

# Data, Users Meeting

Tuesday, November 15, 2022 12:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.

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### 2022 USDA Fall Virtual Data Users' Meeting Tuesday, November 15, 2022

### Live Webinar - All times are Eastern Time

### **AGENDA**

12:00 p.m
12:10 p.m. Agency Reviews  Patrick Packnett, Foreign Agricultural Service Bill Chambers, World Agricultural Outlook Board Lance Honig, National Agricultural Statistics Service Kelly Maguire, Economic Research Service Mike Walter, Farm Service Agency Jason Karwal, Agricultural Marketing Service Joseph DeCampo, U.S. Census Bureau
12:50 p.m
1:00 p.mOpen Forum—Questions and comments from participants
2:20 p.m
2:30 p.m. Breakout Session
3:30 p.m End

### **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

November 15				
All times Eastern	Session A	Session B		
2:30pm	AMS Market News Agricultural Marketing Service	An Overview of Wheat, Dairy, and Food Price Outlook Data Economic Research Service		

We are pleased to have representatives from the Risk Management Agency (RMA) and Energy Information Administration (EIA) available for questions during the Open Forum.

### **Breakout Session Descriptions**

### **Session A**

### AMS Market News – Agricultural Marketing Service

AMS Market News will present on the topics of HTS Codes and the process of collecting and reporting import volumes, the Market News Mobile Application, and the current Market News initiatives to increase the supply of critical organic market information for data users.

### **Session B**

### An Overview of Wheat, Dairy, and Food Price Outlook Data – Economic Research Service

ERS will present an overview of the monthly Wheat, Dairy, and Food Price Outlook data products. The break-out will include information on what is included in the data product, how it is used, and how to access the data.

### **MEETING SESSION LINKS**

### Main Session – 12:00 pm ET

Register: <a href="https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\_HOBHIhY5QwW8WfACU8n8zw">https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\_HOBHIhY5QwW8WfACU8n8zw</a>
Phone Only: +1 669 254 5252 or +1 646 828 7666 | Webinar ID: 160 279 6980 | Passcode: 618293

### Breakout - 2:30 pm ET

### Session A – AMS Market News

Join: <a href="https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1607282042?pwd=azUraTFxZW11RIJxT2FhYnFlczBzUT09">https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1607282042?pwd=azUraTFxZW11RIJxT2FhYnFlczBzUT09</a>
Phone Only: +1 669 254 5252 or +1 646 828 7666 | Webinar ID: 160 728 2042 | Passcode: 0935077

### Session B – An Overview of Wheat, Dairy, and Food Price Outlook Data

Join: https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1606100369

Phone Only: +1 669 254 5252 or +1 646 828 7666 | Webinar ID: 160 610 0369 | Passcode: 653129

### FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

## Update on Information and Data Products Available from USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service November 2022

### **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 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 to include wheat, wheat products, barley, corn, grain sorghum, oats, rye, soybeans, soybean cake and meal, soybean oil, flaxseed, linseed oil, cotton, sunflower seed oil, cottonseed, cottonseed cake and meal, cottonseed oil, rice, cattle hides and skins, wet blues, beef, and pork. Users can access the ESR System at <a href="https://apps.fas.usda.gov/export-sales/esrd1.html">https://apps.fas.usda.gov/export-sales/esrd1.html</a>. In addition to being available online through the ESR webpage and the ESR Query System, weekly and daily reports are now available through email via GovDelivery to all users who sign up. To receive ESR daily reports via email, register at: <a href="https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAFAS/subscriber/new">https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAFAS/subscriber/new</a>.

The August 2022 launch of the Export Sales Reporting and Maintenance System 2.0 (ESRMS 2.0) met challenges which forced FAS to revert to legacy ESRMS. Legacy ESRMS will continue to be used by exporters until FAS corrects concerns and issues identified during the launch of ESRMS 2.0. FAS plans to schedule feedback sessions with exporters and data users to gain further insight on their needs regarding data entry and reports. Further, FAS will conduct additional user acceptance testing and training sessions prior to launching ESRMS 2.0 again.

For additional information, contact the Export Sales Reporting team at esr@usda.gov.

### **Global Agricultural Information Network (GAIN)**

USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) provides timely reports on foreign markets through the Global Agriculture Information Network (GAIN) database. The GAIN database houses reports from 98 offices covering 177 countries that include timely intelligence and analysis on global agriculture, agricultural markets, and foreign government policies affecting agricultural trade. In 2021, approximately 3,230 GAIN reports were submitted and published for web-based retrieval. This was an increase of 14.8% over the prior year. To date, Post has submitted over 1,725 GAIN reports. The 2022 reports have been downloaded almost 1 million times to date (933,006). Commodity reporting requirements are reviewed annually to ensure that reporting aligns with changes and developments in global agricultural production and trade. Reporting on climate change, the impact on the war in Ukraine, and reports on the EU Farm to Fork Strategy are examples of issues covered.

Users can access GAIN reports dating back to 1996 from the GAIN homepage: <a href="https://gain.fas.usda.gov/#/">https://gain.fas.usda.gov/#/</a>.

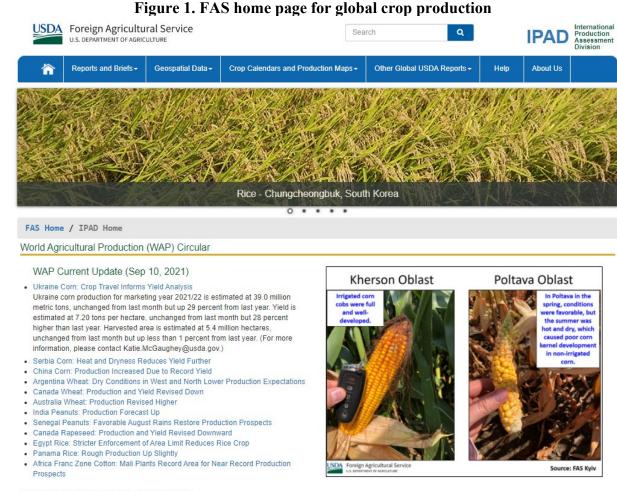
For questions about the GAIN search engine please contact <u>1-GAINAppSupport@fas.usda.gov</u>. To receive GAIN reports via email, register at:

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAFAS/subscriber/new

### **Production Estimates**

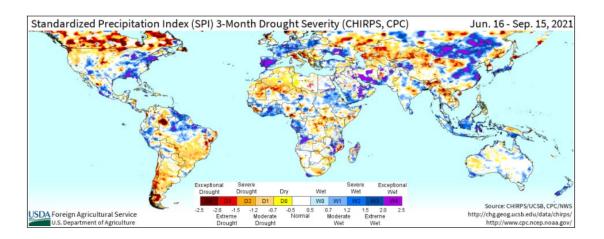
FAS maintains a website that is a dynamic global crop production portal with key information including World Agricultural Production (WAP) briefs, Commodity Intelligence Reports (CIR), geospatial applications, crop production maps, and crop calendars at a subnational level for the top-20 producing countries (Figure 1, <a href="https://www.ipad.fas.usda.gov">https://www.ipad.fas.usda.gov</a>).

FAS is currently working to integrate the IPAD crop production portal with the new FAS website. The current focus is to transition crop production maps, crop calendars and production-related reports, with the expectation of completing the initial transition by the end of the fiscal year.



