



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
HEARTLAND REGION -- ILLINOIS FIELD OFFICE
801 Sangamon Ave, Rm 62,
Springfield, Illinois 62702



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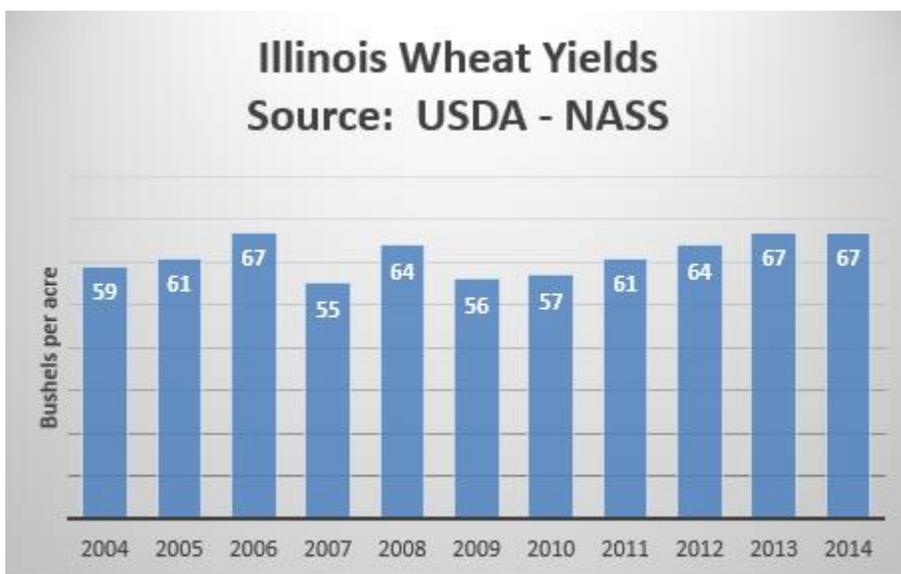
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USDA TO MEASURE SMALL GRAIN PRODUCTION

Springfield, IL — 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 2015 production and supply of small grains, which include wheat, oats, barley, and rye.

“The small grains industry is a big player in Illinois agriculture and it is crucial for us to have accurate data about this key sector of the economy,” said NASS Illinois State Statistician Mark Schleusener. “We will contact more than 2300 producers in Illinois to accurately measure 2015 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.”

NASS will contact Illinois survey participants to gather information on their 2015 production and the quantities of corn, soybeans, wheat, and oats 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 respond to the survey securely online. Farmers who have not responded by September 1 may receive a phone call from a NASS representative who will help them fill out the survey form.



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

Survey results will be published in several reports,

including the annual *Small Grains Summary* and the quarterly *Grain Stocks* report, both to be released on September 30. These and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information call the NASS Illinois Field Office at (800) 551-1014.

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NASS provides accurate, timely, and useful 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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