



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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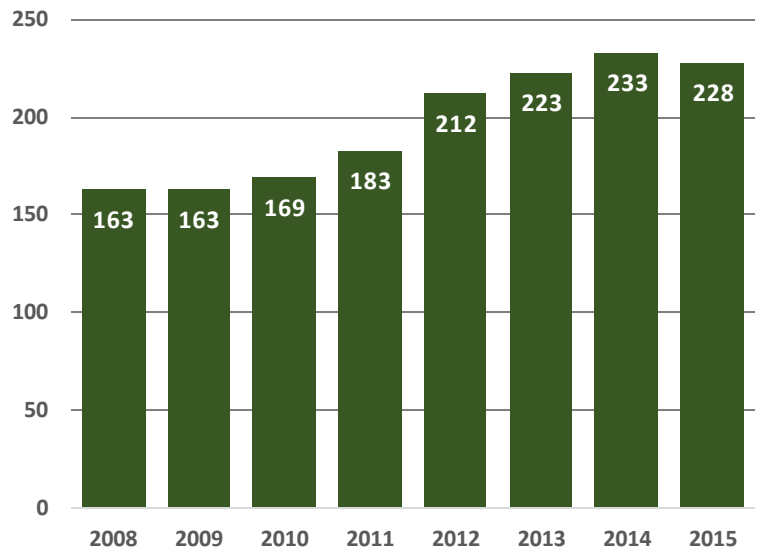
Contact: Mark Schleusener
(800) 551-1014

USDA to Measure Farmland Rental Rates

Springfield, IL – Beginning in February, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service will contact Illinois farmers and ranchers to gather land rental rate information for the *Cash Rents and Leases* survey. The results of this survey will serve as a valuable decision-making tool for farmers, ranchers and other landowners.

“This brief survey is our only source of county cash rental rates,” said NASS’ Illinois State Statistician Mark Schleusener. “By responding, producers help the farming community and ensure USDA bases its decisions on the most accurate data.” NASS will publish average cash rental rates at *national, state* and *county* levels for non-irrigated cropland, irrigated cropland, and pastureland on September 9, 2016.

More than ten thousand Illinois farmers will receive the survey forms. NASS offers the option of responding online via a secure Internet connection. In April, NASS representatives will begin calling and visiting producers who have not yet responded.



Illinois Average Cash Rent— \$/acre, non-irrigated cropland.

“We guarantee confidentiality of all individual information, regardless of the respond method participants choose, as required by federal law,” Schleusener said. “NASS will combine producer responses , providing the only accurate and comprehensive estimate of average rent and lease rates, whether at the county, state or national level.”

For more information about the *Cash Rents and Leases* survey, call the NASS Illinois Field Office at (800) 551-1014. All NASS reports and data are available online at www.nass.usda.gov.

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