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Question & Answer Summary

The following is a summary of questions and answers from the Data Users’ Meeting. Material is organized based on the order they were answered in both the Open Forum and breakout sessions. Any unanswered questions were reviewed, and the appropriate agency has provided a written response. Slides are appended at the end.

Note: Questions and answers were lightly edited for readability.
Open Forum: Question and Answer Summary

**Question:** Karen Braun

Are there any plans to revisit or recalibrate the calculation of U.S. corn trend yield ahead of the 2024/25 season? National corn yield has landed below USDA's initial trend for five consecutive years now.

**Answer:** Mark Jekanowski

No. No recalibration efforts under way. Keep in mind, these trend yields are always based on expectations of normal weather, and weather conditions change over the course of the year.

**Answer:** Mike Jewison

We've had lengthy discussions about this topic in particular. I would invite you to look at some of the transcripts, in particular the last few sessions, in terms of my public comments. And my views on the trend line yield. And obviously it's always all available data. And we take it year in, year out and evaluate all of it.

**Question:** Juan Quintero

In terms of production for other countries, such as Canada, in one moment do production numbers are aligned between WASDE and Stat Can Reports?

**Answer:** Mark Jekanowski

First of all, it is complicated. For every country in every situation, the World Board is always doing its own analyses. We're not under any strict requirements to adopt forecast or estimates from foreign entities. Oftentimes they do align, but sometimes they won't if our own forecasts or analytical efforts suggest otherwise.

**Answer:** Joanna Hitchner

As for Canada and Canola specifically, throughout the season, we take into account Canada’s forecast for the crop and eventually take the final crop estimate after the season is complete. During the season we have our own yield analysis by province, as well as we take into account crop under-estimation by in-country estimates that have occurred over the past several seasons.

**Question:** Mark Feight

We are looking for the NASS survey field crops acreage data by state prior to 2018. The file qs.crops_20230919.txt has all the data 2018 and beyond. Data before 2018 only includes the March and Final data. We are updating our database with the monthly PSD dataset at: PSD Online (usda.gov). Is the pre-2018 data available?
**Answer: Lance Honig**

This question has to do with the in-season estimates that we put out. Prior to 2018, we don't have that populated yet. That's one of those projects that's on the back burner. As we get to it, we'll try to get more years out there. But it's a very manual process for it, that's why it's not out there by state just yet. Hopefully we'll get to that in the not-too-distant future but currently it is not available out there.

**Question: Unknown**

EIA Form EIA-819 "Monthly Report of Biofuels, Fuels from Non-Biogenic Wastes, Fuel Oxygenates, Isooctane, and Isooctene". In the ‘US Feedstocks consumed for production of biofuels’ report:

a. Currently, only SBO is use is reported by biodiesel and RD plants. When will EIA breakdown canola use by plant type?

b. What ‘other feedstock’ is reported in the ‘Waste oils, fats and greases’ section?

c. What ‘other feedstock’ is reported under ‘Recycled feeds and wastes’ section?

**Answer: Julie Harris**

So, the first question was regarding the canola oil splitting out the feed stocks between the biodiesel producers and the renewable diesel producers. You will remember that we have to check for disclosure issues before we publish that data, and we actually went back and looked, and we are able to split the canola. We also reviewed the corn oil and will be able to split that too. So, in the publication that's going to be released on October 31st with data for August, we will actually go ahead, and those two feed stocks will be published by plant type. That will be August data, then next summer when we do our annual revisions, we'll review the earlier months in 2023 and disclose that data too, if we can. For the other question that was also talking about feed stock, we have various other categories. We always put an “other” category so that we can capture any feed stocks that we may not have enumerated separately, but the industry is evolving so sometimes new things come up that we haven't put on the form. It's not even on the form, what it is. They just type it in to “other”. So, it's basically anything that we haven't separately identified in the table, is what's in “other”.

**Question: Unknown**

Renewable Diesel doesn’t have a specific HS code currently. Trade flows (imports and exports) are increasing and becoming a steady flow to monitor for the industry and for understanding biofuels. Will Census consider adding a HS code for Renewable Diesel?

**Answer: Joe DeCampo**

The process for getting a new HS code or Schedule B code is actually a very formal process. There is a committee -- Census is on it, but also US ITC, and Customs and Border Protection. Somebody would have to submit a specific request, not only laying out why they think there should be a new number, but also where that number should be. So, I guess renewable fuels would be probably in chapter 27. You would have to lay out what the new 10-digit would be
and why you think it should be there. One of the other things is, you can't just create a new number, you also have to define it, and create statistical notes. One hang up I could see is defining the word “renewable”. That would have to be something that ITC and Customs can both agree upon, and to make sure that Customs can tell whether something is renewable or not. So, things are in the works, but there just isn’t a number yet.

**Answer:** Joe Parsons

Has there been any HS code submission?

**Answer:** Julie Harris

We actually had asked for it. I don't want to be too hopeful, but it looks like maybe we're making some progress. But yes, that request has been made.

**Question:** Marvin Miller

You did not mention either the Floriculture Crops Summary not the Census of Horticultural Specialties as another follow-up study of the Census of Agriculture. I just wanted to make sure these are both on your radar.

**Answer:** Tony Dorn

They're definitely on our radar and in our same survey cycle that we've always had. The census of horticulture, the reference period for that will be 2024, the data collection will be in 2025, along with the other census follow-on [surveys] -- the TOTAL survey, the land ownership survey. Those will be the two follow-ons in that year. And of course, the floriculture and crop summary. That will pick up next year, on the same annual cycle that it has all along.

**Answer:** Joe Parsons

Lance, we did a few tweaks to the floriculture survey. I don't think we have it in our current notes, because it happened a little while back, but they were pretty important. Do you want to speak to that?

**Answer:** Lance Honig

We did expand reporting on the annual floriculture here, starting last year. So that was expanded. More specifically, just to provide a little bit more detail on how the Census of Horticulture and annual floriculture pair up in that reference year; we actually use the Census of Hort as the data collection instrument for the annual floriculture report. So, we'll actually see a little bit different release timeframe in 2025, when that data is actually collected referencing 2024. So, you'll see like we did last time, synchronize the publication of the Census of Hort and the annual floriculture publication. So, it will probably come out late in the year as opposed to the springtime.
**Question:** Rob Johansson

Does NASS survey harvest acres separately for sugar production vs seed cane? If not, how might NASS treat harvested acres for sugar production differently from seed cane?

**Answer:** Lance Honig

We do actually ask it separately. So that's how we delineate between the two estimates. As is, we actually collect it separately.

**Answer:** Joe Parsons

Do we publish separately?

**Answer:** Lance Honig

We do.

**Question:** Mark Feight

Upon release of the WASDE at noon, the access to the datasets at: https://apps.fas.usda.gov/psdonline/app/index.html#/app/downloads is delayed 5-20 minutes. Is access to the data via API more timely? Are there plans to improve the access timeliness via the downloads?

**Answer:** Paul Trupo

Access via the API is no more expedient than access through downloading the report. So, you're not losing any competitive advantage there. And we are looking at plans to investigate technology and policy changes that will be required to speed up the release of the report. Our IT folks are looking at this, working on it and hopefully we'll have something to report soon.

**Question:** Ken Lovett

Could a contact list of data-related staff at FSA be posted on the FSA website. Whenever I have questions about their data and data-collection processes, the only way to reach out is through the Communications Office. Having content-related contacts available would be quite helpful.

**Answer:** Tim Gravlin

It's not clear exactly to me if you're talking about the public dashboards that we were showing yesterday for dairy Margin Coverage and Emergency Relief Program, or if you're just talking data in general. But I think that's a great idea. I think that's something that we can do on the dashboard. We're to start putting an icon on there that you can email for specific content related questions to those dashboards and the data that appears on those dashboards. Otherwise, your suggestion on a general contact list for data is something that we can do. So, thank you for bringing that up.
**Question:** Joe Parsons

I know a lot of folks on this call would be very interested in 578 data as it gets posted. Do you have a point of contact for that or plans for that?

**Answer:** Tim Gravlin

For the acreage reporting data. Absolutely. So, I can post where we post that data, and do it in that way. Obviously, we have a specialist on crop acreage reporting. I don’t know if I want to give her email on this call here today.

**Post-meeting follow-up:** Tim Gravlin

[Crop Acreage Data (usda.gov)]
We are working with our IT teams to update the page with better contact information.

**Question:** Sam Bartz

I have a couple of questions about the 2024 Census of Aquaculture and coding. First, is the Census of Aquaculture only done every 5 years and is there increased interest in changing this to annually? Second, considering increased interest in aquaculture data both domestically and internationally in relation to trade, production, and in sciences and regulatory action, I was wondering if unique HS coding for aquaculture products is being researched and considered for easier data analysis. Again, thank you all for your time and presentations.

**Answer:** Travis Averill

On the frequency of the report for the Census of Aquaculture, it's a follow-on process from our Census of Agriculture. That's how the sample is drawn for the Census of Aquaculture, so that's a five-year process. Annually, we do the trout and catfish programs at NASS so that those programs are on an annual basis. The cost and the burden behind doing a Census of Aquaculture would be pretty complex. There is interest expressed from aquaculture folks, but the response burden is a little too much on them, so that's the part there. More domestic and international in relationships to trade -- that's always been increasing with consumption on aquaculture products. As far as coding, I'm not familiar with that part to elaborate on that.

**Question:** Hussain Jiwani

Yesterday, I heard that some of the data for last 5 years is going to be revised in Quick Stats. Would we be able to view both the revised and unrevised data? If so, how?

**Answer:** Lance Honig

The short answer would be no. Earlier we talked about some of the in-season estimates and how we track those in Quick Stats. But when we talk about revisions, we’re talking about literally revising a specific estimate that was previously published. Currently, in Quick Stats, we don't maintain each of those iterations. Now with that said, nationally, we do publish track records publications each spring. And in those, you would see the national tracking of each of
those revised numbers as well. So, not in Quick Stats currently, but nationally that data does exist in the track records publications.

Answer: Joe Parsons

Also in some of the modernization work, do you want to make any reference to that, Lance?

Answer: Lance Honig

That's a whole topic in and of itself, but as we move through new ways of displaying the data, these are some of the things that we'll consider in developing those products and see what we can do to meet the needs.

Question: Benjamin Diamond

For USDA FAS Crop Explorer, there are currently no NDVI products for potatoes in Canada. Could this be added?

Answer: Paul Trupó

We generally monitor and cover the tradeable commodities. So, users can go directly to the NASA GIMMS site and generate their own user specific charts. Potatoes is not a crop that we're required to cover and include in the Crop Explorer, because most vegetable crops have small fields that would be difficult for NDVI geospatial applications. Or they would be difficult for NDVI to monitor reliably around the world. In some cases, our geospatial tools GADAS and GIAM geospatial applications could be used, but not as comprehensively with all the variables that are covered by Crop Explorer. So, we do what we can.

Post-meeting follow-up: Curt Reynolds, FAS/GMA/IPAD

Potatoes are a tuber (or root) crop and utilizing satellite imagery to monitor tuber or root crops is not practical.

Question: Nathan Arentsen

The Nebraska Legislature considered last Fall, and is likely to consider again this Spring, a bill in which the State of Nebraska would rely upon annual USDA data regarding producer costs and commodity acreage, yield, and market prices for various commodities in order to create a multi-year rolling average of such data. Under the bill in the Nebraska Legislature, the State of Nebraska would use this data in order to calculate each agricultural producer's property taxes due every tax year.

Can USDA assure those of us in Nebraska that USDA's annual survey data regarding those agricultural inputs, sales prices, revenues, crop acreages, and any other necessary agricultural producer data, will be consistent each year for the benefit of the State of Nebraska's rolling average? Can USDA also assure us that any revisions of that data in later years will have a minimal impact on that rolling average?
**Answer: Lance Honig**

In terms of assuring that the revisions won't have much impact, we can't. I mean we can't do that because we have no idea in advance what revisions will be made. If we knew that, there wouldn't be any revisions because we would actually set those estimates the first time. So we're, all these revisions are always going to be driven by the latest available data that we have. And so, once we see that, we're going to revise what we think is the most accurate number based on that information. In terms of assuring that the products are going to stay consistent year to year. Generally, you know, our programs do stay pretty consistent, but as we talked about in our session yesterday afternoon, we do review our program at least every five years. And if there is a significant shift in any of the commodities, there could be a shift in our programs moving forward too. So, I probably stop short of saying yes, we can assure it's going to be consistent in terms of what's available, depending on what you're looking at. We would always have to consider disclosure as one of the factors in the equation as well. But with that said, it tends to be very consistent year to year. But can't quite assure it.

**Answer: Joe Parsons**

In terms of thinking about revisions of that data, and I don't know how timely they're trying to use it, if they're starting with final, our data at the end of season. They probably could do some assessment in their own right whether it was fit for use based on looking at track records. And we could help them with that. So, the real question is, how do you define a minimal impact? You can look back at our track record and how much we've revised after a certain point on key agricultural items. One thing I would add here too is that, it could be pretty unlikely we stop estimating corn in Nebraska, right? But what we might do with peas or lentils or potato crop or popcorn, those are probably subject to what our budget looks like. But, a lot of corn and soybeans in Nebraska.

**Answer: Lance Honig**

Exactly. It would depend on exactly what is all being factored in. And just a slight caution on that. The track records are only available nationally. And so specifically for Nebraska, it would take a little more digging to track that backwards. But we could certainly help with that. And at least you could get a taste of what's happened in the past. And then you can decide how good of indicator that is in the future. Usually pretty good.

**Answer: Joe Parsons**

One other thing I'll throw in, I don't know to the extent that they're using NASS data for agricultural inputs. If they're using farm cost and rural data, this is all subject to cooperation as well. Especially for very involved surveys like the ARMS survey, it's a challenge to get cooperation. We do the very best that we can but at a state level data for ARMS data are certainly less precise than national data.
**Answer: Tony Dorn**

It just depends how aggregate or refined the data that's being used for this purpose. For instance, if you look at the overall prices we made and prices paid and prices received indexes that we publish. Those are usually a lot more stable than some of the smaller indexes. So if there is certain components to this legislation or anything, obviously those are a little more subject to wider revisions, wider changes because they're smaller and have smaller measurements. So it just depends upon that and everything else, you know, that we would have as far as how much we would buy. So, like Lance said, ideally we don't want any revisions, we would like to publish the best right out of the gate, but things change, so we get additional data. The other things that happens that cause revisions to happen that we have additional data and want to have the last final most accurate numbers. So that's going to be consistent from what's happened in the past. No prediction of the future but it could give a general idea of how much revisions there would be.

**Answer: Joe Parsons**

We have a great state director, Nick Streff, in our Nebraska regional field office. And Nick would be a great point of contact. He would be happy to be a part of any discussion. Take a little deeper dive into precision or the data that folks might be looking at in the legislature and have some discussion of fitness for use.

**Question: Rob Johansson**

Can monthly NASS sugarcane mill surveys be consolidated by company (i.e., lower reporting burden)?

**Answer: Lance Honig**

We would be happy to talk more about that. Honestly, I thought we were, had those pretty much consolidated by company, but if there is any additional work we need to do in that area, reach out. I'll be happy to work with you to see what we can do.

**Answer: Joe Parsons**

Similarly, we've done a fair bit of that work in really large grain handling facilities, other larger entities to consolidate reporting and make sure that we're making it easy for them and also ensuring the best data we can possibly collect.

**Question: Nathan Watermeier**

What updates can you provide on CroplandCROS - https://croplandcros.scinet.usda.gov/ Currently it is not displaying data. When will this app service be running?
Post-meeting follow-up: Rick Mueller, NASS

Thanks for the information. We will notify the contractors to get CroplandCROS back to operations ASAP. It is expected that NASS will update CroplandCROS with the 2023 CDL during the first week of February 2024.

Question: Nathan Watermeier

Have any of the agencies considered packaging and making data available through other known platforms such as the Snowflake marketplace?

Answer: Kelly Maguire

I'm not familiar with Snowflake marketplace in particular, but we do try to make as much as our data available through the agriculture data commons. So that's a good source for USDA data. I know agencies are working on implementing new publish access requirements that will hopefully make access a little easier and more straightforward for folks.

Answer: Joe Parsons

A lot of agencies also use data.gov to document the data they have available. NASS does not.

Question: Kristi Jones

Could EIA please give an update on whether they are going to start asking RD producers their feedstock inventory levels on their monthly survey?

Answer: Julie Harris

We know that those of interest and our survey forms are on a three-year cycle. We actually went through a clearance. So we just started the beginning of the three year process. So in 2026, will be the next time we can make changes to survey forms and you know, so we know that that is of interest and we have to get EIA management. And then OMB to agree to these sorts of changes. So that's a process. Whether we'll be able to do it or not, I really can't say right now, but we understand it's of importance.

Answer:

HS codes were discussed earlier by Joe DeCampo.

Question: Sandor Garcia Prieto

I represent a sugar cane processor. We are required to report on a monthly basis on estimated production for the current fiscal year. After we are finished processing (normally in January) we are still required to report an estimate which at that point is the same data. Could consideration be given to drop the required reporting after final production for a year has been finalized?
**Answer:** Lance Honig

I would be happy to discuss that further. Currently we have a process that we use on some surveys, where we'll actually ask is harvest complete and given a yes, that gives us an indication that we don't need to repeat in future months. So definitely something we can talk about and look into.

**Question:** Austin Schroeder

Has there been any thought to moving the Cattle on Feed reports from the 3:00 pm time slot to 12 noon, similar to the Crop Production reports?

**Answer:** Travis Averill

We have done that and unfortunately the industry has not appreciated the release of cattle on feed at noon. And they have requested NASS to keep the cattle release at 3 p.m. during the holiday timeframe, where we have done a noontime, it has not been received well. So the cattlemen's association and others have requested NASS keep the report to a 3 PM Eastern Time.

**Answer:** Joe Parsons

Reiterating, we've had discussions about 12 noon and 3 PM, at least by the general consensus is, stay at 3 PM for livestock reports both for cattle and cattle on feed and for hogs and pigs.

**Question:** Benjamin Diamond

For the quick stats bulk download files on https://www.nass.usda.gov/datasets/ could the data in qs.crops_20231018.txt.gz be divided into separate crops (e.g. corn, soybeans, wheat, cotton, sorghum) and/or separate years?

**Answer:** Lance Honig

Well technically, it could be. But that's a manual process we're doing right now. So obviously the goal is to keep it very simple. Probably a better way to approach this would be again to refer back to the modernization efforts that are under way. We're looking to, hopefully make it easier to access information, not only specifically, but in bulk type formats. And so we'll definitely make sure this is on our list of things that we consider as we continue to work through our new dissemination processes.

**Question:** Vince Breneman

When will the 2022 ag census microdata be available in the Data Lab?

**Answer:** Joe Parsons

Data Lab handles requests for privileged access to work with record level data. So, for qualified researchers, we will establish a process where they can go in and examine things on the census microdata. Our first order of business is publishing the Census of Agriculture in early 2024 and
when we do that in early 2024 and, given continual funding, that we'll release before the Agricultural Outlook Forum. The date is the February 13. It's on the Agricultural Statistics Board calendar as well. But then we have a whole series of releases right after that. And our staff need to be focused on getting those publications out. We have tabulations for congressional districts, tabulations on race, ethnicity, and gender for example. And many others. And as soon as those are completed, that's when we'll move the census micro data out and we'll make available additional special tabulations and allow folks to get in and start using the 2022 Census of Agriculture data. Basically, we have to make sure that we can get our own data out the door and then we can really work with researchers on newer datasets.

**Answer:** Tony Dorn

I know everyone is working and we'll work as hard as we can to get out as soon as we can for data users.

