USDA Spring Data Users' Meeting
April 14-15, 2021
Question and Answer Summary

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Question & Answer Summary

The following is a summary of questions and answers from the Data Users' Meeting. Material is organized based on the order they were answered in both the Open Forum and breakout sessions. There was not time to answer all questions in all sessions, but any unanswered questions were reviewed, and the appropriate agency has provided a written response. Slides are appended at the end.

Note: Questions and answers were lightly edited for readability.

Open Forum: Question and Answer Summary

Question: Tim Martinson

I have a question about incorporating GIS into acreage estimates. Two of our extension programs have GIS maps, often including variety planted. Probably encompassing about 2/3 of grape acreage in NY. What is the prospect for using GIS and AI to identify crops and track acreage?

Answer: Lance Honig

As far as using the GIS information for acreage, NASS does have some work that we do in this area. In fact, we publish the cropland data layer each year which is a visual product that shows the different crop acreages across the country based strictly on the GIS work we do. We also internally get some acreage indications for a variety of crops that we can use in our estimating process. We incorporate it along with survey data and other administrative data that we have. If you like to see more information or more detail about that, one option you can look at, we had a session back in October at the Data Users' Meeting talking about the use of satellite data. That is a recorded session posted on our website. There is both some technical details behind the work we do and also additional information about how we incorporate it into our process.

The Satellite Data session begins at 3:18:58.

Question: Tim Martinson

In NY grapes, NASS stopped collecting data in 2018. How can we get the annual production survey reinstated?

Answer: Lance Honig

Just to give you some background about how that works, NASS, in designing our annual estimating program, typically following each Census of Agriculture which gives us a comprehensive look across all crops across the states, we review that and try to ensure that an annual program we set up covers about 90% to 95% of those crops with the states that we include in our program and obviously for some crops you need a lot of states to get that kind of coverage. For other crops, you might only need one, two or even three states to maintain that coverage so that is the situation with grapes. After this last review following the 2017 Census of Agriculture, we looked at that data, and we didn't need as many states to reach that desired coverage. Obviously, in a perfect world, we would do every state, every crop, every year. But we have to operate within the limits that we have from time and money. So that's why we try to design the programs to get us the maximum coverage with the minimal amount of states or other things involved to keep the cost down and ensure that we can represent as many crops as possible and other commodities across all of agriculture. That's how that process works.

Question: Ruben Esquer

AMS - The text reports are not always uniform, this makes automatic data extraction extremely challenging, do you plan to standardize 100% the reports that are still published in text format? We do screen scraping to automatically open one by one all reports that have a desired slug, is this the only way to access the text reports without having to do it manually?

Answer: Mike Lynch

During the last few years, AMS Market News has been migrating to a new platform, called My Market News, that offers greater accessibility to our data. In this process, we have been transitioning our reports away from the legacy text version to a new PDF format. In addition, as these reports make that transition, the published data is available for automatic downloading through our API or application programming interface. Information on setting up your API query can be found here. For those reports that are still offered in text format, they will be eventually migrated to the new platform. AMS will not be revisiting existing text files to standardize the format as these are scheduled to covert to the new PDF format in the future.

If you could share the names/slug numbers of some of the reports you are currently using, we could better assist you with the status of that transition and accessing the data you need.

Link to our LMR API User Guide
Link to our LMR Web Service User Guide
Link to our MyMarketNews User API User Guide

Question: Paul McAuliffe

The USDA flashed major export sales announcements to China. Why didn't the WASDE report on April 9 reflect that increase? WASDE maintained March WASDE corn imports by China at 24 MMT worldwide where in fact US commitments to China are 23 MMT and Ukraine shipments in Sep/March are 6 MMT. Please explain why WASDE is not reflecting official export commitments from the Ukraine and the USA.

Answer: Mike Jewison

Common question. The thing I will note for the record, total commitments on all accumulated shipments plus outstanding sales of which a sizable 14 tons still remains on the books for China that has not been shipped. Definitionally, what's that China corn import number? That is the imports as reported by China customs on October/September basis. So our China import forecast as of the April WASDE reflects 9.4 million tons in reported imports from all origins from October to February, thus to reach the 24 million ton number for the marketing year for the remainder of March through September period, you need to average 2.1 million tons which is larger than the 1.9 million tons during the October to February period. Current expectations are for strong exports from the US, contrasting with gradually declining shipments from Ukraine.

Question: Marvin Hoekema

Does NASS have any plans/interest in surveying dairy/whey permeate and UF milk production/inventory data?

Answer: Travis Averill

At this time NASS does not have any intentions to ask those questions pertaining to whey and permeate. Though, if we need to explore that, we're more than willing to entertain and do the research for those items with our operations that we contact on a monthly basis.

Question: Marvin Hoekema

In the NASS cattle report, for calf crop, is there a reason that dairy calf crop is not broken out? Also, what is the reliability estimate on All heifers 500 pounds and over for dairy cattle replacement, that is not broken out for the dairy side.

Answer: Travis Averill

We do the milk cow, beef cow, calf crop, and all cattle items on the Quality Measures. We don't break it down for all the other items. Those are the ones we put our focus on for the Quality Measures. We could explore potentially covering more items but that's what the logic is when we set up those Quality Measures, to focus on those key items in the Cattle Report. As far as the calf crop being broken out by the dairy sector versus the beef sector, we have never gone down that road. Not to say we won't but the focus is to illustrate what the calf crop is on the U.S. basis for cattle, not by beef or dairy specific, because even on that component, you have some operations that are crossing beef cattle with milk or dairy breeds so which category are you going to put those in. So, if they are 50-50 there is no category to go by beef or milk. Son the key is to make sure we are covering what the calf crop is on an annual basis and by the first half and second half of the year.

Question: Jerry Gidel

Given the lack of enumerator input for your August U.S. crop production last year, it might be appropriate to eliminate a specific August crop outlook after last year's August Corn yield was 10 bu over the final yield. Using more resources in the estimate might be better.

Answer: Dan Kerestes

Last year, we put just as much effort into our August survey as we have for any survey out there. We were limited by the pandemic just as any other agency. However, our response rate was equivalent to what we had in the past and we did, I think, a fairly good job of setting the estimates based on the conditions as they were as of August 1. I think we will not be making any changes at least in the near future. The August survey will continue on.

Answer: Joe Parsons

My recollection is there were a couple of weather events from August onwards. So, we'll leave it at that.

Question: Karl Skold

Given recent revisions in corn stocks, what do you think the drivers have been? Less reliable production estimates? Higher farmer stocks? Late harvest? Just would be interested in getting your thoughts. Thank you.

Answer: Lance Honig

That's almost a trick question because obviously there is no exact answer to that. I think if you asked five people, you'd probably get at least two different answers as to which part of the equation they think is maybe causing some of those differences. I will say that we have seen some unusual crops the last couple of seasons. Obviously two seasons ago we had really strange spring conditions. The weather got stranger as the year went on and last year was certainly unusual from some of the late drought conditions that we saw come into play and then of course the derecho came across Iowa and some of the surrounding states as well. So, I think you will have unusual things happen and you will see unusual results when you look at how that crop disappears throughout the year. So, at the end of the day, we're going to look at both production and stocks as we talked about quite a bit yesterday, looking at the balance sheet. Both are factors in that equation. We typically look at all the data we have supporting both production and stocks estimates and we find the best fit. Sometimes that means we need to make an adjustment to stocks and sometimes we need to make an adjustment to production and sometimes it means it's a combination of the two. So, we will take all the available data we have, and just make the best fit with all the pieces of that puzzle that we have.

Answer: Chris Hawthorn

The only thing I would add, like we mentioned yesterday, is that we are doing a sweeping review of our grain stocks program and we are going to look at everything. No stone left unturned. Everything from our summary process, data collection process, even our questionnaire design and everything like that, so we are looking at every piece of the grain stocks program to make sure we are on track with what we need to do for our estimates.

Question: Wojciech Grzywaczewski

Why were CV targets for September report much higher than the other ones?

Answer: Joe Parsons

The reason that is true, and we do set a higher target when it comes to CVs, that stands for coefficient of variation, or a proportion of uncertainty that arises from sampling and from the loss of sample due to nonresponse. The reason is basically it is a check writing function. In order to achieve a lower CV, you have to have a bigger sample and have to also be able to manage that

sample. But we already have a sample size of about 80,000 in these quarters, so when you get to that ending quarter when you have a really rare event, while the CV is a little bit higher the absolute term, the standard error that is, the amount of uncertainty in absolute terms is actually very small and Lance had some graphics to that effect yesterday. It is something that we do think through.

Question: Karen Braun

When will the historical report estimates for S&D items be available in an online database? This was discussed maybe 1-2 years ago and I haven't seen it yet. NASS does have some of the historical items, but for example, June corn acreage survey is only available back to 2018 in QuickStats.

Answer: Mark Jekanowski

As I mentioned yesterday, we recently put a database online that contains all of the historic WASDE data but again, as I also mentioned, it's important to keep in mind that that data represents the specific data that was reported in each WASDE at the time it was released. It does not include historic revisions for those individual data points. It is just basically an electronic file of all of the historic WASDEs going back 10 years. Now the official final estimates for all of those variables are housed in the PS&D database and that's where users can find official historic WASDE S&D data. Clearly that's a little bit different from this specific NASS estimates available in Quick Stats, which I would send back to NASS to discuss. The data for individual reports and access to that going back further in specific NASS reports isn't always covered in each specific WASDE. So, it wouldn't be surprising that they would be available in two different databases.

Answer: Lance Honig

What they are referring to is within the Quick Stats database. Generally speaking, what we store out there are the latest and most up-to-date estimates but in addition to that, we have begun to also load the iterative estimates. For example, if you wanted to specifically choose for 2019 planted area, you can choose you want the March Prospective Plantings number, you wanted the June Acreage number, the October updates that we published, and then you can get the final or latest and greatest numbers. But because we started loading those recently, they don't go all the way back. So, you can get all the historic final latest and greatest numbers going all the way back. But if you want specifically those iterative numbers throughout the season, they only go back to, and you probably are right about the year, 2018. I do not remember exactly which year, but it's only been 2 to 3 years. It's quite a process to go back and get those loaded earlier on, so it's something we will continue to work on as we can, and we will get more of that historic information out there. Nationally, you can get those numbers from our Crop Production Historical Track Record publication. It publishes every April. In fact, it just came out Monday of this week. Obviously, that is a PDF document and there's a text version as well and a csv file and if you download the csv, you can drop those files for all the major crops, all the data going way back in time. But that is just national. If you want the state level numbers, it's a bit more of a process to get that.

Question: Bill Lapp

Over the past year we have seen dramatic shift from away from home consumption to at-home consumption -- it would be extremely beneficial (if not already completed) to have historic estimates of away vs. at-home consumption of beef, pork, chicken, turkey, dairy products, egg products, wheat flour, rice, etc. Thanks

Answer: Spiro Stefanou

We do actually have one of our COVID working papers coming. It does the food away from home, food at-home, consumption by the different meat products. There is some data there.

Answer: Kelly Maguire

We also have a data product on our website called FoodAPS, from the National Household Food Acquisition and Purchase Survey that allows you to download csv files and such. I believe it was last updated in 2017, so I don't know if it is going to give you the more recent information that you are seeking but it would give some of that detail as well.

Answer: Spiro Stefanou

There is a FoodAPS 2 project in progress right now too, so these data will be available in the near future.

Question: Bill McCary

Is the corn China import data handled the same for other countries such as Japan or was that the same way China's soybean imports were handled this year?

Answer: Keith Menzie

We rely on the China import data as our official source and we cross-check it with exporter to data throughout the year.

Answer: Mike Jewison

On the corn side, we would use Japan's official import data for their import number. As an aside, it varies by country and commodity, whether we are talking exporter data or importer data. Again, it varies by commodity, so we might give you a different answer for corn than oilseeds.

Question: Sadru Data

When will you issue the next Tree Nuts WASDE report?

Answer: Mark Jekanowski

Just to point out, the WASDE does not cover any fruits, vegetables. or tree nuts. I think he was referring to the ERS Outlook report.

Answer: Kelly Maguire

That comes out twice a year in March and September. So, the March was recently released, and the next release will be September.

Question: John Ellis

When will year 2020 poultry data inventory estimates by county be released and in what format?

Answer: Dan Kerestes

June 7, 2021. It will be released in formats we've always done: the csv files, text files, and of course it will be out there to view on Quick Stats as well.

Question: Matt Clark

First, thank you for spending the resources on API development, it is a major efficiency help. Keep it up. Second, with the growth in the almond and other tree nuts, industry, will additional resources be spent on price and yield tracking?

Answer: Lance Honig

For NASS, we currently estimate almond production annually and we also do a forecast during the growing season. What we publish is acreage, production, price, and value for that crop. Obviously, it's grown nearly exclusively in California so that is where we do all of our estimating and forecasting so right now I think we have pretty good coverage on that crop so I don't anticipate any major changes coming there anytime soon from NASS.

Question: Joel Karlin

Any updates on USDA attempts to better quantify corn feed/residual demand with a new feed model incorporating grain consuming animal units and ration formulations?

Answer: Mike Jewison

In the short run, no. I will remind, as a general indicator, for forecasting feed and residual the animal units is an indicator of changes in feed and residual. It does not provide an estimate of feed, need, or use. In order to derive feed use estimates, we need to have animal numbers, rates of gain, weather pattern, regional and seasonal feeding practices and updates for other technological advancements, genetic changes, new feed additives in order to capture feed use. So, that model was more a forecasting indicator, but the short answer is no. We have not looked at it recently.

Answer: Joe Parsons

Thinking about especially last spring when the ethanol industry went on pause, that probably changed some ration formulations pretty rapidly as well. Probably faster than a survey could have captured and built in real time, if you can even capture such data.

Question: Scott Gerlt

The databases across agencies have very different labels, codes and ability to access. The same commodity can be named slightly differently and have a different code or a geographic region could have a different abbreviations. The API's are very much appreciated, but different databases use different API technology. As a result of all of these things, it is very difficult to merge data across agencies. Will there be an effort to streamline any of this?

Answer: Dan Kerestes

The quick answer is yes. We have been working on improving our public database. You will be hearing more about that later this afternoon. We have also worked with AMS to try and pick up some of the techniques that they are using for distributing their data. Were also working with the Department. We would like to eventually have our database in the cloud and be able to freely share data not only among our sister agencies here at USDA, but also to the public in a uniform manner. Of course, we always work closely with the World Board, making sure all of our numbers pass freely and we use the same format as the World Board does, so we have a really good working relationship there. Also, NASS has staff working within the Department, among agencies, to make sure that the nomenclature is similar so when you talk about corn it means corn to everybody. I think we are making good progress. It is not a simple task, but we are working on it.

Answer: Mark Jekanowski

I don't think I have a whole lot to add. I think you are right on. This issue has long been recognized and I know at World Board we're closely coordinated with NASS in terms of sharing data and incorporating it into our system and of course, we gather and use data from across USDA, many different agencies all contribute to the Interagency Commodity Estimate Committee process, so we agree. We recognize the need for more coordination and uniformity and as you pointed out, it is a big job. USDA is a big agency and there has been a history of agencies being relatively siloed and I think a lot of progress has been made breaking down those silos and promoting a one USDA type of approach and we will continue to pick away at it.

Answer: Joe Parsons

I think USDA and other large agencies now have Chief Data Officers. That was part of the Evidence-Based Policymaking Act from 2018, and I suspect that will be part of the program of work. Trying to harmonize things. Spiro, do you have anything to add? ERS not only produces data, you also consume a lot of data from other agencies and you're probably acutely aware of the API challenge.

Answer: Kelly Maguire

I would just echo what all of the other panelists have said in terms of being aware of this issue and trying to work together collaboratively across the agencies to make things consistent and

more easily accessible both to those of us internally who are doing the research and producing data products as well as the public. So, it's an ongoing topic of discussion.

Answer: Spiro Stefanou

How well we work, given the diverse siloing that's going on, is pretty impressive at least from what I have been able to observe the last eight months. We can always do better and we're putting a lot of resources into harmonizing our data platforms and our Chief Data Officer activities.

Answer: Patrick Packnett

You mentioned Chief Data Officers that are now in place in all of our agencies and the Department's Data Officer are working to develop the overall USDA data strategy particularly on the open data. So, in the future I think those efforts will end up being successful and we can get more harmonization.

Answer: Mike Lynch

We all admit, it is a challenge. We're all coming from different missions we are trying to deliver so, technology is great, I really appreciate hearing the positive comments about how we are getting there with the APIs but again, the challenge is that we all look at it a little differently and, again, the regions, the way we report livestock and some of the grains and the different regions in order to show information, it is conflicting with some of the NASS regions for example. Where we can, we've really tried to be in sync, and I think the work with the Chief Data Officer has certainly helped with that. In the past, we have had some regular meetings of the agencies like the Food Safety Inspection Service on terminology because for some of the commodities, in those meetings, there was a difference in how everybody defined what a sow was, for example. Trying to come to some agreement on what that should be moving forward is a challenge. I think we've made progress, but certainly there's more room to be gained.

Answer: Joe Parsons

In some cases, we have chosen to publish things at the regional level or accumulating states together just to protect the confidentiality of individual respondents in the case of business surveys and making sure that the data are fit for use. Sometimes when you disaggregate data, that uncertainty level really rises and it's not so great to publish. In many cases folks want data as disaggregated as they possibly can get, and we understand that.

Question: Steven Pires

When will the 2020 cotton data become available?

Answer: Lance Honig

It could be referring to final state-level data or U.S. level as well because, cotton is on a little bit of a different schedule than the other row crops. In the May Crop Production report, we will not only finalize the U.S. and state-level numbers for cotton for last season but also later that

afternoon we will be releasing the county-level estimates for cotton as well. That will be May 12th this year, so all the final cotton information will come out on May 12. State, U.S. and county.

Question: Hussain Jiwani

County level corn, soybean & wheat yields are released in February of next year. Are there any plans to release county level yield estimates in August or September?

