December 9, 2021 -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) mails the National Agricultural Classification Survey (NACS) this month to more than 5,400 potential Nevada agricultural producers, in preparation for the 2022 Census of Agriculture next year. The NACS will ask survey recipients if they are involved in agricultural activity and for basic farm information. Response to the NACS is required by law for all who receive the questionnaire, even if the recipient is not an active farmer or rancher. Questionnaires can be completed online or by mail. The response deadline is January 24.

“NACS definitely plays a key role in getting a complete count of U.S. and Nevada agriculture,” said Nevada State Statistician Curt Stock. “As one of the most important early steps to determine who should receive next year’s Census of Agriculture, every response to NACS is vital.”

USDA defines a farm as any place from which $1,000 or more of agricultural products are produced and sold, or are normally sold, during the year. This definition was first used for the 1974 Census of Agriculture and is now consistent across USDA surveys.

“The definition of a farm is broad, and not based on the size of the operation, type of crop grown, or type of livestock raised,” said Stock. “It can be a suburban or urban rooftop, or a backyard hoop house. It can be large pastures of cattle or fields of corn, as well as a couple horses, alpacas, flowers, honey, fruit, or eggs sold to neighbors, friends, and family. We want every U.S. and Nevada producer to have the opportunity to share their voice in the ag census.”

The influential Census of Agriculture dataset is used by local and federal governments, educators, researchers, agribusinesses, media, and many more, impacting decisions that affect the lives of every American. Data collection for the 2022 Census of Agriculture begins November 2022.

All information reported to NASS is kept confidential and protected by federal law. For more on confidentiality, read NASS’s Confidentiality Pledge. To learn more about NACS and the Census of Agriculture, visit nass.usda.gov/AgCensus.

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_NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture._

_USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender._