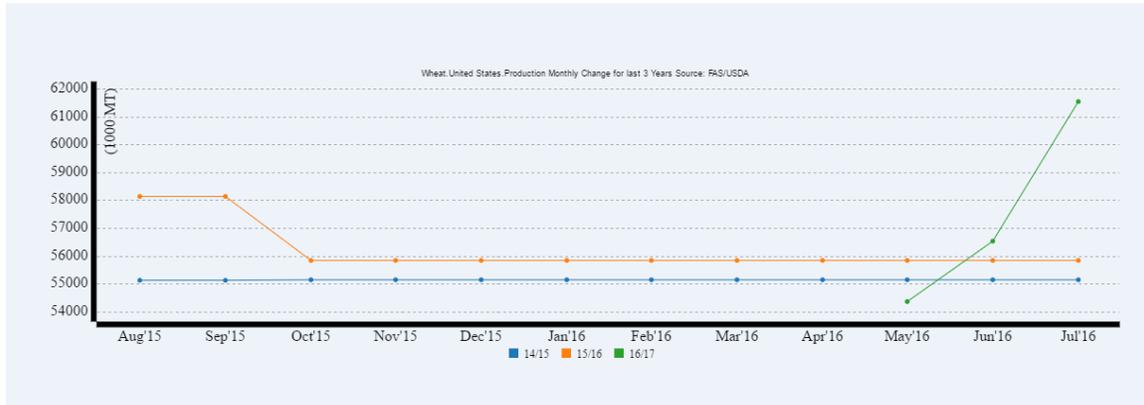
Commodity Overview Example

The Commodity Overview also focuses on production, trade, consumption and stocks displaying the top 15 countries for each commodity attribute.



Statistics by Commodity, Country and Lockup Commodities Example

Other graphical capabilities include the ability to visualize any attribute for a country over time, changes in forecasts over the course of a year for each attribute, or to see a country’s statistics as they relate to other countries in their region.



Export Sales Reporting

Authorized under Section 602 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978, the Export Sales Reporting (ESR) Program requires exporters of reportable U.S. commodities to report each week all of their export sales, regardless of the quantity, to the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). There are 40 commodities currently covered under the program. FAS understands the importance of the ESR program to the U.S. market place and takes its responsibility for managing this vital program very seriously. We continue to take steps to improve how well the data is presented and improve the flow of information to the public. In addition to being available online, ESR weekly and daily reports are now available through email via GovDelivery to all users who sign up. For additional information, contact Peter Burr at Pete.Burr@fas.usda.gov.

Production Estimates

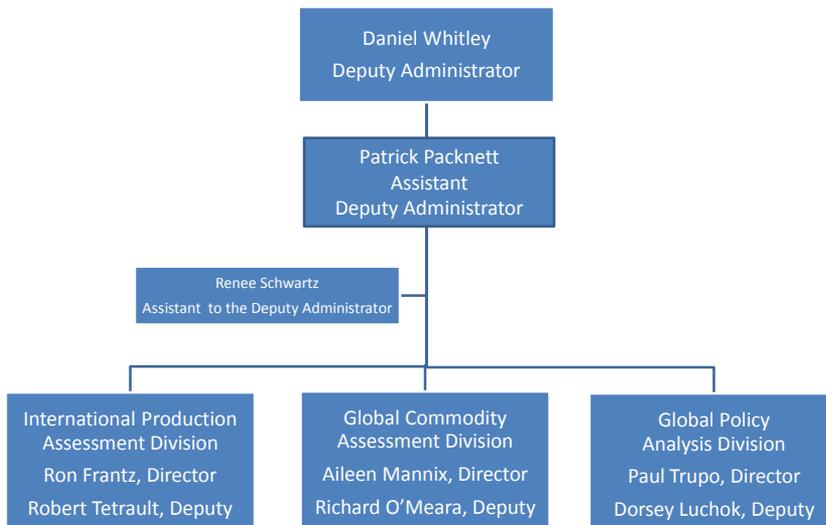
An effort is being made to increase the number of special articles being published to the PECAD website that provide information about crop production around the world. The access point for the PECAD site is <http://www.pecad.fas.usda.gov>.

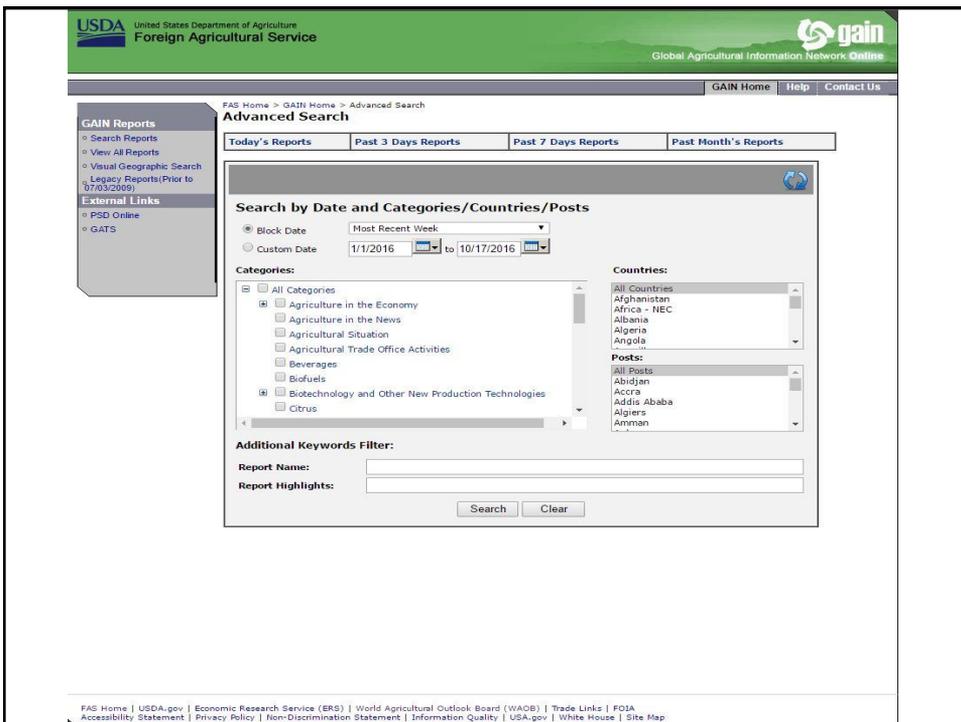
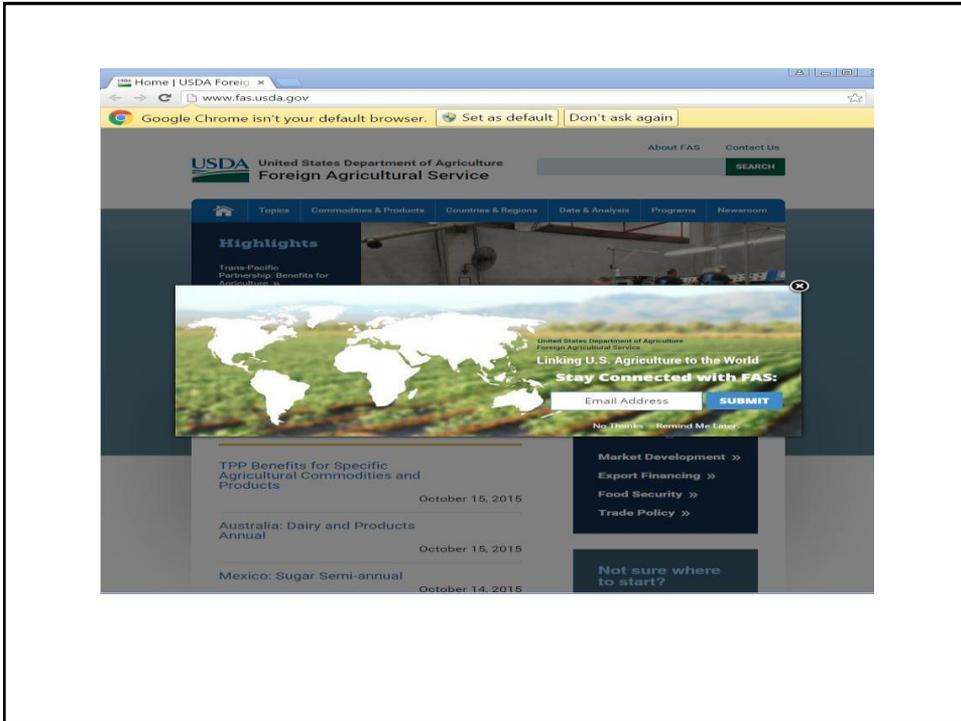
Crop Explorer monitors rainfall, temperature, evapotranspiration, soil moisture and vegetation conditions over all croplands worldwide and these global parameters are updated every ten days. Crop Explorer is a very useful tool for providing crop hazard alerts where droughts may cause large scale crop damage, or failures, and for estimating relative crop yields on 10-days and monthly basis. A recent addition to Crop Explorer has been Proba-V satellite imagery from the European Space Agency (ESA) which measures vegetation conditions by the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI). The NDVI-Proba-V product on Crop Explorer measures vegetation conditions every ten days and compares current vegetation conditions with the previous year, previous 10-days, and the 15-year long-term average. Current NDVI comparisons with the 15-year long-term average help to identify the spatial extent where vegetation conditions are above or below normal.