Answer: Lance Honig

The short answer is no, we don't have any plans to do that. The reason would be that it takes a very large amount of data to get to the county level. If you try to do that during the forecast season, and obviously you'd have to repeat that too, because you're not going to get final information in August or September. It would be a tremendous burden on respondents. It would be a huge lift for us as well. It takes a fair bit more time to put county-level numbers together than it does state and national numbers. So, it would be a huge challenge to do, and quite frankly, it's still a bit of a moving target in August and September.

Question: Bill Lapp

The new EIA biofuel feedstock report is extremely helpful. Will future EIA monthly reports include a) total biofuel (biodiesel+renewable) production, b) total biofuel (biodiesel+renewable) feedstock usage, c) a breakout of biodiesel vs. renewable diesel production? Thanks

Answer: Mike Conner

So the first data that we published, first completed the that we published from our new survey came out in the month of January or for the month of January actually, the data came out at the end of March but anyway, we are reporting the production numbers in the petroleum supply monthly report of course on the petroleum navigator tables on the website and as we have done in the past, we have ethanol production and then we have a total production of all the biofuels that are not ethanol so that would include obviously the biodiesel in the renewable.

The second part of that question was on the total biofuel feedstock. Total amount of fuel, feedstock usage, plus renewable. Our table up until December of 2020 of course was limited just to feedstocks consumed for biodiesel and then starting in January, again, January data, the feedstocks were for all the various products, ethanol, biodiesel, renewable diesel, renewable jet and so on. I guess maybe I'm not quite understanding the question. It could be, I guess, you're asking are we going to go back to reporting a total feedstock number? In other words, adding up all the corn and the so we, and the various other things and reporting a total. We can certainly talk about doing that. The reason we did not do it with the data for January was because we wanted to avoid having to withhold a number of the individual products. That becomes kind of the trade-off because we have to withhold certain data disclosing individual company information so we decided at least for January to not report a total and that will at us report more of the individual products. We can certainly have that conversation and discuss it but for

now, that is our plan, to continue the table we released with the January data and going forward.

On point C, in the petroleum supply monthly we are going to stick to ethanol and biofuels that are not ethanol. There are some discussions going on in the team that puts together our monthly energy review to break out more of those individual details. Again, that is sort of a work in progress at this point. Something that we are thinking about.

Question: Ryan Nielsen

Weekly Corn Moisture content at harvest is only reported by 7 states: IN, IA, MI, MN, MO, OH, and WI. Can we expect this expanding to include all 18 major states?

Answer: Lance Honig

We have a core set of crops and progress items and condition items that we cover across the country in the national report each week but in addition to that we do have some arrangements in certain states to collect and publish some additional information based on external projects agreements that we have in place. This will be one of the items that some individuals have chosen to help fund some additional data there. Currently, we don't have any plans to expand that any wider. There is tons of additional information like this, that I'm sure will be of interest to a lot of folks but I tell you what, getting a weekly report out in about a two-hour window that we have, to compile all that information, we have to be very careful about expanding it too widely or we just simply run out of time.

Answer: Chris Hawthorn

I wanted to say thank you to anybody that's on here and the many people that help us provide that data in the counties every week. It can be USDA people and state extension agents and farmers that provide that crop progress data. So, it is a large effort like you said and we do appreciate all the help outside that we get for that.

Question: Becky Kinder

With the push for one USDA - is there a conversation about allowing the crop numbers that are currently being reported by producers to FSA being available to NASS for reporting purposes? This would allow for more complete reporting painting a much more complete picture.

Answer: Dan Kerestes

As far as exchanging information with FSA, NASS has always had a good working relationship with FSA and we are trying to do more to make it easier on the respondents by getting information from FSA but NASS and FSA do not have the exact same farm definition so to speak, so there are some problems there. But any time we can get information from FSA to use for establishing NASS estimates we do. NASS in turn does not share any producer information with any other agency. That is part of our confidentiality of not sharing any of our information. But whatever we can do to make respondent burden easier on the producer we are trying to do.

Answer: Joe Parsons

We have a great working relationship with FSA and we use that data in many different ways. I think one point to underscore is to think about the March Prospective Plantings report. No one has been into FSA to report any corn or soybean acreage. It's not even in the ground. The same will be virtually true in June. In almost all instances, reports will go in late June and early July and it does take a little bit of time to populate that in their databases. We watch that on a weekly, and even daily basis. We watch those crop totals climb. We also use record level data and we have used that to lower the amount of burden and in some cases augment how we go about sampling records. So, there is a wide use of that data.

Answer: Dan Kerestes

I think the public should be aware of the fact that we work, all agencies work, fairly closely together. Have a really good working relationship also with AMS who provides us with a lot of our price data so we don't have to go back out to producers to ask that information again. We work closely with Mike Lynch and his team and others at AMS to use the price information they collect so again; we are trying as much as we can to make it easier on everyone.

Answer: Joe Parsons

By extension, we collect a lot of data. But we have a number of surveys that we are doing in collaboration with ERS, for example, and that collaboration is important. There is a huge value added in some cases, to that raw data. Think about the Agricultural Resource Management Survey. We will hear more about some of that later this afternoon, when they apply the economic analysis to really bring it to life. So, we really are a community.

Question: James Southwick

Is there a reason that wheat acreage estimates are not broken into classes and are instead classified more broadly just as winter, spring, or durum?

Answer: Lance Honig

From a NASS perspective, the biggest challenge is that the more we try to break a crop down into further categories and smaller groupings, the more information you have to collect to come up with feasible estimates for that. So, honestly, it's a balancing of resources and we want to make sure we don't overburden producers and make sure we stay within the bounds of the resources that we have. I would point out that the end of the season we publish a table in our Small Grain Annual Summary that gives a percentage breakdown into those classes by state for the production estimates. Even on a forecasting basi,s you will see we give you a U.S. total production only, as to how that production number breaks down into the classes. So, we provide some information back. We just don't get into quite as much detail on an ongoing basis. Again because of resources and the amount of data it would take to get the estimate at that level.

Question: Robert Dinterman

Quick Stats has Agricultural Census data going back to 1997, however the Agricultural Census has been conducted since 1840. Two-part question: 1) why are pre-1997 Agricultural Census data not available on Quick Stats? and 2) is there any effort to put previous Agricultural Censuses online?

Answer: Joe Parsons

When we released the 2017 Census of Agriculture, on the first day we released a little over 6 million data points. Since then, I think we are up over 15 million data points and it's a big publication. If we go back, NASS took over the Census of Agriculture in 1997 from the Census Bureau and conducting it since. We have published all that data out to Quick Stats. The earlier data, we have scanned copies of the historical data but as you can imagine entering it or turning that data into machine-readable media is possible but an enormous task and would involve millions and millions of data points and we just have not done that.

Answer: Joe Parsons

Scanned copies for pre-1997 those are available through Cornell. That's where we store information.

Question: Marvin Hoekema

On the data discussion, there is still not a standard USDA definition for metadata, units, API calls (JSON or otherwise), published reference (it is common to have orphaned API calls etc.), non-machine readable formats etc. When will there be a common USDA data standard published which agencies will use?

Answer: Joe Parsons

I don't think we have a direct answer for you. As number of us relayed, that will be part of an agenda within the Chief Data Officer community and I expect that we will make progress on it although I suspect it will not be super quick progress. It is not an easy thing to solve.

Question: Mustapha Alhassan

When do you release data on new crop yields and prices received and what is the most current year available?

Answer: Lance Honig

You have to break it into two pieces, yield and price. I will tackle prices first because we publish monthly prices and then we also publish market year average prices. Monthly prices come out, as you would expect, every month. We have an Agricultural Prices report near the end of each month and in there we publish the previous month's full-month prices, average prices received by farmers, and then at the end of the marketing season we will publish a market year average price across all of those months. From a yield perspective, it varies by crop. For example,

beginning with the May Crop Production report we will begin forecasting the winter wheat yields for the current crop season. We will continue that through August but conversely, when you look at corn and soybeans, we will start in August and that will continue throughout the season and then we have annual reports at the end of the year. It will be clearly identified and we have a Guide to Products and Services that we publish on our website that will give you a lot of details about exactly when those different items are published whether it's monthly, weekly, annual.

Question: Steven Pires

Are there any plans to expand organic cotton data collection and publication in NASS? Current data reported in the database is rather limited for organic cotton as compared to upland cotton.

Answer: Lance Honig

When it comes to organics, we do publish organic reports on a somewhat routine basis. It's not exactly every year. We pick up some information there, but generally speaking for cotton, our current program as it is designed annually is going to be, whether it's organic or not, all cotton. We don't have any immediate plans to change that portion of our program.

Answer: Joe Parsons

For ARMS, you have to know the rotation for cotton because I would guess that we would ask a series of questions with ERS on organic cotton.

Answer: Tony Dorn

I will put the link out there so everybody can see the rotation on the website.

https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/arms-farm-financial-and-crop-production-practices/documentation/#OtherResources

Answer: Spiro Stefanou

We have a Cotton and Wool Outlook report that just came out here in March. Organic, I'm not seeing any specific reference to organic.

Answer: Kelly Maguire

No, we have not done organic cotton specifically.

Answer: Joe Parsons

We also have done, as a Census follow-on, Organic Production surveys. We've also done additional surveys in conjunction with both RMA and AMS related to organic. The specific data on particular crops, I do not recall whether cotton was broken out or not.

Answer: Lance Honig

That can vary because often times that's done in collaboration with other agencies for specific purposes. It just depends on the content of the organic work we are going to do based on what

the need is at the time. Generally speaking, I think the short answer would be don't look for any extensive work specifically on organic cotton anytime soon.

Answer: Joe Parsons

Would RMA or FSA, in RMA's Book of Business, would that split out organic cotton from non-organic cotton or conventional? Do you recall?

Answer: Lance Honig

RMA has a pretty extensive set of offerings across commodities, practices, and other things. I don't recall offhand, but it is certainly possible.

Written Answer: Provided by Chris Aulbur, RMA

For crop insurance, summary of business data files by type / practice are available at https://www.rma.usda.gov/Information-Tools/Summary-of-Business/State-County-Crop-Summary-of-Business

Organic is separately identified as a practice starting in 2011.

Answer: Joe Parsons

Brad, do you recall if FSA's 578 data reports splits organic?

Answer: Brad Karmen

We do. We have organic acreage and non-organic acreage to the extent that producer's report it that way. We do collect it.

Answer: Barbara Meredith

The Cotton and Tobacco Market News does an annual organic cotton market report. It is about a 1 to 2-page report. There is not enough information for anything other than the annual. It is released in mid- to late-August and includes information on both Upland and Pima. The production, cottonseed prices, and an outlook on the current crop. I will post a link to the most recent report.

https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/cnaocms.pdf

Question: Don Close

Is the proposal to change and consolidate the 5 region reporting districts to 3 reporting regions dead? Is there still an effort to add Wyoming and Illinois to the fed cattle price reports?

Answer: Mike Lynch

I don't know if "dead" is the right word. Certainly dormant. I think since we had that stakeholder meeting over a year ago in December of 2019, where we had conducted that study and presented that information, that's really stimulated some other proposals and ideas out there in industry that are being entertained, such as requiring packers to buy a certain percent of their

cattle as negotiated. If that were to come to pass that would really likely resolve any confidentiality issues we have with reporting the regions within the five area. I think there are a lot of ideas out there. We never really settled on one. I don't think the industry has settled on one. We have not looked at that for a little bit, particularly with the change of administration, and a lot of the uncertainty and things going on out there with trying to reach some consensus with what the industry wants. It is still on the shelf I guess I would say. We have not taken it off and pursued that any further at this time.

Question: Bill Lapp

YTD (Sept-Feb) census soybean exports total 1986 mm bushels, while Sept-Feb export inspections total 1923 mm -- this gap of 63 mm is about double recent years and the widest since Joe Parsons had a full head of hair. Understanding the spread is critical for anyone trying to estimate ending stocks. Have you investigated?

Answer: Joe DeCampo

We're award there has been an issue since last September. There is not an easy explanation. Of course, there is only three possible options. People file their exports as being in September but turns out it was August. People file their exports as being in September but they were actually October. They file their exports as being in September and then the shipment never actually goes out. We are constantly trying to reconcile all these things.

Question: Chris Eggerman

Are the response rates you reported based on number of surveys sent, or weighted by volume of storage capacity?

Answer: Dan Kerestes

Response rates are pretty straightforward. They're just based on the sample. We don't weight the response rates. So you can basically take the sample size and just work off of that to get an idea if you're looking for counts.

Answer: Joe Parsons

We did include a metric in the Methodology and Quality Measures that we called a Weighted Item Response Rate, we give you that weighted response. It is in the tables and it is defined in the document.

Question: Chris Eggerman

Are commercials required to report their stocks, or is it voluntary?

Answer: Joe Parsons

It is voluntary. There are a few states that have some required reporting but not to us. We have access to that data. Is that fair?

Answer: Lance Honig

Yes, that's fair. There are some state-level requirements in certain states that require facilities to report information to them. So wherever that exists, and we can get access to that we certainly utilize that in our process. But as for his reporting to us, it is voluntary. There is no mandatory requirement for reporting it to NASS.

Question: Lynn Sandlin

May I ask where do you display or provide what is the on-farm and off-farm storage capacity by either grains/oilseeds or corn? In the Grain stocks report you display what is reported but not capacity. Thank you

Answer: Lance Honig

I have a two-part answer. First of all, we do publish both on and off farm capacity on an annual basis. In the January Grain Stocks report, towards the back, you will find those capacity totals by state for both on and off form. But they are total capacity numbers. We do not ever estimate or publish capacity by crop. That is obviously because the facilities where you store these commodities can be used for many different commodities. So, it will be impossible to break that down into a specific crop level capacity. Again because of the ability to store a variety of crops in those locations.

Question: Bill McCary

Will USDA consider issuing corn ear, wheat head, and soy pod weight data from objective yield surveys?

Answer: Lance Honig

Probably not. I think that will be the short answer. Obviously, we do provide population counts, so wheat head counts. We give you corn ear counts and soybean pod counts but the weight information is something that we don't have any plans to publish anytime soon. Just as many of the other indications that we utilize to estimate the various items that we publish. I don't think we're ever going to publish everything that we collect and compute from the survey work that we do but certainly will continue to provide as much information as we think we can moving forward.

Question: Jose Luis Escobar

What geographic level do you have your Survey Frame: land, farm, land group or farms?

Answer: Joe Parsons

As we explained in the document and also in our discussion, we really have two surveys. One is a survey of commercial elevators. Those that have a commercial license or processing facility would store whole-grain corn, grains or oilseeds. The other is a survey of farms and we're measuring on farm grain storage. For the on-farm survey, we have a list of farm operators and

we have a profile or record of what they have had in the past. Two important data points there are the total amount of cropland they have and individual crops they have had in the past. With respect to measuring on-farm stocks, we have what we believe to be the capacity of what they can store. That is permanent storage capacity, not temporary. We use that to determine the rate at which we sample farmers and how we group them when we deal with having to impute for nonresponse. For that same on-farm survey, we also have an area frame. As we explained yesterday, we canvass about 9 thousand segments of land, it's about a square mile in each of those segments, for all of the farm operators in those segments. As we do that, we then examine to see whether those operators are on the list frame and we use that data in a number of ways. One way in which we use it is for those farmers who are not represented on the list frame, they make up what we call a nonoverlap portion. For the on-farm survey we really have two separate frames. One frame of farm operators and another a frame of land that covers all the contiguous U.S. From that we find farm operators that aren't represented on our list. For the off-farm storage survey, it is a census. We have good administrative data to define that population and we attempt to reach all of those folks. Although we don't get 100% cooperation as we detail in that report.

Question: C Smith

Why has the residual use been so "high" over the past several reports? Or so far in 1 direction vs private expectations?

Answer: Lance Honig

I don't know if anybody can answer that question. It is a fair question and a good question and I understand why a lot of people have that question. But again, I talked about it earlier, I think there's probably many, many different opinions as to what might be influencing that situation. You have a lot of different components that feed into a balance sheet. You have a lot of different items that can be considered part of that residual use. Obviously, depending on the crop, feed use can be a big portion of that. That is entirely a "unmeasured quantity." There is no data out there that will definitively tell you how large some of those items that fall into the residual category really are, so it would be speculation for us to indicate what we think might be driving those numbers higher since they don't have hard data points behind them.

Question: Bruno Arthur

Do you have an estimate of "in transit volume" relative to Total, by quarter, year?

Answer: Lance Honig

From a NASS perspective, we actually exclude grain in-transit from our grain stocks estimates from all the commodities other than rice, actually. The short answer would be no, we don't have a measure of that because of the fact we simply don't collect it.

Question: Alan Brugler

How does domestic DDGS availability (production minus exports) factor into your implied corn feed use estimate?

Answer: Lance Honig

That maybe more directed towards World Board in terms to some of the work they do. From a NASS perspective, we look at those numbers as we evaluate the balance sheet but again, at the end of the day, our estimates are driven not only by balance sheet components but obviously by the information we collect specifically for the stocks inventories that we talked about earlier.

Answer: Mike Jewison

The only thing I would add to that is Paul Westcott (formerly of ERS) and Jerry Norton (the previous WAOB Feedgrains Chair) did a paper many years ago that's, again, a guide for an approximate displacement. It's not a measure displacement so that is what we would use in a forecasting context for WASDE. Then of course, as NASS estimates the grain stocks then the feed and residual disappearance is feed and residual disappearance. The best number out there.

Question: Dale Durchholz

In constructing your quarterly balance sheet on corn, do you attempt to separate out the feed usage from the residual, or do you simply look at the aggregate f&r for each of those quarters?

Answer: Mike Jewison

As I mentioned earlier, we look at it both on an annual basis and obviously the indicated disappearance during the quarter. Understanding, of course, that the quarterly indicated feed and residual disappearance can be lumpy. So, we do as best we can to forecast what it will be at the end of the month.