2021 WAP Release Dates (12:00pm ET)

Jan. 12, Feb. 9, Mar. 9, Apr. 9, May. 12, Jun. 10, Jul. 12, Aug. 12, Sep. 10, Oct. 12, Nov. 9, and Dec. 9



The FAS website for global crop production also hosts an application called Crop Explorer that displays global and routinely updated data on precipitation, average temperature, maximum/minimum temperature, evapotranspiration, soil moisture, SPI (Standardized Precipitation Index) Drought Severity, NDVI (Normalized Difference Vegetation Index) vegetation conditions, snow cover, production maps, etc. Crop Explorer supports monitoring of conditions for 12 different crops: cotton, corn, barley, millet, rice, sorghum, wheat, soybeans, sunflower, rapeseed, peanuts, and palm oil. (https://ipad.fas.usda.gov/cropexplorer/).

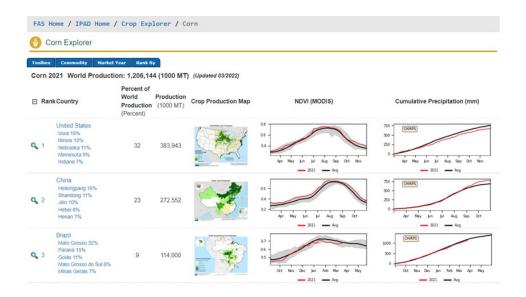
Crop Explorer also monitors SPI Drought Severity in 5-day time steps to quickly identify the severity of droughts that may reduce crop yields during the growing season. Efforts are underway to expand the crop production maps and calendars to the top-30 producing countries.

The Crop Explorer website was upgraded to monitor the latest crop conditions and seasonal rainfall received for specific crops grown within primary production states. The upgraded Crop Explorer monitors specific crops with related web apps called Corn Explorer, Soybean Explorer, Wheat Explorer, Cotton Explorer, etc. For example, the dashboard view for Corn Explorer shows corn production maps at subnational (state and county) levels, cumulative rainfall, and NDVI crop conditions for all major corn producing countries and regions (Figure 2).

For more information, please contact Curt Reynolds at <a href="mailto:curt.reynolds@usda.gov">curt.reynolds@usda.gov</a>.

Figure 2. Commodity Explorers and Dashboard View of Corn Explorer





### Global Agricultural and Disaster Assessment System (GADAS)

GADAS is a state-of-the-art Geographic Information System (GIS) that integrates a vast array of highly detailed earth observation data streams with cropland datasets to facilitate agricultural and disaster assessments, into an easy-to-use, web-based environment. GADAS provides analysts with a wide variety of routine geospatial products (maps, charts, tables) they require for comprehensive situational investigations and recurring assessments. GADAS can be accessed directly at (https://geo.fas.usda.gov/GADAS/index.html) or through (https://www.ipad.fas.usda.gov).

GADAS will help USDA/FAS remain a global leader in the use of location-based technologies for agricultural monitoring and global food security intelligence. The system combines daily weather, climate, crop conditions, satellite imagery, and other geospatial data with custom-built applications that quickly support the visual comparison of agricultural production-related data. GADAS is also designed to provide hourly updates of natural disasters (cyclone tracking, drought evolution, flooding impacts) as well as tools for rapid pre- and post-disaster agricultural assessments. Web-based GIS improves collaboration between teams in FAS working around the world.

For questions, please contact Lisa Colson at <u>lisa.colson@usda.gov</u>.



Figure 3. GADAS home page

### Production, Supply and Distribution (PSD) Online

USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) PSD Online provides reports and the option for custom queries for data on production, supply, and distribution of those agricultural commodities and commodity aggregates published in the World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimate (WASDE) Report, and for the U.S. and key producing and consuming countries and aggregated regions, going back to 1960.

The international portion of the data is updated with input from agricultural attachés stationed at U.S. embassies around the world, FAS commodity analysts, and country and commodity analysts with the Economic Research Service (ERS). The U.S. domestic component is updated with input from analysts in FAS, ERS, the National Agricultural Statistical Service, and the Farm Service Agency. Interagency work on the database is carried out under the aegis of the World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB).

The official USDA supply and distribution data is published monthly in: WAOB, WASDE; in the foreign agricultural commodity circular series issued by FAS; and in the regional situation and outlook reports and monthly commodity newsletters of ERS.

Users can access PSD online at https://apps.fas.usda.gov/psdonline/app/index.html#/app/home.

For questions, please contact us at https://apps.fas.usda.gov/psdonline/app/index.html#/app/contact.

### **Global Agricultural Trade System (GATS)**

USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Global Agricultural Trade System (GATS) includes U.S. agricultural, fishery, and forestry trade statistics dating from the inception of the harmonized coding system in 1989 to present. The database is continuously updated. U.S. trade data are updated monthly according to the U.S. Census Bureau's reporting system. In March 2022, FAS included revised commodity codes in the GATS database based on the release of the World Customs Organization's (WCO) 7<sup>th</sup> edition updates to the Harmonized System (HS). Every five years, the WCO replaces, redefines, and recategorizes HS codes adapting to current trade patterns and recognizing new products. The changes can be found in the Code Changes page in the GATS website. Users can access the GATS homepage at https://apps.fas.usda.gov/gats/default.aspx.

For questions, please contact Jason Carver (<u>Jason.Carver@usda.gov</u>) or Alex Beckman (Alex.Beckman@usda.gov).

### **FAS Data Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)**

USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) data API portal provides users the ability to obtain programmatic access to publicly available agricultural commodity data from the Global Agricultural Trade System (GATS), Production, Supply & Distribution (PSD), and Export Sales Report (ESR) databases.

The FAS Open Data Services can be found at <a href="https://apps.fas.usda.gov/opendataweb/home">https://apps.fas.usda.gov/opendataweb/home</a>.

For technical questions, please contact the FAS Web Admin Team at FASWebAdminTeam@usda.gov.

### FAS – U.S. Agricultural Export Yearbook

The 2021 Agricultural Export Yearbook was published on the FAS website on April 14, 2022. The yearbook provides a statistical summary of U.S. agricultural commodity exports to the world and the United States' primary trading partners. The 2021 Yearbook can be found at <a href="https://www.fas.usda.gov/data/2021-agricultural-export-yearbook">https://www.fas.usda.gov/data/2021-agricultural-export-yearbook</a>.

All U.S. export data found within the Yearbook are collected and published by the U.S. Census Bureau of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Foreign country export data are sourced from the reporting countries' national statistical agencies as reported through Trade Data Monitor (TDM). The 2021 U.S. Agricultural Export Yearbook consists of two sections: 1) commodity exports, and 2) country of destination exports. The Yearbook utilized FAS product groups as defined in FAS' Global Agricultural Trade System (GATS) using the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) at the ten-digit level and aggregated into classifications that include the primary commodity and its derivatives. FAS has titled these product groups as "BICO (HS-10)." BICO is an FAS designation that stands for Bulk, Intermediate & Consumer Oriented goods.

The 13 Yearbook product groups or commodity aggregations are based on the United States' largest export categories. The country Yearbook pages include the United States' top fifteen export destinations. Each commodity and country page includes a list of drivers that influenced exports, market conditions affecting supply and demand, and policy and market access issues that impact the United States' ability to export.

### **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. The Ag Tariff Tracker has tariff, tariff rate quota (TRQ), and safeguard information for the United States' existing free trade agreements with 11 FTA partners. In 2019, terms of the U.S.– Japan Trade agreement were added to the Ag Tariff Tracker.

This tool is available at <a href="https://apps.fas.usda.gov/agtarifftracker/Home/Search">https://apps.fas.usda.gov/agtarifftracker/Home/Search</a> on the Trade Policy/Trade Agreements topic page of the FAS website: <a href="https://www.fas.usda.gov/topics/trade-agreements">https://www.fas.usda.gov/topics/trade-agreements</a>. For questions, please contact Jason Carver (<a href="Jason.Carver@usda.gov">Jason.Carver@usda.gov</a>).



