



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
Delta Regional Field Office (serving Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi)  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## USDA to Collect Data on Farmland Rental Rates

**Jackson, Mississippi** - Beginning in February, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service will contact Mississippi farmers and ranchers to gather land rental rate information for the *Cash Rents and Leases* survey. The results of this survey will serve as a valuable decision-making tool for farmers, ranchers, and other landowners.

"This brief survey is our only source of county cash rental rates," said NASS' Mississippi State Statistician Esmerelda Dickson. "By responding, producers help the farming community and ensure USDA bases its decisions on the most accurate data."

NASS will publish average cash rental rates at national, state, and county levels for non-irrigated cropland, irrigated cropland, and pastureland on August 28, 2020.

Approximately 4,500 Mississippi farmers will receive the survey forms. NASS offers the option of responding online via a secure internet connection. Shortly after the February mailing, NASS representatives will begin calling and visiting landowners who have not yet responded.

"NASS will combine your responses with your fellow producers nationwide, providing the only accurate and comprehensive estimate of U.S. average rent and lease rates," Dickson added.

For more information about the *Cash Rents and Leases* survey, call the NASS Delta Regional Office at (800) 327-2970. All NASS reports and data are available online at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

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