



NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
Delta Regional Office (serving Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi)
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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USDA TO SURVEY MILK PRODUCERS

Baton Rouge, LA – In April, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will reach out to milk producers across the country to begin collecting information for the 2014 *Milk Production* report. Producers should receive the survey questionnaires in mid to late March and can respond via the Internet, mail, or fax. Those who do not respond in one of those ways will have the opportunity for a telephone or personal interview.

“NASS surveys milk producers quarterly to create an accurate estimate of milk production in Louisiana and the nation,” said Becky Cross, Director of the NASS Delta Regional Office. NASS conducts the Milk Production survey every January, April, July, and October. In Louisiana, NASS will survey approximately 100 dairy farmers this year asking them to provide the number of milk cows in the herd, number of cows milked and total milk production for the first day of the month. NASS also collects information about milk consumed on the farm and the amount fed to calves.

The dairy industry relies on the monthly *Milk Production* report to make decisions about the marketing of milk. By participating in the survey, milk producers can ensure that NASS provides timely, accurate and objective data that all sectors of the U.S. milk industry depend on to help make sound business decisions.

Cross noted that, as with the case with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. “NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only aggregate data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified,” she said.

Survey results will be published in the monthly *Milk Production* Report on April 21, 2014. These and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information call the NASS Delta Regional Office at (800) 327-2970.

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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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