### WORLD AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK BOARD

Questions about World Agricultural Outlook Board programs may be directed to Mark Jekanowski, Chairman, WAOB, Mail Stop 3812, South Building, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250-3812; <a href="mailto:Mark.Jekanowski@usda.gov">Mark.Jekanowski@usda.gov</a>.

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 commodity market information.

Mark Jekanowski, WAOB Chairman, oversees the creation of the <u>World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates</u> (WASDE) report and chairs the Program Committee for USDA's annual Agricultural Outlook Forum. Former positions include Deputy Director for the commodity outlook program at USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS), Chief of the Crops Branch at ERS, and Senior Vice President at Informa Economics.

The Interagency Commodity Estimates Committees (ICECs), chaired by WAOB senior economists, clear all USDA commodity outlook reports to ensure consistency with official USDA estimates. The committees develop supply and demand estimates for the United States, over 100 individual countries, and global totals. Four USDA agencies are represented on the committees: Economic Research Service, Foreign Agricultural Service, Farm Service Agency, and the Agricultural Marketing Service.

**Report Usage:** Each year, WAOB issues 12 monthly *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates* (WASDE) reports; and publishes 52 weekly *Weather and Crop Bulletin* reports. On average, the WASDE is accessed by over 100,000 users worldwide each month. It is one of USDA's Principal Federal Economic Indicators and directly impacts commodity markets. The WASDE report is available at: <a href="https://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity/wasde">https://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity/wasde</a>.

**USDA Baseline:** WAOB oversees the annual publication of the inter-agency *USDA Agricultural Long-term Projections*. The *Long-term Projections* report provides 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 an important source of strategic planning information used in formulating the President's budget and for decision-making by agricultural producers, agribusiness leaders, and policy officials. The latest edition of the report and data tables (Projections to 2031) can be found at <a href="https://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity-markets/baseline">https://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity-markets/baseline</a>. Selected tables from the upcoming USDA Agricultural Projections to 2032 report were released November 7 and can be found at <a href="https://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity-markets/baseline">www.usda.gov/oce/commodity-markets/baseline</a>. They are also available from the Economic Research Service Baseline Database, which can be found at <a href="https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/agricultural-baseline-database/">https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/agricultural-baseline-database/</a>.

Mark Brusberg, Chief Meteorologist, is a key contributor to, and main point of contact for, drought-related activities involving the Department and other Federal Partners, especially the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Mr. Brusberg serves on the Executive Council of the NOAA-led National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) and leads several projects related to the work done by NIDIS and other drought-oriented groups on behalf of the Department. He currently serves in a leadership capacity on the National Drought Resilience Partnership (NDRP), an intergovernmental task force offering leadership in the coordination and administration of activities designed to help mitigate the impacts of drought on vulnerable segments of the Nation's economy. He is also a lead USDA representative to the Interagency Council for Advancing Meteorological Services (ICAMS).

Mr. Brusberg chairs USDA's Combined Drought and Water Management Team, a venue for other agencies within the Department to share information and coordinate responses on projects and programs involving drought and water resources. As the Departmental lead on Drought, he facilitates partnerships between USDA and other groups, including the NDRP, NIDIS, ICAMS, and the National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC).

Agricultural Weather Monitoring and Assessments: WAOB's staff of meteorologists generate 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 often tasked with attending Capitol Hill briefings and reviewing legislation and testimony and 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 (WWCB) located at https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/wwcb.pdf, which provide 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 over 10,000 downloads per week in FY21 from the USDA site, and additional downloads from the Cornell site. On a rotating basis, WAOB meteorologists prepare the weekly U.S. Drought Monitor and the monthly North American Drought Monitor. WAOB continues to engage our international counterparts and lends support to activities led by the World Meteorological Organization and Global Water Partnership. WAOB weather products can be found at: https://www.usda.gov/oce/weather-drought-monitor.

Agricultural Outlook Forum 2023: The Agricultural Outlook Forum (AOF) is USDA's largest and premiere annual gathering. The breadth and timeliness of the AOF programs have consistently drawn a diverse group of participants including producers, processors, policymakers, government officials, and non-governmental organizations, to discuss current and emerging issues. After holding the Forum virtually for two years, the AOF 2023 will be held in person in Arlington Virginia and all sessions will also be livestreamed on a virtual platform. During the Forum, USDA's chief economist will unveil the Department's initial 2023 forecasts for the U.S. agricultural economy, commodity markets, and foreign trade for the new marketing year and discuss the farm income situation.

Registration is now open on the Forum website https://www.usda.gov/oce/ag-outlook-forum.

### INTERAGENCY COMMODITY ESTIMATES COMMITTEES



Note: The World Agricultural Outlook Board reviews and approves the World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report. The Board's analysts chair the Interagency Commodity Estimates Committees (ICECs) that prepare the monthly report.

**Wheat:** Mark Simone, ICEC Chair, WAOB, <a href="mark.simone@usda.gov">mark.simone@usda.gov</a> Andrew Sowell, ERS; Rachel Trego, FAS; Bruce McWilliams, FPAC.

**Rice:** Mark Simone, ICEC Chair, WAOB, <u>mark.simone@usda.gov</u> Nathan Childs, ERS; Rachel Trego, FAS.

**Feed Grains:** Michael Jewison, ICEC Chair, WAOB, <u>michael.jewison2@usda.gov</u> Todd Hubbs, ERS; Kevin Min, FAS; Jacob Vuillemin, FPAC.

**Oilseeds:** Keith Menzie, ICEC Chair, WAOB, <u>keith.menzie@usda.gov</u>
Maria Bukowski, ERS; Agata Kingsbury, FAS; Gustavo Ferreira, FPAC.

**Cotton:** Stephen MacDonald, ICEC Chair, WAOB, <a href="mailto:stephen.macdonald3@usda.gov">stephen.macdonald3@usda.gov</a> Leslie Meyer, ERS; Graham Soley, FAS; Kent Lanclos, FPAC.

**Sugar:** Stephen Haley, ICEC Chair, WAOB, <a href="mailto:stephen.haley2@usda.gov">stephen.haley2@usda.gov</a> Vida Abadam, ERS; Souleymane Diaby, FAS; Barbara Fecso, FPAC.

**Meat Animals:** Shayle Shagam, ICEC Chair, WAOB, <a href="mailto:shayle.shagam@usda.gov">shayle.shagam@usda.gov</a> Sherry Wise, AMS; Mildred Haley, ERS; John Brower, FAS; Georgi Gabrielyan, FPAC.

**Poultry**: Shayle Shagam, ICEC Chair, WAOB, <a href="mailto:shagam@usda.gov">shayle.shagam@usda.gov</a> Peyton Ferrier, AMS; Grace Grossen, ERS; Claire Mezoughem, FAS; Georgi Gabrielyan, FPAC.

**Dairy:** Shayle Shagam, ICEC Chair, WAOB, <a href="mailto:shagam@usda.gov">shayle.shagam@usda.gov</a>
Carolyn Liebrand, AMS; Angel Teran, ERS; Jeffery Dwyer, FAS; Georgi Gabrielyan, FPAC.

In 2023 the WASDE report will be released on Jan. 12, Feb. 8, Mar.8 Apr. 11, May 12, Jun. 9, Jul. 12, Aug. 11, Sep.12, Oct. 12, Nov.9, and Dec.8

### NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

### **STATISTICS DIVISION**

What's New and What's Changing?

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

### **Crops**

NASS published the first-ever *National Hemp Report* in February 2022. This landmark report provides needed data about the hemp industry to assist producers, regulatory agencies, state governments, processors, and other key industry entities. The Domestic Hemp Production Program, established in the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (2018 Farm Bill), allows for the cultivation of hemp under certain conditions. The report includes information on the acreage, yield, production, price, and value of hemp in the United States. Plans are underway for the next report, which will be published April 19, 2023.

