



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
ILLINOIS FIELD OFFICE

801 Sangamon Ave, Room 62, Springfield, IL 62702



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mark Schleusener
(217) 524-9606

USDA to Survey County Small Grains Acreage

[Springfield, Illinois] –The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will survey producers in 32 states, including Illinois, for its County Agricultural Production Survey (CAPS).

The survey will collect information on total acres planted and harvested, and total yield and production of small grains crops down to the county level. CAPS will provide the data needed to estimate acreage and production of selected crops in the United States.

“The data provided by producers will help federal and state programs support the farmer,” said Mark Schleusener, Illinois State Statistician. “I hope every single producer understands the importance of these data and will take the time to respond if they receive this survey. Producers lose out when there is no data to determine accurate rates for loans, disaster payments, crop insurance price elections and more. When enough producers do not respond to surveys, NASS is not able to publish data. Without data, agencies such as USDA’s Risk Management Agency or Farm Service Agency do not have information on which to base the programs that serve those same producers.”

“I encourage all sampled producers to respond using our secure online system or to return the completed form in the postage-paid envelope,” said Schleusener. “That is the best way to save tax-payer dollars.”

Within the next few weeks NASS representatives will contact selected Illinois growers to arrange interviews for conducting the survey. To safeguard all individual responses, NASS will publish only aggregate data, ensuring the confidentiality of all individual respondents.

Survey results will be published in the NASS Quick Stats online database on December 13, 2018. In addition, the Heartland Regional Field Office will publish the county statistics at https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Illinois/Publications/Current_News_Release/ For more information call the NASS Heartland Regional Field Office at 800-551-1014.

###

NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate 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://bit.ly/NASS_Subscriptions and look for the “NASS Data User Community.”

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.