



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE
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USDA to Measure Small Grain Production

HARRISBURG, PA – During the first two weeks of September, growers of small grains around the country will receive survey forms from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The agency is taking a comprehensive look into the 2020 production and supply of small grains, which include wheat, oats, barley, and rye.

"The small grains industry is an important part of Northeastern agriculture and it is crucial for all involved with the agriculture sector to have accurate data about this key sector of the economy," explained King Whetstone, director of the NASS, Northeastern Regional Field Office. "We will contact more than 4,000 producers in Delaware, Maine, Maryland, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania to accurately measure 2020 acreage, yield, and production for small grain crops. The data collected from this survey will also help set small grain acreage, yield, and production estimates at the county level, to be published in December 2020."

NASS will contact survey participants to gather information on their 2020 production and the quantities of whole grains and oilseeds stored on farm. As an alternative to mailing the survey back, and to help save both time and money, growers will have the option to securely respond to the survey online. Farmers who have not responded by August 30, 2020 may receive a phone call from a NASS representative who will help them fill out the survey form.

"NASS safeguards the privacy of all respondents and publishes only county, State and National-level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified," stated Whetstone. "We recognize that this is a hectic time for farmers and ranchers, but the information they provide helps U.S. agriculture remain viable and capable. I urge them to respond to these surveys and thank them for their time and cooperation," said Whetstone.

NASS will analyze the survey information and publish the results in a series of USDA reports, including the *Small Grains Summary* and quarterly *Grain Stocks* reports, both to be released September 30, 2020. Survey data also contribute to NASS's monthly and annual *Crop Production* reports, and the USDA's World Agricultural Outlook Board's monthly *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE)*.

All NASS reports are available online at <https://www.nass.usda.gov/>. For more information, call the NASS Northeastern Regional Field Office at (800) 498-1518.

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