**Question:** Chris Eggerman

With NASS planning to review planted acreage for corn, soybeans and other crops in August next year, would it be possible for FSA to release certified acreage data before the NASS August Crop Production report to help us anticipate what adjustments NASS might make? I understand the FSA data for spring-planted crops may not be complete enough to be useful before August 1, but having August 1 data a few days before the NASS report would be very helpful.

**Answer:** Lance Honig

Back when we, back when this first started becoming available, publicly on the website there was a lot of conversation between NASS and FSA as to what the appropriate timeframe would be. And the conclusion we came to collectively was that it was probably best for NASS to get the estimates out there before some of the supporting data were available out there. We certainly could renew that conversation, but I don't know that anything has really changed. I think there is some risks associated with, in a sense, putting out partial data, which is in a way what we would be doing as USDA putting out an input to one component of the forecast that we're publishing for the complete crop. So, it's, I can see some advantage on one side, but I can see a lot of advantage the other way as well. So, those would be my comments. Just know that that was very strategic when it was stood up several years ago.

**Answer:** Tim Gravlin

I agree. We would be happy to talk with you guys further on that, but I think that was done for a reason. And I'm not sure that there is a new reason to change it, but we would be happy to talk about that.

**Answer:** Joe Parsons

I do want to highlight we've looked at this for a while and we've actually moved up corn and soybeans. It used to be for the October report, we moved it to September. FSA has gotten better and better, I think. There may be a year that this isn't possible but they've gotten better
and better about processing faster. And we feel pretty good about what we can see just before the August crop report. And so, I think that will help data users to incorporate that in August, it’s good for everybody if we can. So that's what we're going to attempt to do.

**Answer:** Lance Honig

This might be a good point to just reiterate that in adding this review for corn and soybeans, a few of the other crops in August. Please note in there that we also said we're leaving the September window there for now. And so we do plan to consider updates in August and September for several of the crops, including corn and soybeans. And so that is intentional. A, because we’re moving up pretty quickly here, and B, as Joe just mentioned, some years when the crop, when planting is delayed, that has an impact on reporting progress as well. And so, that is intentional right now. There will be two opportunities for those crops in August and September. And if we decide to make any changes to that moving forward, we'll be very clear about that again.

**Question:** Brad Fuller

Still a little perplexed with the starting national corn yield coming out in May at 181.5 bu./acre which is almost 5 bu./acre greater than anything we have ever seen. Again, with expansion of corn acreage occurring in the western corn-belt, which are not big yielding states like the 3 I states and weather that seems more extreme, this seems like a bit of a stretch to begin the marketing year. In addition, this very early information, which will be adjusted as we move deeper into the marketing year tends to cast a negative price implication across this commodity using such a monster yield to begin our year.

**Answer:** Mark Jekanowski

I would say not sure what else I can say at this point. Point taken. These estimates are always based on the best information available at the time. And this has been a topic of discussion in Omaha and many other data users meetings and not sure there is a lot more that we can say right now.

**Answer:** Mike Jewison

It's a valid question and I like the debate and I'm certainly always open to ideas. I invite you to send those to me. But I would also just point out the corn yield in the US, the national yield is not stationary. The mean is not constant over time. So if you look back the last 40 plus years of data, more often than not, the yield is record. Probably 70 percent of the time is the number I have in my head, that may be incorrect. So then you come along like the year like 2004, 2014 and you surface the prior record by whatever, five percent on average 2014. Just keep that in mind, we’re trying to have a starting point. And sometimes the weather, you could have a stretch of bad years. You think that weather is an unbiased coin, it's not that's not how it works.
**Question:** Pete Eckes

We have mandatory beef and pork reporting when will we also have mandatory poultry reporting?

**Answer:** Mike Sheats

If that's going to happen, it would have to follow the same legislative route and I've not heard any talk out there of anybody initiating anything like that. So, that would be what we would expect. You would have to go, normally from if industry groups to the legislators and then down to us. (Poultry). That's not something we would initiate in the AMS.

**Follow-up:** Pete Eckes

I understand that but with the increased scrutiny in price reporting - that move to mandatory makes a lot of sense to me.

**Written Answer:** Mike Sheats

Would have to be initiated outside of USDA AMS

**Question:** Lincoln Herrington

Can you walk through your process for estimating ethanol in early crop year WASDEs?

**Answer:** Mike Jewison

Obviously, it's based on several assumptions I think I have outlined this before, but I'll go through it again. Any particular assumptions for gasoline consumption in the US as well as a few on trade and putting that together, looking at what we would mean for corn and the sort. I would also note that we rely heavily on what EIA reports for low gas forecast, lower gas consumption forecast.

**Question:** Jessica Spreitzer

Is there an update/specifcs on the timeline for NASS modernization in regards to moving away from Quick Stats?

**Answer:** Tony Dorn

We talked about modernization in the earlier presentation. We shared what was there. I think we gave a hint of what was coming up too. Looking at the rest of this year, we're trying to finish up the livestock economics and crops. That's really what we're working on. We're working through those and everything before we go on to poultry and census products and fruit and vegetables. Those are coming up later too. This year we are finishing up. We have so many releases and once we get into the details you can see how much data we have, there is a lot of interest to the data. So, it's a lot to make sure we get it incorporated into the new system in the best way possible. We're working through our major groups of economics and livestock and crops for the rest of the year. I could go through the details and everything, but those
schedules kind of change depending on needs and everything that's where we're at for the rest of the year and we're going to keep progressing as fast as we can on those.

**Answer:** Joe Parsons

I think fair to say you're going to see a number of things in that new format and also one of the things we're pushing on is the ability for better search capability, for ad hoc searches. Those are not terribly far away, and we'll certainly be communicating those on our website.

**Question:** Alan Brugler

There are several soybean crush plants coming online, including at least 2 this fall and several in 2024. How does WAOB/WASDE handle projected crush from those plants (also meal and oil production)?

**Answer:** Joanna Hitchner

So, we are aware of the plants that are coming online and keep track through reports whether they are still coming online, and whether they are on time. But then on the other side, we've looked at demand and we see how much demand there is for oil and meal coming out of those plants. So, yes, we're looking at overall capacity, and also looking at utilization based off of what we expect the demand to be.

**Question:** Marvin Miller

Can you briefly comment about any interaction the data agencies have as a result of the pending Farm Bill and whether its delay might impact anything?

**Answer:** Tim Gravlin

I think it does have an impact. The lack of a Farm Bill will have an impact on Farm Service Agency and some of our programs, abilities to operate when that expires. Interaction between different data agencies, it has increased recently, not related specifically to the farm bill which is the question. And the emergency relief programs, we have been working closely with RMA and sucking in crop insurance data and SBIs in order to prepopulate applications and things like that. I would say between agencies and FSA, the data sharing is trending upwards. It's increasing. Specifically for Farm Service Agency as we move to the department EDAPT platform, a more modern data platform. We are hoping that is able to increase, we're able to leverage data sets across agencies. Certainly, the pending farm bill is troubling for us.

**Answer:** Kelly Maguire

ERS does not administer programs, rather we're doing analysis to inform programs. So, I don't think we anticipate that there will be any delays in release of our products as a result of Farm Bill delays.
**Answer:** Joe Parsons

I would offer from NASS perspective is that, and I'm not a Farm Bill expert, but a number of farm bill program provisions change, and different NASS data become very much more important if there is no farm bill. So, that would not be directly impacting NASS, but it would certainly change how some folks maybe look or use some NASS data. We also have relationships with many other USDA agencies. Some of those relationships that complete certain surveys, or support certain survey activity, is funded through farm bill provisions. And so, we'll cross that bridge when we get to it, but some of those could be affected in terms of the funding stream and could make a difference. Obviously more broadly if there is a lack of funding in terms of an appropriation or something like for all agencies, we'll follow shutdown procedures and all that sort of stuff. It's a little different discussion. If we can collect the data, we'll be able to produce reports and so you can look back to how we dealt with that a couple years ago when there was a shutdown, just more broadly.

**Answer:** Mike Sheats

The only thing I am familiar in the last farm bill we had the organic data initiative which gave us money to expand organic data reporting. That's been in several farm bills. We have not heard whether or not that will be in this one, fully expect it to be. And then the other thing was the establishment of the carcass training centers which has been ongoing to help promote the work we do with the CME. That had no money associated with it, so unless somebody moves to remove that, that still stands. So other than that, haven't heard anything. When it comes to livestock reporting and that, I believe one of the senators talked about that that would not be in the farm bill itself, that they would look at that separately. So otherwise, we have not heard anything.

**Question:** Benjamin Diamond

Could crop progress statistics be added for other countries in the FAS Crop Explorer?

**Answer:** Ron Frantz

Crop Explorer as it exists today does not include any crop progress statistics. Those are maintained by Minister of Agriculture (MoA) departments by respective countries. However, Crop Explorer is used to monitor crop conditions, such as NDVI, those are the greenness values of the crop, precipitation data and other agro climatological sources of data you can find there. Very easy to search by either commodity or by country in Crop Explorer. We've done a lot of work through our contractors to help improve that website and have launched what we call commodity explorer so you can actually search by commodity.

**Question:** Karen Braun

Has there been an improvement over the last year or so on quality and availability of grain and oilseed data out of Ukraine? How about Russia?
**Answer: Paul Trupo**

We published 26 GAIN reports out of Ukraine, since the war began. We have a handful of Ukrainian local staff working and reporting, using their contacts. The production data coming out of Russia primarily uses geospatial tools and satellite imagery. So, whether it has improved or not, I can't say.

**Answer: Mark Simone**

Improvements? Kind of an interesting phrase given that the war has been going on. I’d characterize it more as challenging, with regard to grain data in particular. Russia, the export data starting at the beginning of 2022, there is no longer available from the Russian government. Used alternative sources, but there are limitations in regards, especially regard to over land trade. For Ukraine, the Black Sea Grain Initiative, that actually improved the latency and granularity in the data. But as you may know, the Black Sea Grain Initiative is no longer around. So here we are. There are challenges. And that happens when you have this kind of a war right now.

**Question: Karen Braun**

Is there any increased intelligence on Chinese corn stocks? USDA shows that they have been largely consistent for the past few years, but Chinese corn prices and China’s recent participation in global trade could suggest otherwise.

**Answer: Paul Trupo**

We all know how challenging it is to get any data out of China and it may be more challenging nowadays than any time in the past.

**Answer: Mike Jewison**

In a perfect world this would be an item that would be publicly reported but, unfortunately, it's not.

**Question: Benjamin Diamond**

Could crop area, yield and acres by province/state be added to the FAS Crop Explorer?

**Answer: Ron Frantz**

No, FAS PSD Online Crop Explorer is really just meant for crop condition analysis. Our official statistics are maintained in USDA’s PS&D online database and those are at the state or country level, not at the provincial level. So, it’s not something we could add to Crop Explorer at this time. There are, there is a lot of provincial level data that our analysts utilize, but it's not something that we publish.

**Question: Jerry Gidel**

The impact of the last summer's wet wheat harvest hasn't been really revealed in China.
Answer: Mark Simone

We did reduce China’s wheat production to account for that. We also increased the feed use in recognition of the degradation of the wheat quality for milling purposes, more feed. There was, China's National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) provided a mid-year production estimate. That’s what we based our last reduction on. Will there be another one forth coming? China’s NBS does another final update for the 2023/24 crop year I believe in mid-December. We'll see that and take that into account.

Question: Jessica Spreitzer

How long can avid quick stats users expect to still be able to use the system after all products are transitioned to the new format?

Answer: Joe Parsons

Quick stats will be available for some period of time. We will be very careful in that transition. We know a lot of folks are dependent upon it. And we will be both training, to the to-be state and working with data users. No need to start worrying about those queries just yet. And we'll make sure and bring folks along when we're at that point. We realize that we got to get everything sort of transferred over before we would do very much with quick stats.

Question: Ryan Nielsen

The October WASDE had raised soy oil's biofuel draw by 300m lbs to a record 12.8b (nearly 50% of domestic BO use). As the industry grows, can we expect to see the biodiesel/renewable diesel production in the weekly petroleum status report? or a similar weekly/monthly report? furthermore, the biodiesel graphics on EIA's website show BO represents 68% of the feedstocks used for biodiesel, but it is dated 2021, can we get that breakdown on a monthly (or regular) schedule?

Answer: Julie Harris

Right now, we don't have any intention of putting it on the weekly. And again, that goes to our whole three-year cycle. So, no, not right now, but that can be taken under advisement.

Post-meeting follow-up: Julie Harris

No, due to disclosure issues, we do not intend to reveal the total feedstocks consumed. If we reveal the total, then we have to withhold more of the individual products so that the withheld data can’t be calculated from the total.
Written Question & Answer Summary

**Question:** Ken Lovett

As reports are discontinued and migrated to the API, we have been frustrated by reports (and associated SLUG_IDs) being discontinued before they are available in via the API. In some cases reports are incorporated/combined with other reports and then eventually migrated to the API with a gap in coverage - or we have to research where the data now resides. When will all the AMS reports be migrated to the API, or do you have a) a release schedule and b) a report migration map for the SLUG_IDs?

**Written Answer:** Michael Sheats

Notifications are placed on the static reports prior to migrating to the new database (MARS/MMN). These notifications identify where the new report can be found as well as the updated Slug ID. These old static reports are available online for a few weeks then removed.

Majority of our larger reports will, but some of our more unique niche reports (Local Regional) may remain static and available through our file repository but will not be accessed by an API.

**Follow-up:** Ken Lovett

Do you have a url to the "static reports" or do you mean that you post a notification at the bottom of the report? Is there a comprehensive document or source that shows what has been migrated to the API?

**Written Answer:** Michael Sheats

Typically we do have a link to the new report on the old static report because all the new links are the same with exception of the unique slug ID at the end


We do have a master report file of migrated reports located on MMN (https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/general-resources) located under Livestock Poultry and Grain Market News sub-segment. It was last updated in April this year but will be updated as changes occur so please check back.

**Question:** Karen Braun

What are USDA's working assumptions about the Black Sea Grain Initiative? Is USDA assuming this deal is still active when forming Ukraine grain export forecasts?

**Written Answer:** WAOB

The Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI) was not renewed in mid-July so we no longer assume the BGSI for the Ukraine wheat and corn export forecasts.
Breakout 1A: Focus on the 2022 Census of Agriculture

Question: Julie Broadway

At some point would NASS be willing to tell us who they get their lists from by specific livestock? We would like to know who they get lists from for horses.

Answer: Tony Dorn

We do collect just anything we can get a list from. We’re trying to measure any farm. A definition of a farm normally starts with a $1000 in sales. A small farm is as big as a large farm [for farm counts] -- one of the important measures that we have in the Census of Agriculture. We are looking lists of all sizes and types of farms. There are many lists that we get at state level, regional level, local levels, things like that. We get a such a wide variety of lists and multiple sources that we don't have specific sources of those lists that we track throughout the year; because once a farm is on our list frame, we might get another list, things like that. So, it’s just a large volume and how our processes go. We don’t have tracking as far as which specific sources are related to which ones. It also relates to our disclosure information. We don't disclose any individual information as far as something that might track to where other people could be getting their information from, or where they might be located, what they might be producing. So, there is not anything necessarily that we track, so we don't have a source for that type of information where the original farms are identified with.

Answer: Donald Buysse

One of the things that works for us, in particular with horses, is – that for a lot of states, we have entered into external project agreement to do an equine survey. When that happens in a particular state, we will obviously take exhaustive measures to gather additional lists. I would always encourage folks, if they have a list that can be provided to us, we will take it in. We have pretty sophisticated programming. We might already have the individual on our list. But we take all lists and if they’re done in electronic format, we can run them through our programs to identify those records that we don't have any indication of having an operator or producer or operation, then they will get an agricultural screener. Then they can tell us about their horse population, provided the horses are on their farm.

Question: Darcy Schultz

Do you have a screenshot of what the prototype story maps will look like?

Answer: Tony Dorn

I was looking under ESRI, the GIS company. Unfortunately, we don't have a screenshot. It would have been a great idea looking back. Maybe we can do that in the future, to bring a demo about what a story map is. Describing it is more interactive, between video and a presentation. It is interactive, so kind of lively, moving from one story to the next. It is interesting to tell a story over time, in this case demographics would change in different states and counties and
things like that over time. It’s really neat interactively, not so describing it verbally. It’d be much better to see it. So that’s something I’ll take back, and maybe we can incorporate that into future data users too. If you google “ESRI Story Map” you can get an idea about what it is.

**Question:** Roberto Sanchez

Are those special census studies open for public comment via the federal register? If that is the case, is there an option to submit a new special study's topic?

**Answer:** Donald Buysse

We don't do a Federal Register posting to announce our schedule for the Special Studies. We do try to make those available publicly upon request. The answer is no on the Federal Register. When we go out to do a particular special study, we do a federal register notice to announce that survey is coming. I am thinking that is not the intent of the question. In terms of submitting a new one, I believe there is a place online that we do gather that information, if you have a suggestion. I don't know the link right off the top of my head. We probably can provide that information or do a search in our NASS area for input. We can certainly try to get that link to you. In the past, there have been some submissions to that. We do take in those submissions and of course we will determine how best to go about it. In terms of our Census of Agriculture program funding, for those special studies that we have, the funding that we get from year to year is aligned with those programs. If we were to do a new study, it would have to be accompanying appropriation dollars into the Census of Agriculture program. The other avenue is to do an external project agreement or reimbursable surveys, particularly if there is a particular data need for a more local geographic region looking into a specific practice or a specific commodity.

**Written Answer:**

Census Program Input:

https://www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus/Census_Program/Input_Form/index.php

**Question:** Emily Stearns

What are you doing to reduce survey fatigue?

**Answer:** Donald Buysse

This is a good question. One we don't have a stock answer for right now. It has been coming up fairly regularly, so I’ll start it and I’ll turn it over to Tony and Jeff if they have anything to add. A couple ways we do this is we try to coordinate surveys. In our sampling procedures, we try to take it into account. Before a farmer is included in a survey, we try to take best practices to reduce the burden, but the reality is some farmers land in a lot of surveys. This fatigue is a real thing. On the other side of that, there has been no reduction in the amount of data being requested or information that the public would like to be made available. So, somewhere in the middle we hope to find a good balance. We recognize that for addressing an issue, the first thing to do is to recognize that there is a problem, and then look at steps to minimize that. I
don’t have any specifics for that today, but USDA NASS is aware of this issue. We are taking measures to try to address it.

**Answer: Tony Dorn**

We are looking at any types of administrative data we could use to supplement the survey data that we have. The best data is really the data from the farmer. They know about their operation best. We’re looking for any types of information -- different crop sessions using satellite data, other data sources where we can enhance and replace any questions that would be redundant with any information that we could get. We’re really exploring that area. We’re doing everything we can to reduce that survey fatigue. As Donald says, people want more and more detailed data at a detailed level too. It is a tough balance that we really have to keep in mind. Our source data is the farmer, so we have to be the guardians to minimize the burden on them anyway we can. That is always on our minds. How we can minimize the burden on farmers on farmers, because we want to do what is best for them and for agriculture. We have to do that safeguard and have that balance ourselves. Administrative data is one way, and we are looking at any type of data we can use to help reduce that.

**Question: Michael Partyka**

Are the county estimates the same as 2017 or have you added or removed any measures?

**Answer: Donald Buysse**

From the 2022 census, much of the data matches what was collected in 2017. There can be comparisons made between the two data points. I can't off the top of my head think of any items that we removed. In terms of what we added, Tony, maybe you know of those very few items that we’ve added. We did add an item on precision agriculture to measure the number of farms using it.

