



NEWS RELEASE

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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USDA TO MEASURE DRY HAY AND OTHER CROP INTENTIONS

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE, January 10, 2007 – USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is gearing up to conduct the 2007 March Agricultural Survey to gather data about producers’ grain stocks and intended crop acreages. In New England, the survey measures acreage expected to be cut for dry hay and area planted to field corn, barley, and oats.

Approximately 2,100 New England farmers have been selected to take part in this nationwide effort to measure farmers' planting intentions for 2007. “It is important that each producer respond because the survey results are based on a sample of producers and each farmer surveyed represents many others,” said Gary Keough, Director of the New England Field Office of NASS. “The cooperation of New England farmers is essential in order to ensure that agriculture in each state is measured accurately.”

National survey results will be available in the *Prospective Plantings* and *Grain Stocks* reports from Washington, D.C. at 8:30 a.m. on March 30, 2007. All reports will be available on the Internet within minutes of the scheduled release time. New England statistics based on this survey will be reprinted in the April issue of the *Agricultural Review*. This monthly New England newsletter is available on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/nh/ and complimentary copies will be mailed to survey participants upon request.

The producers selected to participate will be asked to report during the late February to mid-March data collection period. As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is kept confidential by law. “NASS safeguards the confidentiality of all responses and publishes only state and national level statistics, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified,” stated Keough.