



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE
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USDA to Survey Pennsylvania Farm Chemical Use

HARRISBURG, PA - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will gather information about production practices from soybean producers across Pennsylvania, as part of the 2020 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS).

"ARMS is a vital survey that tracks how Pennsylvania farms use technology to manage production of their major field crops," explained King Whetstone, director of the NASS, Northeastern Regional Field Office. "The results of this survey help policymakers and farm groups understand the factors driving the costs and returns of crop production."

This year, NASS is reaching out to over 4,000 soybean producers across the country. NASS will conduct the survey starting in October, and recommends that soybean farmers have their fertilizer and pesticide spray records available to speed up the survey process. To protect the health and safety of producers, partners, and employees, NASS has suspended in-person data collection until further notice. Interviewers will be calling producers to help complete the survey.

The ARMS survey is conducted in three phases from May 2020 through April 2021. The first phase screened participants to make sure they have the commodity of interest and would accurately represent the entire U.S. farm sector. In this current phase, NASS will collect information on production practices for soybean farming. In the final phase, NASS will survey producers on cost of production, farm income, and production expenditures.

The information provided by farmers is protected by federal law (Title V, Subtitle A, Public Law 107-347), which keeps the respondent's identity, operation, and answers confidential.

ARMS is a joint effort of NASS, USDA's Economic Research Service, and the Office of Pest Management Policy. For more information about the Agricultural Resource Management Survey, visit nass.usda.gov/go/arms.

Survey results and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/. For more information, call the NASS Northeastern Regional Field Office at (800) 498-1518.

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