Beginning in March 2022, NASS began livestreaming all major crop related briefings for the Secretary of Agriculture. This includes each monthly *Crop Production* report, the quarterly *Grain Stocks* reports, March *Prospective Plantings*, June *Acreage*, and the *Small Grains Annual Summary* in September. *Crop Production* briefings also include presentations of data from the World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates report released by the Office of the Chief Economist's World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB). These live events begin five minutes after NASS reports are released to the public and can be found on NASS's YouTube Channel along with recordings of past streams.

NASS made several enhancements to the annual Floriculture program, including expanding to a 50-State program and adding 25 new crops. Additionally, NASS published sales as retail, wholesale, and total, rather than the previous practice of converting non-wholesale prices to a wholesale equivalent. This change provided estimates more directly related to the information provided by producers. These changes resulted from a thorough review following the 2019 Census of Horticultural Specialties. The Floriculture data were published on May 25, 2022.

In July 2022, NASS published the first Methodology and Quality Measures report for Floriculture since 2016. This report contains details concerning the survey methodology as well as quality metrics that describe the performance data for all surveys contributing to the published estimates. Plans are to publish this report annually following the *Floriculture* report.

Beginning in 2022, the final U.S. marketing year average prices for dry edible beans are published in the September *Agricultural Prices* report, two months earlier than was previously done.

Beginning with the 2022 crop season, NASS will resume the December forecast of pecan production as well as the preliminary acreage, yield, production, and price estimates published in January for pecans. These estimates are funded through an external funding agreement which was resumed by the funding entity after a year where funding was not provided.

NASS is moving the *Grain Crushings and Co-Products Production Annual Summary* report from March to September beginning in 2023. This report incorporates updated previous year data from NASS surveys as well as data obtained from the Energy Information Administration (EIA). EIA has begun publishing annual revisions to the previous crop year in August, therefore the new NASS release timeframe will allow these critical data to be included in the revision process.

NASS is permanently moving the in-season updating of acreage estimates for corn, sorghum, soybeans, and sugarbeets to the September *Crop Production* report. The necessary data, including survey data, satellite-based data, and the latest information from USDA's Farm Service Agency and Risk Management Agency, are sufficiently complete to support the review one month earlier than was previously done.

### **Livestock**

On January 12, 2022, NASS *Broiler Hatchery* report discontinued the percent of the previous year values in the publication. Data from Quick Stats may be used to derive the percentages.

Beginning on February 22, 2022, the *Poultry Slaughter* publication, for the "Condemned Post-Mortem by Cause and Type" tables on pages 6 and 9 will include a new category "Unknown". This change aligns the NASS report with the Food Safety and Inspection Service's (FSIS) poultry systems. Previous month's data is published in the same format for comparability purposes. The "Total" category will no longer be published. Data may be added to derive the cause totals.

On March 30, 2022, NASS livestreamed the Secretary of Agriculture's data report briefing for the first time on the *Hogs and Pigs* report at 3:05 pm. All future *Hogs and Pigs* reports and *Cattle* reports will be livestreamed.

On October 28, 2022, NASS reinstated the *Cost of Pollination* survey and data will be released on January 11, 2023.

### **Environmental, Economics and Demographics**

On April 28, 2022, *Local Food Marketing Practices* was released. This was the second release in the data series that was last conducted in 2015. This study provides data on the marketing of locally and regionally produced agricultural food products, as directed under the 2018 Farm Bill. The briefing is available on NASS's YouTube channel.

The Cash Rents county level data was released on August 26, 2022. NASS was directed through the "Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008" and amended by the "Agricultural Act of 2014" to collect cash rents data for use by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) in program administration. This is the second year that Bayesian small area models will be used for county-level rented acre totals and rental rates.

On October 28, 2022, the *Conservation Practices Adoption Motivation Survey* (CPAM) highlights were released. CPAM is a two-year cooperative effort with NRCS to measure farmers' and ranchers' conservation practices adoption behaviors and adoption reasons on cropland, grazing land, forest land and concentrated livestock feeding operations. The focus of the 2022 survey was crops and livestock conservation practices, while the 2024 survey will focus on grazing and forest land on farms.

On November 23, 2022, the *Farm Labor* data will be released. This will be the second year that coefficients of variation associated with model-based estimates will be published.

On December 15, 2022, the *Organics* data will be released. The 2021 Organic Survey will be conducted under the authority of the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997. The primary purpose of the Organic Survey is to provide acreage, inventory, production, value of sales and sales outlets and production practices on certified organic farms. The Organics release will provide comprehensive data at the State and National level for organic crops, livestock, and marketing and production practices. The last release was on October 22, 2020. The briefing will stream on NASS's YouTube channel at 12:05 p.m. ET.

### **Census of Agriculture Program**

In June, NASS conducted the Agricultural Coverage Evaluation Survey (ACES). ACES is a separate and vital pre-screener to the census of agriculture and is used to update and improve the census mail list (CML). Extensive efforts are directed toward developing a CML to include all farms in the U.S. However, some farms are not on the list. NASS constructs a Not on the Mail List (NML) to estimate under-coverage associated with the census of agriculture. NASS also uses the ACES screener to identify minority and socially disadvantaged farmers, to ensure they will be properly represented in the 2022 Census of Agriculture.

In September, NASS finalized the Census Mail List (CML) in preparation for the 2022 Census of Agriculture. The final ag screener, the National Agricultural Classification Survey, was collected and processed for over 1,100,000 potential operations. This successful effort resulted in the addition of over 200,000 potential farms to the census mail list. Equally important, these efforts eliminated over 300,000 respondents reporting no agricultural activity. The improved quality of the CML will result in more efficient data collection for the 2022 Census of Agriculture.

In November, NASS will begin data collection for the 2022 Census of Agriculture. Initially, nearly 3 million farms and ranches will be invited to report online as NASS continues to leverage its online reporting instrument. The online instrument capitalizes on responsive web-design technology to allow respondents to provide their information using mobile devices, such as tablets and smart phones. The online tool also streamlines reporting which will provide the respondent the added benefit of a more customized instrument based on the types of crops and livestock their operation produces. And for the first time, NASS intends to provide online respondents with access to select data that they have previously reported in a recent NASS survey. Following the initial invitation to respond online, NASS will begin mailing paper questionnaires to producers in December.

### **Modernization**

USDA NASS is committed to high standards of customer service and making it easy for farmers, ranchers, and data users to interact with us. NASS is modernizing their online systems to improve the customer experience around reporting data and accessing NASS official federal agricultural data and reports. We are making accurate data available on schedule in ways that customers like yourself have told us they want.

NASS has continued its ongoing efforts to modernize its customer interfaces, making responding to surveys and accessing NASS data and reports *faster*, *friendlier*, *and easier*. This modernization effort also allows NASS to work more efficiently. Modernization will be focused in two main areas, Data Collection and Data Dissemination.

**Data Collection** - NASS recently released the new Respondent Portal and all new data collections now flow through this modern entry point. Immediate benefits of the portal are

- Streamlined authentication process provides a convenient, central point to respond to all NASS surveys.
- Creating and using a user account allows respondents to see past survey responses.

Incremental development and improvements over the next few years will further meet customer expectations, such as

- Improve performance and speed of the portal and offer additional options for reporting data to NASS including an upload feature.
- Providing a customized digital experience designed around the user's needs and behaviors. Farmers and ranchers will be able to build and save custom homepages to compare their data with other (national, state, county) data.
- Integration with USDA's <u>Farmers.gov</u> website, allowing farmers, ranchers, and agribusinesses to expand their access to multiple USDA agencies' information to make decisions for their operation that are fact based and data driven.