Foreign Agricultural Service

Patrick Packnett
Assistant Deputy Administrator
Office of Global Analysis

Office of Global Analysis





GAIN Re-Design

- Mobile first design to ensure functionality with mobile devices
- Subscription capability, receive notification when reports are available
- Enhance search functionality
- Merge legacy GAIN reports and current reports in one database/search engine

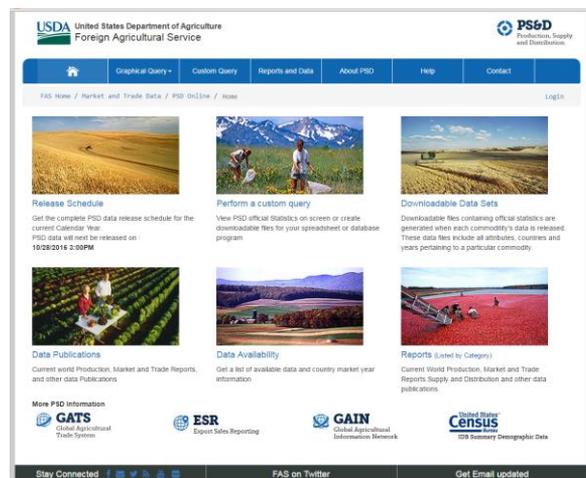
Reporting Changes

- Reports Added – South Africa Poultry, UAE Grains, Australia Oilseeds, South Korea Deciduous Fruit
- Reports Removed – Wine reports discontinued affecting seven countries

PSD Online 2.0 New Features

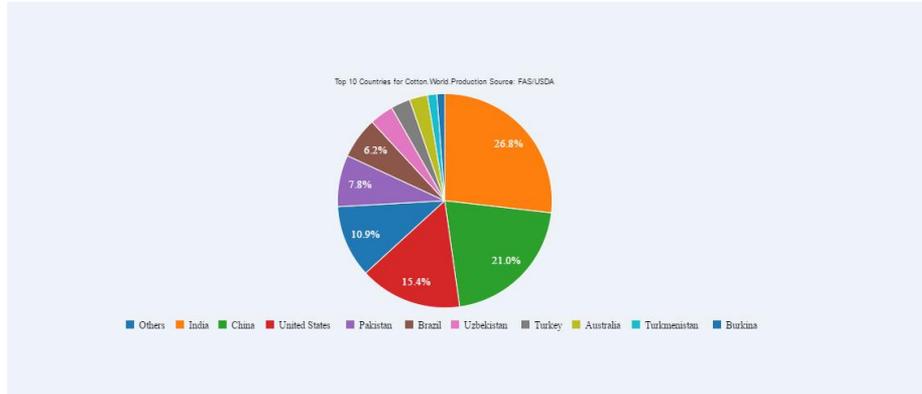
- Generate and download graphics and tables
- Access to forecast data from 2006 – present
- Contemporary look and feel
- Compatible with all commonly-used browsers
- Compatible with mobile devices
- On-screen circular preview
- Social media-based account management

