



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MARYLAND / DELAWARE FIELD OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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USDA TO COLLECT FINAL 2016 CROP PRODUCTION AND CROP STOCKS DATA

ANNAPOLIS, MD – As the 2016 growing season comes to an end, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will contact producers nationwide to gather final year-end crop production numbers and the amount of grain and oilseed they store on their farms. At the same time, NASS will survey grain facility operators to determine year-end off-farm grain and oilseed stocks.

“These surveys are the largest and most important year-end surveys conducted by NASS,” explained NASS Maryland/Delaware State Statistician Dale Hawks. “They are the basis for the official USDA estimates of production and harvested acres of all major agricultural commodities in the United States and year-end grain and oilseed supplies. Data from the survey will benefit farmers and processors by providing timely and accurate information to help them make crucial year-end business decisions and begin planning for the next growing and marketing season.”

The information will be compiled, analyzed and then published in a series of USDA reports, including the *Crop Production Annual Summary* and quarterly *Grain Stocks* report to be released January 12, 2017.

“Responses to the survey will be used in calculating county yields,” explained Mr. Hawks. “USDA uses county yield information from the survey to evaluate and administer vital farm disaster mitigation and insurance programs such as Price Loss Coverage (PLC) and Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC). Farmers who receive this survey are not included in the County Agricultural Production Survey, therefore this is their only opportunity to be included in the calculation of Maryland/Delaware’s county yields.”

These and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information, call the NASS Maryland/Delaware Field Office at 1-800-675-0295.

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NASS provides accurate, timely, useful and objective statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. We invite you 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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