

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mark Schleusener 314-681-3315 nassrfohlr@usda.gov

## USDA to survey row crops county acreage and production

Springfield, IL – September 2023 – Starting in October, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will contact a sample of producers in 37 states, including 5,774 producers in Illinois, as part of its 2023 Row Crops County Agricultural Production Survey. The survey will collect information on total acres planted and harvested and total yield and production of row crops to support estimates down to the county level. Producers can complete their survey securely online at <u>agcounts.usda.gov</u>.

"The data provided by producers will help federal and state programs support the farmer," said Mark Schleusener, Illinois State Statistician. "We hope every producer who receives this survey will take the time to respond with their best estimate now, or when harvest is nearly complete. Producers benefit when there are data available to help



determine accurate loan rates, disaster payments, crop insurance price elections, and more. Without data, agencies such as USDA's Risk Management Agency or Farm Service Agency may not have accurate information on which to base their programs."

If producers do not submit their completed questionnaires by November 1, a NASS representative will contact selected Illinois farmers to arrange interviews. The information producers provide will be used for statistical purposes only. In accordance with federal law, individual responses will be kept confidential and will not be published in identifiable form.

The data will be published in February 2024, in NASS's Quick Stats database at <u>guickstats.nass.usda.gov</u>. For assistance with the survey or for more information, visit <u>nass.usda.gov/go/county-production</u> or contact the NASS Heartland Regional Field Office at (800) 551-1014 or <u>nassrfohlr@usda.gov</u>.

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