**Data Dissemination** - In 2022, the new Data Dissemination System is planning for a roll-out. A new Dairy release landing page is planned to replace the current paper-based releases. A new secure, cloud-based dissemination system is being developed and the first release will be Milk Production in early 2023. Later in 2023, these items are scheduled for roll-out: Economics and Field Crops, more livestock commodities, and aquaculture. In 2024, horticulture, floriculture, demographics, poultry, and fruits, nuts and vegetables are planned for production. The data will be formatted for efficient query capabilities and presented in modern, dynamic pages.

NASS is committed to providing timely, accurate, and useful agricultural data that help all data users in their work.

### **NASS Links**

Visit the NASS website (<u>www.nass.usda.gov</u>) and follow us on Twitter @usda\_nass to stay up to date.

### **ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE**



**United States Department of Agriculture** 

**ERS' mission** is to anticipate trends and emerging issues in agriculture, food, the environment, and rural America and to conduct high-quality, objective economic research to inform and enhance public and private decision making. ERS also provides a wide range of data products covering different commodity markets and the agricultural economy.



Cover photo image from Getty Images.

Use of commercial and trade names does not imply approval or constitute endorsement by USDA.

To ensure the quality of its research reports and satisfy governmentwide standards, ERS requires that all research reports with substantively new material be reviewed by qualified technical research peers. This technical peer review process, coordinated by ERS' Peer Review Coordinating Council, allows experts who possess the technical background, perspective, and expertise to provide an objective and meaningful assessment of the output's substantive content and clarity of communication during the publication's review.

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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

# High-Quality, Objective Economic Research

ERS research programs provide timely, independent, and objective information about the U.S. agricultural economy, its resources, and its links to the general economy and food markets. Our research integrates market information and economic theory to inform decision makers in the Government, the U.S. Congress, agribusinesses, farm and industry groups, the media, and the general public.

Our research covers a range of economic and policy topics, including:

### Commodity Markets & Outlook

Timely, in-depth analyses and information important to understanding and anticipating developments in agricultural commodity markets. The Outlook program covers the major field crops (feedgrains, oilseeds, wheat, rice, cotton, and sugar), livestock and products, specialty crops (fruits, nuts, vegetables, and pulses), and agricultural trade.

### Farm & Rural Economy

Farm sector performance and farm households' well-being; farm size and concentration; investments in rural communities and drivers of rural economic performance; and demographic change and its impact on rural communities.

### Global Markets & Trade

Major markets and competitors; economic impacts of existing and potential exports and imports, trade barriers, and existing/potential trade agreements.

### Resources & Environment

Economic impacts of conservation programs, efficacy of policies designed to protect the environment, and the use of technology to enhance agricultural

### Food & Nutrition

Economic research and analysis on policy-relevant issues related to the food sector (food safety, food prices, and markets); consumer behavior related to food choices (food consumption, diet quality, and nutrition); and food and nutrition assistance programs (SNAP, WIC, National School Lunch Program).

U.S. Department of Agriculture | Economic Research Service | www.ers.usda.gov

# Timely Data on the Agricultural Economy and Commodity Markets

ERS creates more than 50 data products covering the agricultural economy, commodities and food markets. Collectively, ERS data products were accessed **3.8 million times** in fiscal year 2022.

Our work on data products includes transforming raw survey data to make the information accessible to users, as well as developing new datasets based on economic models or through the compilation of data from diverse sources.

ERS releases four types of data products:

- Survey Data such as the Agricultural Resource Management Survey, which is a primary source of information on the financial conditions, production practices, and resource use of U.S. farm businesses.
- Model-Based Results, including estimates from our economic models, such as the Food Dollar series, which measures annual expenditures by U.S. consumers on domestically produced food; and the Agricultural Trade Multipliers, which estimate the amount of economic activity and jobs generated by agricultural exports.
- Economic Indicators and Summary Statistics compiled from an array of official sources. Examples include Farm Income estimates, Cost of Production estimates, and detailed data on commodity supply/use and U.S. agricultural trade.
- Charts and Visualizations, including Charts of Note released daily, Tableau visualizations, and an extensive inventory of chart galleries that display key trends and relationships across market variables.

# Modernization of Data Delivery

To expand the reach of our data products, ERS is continuously innovating to develop data dissemination tools and channels that meet the changing needs and expectations of our users. Ongoing efforts include:

- Developing Structured and Automated Databases to facilitate open and centralized access to a broad range of data.
- Expanding Use of Application Programming Interfaces to allow users and developers to design new ways to access and present data.
- Developing a New Data Dissemination Web Platform that will serve as a one-stop shop for our most used data, including commodity market data.
- Leveraging Tableau and Other Visualization Software to present data in a modern, user-friendly format.

# Recent Publications by the **Economic Research Service**

ERS releases periodic Outlook reports covering developments in commodity markets, including seven monthly releases on field crops and livestock/dairy/poultry, two biannual reports covering specialty crops, and quarterly U.S. Agricultural Trade Outlook reports.

Other ERS outlooks, economic research reports and economic informational bulletins include:



### The Economic Impacts of Retaliatory Tariffs on U.S. Agriculture

In 2018, the U.S. imposed Section 232 tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from major trading partners and separately Section 301 tariffs on a broad range of imports from China. In response, six trading partners responded with retaliatory tariffs on a range of U.S. agricultural exports. This report examines the impact of retaliatory tariffs by State and commodity and estimates the direct export losses associated with the trade conflict.



### Farm Labor, Human Capital, & Agricultural Productivity in the United States

This report discusses the contribution of farm labor in U.S. agricultural growth and assesses the changing composition of the U.S. farm labor force with special attention to the changes in educational attainment among farm operators and other workers.



### Rural America at a Glance: 2021 Edition

The 2021 edition of Rural America at a Glance focuses on aspects affecting the resiliency and recovery of rural communities in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, including population and employment change, intensity of infection and vaccination rates, and internet availability and adoption.



### Cover Practice Definitions and Incentives in the Conservation Reserve Program

This study examines data on the costs of cover practices to demonstrate how USDA Conservation Reserve Program's (CRP) use of ranking points in the Environmental Benefits Index (EBI) and cost-share payments combine to incentivize some participants to adopt higher public-benefit practices. This analysis also provides predictions for how policy alternatives might impact the program.



### Understanding the Components of U.S. Food Expenditures During Recessionary & Non-Recessionary Periods

While real per capita total food expenditures steadily increased through the decades, the share of expenditures at food-at-home establishments decreased from 1997 until 2019 and then increased abruptly in 2020. This study analyzes components of U.S. food-at-home and food-away-from-home expenditures from 1997 to 2020, with a focus on the Great Recession and the COVID-19 Recession.



### The H-2A Temporary Agricultural Worker Program in 2020

The H-2A Agricultural Guest Worker program allows U.S. agricultural employers who anticipate labor shortages to hire foreign workers on a temporary or seasonal basis. This report analyzes—by State, industry, and type of employer—the job offers of U.S. agricultural employers who sought U.S. Department of Labor certification in fiscal year 2020.



### Health Care Access Among Self-Employed Workers Nonmetropolitan Counties

Access to health care involves affordability, which is often tied to health insurance coverage, as well as availability of health care facilities and providers. Self-employed workers are less likely to have access to employer-sponsored health insurance plans, and rural areas may have fewer options for local health care. Through the lens of availability and affordability, this report studies health care access for self-employed individuals, their families, and their households in nonmetropolitan counties, using data collected between 2014 to 2020.