Question: Michael Hanthorn

How are the target CVs set for each quarter? I presume they are based on each quarter's historic results. For the stocks estimates for end-of-crop-year dates, could you summarize how you differentiate between old- and new-crop supplies? Lastly, could you briefly review the prior-quarter corn stocks revisions reported on September 30, 2020, and on January 12, 2021?

Answer: Joe Parsons

We talked a little bit about the CV target set for each quarter. It is a combination of resources and thinking about how much precision we can get and process in a reasonable threshold to target what those CVs should be. As Lance mentioned, if you were in yesterday's talk, and we posted the video, even though the CVs are the same or even rising a little bit, the standard errors get much, much smaller for the on-farm stocks.

Answer: Lance Honig

As far as differentiating between old and new crop, we handle that through the questionnaires we use to collect the data. We specifically direct the respondent when to report only old crop or new crop or things of that nature. We have text built into the reporting form to ensure that we get the data reported properly. I don't know if it is possible to briefly review the quarterly revisions that were made back in September and those made on January 12. I will try to be brief about this. On the grain stocks program, it does not matter what quarter it is, the previous quarter is always subject to revision. That is part of our revision policy and those revisions are usually based on a late or updated report. What that means is that obviously when we we're doing the March stocks report, for example, we had to cut off data collection at a certain point to get the data summarized and processed into that report. But that does not mean that reports cannot keep showing up in the mail, sometimes later than that. So, if somebody did not get the report into us on time, but it comes in later on, we're going to take that new updated information and work it through the process. That oftentimes can result in some revisions. Similarly, we could have gotten a report but maybe when they go to fill out the report the next quarter they realize they actually need to make an update to what they sent us last quarter. Again, we will always use the latest and best information that we have and incorporate that into the process. In addition to doing it every quarter, in January we open up all of the previous market year, every quarter in there. That gives us an opportunity to clean up anything that we may have gotten even later than that or somewhere in the process. In addition to late updated information, we can continue to look at the balance sheet as it evolves throughout the market year. Just by nature of getting a quarter further down the road, you can now have more pieces of information to help you evaluate where those levels should be. So, sometimes we make some revisions based not just on new stocks inventory information but a new understanding of how that whole puzzle of the balance sheet needs to fit together. It is that best fit concept that I talked about earlier with the previous question.

Question: Bryce Knorr

When will the AMS "Run A Custom Report" database for corn be updated to include all the locations included in the daily reports? Only ethanol plants come up now with queries.

Answer: Jason Karwal

The grain reports that we do have been moved over into our new system. Everything that we are reporting now is available there and through the API. Bioenergy is still in our old system, probably transitioning over the next couple of months into the new system. I'm not sure if they're talking about the old system and the grain not being there, but we do have it and we can definitely guide anyone through getting set up on that new system if they want to reach out.

Question: Alan Brugler

How does NASS handle double crop soybean planting intentions in March? Do they tend to increase in the June Acreage report? I believe they are only published as % of crop.

Answer: Lance Honig

The only number you're going to see specifically on double crop soybeans is what you see, that percentage that we publish on the June acreage report. In March intentions, what we ask farmers report is how many total soybean acres do you expect a plant for the upcoming season. That would include both single and double crop soybeans. It is going to be their best estimate of what they expect to plant at that time. Remember we are collecting that information roughly the first two weeks of March, and so whether you're talking about double crop soybeans or any other crops included in that report, I always like to remind folks that that's based on farmer reported intentions as of the time we interview them the first two weeks of March. I cannot tell you for sure if double crop soybeans increase between March and June because we are not asking specifically about double crop soybeans in March. It is just soybeans. I'm sure double crop decisions are going to probably be influenced by things that happen much closer to June than they are in March. There is a certain amount of double cropping that's going to happen every year, we get that, but we also fully realize that there is a lot of double cropping decisions that do not get made until you see exactly kind of what's happening, for example, with your winter wheat crop. Is an early or late harvest? Is it wet at harvest time or is it an appropriate time to seed? Are you in a drought? Double crop soybeans are going to have some different requirements maybe then single crop. There's a lot of factors that go into that and that's why we really don't try to specifically dig into that in March. It is too early to know that much about that portion of the crop specifically.

Question: Katherine Stone

Comment - on the new historical WASDE data set discussed yesterday it looks like the data is doubled. So instead of 600 ths lines it 1.2 mil lines

Written Answer:

Thanks for the comment. I'm not sure how many lines are actually in the data, so I'll have our IT folks take a look and if there is a problem we will repost it. Thanks for checking it out!

Question: Paul McAuliffe

USDA corn price forecast $4.30/bushel appears to be extremely understated and implies a collapse in price during April/August. Current Illinois prices of corn are about $5.50 / bushel and WAOB forecast is only $4.30 / bushel. ON FARM prices of corn Sep/Feb… current price near $5.50 / bushel. Question for WAOB so with current prices of $5.50 on farm, are you really expecting a giant collapse in corn prices to $4.30 /bushel in the next 6 months without some words to explain that?

Written Answer: Mike Jewison

The corn price forecast of $4.30/bushel is a yearlong weighted average price. The weights are the monthly shares of the total year's crop; that is, how much of the year's crop gets sold by farmers that month. Most of the crop gets marketed in the early months of the crop year, which

in this case represented months with lower prices. So while the remaining months in the marketing year will have higher prices, the weights will be smaller, and hence count for less in the year-long average.

Question: Karen Braun

Could someone please send me a link to the historical WASDE data file?

Written Answer:

https://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity-markets/wasde/historical-wasde-report-data

Question: Wojciech Grzywaczewski

Where I can find the U.S. Agricultural Export Yearbook which was mentioned by Patrick Packnett? Could you send us a link?

Written Answer:

https://www.fas.usda.gov/data/2020-us-agricultural-export-yearbook

Question: Rafael Bucciarelli

Are there any plans to extend the WASDE database to before 2010?

Written Answer:

Prior to 2010 they were not compiled in the same way and the format of the WASDE was not as structured, so while we are/have compiled some of the data, ensuring that systematic errors are not present is a challenge.

Written Question and Answer Summary

Question: Bill McCary

The crop progress data is an excellent research tool, some way that FAS could provide same derived from satellite data would be so welcomed by the public. Same for foreign countries not the US, don't change the excellent US crop progress report.

Answer: Post-meeting answer from FAS

The U.S. crop progress report is indeed a great research tool and crop progress for foreign crop production is rarely available. Brazil's CONAB has started to report this data recently. Deriving crop progress from satellite data is not straight forward. First, our satellite data looks at cropland which is not the same as a specific crop, like corn or soybeans. We do use the vegetation conditions (NDVI) from satellite imagery for cropland as a whole as an indicator of both progress and overall health or vigor of the crops. NDVI, weather, soil moisture and other data for assessing production in major foreign production regions are available in the FAS Crop Explorer tool at https://ipad.fas.usda.gov/cropexplorer/Default.aspx. Additionally, FAS provides an interactive web site for Global Agricultural and Disaster Assessment (GADAS, located at: https://geo.fas.usda.gov/GADAS/index.html#) that has these data attributes—NDVI, weather, soil moisture—in a web-based Geographic Information System (GIS). The other key point is that the U.S. crop progress report has observers who are reporting on-the-ground progress and conditions, a component missing from the foreign production.

We also have numerous crop calendars for foreign production online at https://ipad.fas.usda.gov/ogamaps/cropcalendar.aspx. It has planting, mid-season, and harvest dates. We are working on a GIS-based crop stage data set which would provide more details on crop progress.

Finally, our monthly WAP table updates essentially reflect crop progress, where satellite-imagery is an input into those estimates.

Question: Bill McCary

On March PP, the 2 years 17 and 18, which were not hampered by Prevent plant, and March 2020 PP total principal crop areas were about 319 mil ac, under high price environment and potential for prevent plant low, we disagree with the 316 total, please help me where we miss the potential total area to be planted. I am uncomfortable not adopting USDA NASS data, but this year just seems low, ERS had a larger - admittedly research projected number not with extensive quarterly survey.

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Lance Honig

Estimates published in the Prospective Plantings report were based on reports from farmers contacted approximately the first 2 weeks in March. These farmers were asked to report their intended plantings by crop for the upcoming season. NASS reviews past performance of these indicated acres when establishing the estimates published in the report.

Question: Paul McAuliffe

USDA WAOB has great difficulty accurately forecasting China corn imports in 2020/21 with wild forecasts in some months – that fail to reflect evolving USDA export sales and shipment data. If you could please explain what you plan to do in 2021/22 that will sharply improve your forecasts with insight for you're the ag readers around the world. Would you also write a short paragraph each month explaining the changes or non-changes of China corn imports – the reasoning behind them?

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Mike Jewison

USDA has struggled with China's corn balance sheet over the years, as have many other analysts. The uncertainty surrounding China is compounded by the fact that their National Bureau of Statistics does not publish official estimates of stocks or utilization.

If anything, the recent trend has been for less transparency, not more. For example, we have seen the country go several months before publishing trade statistics as it did when COVID-19 first started. Or the confusing official pronouncements from China's National Development and Reform Commission in September last year stating unequivocally no additional corn import quota had been allocated for calendar years 2020 and 2021, despite a recent WTO case calling for more quota transparency. Then there is the timing of export sales announcements, which during March happened to coincide with a major meeting between the U.S. and China. Thus, it can be difficult to disentangle political animus from phenomenon that are purely market driven.

U.S. export sales shipment data combined for all destinations at the end of the marketing year can run anywhere from 3 to 8 percent below the final Census number. Importantly, the differences between export sales and U.S. Census data are non-trivial for major U.S. markets such as Japan or Mexico. Point being that export sales are an indicator, among many that we look at in any given month.

In the interest of brevity it is difficult to go into the level of detail in the WASDE that would completely address our underlying assumptions for a country as complex as China. In an effort to be as transparent to the public as possible, more detailed discussions can be found in the FAS world trade and production circulars that are published on the day of the WASDE, in addition to the ERS situation and outlook reports. Below is additional detail from this month's ERS situation and outlook report on our China corn import forecast.

Thank you for helping us to set a high standard for the public.

https://downloads.usda.library.cornell.edu/usda-esmis/files/44558d29f/g732f515f/rx914j87j/FDS-21d.pdf

Question in Breakout 2A: Bill Lapp

The use of a subjective stocks adjustment appears to be reflected in annual soybean residual always finishing close to zero or greater. This is achieved by adequately increasing the size of the crop or reducing the September 1 stocks, to avoid a negative residual (2003/04, 2007/08,

2013/14, 2019/20). In September, how is the decision made to increase the original crop size or decrease the ending stocks?

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Lance Honig

NASS considers the survey indications along with measures of uncertainty as well as associated administrative data for both production and stocks estimates in determining whether the best fit is achieved by adjusting production, stocks, or a combination of both.

Question in Breakout 2A: Bill Lapp

USDA/NASS does not appear to use a subjective adjustment Methodology in the durum data – the 19/20 residual use was -21 mm, equal to 39% of the size the crop 14% of beginning supplies. 1. Does the Balance Sheet Subjective Adjustment Methodology not apply to all crops? 2. To what extent is the Balance Sheet Subjective Adjustment Methodology applied to other crops such as corn and wheat? 3. For crops with extensive feed use, how does NASS arrive at the "correct" feed use figure when developing a stocks total?

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Lance Honig

1. NASS does review the balance sheet for all crops, however the level of completeness of the components varies by crop.
2. Because of the large amount of unmeasured feed use for corn and wheat, there can be more variation in the residual from year-to-year, but it is still reviewed.
3. NASS does not estimate a specific residual or feed use amount but does compare current levels with comparable periods in past years.

Question in Breakout 2A: Bill Lapp

Will NASS look at the 21/22 corn, wheat and soybeans balance sheet released by WAOB on June 10 in determining whether to subjectively adjust June 30 acreage estimates?

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Lance Honig

The acreage estimates that will be published on June 30 will be based on the farmer-reported acreages from the June Agricultural Survey and June Area Survey. Neither stocks levels nor balance sheet information is used to establish acreage estimates in June.

Question in Breakout 2A: Bill Lapp

Can you provide me with some insight regarding the CV track record for durum?

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Lance Honig

NASS currently only includes CV information for corn, soybean, and all wheat stocks in the Methodology and Quality Measures report. We may consider adding additional crops in the future.

Question in Breakout 2A: Bill Lapp

At the end of the crop year, how do know whether to adjust the crop or adjust stocks?

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Lance Honig

NASS considers the survey indications along with measures of uncertainty as well as associated administrative data for both production and stocks estimates in determining whether the best fit is achieved by adjusting production, stocks, or a combination of both.

Question in Breakout 2A: Michael Hanthorn

Following up on my previous questions, might the corn revisions recently reported for the June 1 and September 1 stocks estimates for this past year indicate that the 2019 corn production estimate overstates actual production?

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Lance Honig

When evaluating the completed balance sheet at the end of each marketing year for corn and soybeans, NASS determines whether revisions to production are needed. Also, at that time the June (previous quarter) stocks estimates are considered for revision. In September 2020 when this review was completed it was determined that no revisions were warranted for the 2019 corn production estimates.

Question in Breakout 2A: Peter Meyer

The 200 million bu revision to the June number over subsequent reports was a major market mover in 2020. What was behind that revision specifically?

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Lance Honig

NASS evaluated all existing information regarding the June stocks levels, which included all late and updated reported data as well as more complete balance sheet data (i.e. imports, exports, etc). Based on all the available data it was determined that revised levels were a better fit.

Question in Breakout 2A: Peter Meyer

Are there any ramifications for "late reported data" since the June number was such a market-mover? Are there plans to implement punitive measures to avoid this in the future?

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Lance Honig

Reporting for both the Agricultural Survey and Off Farm Grain Stocks Survey is voluntary, therefore there is no punitive action for non-response.

Question in Breakout 2A: Bruno Arthur

Would it be accurate to assume that after September of year = t +1, the Stocks/Production data of year = t will no longer be revised?

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Lance Honig

Estimates are finalized after the next Census of Agriculture. For example, following the 2017 Census of Agriculture, estimates were reviewed for final revisions for the 2013-2017 crop seasons. Those estimates are now final. Estimates for 2018-2022 will be reviewed and finalized after the 2022 Census of Agriculture.

Question in Breakout 2A: Bruno Arthur

Ag Surveys response rate in (51%; 56%). OFGS Surveys response rate in (75%;77%). What explains the large differences in response rates?

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Lance Honig

These two surveys cover different populations – farmers and commercial facilities. Historically the commercial facilities have shown a propensity for higher participation than farmers.

Question in Breakout 2A: Alan Brugler

Does NASS utilize GCAU's for projecting wheat feed use, or just corn?

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Lance Honig

Currently NASS only utilizes Grain Consuming Animal Unit (GCAU) data when evaluating corn stocks estimates.

Question in Breakout 2A: Jerry Gidel

The crop quality hurt the 2020 corn yield in January 2021 numbers. Did crop moisture change in samples have a big late yield correction in corn?

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Lance Honig

NASS did not observe a significant change in moisture content in the corn objective yield samples at the end of the 2020 season. The larger than normal change in yield was primarily based on farmer-reported yields in the December Agricultural Survey – a large sample of farmers contacted after nearly all harvest was complete.

Question in Breakout 2B: Mike Doherty

Does EIA have anything in the works on publishing reductions in GHG tied to ethanol or biodiesel production (or exports?) i.e., via the reduction in GHG by using those biofuels in place of gasoline?

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Peter Gross, EIA

EIA does not have any such publication now or planned which specifically deals with GHG reduction as a function of increased biofuels use. As part of EIA's Annual Energy Outlook (AEO), EIA publishes its projections of carbon emissions from the production of transportation fuels and their end-use. The most recent projections are presented in AEO2021 Tables 18 & 19 and can be accessed from the following location: https://www.eia.gov/outlooks/aeo/tables_ref.php.

Question in Breakout 2B: Dan Manternach

On what basis did USDA raise Dec 1 soybean stocks by 14 million bu.? Was that solely due to Mar. 1 stocks coming in higher than expected or were there other reasons?

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Lance Honig

Revisions made in March (for the December 1 stocks estimates) were based on late and updated reports from respondents. Late reports represent those that were received after the estimates were finalized back in January when they were originally published. At the time, estimates would have been used for these operations since their reports were missing. Updated reports represent situations where a respondent realizes in the following quarter that they need to make an update to what they reported previously.

Question in Breakout 3A: Carly Griffith Hotvedt

How will NASS adjust data collection for the next Census of Ag to reflect the re-recognized reservation status for tribes in Oklahoma?

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Ginger Harris, NASS

NASS is currently planning for the 2022 Census of Agriculture, which is the first Census that will occur after the new reservation status. NASS will engage with tribal leaders and respondents to encourage reporting for the 2022 Census, including the section that collects data on land operated on American Indian reservations.

REG (Race, Ethnicity and Gender Profiles) provide detailed information at the state and select county level about American Indian producers: https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/Online_Resources/Race,_Ethnicity_and_Gender_Profiles/Oklahoma/

Question in Breakout 3A: Sadru Dada

Not sure if this the right forum to talk about the GAIN Reports? When can we expect to see GAIN Reports on Iran and Iraq?

Answer: Post-meeting answer from Jodi Erickson

FAS has published GAIN reports on Iraq since 2008. Most of the reports focus on grains and feed, livestock and products, and poultry and products. The latest grain and feed annual reports were published on June 17, 2020 and on March 14, 2021.

FAS does not publish any GAIN reports on Iran.

Breakout Session 1A: AMS Market News

Question: Bruno Arthur

Where do I find the data of ALL publicly traded firms interacting with USDA/AMS?

Answer: Mike Lynch

The information that companies provide us, we're obligated to protect that and protect the identity of the participants who provide information to us. There are some statutory prohibitions on sharing individual company data or names of contacts and such, for the information we provide.

Question: Bruno Arthur

After these publicly traded firms are identified, say by ticker symbol, I can find their financial statements data through SEC 10-K reports and Compustat. What I hope from UDSA/AMS are 1) identification, 2) supply & demand of their products; and, if available, specific data about agricultural products feeding their production function.

