



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture
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USDA TO MEASURE SMALL GRAIN PRODUCTION

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – During the first two weeks of September, growers of small grains around the country will receive survey forms from the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The agency is taking a comprehensive look into the 2018 production and supply of small grains.

“We will contact over 1,000 producers in Tennessee to accurately measure 2018 acreage, yield and production for winter wheat,” said Debra Kenerson, Tennessee State Statistician. “The data collected from this survey will also help set small grain acreage and production estimates at the county level.”

NASS will contact Tennessee survey participants to gather information on their 2018 production and the quantities of grains and oilseeds stored on-farm. As an alternative to mailing the survey back, and to help save both time and money, growers will have the option to respond to the survey securely online. Farmers who have not responded by August 30 may receive a phone call from a NASS representative who will help them fill out the survey form.

“These data are crucial to the agriculture industry and can have a direct impact on farmers,” Kenerson said. “For example, county yield estimates resulting from the survey will be used by the USDA’s Farm Service Agency for Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) and other program calculations. In addition, the Risk Management Agency (RMA) uses the data for administering the Area Risk Protection Insurance Plan and establishment of transitional yields, particularly when severe weather, drought or flooding impact crop production.”

The survey asks producers to provide information on their planted and harvested acres, total yield and production of specific commodities, and the quantities of grains and oilseeds stored on-farm.

NASS safeguards the privacy of all respondents and publishes only aggregate data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

Survey results will be published in several reports, including the annual *Small Grains Summary* and the quarterly *Grain Stocks* report, both to be released on September 28. These

and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information, call the NASS Tennessee Field Office at (615) 891-0903.

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NASS provides accurate, timely, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. We invite you to provide occasional feedback on our products and services. Sign up at <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/subscriptions> and look for "NASS Data User Community."

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