



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
HEARTLAND REGION -- MISSOURI FIELD OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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COUNTY ESTIMATES SURVEY BEGINS IN OCTOBER

Columbia, MO – Missouri producers of row crops and hay will soon be receiving a questionnaire designed to collect data that will be used in estimating county yields for 2015. The USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will begin mailing these forms in the middle of October to producers across the state of Missouri.

“County level yield estimates have a direct impact on farmers around the state. The USDA’s Risk Management Agency relies on survey results to determine when to make crop loss insurance payments. In addition, USDA’s Farm Service Agency uses the data in its disaster assistance program calculations,” said Bob Garino, Missouri State Statistician. “NASS cannot publish a county yield unless it receives enough reports from producers in that county to make a statistically defensible estimate. So, it is very important that producers respond to this survey. In 2014, we were unable to publish several large producing counties because we lacked a sufficient number of responses.”

Corn - Top 5 Producing Missouri Counties 2014

County	Harvested Acres	Yield bu/acre	Production Bushels
Saline	141,800	207.2	29,387,000
Atchison	131,600	192.2	25,289,000
Nodaway	128,000	194.3	24,871,000
Lafayette	101,100	209.7	21,205,000
Holt	103,100	201	20,721,000

Soybeans - Top 5 Producing Missouri Counties 2014

County	Harvested Acres	Yield bu/acre	Production Bushels
New Madrid	201,500	50.9	10,249,000
Saline	148,500	55.8	8,291,000
Stoddard	170,900	48.3	8,260,000
Nodaway	150,500	52.9	7,963,000
Audrain	157,000	50.1	7,871,000

“As required by Federal law, all responses are completely confidential,” Garino continued. “We safeguard the privacy of all respondents, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified. Individual responses are also exempt from the Freedom of Information Act.”

“Many producers respond by mail and also on our secure website. After a while, we will begin contacting producers on the phone to ensure adequate response rates in as many counties as possible. Because the sample size is so large, we will be continuing data collection in to January of 2016. Results for corn and soybeans will be published in February 2016.”

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