Answer: Mike Lynch

That is not the purpose of Market News to provide information on individual companies. Our mission is to provide a picture of what is going on in the industry, not just by company. Plus one other thing I will say is that, anything a company gives us that they would not normally provide to the public or on their website in the normal course of doing business, any private information they give us, that is protected information that we're obligated to keep confidential. We aggregate with similar data in a way that we can publish and that does not identify who is providing that information.

Question: Jerry Cessna

Seems that it would be good to publish export prices for Western Europe cheese. Have you had some thoughts along those lines?

Answer: Butch Speth

This will go towards a larger question, how does Dairy Market News, how does Market News and other areas expand what they report or drop or they no longer report on. And we're always looking for areas to expand. We have to make sure it's reportable. Can we talk to enough people to get the information? Is there enough of a standardized product? And we're constantly looking at that and starts with someone making the ask sometimes. Has the product evolved in growing numbers? So, I know Mike mentioned in the main session, Market News is doing a customer satisfaction survey, and it's a great place to put down requests for information like how we're doing, what would you like to see. A great place to start is to contact our office.

Question: Rafael Prieto

What is AIECA?

Answer: Terry Long

They may have misheard me. It's IICA. IICA stands for the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture. It's a sub-body of the Organization of American States and they go by the acronym of IICA.

Question: Marvin Hoekema

Are live dairy cattle exports to Canada/Mexico available in Market News?

Answer: Mike Lynch

We do report a live dairy export number to Mexico. No prices. It's just a volume of trade. We report that out of our office in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Question: Marvin Hoekema

How are dairy slaughter animals positively identified for dairy? For instance, sometimes dairy crossbreds in late lactation sold for slaughter can have the appearance of a beef breed. Are they traced by premise, etc?

Answer: Mike Lynch

We don't really see identification. If we're covering slaughter cow auctions, we don't flag cows by dairy or beef. We flag them by percent lean, so the leaner cows are typically the dairy cows.

Answer: Russ Travelute

Some of the identification, if it is truly going back into the dairy herd, is going to be labeled as Holstein dairy replacements on our reports. Cows that are entering into the meat industry are not going to be labeled by breed. It would purely be on the grade specifications like Mike said.

Question: Ken Lovett

I would love to see a single source at AMS that combines global prices for feed, grain and livestock so that I can have a consistent dataset. Could that be a part of the product?

Answer: Mike Lynch

That is a wide-open end, a unicorn, I think. I am not sure, if we thought that far ahead about including global services. I think we would have to really make sure that it’s data that we're confident in.

Answer: Jason Karwal

To really answer that, I would kind of want to know if you have some specific examples you're talking about. Right now, we're simply focusing on getting anything we're currently doing into

the new system. As Butch mentioned, we're always looking to expand or looking to see any information that we might be missing that could be fit into that puzzle. So, we would be interested in it if you have examples of data you are talking about and you want to provide that to us. We can look into it and get you a more detailed answer. For sure.

Question: Shayle Shagam

Where regional reports are being nationalized, will a historical national series be provided? If so, how far back will the data be available?

Answer: Lakisha Aller

This is kind of a case-by-case question. I can't answer every single situation based on this. Yes, we'll try to provide historical data where we can on a national level, as to how far back it goes, I don't know. It won't be feasible in all instances to be able to provide all that back data and/or for long periods of time, but we're going to provide much as we can. If you want to talk about that in the future, I am happy to touch base with you. Right now, we're kind of in the early stages as this won't be affected until later. But I am happy to talk with you more one-on-one.

Question: Lee McGlamery

Will we ever see weekly poultry export sales/shipments similar to what we get weekly from FAS for pork and beef?

Answer: Lakisha Aller

Well, we do different things. FAS tracks everything. They use a different system and different information sets to track the exports and imports into the country, whereas with AMS, what we're looking to do is show pricing information and data. We have just a few pricing series at present for export on poultry and eggs. In the future, we're trying to build some of the reports we can show some of that pricing information and data for the spot marketplace. Not so much show large quantities and volumes, just because FAS already provides that information.

Answer: Mike Lynch

I may add, for the beef and pork export report that FAS is currently doing, there is a mandate requiring that information be reported. So the companies need to provide the information to FAS, that volume information. It would only happen if there was an addition to the mandate to include poultry that FAS would likely report that information.

Question: Dan Manternach

With so many hog packers owning "captive supplies" of finished hogs, are you still confident your cash hog price collection is a "representative sample" of the actual cash hog market?

Answer: Mike Lynch

That is kind of a trick question. I would say for those of you who don't know, the negotiated hog market is probably less than 2% of the total supply. The industry sometimes to be confident

with that. I don’t think anyone likes it, particularly, but nobody seems to be making vast changes to try to generate more negotiated market activity. Through the LMR program, we are collecting 97% of all hogs slaughtered. We're collecting data on not just negotiated but also for the other purchase types. But we do agree that market is extremely thin. I don’t know if confident is the right word, but it's something the industry seems to be tolerant of. I think there has been more emphasis on, pricing formulas off of the meat side than the live price. But, again, we don't have that number particularly as well. We are looking at doing more comprehensive prices. If you want to know what the value of the industry is, you look at the prior day slaughter information, which has all of the purchase types together. There are other areas, like I mentioned, where we have looked at combining purchase types together to create more of a comprehensive value of that commodity complex.

Question: Becky Kinder

Since nothing was specifically reported on grain marketing news, will that all remain the same?

Answer: Mike Lynch

Well, we've already made those changes. That transition to MARS, that happened here in the last year, I believe. Russ, do you have any highlights there you would like to share on that?

Answer: Russ Travelute

That transition happened last August. We still have feedstuff coming. But Jason could give better timeline in those areas. Pretty much all grain is transitioned.

Answer: Jason Karwal

The feedstuff as well as the bioenergy, which has some grain information. It should be moving out to production in the next probably 60 days. Not all of the historical grain information has been brought over to the new system. So if that is part of what you're questioning, we have ways to provide that match up data while transitioning it. As far as the day-to-day data being released right now, it's all coming out of the new system.

Question: Bill Thompson

I previously had access to Colorado region level, weekly commodity prices by Quality Grade (specifically for alfalfa and all hay) through AMS Custom Reports. Will I have access to this data going forward with My Market News/MARS?

Answer: Jason Karwal

Send me a quick email and we'll show it to you. All of the hay pricing is in the new system and is available regularly through the reports, through the data interface and also through the API.

Question: Bill Thompson

Follow-up: What percentage of carcass price trade is being sampled compared to 2% of live hog pricing?

Answer: Mike Lynch

That is a number that we don't know. When a packer reports their formula purchases to us, it's just marketed as swine or pork market purchase and doesn't differentiate if it's priced off of a live hog price or off of the meat price. That is currently not a requirement. That is something that has been talked about as the National Pork Producer's Council has looked at changes they would like to see going forward in the next reauthorization. That is something that they initially asked for. They haven't really come to agreement, I think, with the other trade association representing the packers on how to make that possible. So, currently, that is not a requirement. So, we would not have that information.

Answer: Lakisha Aller

I will add to that, if you're looking for a purchase type breakdown by percentage, you can find that on the weekly 214 report, which is the weekly purchase report. It will give you a breakdown of all of the different purchase types on a weekly basis. You can look at it on an annual basis as well, if you run it.

Question: William Tehero

Are all Poultry and Egg information voluntary? How does it impact the census if not mandatory?

Answer: Lakisha Aller

Yes, all of our poultry and ag reporting at Market News is voluntary at this time. As far as how it impacts the Census, I am not really sure what your question is pertaining to exactly.

Question: Don Close

On beef exports we have weekly exports within the Comprehensive Cutout Report, we have the weekly export sales and shipments, the weekly reports don’t correlate with each other and none of the weekly reports correlate back to the monthly export totals. With so much contradiction is good information being reported?

Answer: Mike Lynch

It's kind of hard to answer because we're getting data from different sources here. The weekly exports within the Comprehensive Beef Cutout is reported to us from those packers that are part of the Livestock Mandatory Reporting program. The weekly export sales report is the information provided to FAS. It's just a different dataset, and I think, given the shortness of time, that probably warrants a follow-on conversation to help sort some of those differences out. I am not going to be able to do it justice here in the short time we have left. But, Don, please reach out to us and let's have a conversation to sort that out.

Breakout Session 1B: Climate Information for Informed Decision Making

Question: Mak Kingan

Re: Drought Monitor- can you talk about how the monitor is adjusted week to week? Is it automated or adjusted by someone, and is it the same person that updates throughout the year?

Answer: Brian Fuchs

We have 10 authors between NOAA, NDMC, and USDA where we rotate the responsibility. We typically do two weeks at a time and then pass it on to the next person. It's a manual process. We are using GIS data to bring several dozen datasets right into a GIS mapping project. We adjust those lines manually using that convergence of evidence approach of several dozen drought indicators and indices with that ranking percentile methodology in the background.

Question: Dale Durchholz

How well do the drought monitor indicators correlate with the soil moisture data that comes from the Climate Prediction Center? And how accurate is the soil moisture data at the CPC? In particular, I'm interested in the soil moisture anomalies. I tend to look at the soil moisture data starting in late winter, and well into the spring more than I watch the drought monitor indicators.

Answer: Brian Fuchs

We are looking at several different soil moisture models for the most part. Each one of them has different attributes as to why they may or may not show certain conditions better than another model. With that in mind, with the Drought Monitor process, we try to incorporate as many of those soil moisture models at the various depths as they provide estimations of moisture within the process. We do not just look at one, but we look at as many as we can, and we do look at the various depths that they provide. Each one is built a little differently.

I saw there was a question asking about the soil attributes and how they were accounted for. Each one of those modeling systems does this in a different way. There are probably others who can speak better to that than I do, but they are trying to account for the different soil characteristics. I know the SSURGO (USDA/NRCS) data is being utilized in some of these models as well to try and get a better idea how certain soils are holding moisture that they had available to them.

I did also provide a link to an online tutorial about the Drought Monitor that really gets into discussions about how we view that work each week.

https://drought.unl.edu/usdmtutorial/Home.aspx

Question: Dale Durchholz

As a follow-up, how deep into the soil profile does the CPC measure the moisture?

Written Answer:

The USDM authors use several soil moisture tools to monitor both shallow and deep soil moisture. Each is unique and the idea of using all of them that are available is that each brings certain attributes to the drought monitoring process associated with soil moisture. Most of the models have shallow and total column values that represent the top 2 feet or so for shallow and then deeper for the total column. Some have shallower levels. We tend to use all of what is available in the USDM process.

Question: Benjamin Diamond

Is soil moisture modeled or observed in the CPC soil moisture data?

Written Answer:

Modeled using observed precipitation to force a model.

Question: Bill McCary

Could you provide a weekly crop conditions for foreign countries based on sat/precip index?

Answer: Mark Brusberg

I have seen that attempted, not in terms of crop condition, but in terms of using satellite products to try to determine yield. Personally, I think it is very difficult. We know that even in the United States crop condition does not necessarily correlate directly with yields. Having said that, we look at vegetative health to get an idea of what the vigor of the crops are at a moment in time, but again we have to use a lot more tools that we have at hand to do that. I would recommend that several countries like Argentina, for example, they do publish crop condition. If you wanted to take a look and maybe if you have a product that you like to experiment with, try to find a foreign location that does report that and just see what happens.

Question: Bill Lapp

Weekly percent of each crop in drought - great charts but the bar chart for wheat does not have Oklahoma, and this would be very useful. Is there a person/link where I can provide this feedback?

Answer: Mark Brusberg

I reached out to our GIS expert and asked him why Oklahoma was not in there. I did not know it was not in there. I never paid that much attention to each individual state. Apparently, when he was compiling the statistics from NASS there were some counties that have blocked information and he said it was to a degree where he was not able to get a good percent of the state total in there. It is basically data availability. You see that occasionally in other crops and commodities

where the states do not completely report what they have. We have to access it the same as the public, so some of the data was not there. I think in the future we may put “not available” there so that people will recognize that we are using all of the data that we have. I would like to thank Bill for bringing that to our attention.

Question: Bill Lapp

Has there been any significant improvement in the six or 10 day forecast over time? Any academic work on this?

Answer: Dave DeWitt

I think I would have to ask you what you mean by significant. There's certainly has been improvement in forecast skill in that second week, so either day 6 to 10 or 8 to 14, and we can measure that and that is largely on that timescale due to improvements in the global models and the ensemble systems. There are graphs on this we have that show that. On the longer timescale, the monthly and seasonal, there has not been a similar improvement to date. The Weather Service and NOAA are trying to launch something called the Precipitation Prediction Grand Challenge that focuses on that all-time scale but really focuses on that beyond-week-two after the first season timescale. That’s a really challenging problem and I think it’s fair to say that on that timescale there has not been a lot of improvement for a long time. Part of that is model resolution. Part of that is challenges with the physics. I think we have an alignment these days with an administration that is very proactive about climate. Congress is also similarly interested that we may get investments to try and accelerate improvement on that.

Question: Bryce Knorr

How long does it take for the Vegetative Health Index data to be finalized? I've notice changes made in both GEOTIFF maps and numerical files for multiple weeks.

Answer: Mark Brusberg

That is being refined. I don't want to say continuously, but I believe that the process will go back a couple of months where they will take a look at the satellite imagery and make adjustments based on all of the information as it comes in. What we get is a preliminary look. I don’t know that it changes a great deal, but you do have to be careful. NESDIS updates the data once they get more information. I want to say it is between one and two months where they will go back and try to make any corrections.

Question: Fahad Va

Thanks a lot for the presentation showing how USDA is looking at the weather products in arriving at the yields. Are there any published papers on some of the approaches presented/used by USDA. (Eg: Morocco wheat yield based on VHI, precip/temperature data based yield mode,l etc) Any guidance will be helpful.

Answer: Mark Brusberg

We have presented these findings at conferences. We have not done peer review on most of the use because we frankly do not have the staff or time to do that. We are doing things operationally. Ideally, we would like to be able to present these and get other people's feedback. We just do not have the capacity to do that.

Answer: Mark Jekanowski

I would just add that, on the other hand, they are being continuously tested in real time. You and your team are making adjustments and improvements as needed and as you learn.

Question: Chris Eggerman

Is there a "week one" (1-7 day) US forecast available in a similar format to the 6-10 day and 8-14 day forecasts?

Answer: Dave DeWitt

Just to make sure I understand the question, are you asking if there is a similar style probability forecast for week one? The answer at present is no there is not one that is produced, to the best of my knowledge.

Question: Bill Lapp

Ag Commodities in Drought - what is link to data table?

Written Answer: Mark Svoboda

https://agindrought.unl.edu/

Question: Mike Jewison

Do you all try to account for local differences in soil organic matter in the development of your products?

Written Answer: Mark Svoboda

That "field/farm/ranch" level data isn't available at a national scale. Local experts at the state level would be able to chime in with detailed local data/conditions and impacts, which "could" account for this, but it isn't going to typically be served up to feed into the USDM.

Question: Fahad Va

Could you share the way one can access the time series data of a % area of a crop under drought (Eg: % of spring wheat in drought time series data)

Written Answer: Brian Fuchs

Not all of the commodities are accounted for in the time series provided right now. This is something we are working on with USDA but the data are there in the PDF archive and can be pulled out of the weekly reports.

The individual commodities that are shown are all that are available in time series and data table form right now. We are working to get others available. These data can be found in the PDF archives and pulled out of the weekly reports going back to 2012.

https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/AgInDrought.pdf

Breakout Session 2A: NASS Grain Stocks Program

Question: Bill Lapp

On April 8, USDA/NASS released an updated "Grains Stocks Methodology and Quantity Measures" report. This included a description of the NASS ability to subjectively adjust stocks. Traditionally USDA NASS has relied on a bottom-up count of the stocks of different grains to arrive at a state-by-state and US total. Historically when has the USDA begin to rely on a top-down analysis (Balance Sheet Subjective Adjustment Methodology) to arrive at a total?

Answer: Lance Honig

First off, I would say we have always utilized a top-down approach for most of our estimates here at NASS including Grain Stocks in general. That is not necessarily anything new.

Question: Bill Lapp

In regard to the subjective stocks adjustments, what are the decision rules for adjusting stocks to "corroborate the survey results"?

Answer: Lance Honig

In general, a lot of the comments that were made throughout the presentation here, especially by Chris, and hopefully a few comments I made, hopefully talk about how we utilize the balance sheet information along with the survey data that we have. One thing I want to point out is that a lot of this "adjusting" that folks have been asking about ties specifically to revisions. I want to reiterate that the revision process has not changed. We have been taking a close look at the balance sheet in recent quarters and years. For the most part, most of the revisions we make are based on late reported data. That has continued to be the case. We saw a fairly substantial revision back to the June stocks last September. Where we did employ some additional adjustments based largely on updated balance sheet information we had. Since then, the last two quarters, we have seen some revisions again, but they have been driven by late reported data. We have not necessarily seen a major shift in how revisions are made or adjusted. Rather we are following the same rules we followed in the past. There is no fixed recipe for exactly how the balance sheet information is woven together with the survey data we have, other than to say that as we look at that survey information we look at how it has performed in past years, past quarters. We look at all of the different indications we have, whether it's a direct expansion or different ratio indications we get that Jeff and Chris both talked about. We match that up with what the balance sheet is telling us. When we look at the balance sheet, we look at relationships compared to how they have looked in the past. Depending on the commodity, how they may tie in with things like livestock inventory. We don't set a residual number, but we look at how that residual stacks up with what we've seen in similar quarters in the past or similar years in the past. We are looking for how that relates to what the survey is telling us. It is a melding of the two pieces of information to find the best possible estimate based on all of the information we have, whether directly from the survey or the different components of the balance sheet.

Question: Bryce Knorr

Where is corn stored at feedlots measured -- in the Agricultural Survey or the OFGS census?

Answer: Chris Hawthorn

This is a little bit of a gray area. Most of the feedlots would be considered on farm. Large feedlots may buy grain from surrounding farmers and things like that. They may actually be big enough to be considered off farm. Most would be considered on farm.

