



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Southern Plains News Release

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Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture Food and Forestry

For Immediate Release
August 10, 2015

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USDA to Survey Cotton, Oat & Wheat Producers

Austin, TX – In September, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will begin contacting cotton, oat, and winter wheat growers to learn about their production practices during the 2015 growing season for the Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS). NASS and USDA’s Economic Research Service (ERS) jointly conduct this three-phase survey, the second phase of which gathers data on farmers’ chemical use, pest management and irrigation practices.

“Producers benefit from providing this information because it is used to re-register chemical products they need and use”, said Doug Rundle, Director of the NASS Southern Plains Regional Field Office. The results of this survey will update the information on production practices for wheat, oats, and cotton. This information will help ensure that decisions made are based on accurate data that comes from directly from the growers. As an added benefit, participants will receive one Continuing Education Unit (CEU) in Laws and Regulations from the Texas Department of Agriculture, good towards their pesticide applicator license.”

ARMS, which is conducted in three separate phases during the growing season, serves as the primary source of information on production practices, resource use and economic well-being of America’s farm operations and farm households. During the second phase of ARMS, NASS will collect information only through personal interviewing. Trained representatives will conduct face-to-face interviews with approximately 1,100 growers nationwide, including 650 in Texas beginning in September and continuing through November.

As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. NASS safeguards the privacy of all respondents and publishes data only in aggregate form, ensuring that no individual operation or grower can be identified.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Southern Plains Regional Field Office at 1-800-626-3142.

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