



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **USDA TO COMPILE FINAL 2006 ESTIMATES FOR ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND STOCKS**

**WASHINGTON, Nov. 28, 2006** – How many acres of grains and oilseeds did you plant this year? Were your yields above or below expectations? These are just a couple of the critical questions that the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will be asking 77,000 producers nationwide during the upcoming December Agricultural Survey.

“This is one of the largest and most important surveys that NASS conducts each year,” explained Carol House, NASS deputy administrator for programs and products. “The information that we gather will be used to make the final 2006 estimates of crop production and on-farm stocks, at both the state and national levels.

“These estimates are highly anticipated and widely used by the entire agricultural community – from producers to international buyers, from elevators to transportation providers, and from processors to policymakers,” she added.

During the first two weeks of December, NASS will contact producers in 48 states by mail or telephone. Respondents will be asked to provide data on total acres, acres planted and harvested, total yield and production. NASS will also collect data on quantities of grains and oilseeds stored on-farm.

Once the information is compiled and analyzed, it will be published in a series of important reports. These include the *Crop Production* summary and the quarterly *Grain Stocks* report, both to be released on January 12, 2007.

As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law.

“NASS safeguards the confidentiality of all responses and publishes only state- and national-level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified,” said House. All NASS reports are available on line at: [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

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