Question: Katelyn McCullock

When was the last grain capacity survey completed? Is there an update scheduled in the next census or otherwise?

Answer: Lance Honig

We collect capacity on the Agricultural Survey every quarter. We also collect it on the Off Farm Grain Stocks survey every quarter. We take that information and publish capacity estimates on an annual basis. That's published in the January stocks report. It is an ongoing process we collect every quarter. Right now, we do not collect capacity information on the Census and we are not planning to add that back, at least in the near future.

Question: Bill Lapp

How does the on-farm survey handle grain stored on the ground or in warehouses? Also - what measurement or subjective adjustment is used to account for an increase or decrease in grain in transit (rail, truck, barge)? Thanks.

Answer: Chris Hawthorn

Anything on the ground should also be accounted for, whether it be on the on-farm side or off-farm side. Around harvest time you see a lot of that that maybe when we are looking at our data, typically we don't like to see the total grain -- total number of bushels out there exceed capacity. Around harvest time, that does happen. Because of those parking lots with boards on the side with a tarp over the top. We want them to estimate how much is on the ground or temporary warehouses, or whatever. With regards to the in transit, that is not picked up in either report. It is not included in either one.

Answer: Lance Honig

We instruct respondents not to include grain in transit. It is largely tied to the fact that it can become a difficult thing to measure what's in transit because where is the ownership? You run a risk of perhaps getting some of it and not all of it or maybe double counting or perhaps the wrong folks sampled to find some of that in transit. That's why we have specifically excluded it. That becomes a bigger issue in years when there may be something significant happening that's causing a bottleneck for grain that might be in transport. Otherwise, it is hard to necessarily analyze that specifically since we don't have the data on it.

Breakout Session 2B: Foreign Production, Trade, and Imports/Exports

Question: Dan Manternach

What led to the decision to start reporting global soymeal balance sheets in dual form, one including China data and one not? This was announced on the back page of April WASDE to commence with May WASDE.

Answer: Keith Menzie

If it was not clear on the back page, what we are doing is simply breaking out China, not removing China. It will become one of the countries that's actually listed on that table.

Written Answer: Keith Menzie

China is the largest single meal consumer and didn't fit neatly into major exporter or major importer so had never been broken out on the meal table. I thought that was an oversight and decided we should show China as a breakout for meal even though it doesn't show up so much as an importer or exporter which is how the tables were set up in antiquity.

Question: Ken Lovett

Will there be a new HS Tariff code to track renewable diesel?

Answer: Joe DeCampo

New codes are put into place twice a year, January 1 or July 1. But it is an incredibly formal process to request them. In order to get them put in place, Census and the International Trade Commission and Customs and Border Protection who actually enforces these things all have to be in agreement that we can accurately track that sort of a number. It's called a 484 committee. You can google it, or I can try to find it and put it in the chat.

https://www.census.gov/newsroom/blogs/global-reach/2014/04/484f-committee.html

Written Answer: Mike Conner

We have experience with this specific matter at EIA. I plan to submit a request for a renewable diesel code to the Committee for Statistical Annotation of Tariff Schedules (484 committee). Please contact me if you want to discuss further. Michael.Conner@eia.gov

Question: Becky Kinder

With all the tools you all have among your organizations, is there a place or a way to get specific state data export figures for commodities? For example -soybeans. Thank you!

Answer: Mark Jekanowski

Regarding state-level export data, ERS, and I believe they still do, puts out a state export database for all of the major commodities. But it should be noted, that there really is not any way to track specifically where commodities come from when they arrive at the port and leave

the U.S. There is simply not a way to track how much of Iowa soybean production is being exported versus used for other purposes, or relative to other state exports, for example. They all get aggregated together and are then exported as “U.S., soybeans." What ERS does in producing these estimates is attribute state-level exports based on the volume of production relative to the total U.S. exports. It is just basically a way of attributing a particular export volume to a state based on their relative share of production. The short answer is, there is data on state exports that ERS produces, but it isn't an exact accounting of state-level commodity exports because that type of data just simply does not exist.

Answer: Joe DeCampo

The Census Bureau’s USA Trade Online, we do have a certain amount of export data by, what’s reported as, state of origin. Again, that’s based on what exporters or filers report electronically. So, we do have something called state of origin for ag commodities.

Answer: Mark Jekanowski

Erik Dohlman from ERS mentions there might be a new methodology for state exports If Erik or if anyone else from ERS is able to put a link in the chat to the ERS state export data and any documentation about the methodology, that would be helpful to shed a little bit more light onto how those estimates are arrived at.

https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/state-agricultural-trade-data/documentation/

Written Answer: Bart Kenner

The State-level exports are estimated by farm cash receipts for a particular commodity in that state rather than production data as was used previously.

https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/state-agricultural-trade-data/state-agricultural-trade-data/

Question: Andrew Muhammad

Could you say a little about the decision to adopt the WTO definition of trade?

Answer: Patrick Packnett

The rationale behind this decision is really to harmonize trade data and the way we look at trade data among U.S. government agencies. USTR for example has always used the WTO definition of agriculture when negotiating international trade agreements. They often quote data and would quote an agricultural export number, which would conflict with the numbers that we would quote from USDA. This decision allows us to harmonize across the U.S. government in terms of having consistent trade statistics when we report out and allows us to be quoting similar numbers when we are talking with international organizations and other countries about agricultural trade. We implemented this back on March 5th with the January 2021 data. So, we are hoping that this makes us more efficient and consistent across the government as well as working internationally. There is a lot of information on our website regarding the change. The

big differences, in terms of agricultural trade, is that we are now including ethanol, distilled spirits, and manufactured tobacco in the agriculture number, where it wasn't there before.

Question: Beth Brelje

What trade trends do you predict in 2021?

Answer: Patrick Packnett

FAS does not have a calendar year trade number. We do have a fiscal year export forecast that is published as joint product between ERS and FAS. It is a USDA product for fiscal year trade that is up on both of our websites if people want to take a look at the outlook for ag trade on a fiscal year basis, but it is not a calendar year.

Written Answer: Bart Kenner

Outlook for U.S. Agricultural Trade

https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/international-markets-us-trade/us-agricultural-trade/outlook-for-us-agricultural-trade/

Question: Alaina Hanson

I subscribe to the USDA export data FAS report that's published every Thursday. This seems to capture the larger grossing commodities (wheat, corn, pork, etc), but is there a report available that publishes data on other export commodities, specifically lumber?

Answer: Patrick Packnett

Unfortunately, no. I think the question is referring to our U.S. Export Sales Report. We only cover commodities that are mandated under our regulations and that we require exporters to report. The commodities that are listed there on our webpage and that are included in the report are the only commodities that we cover. So, no, lumber and other ag commodities that aren't specified are not available.

Question: Jose Montes

At which stage is the US regarding open border for Brazilian beef?

Written Answer:

Information on the status of beef imports from Brazil is available at the USDA/Food Safety and Inspection Website. See Section: APHIS Animal Disease Requirements for Brazil

https://www.fsis.usda.gov/inspection/import-export/import-export-library/brazil

Question: Ryan Nielsen

Are there plans to include corn oil for the PSD Query system?

Answer: Yoonhee Macke

We do not have a plan to separate corn oil or build a corn oil PS&D.

Question: Barbara Meredith

How do you see the current shipping container issues impacting Ag exports? Are you able to track any information about shipping container availability?

Answer: Patrick Packnett

I happen to know that within the department, AMS is actually the closest agency within USDA that is likely to have any information on the current issue we are having with containers and availability. AMS has a transportation office that tracks those issues.

Answer: Post meeting follow-up from AMS

The AMS Transportation and Marketing Program (T&M) tracks a tremendous amount of transportation and freight data, which can be found at https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/transportation-analysis. However, they no longer collect or have data to track empty container availability. T&M used to collect such data from the ocean carriers on a voluntary basis, but through the course of carrier consolidation and changes in market conditions, the carriers no longer wanted to provide that information.

The Port of Long Beach is publishing weekly data with estimates of the number of containers to be exported and exported empty over the next few weeks. See link here, https://polb.com/port-info/wave-weekly-advance-volume-estimate/. This data is for Long Beach only, but it gives a sense for the volume of container traffic (full and empty) through a significant port for containerized agricultural exports. From these data one will note the number of containers provided for export use is relatively small.

Current market conditions and freight rates are incentivizing carriers to send containers back empty to serve more lucrative import cargo. Exporters are struggling to obtain and retain export bookings from the ocean carriers. When bookings are available, exporters are navigating ever-changing vessel schedules and terminal congestion which result in additional charges and fees. Exporters are losing sales and some report they will not be able to remain in business under these conditions.

Demand for container service is at record levels globally filling nearly all container and vessel capacity. The situation is expected to continue through at least August, but most likely through the end of the year.

Question: Ryan Nielsen

What is the process for defining and tracking new HS10 product categories and changing product category definitions?

Answer: Joe DeCampo

Unfortunately, that harkens back to the formal 484 process. That's the only way to create new numbers. For example, there isn't an existing number for plant-based meat. But if someone wanted to request the creation of one, it would have to go through the formal 484 process.

Question: Bill McCary

Russia attaché has not reported Grain and feed in over a year and last oilseed Russia report was issued April 2020, could USDA increase major country attaché reports?

Answer: Patrick Packnett

We have not had the regular reporting that we would normally get from Russia because of our lack of coverage there. We have had some diplomatic issues with Russia in getting our attachés into the country. So, that hampered our coverage and our ability to report. Not only that, we have had some issues with COVID in terms of getting our attachés in country in many cases. That has in a lot of cases, hampered our ability to supply some of the regular attaché reporting that we would normally. We are aware of the situation and doing everything we can to provide as best coverage as we can. At the moment, that is one area where we are struggling a little bit.

Answer: Lindsay Kuberka

Both of those reports are in development so they should be published in the next few weeks. As Patrick acknowledged, we have a smaller staff, so things are taking longer than in past years.

Question: Birgit Meade

During the plenary session this morning, there was a question about when the next tree nut WASDE will be available.

Answer: Mark Jekanowski

We don't cover nuts, fruits or vegetables in the WASDE. I am guessing what the person was referring to was the ERS Fruit and Tree Nut Outlook report.

Answer: Patrick Packnett

FAS does have a commodity circular on tree nuts that we also put out, I am not sure which report they are referring to, but that is October 22nd for the FAS circular for tree nuts.

Written Answer: Bart Kenner

The next release of the ERS Fruit and Tree Nut Outlook report is scheduled for September 29th.

Question: Mak Kingan

RE: Daily and Thursday Cumulative Private Exporter Report Sales Activity announcements: It seems that we have a lot more "unknown" sales.

Answer: Patrick Packnett

Our export sales team has been looking at the unknown destination question that came up at our previous meeting. This is to get a better understanding of frequency and other details around the unknown reporting. We want to look at it and understand what's going on. I don't doubt the statement that perhaps there is more unknown. We are looking at it to get a handle on understanding what the trends are and what is happening there.

Question: Gary Blumenthal

All kinds of new variables developing in agriculture including alt meat, carbon standards, animal welfare, organic, etc. Any thoughts or planning in terms of statistical tracking of evolving new products and standards?

Answer: Mark Jekanowski

At this point, we don't have any plans to include alternative meat in the WASDE. Certainly, these are trends that impact what consumers purchase. They impact prices in markets and it's something we need to think about.

Answer: Joe DeCampo

This goes back to the 484 concept of how to request and create new numbers. We don't know it is organic unless people have a 10-digit code in order to file that it is organic. Otherwise we just can't know.

Answer: Patrick Packnett

There are a small number of organic trade codes. A lot of them in a horticultural area that have been created. We do monitor and track those as the industry finds a need for additional codes, we often work with them to help them put together information for the 484 process. We were involved in doing some of that to help create organic codes that are out there. A lot of this is driven by industry and as trade develops and as a need develops.

Question: Dan Manternach

In the April WASDE, 2nd quarter hog prices are now forecast at $77, 45% higher than forecast for 2nd quarter in January, yet pork output lowered less than 1% from Jan. estimate. Why were hog prices so badly underestimated?

Answer: Shayle Shagam

Part of the issue was that when we originally looked at the data and saw what we assumed to be the level of pork production and what we assumed to be demand conditions, we didn't think

what the future price was showing earlier in the year warranted that kind of an increase. But, as prices continued to move upward, we reevaluated our forecasts.

Question: Ryan Nielsen

Looking for insight on the discrepancies between global exports, global imports, and ending stocks. As the WASDE is formatted as a balance sheet, why do world exports not equal world imports? I understand there is slippage etc. but where are the tons accounted? If, for example, world exports are 5 MMT above world imports, is that captured in carryout for Next Marketing Year imports?

Answer: Keith Menzie

It will probably be a commodity by commodity discussion. In the case of soybeans or oilseeds, table 10 in the WASDE, we put everything on an October year basis, and we don't have all of the importers. So, there is both a timing issue, exports that eventually lead to imports. So right around the end of the marketing year, you can have a two to six-week lag and that can cause a discrepancy. Also, we don't have all the importers. I think each commodity would probably almost have to answer that separately because we treat the balance sheets a little bit differently in each case.

Answer: Mike Jewison

I can speak for coarse grains. This also applies for wheat. To confuse matters more, for coarse grains and wheat, and the WASDE everything is on a local marketing year basis which varies by country and commodity. Because of that temporal or time difference between those countries, you never get trade that will balance in the WASDE. For example, the US corn local marketing year would be September 2020 through August 2021. Conversely, the Brazilian corn local marketing year would be March 2021 through February 2022. Those numbers don't align temporally in the WASDE. All that said, I would invite you to look at the FAS trade circular that puts corn trade, coarse grain trade, wheat trade all on the same temporal basis. For wheat it's July/June. For coarse grains it is October. Part of addressing that difference, why does that occur, is A. timing and B. as Keith pointed out, there are countries that are not in the databases and/or slippage between data sources. They never align perfectly. I should also mention for coarse grains or wheat, we assume at the global level that trade balances. You can ask yourself, how do you reconcile the fact that trade should balance? What we do at the global level is we take the difference local marketing year exports and imports whether a positive or negative number and we add that back into world level consumption on the assumption that in a theoretical world, global trade balances.

Question: Jerry Cessna

It seems that the GATS database could be improved. The abbreviations for data products are sometimes inaccurate. Clicking on HTS codes one at a time is cumbersome. It would be good to be able to paste in a list of codes.

Answer: Patrick Packnett

We have been thinking internally that GATS is due for a refresh of sorts. It has been around a while in its current state. It's probably on our list for some future upgrade and modernization. So, if users have thoughts and input on various improvements, we are happy to take those on board as we have resources to be able to modernize our systems. Within GATS, I would comment, there are a couple different options. There is the standard query and then there is an advanced query system that might give the users more flexibility to be able to manipulate the data in different ways.

Written Answer: Jason Carver

I'd just note that we don't have the option to add a list of codes presently but would like to improve that in the next GATS refresh.

Question: Dan Manternach

Is USDA obligated to honor China's supply/demand/stocks/exports, etc. even when export sales YTD already exceed their own import estimates?

Answer: Mike Jewison

I assume you are referring to the total commitments for U.S. corn exports to China, of just over 23 million tons. Part of the thing I would note about that, from a data source perspective, at the end of the day, we adopt what China customs said they imported for corn, not the U.S. export sales number. There can be differences between countries. There are for major U.S. markets such as Japan and Mexico, for example, between U.S. Census Bureau data and export sales data. Obviously, the U.S. Census Bureau data is higher. I would say the key component is our current 24-million-ton import forecast. It reflects the fact that you have done a little over 9 million tons of imports according to China for the October to February period and to meet our 24-million-ton forecast, you basically have to do a little over 2 million tons a month from March through September. We use export sales as an indicator but remember there's a lot of those sales that still have not shipped yet.

Question: Scott Gerlt

What is the difference between soybean and soybean (local) in the PS&D?

Written Answer: Keith Menzie

Local refers only to Brazil and Argentina. We include those balance sheet data on a "local year" basis but include Oct-Sept for WASDE.

Question: Erik Dohlman

When are the summer meetings?

Answer: Mark Jekanowski

If he is referring to Data Users, this happens twice a year, usually in April and the next one would be sometime in October. I don't know at this point if the date for the next Data Users has been set; NASS are the folks who set these meetings up. I would encourage everyone to be on the lookout for the next opportunity to participate in Data Users sometime in mid-October.

Breakout Session 3A: NASS Modernization

Question: Marvin Miller

A comment on the Respondent Dashboard. I saw a national average compared with a respondent's data. It might be also be helpful for a lot of crops to also have a state average or regional average in some cases. When I think about what crops I'm involved with, areas of the country are different, and it might be helpful for a producer to be able to compare on a more local level as well as the national average.

Answer: Bryan Combs

Yes, we can take that into consideration. Wil, do you have any more details on what your team has shared or discussed on that topic?

Answer: Wil Hundl

That's exactly what we're working on right now. Of course, as mentioned in the previous session, the aggregate level of the data we have available is directly correlated with the number of reports and participation we have. So ideally, we want to get to the micro-level, as low as we can, so that we can provide information that is more relevant to the individual producer. That is fairly easy to program to get that done. Again, we have to work on both ends. First, we have to make the portal something that is deliverable and usable and then work on our participation rates so that we can make those products available.

Question: Paul Rosenfield

I just noticed your gridded Crop Progress and Condition data, which goes back to 2015. Will you be extending that analysis further back in time?

Answer: Eileen O'Brien

We're going into this cloud computing environment and we can entertain more historical data, analysis, and integration with our products. I'm not sure we're going to do that right now with the gridded Crop Progress, but thanks for that note. If you let me know how you're going to use it, that's also helpful for us to prioritize.

Question: Paul Rosenfield

In particular, Crop Progress and Condition reports go back to 1948 in some places. What are the chances of the gridded data going back that far?

Answer: Eileen O'Brien

That's a question I'll ask my technical experts about why they started with 5 years ago and how much further back they can go. We're entertaining all the data we've ever collected before in the history of NASS for all kinds of things, but prioritization is key. Again, let me know how you'd like to see these things and how you use them.