**Answer: Tony Dorn**

Hemp and some local food practices maybe streamlined. So, there are some minor changes. Even though there might be methodology that we have improved or changed, the comparison is still the same. We are publishing the same thing. There’s not a break in the data series at all. It’s the same comparisons. Like Donald said, we changed very few things. Hemp was an addition, but for the most part it is very comparable and is meant to be comparable between the data series to keep that going.

**Question: Emily Featherston**

Are there types of non-agriculture sources that feed the NACS lists? For example, are there sources that could/do lead to non-producers receiving a survey? If so, can you give an example?

**Answer: Donald Buysse**

This is an unfortunate circumstance or scenario that plays out because of our gathering of lists. We try to get lists that are agriculture related, yes absolutely. We do often times get lists that
have additional names who will get a survey that should not have. As an example, there was a question about horses, so an equine list might be a good example where somebody on the equine list that we gather is simply a fan of horses, or they joined a trade organization. They are involved in some horse sales or products associated with horses, and because they’re involved in some sort of horse sales or products associated with horses their name would land on the list. If we do not have them already on our list of farms, then we would send them a National Agricultural Classification Survey (NACS). At that time, they should easily screen out if they do not have any ag activity. Once the individual is screened out, they should not be troubled, unless they happen to find their way onto another list source that we gather. So, it’s something that we take measures to try to eliminate, but there are occasions where this happens.

**Answer: Jeff Bailey**

Sometimes, we think someone is an operator, that turns out to be a landlord. They may be a producer, but if they don’t have the equivalent of $1000 of sales, they wouldn’t be qualified as a farm. There are lots of reasons that may happen that they may not be a farm in the end. One of the things that we constantly stress in our correspondence and in our public relations or even press releases, is that if you receive a NASS questionnaire or Census of Agriculture questionnaire and are not a farmer, do not have any activity, the best way to really stop troubling the individual is to respond appropriately saying that you do not farm or do not have any ag activity. It is a quick way for us to update our records and to stop from getting any more correspondence.

**Question: Roberto Sanchez**

Is there any info/study, etc available to the public about overlapping between USDA and other federal statistical data collection efforts?

**Answer: Jeff Bailey**

Donald mentioned the OMB (Office of Management and Budget) survey process, approval process for surveys. Basically, one of the questions they ask us when we request to do a survey is, is there another source of data? So, it needs to be unique. So, generally there is not overlap between surveys. There are some discussions about the NAICS we cover versus the NAICS other agencies cover. There is a separation there. We cover certain NAIC industries that sometimes become difficult to distinguish. We shouldn’t be covering the same thing, generally speaking.

**Answer: Tony Dorn**

Like you said, we’re trying to minimize burden on farmers, so we’re all glad the OMB is doing that as a check to make sure we don’t overlap and burden farmers unnecessarily.

**Answer: Donald Buysse**

We do try to stay in our lane in terms of conducting surveys associated with farm operations and other organizations like the Department of Commerce survey other industries. The Census Bureau, they’re dealing with establishment surveys as well, but those would be retail,
manufacturing, etc. There should be clear divides between the populations that the federal statistical agencies survey.

**Question:** Emily Stearns

What's the best way to contact with further questions regarding the NASS census and data collection process after the webinar?

**Answer:** Donald Buysse

If you have specific questions about the data collection process, myself or someone in my staff would likely end up handling that question. If you don't have our contact information, we can provide that and we can do our best to answer any specific questions you might have, whether census related or surveys.

**Written Answer:**

Census programs: donald.buysse@usda.gov and other NASS surveys: suzanne.avilla@usda.gov

**Question:** Rebecca Ransom

Can you tell me a little bit about how you collect aquaculture data and the Census of Aquaculture? It seems that some of the aquaculture data is withheld, leading to more data gaps for other agencies looking for aquaculture data.

**Answer:** Donald Buysse

Let me start by saying how we collect the aquaculture data. We do a Census of Aquaculture. That is a follow on or one of the special studies to the Census of Agriculture. The Census of Agriculture has a section on aquaculture – it becomes a sort of screener, so anybody that responds that they have any sort of aquaculture production, regardless of the amount, is then eligible for the Census of Aquaculture. At which time, we would follow up and get a more detailed look at the operation and its aquaculture production. In terms of withholding data, we take our confidentiality very seriously. We have very rigorous disclosure programming, both for the Census of Agriculture and for aquaculture. I will lean on Jeff for the final say on this, but the disclosure program that we run is deliberate to make sure that we’re not disclosing any individual operator’s data. Those data gaps that may exist from them are absolutely important for us to maintain our confidentiality pledge.

**Answer:** Tony Dorn

Aquaculture presents a special challenge when it comes to disclosure, because there are so many specialized commodity items -- from crawfish, trout, salmon, oysters, so there is a whole bunch of different disclosure items within aquaculture where we can’t reveal producers. It does present more challenges, because there are so many different concentrated producers. That has been a little bit extra for aquaculture, since the commodities are so varied and specialized and regional and all that. We make sure the confidentiality is withheld, but it is more of a challenge in aquaculture.
**Question:** Herbert Sizek

It was mentioned that the return rate/sampling rate is variable among different size producers. Is the variance reported for each farm size or by what is produced? If not the case, is this being considered?

**Answer:** Jeff Bailey

Returns rates are variable by size, so we do get different return rates. So, the non-response weight could be different by size. The Table Appendix A does cover the coverage adjustments, by size I believe. Certainly, all the statistics and Quick Stats has the coefficient of variation for every item, so the variability overall is published for every item and we have a lot of items by size and by acreage size and by what is produced. For each item, you can look and see what the variability actually is.

**Question:** Karen Sowers

Not a census question per se but is there a min/max quantity for acreage of commodities to be removed from and added back into the annual NASS surveys?

**Answer:** Donald Buysse

I think that becomes a sampling question. The samples that we draw for the NASS surveys are going to be based on a lot of information reported from previous surveys. The census is included in that -- obviously, the most copious amounts of returns and information provided back to our list. Then, the sampling tries to take into account the various strata or various groups of records represented on our frame. To that point, there may not be a minimum. But I think the smaller, the less acreage they have, or the amount of the commodity, the less likely they would be sampled.

**Answer:** Jeff Bailey

You said that exactly right, the smaller they are, the less probability to be in the sample. I'm not sure what the question is getting at. Tony might want to speak to it. We do a 5-year revision, but also do an annual program review that determines what states are in the program or not, after we complete this census. So, we might move states in and out of the programs for different commodities so that we get the right states in the program.

**Answer:** Tony Dorn

That may be a little bit more of the angle on the question too, touching on like the program review a little bit, because after the census we go through and in addition to a sampling, we go through acreages of certain commodities. We might include or exclude states, just because of the change and level of production of those commodities. We go through a program review. There will be an ASB notice out there as far as the timing and what we’re doing for that from the results, if that is where that question is really coming from.
Breakout 1B: The Use of Weather Information in Producing the WASDE

**Question:** Mark Feight

Can you talk about the decision to lower corn yield in July 2023?

**Answer:** Mark Brusberg

No. I had no input into that decision. Our colleagues at NASS might be able to answer that because they’re the ones doing the surveys and getting the information from the ground.

**Written Answer:** Brad Rippey

Directly from the July WASDE front page, regarding the WAOB decision to lower U.S. corn yield in July: "According to data from the National Centers for Environmental Information, harvested-area-weighted June precipitation data for the major Corn Belt states represented an extreme downward deviation from average. However, timely rainfall and cooler than normal temperatures for some of the driest parts of the Corn Belt during early July is expected to moderate the impact of June weather.

**Question:** Brad Fuller

How is moisture shaping up for Mato Grosso now and moving forward?

**Answer:** Mark Brusberg

Right now, Mato Grosso is holding their own. They had planted 40 percent of their soybeans as of a few days ago. They’ve been getting spotty showers. They’d like to see more consistent rain and they’d like to see it cooler. The moisture right now is low but it is early in the rainy season. They want more rain now to ensure uniform germination of the soybeans. It is a good sign that they’re planting early. They’re not planting as fast as they did last year but they’re ahead of the 5-year average.

**Question:** Benjamin Diamond

Any concerns about the India Rabi crop due to the weakening monsoon?

**Answer:** Mark Brusberg

There had been some initial concern about the rice crop but then they received additional rainfall. The monsoon has pulled out. It remains to be seen what the irrigation situation is for them. They rely a lot on tube wells, so fuel availability is also a driver. We had expected a lot worse with the El Nino over south and southeast Asia and we didn’t see it. If there’s a second year of El Nino maybe we’ll have more to talk about.
Breakout 2A: NASS Historical Revisions and Estimating Program Review

**Question:** Todd Preszler

How are weekly crop conditions and/or weather models used in the monthly Crop Production reports?

**Answer:** Lance Honig

Crop condition and progress information is mostly not considered as we set our production forecast on a monthly basis. We do however have some models that bring some of that information into the process but, it is a minor, minor component. Mostly, those monthly crop production forecasts that we publish are based mainly on the survey data we collect from the farmers or objective yield. We also supplement that with satellite information and, as I mentioned, there is a small component of some of this information that goes into some of our models.

**Question:** Benjamin Diamond

Does NASS remove data from the previous years being reviewed if individual farm operations are disclosed?

**Answer:** Lance Honig

Typically speaking, even though we may make some revisions to the estimates we publish in previous years, we typically do not see changes in the disclosure. And so, I’m not going to say absolutely 100 percent never, but generally speaking from a crop perspective, no. We typically do not make changes to the disclosures of the previous years as we make revisions.

**Answer:** Travis Averill

The same is true in livestock branch. Those years are going backwards, we are not changing disclosure policies and processes.

**Question:** Omar Youssouf

Does the USDA have any ongoing projects that aim to reduce response burden on surveys using alternative data collection methods such as satellite imagery, admin data and or modelling techniques?

**Answer:** Lance Honig

The answer here is yes, yes, and yes. We are constantly looking at ways we can incorporate all types of information. First, because the more information we can bring into the process the better the process will be. Second, we are very concerned about the burden that surveys put on our farmers, so anything that we can do to help reduce that burden which would include the opportunity to use some other data sources is definitely something that we are putting a lot of
Answer: Travis Averill

In livestock, if there is additional data we are not currently using to offset the burden a key example we highlight here is our milk production program, years ago, that used to be a program where we surveyed the producer and that was reduce to a quarterly process where we are able to use administrative data on a monthly basis for production in yield per cow. That has helped us and a process we have implemented and where we can do it in the future is always open for discussion as more data becomes available for us to implement and reduce that burden for our producers.

Answer: Tony Dorn

Definitely, if you look at our methodology and quality measures reports, you can see what the methodology is and get a detailed look at on our website as how we collect the data, do the analysis, and incorporate the administrative data in modeling and in everything we do and of course the nature of economics and that type of data it is a little bit harder to get information outside of the farmers' knowledge. We are looking at doing everything we can to minimize the burden.

Written Answer:

Methodology and Quality Measures:
https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/Methodology_and_Data_Quality/index.php

Question: Benjamin Diamond

For data near the US border, is data solicited from Mexico and Canada?

Answer: Lance Honig

For crops, I would say no to that. We survey our producers here in the U.S. That's the focus of what we are doing, which is to capture production agriculture here in the U.S. from our U.S. producers. Now, is it possible we make contact with somebody on the other side of the border? That is possible but, generally speaking, we are looking for U.S. production from U.S. operations.

Answer: Travis Averill

For livestock, we are looking at import and export data for live animals going in and out of the U.S. or coming from Canada. If you look at a quarterly hogs and pigs report, you will see a key influence on the production of hogs in the U.S. does get factored in from the Canadian import of feeder pigs along with breeding sows and market hogs coming across the Canadian border. The opposite for cattle. You have the cattle that will come into the U.S. from Mexico along with Canada, but typically Mexican cattle have a little higher influence on our cattle on feed supply. That's a factor we get that data from AMS, other foreign ag services, and other federal agencies that collect the data itself. We incorporate that data into our data analysis.
**Question:** Karen Braun

Can you clarify the change to acreage reviews planned for 2024? Corn/soy planted (and harvested?) area will be subject to revision in both August and September 2024, correct?

**Answer:** Lance Honig

Yes, that is correct. As you know until a couple of years ago, we did the planted acreage for those crops in October. The FSA data became available much sooner and we moved that to September. Based on what we are seeing with the data, we believe we can provide some meaningful updates in August. We will do that and keep that September period available as well, just in case of a late reporting year and things of that nature. We want to make sure we are able to update that as best as possible. Obviously if the planted acreage changes we need to make changes to harvested as well.

**Question:** Benjamin Diamond

Please explain the differences in methodology between the census and survey.

**Answer:** Lance Honig

Right off the top, the census is a complete enumeration. Now that doesn't mean we get a response from every single operator in the U.S., but you are starting from an approach of trying to capture information from everyone. Where on the survey side, the premise is you are going to do sample surveys. We don't have the resources to try to contact every producer as I mentioned constantly. And so, that right there kind of tells you where the differences start because you are starting from a different pool. There is a lot more adjustments that we need to make to the data that we gather on the survey side and so what the census brings is that bigger picture look. We are able to capture a lot more information not only in going to all the producers but we capture everything about those producers. It is a 16-page small font questionnaire capturing information, where as on the survey side, what that brings to the table is much more frequency. Instead of only getting a picture every five years some things you get weekly, monthly, quarterly and you are getting much more frequent timely information but not quite as in depth or elaborate.

**Answer:** Tony Dorn

Definitely, with the census it is a complete enumeration. We do have adjustments you can see. We have a longer appendix if you are interested in reading about our adjustments for recovery and nonresponse. With the census, responses are really important for not just for responding in the census but it impacts the samples and everything for the next five years as far as making sure we identify as complete of a list as possible and eligible for other surveys as well. So the census is a baseline for everything and then the methodology of course is surveys are sampled. A lot of times we have our list and we talked about we build our lists during the years and can find more producers that you might not know about or might be new coming into that commodity. But the census is definitely the most important area. Everybody has a chance to respond. It is important we have those responses because that's our most efficient way of
samples and we can get the most coverage with the fewest number of reports and will give us the best information about an industry. That is creating an efficient sample, frequency and other things associated with that. The methodology is kind of similar in a way but very different as far as efficiency after the census to survey the best we can to get the survey.

**Answer: Travis Averill**

We have 31 methodology and quality measures reports out there so you can see the variation in the survey techniques and processes implemented with the sample sizes. It is the transparency that we are trying to provide for our data users to see what is there and how the methods are from one survey to another. There is some variation, but that information is there to see.

**Written Answer:**

Methodology and Quality Measures:
https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/Methodology_and_Data_Quality/index.php

Census Methodology:

**Question: Benjamin Diamond**

Do NASS and RMA collaborate when producing estimates for production and acreage?

**Answer: Lance Honig**

I wouldn't necessarily say collaborate, but NASS utilized data from RMA in our process. We certainly work together in that way. I just don't want to use the term collaborate simply because NASS is responsible for actually setting and publishing those estimates. So part of the confidentiality is that no one, including others at USDA, gets to see behind the scenes. They get access to those estimates at the same time as everyone else does. But yes, we're definitely utilizing information from RMA as well as FSA and other USDA partners across the various programs that we have.

**Question: Brad Fuller**

Last year, U.S. harvested corn acreage was reduced a large 1.6 million acres in the January (final). Any way this data could be available earlier, (November)?

**Answer: Lance Honig**

I absolutely would love that. Obviously, we're talking about primarily harvested acreage here, where a lot of the challenges come in. We do have some pre-fixed planted acres reviews that we're able to do this past year or this year in September. Next year we're going to actually be able to move that up as early as August. But we don't necessarily have that same source of measure of harvest area during the growing season. So we're largely relying on the survey information that we get in June, which obviously is before some of the weather situations might
come in that either increase or decrease abandonment. And so that's an area that I would love to be able to improve on. But right now we don't really have a data source for that any sooner than those January estimates. And so that's an item that's on my bucket list for program review this fall. Is there something we could do to possibly capture some of that earlier, so we'll see.

**Question:** Marvin Miller

I know in the past for some of the non-Census surveys, NASS, perhaps through the state offices, would rely on local Extension staff to fill in missing respondent information, at least in certain states. Does this still occur? And is this ever part of the process for the Census of Agriculture? Finally, are there other local experts used for either Census or non-Census surveys to try to identify possible respondents or their likely output volumes? I am thinking co-ops, farm dealers, etc. might be sources.

**Answer:** Tony Dorn

We as far as a list building, we build the list just based on any type of data source we can get. We can't share data or list the names with anybody. But we're kind of the sponge. We try to get any list source of knowing producers and things like that that we can in one hundred and fifty. That would be a way. We look at the local State Departments of Ag and the different association groups to build those lists. I think the question might be about missing respondent information. I'm not exactly sure. But that means sometimes, if we had field enumeration on June area, if there's certain information that a neighbor might know, like maybe there was a field enumerator who had just basic information if there was a non-response. But I don't think that was very widespread because we get the best information, of course, from the producer. And you know if somebody else further away from that producer or the producer's family on the farm, it would be questionable if that data would be quality enough to collect that way, so I don't think that was very widespread. Maybe once in a while when there's absolutely no other way that might have happened. But that isn't a normal thing that would be done. Also, with field enumeration, the cost of data collection has gone up quite a bit, so there's less of that just because of the cost. We're trying to be efficient with resources too.

**Question:** Helen Golimowski

Does the census and survey data match for the years/crops that overlap?

**Answer:** Lance Honig

We do typically go through a process to ensure that they're not what I would call significantly different or implying different things. Generally speaking, from a crop perspective. I usually tell people if you're interested in something like corn yield or production, I would focus on the annual program because you're going to get that consistent accuracy year in and year out, whereas the census is only for every five years. If you want to know about corn producers, the census is your tool and so it's just understanding those differences and determining what's going to fit your data needs the best.
**Answer:** Travis Averill

It's near possible in the process of census versus a survey. The key is: are they in a range? And that's one of the things goes back to the five-year revisions that we're looking at in the process of completing the final estimates to is where we have to true them up, or make some adjustments at a state level, to be closer, and those values that we might have some differences, but it's not a complete one for one. The numbers are so. There are some differences there, because of the process of methodologies, different across censuses and surveys. Then there are some surveys we have within livestock, chicken and eggs, and hogs and pigs, their reference dates are a little different than the end of December. As a key is that December thirty first is the point of emphasis where a lot of livestock estimates are either the first of a given month, and so there might be some variation there when hogs is a quarterly and that's December first, so it's a thirty-day difference. So just a couple of examples of where there might be some variabilities in the differences between the survey versus and Census of Ag.

**Question:** Benjamin Diamond

Has the accuracy of NASS estimates improved over time? Have any validations been conducted with the census data showing better agreement over time?

**Answer:** Lance Honig

As far as the better agreement aspect of things again, they're never going to match exactly. If you want to talk about the agreement improving over time, I'd say the biggest improvement probably happened back in 1997 when we took over the census here at NASS. We've made a concerted effort since the time we've had the census to really bring the two programs as much in alignment as we can in terms of how we ask questions and aligning things that way. So we have made some efforts to bring them into alignment. I would say again that it, as you look at comparisons between census and surveys, where things match we're in pretty good alignment. Probably as good of alignment as you're going to get with two separate methodologies. The accuracy of NASS estimates improved over time. Well, we would like to think so. That's certainly what we strive for is to always improve on everything we do. But I know there's been some independent studies that have been done that suggest that. Certainly. We're holding our own, if not improving in terms of accuracy.

