



# NEWS RELEASE

## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture • Northern Plains Region  
4301 West 57<sup>th</sup> St. Suite 103, Sioux Falls, SD 57108 • (800) 582-6443

[www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** Erik Gerlach  
(800) 582-6443  
[erik.gerlach@usda.gov](mailto:erik.gerlach@usda.gov)

### **USDA to Measure Financial Well-Being of South Dakota Farmers and Ranchers**

**SIOUX FALLS, SD. January 31, 2023** - In late December, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) began gathering information about farm economics and production practices from farmers and ranchers across South Dakota, as the agency conducts the third and final phase of the 2022 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS).

"ARMS is the only program that measures the current financial well-being of South Dakota producers and their households as a whole," said Erik Gerlach, NASS South Dakota State Statistician. "The results of this survey will help inform decisions on local and federal policies and programs that affect South Dakota farms and farm families."

To obtain the most accurate data, NASS will reach out to more than 35,000 producers nationwide, including 661 in South Dakota, between December and April. The survey asks producers to provide in-depth information about their operating revenues, production costs, and household characteristics. The 2022 ARMS survey includes a version of the questionnaire focused on farm costs of production and expenditures for wheat producers. The survey also includes questions to help measure any impacts of COVID on farms, farm and household finances, and off-farm employment.

"In February, our interviewers will begin reaching out to those farmers who have not yet responded," said Gerlach. "We appreciate their time and are here to help them with the questionnaire so their information will continue supporting sound agricultural decision-making. Completing this questionnaire fulfills your 2022 Census of Agriculture requirement."

Information provided to NASS is kept confidential, as required by federal law. The agency only publishes data in aggregate form, ensuring that no individual respondent or operation can be identified.

The expense data gathered in ARMS will be published in the annual *Farm Production Expenditures* report on July 21, 2023. That report and others are available at [nass.usda.gov/Publications](http://nass.usda.gov/Publications). More reports based on ARMS data and more information about ARMS are available at [ers.usda.gov/arms](http://ers.usda.gov/arms).

###

*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 and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay).*