PSD Online 2.0

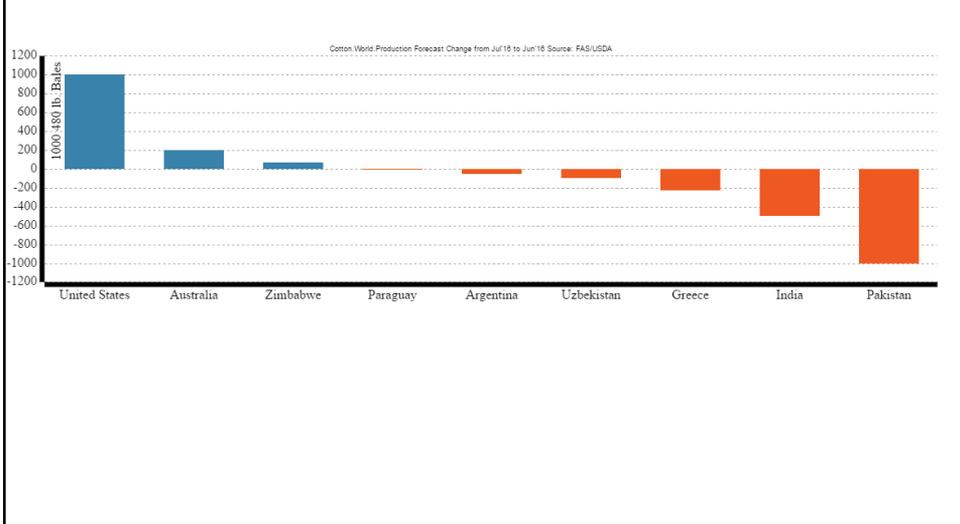


Downloadable Graphics by Attribute

- Top 10 Commodity Producers

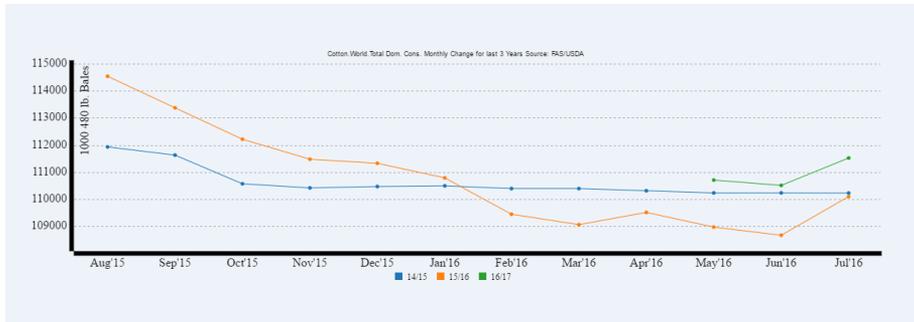


Forecast Change



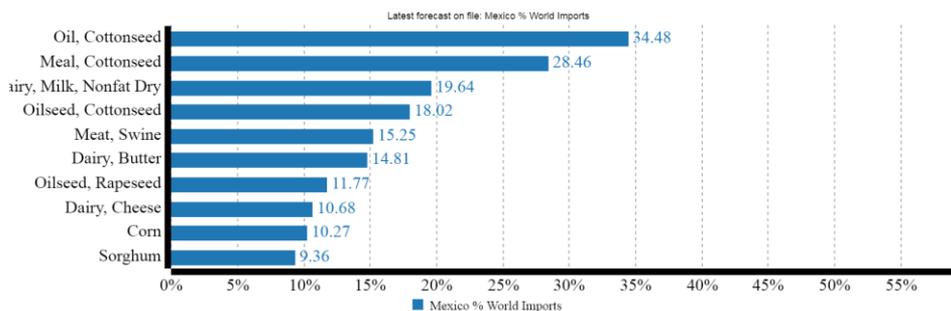
Forecast Changes

- Chart of Monthly Forecast Changes for Last 3 Years



Single-Click Country

- Top Commodities for a Country by Attribute Chart



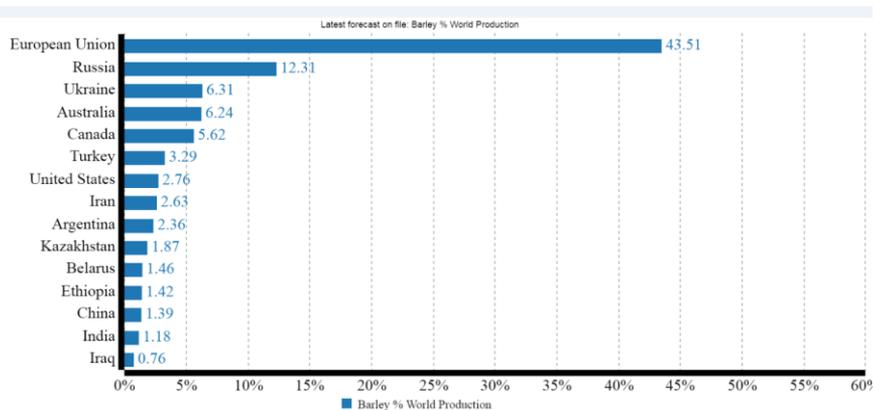
Single-Click Country

- Top Commodities for a Country by Attribute Table

Peru % World Imports						
Commodity	Value	World Value	% of World	Market Year	Released	Date
Oil, Soybean	410 (1000MT)	11,014 (1000MT)	3.72 %	2016/17		07/2016
Corn	2,700 (1000MT)	126,551 (1000MT)	2.13 %	2016/17		07/2016
Meal, Soybean	1,270 (1000MT)	67,622 (1000MT)	1.88 %	2016/17		07/2016
Wheat	1,900 (1000MT)	164,197 (1000MT)	1.16 %	2016/17		07/2016
Raisins	7,500 (0MT)	661,700 (0MT)	1.13 %	2015/16		09/2015
Pears, Fresh	16,200 (0MT)	1,640,100 (0MT)	0.99 %	2015/16		06/2016
Cotton	285 1000 480 lb. Bales	34,352 1000 480 lb. Bales	0.83 %	2016/17		07/2016
Apples, Fresh	43,700 (0MT)	5,961,000 (0MT)	0.73 %	2015/16		06/2016
Rice, Milled	260 (1000MT)	38,186 (1000MT)	0.68 %	2016/17		07/2016
Barley	110 (1000MT)	27,263 (1000MT)	0.4 %	2016/17		07/2016

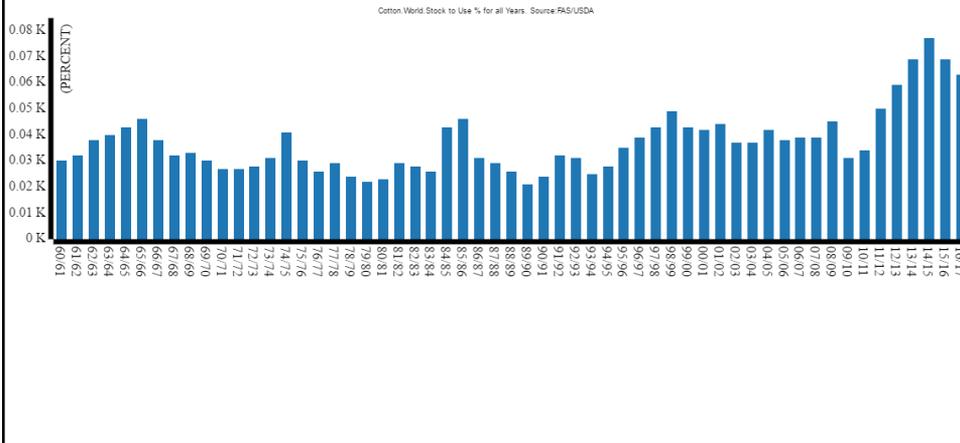
Single-Click Commodity

- Top Countries for a Commodity by Attribute Chart



Single-Click Commodity

- Stocks to Use Ratio Calculated Attribute Chart



Bradley Karmen

Assistant Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs
Farm Service Agency
US Department of Agriculture

FSA Crop Acreage Data Reported to FSA

FSA acreage data for 2016: released on same day as NASS crop reports at about 3:00pm (change from 3 business days following NASS report)

- Nov. 9, 2016
- Dec. 9, 2016
- Jan. 2017 (TBD)

2016 Crop Year

- 2016 acreage data as of October 1, 2016 (ZIP, 21 MB, Oct. 13, 2016)
- 2016 acreage data as of September 1, 2016 (ZIP, 21 MB, Sep. 12, 2016)
- 2016 acreage data as of August 1, 2016 (ZIP, 21 MB, Aug. 12, 2016)

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/news-room/efoia/electronic-reading-room/frequently-requested-information/crop-acreage-data/index>

FSA Crop Acreage Data Reported to FSA

Acreage data by:

- Acres (planted, failed, prevented)
- County
- Crop (wheat, corn, bananas, etc.)
- Crop type (hard red winter, etc.)
- Intended use (grain, grazing, silage, etc.)
- Irrigation practice (irrigated/nonirrigated)

FSA Crop Acreage Data Reported to FSA

October 2016: 184,217 records

State	County	Crop	Crop Type	Intended Use	Irrigation Practice	Planted Acres	Volunteer Acres	Failed Acres	Prevented Acres	Not Planted Acres	Planted and Failed Acres
ALABAMA	AUTAUGA	WHEAT	HARD RED WINTER	Grain	N	210.4000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	210.4000
ALABAMA	AUTAUGA	WHEAT	HARD RED WINTER	Grain/Graze	N	94.1200	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	94.1200
ALABAMA	AUTAUGA	WHEAT	HARD RED WINTER	Grazing	N	194.7900	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	194.7900
ALABAMA	AUTAUGA	WHEAT	HARD RED WINTER	Seed	N	46.9000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	46.9000
ALABAMA	AUTAUGA	WHEAT	SOFT RED WINTER	Grain	N	57.8400	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	57.8400
ALABAMA	AUTAUGA	WHEAT	SOFT RED WINTER	Seed	N	66.6800	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	66.6800
ALABAMA	AUTAUGA	OATS	WINTER	Grain	N	198.2000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	198.2000
ALABAMA	AUTAUGA	COTTON-Upland			I	569.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	569.0000

FSA Crop Acreage Data Reported to FSA

3-Oct-16 2016 PLANTED ACRES (INCLUDING FAILED ACRES) REPORTED TO FARM SERVICE AGENCY					
Planted and Failed	Column Labels				
Row Labels	BARLEY	CORN	COTTON-ELS	COTTON- Upland	OATS
ALABAMA	209	287,508		343,017	14,074
ALASKA	4,494	0			1,140
ARIZONA	14,840	85,645	13,443	110,430	18,850
ARKANSAS		754,216		373,651	3,105
CALIFORNIA	66,714	332,352	147,071	60,933	92,604
COLORADO	68,257	1,314,876			42,320
CONCTICUT	14	24,631			69
DELAWARE	31,367	169,412			306
FLORIDA		56,025	26	100,863	14,785
GEORGIA	435	396,187		1,171,127	25,895
HAWAII		140			

Understanding ARC/PLC Data

- Relatively small changes in county yields can mean big changes in payment rates.
- The county average yield for ARC-CO is based on county-level **NASS data**, if available. When county-level NASS yield data do not exist for the county, FSA uses the next best data sources available to establish yields going next to county level **RMA data**. If neither NASS nor RMA county level data is available, the **FSA state committee** has discretion to use the NASS district data that covers multiple counties or to use other sources.
- If anyone questions any of the yields we have used we will contact NASS and RMA to verify the yield.
- Encourage producers to respond to NASS surveys to ensure that NASS has sufficient data points to publish county-level yields for ARC-CO calculations.

Yield Calculations

- Yields are based on planted acres, as required by 2014 farm
- Yields = NASS production divided by NASS planted acres (most crops)
- Yields for wheat, corn, sorghum, barley, oats:
 - ◆ NASS production/(NASS harvested acres + RMA unharvested acres).

ARC/PLC Yield Database (115,632 yields)

ARC-CO Yields, Prices, Revenue, and Payment Rates as of October 12, 2016

50% of yields are from NASS/RMA (90% of payments)
50% of yields by FSA State Committee

State Name	County Name	Crop Name	Unit	Yield Type	2009 (county yield or 70% of T)	2010 (county yield or 70% of T)	2011 (county yield or 70% of T)	2012 (county yield or 70% of T)	2013 (county yield or 70% of T)	2014 (county yield or 70% of T)	2015 Actual Yield
Alabama	Autauga	Barley	Bushel	All	41	54	70	68	72	59	64
Alabama	Autauga	Corn	Bushel	All	66	64	109	132	96	130	138
Alabama	Autauga	Grain Sorghum	Bushel	All	34	53	55	55	50	50	53
Alabama	Autauga	Oats	Bushel	All	50	45	60	55	60	55	50
Alabama	Autauga	Peanuts	Pound	All	2352	2,517	2,924	3,842	3,911	3,194	3,524
Alabama	Autauga	Sesame Seed	Pound	All		463	373	450	450	435	427
Alabama	Autauga	Soybeans	Bushel	All	27	18	24	24	39	42	39
Alabama	Autauga	Sunflower Seed	Pound	All	940	1,100	1,406	1,400	1,450	1,113	1,302
Alabama	Autauga	Wheat	Bushel	All	41	30	60	43	57	48	68
Alabama	Baldwin	Corn	Bushel	All	121	162	76	123	157	138	147
Alabama	Baldwin	Grain Sorghum	Bushel	All	34	53	55	55	36	50	53
Alabama	Baldwin	Oats	Bushel	All	34	45	76	55	91	55	58

