

MEDIA ADVISORY



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC 20250 Ag Statistics Hotline: (800) 727-9540 • www.nass.usda.gov

NASS to Hold Live Twitter Chat

Contact: Alex Minchenkov (202) 690-8121

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is preparing to conduct the 2012 Census of Agriculture later this year. In order to answer any questions farmers, ranchers or agricultural groups and organizations may have about the Census, Renee Picanso, NASS Census and Survey Division Director and Joe Prusacki, NASS Statistics Division Director will conduct a live Q&A session, or "Twitterview," on the NASS Twitter page on **Thursday, March 8** from **1 p.m. – 3 p.m. EST.**

The Census of Agriculture is a complete count, taken every five years, of America's farms and ranches and the people who operate them. It is the only source of uniform, comprehensive and objective agricultural information for every county in the nation. Census results provide information on land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures, and more.

WHAT: 2012 Census of Agriculture "Twitterview"

WHEN: Thursday, March 8, 2012

1 p.m. - 3 p.m. EST

WHERE: The live "Twitterview" will take place on NASS's Twitter page (www.twitter.com/usda_nass).

Tweet at NASS (@usda_nass) with the #AgCensus tag or email your questions to Alex Minchenkov in advance (<u>Aleksey.minchenkov@nass.usda.gov</u>). If you are unable to join the session, you can also email your questions in advance so that we can answer them during the

session.

WHO: Renee Picanso, NASS Census and Survey Division Director

Joseph Prusacki, NASS Statistics Division Director

NASS provides accurate, timely, useful and objective statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. We invite you to provide feedback on our products and services. Sign up at http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/subscriptions and look for "NASS Data User Community."

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