**Question:** Marvin Miller

I would think the Census provides a unique opportunity to talk about the whole farm enterprise, specifically the multiple commodity/specialty crops/livestock that a farm might be producing. Is there anywhere in the Census where we can see how many farms might be producing grains and livestock or other multiple crop/livestock areas that a single enterprise might be producing?

**Answer:** Tony Dorn

The census products there's just so many different data tables and cross tabs that exist to get the census out. So doing another multiple commodity cross tab would just be probably an enormous task and trying to run disclosure on that all at the same time. Then we're trying to get
the census out as quickly as possible, so everybody can see the results we do have available. We have some special tabulations, if there's something specific that would be available to consider through our data lab. But those would be very specific. For more wider range, if people want to do research, we do have data lab opportunities where people can do research and get to the census data in a data lab secure environment. That ensures confidentiality and disclosure are run on the data before and after any kind of research would be done, so that we maintain that. But there are opportunities to look at a lot of those types of things, for instance, if you're trying to count the number of farms that might have multiple or certain commodity mixes, that would be something that would be like an ideal project for the data lab. Or if there's something more limited, maybe a special tab, if it's not too large in scop. The special tabulations can take quite a bit of time, and we don't have dedicated staff or resources for that. It's a service that we provide. So we do the best we can getting those out. But if you're looking for a far-reaching kind of research for one project, probably entrance into the data lab and looking into that might be more suitable, and probably get you what you need to. So there's a couple of ways to get at that. But it would be to add more tables to the census with the main release product.

**Written Answer:**

Special Tabulations and Restricted Data:

**Answer:** Travis Averill

In the Census of Ag, we have the North American Industrial Classification System that has tables at a US and state level. And so if you want to look under, if it's cattle feedlots, beef cattle or dairy, hogs, and then you can see the number of farms in those States by if it's crops, corn, soybean, and their value of sales. That's also a part without doing a special tabulation. If that meets the data that you're trying to gather without having to go to that extra step. But that's a potential option. It might not give the whole spectrum, but it's a way to view the data in that view too.

**Question:** Benjamin Diamond

Are there any improvements planned for Quick Stats?

**Answer:** Tony Dorn

We have a modernization project. I think we mentioned this, too, in the past couple of data users, but for quick stats are really moving into the cloud as well as our Pdfs are moving into the cloud so, taking both of those and working on eventually replacing it with a new system. That's a cloud-based release system. And we do have some products that we're running in parallel. We're not replacing and stopping quick stats or pdf releases yet, but we're running in parallel until we get more up and running until we get a complete history there. The new system includes the Cloud base is going to be linked to our web page where data users can get to tables, queries, and to get to the data quickly. That's where we used to end the story data all in one spot that's in a tiny data format. So it's more easily understandable right off the bat. It has API functionality and has some interactive graphics to go along with it. It should be a lot easier.
Well, it’s existing right now in production with a few other data items and the complete list was on my other slide. That's the direction we're going with quick stats. I can look up the link put it in the chat, too. But definitely that's planned, and it's in progress.

**Written Answer:**

https://data.nass.usda.gov/field-crops/
Breakout 2B: AMS Data Visualizations

Question: Emily Stearns
As AMS tracks markets approved for equine, are you able to add equine to the list for visualization? I understand data is likely limited.

Answer: Levi Geyer
Currently we do not provide any market information on equine. We’re mainly focused on edible based commodities for the US. I know equine is consumed in other regions across the world, but these (reported commodities by AMS) are more consumed commodities that are mainstream in the agricultural sector. So, unfortunately, we do not have any market information on equine. The data is limited. We don’t collect any substantial data other than what we’re seeing as far as movement across the border. We do track some of that as it moves in and out of the United States. As far as the destinations (other than where it crossed the border), we are unsure we know what is coming into and out of the US. So, we don’t have sufficient information to incorporate it into this dashboard. If the data was readily available, then yes. With tableau, we can pull in multiple datasets so long as we can match them up with the hierarchy of data we’re currently using. We’re able to import data into these visualizations, but that data has to exist. Unfortunately, we don’t have equine data available to us.

Question: Vince Breneman
What day is the Livestock Auction data updated?

Answer: Michael Jeter
Currently, we’re doing this on a manual refresh and it’s done first thing Monday morning around 6:30 ET/7:30 CT. We’re working through a pilot project to automate the data refresh process and hopefully we get it down to a daily refresh.
Breakout 3A: ERS Feed Grains Database: A comprehensive look at this valuable resource

**Question:** Chris Eggerman

Can the website be changed to allow multiple attributes to be selected before it narrows down the options? When I try to select each of the different data series included in corn FSI usage (fuel alcohol, beverage alcohol, cereal, etc), it’s very difficult to select more than 1 or 2 of them before it removes the others from the list.

**Answer:** Molly Burress

This is great feedback. We are always available to help users troubleshoot. So, please feel free to reach out if you would like to screenshare or if you have other recommendations. My understanding is if users hold down the control button, the user should be able to quickly select multiple attributes as long as that attribute applies to the commodity or data type that is selected under “Group”. If this is still functional and not clear, we will recommend adding instructions to the app or the Documentation for clarity.

**Answer:** Angelica Williams

One suggestion is to just download all the information and then make a selection. But, we're continuing to improve. We're always looking at ways to improve our product. We appreciate all the feedback and suggestions. We'll take them into consideration.

**Question:** Lincoln Herrington

Does yield data always align with what's on quick stats?

**Answer:** Angelica Williams

For yields, it should. As I mentioned the main data sources are NASS and we also pull information from WASDE.

**Answer:** Kelly Maguire

The data should align because we're pulling from the same data sources. If you're finding that they're not in alignment, reach out directly to Angelica and we can try to troubleshoot what might be going on.

**Answer:** Angelica Williams

Yes, we want to match across all agencies.

**Question:** Simla Tokgoz

For transport data of feed grains, are you relying on AMS data? If so, any plans to consider
Freight Analysis Framework of Bureau of Transportation Statistics?
Any plans to expand transport data for spatial disaggregation, rather than total transport data for U.S., such as publishing transport volumes from location A to B?

**Answer:** Angelica Williams

That's a great question. I think it's worth considering and we'll be happy to discuss it with our team. And of course, feel free to reach out. It's something we haven't looked into yet but we are continuing to improve our products and we always appreciate suggestions.

**Question:** Katelyn McCullock

Is there a resource for how the current GCAU and RCAUs are calculated and is the methodology revisited?

**Answer:** Angelica Williams

Yes. There are a few papers. Feel free to reach out and I will share that information with you. Some of these papers are a bit dated, but about revising it, it's in discussions. Thank you very much for bringing it up. We will look into adding additional resources to our Documentation regarding GCAU and RCAU calculations.

**Resources:**


**Question:** Jerry Gidel

There's a 2-day lag for feed grain outlook report?

**Answer:** Angelica Williams

Yes. We update the database on the first business day after WASDE report. So, you will be able to access that information the next business day after the WASDE report comes out. And yes, there is a two-day lag for the feed outlook tables as well, the compressed version of the larger feed grains tables. That allows two days for analysts to work on pulling together our charts and analysis. The report includes a wide description and two days is when we are able to have it ready at this time.
**Answer:** Molly Burress

That's been the convention the Feed Grains Outlook has for publication timing for quite some time. There is quite a bit of analysis and writing and editing that goes on. So, I don't foresee that we would change that timeline, but that would be an issue that we would discuss with the World Board.

**Answer:** Angelica Williams

As an analyst, I can tell you it's just the time. We have to pull together information to put it together, write the report, create the charts. We're striving to do the best we can, but even two days is sometimes tough.

**Answer:** Molly Burress

We have multiple levels of review at ERS that have to approve those products, and also have the World Board that must approve what goes out in that report.
Breakout 3B: Understanding Publicly Available Data from USDA-Risk Management Agency

**Question:** Benjamin Diamond

What is the difference between Commodity Year and Reinsurance Year?

**Answer:** Ben Marcy

It depends by crop. Sometimes they can be the same. Sometimes they can be different. So an example of that might be a crop that is planted in the fall and is planted in a different calendar year than the next year when it would be harvested. I'm thinking of wheat planted in the fall. That is going to be harvested in the crop year, next year 2024. That is also the same reinsurance year for that. We have other crops that have different reinsurance year and crop year. It's a crop-by-crop basis as to what they are.

**Answer:** Xuan Pham

Florida citrus would be an example. Reinsurance year doesn't match up with crop year. If you have questions like that, reach out to us. We are happy to look at the data to help with that. There is a link on the website to explain what an insurance cycle is.

**Written Answer:**


**Question:** Benjamin Diamond

Would it be possible to add customization to the Historical Reports like the Report Generator for SOB?

**Answer:** Michael Hibbs

I'm not sure if it's possible or not. It's a simple one-click report and this is the first time anyone has ever shown that sort of interest. If there is interest, please email us and let us know so someone can look into it.

**Question:** Cole Henderson

Is there any way to get historical RMA reports in excel or other format that is not a pdf?

**Answer:** Michael Hibbs

Currently, the only ability is to print to PDF. These are non-customizable reports rather than one-click reports. If there is interest, we would want you to email us and let us know so
someone can look into it.

**Question:** Benjamin Diamond

I get a message with the generated RMA SOB Weekly Report: **Aggregated policy and unit counts may be overstated due to the possibility that multiple coverage levels can exist on an individual underlying policy. For accurate aggregate policy and unit counts, please refer to the SOB prepared reports available at https://www.rma.usda.gov/Information-Tools/Summary-of-Business.** Why are the unit counts handled differently between the two reports?

**Answer:** Michael Hibbs

The policy count at the coverage level percent view, when generating a report, has the message that the counts may be overstated because a policy can have more than one coverage level, whereas the SOB prepared reports are counted at a level higher than the coverage level, and does not include coverage level percent. Therefore, the prepared reports counts are more accurate with what we consider a policy when we are counting policies.

**Question:** Roberto Sanchez

Do we have data in the PRISM database for Hawaii and US territories? or do you have it in a different database?

**Answer:** James Hipple

We don't have Hawaii in there, but we just signed an agreement for the development of similar data set with Oregon State University for Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the agricultural areas in Alaska. Areas where crop insurance is offered. Those are under development. That's going to be a year and a half or so before the data are completed in a similar fashion in the current prism data set, and they will be available through the PRISM Public Portal when complete.

**Question:** Ford Ramsey

Are more detailed definitions of causes of loss provided anywhere on the website? Have there been changes in the causes of loss allowed and thus changes in causes of loss that could be found in the data in different years?

**Answer:** Ben Marcy

We have listings and definitions on causes of loss on the website. We also have a listing on what companies can submit in for cause of loss. Different policies cover different things. Those are things that change over time. You can see that it's varied in the website as a listing of the ICE tables that have that. That's something we can share for this year, where to find it and where to go back and see those. My guess is that they have changed but not a lot depending on what we are covering out there.
They do change. There is a new cause of loss tropical storm option. That's something I have found when looking at the data recently. Feel free to reach out to us. We are happy to get someone who knows the answer to address them.

Question: Marvin Miller

Can you please provide one or two quick examples of how you might use the Prism data?

Answer: James Hipple

A quick example of the way compliance uses PRISM -- we have tool sets available for the compliance investigators and loss adjustors to aid in the documentation of weather-related causes of loss aside tied to a loss claim. PRISM provides a common data set and tool set to assist the loss adjustor in ensuring that the loss is appropriately adjusted, it provides the compliance investigator those same tools and same data set to ensure the AIP is effective in their job. A second example might be for looking at impacts of widespread drought or excess prescription. We can use the prism data set along with other policy information and look at effects within a given year on the program.

Question: Marc Rosenbohm

I have been looking for two specific data series related to crop insurance. Can you tell me where I might find 1) the A&O costs for every year, and 2) the underwriting gain/loss total for every year?

Answer: Xuan Pham

I know we do publish cost data, but I don’t know where on the website it is. Mark, I'll put my e-mail into the chat. Please reach out and we'll see if we can get information for you if it's something we can share.

Written Answer:

Underwriting gain/loss total is available here: Reinsurance Reports | RMA (usda.gov)

A&O costs are available here: Crop Year Government Cost of Federal Crop Insurance Program (usda.gov)

General information about program budget is available here: Program Budget | RMA (usda.gov).

Question: Jeff Koenig

Is the sole data for the PRISM product satellite and radar?

Answer: James Hipple

PRISM doesn't use satellite and radar at all. The weather data sources the observation or the
ground networks across the U.S. for weather stations like various mesonets and other ground station networks. The radar data used in it is from the stations used predominantly in the Eastern portion of the U.S. from NEXRAD and is used to assist in generating the PRISM grids.

Question: Jeff Koenig

How is PRISM data is used inside RMA?

Written Answer: Jim Hipple

Like the above answer, an example of the way compliance uses PRISM, we have tool sets based upon the PRISM datasets available for the compliance investigators aiding them in reviewing policy weather related causes of loss tied to a loss claim. It provides documentation to aid the investigator in determining that the loss is appropriately adjusted. A second example might be for looking at impacts of widespread drought or excess prescription. We use the PRISM data along with other policy information and look at effects within a given year on the program, we can also look back historically and compare events (like the drought in 2012 vs 2022).
Presentation Slides

Following this page are the slides presented during the Data Users’ Meeting.

- Agency Updates
- Breakout Session 1A: Focus on the 2022 Census of Agriculture
- Breakout Session 1B: The Use of Weather Information in Producing the WASDE
- Breakout Session 2A: NASS Historical Revisions and Estimating Program Review
- Breakout Session 2B: AMS Data Visualizations
- Open Forum
- Breakout Session 3A: ERS Feed Grains Database: A comprehensive look at this valuable resource
- Breakout Session 3B: Understanding Publicly Available Data from USDA-Risk Management Agency
2023
USDA Fall Data Users’ Meeting

October 17 & 18, 2023

Joe Parsons
Chair, Agricultural Statistics Board
Housekeeping

• Closed captioning available through the Closed Caption button in Zoom.

• All sessions will be recorded and available on our website: https://www.nass.usda.gov/Education_and_Outreach/Meeting/index.php

• Slides and transcript of Q&A with any additional questions we don’t have time to answer will be available on our website after the meeting.
Questions/Issues

Q&A – Questions will be answered live during Open Forum

Chat – Technical Issues

Email - Marisa.Reuber@usda.gov or Vincent.Davis@usda.gov
Day 1 Agenda

All Times Eastern

12:00pm  Welcome and Overview
12:10pm  Agency Updates
12:50pm  Break
1:00pm   Breakout Session #1
2:55pm   Break
2:05pm   Breakout Session #2
3:00pm   End
Day 2 Agenda

All Times Eastern
12:00pm Open Forum
1:20pm Break
1:30pm Breakout Session #3
2:25pm End
# Breakout Sessions

<table>
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<tr>
<th>All times Eastern</th>
<th>Session A</th>
<th>Session B</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Day 1 – October 17</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Focus on the 2022 Census of Agriculture</td>
<td>The Use of Weather Information in Producing the WASDE</td>
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<td><em>National Agricultural Statistics Service</em></td>
<td><em>World Agricultural Outlook Board</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>2:05 p.m.</td>
<td>NASS Historical Revisions and Estimating Program Review</td>
<td>AMS Data Visualizations</td>
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<td><em>National Agricultural Statistics Service</em></td>
<td><em>Agricultural Marketing Service</em></td>
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<td><strong>Day 2 – October 18</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>ERS Feed Grains Database: A comprehensive look at this valuable resource</td>
<td>Understanding Publicly Available Data from USDA-Risk Management Agency</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Economic Research Service</em></td>
<td><em>Risk Management Agency</em></td>
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Panelists

- Paul Trupo, Foreign Agricultural Service
- Mark Jekanowski, World Agricultural Outlook Board
- Tony Dorn, National Agricultural Statistics Service
- Kelly Maguire, Economic Research Service
- Tim Gravlin, Farm Service Agency
- Michael Sheats, Agricultural Marketing Service
- Joseph DeCampo, U.S. Census Bureau
Foreign Agricultural Service

Paul Trupo
Senior Director
Global Policy Analysis
World Agricultural Outlook Board

Mark Jekanowski

World Agricultural Outlook Board Chair
2023 Fall Data Users Meeting
October 17, 2023

Tony Dorn
Statistics Division
In 2024, planted acreage estimates for barley, corn, cotton, dry edible beans, oats, peanuts, rice, sorghum, soybeans, sugarbeets, Durum wheat, other spring wheat, and winter wheat will be reviewed in the August Crop Production Report.

In 2024, chickpeas, corn, cotton, dry edible peas, lentils, peanuts, rice, sorghum, soybeans, and sugarbeets estimates will be reviewed in the September Crop Production Report. October will contain canola, dry edible beans and sunflower potential planted acreage updates.

The Grain Crushing and Co-Products Production Annual Report was moved from March to September, beginning in 2023.
What’s New - Crops

Due to confidentiality and quality, “Vegetable foots, raw and acidulated” in the Fats & Oils Report was discontinued. Sorghum consumed for fuel alcohol was discontinued in the Grain Crushings Report, but available from EIA.

Following the 2022 Census of Agriculture, crop final estimates will be released in QuickStats in early 2024.

In the fall of 2023, the review of the crop estimating program will begin, considering public input and data from the 2022 Census of Agriculture.
On January 11, 2023, the highly anticipated NASS Cost of Pollination report was released with 2017 and 2022 data.

Following the 2022 Census of Agriculture, livestock final estimates will be released in QuickStats.

In the fall of 2023, the review of the livestock estimating program will begin, considering public input and data from the 2022 Census of Agriculture.
On April 28, 2023, the monthly Agricultural Prices was released that uses an updated annual benchmark methodology for all monthly prices paid indexes.

On May 12, 2023, the Field Crops Chemical Usage data were released. On July 19, 2023, the Vegetable Chemical Usage data were released.

On August 25, 2023, county level cash rents estimates were released.
On August 17, 2023, the Technology Use, formerly called the Farm Computer Usage and Ownership Report, was released. The title was changed to better reflect the content of the data in the release.

Following the 2022 Census of Agriculture, economic final estimates will be released in QuickStats.
What’s New – 2022 Census of Agriculture

Data collection for the 2022 Census of Agriculture wrapped up this summer. Editing, analysis, and data review will continue throughout 2023. Release is tentatively planned for February 2024.

NASS continues to realize increased responses received from its enhanced online reporting system. Nearly 40% of all responses were collected using this online tool. That is compared to just under 25% five years ago.

As part of the Census of Agriculture Program, NASS conducts ag censuses in the territories of American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Planning is in full swing for these outlying areas with data collection set to begin in early 2024.
What’s New – 2024 Census Special Studies

The 2023 Irrigation and Water Management Survey (IWMS) is an integral part of the Census of Agriculture and is conducted every five years. The primary purpose of IWMS is to provide a wide range of irrigation–related data covering water usage, irrigation practices, irrigation by type, irrigation by crop, expenses, sources of information, purchase of energy for pumping water by power source, and use of recycled or reclaimed water. Data collection is set to begin in January 2023 with a release intended for later in the year.

The 2023 Census of Aquaculture is also being planned. It is also conducted under the authority of the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997 and participation is also mandatory. The primary purpose of the Census of Aquaculture is to provide inventory, production, value of sales and sales outlets, and distribution of fish not sold. Data collection is set to begin in December 2023 with the release intended before the end of 2024.
What’s New - Modernization

Respondent Portal

- Streamlined authentication process.
- Central point to respond to all NASS surveys.
- Ability to create user accounts and see past survey responses.
- Future enhancements include improved performance, ability for farmers to build and save custom home pages, and integration with the USDA Farmers.gov website.