2015 ARC/PLC Payments by Crop



2015 ARC/PLC Payments by Crop			
	PLC	ARC-CO	Total
Payments Issued October 2016			
BARLEY	\$0	\$7,040,000	\$7,040,000
CANOLA	\$74,545,000	\$421,000	\$74,966,000
CORN	\$47,552,000	\$3,865,539,000	\$3,913,087,000
LENTILS	\$0	\$1,190,000	\$1,190,000
OATS	\$6,079,000	\$15,468,000	\$21,547,000
PEANUTS	\$489,528,000	\$336,000	\$489,864,000
SORGHUM	\$186,259,000	\$51,420,000	\$237,679,000
SOYBEANS	\$0	\$1,032,131,000	\$1,032,131,000
WHEAT	\$445,112,000	\$602,930,000	\$1,048,042,000
PEASDRY	\$0	\$1,454,000	\$1,454,000
Subtotal	\$1,249,075,000	\$5,577,929,000	\$6,827,000,000 1/
Percent	18%	82%	100%
Issuance Dates for Remaining Crops			
RICE/LG/MG		Nov. 2016	
SUNFLR		Dec. 2016	
CKPEASLG		Dec. 2016	
CKPEASSM		Dec. 2016	
CRAMBE		Dec. 2016	
FLAXSEED		Dec. 2016	
MUSTARD		Dec. 2016	
RAPESEED		Dec. 2016	
SAFFLWR		Dec. 2016	
RICE-JAPONICA		Feb. 2017	
1/ Will likely increase to more than \$7 billion, as FSA county offices update eligibility files			

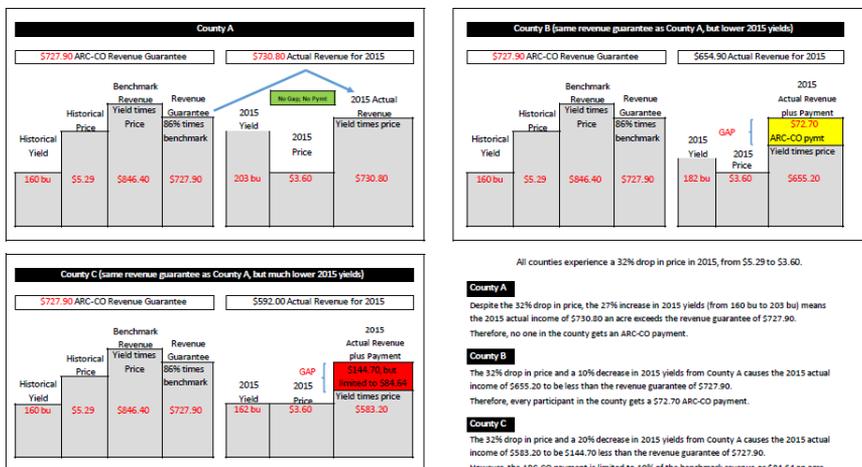


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2015 Comparison of ARC-CO Payments



Chart 1: Comparison of ARC-CO Payments for Corn for 3 Different Yields in 2015



All counties experience a 32% drop in price in 2015, from \$5.29 to \$3.60.

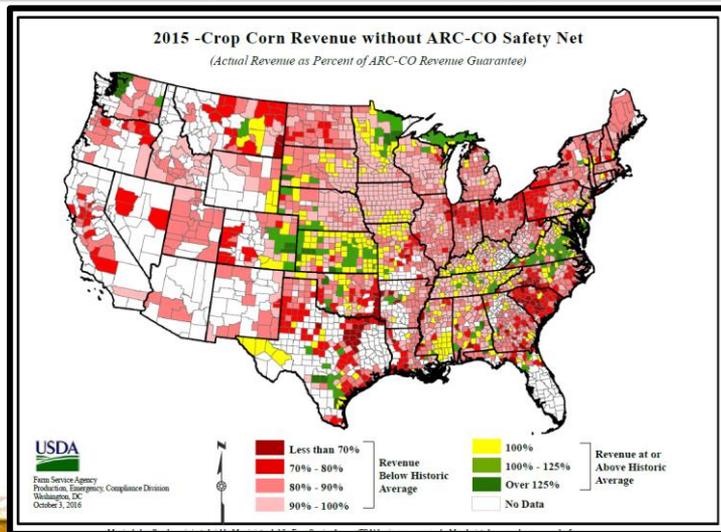
- County A**
Despite the 32% drop in price, the 27% increase in 2015 yields (from 180 bu to 203 bu) means the 2015 actual income of \$730.80 an acre exceeds the revenue guarantee of \$727.90. Therefore, no one in the county gets an ARC-CO payment.
- County B**
The 32% drop in price and a 10% decrease in 2015 yields from County A causes the 2015 actual income of \$655.20 to be less than the revenue guarantee of \$727.90. Therefore, every participant in the county gets a \$72.70 ARC-CO payment.
- County C**
The 32% drop in price and a 20% decrease in 2015 yields from County A causes the 2015 actual income of \$583.00 to be \$144.70 less than the revenue guarantee of \$727.90. However, the ARC-CO payment is limited to 10% of the benchmark revenue or \$84.64 an acre.



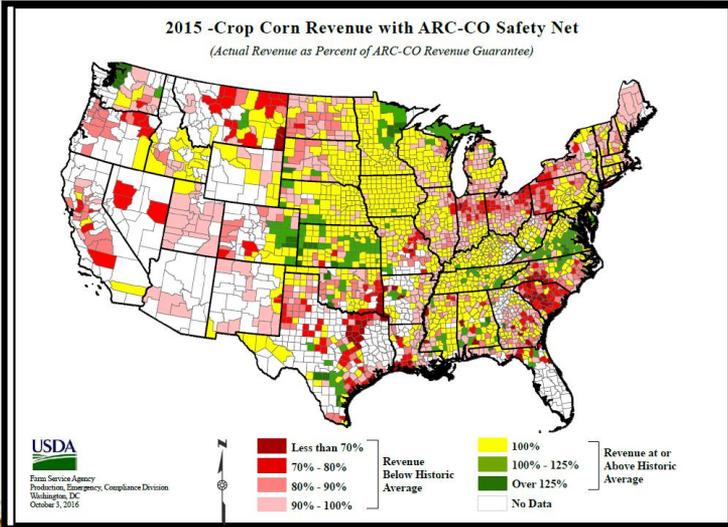
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CORN

2015 – Crop Corn Revenue Without ARC-CO Safety Net



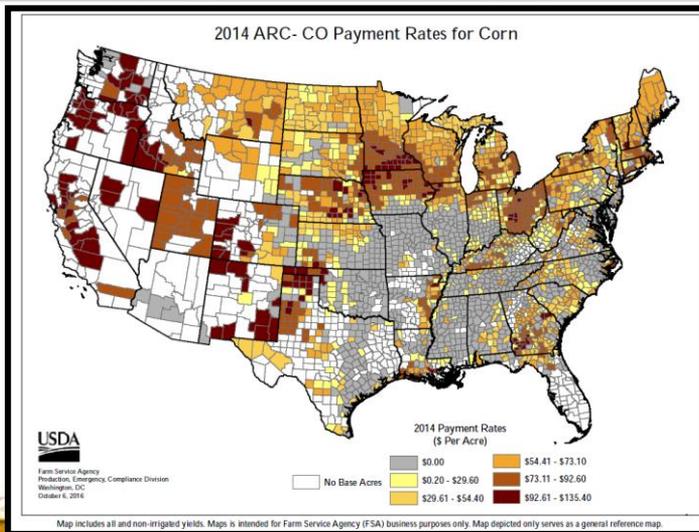
2015-Crop Corn Revenue With ARC-CO Safety Net



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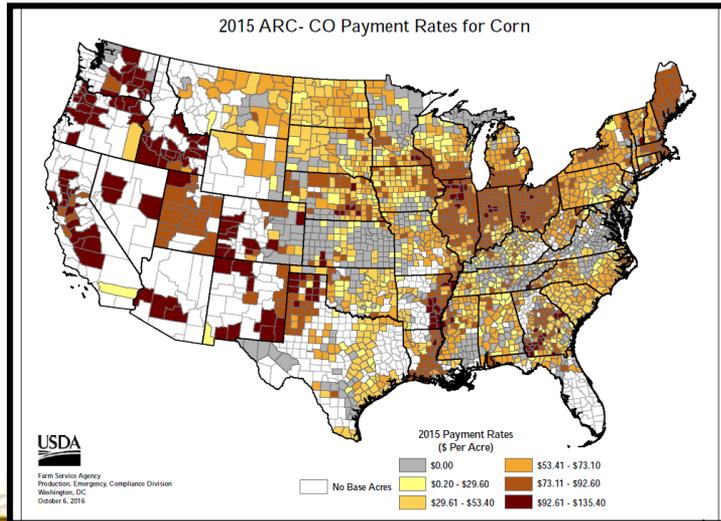
2014 ARC-CO Payment Rates for Corn



