Thank you to all who participated in the June Acreage Surveys, Grain Stocks report and the June Hog and Pigs report during June, 2021. Your assistance with those surveys is greatly appreciated.

Now that crops are in the ground and hay and forage harvest is underway, we’re moving into our July surveys which includes the July Cattle Inventory report, monthly Cattle On Feed update and the Quarterly Colony Loss report. The cattle reports provide an important update to the production pattern and supply of beef expected this fall and into next year. The colony loss survey provides a measure of potential honey production loss due to disease or other reasons. As one of the many important pollinators, the trend in colony loss is critical to understand because of the potential impact on pollination of field, floriculture and horticulture crops.

USDA NASS has a very active data collection schedule because production agriculture is an industry with a high demand for data needed for market performance. If you have a diversified operation with crops, hay and livestock, you may be asked to participate in several of these surveys each year. That can feel burdensome and make you wonder why agriculture is surveyed so heavily when other industries aren’t. Truth is, agriculture is not the only industry that’s frequently asked to supply data. In fact, agribusiness companies, manufacturers, service industries and others are often asked, or more often, required to provide data on a regular basis.
Here are just a few of the many examples:

**Food and Beverage Manufactures:**
1) Annual Survey of Manufacturers (CB)
2) Quarterly Manufacture's Outlook Survey - Manufacturers Association survey.
3) Manufacturing Outlook Surveys - Regional Federal Reserve Banks.
4) Food Processing Worker Surveys - (BLS)

**Electricity, Fuel, Natural Gas, Ethanol:**
Production, Reserves, Refining, Exports, Imports, Stocks, Prices, U.S. and State profiles of energy production (EIS).

**Fertilizer:**
1) The Fertilizer Institute Industry Report - production and usage statistics. (TFI)
2) Production data - International Fertilizer Association.

**Feed:**
1) DDGs - Monthly Grain Crushing and Co-Products Report - (NASS)
2) Soybean Meal - Monthly Fats and Oils: Crushings, Production, Stocks (NASS)

**Veterinary Services:**

**Equipment Manufacturers:**
Manufacturers Relationship Surveys - Equipment Dealers Association.

**Exports and World Trade:**
Export Sales Reports (FAS)

**Food and Beverage Consumers:**
1) Flexible Consumer Behavior Survey (ERS) - consumer knowledge, nutrition and food choices.
2) Food Surveys Research Group (ARS) - food consumption and consumer behaviors data.
3) National Health and Nutrition Surveys (CDC) - health and nutrition data.
4) Consumer Expenditure Survey (BLS) - expenditures, income and demographic data.

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**July Cattle Survey**
June 30 - July 14, 2021

**Purpose:**
- Mid year update of U.S. cattle herd, inventory breakdown including heifer retention and an update on calf crop after the busy spring calving season.

**MN Farms Sampled:** an average 1 out of every 40 farms with cattle.

**Reporting Options:** Mail, Phone or On-line

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**July Cattle On Feed**
June 30-July 13, 2021

**Purpose:**
- Monthly placements, shipments and inventory on hand as of the 1st of each month provides a running total of upcoming supply.
- Cattle on Feed - animals fed a prepared ration, shipped directly to a slaughter plant from the farm with an expected grade of select or better.

All farms with 1,000+ cattle on feed capacity.

**Reporting Options:** Mail, Phone, On-line.

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**Quarterly Colony Loss Survey**
June 30-July 19, 2021

**Purpose:**
- Measure the number of honey bee colonies lost and the reasons for the loss, number re-queened or number of new colonies added.

**MN Farms Sampled:** an average 1 out of every 15 apiaries.

**Reporting Options:** Mail, Phone, On-line.

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**Upcoming NASS Reports and Release Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Report</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milk Production</td>
<td>July 22, 2021 (2 pm CT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cattle</td>
<td>July 23, 2021 (2 pm CT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cattle on Feed</td>
<td>July 23, 2021 (2 pm CT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm Production Expenditures</td>
<td>July 30, 2021 (2 pm CT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>August Crop Prod</td>
<td>August 12, 2021 (11 am CT)</td>
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**Acronym Definitions**
ARS - Ag Research Service, USDA
BLS - Bureau of Labor Statistics
CB - Census Bureau
CDC - Center for Disease Control
EIS - Energy Information Administration
ERS - Economic Research Service, USDA
FAS - Foreign Ag Service, USDA
NASS - National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA
TFI - The Fertilizer Institute

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**Better Response = Better Data = Better Decisions**