# Examples of Data Products by the **Economic Research Service**

### Primary-Survey Data

> ARMS Farm Financial and Crop Production Practices, which are developed jointly with USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)

### Model Results Estimates

- > Food Dollar
- > Agricultural Trade Multipliers
- > International Baseline Data
- > Season-Average Price Forecasts

### **Summary Statistics**

- > Foreign Agricultural Trade of the U.S.
- > U.S. Bioenergy Statistics
- > Feed Grains Database
- > Livestock & Meat Domestic Data

### Charts and Visualizations

- Charts of Note
- > Cross-Commodity Visualization

### FARM SERVICE AGENCY

The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) supports farms and farming communities with programs including disaster relief, conservation programs, commodity price guarantee programs, and loan programs. Since the spring data meeting FSA has been delivering a host of core Farm Bill programs and continued support of pandemic related programs.

Recent program updates include:

### Immediate Help for Over 13,000 Distressed USDA Farm Loan Borrowers

Distressed borrowers with qualifying USDA farm loans have already received nearly \$800 million in assistance, as part of the \$3.1 billion in assistance for distressed farm loan borrowers provided through Section 22006 of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The IRA directed USDA to expedite assistance to distressed borrowers of direct or guaranteed loans administered by USDA's FSA whose operations face financial risk.

October's announcement kicks off a process to assist distressed farm loan borrowers using several complementary approaches, with the goal of keeping them farming, removing obstacles that currently prevent many of these borrowers from returning to farming, and improving the way that USDA approaches borrowing and servicing. Through this assistance, USDA is focused on generating long-term stability and success for distressed borrowers.

### **Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage Programs**

Agricultural producers can now change election and enroll in Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs for the 2023 crop year, two key safety net programs offered by the USDA. Signup began October 17th, and producers have until March 15, 2023, to enroll in these two programs. Additionally, FSA has started issuing payments totaling more than \$255 million to producers with 2021 crops that have triggered payments through ARC or PLC.

In 2021, producers signed nearly 1.8 million ARC or PLC contracts, and 251 million out of 273 million base acres were enrolled in the programs. For the 2022 crop year, signed contracts surpassed 1.8 million to be paid in the fall of 2023 if a payment triggers.

Since ARC and PLC were first authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill and reauthorized by the 2018 Farm Bill, these safety-net programs have paid out more than \$34.9 billion to producers of covered commodities.

### Dairy Margin Coverage

Dairy producers can now enroll for 2023 coverage through the Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) Program, an important safety net program from the USDA that helps producers manage changes in milk and feed prices. Last year, USDA's FSA took steps to improve coverage, especially for small- and mid-sized dairies, including offering a new Supplemental DMC program and updating its feed cost formula to better address retroactive, current, and future feed costs. These changes continue to support producers through this year's signup.

### **Emergency Relief Payments**

The Farm Service Agency has processed more than 280,580 applications for the new Emergency Relief Program (ERP). USDA has made approximately \$7.09 billion in payments, to date, to

commodity and specialty crop producers to help offset eligible losses from qualifying 2020 and 2021 natural disasters. By breaking-down agency barriers, using existing data across USDA and pre-filled applications, FSA in cooperation with the Risk Management Agency (RMA) has been able to expediently provide economic relief and save producers and staff over a million hours of time.

The efforts to streamline, improve responsiveness, and work across traditional agency-borders goes beyond the recent ERP process. FSA mailed pre-filled ERP applications to commodity producers covered by federal crop insurance in late May, and has since paid \$6 billion to producers with eligible losses. Pre-filled ERP applications were mailed to producers with Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage. FSA has issued \$35.9 million in payments to producers with eligible losses. NAP-related ERP payments were not factored and are being made in full from the start, to speed and target assistance to small and underserved producers that commonly rely on NAP coverage. Also, earlier this year, staff processed more than 100,000 payments through the Emergency Livestock Relief Program (ELRP) and paid eligible producers more than \$601.3 million in 2021 for grazing losses within days of program announcement.

A new public-facing dashboard on the ERP webpage has information on ERP payments that can be sorted by crop type – specialty or non-specialty, specific commodities and state. FSA updates the dashboard on Monday of each week.

### **Grassland Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Signup**

More than 3.1 million acres from agricultural producers and private landowners have been enrolled through this year's CRP Grassland Signup, the highest in history. This program allows producers and landowners to continue grazing and haying practices while protecting grasslands and promoting plant and animal biodiversity and conservation, and it's part of the Biden-Harris administration's broader effort to address climate change and conserve natural resources.

Nationwide, this year's Grassland CRP signup surpassed last year's 2.5 million acres by 22%. So far this year, producers have enrolled 2 million acres through General Signup and more than 464,000 acres have been submitted through Continuous CRP Signup. This means about 5.6 million acres are entering CRP in 2023, surpassing the 3.9 million acres expiring this year.

### **On-Farm Food Safety Expenses for Specialty Crop**

On-Farm Food Safety Expenses for Specialty Crop Program plans to provide up to \$200 million in assistance for specialty crop producers who incur eligible on-farm food safety program expenses to obtain or renew a food safety certification in calendar years 2022 or 2023. USDA's new Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops (FSCSC) program will help to offset costs for specialty crop producers to comply with regulatory requirements and market-driven food safety certification requirements. These requirements are part of USDA's broader effort to transform the food system to create a more level playing field for small and medium producers and a more balanced, equitable economy for everyone working in food and agriculture.

Specialty crop operations began applying for assistance for eligible expenses related to a 2022 food safety certificate, issued on or after June 21, 2022. Signups began June 27, 2022. USDA is delivering FSCSC to provide critical assistance for specialty crop operations, with an emphasis on equity in program delivery while building on lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic and supply chain disruptions. Secretary Vilsack made the announcement from Hollis, N.H., where he

toured a local family-owned farm and highlighted USDA's efforts to help reduce costs for farme and support local economies by providing significant funding to cut regulatory costs and increas market opportunities for farmers across the nation.	rs se
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### AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE



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

### USDA DATA USERS FALL MEETING 2022

The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) administers programs that create domestic and international marketing opportunities for U.S. producers of food, fiber, and specialty crops. AMS also provides the agriculture industry with valuable services to ensure the quality and availability of wholesome food for consumers across the country.

Nearly 4,000 AMS professionals work every day to support the country's diverse agricultural operations, which range from individual farmers to international businesses and employ 1 in 12 people. AMS services and its millions of dollars in annual grant investments also create opportunities by supporting economic development in small towns and rural communities that stand as the backbone of American values.

Much of the agency's support for agriculture is provided through commodity-specific efforts, such as its Dairy; Specialty Crops; Livestock and Poultry; and Cotton and Tobacco Programs. AMS also oversees the National Organic Program; Science and Technology Program; and the Transportation and Marketing Program. AMS also provides regulatory oversight for over 20 research and promotion programs and enforces other Federal regulations such as the Packers and Stockyards Act, the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (PACA) and the Seed Act.

### **CURRENT ISSUES OF INTEREST**

### My Market News

The Market Analysis & Reporting Services (MARS) and its public facing website, *My Market News* and related API continue to expand its offerings to data users in 2022.

Market News continues to implement Market Analysis and Reporting Services' (MARS) advanced technical capabilities and additional market types. In FY 2022, MARS and its public facing website, My Market News, continued to add more market types and reports to those available to the public. Through My Market News, users can now access data for over 697 unique market reports disseminated from over 45 Market News offices across the country. Currently, users can access dairy, cotton quality, truck rates, trends, poultry, egg inventory, auction livestock, video auctions, direct hay, auction hay, direct livestock, tobacco, rice, feedstuffs and grain market information through My Market News. Market information for retail, national feeder cattle summary, bioenergy, international imports, and exports, and the Specialty

Crops market types of terminals, shipping point, and movement will transition to My Market News by the end of 2022.