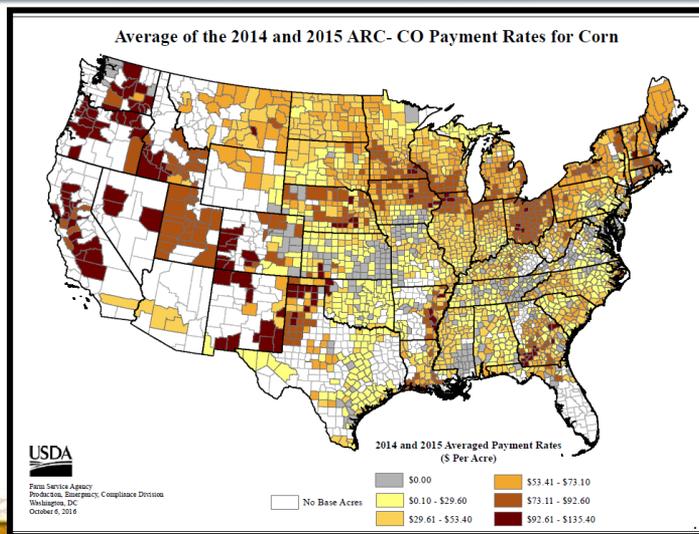
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2015 ARC-CO Payment Rates for Corn

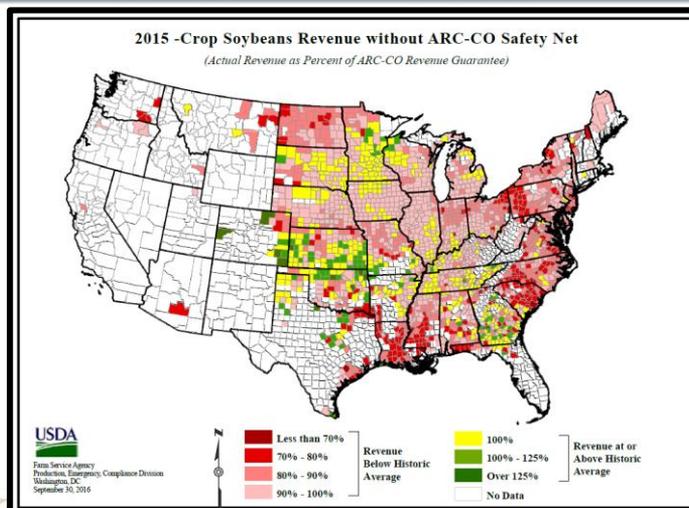


Average of the 2014 & 2015 ARC-CO Payment Rates for Corn

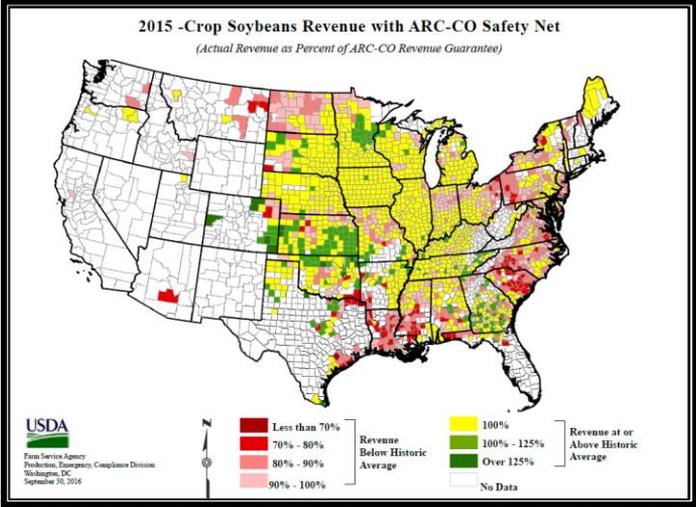


Soybeans

2015 – Crop Soybeans Revenue Without ARC-CO Safety Net

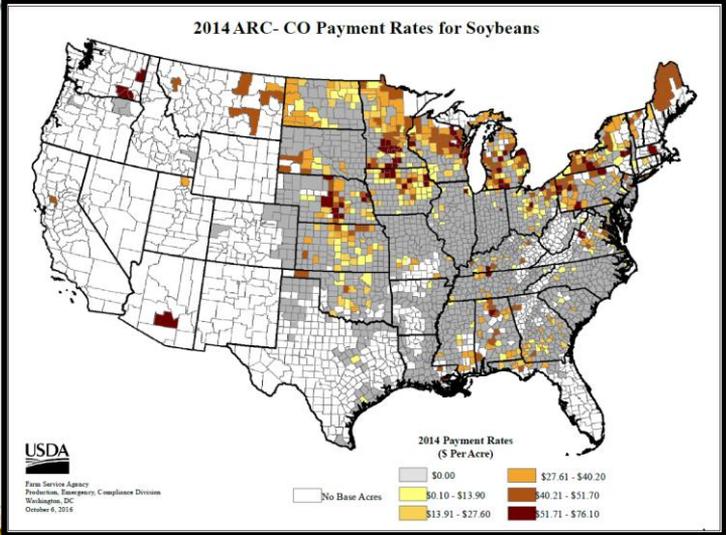


2015-Crop Soybeans Revenue With ARC-CO Safety Net



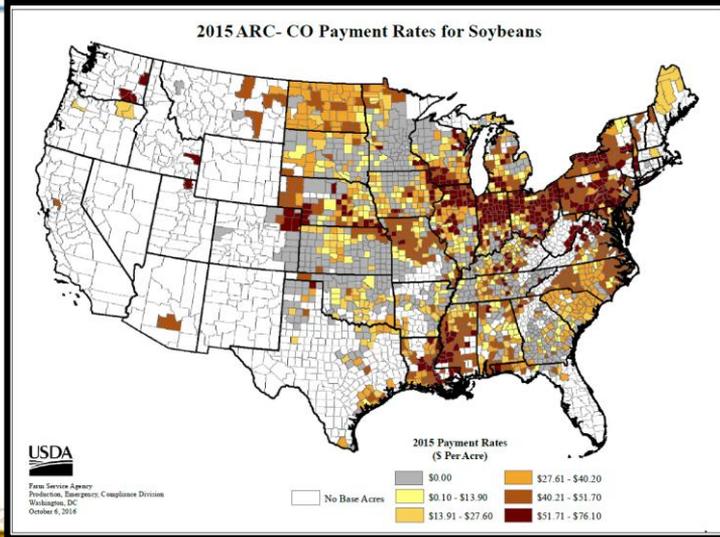
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2014 ARC-CO Payment Rates for Soybeans



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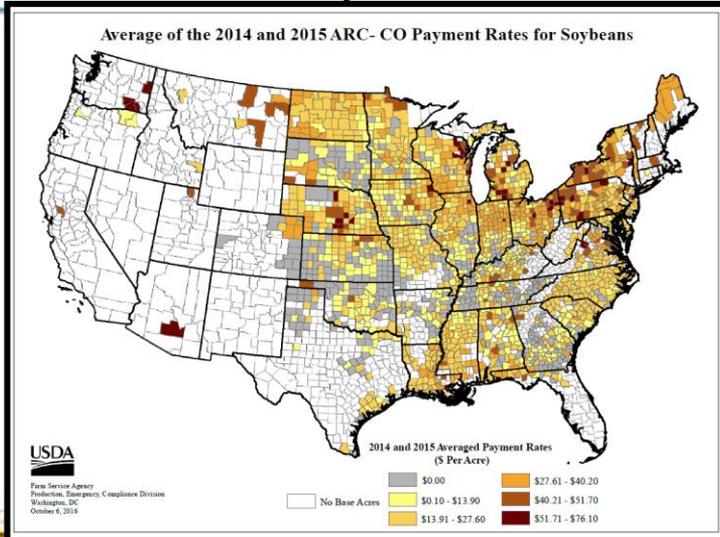
2015 ARC-CO Payment Rates for Soybeans



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Average of the 2014 & 2015 ARC-CO Payment Rates for Soybeans

