



New England Agricultural Statistics

a field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service
United States Department of Agriculture

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USDA MEASURES FIELD CROPS PLANTED IN 2005

Weather conditions during the 2004 growing season were variable throughout the six state region, with a mixture of warmth and sunshine to hot, humid, rainy conditions. This year, farm operators are hoping weather conditions will be more favorable. Temperatures this spring have been seasonal thus far.

To gather the most accurate information on the 2005 crop situation, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service will be asking farmers about their crops in the June Agricultural Survey. The survey collects acreage information on field corn, potato, oat and barley plantings, as well as hay acreage intended for harvest. It also measures grain stocks on hand, and helps to establish official statistics for the number of farms and land in farms.

"This annual USDA survey is conducted nationwide. The survey provides information crucial for reliable estimates of crops, farm numbers and farm acreage in New England. Therefore, it is important for New England farmers to participate in the June Agricultural Survey so our region is properly represented," states Aubrey Davis, Director of the New England field office in Concord, New Hampshire. As with all NASS survey work, individual operator information is kept strictly confidential, and is exempt from requests under the Freedom of Information Act.

Approximately 800 New England farmers are being asked to participate in this voluntary study. Producers selected for the survey will receive a letter requesting their assistance on this important project. Interviewers will be asking for their help from May 28, 2005 through June 13, 2005.

The national survey results will be available from Washington, D.C. in the **Acreage Report** on June 30, 2005 at 8:30 a.m., and for potatoes, the **Crop Production Report** on July 12, 2005 at 8:30 a.m. All reports are available on the Internet at www.usda.gov/nass/ within minutes of the scheduled release time, and the statistics are reprinted in the July issue of the **Agricultural Review**. The monthly New England **Agricultural Review** is available on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/nh/ and complimentary copies will be mailed to survey participants upon request.

[The New England Agricultural Statistics Service is a field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Located in Concord, New Hampshire, it is responsible for agricultural statistics in all six States in the region. The office can be reached at 1-800-642-9571 or through E-mail at nass-nh@nass.usda.gov. All National statistics and State level newsletters are available free from E-mail subscriptions and on the Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.]

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