Answer: Post-meeting follow-up from Eileen O'Brien

Our current priority is to focus on 2015 to present, then add the cotton progress and condition to the already existing corn, soy, and wheat. Once that's done, staff will explore adding earlier years. Data formats and definitions, however, have been inconsistent over the decades, so it would be a big lift, which makes this a low priority. Again, understanding the use/need is helpful to us.

Question: Dale Durchholz

I've noticed the soil moisture website with George Mason U, along with the maps NASS put out recently showing crop condition and progress on a more detailed map. Have you produced tutorials on how to use these new products?

Answer: Eileen O'Brien

I like that idea. We have a handbook. But a tutorial, with some Q&A, maybe we should try that. I think we'd certainly like to see who is using it and see what it takes to bring them up to speed on this product. Thank you for that.

Question: Matthew Vuolo

Two questions: (1) By "tidy", are you referring to the tidyverse-associated packages in the statistical software R? (2) Are the landing pages that are replacing the pdf reports created with Tableau or some other software? Interested in comparing our modernization efforts. Thank you.

Answer: Bryan Combs

Yes, I think to some extent, our tidy data concept is building on the R package. Then, some of the landing pages will probably include some Tableau visualizations but those won't be completely what's there. We're looking at combining multiple things on those so that you have access to a data table along with some visualizations. They won't necessarily be like a Tableau dashboard but likely have some visualizations created through Tableau or some other visualization software.

Question: Hussain Jiwani

Corn crop progress data is currently available on state level. Are there any plans to release crop progress data in ag regions within the state?

Answer: Eileen O'Brien

You can drill down, I believe. Again, if that's of interest to you, we'll look into how we can customize that and whether we can pre-load that for the folks that want to look at that level of granularity. One of the great things about this project is that it has granularity, but it protects confidentiality. I'm glad to hear people are so interested in this, I will let the team know.

Answer: Dan Kerestes

We are always willing to look at what data users want, and as Eileen said, obviously we want to make sure we protect producers, as well as, we don't want to put out any data that's misleading. But we will always do our best to get you what you need. So, you can email us. We're willing to look into the needs of the community out there.

Question: Katelyn McCullock

How will the landing pages be designed and organized? For example, if looking for data that would have been under milk production report, will that require multiple clicks to retrieve same information? Similar question will this effect current API framework?

Answer: Bryan Combs

As far as how the landing pages will be organized, we're building them with concept that it will walk people into the data, expose, and drive them to our larger database. So, one of the other functions that we'll be doing as part of this is revamping our current Quick Stats to make that data more easy to find, search, filter, so that it makes it easier for you to pull off a usable dataset than picking up a PDF report that's not very usable from a data processing standpoint. So, if you know what data you're looking for, you can easily go into the database search for it, where to find it. If you're unsure of some of the data we might have available, the top of the landing pages will be the area you go to discover what data is available for a particular topic. So, we think it will be easier, but it could equate to some more clicks if you're trying to get to what used to be a report because those won't be generated in the same way they currently are.

As far as API, we are still in the works in our development and in getting that set up. We are hopeful that we will be able to continue our current API structure at least for a certain amount of time that we can give data users plenty of notice that we will be shifting over. We think that the new API will be more usable for our data users.

Answer: Dan Kerestes

Once we start doing these landing these pages, we will be reformatting our *Guide to Products and Services*, so that it correlates to these landing pages. At first when you are looking at it, if you grab that *Guide to Products and Services*, you should be able to figure out which landing page to go to, to pick up the commodity that you are looking for.

Question: Katelyn McCullock

Will .csv files still be available?

Answer: Bryan Combs

Yes, that data will be downloadable. So, once you run your query you can download whether it's a .csv viewer or some other very readily usable format for our users.

Question: Donnell Brown

Hi, team! Tim Martinson asked a question in the previous session about the exclusion (after 2017) of all but two states in the NASS stats for grape, since including only CA and WA provides 90% or more of acreage. Grapes are grown in nearly all states (and in many thousands of varieties), so the current data falls far short of the data needs for the grape industries (esp. wine). Lance Honig responded that it's an issue of time and money. As you modernize processes, is it possible to include improving the resolution for grape stats?

Answer: Dan Kerestes

This was brought up in the previous session. Really, it comes down to our program needs and using our money efficiently, our resources efficiently, within the agency. Lance in Crops, as well as Travis in Livestock and Tony in Demographics area, what we are trying to do is get coverage of at least 90%, sometimes it goes up to 95% of all commodities. So, which states we include will always vary by commodity and the percent coverage will vary by commodity. But we are striving to get that 90% coverage. If there is something more that the grape industry is looking for, we are always willing to work with them, possibly through some type of an arrangement, some extra data can be obtained. The best thing to do there is to contact either Lance Honig, myself, or even send an email into Bryan. We can look at what can be further done in your area.

Answer: Wil Hundl

We do conduct External Project Agreements out here in the Regional Field Offices with partners to help fill some of that data void. I just would offer that as well. Reach out to the Regional Field Office in your area and discuss possibilities of collecting some additional data by your industry.

Question: Bill McCary

Could these techniques be expanded to produce crop progress in other countries?

Answer: Eileen O'Brien

I am fairly new to NASS, so I'm not sure they haven't started on that. I know we used to do that in terms of national defense and other things like that. That is a good question for the folks at George Mason. I think they would be more involved in that way.

Question: Wayne Stoskopf

Can you give a deeper description of the data integration effort with FSA? Are there specific data sets that will be prioritized and are there expected impacts on NASS reports?

Answer: Eileen O'Brien

NASS reports are a very stable series and we are not going to do anything that disrupts that series without a lot of understanding about what these new methods are providing. The integration of FSA data, and all available data, is really in a research phase right now. So, I can't really say how it will end, but it is something we will continue to communicate to everyone.

Answer: Dan Kerestes

We do make use of FSA acreage data. We've done that for many years. Now what we are doing is taking additional FSA data and using it in a more complex manner. Obviously, before we change things at NASS, we always make the data users aware of what we are doing. And so, we will never spring anything new on anyone and we will always strive to keep our data series consistent year over year. As you all know, there is a vast amount of data out there and NASS is doing everything it can to make use of all of the data from the various USDA agencies and ease the burden on the producer.

Breakout Session 3B: ERS Research

Question: Mustapha Alhassan

Looks like the conveyance losses are large enough to care about. Do have a plan to find out from the organizations how they plan to manage the conveyance losses going forward? Example is using on-farm storage to recover tailwater for re-use.

Answer: Aaron Hrozencik

I think conveyance losses are large enough that it's something we should care about. And in the survey, one of the questions we asked was, what are some reasons -- because so much of the conveyance losses are related to lining and unlined canals, what are some reasons that organizations -- what are some constraints that are keeping organizations from lining their canals? And we provided several options, one of them being cost constraints, another being recharge benefits by this. So, overall, the majority of organizations cited cost constraints as a reason for not lining their canals, and the second-largest category was the recharge benefits provided by it in terms of groundwater rechargement if it's provided by this. But I think, going forward, if we're able to do this survey again in the future -- which I really have much hope that we're able to -- we'll be able to see how these organization conveyance losses change over time and connect that change with other organization-level changes -- for example, the amount of miles of their conveyance infrastructure that have been lined over time. I think that's one way to look at how to reduce or diminish these conveyance losses.

Question: Erik Dohlman

What are examples of groundwater management?

Answer: Aaron Hrozencik

So, an example of groundwater management -- one might be a limit on the amount of groundwater that an individual irrigator is allowed to use, or the creation of a groundwater bank, so this would be like, for a given farmer, you're allowed to use "X" acre-feet of water over five years, and within that five-year period, you're able to allocate that water how you would like -- you know, pump more in one year and less in another -- and then in some cases, provide a platform to trade these rights for groundwater. In other scenarios, these groundwater management organizations serve more of an advisory role to just manage the status of the resource, and in other states, groundwater management organizations may be in charge of permitting for groundwater wells, so then, because of that, they're also generally involved or in charge of data-collection efforts in terms of groundwater use.

Question: Dan Manternach

Do "Meat Animals" in the NFI tables just include cattle and hogs? Is there data showing cattle and hog income separately?

Answer: Carrie Litkowski

Yes, we have cash receipts separately. We have cash receipt estimates for over a hundred different commodities, so we do have cash receipts separate for cattle and hogs. But if you're talking about net farm income for, like, hog operations or cattle operations, we do have like a secondary or a supplemental data that we have that's part of our account as well that, using data from the Agricultural Resource Management Survey only, we can look at average net cash farm income by commodity specialization, meaning 50% or more of their value of production comes from a particular commodity, like, say, cattle. So, we have that as well if you want to see how a particular subset of the farm sector is doing.

Question: Dan Manternach

Are the "Field Crop" cost of production estimates by commodity only available for U.S. as a whole? Are there any state or regional breakouts of costs of production by crop?

Answer: Jen Bond

On the website, historically, there have been some regional breakouts -- for example, soybeans, for wheat, Southwest and the West, cotton, and more, although more recently, I believe it has just been at the national level. And I'm trying to pull up corn now to see if we've got any sort of disaggregation there. We do have some additional breakdowns. So if you, for example, go to the corn production costs and returns, while the spreadsheet says corn on the whole and we don't have a separate spreadsheet for the different regions, within that spreadsheet that you click on, there's actually a wide variety of locations, so as disaggregated as the Southern Seaboard, for example, or Prairie Gateway or Northern Great Plains. So, upon further investigation, it appears that we do have the data.

Question: Erik Dohlman

Those are resource regions.

Answer: Post-meeting follow-up from Jeff Gillespie

For all of the crop, livestock, and dairy commodities that we provide cost and return estimates, both national and regional estimates are provided. Here is a map of the regions for which estimates are made: https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/publications/42298/32489_aib-760_002.pdf. These regions were developed on the basis of farm type (commodity mix), land, and climate characteristics. Our cost and return estimates are developed based upon responses to the ARMS survey, which targets states that together constitute >90% of production of the commodity. Thus, we are able to develop cost and return estimates for the major production regions for each of the commodities, with regional estimates developed if there are enough observations in the region. Here are the commodities for which we provide national and regional estimates:

Barley, Corn, Cotton, Cow-Calf, Hogs, Milk, Oats, Peanuts, Rice, Sorghum, Soybeans, Wheat

In addition, we provide state and size estimates for milk. Commodity cost and returns estimates are updated twice per year. Here are the pages where one can access these estimates: https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/commodity-costs-and-returns/ and https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/milk-cost-of-production-estimates/.

Question: William Tehero

When will these enhancements (i.e, mobile optimization) be implemented?

Answer: Post-meeting follow-up from Xuan Pham and Molly Burress

MTED is working with our colleagues from ERS's Information Services Division, the larger Research, Education and Economics Mission area of USDA, and USDA's Office of the Chief Information Officer to plan and implement a web modernization plan to meet the needs of our customers. Mobile optimization efforts are part of the web modernization plan. We are currently in the early exploratory phase of developing a platform where users can create customizable reports, retrieve machine-readable data, and access data through an API. We plan to build mobile optimization into this new functionality as well as our existing products, as appropriate.

Question: Natasha Sesl

Follow up for COP question. Split by economic region is available only for historical COP estimates (now available till 2019 including), but not for forecasted COP. (Answer from a user of this data)

Answer: Jen Bond

Thanks for that clarification. Yeah, I mean, I do invite users to go take a look on the website and see what is available there, and if it's not meeting your needs, let us know. Please feel free to send me an e-mail or Jeff Gillespie, and we'll see if there's anything that we can do to address. I would like to note that I saw on the participant list Bill Lapp, who has been at previous Data Users' and had asked for monthly trade data on wheat, and I'm happy to say that this year, we were able to provide that. So, we really do listen to the feedback that we receive at Data Users' and have been working to be responsive to that. So, Bill, if you're listening, it's in the yearbook tables. It's the final two yearbook tables, last couple of months.

Question: Lisa Jones

I'm not sure if this is the place to ask, but ERS currently has a small farm defined under typology as $350,000 or less, but NASS has a breakdown at $250,000. Do you know if this will change to reflect the ERS definition?

Answer: Carrie Litkowski

I can't speak to it too much, but I am familiar with these breakdowns, and we have a lot of different breakdowns. $350,000 is the current one that we use for small farms, especially when we're talking about data that comes from the Agricultural Resource Management Survey, but I

can't really talk to how NASS set their small farm threshold or if there's any thoughts on changing that.

Answer: Post-meeting follow-up from Carrie Litkowski

The ERS typology changed in 2013 to define small farms as those with as those with gross cash farm income of less than $350,000, up from the original $250,000 cutoff. The rationale and implications for this change are explained in Updating the ERS Farm Typology (EIB-110), April 2013. https://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/pub-details/?pubid=43744

Answer: Post-meeting follow-up from NASS

NASS publishes data in most Census of Agriculture data tables by Value of Sales or economic class categories, but none of these tabulations specifically include any definition of small farms. These sales categories are historically consistent for the Census of Agriculture and have been used in many previous census cycles. The farm typology classes, however, are based on Gross Cash Farm Income, and are published in one special NASS release for Census Typology that corresponds with the ERS definition. There are no plans to change the current data series for the Census of Agriculture. The Farm Typology release can be found here: https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/Online_Resources/Typology/

Question: Bruno Arthur

To whom (ERS email for data request?) to direct questions that come to mind in between data users' meetings?

Answer: Kelly Maguire

You can always go to our ERS website. We provide a list of staff contacts for a host of different subject matter areas, and so that's another resource, if you'd like, but we're a pretty helpful small group, so if you e-mail one of us, we'll find the answer for you.

Question: Ryan Nielsen

When determining the total ag trade value between nations are export values used? How are landed prices v export value discrepancies addressed? Where are tariffs considered? Are exchange rates considered? Specifically in regards to Phase-One tracking.

Answer: Jen Bond

I think this may pertain to that state trade tool. I'm kind of conjecturing. And there's a lot of nuance in that product, and I'd like to invite Ryan to send me an e-mail jennifer.bond@usda.gov. I'd like to connect him with the team that worked on that, so that's Bart Kenner, Dylan Russell, and Dana Golden. We've got some documentation on our website too that hopefully addresses some of those questions. I don't want to say something incorrect, but I am happy to connect you with the right people who can speak more to those specific details.

Answer: Post-meeting follow-up from Dana Golden

The data come from Census data which come from Customs/Border Patrol data. Export values are used. Tariffs and exchange rates are not considered as value refers strictly to the value in US dollars to US producers or paid by US consumers. It's like GDP. Value only exists when a transaction occurs with a US party. The data series primarily takes its data from transaction data from US firms based on reported values and weights of shipments, so once it's no longer held by a US organization, it no longer matters for these statistics. There's no reason to consider tariffs because they are a tax, not a part of the price of a good. More information here: https://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/Press-Release/current_press_release/ft900.pdf

Question: Bill Lapp

Who within ERS can help me find/understand the at home vs. away from home consumption of beef, pork, eggs, etc?

Answer: Kelly Maguire

It'd be Katherine Ralston in our Food Economics Division. Katherine.ralston@usda.gov

Question: Mustapha Alhassan

Do you have any information on the response rate of your survey that you would like to share?

Answer: Aaron Hrozencik

The response rate was 44%, and I will actually drop in NASS's -- their publication, which goes through how the response rate calculation was made. So, given COVID-19 and the fact that this data-collection effort hadn't happened for over 40 years, I think we were pretty happy with a 44% response rate.

https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/Todays_Reports/reports/siog1220.pdf

Presentation Slides

Following this page are the slides presented during the Data Users' Meeting.

- Agency Updates
- Breakout Session 1A: AMS Market News
- Breakout Session 1B: Climate Information for Informed Decision Making
- Breakout Session 2A: NASS Grain Stocks Program
- Open Forum
- Breakout Session 3A: NASS Modernization
- Breakout Session 3B: ERS Research

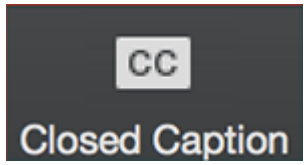
2021 USDA Spring Data Users' Meeting

April 14 & 15, 2021

Joe Parsons
Chair, Agricultural Statistics Board

Housekeeping

- Closed captioning available through the Closed Caption button in Zoom.



- All sessions will be recorded and available on our website: https://www.nass.usda.gov/Education_and_Outreach/Meeting/index.php
- Today's sessions will be available for viewing tomorrow morning.
- Slides and transcript of Q&A with any additional questions we don't have time to answer will be available on our website after the meeting.