Dissemination System

- Milk production, Economic and Field Crop data are currently available in the new format. [https://data.nass.usda.gov/dairy/milk-production/](https://data.nass.usda.gov/dairy/milk-production/)
- Future – horticulture, floriculture, demographics, poultry, fruits, nuts and vegetables, Census and more.
What’s New - Modernization

**DAIRY – MILK PDI**
Released August 10, 2023

**FIELD CROPS – ACREAGE**
Released August 15, 2023

**ECONOMICS – FARMS & LAND IN FARMS**
Released August 10, 2023

**DAIRY – MONTHLY MILK PRODUCTION**
December 2022 – August 2023 Releases
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All reports available at:</th>
<th>• <a href="http://www.nass.usda.gov">www.nass.usda.gov</a></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Questions via phone</td>
<td>• (800) 727 - 9540</td>
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<td>Questions via internet</td>
<td>• <a href="mailto:nass@usda.gov">nass@usda.gov</a></td>
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Supporting Farmers and Rural America through Premier Economic Data & Research

Kelly Maguire, Assistant Administrator

USDA Economic Research Service

NASS Data Users’ Meeting
November 17, 2023
ERS anticipates trends and emerging issues in agriculture, food, the environment, and rural America and conducts high-quality, objective economic research to inform and enhance public and private decision making.
In Fiscal Year 2023 ERS released:

- 169 publications including ERS Reports, Outlook Newsletters, Amber Waves Features, & more
- 99 journal articles in peer reviewed publications
- 14 webinars, including 5 data training webinars
Recent ERS Reports
Data Product Updates

- Wheat data
- Season-average price forecasts
- Dairy data
- Feed grains database
- Meat price spreads
- Atlas of rural and small-town America
- Livestock and meat international trade data
- Sugar & sweeteners yearbook tables
- Agricultural trade multipliers
- And much more....
Data Visualizations

Over 60 data visualizations built on public Tableau platform
Recent Charts of Note
Emerging Issues

- Climate Change
- Equity
- Food Price Inflation
- Commodity Transportation Challenges
- Crop Disease, Citrus Greening
- Pollinator Health, Markets
- Rising Prevalence of Meat Alternatives
- Much More...
Expanding Data Accessibility

Data Training Webinar Series
• Spotlighting available data products & how to use them
  – Area & Road Ruggedness Scales
  – Food Price Outlook
  – Farm Income & Wealth Statistics
  – Price Spreads from Farm to Consumer
  – Many others & more to come!

Standard Application Process for Accessing Restricted Data
• Joint effort with the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy to build a standard application process & portal for requesting use of restricted-access data

Partnership with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
• $1.4 million in research grants aimed at improving equitable healthy food access using USDA’s Consumer Food Data System

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Farm Service Agency

Tim Gravlin
Acting Data Officer
Agricultural Marketing Service Update

USDA Fall Data Users’ Meeting
October 17-18, 2023

Michael E. Sheats
Director, Livestock, Poultry, and Grain
Market News Division

Livestock and Poultry Program
Agricultural Marketing Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Latest Data Initiatives

• USDA Mobile Application, Ver. 3.0
• Organic Data Initiatives
• Dynamic Data Visualizations
  • Cattle Contracts Library Pilot
  • Livestock Auction Dashboard
  • Meat Grading Dashboard
United States Census Bureau

Joseph DeCampo
Section Chief
International Trade Indicator Micro Analysis Branch
Day 1 Breakout Sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All times Eastern</th>
<th>Session A</th>
<th>Session B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1:00 p.m.         | Focus on the 2022 Census of Agriculture  
                   National Agricultural Statistics Service | The Use of Weather Information In Producing the WASDE  
                   World Agricultural Outlook Board |
| 1:55 p.m.         | 10 Minute Break |         |
| 2:05 p.m.         | NASS Historical Revisions and Estimating  
                   Program Review  
                   National Agricultural Statistics Service | AMS Data Visualizations  
                   Agricultural Marketing Service |

Links to join are separate and can be found in:
- Your registration or reminder email
- Emailed Booklet
- Chat window
Focus on the
2022 Census of Agriculture

Fall 2023 Data Users Meeting
Overview

Donald Buysse – Chief, Census Planning Branch
  • Learn how the mail list is created and data is collected.

Jeff Bailey – Chief, Summary, Estimation and Disclosure Methodology Branch
  • Understand the processes NASS uses to account for all farms and the accuracy of the data.

Tony Dorn – Chief, Environmental, Economics and Demographics Branch
  • Discover the many products that will be available during the year following the Census of Agriculture.
List Building

• **Online sign-up** always active

• Gather lists from a variety of sources

• Send a *National Agricultural Classification Survey*

• Determine if there is any agricultural activity
Finalizing the Census Mail List

2019
- Capture data from 2017 CoA
- Conduct National Agricultural Classification Survey 1 (100K)

2020
- Conduct National Agricultural Classification Survey 2 (350K)

2021
- Conduct National Agricultural Classification Survey 3 (600K)

2022
- Conduct National Agricultural Classification Survey 4 (1.1M)
- Finalize CML
- Define NML – Area Survey
Census Data Collection

Area Coverage Evaluation Survey

• Conducted in the census reference year

• Additional Segments in the annual June Area Survey

• Critical for Dual System Estimation Methodology

• Measures the coverage provided by the Census Mail List
Census Data Collection

- Field Enumeration – November 2022
- Online “Push” Mailing – late November 2022
- Questionnaire Mailing – mid December
- Email Reminder – early January
- Online “Push” Mailing 2 – mid January
- Due Date – February 6, 2023
- Questionnaire Mailing 2 – mid February
- Email Reminder – early March
- Questionnaire Mailing 3 – late March
- Four Page Farm Status Mailing – mid April
- Targeted Non-response Follow-up - May – June 2023
Data Collection

Historic CoA Returns by Mode

*Includes toll-free helpline
Schedule

Data Collection and Processing
  ▪ November 2022 – June 2023
Editing and Imputation
  ▪ January – July 2023
Data Analysis and Review
  ▪ April – November 2023
Summarization, Weighting, and Disclosure
  ▪ August – December 2023
Release Preparations
  ▪ December 2023 – February 2024
Goal: To accurately measure all farms in the United States.

Adjustments made for:

- **Coverage**: The Census mail list is incomplete.
- **Non-response**: Everyone does not respond to the Census.
- **Misclassification**:
  - A farm may be classified as a non-farm (undercount)
  - A non-farm may be classified as a farm (overcount)
Weighting Adjustments - 2017

- 62.4% - Responses
- 15.1% - Coverage adjustment
- 13.9% - Non-response adjustment
- 8.6% - Misclassification adjustment
### Table A. Summary of U.S. Coverage, Nonresponse, and Misclassification Adjustments: 2017

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text.]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Standard error</th>
<th>Adjustment as percent of total</th>
<th>Percent of total adjustment from coverage</th>
<th>Percent of total adjustment from nonresponse</th>
<th>Percent of total adjustment from misclassification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farms .............. number</td>
<td>2,042,220</td>
<td>43,278</td>
<td>37.6</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land in farms ........ acres</td>
<td>900,217,576</td>
<td>15,031,334</td>
<td>22.7</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Census Accuracy

- Measure of Variability due weighting adjustments
- Non-sampling errors
  - List maintenance
  - Questionnaire comprehension (paper or web)
  - Processing (edit, analysis, summary)
Measures of Variability

Table A. Summary of U.S. Coverage, Nonresponse, and Misclassification Adjustments: 2017

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text.]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<td>4.4</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

95% Confident Interval (+ or – 1.96 Standard Error)
(1,957,3477 – 2,127, 063)
Disclosure Protections

- Laws, regulation and policy protect the data
- Maintain trust with data providers
Disclosure Protections

• Only 1 or 2 reports, value will be suppressed
• If there are 3 or more report, dominance is calculated
• Additional Cells suppress (complements) to prevent deriving primary cells

Dominance: If Published value – sum of two largest reports < p% of largest report then cell is not published.
Table 31. **Fruits and Nuts: 2017 and 2012** (continued)

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text.]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geographic area</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Farms</td>
<td>Acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BANANAS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States ............................................. 2017</td>
<td>1,467</td>
<td>2,139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>1,169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>States, 2017</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California ..................................................</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>(D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida .....................................................</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawaii ......................................................</td>
<td>1,114</td>
<td>1,159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi ...............................................</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina ...........................................</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas ......................................................</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>(D)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Products

• Similar Products to 2017.
• Hemp Special Study will be added as a Custom Census Product.
• Schedule of key products is on the NASS ASB Release Calendar.
• Similar to before, some special products will be released with the Census of Agriculture, and some will be released later in the year.
• The Ag Census Web maps will still be available, but the 16 dot density Ag Atlas maps will be discontinued because they are redundant with the Ag Census web maps.
• A prototype Story Map will be provided for demographics.
Products

Reports

Online Resources
- Quick Stats
- Maps
- Highlights
- Zip Code Tabulations

Subject Series
- American Indian Reservations
- Watersheds
- Typology
- Specialty Crops

Rankings and Profiles
- State and County
- Race, Ethnicity, Gender
- Market Value of Ag Products
- Congressional Districts

- U.S. By Table
- States by Table
- Appendix A, B
- County Level Data
- Puerto Rico
- Guam
- U.S. Virgin Islands
- American Samoa
- Northern Mariana Islands
Products Released with the Census

- [https://www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus/index.php](https://www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus/index.php)
- US Volume 1
- State Volume 1
- Ag Census Highlights
- Subject Series

Products Released soon after the Census

- State Profiles
- County Profiles
- Rankings: Market Value of Ag Products Sold
- Congressional District Profiles
- Race, Ethnicity and Gender Profiles
- Watersheds
- American Indian Reservations
- Ag Census Web Maps
- Specialty Crops
- Zip Code Tabulations
Products Released after 2024

• Guam
• Northern Mariana Islands
• U.S. Virgin Islands
• American Samoa
• Specialty Crops for Outlying Areas
• Typology
• History
Products – Census Special Studies

• 2023 Irrigation and Water Management Survey
• 2023 Census of Aquaculture

• 2024 Tenure, Ownership and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL)
• 2024 Census of Horticulture Specialties

• 2025 Organic Survey
• 2025 Local Food Marketing Practices Surveys
Questions?
The Use of Weather Information in Producing the WASDE

Mark D. Brusberg
Chief Meteorologist
USDA Office of the Chief Economist / World Agricultural Outlook Board

Presented to the
USDA/National Agricultural Statistics Service
Fall Data Users’ Meeting
October 17, 2023
### World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates

**U.S. Department of Agriculture**

**Office of the Chief Economist**

**Agricultural Marketing Service**

**Farm Service Agency**

**Economic Research Service**

**Foreign Agricultural Service**

**WASDE - 639** Approved by the World Agricultural Outlook Board August 11, 2023

---

**WHEAT:** The outlook for 2023/24 U.S. wheat is for decreased supplies, slightly lower demand, and reduced exports and imports. Supplies are reduced as wheat production is forecast at 1,734 million bushels, down 5 million from last month as lower Other Spring and White wheat production is partially offset by increases for Hard Red Winter, Soft Red Winter, and Durum. The all wheat yield is 45.6 bushels per acre, lower than last month as the drought conditions in the Midwest persist, but remain above the 44.6 bushels per acre of last year.

**COARSE GRAINS:** This month’s 2023/24 U.S. corn outlook is for reduced supplies, lower domestic use, reduced exports, and higher ending stocks. Projected beginning stocks for 2023/24 are 55 million bushels higher based on a lower use forecast for 2022/23, reflecting reductions in corn used for exports, glucose, and distillers feed, and ethanol. Corn production for 2023/24 is forecast at 15.1 billion bushels, down 100 million from 2022/23. The season’s first survey-based corn yield forecast, at 175.1 bushels per acre, is 2.4 bushels lower than last month’s projection. Today’s Crop Production report indicates that among the major producing States, yields are forecast above a year ago in Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska, Ohio, and South Dakota. Yields in Illinois, Minnesota, and Missouri are forecast below a year ago.

**The global wheat outlook for 2023/24 is for reduced supplies, lower consumption, reduced trade, and lower stocks. Supplies are projected to decline 4.3 million tons to 1,061.7 million tons as reduced production for the EU, China, and Canada is only partially offset by increases for Ukraine and Kazakhstan. The EU is lowered 3.0 million tons to 135.0 million tons, primarily due to reductions for Spain, Lithuania, and Romania. China is reduced 3.0 million tons to 137.0 million tons, based on the National Bureau of Statistics summer grain production forecast. Canada is decreased 2.0 million tons to 33.0 million tons on worsening drought conditions in the Prairie Provinces. Ukraine is increased 3.5 million tons to 21.0 million tons on higher area harvested and yields with the forecast yield the second highest on record. Kazakhstan is raised 1.0 million tons to 15.0 million tons on higher area reported by Kazakhstan’s Bureau of National Statistics.**

---

In June and August 1972, the United States sold to the Soviet Union about 100 million bushels of wheat for approximately $700 million, more than the total U.S. commercial wheat exports for the year beginning in July 1971. The sales were equivalent to 10 percent of annual U.S. wheat production during the previous five years and more than 40 percent of the wheat used for domestic food during that period. The sales involved a series of subterfuge transactions following an agreement whereby the U.S. Government made available credit of $700 million to Russia for the purchase of grain over a three-year period. Previously, the Russians had purchased only a relatively small quantity of U.S. farm products.

Immediately following the sales announcements, the domestic price of wheat began to rise, and within a few months the prices of feed and food grade, sorghum, and barley turned upward and continued to rise at a high rate during most of the next twelve months (Chart 1). By year-end, farm prices had also moved sharply upward. The prices of wheat almost tripled during the year ending in August 1973. The prices of corn and sorghum rose more than doubled, and the prices of barley, oats, and oats and barley rose 80, 150, and 150 percent, respectively (Table 1). The students price index of all farm products rose 90 percent, and the wholesale price of food increased 20 percent.6

6. Since $700 million of this credit could be contracting at any time.


In recent weeks most of these farm commodity prices have declined somewhat from the mid-August 1973 levels, but retail food prices have generally continued upward.

A number of critics have attributed these sharp price increases to the Russian wheat transactions. The General Accounting Office (GAO), in a review of the issue, questioned the United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) management of the wheat export subsidy program. The GAO concluded that the

Former National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger had this to say about record July 1972 Soviet grain purchases from the United States:

- “Our intelligence about Soviet needs was appalling.
- Our knowledge of what was happening in our markets was thin.
- The U.S. Government was simply not organized at the time to supervise or even monitor private grain sales as a foreign policy matter.”
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE
U.S. Department of Commerce
AND THE
U.S. Department of Agriculture

1. General Information

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) has responsibility for supporting and sustaining economic growth and development, and, through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), has responsibility for understanding, monitoring, and predicting weather and climate, including variations and changes in climate extremes, oceans, and coasts, and for sharing knowledge and information of interest to agriculture, forestry, and rural and urban communities to enhance the resilience of economics and ecosystems, across the Nation;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (Agriculture) has responsibility within the Federal Government to monitor and assess national and international food supplies and natural resource conditions, and acquire, analyze, and interprets weather and climate information for the purpose of providing appropriate information related to the impacts of weather and climate on ecosystems, rural communities, forestry, and agricultural production to the people of the United States; and

WHEREAS, there is increasing risk and vulnerability to rural and urban communities, tribal lands, the agricultural and forestry sectors, transport, and utilities from extreme weather events such as drought, flood, fire, tropical cyclones, and periods of high temperature, and there is evidence that these risks are changing due to climate change;

NOW, THEREFORE, Commerce and Agriculture enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) covering cooperative efforts to advance the development, sharing and application of weather, climate, economic and demographic information for risk management with respect to agriculture, forestry, and other resource management decisions, with an emphasis on food and energy security, international trade, water availability, water management and ecosystem protection in the face of changing environmental, economic, and social conditions.

2. Reference and Authorities

Commerce enters into this MOU pursuant to the authority vested in it by 15 U.S.C 313; Agriculture enters into this MOU pursuant to the authority vested in it by 7 U.S.C. 2201. This MOU supersedes the 1999 agreement between the two Departments relating to coordination and cooperation in climate and weather matters.
* Random sampling of available daily weather data

* Most have data since at least 1982 (many with normals)

1 United Nations World Meteorological Organization
Data obtained by CPC from the Mexican weather bureau are incorporated into the weekly rainfall chart created for the *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin* and are provided separately to USDA analysts for their analysis of crop weather impacts.
Primary vs. Secondary sources of weather data

The maps above highlight the differences that arise using WMO data, which are sparse in coverage, versus the supplemental rain gauge data, which provides a denser network of stations and a better representation of rainfall.
Primary vs. Secondary sources of weather data

Comparison with other sources of information, including satellite derived estimates (CMORPH), support the rain gauge analysis.

Vegetative Health Index
Week 26 Difference (2023 vs 2022)

Source: NOAA/NESDIS
*Canadian Drought Monitor
Conditions as of June 30, 2023

*Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Ukraine: Station Location
(Before and After Invasion)

February 1, 2022

March 14, 2022
Brazil

2\textsuperscript{nd} Crop Corn Production

*Average (2017-19)

\begin{itemize}
  \item Minor
  \item Production Intensity
  \item Major
\end{itemize}

*Source: IBGE

\textbf{Aw:} Tropical wet and dry

\textbf{Cr:} Subtropical Rain

2\textsuperscript{nd} Corn crop calendar for most of Brazil

- \textbf{Planting}
- \textbf{Flower}
- \textbf{Fill}
- \textbf{Harvesting}

\begin{tabular}{cccccccc}
JAN & FEB & MAR & APR & MAY & JUN & JUL & AUG & SEP & OCT & NOV & DEC \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
Brazil: Normal Daily Rainfall (mm)

Entered Dry Season

Early May

Parana MT

Parana

MT
Abundant Rain, Then Dry

April Lockup
Mato Grosso
Cumulative Precipitation (mm)

Normal rainfall through May 31: 127 mm

*Contribution to National Corn Production
47% of 2nd Crop / 34% Total

* 3-Year Average (2018/19-2020/21; CONAB)

## Planting Progress

*Source: IMEA

---

### Jan 21
10%

### Feb 7
50%

### March 5
95%

---

### 2022

### Average
Mato Grosso Rainfall (mm)

*Plant to Dent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planting Dates</th>
<th>Yields / Trend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018: Feb 17</td>
<td>5.86 (-2.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021: Feb 25</td>
<td>5.63 (-14.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022: Feb 7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VHI

Precipitation

Yields / Trend

- 2017
- 2021
- 2022
## Agricultural Weather Assessments

**OCE/World Agricultural Outlook Board**

### Actual Yield (CONAB): 6.39

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>early Percentage</th>
<th>early partial Percentage</th>
<th>late Percentage</th>
<th>late partial percentage</th>
<th>cumulative yield</th>
<th>% Departure from Trend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>6.25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6.25</td>
<td>-7.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
<td>5.9375</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.2475</td>
<td>6.19</td>
<td>-8.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>5.625</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.495</td>
<td>6.12</td>
<td>-9.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85</td>
<td>5.3125</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0.7425</td>
<td>6.06</td>
<td>-10.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0.99</td>
<td>5.99</td>
<td>-11.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>4.6875</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1.2375</td>
<td>5.93</td>
<td>-12.61</td>
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<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>4.375</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1.485</td>
<td>5.86</td>
<td>-13.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>4.0625</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>1.7325</td>
<td>5.80</td>
<td>-14.53</td>
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<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>3.75</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>1.98</td>
<td>5.73</td>
<td>-15.49</td>
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<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>3.4375</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>2.2275</td>
<td>5.67</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2.7225</td>
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<td>40</td>
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<td>2.97</td>
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<tr>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>1.875</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>3.465</td>
<td>5.34</td>
<td>-21.24</td>
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<td>25</td>
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<td>3.7125</td>
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<tr>
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<td>80</td>
<td>3.96</td>
<td>5.21</td>
<td>-23.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>0.9375</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>4.2075</td>
<td>5.15</td>
<td>-24.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.625</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>4.455</td>
<td>5.08</td>
<td>-25.07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Early (low range)** based on VHI, soil moisture through dent (mid-April) 6.25

**Late (low range)** based on mid-May VHI, May average soil moisture 4.95

**Trend Value** 6.78

*Actual Yield (CONAB): 6.39*
SST ANOMALIES °C
JAN 05, 1997

SOURCE: NOAA
During El Niño conditions, the average air pressure is higher in Darwin than in Tahiti. Therefore, the change in air pressures in the South Pacific and water temperature in the East Pacific Ocean, 8,000 miles (13,000 km) away, are related.

https://www.weather.gov/jetstream/enso
La Niña and Rainfall

La Niña conditions in the tropical Pacific are known to shift rainfall patterns in many different parts of the world. Although they vary somewhat from one La Niña to the next, the strongest shifts remain fairly consistent in the regions and seasons shown on the map below.