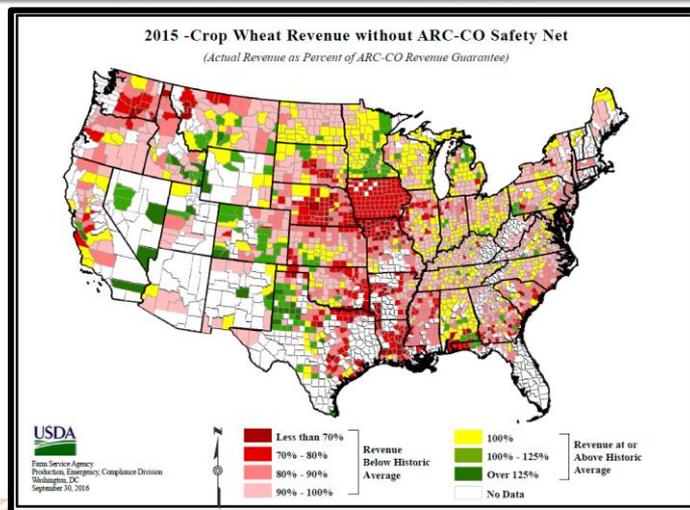


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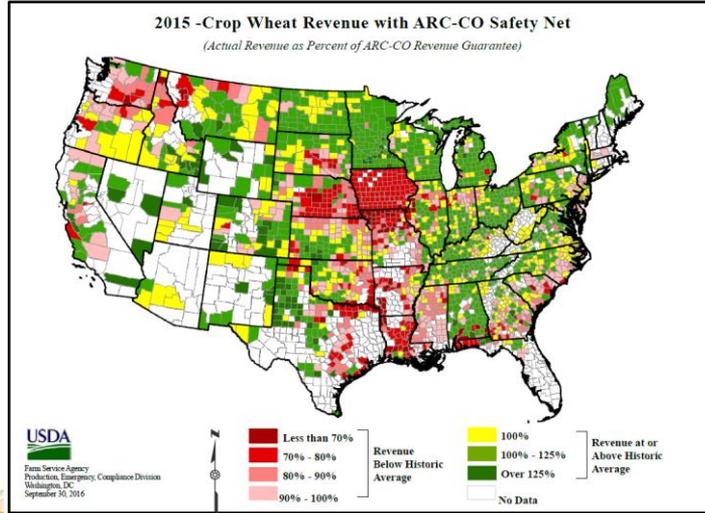
22

Wheat

2015 – Crop Wheat Revenue Without ARC-CO Safety Net



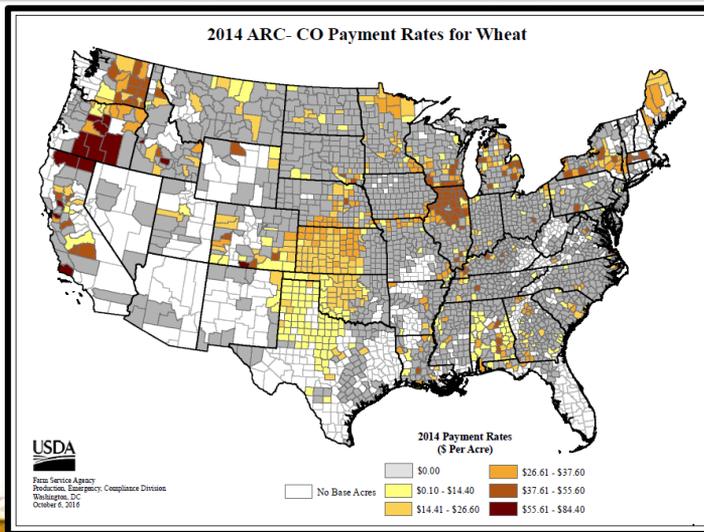
2015-Crop Wheat Revenue With ARC-CO Safety Net



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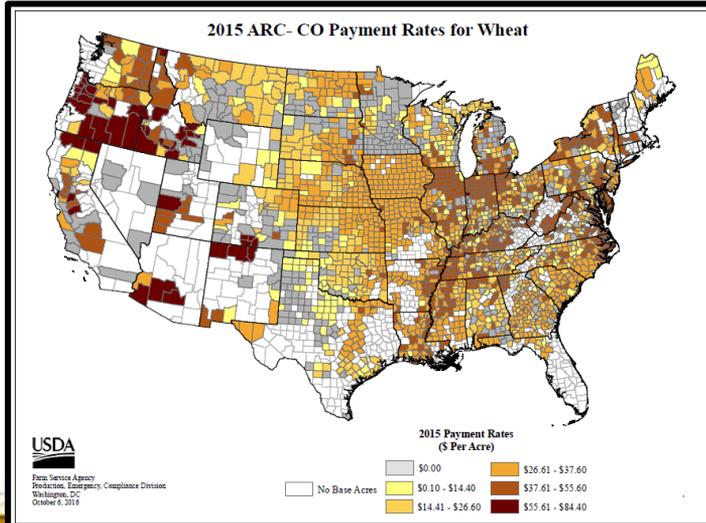
2014 ARC-CO Payment Rate for Wheat



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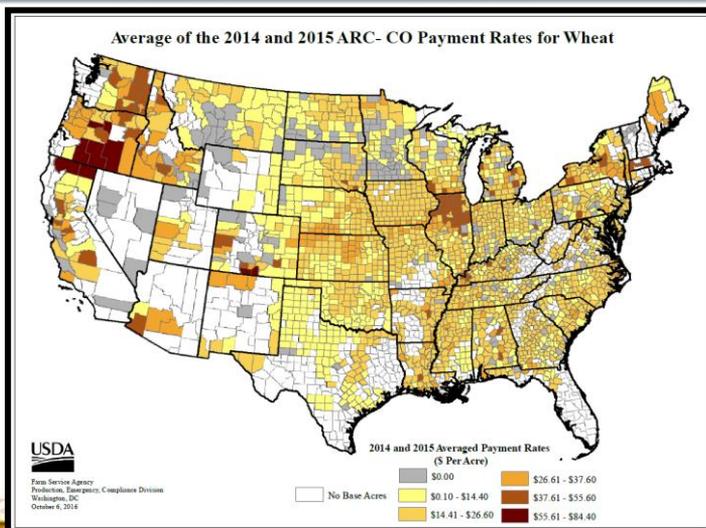
2015 ARC-CO Payment Rates for Wheat



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Average of the 2014 & 2015 ARC-CO Payment Rates for Wheat



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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

What's New and What's Changing

NASS Mission Statement: *To provide timely, accurate, and useful statistics in service to U.S. Agriculture*

Crops

Starting with the 2016 crop season, combined state totals for objective yield data are now included in the *Crop Production* reports and being published to Quick Stats.

Program changes were implemented beginning with the 2016 crop season. NASS thoroughly reviews all crop programs every 5 years (following the Census of Agriculture) to ensure that the appropriate combination of states are included in the annual estimating programs. Included States typically represent 90-95% of the total United States production.

Canola estimates will now be split into winter and spring seasons. Kansas and Oklahoma estimates will represent the “winter” season. All remaining estimating states will be classified as “spring” season.

Market year average prices for canola are now published in the September *Agricultural Prices* report. Prior to this year they were not published until the November *Agricultural Prices* report.

Revisions for the previous year's sunflower and canola crops are now published in the October *Crop Production* report. Prior to this year they were not published until the *Annual Crop Production* report in January.

Livestock

In January 2016, NASS began a new survey to collect data to measure the cost of honey bee pollination to crop producers. This survey will collect cost of pollination by commodity again in November and is scheduled for release on December 22, 2016. Two years of data will be published.

In January 2016, NASS collected basic economic data on beekeeping by adding questions to the Bee and Honey inquiry. This information will be published in the annual *Honey* report in 2017.

In February 2016, Egg Production by Dozens was first published in the February monthly *Chickens and Eggs* report and made available in Quick Stats starting with January 2015. This change was made at the request of industry.

In February 2016, Nebraska was added and Oregon was dropped from egg-type eggs in incubators and eggs hatched in the *Chickens and Eggs* report.

In February 2016, at the request of industry, three additional weight groups were added to the cattle-on-feed questionnaire. Information will be collected during 2016 for 800-899 pounds, 900-999 pounds, and 1,000 pounds and over. Data will be evaluated and published in *Cattle on Feed* in 2017.

In March 2016, honey producing colonies, yield per colony, and production for operations with less than five colonies was added to the *Honey* report.

In April 2016, Cold Storage data for all fruits, potatoes, pecan, and juice concentrate became available on Quick Stats starting with 1990 data.

In May 2016, the first *Honey Bee Colonies* report was released which included colony loss information along with colony health stressors.

In May 2016, various states were added and deleted to tables in the monthly *Dairy Products* report. The tables include: Total American Cheese, Butter, Nonfat Dry Milk (Human), Total Cheese, Cheddar Cheese, Ice Cream (Regular, Hard), and Other American Varieties of Cheese.

In June 2016, NASS published the *Overview of the United States Cattle Industry* a special report providing detailed historical information in text and graphics.

In July 2016, annual *Mink* production data was made available on Quick Stats.

In July 2016, NASS did not collect data or publish *July Cattle* due to budget reasons.

