



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
SOUTHERN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE



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USDA TO SURVEY SMALL GRAINS FARMERS

[ATHENS, GA] –USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will spend the first two weeks of September surveying thousands of farmers in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina to get a clear indication of the small grain production and grain stored on and off the farm. NASS will compile information collected across the country into publically accessible reports to ensure the confidentiality of individual farmer information.

“The results of these surveys will provide the basis for official USDA estimates of 2013 acreage, yield, and production for small grains. The data collected from this survey will also help set small grain acreage and production estimates at the county level. In addition, NASS will ask those with on-farm and off-farm grain storage about their stocks of whole grains and oilseeds to assess U.S. supply, ” stated Doug Kleweno, Director of the Southern Region.

Producers rely on the survey results to make production, marketing, and investment decisions. Congress utilizes the information to design better regulations and farm programs. Industry analysts, extension agents, farm organizations, and agricultural lenders use the data in a variety of ways to directly benefit the grower.

Growers across the South will be contacted during the coming weeks. The data will be collected by mail, phone, and personal interviews. Growers will also be given the opportunity to report on the Internet.

As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential, as required by federal law. NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only aggregate data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

All reports are available on the NASS web site: www.nass.usda.gov. For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Southern Regional Field Office at 1-800-253-4419.

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NASS provides accurate, timely, useful and objective statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. We invite you to provide occasional 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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