Additionally, through the MARS and LMR Application Programming Interfaces (API), customers can now access data from over 836 unique market reports. The APIs allows users to automatically download data in custom formats. After a one-time setup, the API will continue to deliver the requested information to the user in the established format without further action. Other updates that have been implemented on the site over the past year include the functionality that allows users to identify corrected data sets both by report and through the *My Market News* API and Livestock Mandatory Reporting (LMR) API.

In February 2022, AMS introduced the USDA Market News Mobile Application v1.0 (app) with free iOS and Android versions available to download through the Apple and Google Play stores. The App was updated in June to v.2.0 to expand access across all commodity groups. The app gives users instant access to nearly 1,500 reports covering conventional and organic livestock, poultry, grain, dairy, cotton, and specialty crop market reports. The app lets users search for current and historical reports by location, State, or commodity. Users can also add reports to their favorites for easier access, share reports via text or email, subscribe to reports, and share the aggregated data behind reports via email. The app provides real-time notifications when a new report is published without any delays. This new tool is part of a multi-year initiative to improve the Market News customer experience by providing easier access to data through the latest media technologies.

### **Federal-State Cooperation**

AMS Market News has Federal-State Cooperative Agreements with 30 states for commodity market reporting activities. Beginning in FY 2023, these agreements were converted into the USDA ezFedGrants (eFG) Grants and Agreements System. The eFG system is used for processing Federal financial assistance transactions and provides significant efficiencies to all users managing grant and agreement portfolios. AMS worked closely with its State partners to ensure a successful transition to the new system. 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. State reporters cover livestock auction and grain elevator markets, and other local reporting activities, such as farmers markets, that would otherwise be costly and more difficult to cover using Federal resources alone.

### **Organic Market Reporting**

The Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018 (Act) re-authorized \$5 million to USDA for the collection and reporting of data on the production and marketing of organic agricultural products. As required by the Act, USDA collects and distributes reporting on prices of organic agricultural products; develops and implements surveys on organic production, handling, and distribution; and conducts analysis on the data for publication in reports. Of the \$5 million allocation, \$3.5 million was provided to the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) to support organic production and market data activities.

AMS is currently engaged in a number of key activities to support organic production and market data activities, as required by the Act, under the Organic Data Initiative (ODI). Key among these is the collection and distribution of market information for organic and conventionally produced agricultural products. Each business day, AMS Market News reporters collect price, demand, and movement information and make it available online at no cost to ensure market transparency and assist in the marketing and distribution of agricultural commodities. AMS Market News currently reports over

240 organic commodities, and tracks and reports organic markets at three main levels – shipping point or point of entry (for imports), wholesale, and retail. Reporting of organic commodities at shipping point usually includes tracking the volume of movement, which consists of domestic shipments or crossings from Mexico/imports from other countries. Market News provides some comprehensive reports for the organic sector, such as the daily *National Specialty Crops Organic Summary*. AMS has a webpage showcasing Market News organic reports including a *Weekly Retail Organic Price Comparison Report* that shows the price differences between organic and conventional products to assist stakeholders in analysis of commodity sales and consumers' willingness to pay for organic products.

In FY 2023, AMS continues to expand its outreach and educational efforts to the organic sector to promote the availability and usage of the existing market information and resources, identify new data needs, and build stronger relationships with stakeholders.

### Market Information Organization of the Americas/International Collaboration

AMS Market News serves as the chair of the Market Information Organization of the Americas (MIOA), a cooperation network of institutions from 33 countries that operate like Market News. These institutions track and report major markets within their nations to ensure the availability of reliable information for their agro-industrial complex, relevant ministries, and government agencies. MIOA works to harmonize efforts, identify and share best practices, and support trade and economic development through the availability of critical market data. MIOA supports the concept that timely and unbiased market information helps provide market transparency – a basic public good. MIOA and AMS Market News have partnered to create the *MIOA Toolbox*, a five-part series of modules available in English, Spanish, and Portuguese. This series has provided hundreds of leading market information specialists, data analysts, and various strategic partners from the 33 member countries with key information on the strategies, new tools and good practices to improve market reporting across the Americas. The five modules are titled:

- Components of a Successful MIS
- Value of and Strategies for Accurate Market Information
- Market Reporter: Profile and Good Practices for Success
- Good Practices for MIS in Preparation for Emergencies
- Outreach, Education and Promotion for MIS

AMS Market News, along with the other data agencies of USDA, is partnering with the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) to deliver capacity building programs in the Dominican Republic and the State of Maharashtra, India. AMS is drawing upon the *MIOA Toolbox* for these training programs for market information specialists. Information specialists from other countries have sat in on these advanced training programs, greatly increasing the reach and impact of these programs. Additional projects for improving Market Information Systems with guidance from AMS Market News are also underway in Ecuador, Peru, and Paraguay.

### Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News Reporting

Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News (LPGMN) continues to focus much of its efforts on improving our customers' experience by providing greater access to LPGMN data through more modern tools, including transitioning market data and reports to *My Market News*. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (Act), passed in March 2022, extended LMR authorization through September 30, 2022 and the Continuing Appropriations and Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2023 extended LMR reauthorization through December 16, 2022. The March Appropriations Act provided funding to the

Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News Division to develop and maintain a Cattle Contracts Library (CCL) pilot program similar to the Swine Contract Library maintained by the Packers and Stockyards Division. Development of the CCL is underway and expected to be released publicly no later than September 30, 2023.

Data users are encouraged to access the *My Market News* API, the LMR API, and the legacy LMR Web Service to consume LPGMN data more effectively, efficiently, and on demand. Data users can also access LMR report data through the XML Format link at the bottom of each PDF report, and through the LMR API. The LMR API offers access to all LMR, Dairy Mandatory, and Federal Milk Marking Order reports and data.

### **Cotton Market News Reporting**

During the 2022-2023 cotton crop year, Cotton Market News is monitoring the quality of the crop and adding special reports to the to the Weekly Cotton Market Review as quality issues are identified. Cotton Quality Data files are available in My Market News. The weekly cotton quality data file contains classification information for all bales classed in a given week. The file contains data for Upland and Pima cotton. The identification includes the Cotton Program's Classing Office number or the two-digit State Code in which the bale was ginned, depending on the file accessed. The data does not contain individual bale identification (gin and bale number). This data can be used to produce statistical reports for various combinations of cotton quality information. Cotton Price Excel and CSV files are available in My Market News. Historical files continue to be loaded and files will be available going back to at least the 2014-2015 marketing year. Additional Cotton Price datasets are available by request. E-mail <a href="CottonMN@usda.gov">CottonMN@usda.gov</a> or <a href="Barbara.Meredith@usda.gov">Barbara.Meredith@usda.gov</a> if you are interested in Cotton Price datasets.

### **Dairy Market News Reporting**

Dairy Market News (DMN) continues to enhance My Market News, improving access to information and data for the dairy industry. Class II, Class III, and Class IV weekly cream multiples and prices were added to the domestic East and West Fluid weekly regional reports. Enhancements to APIs at the My Market News landing pages are available, with updates made regularly to meet customer needs. API documentation is displayed on the homepage of each Dairy Market News report in the My Market News system. Dairy Market News reports will be transitioning to PDF format, from txt format, in the near future.

Reports of mandatory dairy product survey prices and Federal order statistics are published by the Dairy Market Information Branch (MIB) on the My Market News website, the AMS website, and Cornell's USDA Economics, Statistics and Market Information System (ESMIS). The underlying data for these reports are available in Datamart and the associated API, both part of the Livestock Mandatory Reporting system. Sample API workbooks are also available on the My Market News website.

