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News Release

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Ohio Farmers Asked to Help Determine Cost to Pollinate Crops

On October 27, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will mail the Cost of Pollination Survey to Ohio crop producers. The survey will be sent to nearly 16,000 producers nationwide.

"Honey bees are important pollinators of crops ranging from apples to vegetables," said Ben Torrance, State Statistician, USDA NASS, Ohio Field Office. "To help accurately depict the health of the pollination industry in the United States, NASS will ask crop producers about their use of honey bees, the fees they paid for honey bee pollination, and any other expenses related to pollinating their crops."

Survey recipients are asked to respond securely online at <u>agcounts.usda.gov</u> through the Respondent Portal, by mail, or fax. Those who do not respond by Nov. 14 may be contacted by a NASS representative to arrange an interview to complete the survey.

All information reported by producers will be kept confidential, as required by federal law. NASS will publish the survey data December 15, 2023, on the NASS website at <u>nass.usda.gov</u> and in the NASS Quick Stats searchable database at <u>www.quickstats.nass.usda.gov</u>.

For more information about the Cost of Pollination Survey and NASS's bee and honey program, visit <u>www.nass.usda.gov/Surveys/Guide to NASS Surveys/Bee and Honey/</u>. NASS's other honey bee reports include the Honey report published every March and the Honey Bee Colonies report published every August.

For assistance with the survey, producers are encouraged to call the NASS Great Lakes Regional Office at 800-453-7501.

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