For more information on El Niño and La Niña, go to: http://iri.columbia.edu/enso

Sources:
1. Ropelewski, C. F. and M. S. Halpert, 1987: Precipitation patterns associated with the high index phase of the Southern Oscillation. J. Climate., 2, 268-284,
Yields typically rebound following La Niña growing season!

Droughts are common during El Niño years, with some notable exceptions.

More variability in yields, though many El Niño seasons have been marked by drought.

Brazil: Oilseed, Soybean

El Niño
La Niña
No clear pattern.

El Niño and Rainfall

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Agricultural Weather Assessments
OCE/World Agricultural Outlook Board

mark.brusberg@usda.gov

https://www.usda.gov/oce/weather-drought-monitor

Meteorologists in USDA's World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB) provide weather assessments and real-time yield intelligence for global crop conditions in support of the monthly World Agricultural Supply and Demands Estimates (WASDE) report. WAOB's meteorologists are also responsible for the publication of the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin and are contributing authors to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

Featured

- Daily U.S. Weather Highlights
- Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin
- U.S. Agriculture in Drought
Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin

- Published at JAWF since 1978
  - Keeps the agricultural sector apprised of changing crop and weather developments both nationally and internationally
  - Provides critical information to decision-makers formulating crop production forecasts and trade policy
  - Provides timely weather and crop information between the monthly lockups

- Product of 100+ years of evolution

- 1872: *Weekly Weather Chronicle*
  - Published by U.S. War Department
  - Brief summary of domestic weather

- 1888: *Weather Crop Bulletin*
  - Basic crop weather analyses for U.S.

- 1924: Final name change

U.S. Agricultural Weather Highlights

• Issued daily (Monday-Friday) by 9 a.m. Eastern Time

• Includes a current synopsis of U.S. agricultural weather conditions in four regions:
  – West
  – Plains
  – Corn Belt
  – South

• Outlook section describes expected U.S. weather conditions for 1- to 5-day and 6- to 10-day periods

TOPICS

Five-Year Revisions & Program Review

What

Why

How

When
FIVE-YEAR REVISIONS

What?

• Final Estimates – Last Revisions EVER
  • (For specified years)

• 2018-2022
  • After last Census, through current Census
FIVE-YEAR REVISIONS
Why?

• Late Data
  • Incorporate new information since last revision

• 2022 Census
  • Most comprehensive dataset

• History Matters
  • Prior years impact future estimates
FIVE-YEAR REVISIONS

How?

• QuickStats Only
  • No PDF publications
FIVE-YEAR REVISIONS

When?

- In most cases, before final 2023 estimates are published.
- January 3 – April 29
- County Estimates – mostly along with the normal release.
FIVE-YEAR REVISIONS

When?

• January
  • 3: Citrus Fruits, Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts, Vegetables
  • 9: Field Crops, Potatoes & Sweet Potatoes, Rice Stocks, Stocks of Grains, Oilseeds, & Hay
  • 11: Hogs and Pigs

• February
  • 2: Milk Cows and Production, Sheep and Goats
  • 13: Farms and Land in Farms
  • 16: Crop Values
  • 27: Cattle
FIVE-YEAR REVISIONS

When?

• March
  • 5: Chicken and Eggs

• April
  • 4: Agricultural Land Values
  • 8: Honey
  • 29: Meat Animals PDI, Milk PDI, Poultry Production and Value
PROGRAM REVIEW

What?

- Complete Review of all Estimating Programs
  - What commodities are included
  - What states are included for each commodity
  - Data items for each commodity
  - Frequency of estimates
PROGRAM REVIEW

When?

• **Beginning Fall 2023**
  - Opportunities for input
  - Federal Register Notice/ASB Notice

• **Finalized Early 2024**
  - Public announcement of results
  - Prior to beginning of 2024 “season”

• **Ongoing Changes**
  - Always addressed as needed
PROGRAM REVIEW

Why?

• **Agriculture Changes**
  - Our programs must change to stay relevant

• **Balance Needs vs Resources**
  - We don’t have unlimited resources
PROGRAM REVIEW

How?

• Request Input
  • Accumulation of previous requests
  • Formal call for input
  • USDA partners

• Review Census Data
  • Provides complete measure of agriculture
QUESTIONS
CONCLUSION/CONTACTS

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- David Garcia – Assistant Field Chief
  - david.garcia@usda.gov
- DASHBOARDS
  - https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/visualizations_lpgmn
2023
USDA Fall Data Users’ Meeting

October 17 & 18, 2023

Joe Parsons
Chair, Agricultural Statistics Board
Housekeeping

• Closed captioning available through the Closed Caption button in Zoom.

• All sessions yesterday were recorded and are available on our YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/usdanass

• Today’s sessions will also be recorded.

• Slides and transcript of Q&A with any additional questions we don’t have time to answer will be available on our website after the meeting.
Questions/Issues

Q&A – Questions will be answered live during Open Forum

Chat – Technical Issues

Email - Marisa.Reuber@usda.gov or Vincent.Davis@usda.gov
# Day 1 Breakout Sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All times Eastern</th>
<th>Session A</th>
<th>Session B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1:00 p.m.         | Focus on the 2022 Census of Agriculture  
                    *National Agricultural Statistics Service* | The Use of Weather Information in Producing the  
                    WASDE  
                    *World Agricultural Outlook Board* |
| 2:05 p.m.         | NASS Historical Revisions and Estimating Program Review  
                    *National Agricultural Statistics Service* | AMS Data Visualizations  
                    *Agricultural Marketing Service* |
Day 2 Agenda

*All Times Eastern*

12:00pm  Open Forum

1:20pm  Break

1:30pm  Breakout Session #3

2:25pm  End
# Day 2 Breakout Sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All times Eastern</th>
<th><strong>Session A</strong></th>
<th><strong>Session B</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>ERS Feed Grains Database: A comprehensive look at this valuable resource</strong></td>
<td><strong>Understanding Publicly Available Data from USDA-Risk Management Agency</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Economic Research Service</em></td>
<td><em>Risk Management Agency</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Panelists

• Paul Trupō, Foreign Agricultural Service
• Mark Jekanowski, World Agricultural Outlook Board
• Tony Dorn, National Agricultural Statistics Service
• Kelly Maguire, Economic Research Service
• Tim Gravlin, Farm Service Agency
• Michael Sheats, Agricultural Marketing Service
• Joseph DeCampo, U.S. Census Bureau
# Day 2 Breakout Sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All times Eastern</th>
<th><strong>Session A</strong></th>
<th><strong>Session B</strong></th>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Links to join are separate and can be found in
- Your registration or reminder email
- Emailed Booklet
- Chat window
Thank You!
ERS’ Feed Grains Database
A comprehensive look at this valuable resource

Angelica Williams
USDA Economic Research Service
Agricultural Economist

October 18, 2023
Overview

▪ What is the feed grains database?
▪ Coverage and importance
▪ How to access
▪ Capabilities and visualization
▪ Additional Feed Grains Products
▪ Documentation
What is the Feed Grains Database?

• Comprehensive component of USDA Economic Research Service’s data products.

• Modern System that contains data on:
  – Feed Grains (corn, grain sorghum, barley, oats)
  – Foreign Feed Grains (feed grains, rye, millet and mixed grains)
  – Hay
  – Additional items (animal unit indexes of grain and roughage)
Data Sources

USDA – AMS
Agricultural Marketing Service

USDA – NASS
National Agricultural Statistics Service

USDA – WASDE
World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates

USDA – FAS
Foreign Agricultural Service (Production, Supply & Distribution database)

USDA – ERS
Economic Research Services (own calculations)

Other resources

Feed Grains Database

USDA = U.S. Department of Agriculture
• The Database includes data published in
  – Feed Outlook Monthly Tables
  – Feed Grains Yearbook Tables
  – Feed Outlook Report
• Data available on a monthly, quarterly, and annual basis.
• Automated using drop downs.
Feed Grains Database - price data

Kansas City, MO cash-market prices for corn and sorghum, monthly average
U.S. Dollars per bushel

Source: ERS Feed Grains Database based on USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

Economic Research Service
www.ers.usda.gov
Accessing the Database

https://www.ers.usda.gov
Web App Access

Feed Grains Database

The Feed Grains Database is a statistical compilation of four feed grains (corn, grain sorghum, barley, and oats), foreign coarse grains (feed grains plus rye, millet, and mixed grains), hay, and related items. These statistics include data published in the monthly Feed Outlook and Feed Grains Yearbook tables. Data are displayed as monthly, quarterly, and/or annual depending upon the data series.

The key purpose of the Feed Grains Database is to provide a variety of current and historical time-series feed grain data, some of which cannot be found elsewhere, to the public in a user-friendly form. Available data include but are not limited to:

- Supply: beginning stocks, production, and imports;
- Demand: utilization for food, seed, and industrial uses, feed and residual, export, and ending stocks;
- Prices: farm and market prices;
- Quantities: concentrates, oilseed meals, and animal-and grain-protein feeds;
- Feed-price ratios for livestock, poultry, and milk;
- And more

The database is updated each month at noon EST on the first business day after the release of the World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report. Users can download data into Excel, XML and PDF file formats.

Enter the App

Feed Grains data search

To download all of the data in the database, see [Download Data](https://www.ers.usda.gov/FEED-GRAINS-custom-query.aspx)

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group (Commodity or Data Type)</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Geography</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grain, protein feeds</td>
<td>Alpha total</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Animal unit indices</td>
<td>Alpha, 17% protein</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barley</td>
<td>All animals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Byproduct feeds</td>
<td>Barley, 5% protein</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coarse grains</td>
<td>Barley grain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Attribute</td>
<td>Barley milling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alcohol for beverages and manufacturing use</td>
<td>Barley products</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol for fuel use</td>
<td>Barley, No. 1 feed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning stocks</td>
<td>Barley, No. 3 milling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grain and oil products list</td>
<td>Beans and distillers' crops &amp; waste</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disappearance per RCAU</td>
<td>Beans, grits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic disappearance</td>
<td>Cane on feed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ending stocks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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**Helpful Tips:**
- To undo your last selection, click the Back button in your browser.
- To select a range within a box, click on the first object. Without releasing the left mouse button, drag your cursor to the last desired object. Then release the left mouse button.
Feed Grains data search: narrowing down

## Feed Grains Database – Search options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group (Commodity or Data Type)</th>
<th>Data Attribute</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Geography</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Animal Unit Indexes</td>
<td>Alcohol for fuel use</td>
<td>Alcohol total</td>
<td>United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal protein feeds</td>
<td>Alcohol for manufacturing use</td>
<td>Barley feed, grain, malting, etc.</td>
<td>World</td>
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<tr>
<td>Energy feeds</td>
<td>Disappearance (domestic and per RCAU)</td>
<td>Alfalfa meal</td>
<td>World less U.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By product feeds</td>
<td></td>
<td>Broiler-feed</td>
<td>Different world regions (exports and imports)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed Grains (Corn, Barley, Sorghum, Oats, Wheat)</td>
<td>Exports and Imports (market year, trade year and from U.S. to specified destination)</td>
<td>Cattle on feed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grain protein ratios</td>
<td>Feed and residual use</td>
<td>Corn gluten feed and meal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oilseed meal feeds</td>
<td>Food, seed, and industrial use</td>
<td>Corn (products, grain, and meal)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processed feeds</td>
<td>Glucose and dextrose use</td>
<td>Dextrose</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply and use</td>
<td>Grain and roughage consuming units</td>
<td>Distillers dried grains</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coarse grains</td>
<td>Price (market, wholesale, received)</td>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exports and Imports</td>
<td>Yield and Acreage</td>
<td>Soybean meal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prices</td>
<td></td>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td></td>
<td>Oats</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Feed Grains Notes

• Corn
  – Total trade includes:
    • Grain (white, yellow, and seed)
    • Dry-process products (cornmeal, as grain, and grits)
    • wet-process products (cornstarch, sugar dextrose, glucose, and high-fructose corn syrup)

• Sorghum
  – U.S. exports include seed and unmilled sorghum
  – U.S. imports are grain only
Feed Grains Notes

• Barley
  – Trade:
    • U.S. exports include grain (grain for malting purposes, other) and barley malt
    • U.S. imports include grain (barley for malting, other), pearl barley, milled barley, and malted barley
  – Barley cash price, No. 2, Feed, Golden Triangle, MT and Barley, No. 3, Malting, Golden Triangle, MT

• Oats
  – Trade:
    • U.S. exports include grain and oatmeal (bulk and packaged)
    • U.S. imports include grain (hulled or unhulled), unhulled oats fit and unfit for human consumption, and oatmeal fit for human consumption
Price Notes

• Average prices received by farmers (for feed grains)
  – Most recent month is preliminary
  – Annual season average is based upon monthly prices weighted by monthly marketings

• Byproduct Feed prices
  – Meat and bone meal Central U.S.
  – Soymeal (44-percent solvent) from Central Illinois
Animal Units

- A standard unit used to compare animal numbers for all types of livestock and poultry
  - Based on the dry-weight quantity of feed consumed by the average milk cow
  - Reported in million pounds of feed unit
Feed Grains Database - Visualization

- Options to visualize/download:

  View Chart:  

  Download Data As:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Attribute</th>
<th>Commodity</th>
<th>Geography</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Commodity Market</td>
<td>Yield per harvested acre</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Bushels per acre</td>
<td>176.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Commodity Market</td>
<td>Yield per harvested acre</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Bushels per acre</td>
<td>167.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Commodity Market</td>
<td>Yield per harvested acre</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Bushels per acre</td>
<td>171.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Commodity Market</td>
<td>Yield per harvested acre</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Bushels per acre</td>
<td>176.70</td>
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<td>2022</td>
<td>Commodity Market</td>
<td>Yield per harvested acre</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Bushels per acre</td>
<td>173.34</td>
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<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>Commodity Market</td>
<td>Yield per harvested acre</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Bushels per acre</td>
<td>173.761</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Helpful Tips:
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Chart Example From FG Database

- Yield per harvested acre - Corn
Chart Example From FG Database

- U.S Exports - Sorghum
Data – Example query

Helpful Tips:
- To undo your last selection, click the
- To select a range within a box, click and drag with the mouse button.
### Feed Grains Database: Custom Query Results

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<th>Geography</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Q1 Sep-Nov</td>
<td>Food, seed, and industrial use</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Million bushels</td>
<td>1612.427</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Q2 Dec-Feb</td>
<td>Food, seed, and industrial use</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Million bushels</td>
<td>1508.726</td>
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<td>2020</td>
<td>Q3 Mar-May</td>
<td>Food, seed, and industrial use</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Million bushels</td>
<td>1674.283</td>
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<td>2020</td>
<td>Q4 Jun-Aug</td>
<td>Food, seed, and industrial use</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Million bushels</td>
<td>1671.209</td>
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<td>2021</td>
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<td>Food, seed, and industrial use</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Million bushels</td>
<td>1689.357</td>
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<td>2021</td>
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<td>Food, seed, and industrial use</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Million bushels</td>
<td>1685.153</td>
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<td>2021</td>
<td>Q3 Mar-May</td>
<td>Food, seed, and industrial use</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Million bushels</td>
<td>1711.276</td>
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<td>Q4 Jun-Aug</td>
<td>Food, seed, and industrial use</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Million bushels</td>
<td>1677.908</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022</td>
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<td>Food, seed, and industrial use</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Million bushels</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Q2 Dec-Feb</td>
<td>Food, seed, and industrial use</td>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Million bushels</td>
<td>1594.139</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Analysis Tools

- Excel
- Tableau
- R Studio
- SQL
Example of Charts Included in the Feed Outlook
Based on Data Found in the Feed Grains Database

U.S. corn utilization
Billion bushels

Note: 2022/23 is estimated.
Source: ERS calculations based on USDA World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates

U.S. corn exports, total, monthly
Million bushels

Example of Charts
Based on Data Found in the Feed Grains Database

U.S. corn exports, September through August, marketing years 2002 to 2022
Million bushels

Marketing year

Additional Feed Grains Products

Feed Outlook Monthly Tables

Feed Outlook No. (FDS-23g) 15 pp

July 2023

Feed Outlook: July 2023

by Angelica Williams and Todd Hubbs


Keywords: Coarse grains, corn, sorghum, barley, oats, wheat, trade, feed and residual, food and industrial use, international production, animal units, grain consuming animal units, exports, imports

In this publication...

Feed Outlook: July 2023
Feed Outlook Monthly Tables

Feed Grains Outlook Monthly Tables

- Published at the same time as Feed Grains Outlook report each month (2 business days after WASDE)
- Useful as quick reference; not intended to be comprehensive
- Less historic data
Feed Grains Outlook Monthly Tables

- Feed grains: U.S. quarterly supply and disappearance (table 1)
- Feed and residual use of wheat and coarse grains (table 2)
- Cash feed grain prices (table 3)
- Selected feed and feed byproduct prices (table 4)
- Corn: Food, seed, and industrial use (table 5)
- Wholesale corn milling product and byproduct prices (table 6)
- U.S. feed grains imports and exports by selected countries (tables 7-8)
Additional Feed Grains Products

Feed Grains: Yearbook Tables
Feed Grains Yearbook Tables

This data product contains statistics on four feed grains (corn, grain sorghum, barley, and oats), foreign coarse grains (feed grains plus rye, millet, and mixed grains), hay, and related items. This includes data published in the monthly Feed Outlook and previously annual Feed Yearbook. Data are monthly, quarterly, and/or annual depending upon the data series.

Latest data may be preliminary or projected. Missing values indicate unreported values, discontinued series, or not yet released data.