In August 2016, Egg-Type and Broiler-Type Placement of Pullet Chicks Intended for Hatchery Supply Flocks data became available on Quick Stats starting with 2013 data.

In September 2016, the *Hogs and Pigs* report was modified to include a historical records table with narrative at the end of the report. This was added to aid data users in understanding records among the various quarters with differing data series starting dates.

Current Cattle on Feed Weight Groups in Monthly Publication

Number of Cattle Placed on Feed by Weight Group on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2015 and 2016

State	During July									
	Under 600 lbs		600-699 lbs		700-799 lbs		800+ lbs		Total	
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado	20	25	15	15	15	30	40	45	90	115
Kansas	65	65	70	75	115	130	145	175	395	445
Nebraska	40	30	50	35	85	70	215	215	390	350
Texas	155	155	70	80	65	75	75	70	365	380
Other States	85	77	30	30	47	55	145	120	307	282
United States	365	352	235	235	327	360	620	625	1,547	1,572
State	During June									
	Under 600 lbs		600-699 lbs		700-799 lbs		800+ lbs		Total	
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado	20	15	15	15	15	30	30	45	80	105
Kansas	60	55	65	65	95	90	115	140	335	350
Nebraska	50	30	50	50	75	70	200	215	375	365
Texas	125	115	80	85	95	90	75	90	375	380
Other States	95	75	40	40	56	60	125	150	316	325
United States	350	290	250	255	336	340	545	640	1,481	1,525

Proposed Cattle on Feed Weight Groups in Monthly Publication

Number of Cattle Placed on Feed by Weight Group on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2015 and 2016

State	During July 2015							
	Under 600 lbs (1,000 head)	600-699 lbs (1,000 head)	700-799 lbs (1,000 head)	800-899 lbs (1,000 head)	900+ lbs ¹ (1,000 head)	900-999 lbs (1,000 head)	1,000+ lbs (1,000 head)	Total (1,000 head)
Colorado	##	##	##	##	##	(D)	(D)	##
Kansas	##	##	##	##	##	(D)	(D)	##
Nebraska	##	##	##	##	##	(D)	(D)	##
Texas	##	##	##	##	##	(D)	(D)	##
Other States ...	##	##	##	##	##	(D)	(D)	##
United States ..	##	##	##	##	(X)	##	##	##

State	During June 2016							
	Under 600 lbs (1,000 head)	600-699 lbs (1,000 head)	700-799 lbs (1,000 head)	800-899 lbs (1,000 head)	900+ lbs ¹ (1,000 head)	900-999 lbs (1,000 head)	1,000+ lbs (1,000 head)	Total (1,000 head)
Colorado	##	##	##	##	##	(D)	(D)	##
Kansas	##	##	##	##	##	(D)	(D)	##
Nebraska	##	##	##	##	##	(D)	(D)	##
Texas	##	##	##	##	##	(D)	(D)	##
Other States ...	##	##	##	##	##	(D)	(D)	##
United States ..	##	##	##	##	(X)	##	##	##

State	During July 2016							
	Under 600 lbs (1,000 head)	600-699 lbs (1,000 head)	700-799 lbs (1,000 head)	800-899 lbs (1,000 head)	900+ lbs ¹ (1,000 head)	900-999 lbs (1,000 head)	1,000+ lbs (1,000 head)	Total (1,000 head)
Colorado	##	##	##	##	##	(D)	(D)	##
Kansas	##	##	##	##	##	(D)	(D)	##
Nebraska	##	##	##	##	##	(D)	(D)	##
Texas	##	##	##	##	##	(D)	(D)	##
Other States ...	##	##	##	##	##	(D)	(D)	##
United States ..	##	##	##	##	(X)	##	##	##

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ The 900+ weight group is the sum of 900-999 pound and 1,000+ pound weight group.

□

Environmental, Economics and Demographics

For FY 2017, NASS will conduct a 2016 Vegetable Chemical Use Survey which began on October 1, 2016. The 2016 Vegetable Chemical Usage data will be released in July 2017.

In fall 2016, as part of the Agricultural Resource Management Program Phase II, Production Practices and Cost Report (PPCR) conducted in conjunction with ERS, NASS will collect chemical use and production practices for corn and potatoes. The Field Crops Chemical Usage data will be released in May 2017.

The Cash Rents were published at the district and county levels for 2016 in September of 2016. As in prior years, state and U.S. level cash rent estimates were published in August.

NASS Price program improvements are ongoing and a price relative index will be calculated for field crop grain index groups in 2017. The new price index will be calculated in parallel and evaluated with the ongoing production price index. Because of data availability, only field crops will have a price relative index calculation. Monthly publication of the field crops price relative index is still to be determined.

The NASS prices paid program is undergoing data collection testing to construct weights for prices of agricultural farm inputs. Fertilizer, chemicals, farm machinery, seed, and feed questionnaires are being evaluated to keep up with the fast changing pace of agriculture.

In August 2017, NASS will publish the Farm Computer Usage and Ownership. This publication is released biennially.

The NASS Environmental, Economics, and Demographics Branch continues to release the Data Quality Measures Reports and 2-page Highlights Brochures for most data products. In 2016, a new 2-page Highlights was produced for the 2015 Farm Production Expenditures Release, which is based on the ARMS III Survey.

For the second consecutive year, NASS conducted a Certified Organic Survey which collected data on organic production, value of sales and marketing practices. The results were published in September 2016. Planning has begun for the 2017 Certified Organic Survey. These results will be published in September of 2017.

In 2016, NASS published Current Agriculture Industrial Reports (CAIR). Monthly reports include Grain Crushings, Cotton System Consumption and Stocks, and Fats and Oils. Flour Milling Products is published quarterly. The annual report for CAIR will be published in March 2017.

Census of Agriculture Program

Planning is well underway for the 2017 Census of Agriculture. In January 2017, NASS will conduct a test of the web based reporting system. The test is critical for determining the usability of reporting on the web and to inform NASS on ways to make online reporting better for respondents while still producing high quality data. NASS is continuing to build the Census Mail List for the 2017 Census of Agriculture. The Census will be mailed to over 3 million farms and ranches in December 2017.

On December 14, 2015, NASS released the results of the 2014 Census of Horticulture Specialties. The results of this Census Special Study contain detailed production and sales data for floriculture, nursery, and specialty crops and provides a comprehensive picture of the horticultural sector of the U.S. economy.

In 2016, NASS collected data for the 2015 Local Food Marketing Practices Survey. This Census Special Study will gather data on the production and local marketing of foods directly from farm producers to consumers or to retailers who then sell directly to consumers. Results from this Special Study will be released on December 20, 2016.

World Agricultural Outlook Board

Questions about World Agricultural Outlook Board programs may be directed to Seth Meyer, Chairman, WAOB, Mail Stop 3812, South Building, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250-3812; smeyer@oce.usda.gov.

The World Agricultural Outlook Board's (WAOB) primary mission is to provide reliable and objective economic forecasts for farmers and other participants in the food and fiber system. Functions include coordinating USDA forecasts of domestic and international agriculture; providing economic analysis related to global commodity markets; monitoring markets and agricultural weather; and disseminating relevant information.

Seth Meyer, Chairman, WAOB, oversees the *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE)* report. Dr. Meyer has spoken to delegations from Argentina, Germany, India, Japan, Russia, Kansas State University, and a Chinese delegation, among others.

Interagency Commodity Estimates Committees (ICECs), chaired by WAOB senior economists, clear all USDA economic outlook reports to ensure consistency with official USDA estimates. The committees develop crop production forecasts each month for major foreign producing countries, and supply and demand estimates for the United States and the world. Four USDA agencies are represented on the committees: the Economic Research Service, the Foreign Agricultural Service, the Farm Service Agency, and the Agricultural Marketing Service.

Report Usage: In the past year, WAOB issued 12 monthly *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE)* reports; and published 52 weekly *Weather and Economics Briefing* reports. During FY '16, the *WASDE* report averaged over 250,000 downloads per month, from USDA. Also during FY '16, the *Secretary's Briefing Slides* used to brief the Secretary or Designate at the lockup briefing are put up following the *WASDE* release and an archive of the presentations since June of 2014 are also online. Since the start of the posting of these slides, monthly downloads have risen to exceed 50,000 downloads per month.

WAOB oversaw the annual publication of the inter-agency *USDA Agricultural Long-term Projections to 2025*, updated and released every February. The *Long-term Projections* reports provide a conditional, long run scenario about what would be expected to happen to the global agricultural economy under a continuation of current farm legislation and other specific assumptions. These reports are important sources for strategic planning information used in formulating the President's budget, and for decisions made by agricultural producers, agribusiness leaders, and policy officials.