Questions/Issues

Q&A – Questions will be addressed during tomorrow's Open Forum

Chat – Technical Issues

Email - Marisa.Reuber@usda.gov or LaKeya.Jones@usda.gov

Day 1 Agenda

All Times Eastern

12:00pm	Welcome and Overview
12:10pm	Agency Updates
12:50pm	Break
1:00pm	Breakout Session #1
1:55pm	Break
2:05pm	Breakout Session #2
3:00pm	End

Breakout Sessions

All times Eastern	**Session A**	**Session B**
Day 1 – April 14		
1:00 p.m.	AMS Market News *Agricultural Marketing Service*	Climate Information for Informed Decision Making *World Agricultural Outlook Board*
2:05 p.m.	NASS Grain Stocks Program *National Agricultural Statistics Service*	Foreign Production, Trade, and Import/Export Data *World Agricultural Outlook Board, Foreign Agricultural Service, and U.S. Census Bureau*
Day 2 – April 15		
2:00 p.m.	NASS Modernization *National Agricultural Statistics Service*	ERS Research *Economic Research Service*

Day 2 Agenda

All Times Eastern

12:00pm	Day 1 Recap
12:15pm	Open Forum
1:45pm	Break
2:00pm	Breakout Session #3
3:00pm	End

Panelists

- Mike Lynch, Agricultural Marketing Service
- Kelly Maguire, Economic Research Service
- Patrick Packnett, Foreign Agricultural Service
- Brad Karmen, Farm Service Agency
- Mark Jekanowski, World Agricultural Outlook Board
- Joseph DeCampo, U.S. Census Bureau
- Dan Kerestes, National Agricultural Statistics Service

Agricultural Marketing Service

Mike Lynch

Director

Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News

Economic Research Service

Spiro Stefanou

Administrator

Foreign Agricultural Service

Patrick Packnett
Deputy Administrator
Global Market Analysis

Farm Service Agency

Brad Karmen

Acting Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs
and
Assistant Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs

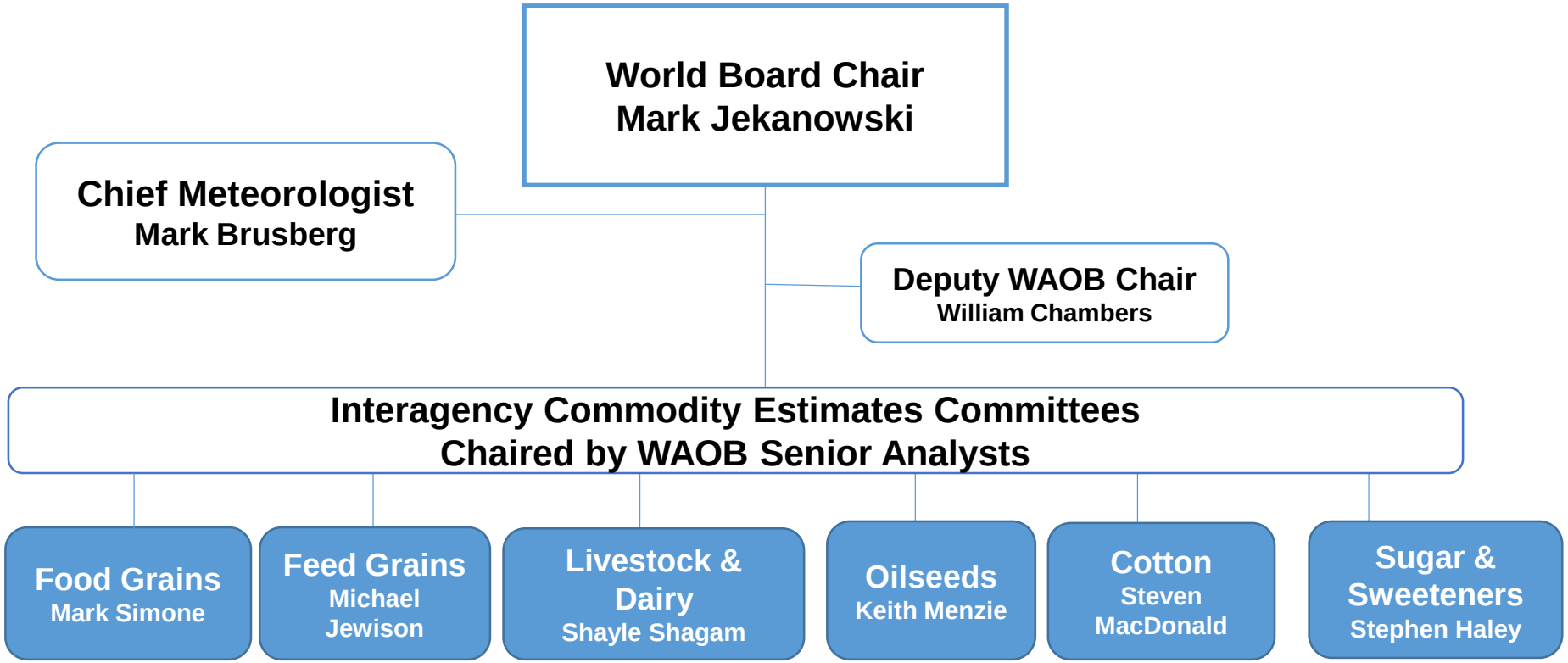
World Agricultural Outlook Board

Mark Jekanowski

World Agricultural Outlook Board Chair

The World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB), housed within USDA's Office of the Chief Economist, WAOB serves as USDA's focal point for economic intelligence and the commodity outlook for U.S. and world agriculture:

- **Coordinates, reviews, and approves the monthly *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates* (WASDE) report**
- **Coordinates USDA's Agricultural Outlook Forum**



World Agricultural Outlook Board

Recent changes

- **Bill Chambers: formerly Food Grains Chair, now WAOB Deputy Chair (October 2020).**
- **Mark Simone: Food Grains Chair (January 2021).**
- **Justin Choe: Feed Grains Economist (July 2020).**

Historic WASDE data (since 2010) now available in .CSV format

- **Files available here: https://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity-markets/wasde/historical-wasde-report-data contain data *as it was reported and appeared at the time of publication* in each hard copy *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates* (WASDE) report from April 2010 to current.**

  ➔ **Important note: *These files do not include subsequent revisions based on new information that can surface after the WASDE has been published!***

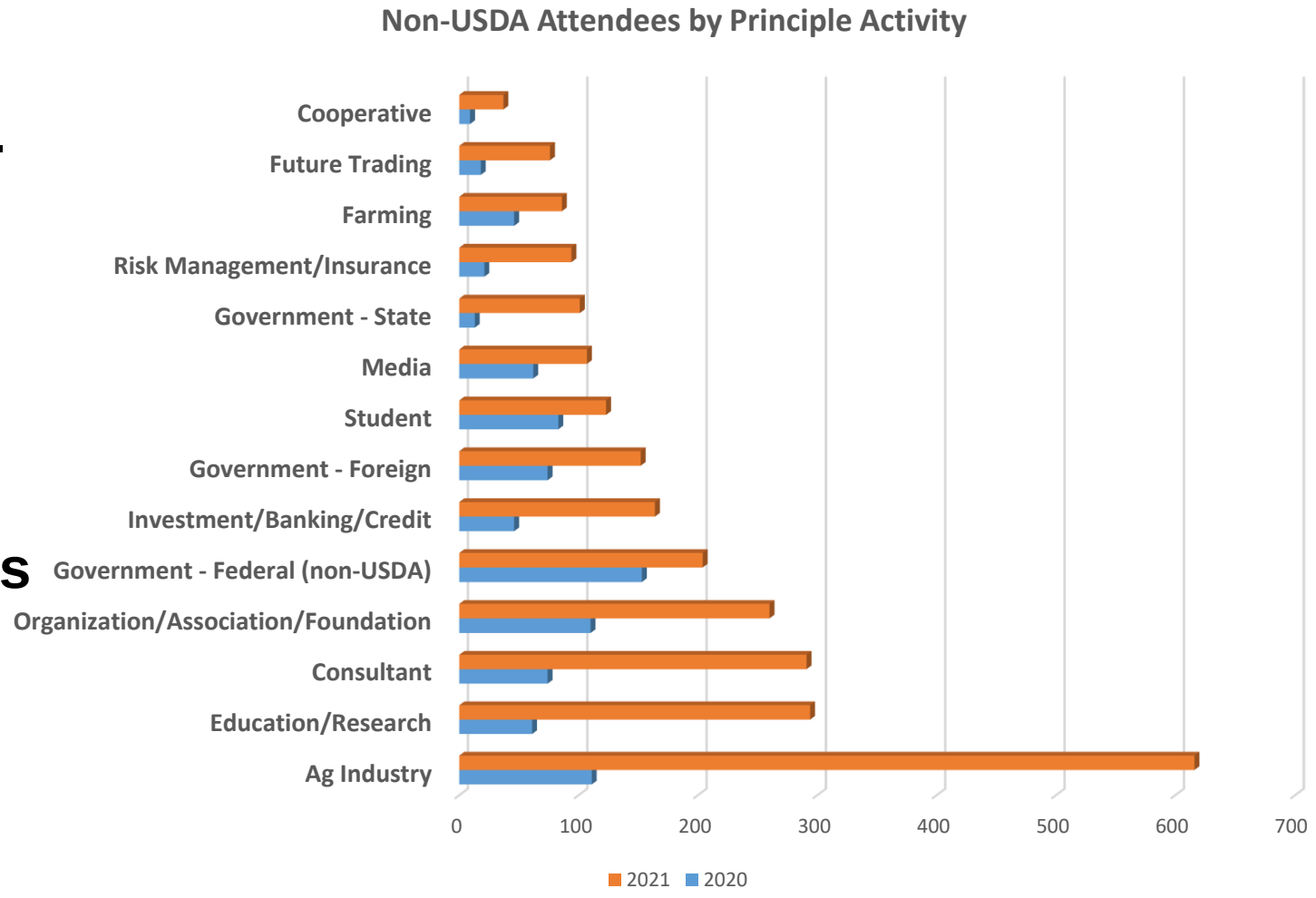
- **The Foreign Agricultural Service's Production, Supply and Demand (PS&D) data portal remains the official supply and demand data series incorporating all historical revisions for periods prior to those reported in the latest WASDE (https://www.fas.usda.gov/databases/production-supply-and-distribution-online-psd)**

A successful, virtual 2021 Agricultural Outlook Forum

- **The 2021 Forum: "Building on Innovation: A Pathway to Resilience."**
- **The virtual format allowed thousands of stakeholders from around the world to participate for the first time.**
- **Nearly 4,500 participants from government, industry and academia.**
- **More than 100 speakers.**
- **The entire event can be viewed here: https://www.usda.gov/oce/ag-outlook-forum**

Non-USDA Attendees Represented a Wide Range of Stakeholders

- Around 3,300 public (Non-USDA) participants
- Attendees from organizations and businesses across the sector
- Participants from 50 States and over 100 countries



Save the Date!

- **The AOF 2022 will be held on February 24-25.**
- **We will continue with a virtual presence!**

United States Census Bureau

Joseph DeCampo
Section Chief
International Trade Indicator Micro Analysis Branch

2021 Spring Data Users Meeting

Virtual – April 14 and 15

Dan Kerestes, Director
Statistics Division

What's New - Crops

Item	Methodology and Quality Measures report
What	Grain Stocks
When	First – April 2021
Future	Annually – following January *Grain Stocks* report
More coming	Acreage and Yield

What's New - Crops

Item	Corn & Soybean acres remaining to be planted
Location	*Acreage* report – began June 2020
Item	Corn & Soybean acres remaining to be harvested
Location	*Crop Production 2020 Summary* report – began January 2021
Result	Will continue to be published

What's New - Crops

Item	County Estimates
New	Statistical Model (survey and administrative data) No longer publish Districts New Publication Rule - crops
Crops Publication rule	[30 reports] or [>=3 reports and >=25% coverage] or [>= 10 reports and >= 10% coverage]
Results	Publishing measures of uncertainty and more counties
Eliminates Districts	Aligns crops, livestock, economics and census publications

What's New – Economics, Environmental and Demographics

Agricultural Census	Puerto Rico - June 9, 2020 Outlying Areas - July 21, 2020 Organic Survey – October 22, 2020 Census of Hort – Dec. 8, 2020 Typology – January 22, 2021
National Farmers Market Managers Survey	Joint project with AMS August 17, 2020
Irrigation Organizations	Joint project with ERS December 17, 2020
Farm Labor	Reinstated - report released February 11, 2021

What's New - Livestock

Item	Methodology and Quality Measures report
Annually	Hogs and Pigs – December 2020 Cattle – March 2021 Cattle on Feed – March 2021 Milk Production – March 2021
Improvements	Catfish, Honey, Mink, Sheep and Goats, Trout - 2021
New	Chicken and Eggs, Honey Bee Colonies

What's New – Census of Agriculture

Content Testing	Fall 2020 through 2021
Dry Run	For developing and enhancing data processing systems that will be used for the production in late 2022.
On-line reporting	NASS continues to focus efforts on improving its online data reporting system to capture additional responses via a secure and convenient Internet platform.

What's New - Modernization

Data Collection	On-line questionnaires
On-going Research	Use previously reported data
Data Dissemination	Improvements to website
Public Data Base	Improve access, features, and look of Quick Stats

All reports available at:	www.nass.usda.gov
Questions via phone	(202) 720 - 3896 (800) 727 - 9540
Questions via internet	nass@usda.gov

Day 1 Breakout Sessions

All times Eastern	**Session A**	**Session B**
1:00 p.m.	AMS Market News *Agricultural Marketing Service*	Climate Information for Informed Decision Making *World Agricultural Outlook Board*
1:55 p.m.	**10 Minute Break**	
2:05 p.m.	NASS Grain Stocks Program *National Agricultural Statistics Service*	Foreign Production, Trade, and Import/Export Data *World Agricultural Outlook Board, Foreign Agricultural Service, and U.S. Census Bureau*

Links to join can be found in

- Your registration or reminder email
- Emailed Booklet, page 5
- Chat window

USDA Data Users' Meeting

April 14, 2021

AMS Market News

AMS Market News presents:

- International Markets of Interest and Areas of Collaboration
- MARS/ My Market News
- Voluntary Poultry and Egg Reporting

International Markets of Interest and Areas of Collaboration

- Selected commodity markets in key trading partners
- Partnerships and aligned efforts to enhance information availability
- Shared information products and data visualization tools

Selected Markets in Key Trading Partners

- Specialty Crops Market News
- Dairy Market News
- Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News

Specialty Crops Market News

- Shipping Point markets for imports
  - Over 200 commodities reported on a seasonal basis
- Wholesale markets in selected key locations
  - Rotterdam, Toronto, Mexico City, et cetera
- Imports and crossings from Canada and Mexico
  - Daily volume for over 700 commodities

Specialty Crops Market News

- New report *United States Mexico Canada Agreement Seasonable Perishable Products Weekly Update*
  - Weekly narrative on the market conditions impacting selected perishable agricultural commodities
  - Aggregated view of specific datasets covered in the Agreement
  - Graphic visualizations of price and movement trends

Dairy Market News

- 15 Biweekly International Dairy Reports
  - Europe: Butter, butteroil, SMP, whey and WMP
  - Oceania: Butter, cheese, SMP, and WMP. Plus, Global Dairy Trade
  - South America: SMP and WMP
  - Regional Overview reports

Dairy Market News

- Market Commentary and Pricing
  - Price changes and market tone
  - Production and stocks trends
  - Supply/demand factors
  - Complementary products/shipping
  - Other statistics – production, stocks, exports,…

Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News

Provides multiple reports with international information, including import, export, and slaughter data

- Import data:
  - Livestock Mandatory Reporting – Cattle and Swine
  - Imported beef
  - Feeder cattle from Mexico and feeder pigs from Canada
  - Live animal imports from Canada
  - Imported meat passed for entry into the U.S. (data is from FSIS)

Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News

- Export data:
  - Livestock Mandatory Reporting – Pork (volume and sub primal cut details) and Beef (volume only)
  - Cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, horses, and exotics to Mexico
  - National mechanically separated chicken

Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News

- Other International Information:
  - Canada: livestock prices, federally inspected slaughter, egg market
  - Mexico: wholesale market information for chicken
  - Japan: slaughter, supply and demand, retail prices

Partnerships and Aligned Efforts to Enhance Information Availability

Market Information Organization of the Americas (MIOA):

- A cooperative network of 33 nations, made up of the institutions that track and report on agricultural markets in those nations
- Purpose – to facilitate the timely and consistent exchange of reliable agricultural market information to the mutual benefit of the nations of the Americas

Partnerships and Aligned Efforts to Enhance Information Availability

Market Information Organization of the Americas (MIOA):

- Supports the development of shared information products within the regions of the Americas
- Coordinates technical training for information specialists, enhancing uniformity and improving information quality

Partnerships and Aligned Efforts to Enhance Information Availability

- Challenges of international partnerships:
  - Staff and even organizations can change suddenly
  - Previous training and development programs may be cancelled
  - Resources and government support are often limited
  - Divergent market practices and varied commodities of importance

Partnerships and Aligned Efforts to Enhance Information Availability

- Advantages of international partnerships:
  - A direct influence on processes and procedures
  - An awareness of emerging trends in the market
  - An opportunity to lead harmonization on products of common interest
  - Exposure to new information products and tools for data visualization

Shared Information Products and Data Visualization Tools

- Regional networks, primarily for data visualization
  - SIMMAGRO, a FAO-supported platform in use by the MIOA partners in the Central Region

- Product Catalog/ Product Dictionary
  - Central Region's 39-product catalog, includes product characteristics, various product names, nutritional data, and trade information

- Regional Market Reports
  - Central and Southern Regions' monthly reports

Shared Information Products and Data Visualization Tools

Canadian HTS Requests

- Organic Blueberries, Fresh
- Organic Blueberries, Frozen
- Organic Natural Honey
- Organic Apples
- Organic Peppers, Bell-Type
- Organic Cucumbers, Greenhouse
- Organic Potatoes, Fresh
- Organic Maple Syrup
- Organic Red Spring Wheat
- Organic Lentils, Red Dried Shelled
- Organic Lentils, Dried Shelled
- Organic Tomatoes, Greenhouse
- Organic Tomatoes, Other than Greenhouse

USDA HTS Requests

- Green Onions
- Organic Blackberries
- Organic Raspberries
- Organic Strawberries (Entered from June 15-September 15)
- Organic Strawberries (Entered at any other time)
- Tomatillos
- Cilantro

Shared Information Products and Data Visualization Tools

- My Market News: https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/
- Cotton and Tobacco Market News: https://marketnews.usda.gov/mnp/cn-home
- Dairy Market News: https://marketnews.usda.gov/mnp/da-home
- Specialty Crops Market News: https://marketnews.usda.gov/mnp/fv-home
- Livestock Poultry and Grain Market News: https://marketnews.usda.gov/mnp/ls-home
- MIOA: http://www.mioa.org/en/

MARS and My Market News

- An update on recent and upcoming changes:
  - New market type data available on MMN and through the API
  - Ability to identify corrected reports data sets through MARS and LMR API
  - New market type data sets and feature expected to be completed on MMN in next 6 months
- MMN: https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/

Voluntary Poultry and Egg Reporting

Poultry and Egg Update

- Transitioning to My Market News
- New Format & API Capabilities
- Reporting Improvements

MMN Reports & Data: https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/

Voluntary Poultry and Egg Reporting

Eggs

- Reporting frequency
- Consolidating area and regional reporting
- Expanding and nationalizing spot market reporting

Chicken

- Reporting frequency
- Nationalizing chicken parts

Voluntary Poultry and Egg Reporting

Turkey

- Reporting frequency
- Expanding turkey parts

Miscellaneous

- Expanding and nationalizing duck and rabbit reporting
- Consolidating several reports into a single report

Thank You

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Climate Information in Support of the WASDE:

New Products → New Techniques

Mark D. Brusberg
Chief Meteorologist
USDA Office of the Chief Economist / World Agricultural Outlook Board

Presented to the

2021 NASS Spring Data Users' Meeting

Session: Climate Information for Informed Decision Making

April 14, 2021

WASDE Report

World Agricultural Outlook Board

waob

ISSN: 1554-9089

World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates

United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Chief Economist	Agricultural Marketing Service Farm Service Agency	Economic Research Service Foreign Agricultural Service

WASDE - 510 | Approved by the World Agricultural Outlook Board | September 12, 2012

WHEAT: The 2012/13 U.S. wheat balance sheet is unchanged this month; however, small by-class adjustments are made to projected exports and stocks. Projected exports for Hard Red Winter wheat are lowered 25 million bushels with Hard Red Spring and White wheat exports raised 15 million bushels and 10 million bushels, respectively. Corresponding changes are made to projected ending stocks for these three classes. The projected price is lowered to $7.50 to $8.70 per bushel. Prices reported for the summer months, when producers remained well below cash bids and futures prices earlier in the year.