All data in the Feed Grains Yearbook tables will be also released each month through the Feed Grains Custom Query database at 12:00 the day after the release of WASDE. Users are able to download data from the database into Excel files.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Set</th>
<th>Last Updated</th>
<th>Next Update</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All tables in one file</td>
<td>9/15/2023</td>
<td>10/17/2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zipped CSV files</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feed Grains Yearbook Data Tables - All Years</td>
<td>9/15/2023</td>
<td>10/17/2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feed Grains Yearbook Data Tables - Recent</td>
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<td>Zipped CSV File</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Feed Grains Yearbook Tables

- U.S. Acreage, Production, Yield, and Farm Price (table 1)
- World Production, Supply, and Disappearance (tables 2-3)
- U.S. Supply and Disappearance (tables 4-7)
- U.S. Production, Yield, and Stocks (table 8)
- Domestic and International Prices (tables 9-17)
- Exports and Imports (tables 18-27)
- Rail rates and shipments (table 28)
- Processed feeds and animal unit indexes (tables 29-30)
- Feed, seed, and industrial uses (table 31)
- Exports and Imports for ethyl alcohol and brewers’ and distillers’ dregs and waste (tables 32-35)
## Feed Grains Yearbook Tables

### U.S. Acreage, Production, Yield, and Farm Price

Table 1. Corn, sorghum, barley, and oats: Planted acreage, harvested acreage, production, yield, and farm price

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>94.90</td>
<td>86.75</td>
<td>15,148.04</td>
<td>174.60</td>
<td>3.36</td>
<td>1.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>6.89</td>
<td>6.10</td>
<td>490.26</td>
<td>77.90</td>
<td>2.79</td>
<td>1.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barley</td>
<td>3.06</td>
<td>3.57</td>
<td>199.91</td>
<td>77.90</td>
<td>4.98</td>
<td>1.95</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oats</td>
<td>2.83</td>
<td>0.98</td>
<td>64.83</td>
<td>88.00</td>
<td>2.02</td>
<td>1.95</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Corn and sorghum, September-August; barley and oats, June-May. Latest data may be preliminary or projected.
2. U.S. season-average price is based on monthly price received by farmers, weighted by monthly marketing. Prices do not include an allowance for loans outstanding and government purchases. Latest data are from World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates.
### Feed Grains Yearbook Tables

#### Domestic and International Prices

Table 9. Corn and sorghum: Average prices received by farmers, United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013/14</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>4.03</td>
<td>4.05</td>
<td>4.07</td>
<td>4.09</td>
<td>4.11</td>
<td>4.13</td>
<td>4.15</td>
<td>4.17</td>
<td>4.19</td>
<td>4.21</td>
<td>4.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>4.70</td>
<td>4.72</td>
<td>4.74</td>
<td>4.76</td>
<td>4.78</td>
<td>4.80</td>
<td>4.82</td>
<td>4.84</td>
<td>4.86</td>
<td>4.88</td>
<td>4.90</td>
<td>4.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td>4.93</td>
<td>4.95</td>
<td>4.97</td>
<td>4.99</td>
<td>5.01</td>
<td>5.03</td>
<td>5.05</td>
<td>5.07</td>
<td>5.09</td>
<td>5.11</td>
<td>5.13</td>
<td>5.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018/19</td>
<td>5.16</td>
<td>5.18</td>
<td>5.20</td>
<td>5.22</td>
<td>5.24</td>
<td>5.26</td>
<td>5.28</td>
<td>5.30</td>
<td>5.32</td>
<td>5.34</td>
<td>5.36</td>
<td>5.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019/20</td>
<td>5.39</td>
<td>5.41</td>
<td>5.43</td>
<td>5.45</td>
<td>5.47</td>
<td>5.49</td>
<td>5.51</td>
<td>5.53</td>
<td>5.55</td>
<td>5.57</td>
<td>5.59</td>
<td>5.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020/21</td>
<td>5.62</td>
<td>5.64</td>
<td>5.66</td>
<td>5.68</td>
<td>5.70</td>
<td>5.72</td>
<td>5.74</td>
<td>5.76</td>
<td>5.78</td>
<td>5.80</td>
<td>5.82</td>
<td>5.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021/22</td>
<td>5.85</td>
<td>5.87</td>
<td>5.89</td>
<td>5.91</td>
<td>5.93</td>
<td>5.95</td>
<td>5.97</td>
<td>5.99</td>
<td>6.01</td>
<td>6.03</td>
<td>6.05</td>
<td>6.07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Prices are in constant 2016 dollars.
## Feed Grains Yearbook Tables

### Domestic and International Prices

Table 12. Corn: Cash prices at principal markets, $/bu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodity and marketing year</th>
<th>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Avg</th>
<th>Avg Q1</th>
<th>Avg Q2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 2 yellow, Central IL</td>
<td>3.55</td>
<td>3.79</td>
<td>3.66</td>
<td>3.73</td>
<td>3.22</td>
<td>3.75</td>
<td>3.51</td>
<td>3.96</td>
<td>3.98</td>
<td>3.93</td>
<td>3.53</td>
<td>3.20</td>
<td>3.29</td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2 yellow, Gulf ports, LA</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>4.25</td>
<td>4.23</td>
<td>4.24</td>
<td>4.36</td>
<td>4.29</td>
<td>4.12</td>
<td>3.73</td>
<td>3.66</td>
<td>3.76</td>
<td>3.88</td>
<td>3.92</td>
<td>3.92</td>
<td>3.92</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2 yellow, St Louis, MO</td>
<td>3.53</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>3.95</td>
<td>3.92</td>
<td>4.65</td>
<td>4.01</td>
<td>3.77</td>
<td>3.49</td>
<td>3.41</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>3.59</td>
<td>3.52</td>
<td>3.52</td>
<td>3.52</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2 yellow, Omaha, NE</td>
<td>3.67</td>
<td>3.79</td>
<td>3.58</td>
<td>3.72</td>
<td>3.82</td>
<td>3.77</td>
<td>3.42</td>
<td>3.93</td>
<td>3.93</td>
<td>3.02</td>
<td>3.16</td>
<td>3.14</td>
<td>3.12</td>
<td>3.13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2 yellow, Kansas City, MD</td>
<td>3.63</td>
<td>3.82</td>
<td>3.80</td>
<td>3.87</td>
<td>3.95</td>
<td>3.91</td>
<td>3.68</td>
<td>3.21</td>
<td>3.22</td>
<td>3.34</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>3.27</td>
<td>3.27</td>
<td>3.27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 2 white, Kansas City, MO</td>
<td>3.69</td>
<td>3.82</td>
<td>4.04</td>
<td>4.01</td>
<td>3.53</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>3.55</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1/ September-August
2/ Simple average of monthly prices reported for the marketing year.
3/ Producers.
Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, Grain and Feed Market News.
Feed Grains Yearbook Tables

Exports and Imports

Table 22. U.S. corn and sorghum exports by selected destinations, 1,000 metric tons
Feed Grains Database - Documentation

Documentation

Scope/Coverage of Data

This database covers four major U.S. feed grains crops (corn, grain sorghum, barley, and oats), foreign coarse grains (feed grains plus rye, millet, and mixed grains), hay, animal unit indexes of grain and roughage, rail rate indexes, and grain shipments. This database includes data published in the monthly Feed Outlook and the Feed Grains Yearbook tables, WASDE report, Production, Supply and Distribution (PSD) database, and various Agricultural Marketing Service reports. However, the Feed Grains Yearbook Tables – All Years data set generally covers a longer time period (1866–present).

More specific data queries can be made through the Feed Grains Custom Query.

Data Items

Below are additional details about the items in the database, including which data are preliminary and specific changes to data series over time.

Feed Grains Database – Documentation
Data Product Quality

• Periodic reviews
• Updating periodic documentation
• 508 compliance in progress
Who Uses the Feed Grains Database?

- Industry: Traders
- Industry: Researchers
- Academics and Researchers
- Extension Outlook
Who Uses the Feed Grains Database?

2020-2021 US Corn Use

- Exports: 16.3%
- Sweeteners (HFCS, Glucose, Dextrose): 5.3%
- Fuel/Ethanol: 35.9%
- Feed: 38.1%
- Food/Beverages: 4.2%
- Seed: 0.2%

Based on data in USDA ERS Feed Grains Database: Yearbook Tables 4 and 31, accessed April 2022.

Ethanol Co-Product Use in U.S. Cattle Feeding

Figure 1: U.S. prices for selected feedstuffs

Source: USDA, ERS, Feed Grains Database, www.ers.usda.gov/Data/FeedGrains/

Thank you!

angelica.williams@usda.gov
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RMA Summary of Business Data
Michael Hibbs, Senior AIP Data Coordinator
Agenda

• Introduction

• USDA RMA Public Website Data Access

• Pregenerated Reports and Summary of Business Data Files

• Summary of Business Application
  • Report Generator
  • Prepared Reports
  • Historical Reports
  • Help Section
Introduction

Michael Hibbs

• Senior AIP Data Coordinator
• 8 Years at RMA
• Enjoys spending time with family and watching son play basketball
• Loves traveling
• Favorite season is fall (GO CHIEFS!)
Access the USDA RMA Public Website

https://www.rma.usda.gov
Pregenerated Reports and Summary of Business Data Files
Pregenerated Reports and Summary of Business Data Files
Pregenerated Reports and Summary of Business Data Files

Summary of Business

Current Year-to-date National Summary of Business Reports
- Single-page Crop business report: 2021-2024
- Single-page Crop Historical report: 2019-2020
- Single-page Crop Historical report: 2001-2010

Pregenerated SOB Reports

National Summary by Crop:
- 2024
- 2023
- 2022
- 2021
- 2020
- 2019
- 2018
- 2017
- 2016
- 2015
- 2014
- 2013
- 2012
- 2011
- 2010
- 2009

National Summary by Crop/State:
- 2024
- 2023
- 2022
- 2021
- 2020
- 2019
- 2018
- 2017
- 2016
- 2015
- 2014
- 2013
- 2012
- 2011
- 2010
- 2009

National Summary by Insurance Plan:
- 2024
- 2023
- 2022
- 2021
- 2020
- 2019
- 2018
- 2017
- 2016
- 2015
- 2014
- 2013
- 2012
- 2011
- 2010
- 2009

National Summary by State:
- 2024
- 2023
- 2022
- 2021
- 2020
- 2019
- 2018
- 2017
- 2016
- 2015
- 2014
- 2013
- 2012
- 2011
- 2010
- 2009

National Summary by state/Crop:
- 2024
- 2023
- 2022
- 2021
- 2020
- 2019
- 2018
- 2017
- 2016
- 2015
- 2014
- 2013
- 2012
- 2011
- 2010

Summary of Business

Data Files

Pregenerated Reports
# Federal Crop Insurance Corp
## Summary of Business Report for 2021 thru 2024
### As of September 28, 2023

### (Net Acre and Dollars in Thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2021 Crop Year To Date</th>
<th>2022 Crop Year To Date</th>
<th>2023 Crop Year To Date</th>
<th>2024 Crop Year To Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Additional Business:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policies with Premium</td>
<td>1,150,940</td>
<td>1,172,572</td>
<td>1,179,160</td>
<td>8,343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Units with Premium</td>
<td>2,608,116</td>
<td>2,687,819</td>
<td>2,668,303</td>
<td>18,136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Acres Insured</td>
<td>437,866</td>
<td>486,743</td>
<td>468,022</td>
<td>2,641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companion/Endorsed Acres</td>
<td>30,679</td>
<td>43,597</td>
<td>43,871</td>
<td>3,031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liability</td>
<td>132,994,167</td>
<td>167,306,818</td>
<td>158,612,500</td>
<td>4,069,327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Premium</td>
<td>13,646,672</td>
<td>16,193,131</td>
<td>16,321,470</td>
<td>182,509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsidy</td>
<td>8,536,832</td>
<td>11,467,162</td>
<td>11,559,656</td>
<td>112,421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indemnity</td>
<td>9,549,255</td>
<td>8,679,205</td>
<td>19,208,970</td>
<td>536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss Ratio</td>
<td>0.70</td>
<td>0.37</td>
<td>1.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Catastrophic Business:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2021 Crop Year To Date</th>
<th>2022 Crop Year To Date</th>
<th>2023 Crop Year To Date</th>
<th>2024 Crop Year To Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Policies with Premium</td>
<td>16,226</td>
<td>14,155</td>
<td>14,282</td>
<td>1,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Units with Premium</td>
<td>25,601</td>
<td>21,671</td>
<td>21,861</td>
<td>1,542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Acres Insured</td>
<td>6,896</td>
<td>5,966</td>
<td>5,835</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companion/Endorsed Acres</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liability</td>
<td>4,394,444</td>
<td>4,622,194</td>
<td>4,723,339</td>
<td>1,548,484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Premium</td>
<td>73,791</td>
<td>76,045</td>
<td>77,004</td>
<td>16,173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsidy</td>
<td>73,747</td>
<td>75,912</td>
<td>76,951</td>
<td>16,121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indemnity</td>
<td>49,763</td>
<td>46,690</td>
<td>43,605</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss Ratio</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td>0.57</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Combined Business:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2021 Crop Year To Date</th>
<th>2022 Crop Year To Date</th>
<th>2023 Crop Year To Date</th>
<th>2024 Crop Year To Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Policies with Premium</td>
<td>1,167,166</td>
<td>1,186,727</td>
<td>1,193,442</td>
<td>9,743</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Units with Premium</td>
<td>2,633,717</td>
<td>2,700,290</td>
<td>2,720,184</td>
<td>19,678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Acres Insured</td>
<td>444,532</td>
<td>492,469</td>
<td>493,855</td>
<td>2,774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companion/Endorsed Acres</td>
<td>30,679</td>
<td>43,597</td>
<td>43,871</td>
<td>3,031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liability</td>
<td>130,678,611</td>
<td>172,018,210</td>
<td>173,600,839</td>
<td>5,618,375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Premium</td>
<td>13,719,866</td>
<td>18,289,177</td>
<td>18,396,474</td>
<td>198,882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsidy</td>
<td>8,609,579</td>
<td>11,543,094</td>
<td>11,636,017</td>
<td>128,542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indemnity</td>
<td>9,595,018</td>
<td>6,785,895</td>
<td>19,222,575</td>
<td>530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss Ratio</td>
<td>0.70</td>
<td>0.37</td>
<td>1.05</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All lines, except the Net Acres Insured and Companion/Endorsed Acres, include policy totals for crops insured in tons, colonies and trees. Ton, colony and tree totals can be retrieved utilizing the Summary of Business application. Includes all non livestock business.
Summary of Business Data Files

Summary of Business

Current Year-to-Date National Summary of Business Reports
- Single-page Crop Business report: 2021-2024
- Single-page Crop Historical report: 2011-2020
- Single-page Crop Historical report: 2001-2010

Pregenerated SOB Reports

National Summary by Crop:

National Summary by Crop/State:

National Summary by Insurance Plan:

National Summary by State:

National Summary by State/Crop:

Information Tools

Agent Locator
Associated Agencies and Partners
Chicago Mercantile Exchange Notice
Crop Indemnity Maps
Crop Weather
Livestock Report
Nursery Inventory Software EPLPSS
Other Sites
Price Discovery Reporting
Reinsurance Reports

Summary of Business

Cause of Loss
Puerto Rico Summary of Business
State/County/Crop Summary of Business
Livestock and Dairy Participation
2019 Prevented Planting Supplemental Payments

Next 2 slides
Summary of Business Data Files - Example

State/County/Crop Summary of Business

Summarized Summary of Business data files broken down by state/county/crop and subsequent levels. Each link contains a ZIP file with compressed data containing pipe-delimited flat-files that can be imported into any spreadsheet and/or data for further analysis. Record description files are located in each subfolder.

State/County/Crop Level 1948-1988 Data File and Record Layout
- Record layout (1948 - 1988) PDF | Word

State/County/Crop/Coverage Level 1989 - Present Data Files and Record Layout
- Record layout (1989 - present) PDF | Word
- Zip files: 2004-2021

Type/Practice/Unit Structure Data Files and Record Layout
- Record layout (All Years) PDF | Word
- Zip files: 2004-2021

Crop Insurance Experience with Coverage Level - (1989 Forward)
The crop insurance experience file contains Summary of Business data summarized to the State/County/Crop level and includes the Coverage Level for commodity years from 1989 forward. The files are created in a delimited format using the symbol as the delimiter (commas are frequently part of some of the fields) and can be easily used to create EXCEL spreadsheets. The format identified in the layout below uses a 9 to indicate a numeric value with the maximum characters or decimal layout (V) in the parentheses following while an X will indicate an alpha-numeric value with the maximum characters following.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element Name</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commodity Year</td>
<td>9(34)</td>
<td>The identifier that represents the year in which the crop/commodity is normally harvested and indicates the policy year for which coverage was provided.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location State Code</td>
<td>9(2)</td>
<td>The FIPS code that denotes the State in which the insured form is located.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location State Abbravation</td>
<td>x(2)</td>
<td>USPS state abbreviation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location Country Code</td>
<td>9(3)</td>
<td>A FIPS code indicating the county in which the insured form is located.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location County Name</td>
<td>x(35)</td>
<td>Name of the county</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commodity Code</td>
<td>9(4)</td>
<td>The Risk Management Agency (RMA) code that denotes the crop/commodity for which the policy is issued.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commodity Name</td>
<td>x(30)</td>
<td>Name of the crop/commodity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

File List Format View Map
- 2021 [1x] [2021] [2022] [2023] [2024] [2025] [2026] [2027] [2028] [2029] [2030] [2031] [2032] [2033] [2034] [2035] [2036] [2037] [2038] [2039] [2040] [2041] [2042] [2043] [2044] [2045] [2046] [2047] [2048] [2049] [2050] [2051] [2052] [2053] [2054] [2055] [2056] [2057] [2058] [2059] [2060] [2061] [2062] [2063] [2064] [2065] [2066] [2067] [2068] [2069] [2070] [2071] [2072] [2073] [2074] [2075] [2076] [2077] [2078] [2079] [2080] [2081] [2082] [2083] [2084] [2085] [2086] [2087] [2088] [2089] [2090] [2091] [2092] [2093] [2094] [2095] [2096] [2097] [2098] [2099] [2010] [2011] [2012] [2013] [2014] [2015] [2016] [2017] [2018] [2019] [2020]
Summary of Business Data Files - Example

Livestock and Dairy Participation

Summarized participation information broken down by the date in which sales occurred. Each link contains a ZIP file with compressed data containing a pipe (|) delimited file that can be imported into any standard spreadsheet and/or database for further analysis. Record description file is provided below. Feedback? Send a message to RMA – SummaryOfBusiness Feedback.

Dairy Revenue Protection Participation
- Record layout (2019 forward) PDF | Word

Livestock Gross Margin Participation
- Record layout (2004 forward) PDF | Word

Livestock Risk Protection Participation
- Record layout (2004 forward) PDF | Word

Livestock Gross Margin – Summary of Business Data

The following table contains the elements included in the Livestock Gross Margin (LGM) file available for download via the RMA Public Web Site. The files are created in a pipe delimited format. The format column specifies the maximum length and data type for each of the elements. A format of 9 indicates that the value can only be numeric, while a format of X can be alpha-numeric values. Decimal formats will include the number of places to the left of the decimal specified to the left of the V, while the decimal precision is specified to the right of the V (e.g. 9(8.999900) would be 00000000.00. An * as the first character in the specification of format, indicates that the value in that element can contain negatives when applicable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element Name</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reference Year</td>
<td>9(4)</td>
<td>Year defined by the Standard Reference Agreement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commodity Year</td>
<td>9(4)</td>
<td>The identifier that represents the year in which the crop is normally harvested and indicates the policy year for which coverage was provided.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location State Code</td>
<td>X(2)</td>
<td>A FIPS code indicating the state in which the commodity is located.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location State Abbreviation</td>
<td>X(2)</td>
<td>Abbreviation of the Location State Code.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location County Code</td>
<td>X(2)</td>
<td>A FIPS code indicating the county in which the crop is located.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location County Name</td>
<td>X(11)</td>
<td>Name of the Location County.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commodity Code</td>
<td>X(4)</td>
<td>The code that denotes the crop for which the policy is insured.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commodity Name</td>
<td>X(40)</td>
<td>Name of the Commodity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance Plan Code</td>
<td>X(2)</td>
<td>A code that denotes the type of coverage selected for the crop insured.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Summary of Business Application

## Summary of Business

**Current Year-to-Date National Summary of Business Reports**
- Single-page Crop Business report: 2022-2023
- Single-page Crop Historical report: 2011-2020
- Single-page Crop Historical report: 2001-2010

## Pre-generated SOB Reports

**National Summary by Crop:**
- 2024
- 2023
- 2022
- 2021
- 2020
- 2019
- 2018
- 2017
- 2016
- 2015
- 2014
- 2013
- 2012
- 2011
- 2010
- 2009

**National Summary by Crop/State:**
- 2024
- 2023
- 2022
- 2021
- 2020
- 2019
- 2018
- 2017
- 2016
- 2015
- 2014
- 2013
- 2012
- 2011
- 2010
- 2009

**National Summary by Insurance Plan:**
- 2024
- 2023
- 2022
- 2021
- 2020
- 2019
- 2018
- 2017
- 2016
- 2015
- 2014
- 2013
- 2012
- 2011
- 2010
- 2009

**National Summary by State:**
- 2024
- 2023
- 2022
- 2021
- 2020
- 2019
- 2018
- 2017
- 2016
- 2015
- 2014
- 2013
- 2012
- 2011
- 2010
- 2009

**National Summary by State/Crop:**
- 2024
- 2023
- 2022
- 2021
- 2020
- 2019
- 2018
- 2017
- 2016
- 2015
- 2014
- 2013
- 2012
- 2011
- 2010
- 2009

### Summary of Business

Includes the most current information, some national reports, and the ability to create ad-hoc queries. Data for the previous week’s reports are refreshed each Monday morning and include all business data accepted through the preceding week. Reports for earlier years are no longer updated. Users can select data for customized reports sorted by state, crop, state/region, insurance plan, or state/county. Selected data can be downloaded into a spreadsheet for further analysis.