Mark Brusberg, Deputy Chief Meteorologist, is a key contributor to new agreements between USDA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) fostering increased collaboration on drought-related activities. He is currently working with the National Drought Resilience Partnership, an intergovernmental task force outlined in the President's Climate Action Plan, and the Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience Interagency Policy Committee, led by the National Security Council. Mr. Brusberg also chairs USDA's Combined Drought and Water Management Team, and is a lead USDA representative to the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology.

Agricultural Weather Monitoring and Assessments: WAOB's staff of meteorologists generates timely weather and crop assessments in support of the monthly *Crop Production* and *WASDE* reports issued by National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) and WAOB, respectively. The meteorologists also provide weekly updates of crop weather to USDA Radio and often appear on local and national radio and television broadcasts. As recognized experts within the Department, they are sometimes tasked with attending Capitol Hill briefings and reviewing legislation and testimony, and occasionally contribute assessments and products to the USDA blog and other publications. Another key duty is to meet with foreign delegations and domestic groups regarding the process of using weather and climate products to produce operational agricultural assessments. WAOB meteorologists publish the *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin*, which provides the public with weekly assessments of global agricultural weather. Data and products are supplied to the *WWCB* by NASS and NOAA's Climate Prediction Center, through a formal agreement establishing the Joint Agricultural Weather Facility. The *WWCB* averaged about 175,000 downloads per month during FY '16, from USDA. On a rotating basis, WAOB meteorologists prepared the weekly *U.S. Drought Monitor* and the monthly *North American Drought Monitor*. WAOB continues to support the World Meteorological Organization, including the World Agrometeorological Information Service (WAMIS), which helps communicate weather and climate information to the global farming community.

Office of the Chief Economist World Agricultural Outlook Board

- New Staff/Retirements
 - Joanna Hitchner and Seanicaa Herron
- WASDE – *no changes to content*
 - Added TXT file format
 - Publishing the Secretary’s Briefing online
- Historical WASDE database construction
 - All data from WASDE publications since inception



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. Census Bureau
Washington, DC 20233-0001

Economic Data from the U.S. Census Bureau

The U.S. Census Bureau provides information that tells the story of our changing economy. The Economic Indicators, Economic Census and our quarterly and annual economic surveys give Federal, state, and local governments, policy makers, and business and community leaders the information needed to make informed decisions that shape our economy.

Issues of Interest to Data Users

1. New Products from the U.S. Census Bureau

Advance Economic Indicator Report

The Census Bureau's new advanced release is published approximately 25 to 29 calendar days after the end of the calendar month and provides advance statistics for U.S. International Trade in Goods, domestic retail inventories, and domestic wholesale inventories. It includes both seasonally adjusted and unadjusted data, and is available on Census's website: <http://www.census.gov/econ/indicators/index.html>

The advance report will provide BEA with more accurate data for their Advance Estimate of GDP and will reduce GDP revisions over time. The first release occurred at 8:30 a.m. on July 28, 2016 and featured advance statistics for June 2016.

Census Business Builder

The ***Census Business Builder (CBB)*** is a suite of services that provide selected demographic and economic data from the Census Bureau tailored to specific types of users in a simple to access and use format. It comes in two versions: one version designed for small business owners who need key data for their business plan or to better understand their potential market and another version for chambers of commerce and regional planning staff who need a broad portrait of the people and businesses in their service area. It is available on Census' website: <http://www.census.gov/data/data-tools/cbb.html>

2. *Principal Economic Indicators*

The U.S. Census Bureau's Economic Indicators keep the world informed by providing the first official measures of the U.S. economy. Our Economic Indicator surveys provide monthly and quarterly data that are timely, reliable, and offer comprehensive measures of the U.S. economy. These surveys produce a variety of statistics covering construction, housing, international trade, retail trade, wholesale trade, services and manufacturing. The survey data provide measures of economic activity that allow analysis of economic performance and inform business investment and policy decisions. The data can be accessed via the Economic Indicator Briefing Room, Economic Indicator Database, and the America's Economy Mobile App.

- Economic Indicator Briefing Room

The Economic Indicator Briefing Room web site provides access to the latest data, full release reports, historical data, and time series and trend charts. [census.gov/economic-indicators](https://www.census.gov/economic-indicators)

- Economic Indicator Database

Select an economic indicator and customize your data selection. Ability to download the data to a spreadsheet and create your own time series charts. [census.gov/econ/currentdata](https://www.census.gov/econ/currentdata)

- America's Economy Mobile App

The "America's Economy" app provides real-time updates for 20 key economic indicators released from the U.S. Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Bureau of Economic Analysis. The app provides the public access to key economic indicators about the health of the U.S. economy through any IOS or Android smart phone or tablet device. [census.gov/mobile/economy](https://www.census.gov/mobile/economy)

3. *International Trade*

Each month, the U.S. Census Bureau releases the *U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services* (FT900) report, which is one of the principal economic indicators for the United States. This report can be found along with other information on our website [census.gov/trade](https://www.census.gov/trade)

- AES Direct Refactoring

The U.S. Census Bureau is working with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to successfully transition AESDirect into the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) platform. ACE is a "Single Window" platform through which the trade community reports import and export data to the government. Manual processes are being streamlined and automated, allowing the trade community to more easily comply with U.S. laws and regulations.

- Regulations Town Hall Webinar Series

The Regulations Town Hall Webinar series was developed to provide training on the regulatory changes to the FTR. There were twelve webinars specifically focusing on the changes to the regulations. In addition, the Basics of Exporting Compliance Summer Series was developed to provide an overview on regulatory requirements from Census, State, Treasury, and Commerce. Both of these webinar series are archived at: www.census.gov/foreign-trade/outreach.

- 15 CFR PART 30 — Foreign Trade Regulations

The U.S. Census Bureau's International Trade Management Division published the final rule revising the Foreign Trade Regulations (FTR), Title 15, Part 30 on March 14, 2013 which amended the FTR published in 2008. In this rule, the Census Bureau requires mandatory filing of export information through the Automated Export System (AES) or through AESDirect for all shipments of used self-propelled vehicles, regardless of value or destination. In addition, the rule outlines the reporting of two additional data elements, license value and ultimate consignee type.

For further information on the FTR and filing requirements, please email ftdregs@census.gov or use the International Trade Helpline number, 1-800-549-0595 and select option 3.

- Questionable data should be brought to our attention as soon as possible. Potential data errors caught early are easier to verify and improve the quality of data going forward. To request data verification, please contact Ms. Carol Aristone, Chief (carol.ann.aristone@census.gov) of our International Trade Indicator Micro Analysis Branch.

4. Other Economic Data from the U.S. Census Bureau

- Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs

On September 1, 2016, Census released the inaugural Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs. It provides a timely, more frequent socio-economic portrait of the nation's employer businesses by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status as well as the number of years a firm has been in business. <http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/ase.html>

- Public Sector

The public sector data provide information on the organization, finances, and employment of approximately 90,000 state and local governments. [census.gov/govs](http://www.census.gov/govs)

- County Business Patterns (CBP)

County Business Patterns provides annual information about establishments with paid employees by NAICS industry down to the county level. This series includes the number of establishments, employment during the week of March 12, first quarter payroll, and annual payroll. [census.gov/econ/cbp](http://www.census.gov/econ/cbp).

- Information on all of the U.S. Census Bureau's economic products can be found at [census.gov/econ](http://www.census.gov/econ)

Correspondence

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USDA Agricultural Outlook Forum



February 23-24, 2017

Arlington, Virginia

Mark your calendars! USDA's annual Agricultural Outlook Forum brings together the agricultural community to discuss policy, trade, science, rural development, and the economic outlook for the coming year. The Forum also focuses on forestry, health and nutrition issues, and the changing dynamics and face of rural America.

Among the sessions tentatively planned for the 2017 Forum are the following:

Food Price and Farm Income Outlooks, Organic Outlook, International Markets and Trade, Pest and Disease Pressures, Environmental Quality, Nutrition, Climate Change, Water Issues & Drought Response, Ag Finance Stress Test, Big Data and Food Safety, and the traditional commodity and weather outlook sessions.

In addition to USDA leaders, previous speakers have included former USDA Secretaries of Agriculture, former President Bill Clinton, Nobel Prize winner Norman Borlaug, U.S. trade representatives, Congressional and Cabinet members, CEOs from leading corporations, farmers and ranchers, and other experts from across the agricultural spectrum.

Registration will begin in November. For more information, please go to:

<http://www.usda.gov/oce/forum/>

USDA 2017 Agricultural Outlook Forum Student Diversity Program: OCE continues to coordinate the Diversity Program with ERS, ARS, NRCS, and our partner, the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. For more information, please contact: Susan Carter at scarter@oce.usda.gov.