### **Specialty Crops Market News Reporting**

Specialty Crops Market News (SCMN) added new packages, origins, and varieties to its market reports as they emerged in the marketplace, or in response to industry requests to report new products or enhance existing products. The *National Retail Report – Specialty Crops* has grown to be one of the mostly closed tracked reports published by Market News. SCMN tracks approximately 410 supermarket chains, with over 30,300 individual outlets. Overall, SCMN tracks over 785 unique specialty crop commodities at three market levels (retail, wholesale, and shipping point) plus the movement, which consists of domestic shipments, crossings from Mexico, and import volumes. To better meet specialized information needs,

the U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement Seasonal Perishable Products Weekly Update, was created to highlight the seasonal market situation on several of the most widely imported specialty crops commodities, with additional commentary and market price and volume data visualizations.

SCMN gained access to the Automated Commercial Environment/International Trade Data System (ACE), implemented through the joint efforts of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Homeland Security, and the Customs and Border Patrol (CBP). SCMN transitioned to using the ACE system as the primary source of import data, starting with the northern border on January 2, 2020. On January 3, 2021, SCMN continued the transition to ACE for all other points and ports of entry, excluding Mexico Crossings through Nogales, Arizona. The ACE data using the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) codes is timelier, allowing SCMN to have daily reports for hundreds of commodities, and it reflects the more actual volumes, as it covers all ports and points of entry.

SCMN worked closely with industry leaders to request new HTS codes from the International Trade Commission (ITC) to increase the specificity of the ACE data and provide transparency for commodities that have significant economic value in the marketplace. Since July 2021, SCMN is responsible for the creation of 101 new HTS codes, 26 of which are organic. Currently, 31 commodities are being held in abeyance for the October 2022 ITC 484 (f) Committee meeting and more than a dozen additional commodities are being researched for the March 2023 submission.

### Agricultural Transportation Open Data Visualization Platform – AgTransport

The <u>AgTransport</u> platform offers farmers, commodity analysts, elevator operators, shippers, and other stakeholders access to USDA data that can help them make timely market decisions about moving agricultural products across the country and around the world. This free, open data platform contains numerous datasets and dashboards about the four modes—rail, truck, barge, and ocean vessel—used to transport agricultural products.

AgTransport facilitates easy analytics. Users can gain personalized insight through interactive charts, and they can generate and save their own unique visualizations and data views that will be updated automatically over time. If they wish, users also can share their visualizations with others in the tool's open data community. AgTransport makes data available in many different, open formats and automatically generates and maintains an Application Programming Interface (API) for each dataset.

There have been many new features added to the platform with the latest expansion in July. One feature helps users visualize data about international transport costs to better understand international trade competitiveness. New interactive datasets have been added related to highway infrastructure from the report, *The Importance of Highways to U.S. Agriculture*, released in December 2020. There is also an online version of the 2021 *Compendium of Agricultural Transportation Research*, which offers insight on all major transport modes by highlighting the main findings and methods from recent research between 2015 and 2021.

Other features on the platform include:

- Grain Transportation Cost Indicators and Global Competitiveness Dashboard with data on Brazil, Mexico, and Japan
- Interactive Rail Dashboard with expanded Data, Maps, and Analysis, featuring 14 years of Surface Transportation Board Public Waybill data in an easy-to-use, accessible format
- Agricultural Rail Service Metrics Dashboard

- Barge Dashboard with additional rivers and locks added to the waterway Lock Performance Management Data
- Ocean Port Profiles Dashboard
- Bulk and Container Ocean Fleet Data
- Grain Trucking Indicators
- Refrigerated Truck Dashboard with Rates, Volumes, and Availability
- Dashboard for selected Grain Price and Basis Data
- Digitized Modal Share Analysis for Transportation of U.S. Grains
- Biofuels Dashboard, including Ethanol, Biodiesel, and DDGs

### 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.

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### **Issues of Interest to Data Users**

### 1. Accessing Data from the U.S. Census Bureau

• USA Trade Online

USA Trade Online is a dynamic data tool that gives users access to current and cumulative U.S. export and import data. With multiple data sets and capabilities, USA Trade Online can assist different types of customers from a wide range of industries and fields. This tool offers data by Harmonized System, North America Industry Classification System (NAICS), and the Department of Agriculture code. This powerful software allows users to create customized reports and colorful charts detailing international trade data at different levels.

https://usatrade.census.gov/

### • Monthly Trade Data in the Census Data API

The U.S. Census Bureau has detailed monthly international trade data in its <u>Application Programming Interface</u> (API). The Census Data API has international trade data from 2013 to present. The international trade statistics provide monthly and cumulative year-to-date export and import totals with multiple layers of detail. The statistics also include two datasets with U.S. exports and imports by Department of Agriculture code.

The Application Programming Interface provides researchers and developers free access to its demographic and economic data.

https://census.gov/data/developers/data-sets/international-trade.html

### • Global Market Finder (GMF)

The Global Market Finder is an interactive data visualization tool that paints a picture of the export market for a particular commodity. The user just needs to select the Schedule B code they are interested in and the tool will display all the countries that the U.S. exports to, shows value by method of transportation, and unit price. Users can drill down to specific countries and download the data that they have pulled.

https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/interactive/export-markets.html

### • 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. The CBB includes:

- Demographic, socioeconomic, and housing data from the American Community Survey
- Business data from the County Business Patterns, Nonemployer Statistics, Economic Census, and Survey of Business Owners
- Trade data on total imports and exports, broken out by mode of transportation (Air & Vessel), for selected three- and four-digit agriculture, mining, and manufacturing NAICS codes at the national and state level.
- Building Permits data at the county and place level

In addition, it provides Agriculture data from the Census of Agriculture (USDA). <a href="https://www.census.gov/data/data-tools/cbb.html">https://www.census.gov/data/data-tools/cbb.html</a>

### 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 and the Economic Indicator Database.

### • 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

### • 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. <a href="mailto:census.gov/econ/currentdata">census.gov/econ/currentdata</a>

• For questions regarding Economic Indicators, please contact:

Ms. Stephanie Studds, Assistant Director of Economic Programs

U.S. Census Bureau

Washington, DC 20233-6010

Phone: (301) 763-2633

Email: <u>Stephanie.Lee.Studds@census.gov</u>

### 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 <u>census.gov/trade</u>

Webinars are archived at: https://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/outreach/index.html

• 15 CFR PART 30 — Foreign Trade Regulations

For information on the FTR and filing requirements, please email <a href="mailto:emd.askregs@census.gov">emd.askregs@census.gov</a> 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 Mr. Gregory Kondilas (<a href="mailto:gregory.kondilas@census.gov">gregory.kondilas@census.gov</a>), Chief of our International Trade Indicator Micro Analysis Branch.

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

The Census Bureau produces economic data across the entire economy on a monthly, quarterly, yearly, and five-year basis, including industries related to agriculture. These industries can include:

- NAICS 113 Forestry and Logging
- o NAICS 114 Fishing, Hunting and Trapping
- o NAICS 115 Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry
- NAICS 311 Food Manufacturing
- o NAICS 4244 Grocery and Related Product Merchant Wholesalers
- o NAICS 4245 Farm Product Raw Material Merchant Wholesalers
- NAICS 445 Food and Beverage Stores

### • COVID-19 Data Hub

The U.S. Census Bureau's COVID-19 Hub contains demographic and economic data designed to help guide decision-making related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The interactive platform includes key demographic data from the American Community Survey and key data on businesses with one or more paid employees from the County Business Patterns program. In addition, the COVID-19 Data Hub brings together data from multiple Federal agencies including the USDA's Emergency Food Assistance Program and private sector organizations. The hub was built in collaboration with ESRI and leverages many features of the ArcGIS platform and solution templates. https://covid19.census.gov/

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