



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

1805 NDSU Research Park Dr., Fargo, ND 58102
Media Contact: Darin Jantzi (800) 582-6443

USDA Releases Results of First Farmland Landlord Survey Since 1999

FARGO, ND, August 31, 2015 – There are 19.6 million acres of farmland rented out by landlords in North Dakota, according to the results of the 2014 Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL) survey released August 31, 2015 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

NASS conducted the survey in cooperation with the USDA’s Economic Research Service to get a better insight into who owns U.S. farmland. TOTAL was the first time NASS surveyed farmland landlords since 1999. The survey results provide analysis of rented farmlands by acreage, as well as by landlords, which include individuals, as well as ownership arrangements such as partnerships, corporations, trusts, and other types of ownership.

According to TOTAL findings, there are 50,641 farmland landlords in North Dakota. Of these, 11,790 were farmers, while 38,851 are non-farming landlords. Cropland made up 68 percent of all North Dakota farmland rented, while 30 percent were pasture acres rented. The rest of the rented farmland in North Dakota were acres used for forests and other land uses.

In the next five years, North Dakota farmland landlords expect to transfer 3.42 million acres to different owners. Of these, 677,951 acres are expected to be sold to non-relatives, 1.38 million acres are expected to be sold to relatives, 1.02 million acres are expected to be put in a trust, and 345,119 acres landlords expect to gift away.

For complete TOTAL results, visit agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/TOTAL.

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