**Information Tools**

- Agent Locator
- Associated Agencies and Partners
- Chicago Mercantile Exchange Notice
- Crop Indemnity Maps
- Crop Weather
- Livestock Report
- Nursery Inventory Software EPLPPS
- Other Sites
- Price Discovery Reporting
- Reinsurance Reports

**Summary of Business**

- **Cause of Loss**
- **Puerto Rico Summary of Business**
- **State/County/Crop Summary of Business**
- **Livestock and Dairy Participation**
- **2010 Prevented Planting Supplemental Payments**

### Additional Links

- [rma.usda.gov](https://rma.usda.gov)
Summary of Business Application

Report Generator
- Data driven based on variable(s) selected
- Available for Reinsurance Year or Commodity Year
- Available for Standard Commodities, Livestock or Both
- Available at different aggregation levels
- Can be downloaded as a report or as a data file
- Can customize the report by removing/adding columns

Prepared Reports
- Commodity Year only
- National Report
- Various lower aggregation levels
- PDF format that can be saved

Historical Reports
- Commodity Year only
- 12/20/1999 through present
- Reports available are based on Historical Date selected
- Same aggregation levels as the Prepared Reports
- PDF formats that can be saved
Summary of Business Application

1. Report Generator: is an interactive report generator that allows the user to customize reports based on desired criteria. Users can select data for customized reports by various insurance elements. Users can download customized reports into a spreadsheet or a delimited file for further analysis.

2. Prepared Reports: allows the user to access previously prepared national summary reports.

3. Historical Reports: allows the user to access prepared reports from previous points in time.

RMA refreshes data each Monday morning for the most recent five years and includes all business data accepted through the Policy Acceptance and Storage System from the preceding week. RMA data prior to the most recent five years remains static.

Feedback? Send a message to ‘RMA – SummaryOfBusiness Feedback’
Summary of Business Report Generator

[Image of the Summary of Business Report Generator interface]

1. Commodity Category
   - Standard
   - Livestock
   - Other
2. Year Type
   - Commodity Year
   - Reinsurance Year
3. Summary Levels
   - Commodity
   - State
   - County
   - Delivery Type
   - Insurance Plan
   - Coverage Level Percent

[Buttons: Select All, Reset, Get Report]
Summary of Business Report Generator - Example
Summary of Business Report Generator – Example (cont.)
### Summary of Business Report Generator – Prepared Reports

#### National Reports
- 2021-2024
- 2011-2020
- 2001-2010
- 1991-2000
- 1981-1990

#### Current Week
- Commodity
- Commodity State
- Insurance Plan
- Livestock Insurance Plan
- State
- State Commodity

---

**Federal Crop Insurance Corp**

**Summary of Business Report for 2021 thru 2024**

*As of September 25, 2023 (Net Acre and Dollars in Thousands)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Additional Business</th>
<th>2021 Crop Year To Date</th>
<th>2023 Crop Year To Date</th>
<th>2024 Crop Year To Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Policies with Premium</td>
<td>1,150,940</td>
<td>1,172,572</td>
<td>1,179,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Units with Premium</td>
<td>2,608,116</td>
<td>2,678,619</td>
<td>2,693,326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Acres Insured</td>
<td>437,865</td>
<td>488,743</td>
<td>505,022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companion/Endorsed Acres</td>
<td>30,670</td>
<td>34,417</td>
<td>35,001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liability</td>
<td>132,284,167</td>
<td>163,906,016</td>
<td>166,877,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Premium</td>
<td>13,640,075</td>
<td>16,183,132</td>
<td>18,321,409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsidy</td>
<td>8,353,832</td>
<td>11,467,192</td>
<td>11,599,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indemnity</td>
<td>9,459,235</td>
<td>7,679,205</td>
<td>10,206,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss Ratio</td>
<td>0.70</td>
<td>0.37</td>
<td>1.05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Catastrophic Business**

| Policies with Premium | 16,136 | 14,155 | 14,263 |
| Units with Premium | 25,681 | 21,871 | 21,881 |
| Net Acres Insured | 5,666 | 5,999 | 5,833 |
| Companion/Endorsed Acres | 3,833 | 3,833 | 3,833 |
| Liability | 4,394,444 | 4,622,134 | 4,723,359 |
| Total Premium | 73,791 | 76,045 | 77,004 |
| Subsidy | 73,747 | 76,812 | 76,961 |
| Indemnity | 49,763 | 46,690 | 43,605 |
Summary of Business Historical Reports
Summary Of Business Historical Reports - Example
Summary of Business Report Generator Help Section

[Image of the Summary of Business interface with help articles]

1. Help Articles
   - Menu Structure
   - Report Generator
   - Prepared Reports
   - Historical Reports
Thank you!

If you have questions, please post them in the chat, or wait until the Q&A session that will follow the conclusion of all presentations.
Agenda

• How to find RMA Cause of Loss Data
• What kind information is available in the dataset
• References / Layout information
• How to load the data into excel and prepare it for analysis
• A few quick examples
  • 2022 - Prevented Planting Claims in AL
  • 2022 – Texas Cotton – Causes of Loss by Month
Introduction

Ben Marcy

• Special Asst. to the Deputy Admin of Insurance Services

• Almost 15 Years at RMA

• Grew up on a family farm in Nebraska

• Enjoys time with his family, working cattle, hunting, and fishing.
Where can I find RMA Cause of Loss Data
What data is available in these datasets?

- Timeframe of Loss – Month & Year
- Location – State and County Level
- Cause of Loss – Drought, Freeze, Excess Moisture, Etc...
- Crop / Commodity
- Insurance Plan
- Loss Stages – Replant, Prevent Plant, Harvested Loss, Etc...
- Key Stats
  - Policies
  - Acres
  - Liability, Premium, Indemnities

- Updated weekly
Working with RMA Cause of Loss Data

Cause of Loss Historical Data Files

Summarized participation information broken down by the causes of loss. Each link contains a ZIP file with compressed data containing pipe (|) delimited flat-files that can be imported into any standard spreadsheet and/or database for further analysis. Record description file located in each subfolder.

Feedback? Send a message to RMA – Summary Of Business Feedback

Summary of Business with Month of Loss

- Record layout (All Years) PDF | Word

Stage Code Listing

- Stage Code Listing 1989 - Forward (PDF)
- Stage Code Listing 1989 - Forward (Excel)
Preparing Data for Excel
# Loading Data into Excel

![Excel interface with loading data feature highlighted]

In Excel, you can load data from various sources such as Text/CSV, Web, Table/Range, and Existing Connections. This allows you to import data into your Excel sheet easily and quickly.
Loading Data into Excel
We have our data but missing column headers
We have our data but missing column headers

The following table contains the elements included in the via the RMA Public Website. The files are created in a

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element Name</th>
<th>Format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Commodity Year Identifier</td>
<td>9(04)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 State Code</td>
<td>9(02)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 State Abbreviation</td>
<td>X(02)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 County Code</td>
<td>9(03)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 County Name</td>
<td>X(30)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Commodity Code</td>
<td>9(04)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Commodity Name</td>
<td>X(30)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Insurance Plan Code</td>
<td>9(02)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Insurance Plan Name Abbreviation</td>
<td>X(05)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Coverage Category</td>
<td>X(01)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Stage Code</td>
<td>X(02)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Cause of Loss Code</td>
<td>9(02)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Cause of Loss Description</td>
<td>X(33)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A Few Quick Examples

2022 Prevented Planting Claims in AL

2022 – Texas Cotton - Cause of Loss by Month
2022 – Prevented Planting Claims in AL

Begin by highlighting our table for content – insert pivot table from range

Add to a new worksheet
2022 – Prevented Planting Claims in AL

Create pivot table criteria – add in state, and stage to filters, county in rows,

Fields should look like this
2022 – Prevented Planting Claims in AL

To isolate Prevent Plant Claims – we need to know the appropriate stage codes

Prevent Plant Stages (P2 & PF in this case)
2022 – Prevented Planting Claims in AL

You now have a list of counties with prevent plant indemnities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Row Labels</th>
<th>Sum of Indemnity Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baldwin</td>
<td>241,862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>84,052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colbert</td>
<td>200,014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin</td>
<td>107,812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>114,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauderdale</td>
<td>50,343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence</td>
<td>61,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>56,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perry</td>
<td>44,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td><strong>809,807</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What if we want a quick map? Copy and paste our data to new cells and format as below.
2022 – Prevented Planting Claims in AL

Highlight the data table and click maps

Excel will generate a quick map to view

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Indemnity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Baldwin</td>
<td>$241,862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Cherokee</td>
<td>$84,052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Colbert</td>
<td>$200,514</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Franklin</td>
<td>$10,781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>$114,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Lauderdale</td>
<td>$50,343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Lawrence</td>
<td>$6,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>$56,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Perry</td>
<td>$44,924</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2022 – Texas Cotton - Cause of Loss by Month

Example 2 – Create Cause of Loss Chart

Begin by highlighting our table for content – insert pivot chart and pivot table
2022 – Texas Cotton - Cause of Loss by Month

Add to a new worksheet

Arrange your fields - should look like this

Set your filters
2022 – Texas Cotton - Cause of Loss by Month

Excel Chart

You can change the design easily to make it easier to read and analyze.
2022 – Texas Cotton - Cause of Loss by Month

Updated Excel Chart

Notice the Causes of Loss – Drought / Heat
2022 – Texas Cotton - Cause of Loss by Month

Updated Excel Chart after filtering – Drought / Heat Related Losses
Thank you!

If you have questions, please post them in the chat, or wait until the Q&A session that will follow the conclusion of all presentations.
RMA & the PRISM Weather & Climate Data
James Hipple, PhD, Physical Scientist
Agenda

• Introduction to PRISM

• PRISM Data Explorer

• Downloading Data

• PRISM Data Updates
  • Daily data updates
  • Monthly data updates
Introduction

James (Jim) Hipple, PhD

- Physical Scientist with the Office of the Deputy Administrator for Compliance, Business Analytics Division
- 19 years at RMA
- Avid traveler & roller-coaster offiniato
- Favorite season is anything but winter (said as a Minnesota resident)
What is PRISM?

There are many locations in the US for which no weather observations exist. To create a continuous weather or climate map across the country, station observations are fed into a sophisticated computer model called PRISM (Parameter-elevation Regressions on Independent Slopes Model).

PRISM estimates weather and climate variables, such as temperature and precipitation, for a grid of millions of pixels, each measuring about 0.5 mile across over the entire conterminous US, every day.

**Weather maps** show what occurs from day to day.

**Climate maps** show long-term averages of weather over a period of 10-30 years

**PRISM** is used to produce both kinds of maps.
RMA and PRISM

RMA entered into a Cooperative Support Agreement with Oregon State University and the PRISM Climate Group in 2012

Purpose:
• support the production of daily weather and climate data sets
• develop tools to support the adjustment of weather-related causes of loss (PRISM/RMA Weather & Climate Portal)
• develop tools to aid in monitoring of weather & climate
PRISM Data Available to Public

https://prism.oregonstate.edu/

RMAs Cooperative Support Agreement with Oregon State University, PRISM Climate Group requires data be made available to the public
## Descriptions of PRISM Spatial Climate Datasets for the Conterminous United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ppt</td>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>Daily [monthly] total precipitation (rain+melted snow)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tmax</td>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>Daily maximum temperature [averaged over all days in the month]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tmin</td>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>Daily minimum temperature [averaged over all days in the month]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tmean</td>
<td>Derived</td>
<td>Daily mean temperature, calculated as ((tmax+tmin)/2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tdmean</td>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>Daily mean dew point temperature [averaged over all days in the month]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vpdmn</td>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>Daily minimum vapor pressure deficit [averaged over all days in the month]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vpdmax</td>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>Daily maximum vapor pressure deficit [averaged over all days in the month]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soltotal</td>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>Total daily global shortwave solar radiation received on a horizontal surface [averaged over all days in the month]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOLSlope</td>
<td>Ancillary</td>
<td>Total daily global shortwave solar radiation received on a sloped surface [averaged over all days in the month]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solclear</td>
<td>Ancillary</td>
<td>Total daily global shortwave solar radiation received on a horizontal surface under clear sky conditions [averaged over all days in the month]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soltrans</td>
<td>Ancillary</td>
<td>Atmospheric transmittance (cloudiness) [monthly average daily soltotal/monthly average daily solclear]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

https://prism.oregonstate.edu/documents/PRISM_datasets.pdf
What is PRISM?

gathers climate observations from a wide range of monitoring networks

applies sophisticated quality control measures, and develops spatial climate datasets to reveal short- and long-term climate patterns

resulting datasets incorporate a variety of modeling techniques and are available at multiple spatial/temporal resolutions
Time Series Values for Individual Locations

This section provides an interactive tool for analyzing time-series data for a single location. For larger areas, use one of the other tabs to retrieve the gridded data, or use one of our bulk download mechanisms.

The grid cells analyzed are the standard PRISM 4km, except the 30-year normals which are also available at 800m resolution. Choose a location by navigating the map or specify lat/lon coordinates to zoom to that location. The highlighted box denotes the enclosing PRISM grid cell. Adjust the settings as desired, then press the Retrieve button to display the time series and make the data available for download.

Note: Rather than calculating days based on the 24-hour period ending at midnight local time, PRISM defines a "day" as the 24 hours ending at 12:00 Greenwich Mean Time (GMT, or 7:00am Eastern Standard Time). This means that PRISM data for May 26, for example, actually refers to the 24 hours ending at 7:00am EST on May 26.

When the Interpolate option has been selected, the user may click on any location (not necessarily aligned with PRISM grid cells) and the values from surrounding grid cell centers will be factored in using inverse-distance squared weighting.

Data stability indicates how likely the data is to change in the future. Results that include dates older than 6 months are considered stable because they are unlikely to change until a major new release of PRISM. If they include dates that are 1-6 months old they are considered provisional, since they are likely to change as our reporting networks finalize their information. If any dates fall within the current month, users are cautioned to treat them as early results; this data is certain to change as new reporting stations are added and quality control measures are applied. The calculations use as many as possible of the station networks and data sources ingested by the PRISM Climate Group, not just those that have existed for long periods of time. See PRISM datasets for more information; the data available from this page are from the latest versions of "Norm" (normals), and "AN" (daily and monthly). For information on when the grids were most recently updated, see calendar of PRISM data updates.

Note: Solar radiation and cloud transmittance data are currently available as monthly normals only.

Download data from multiple locations

Hide text
Please note that these datasets are not static entities, but are in a constant state of change.
Calendar of PRISM Data Updates

PRISM Daily Data

modeled multiple times after a day has ended to accommodate data reporting and quality control schedules from various station networks

- Model Run #1
  - day ending at 12 GMT is made about 24 hours later
- Model Run #2
  - made after five days have elapsed
- Runs #3-#7
  - additional runs after approximately one, two, three, four, and five months
- Run #8 (6 months out)
  - eighth model run is therefore considered “final,” until the time series dataset undergoes a major revision
  - after six months, most stations have reported data and undergone quality control checks
### Daily Data Processing

**D-1 Processing**
- **Station Data**
  - Ingest
  - SSQC
- **Radar Data**
  - Fetch from online
  - Prep for PRISM
- **PRISM Core Analysis**
  - Ppt, Tmax, Tmin, Tdmean
- **PRISM VPD Analysis**
  - Derived from PRISM
  - Tmax, Tmin, Tdmean
- **VPD First Guess**
  - Derived from PRISM
- **Post-Processing**
  - Derived Elements
  - Integrity checks
- **PRISM Ppt (Radar)**
  - Stage2
  - Stage4
- **Ppt Besting**
  - CAI
  - Stage2
  - Stage4

**D-5 Processing**
- Repeat Process
  - Same as D-1

**Public Portal Operations**
- 800m → 4km
- Packaging for download

**0300 to 0335**

**0340 to 0350**
- Graphics
- RMA Portal Updated

**0355 to 0435**
- Stop

---

**0435**

**Daily Processing Complete**

**rma.usda.gov**
Calendar of PRISM Data Updates

PRISM Monthly Data

modeled multiple times after a day has ended to accommodate data reporting and quality control schedules from various station networks

• Model Run #1
  • first model run for a particular month is made on the first day of the following month

• Model Run #2-7
  • involve visual inspections of the maps and data quality assessment by a trained analyst, are completed by about the 15th of each month, out to six months

• Run #8 (6 months out)
  • after six months, most stations have reported data and undergone quality control checks
  • eighth model run is therefore considered “final,” until the time series dataset undergoes a major revision
Monthly Firstlook

- Previous month analysis occurs on the first day of a new month
Monthly Update Processing

1st
Monthly Update Processing

6th
Firstlook

Update Daily (Previous 6 Months)
• QC
• PRISM

8th
Manual QC Analysis
• Web-based Diagnostic tools

15th
Update Monthly (Previous 6 Months)
• QC
• PRISM

16th
Monthly + Daily Re-Run (Previous 6 Months)
• PRISM

17th
Stop
Monthly Update Complete

RMA Portal Updated

Public Portal Updated
Monthly Update Calendar

Updates to PRISM Monthly Data since February 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>PPT</th>
<th>TMIN</th>
<th>TMAX</th>
<th>TMEAN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jul 2023</td>
<td>2023-08-02 (1)</td>
<td>2023-08-02 (1)</td>
<td>2023-08-02 (1)</td>
<td>2023-08-02 (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 2023</td>
<td>2023-07-18 (2)</td>
<td>2023-07-18 (2)</td>
<td>2023-07-18 (2)</td>
<td>2023-07-18 (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2023</td>
<td>2023-07-18 (3)</td>
<td>2023-07-18 (3)</td>
<td>2023-07-18 (3)</td>
<td>2023-07-18 (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 2023</td>
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Questions to: info@prism.oregonstate.edu

This website is supported by the USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), based at Oregon State University.
PRISM data is often downloaded and made available in other platforms (e.g.):

- Google EarthEngine
- AWS S3
- ESRI
- R tools to pull PRISM

Make sure whatever source you are using addresses the PRISM release cycle.
Thank you!

If you have questions, please post them in the chat, or wait until the Q&A session that will follow the conclusion of all presentations.