Global wheat supplies for 2012/13 are projected 3.1 million tons lower mostly due to lower expected production in Russia. An increase in foreign beginning stocks partly offsets the projected 4.1-million-ton reduction in world wheat output. Beginning stocks are raised for Canada and Egypt, but lowered for Argentina. Production for Russia is reduced 4.0 million tons with lower reported area and reduced yields as harvest results confirm additional drought and heat damage to both the winter and spring wheat crops. Production is also lowered 0.5 million tons for adjoining Kazakhstan, which experienced the same adverse drought and heat during July and August that affected spring wheat in the central and eastern growing regions of Russia. EU-27 production is lowered 0.5 million tons mostly reflecting lower expected yields in the United Kingdom. Ukraine production is raised 0.5 million tons based on higher reported yields. Production for Afghanistan is raised 0.4 million tons mostly on higher reported area.

Global wheat consumption for 2012/13 is lowered ... residual use in Russia and Kazakhstan. Food use ... additional reductions projected for food use in Egypt, Afghanistan, Iran, and Libya.

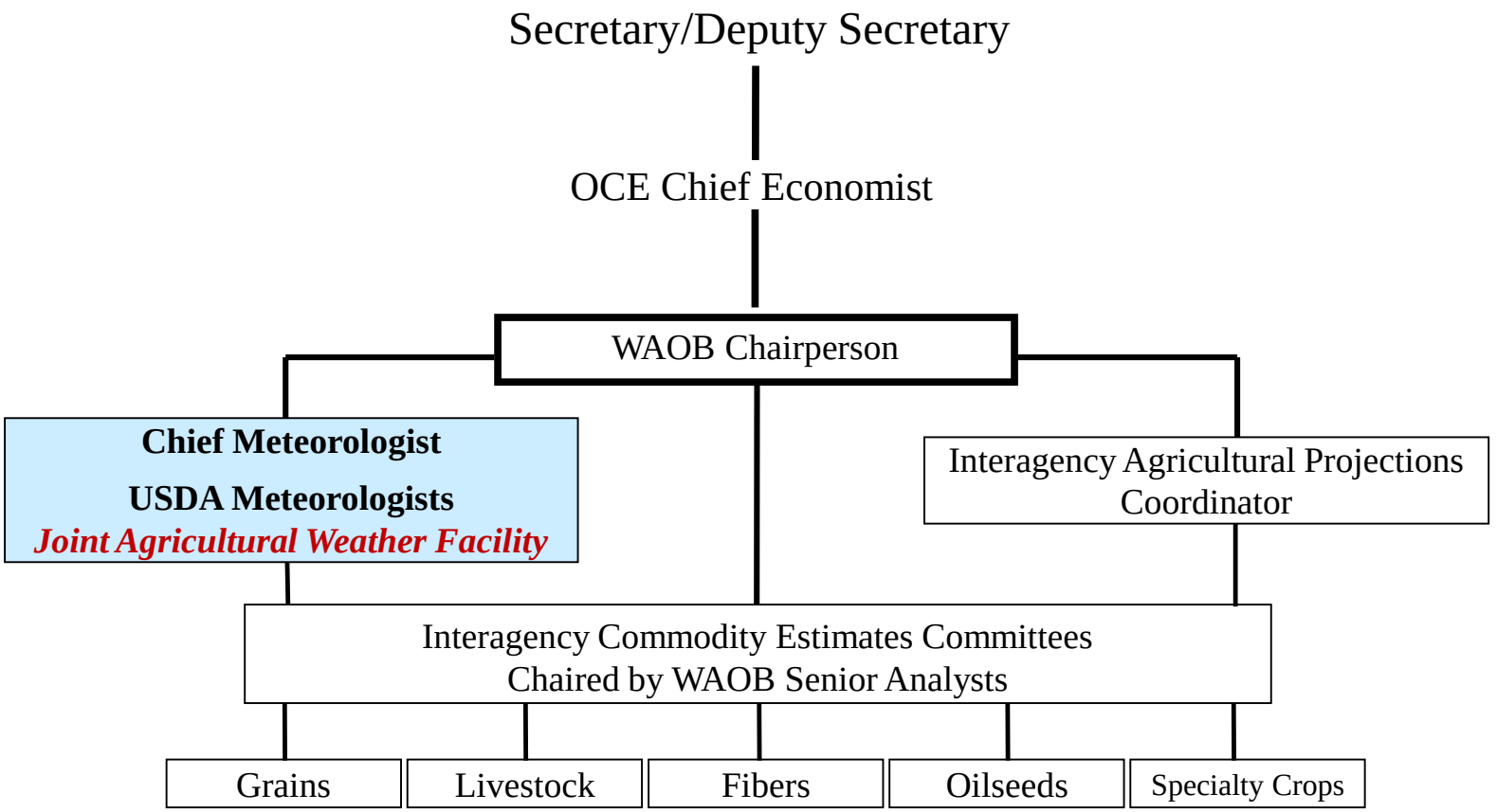
Global wheat trade for 2012/13 is lowered slightly ... EU-27, Israel, and Nigeria. Import increases for ... Exports are reduced 2.0 million tons for Ukraine ... government officials and grain traders to limit ship... domestic supplies. Higher expected exports for ... Ukraine reduction.

World ending stocks for 2012/13 are projected 0.5 million tons lower with changes to a number of countries. The largest declines in stocks are for Russia, EU-27, China, Brazil, and Argentina. The largest increases are for Ukraine, Canada, Iran, and Turkey.

COARSE GRAINS: U.S. feed grain supplies for 2012/13 are projected higher this month with a reduction in forecast corn production more than offset by higher projected corn carryin. U.S. corn production is lowered 52 million bushels with the national average yield forecast 0.6 bushels per acre lower at 122.8 bushels. Lower yields and production in the Corn Belt and Central Plains are partly

https://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity/wasde/index.htm

USDA Situation and Outlook Organizational Structure



Partnership with NOAA

USDA/NOAA Memorandum of Understanding

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE
U.S. Department of Commerce
AND THE
U.S. Department of Agriculture

I. General Information

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) has responsibility for supporting and sustaining economic growth and development, and, through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), has responsibility for understanding, monitoring, and predicting weather and climate, including variations and changes in climate extremes, oceans, and coasts, and for sharing knowledge and information of interest to agriculture, forestry, and rural and urban communities to enhance the resilience of economies and ecosystems, across the Nation;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (Agriculture) has responsibility within the Federal Government to monitor and assess national and international food supplies and natural resource conditions, and acquires, analyzes and interprets weather and climate information for the purpose of providing appropriate information related to the impacts of weather and climate on ecosystems, rural communities, forestry, and agricultural production to the people of the United States; and

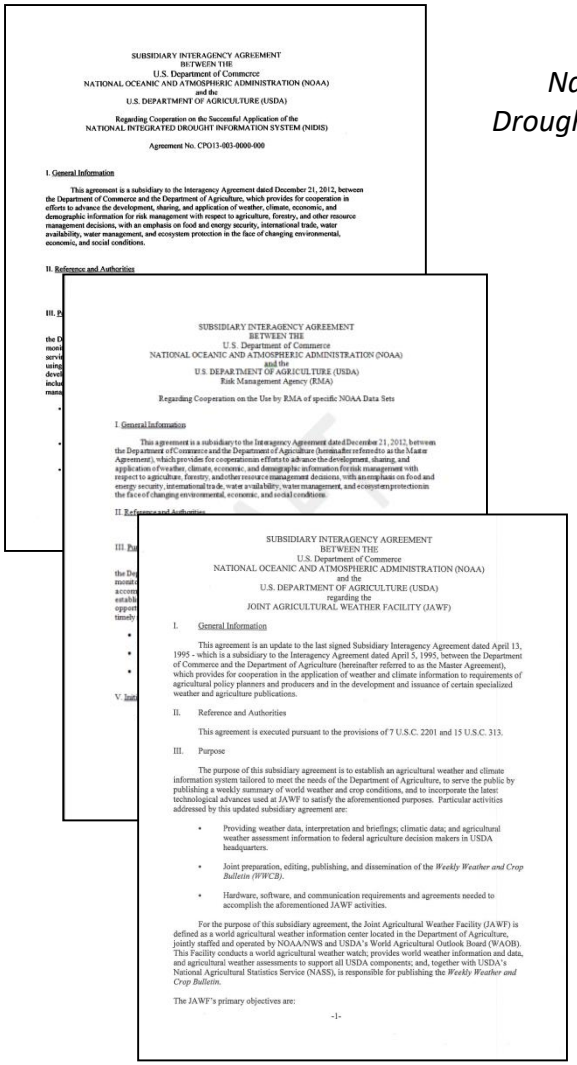
WHEREAS, there is increasing risk and vulnerability to rural and urban communities, tribal lands, the agricultural and forestry sectors, transport, and utilities from extreme weather events such as drought, flood, fire, tropical cyclones, and periods of high temperature, and there is evidence that these risks are changing due to climate change;

NOW, THEREFORE, Commerce and Agriculture enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) covering cooperative efforts to advance the development, sharing and application of weather, climate, economic and demographic information for risk management with respect to agriculture, forestry, and other resource management decisions, with an emphasis on food and energy security, international trade, water availability, water management and ecosystem protection in the face of changing environmental, economic, and social conditions.

II. Reference and Authorities

Commerce enters into this MOU pursuant to the authority vested in it by 15 U.S.C 313; Agriculture enters into this MOU pursuant to the authority vested in it by 7 U.S.C. 2201. This MOU supersedes the 1995 agreement between the two Departments relating to coordination and cooperation in climate and weather matters.

Subsidiary Agreements



SUBSIDIARY INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE
U.S. Department of Commerce
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA)
and the
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)

Regarding Cooperation on the Successful Application of the
NATIONAL INTEGRATED DROUGHT INFORMATION SYSTEM (NIDIS)

Agreement No. CPO13-003-0000-000

I. General Information

This agreement is a subsidiary to the Interagency Agreement dated December 21, 2012, between the Department of Commerce and the Department of Agriculture, which provides for cooperation in efforts to advance the development, sharing, and application of weather, climate, economic, and demographic information for risk management with respect to agriculture, forestry, and other resource management decisions, with an emphasis on food and energy security, international trade, water availability, water management, and ecosystem protection in the face of changing environmental, economic, and social conditions.

II. Reference and Authorities

National Integrated Drought Information System

SUBSIDIARY INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE
U.S. Department of Commerce
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA)
and the
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
Risk Management Agency (RMA)

Regarding Cooperation on the Use by RMA of specific NOAA Data Sets

I. General Information

This agreement is a subsidiary to the Interagency Agreement dated December 21, 2012, between the Department of Commerce and the Department of Agriculture (hereinafter referred to as the Master Agreement), which provides for cooperation in efforts to advance the development, sharing, and application of weather, climate, economic, and demographic information for risk management with respect to agriculture, forestry, and other resource management decisions, with an emphasis on food and energy security, international trade, water availability, water management, and ecosystem protection in the face of changing environmental, economic, and social conditions.

II. Reference and Authorities

Risk Management Agency

SUBSIDIARY INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE
U.S. Department of Commerce
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA)
and the
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
regarding the
JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY (JAWF)

I. General Information

This agreement is an update to the last signed Subsidiary Interagency Agreement dated April 13, 1995 - which is a subsidiary to the Interagency Agreement dated April 5, 1995, between the Department of Commerce and the Department of Agriculture (hereinafter referred to as the Master Agreement), which provides for cooperation in the application of weather and climate information to requirements of agricultural policy planners and producers and in the development and issuance of certain specialized weather and agriculture publications.

II. Reference and Authorities

This agreement is executed pursuant to the provisions of 7 U.S.C. 2201 and 15 U.S.C. 313.

III. Purpose

The purpose of this subsidiary agreement is to establish an agricultural weather and climate information system tailored to meet the needs of the Department of Agriculture, to serve the public by publishing a weekly summary of world weather and crop conditions, and to incorporate the latest technological advances used at JAWF to satisfy the aforementioned purposes. Particular activities addressed by this updated subsidiary agreement are:

- Providing weather data, interpretation and briefings; climatic data; and agricultural weather assessment information to federal agriculture decision makers in USDA headquarters.
- Joint preparation, editing, publishing, and dissemination of the *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin (WWCB)*.
- Hardware, software, and communication requirements and agreements needed to accomplish the aforementioned JAWF activities.

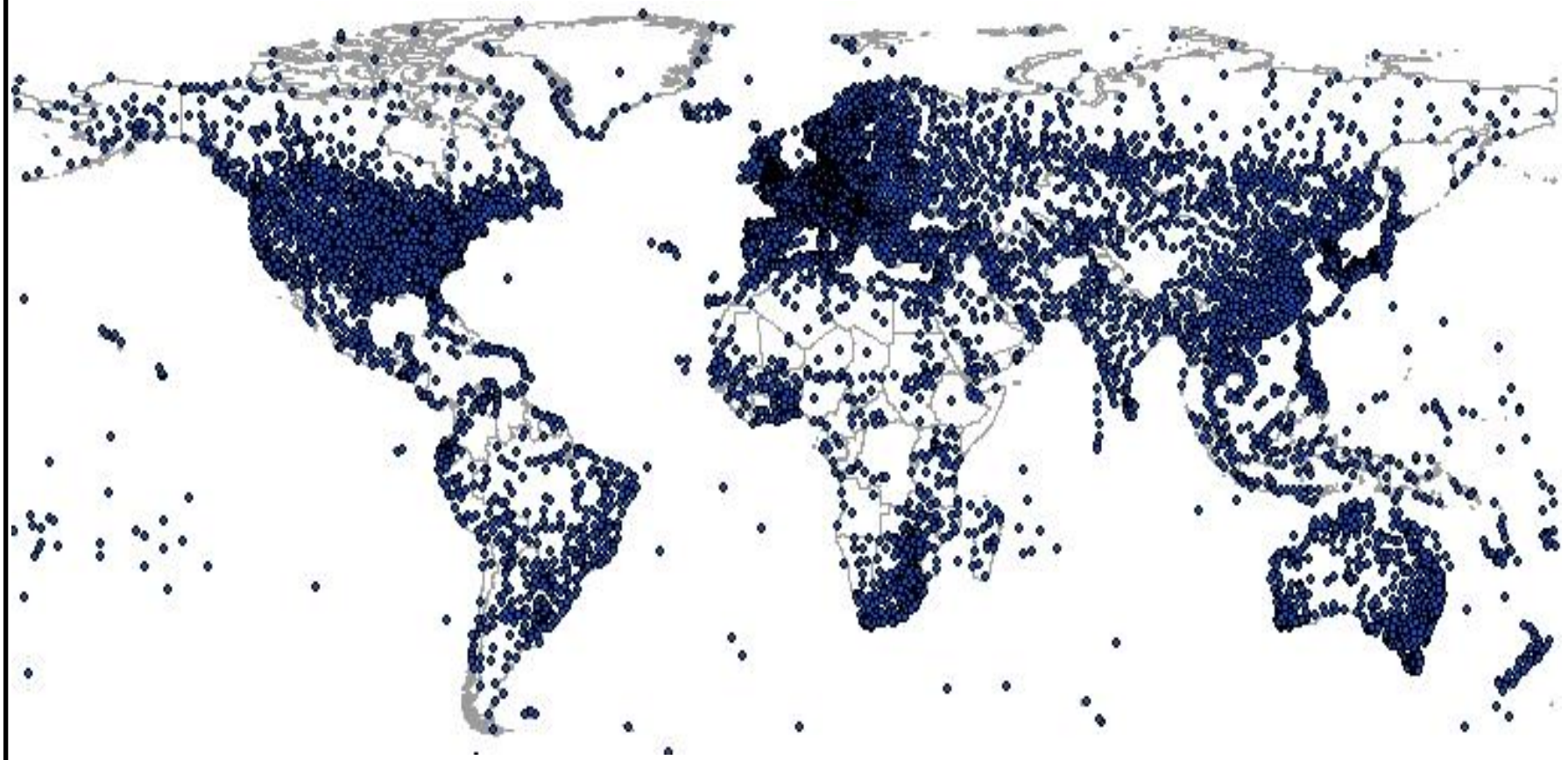
For the purpose of this subsidiary agreement, the Joint Agricultural Weather Facility (JAWF) is defined as a world agricultural weather information center located in the Department of Agriculture, jointly staffed and operated by NOAA/NWS and USDA's World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB). This Facility conducts a world agricultural weather watch; provides world weather information and data, and agricultural weather assessments to support all USDA components; and, together with USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), is responsible for publishing the *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin*.

The JAWF's primary objectives are:

-1-

Joint Agricultural Weather Facility

* Random sampling of available daily weather data



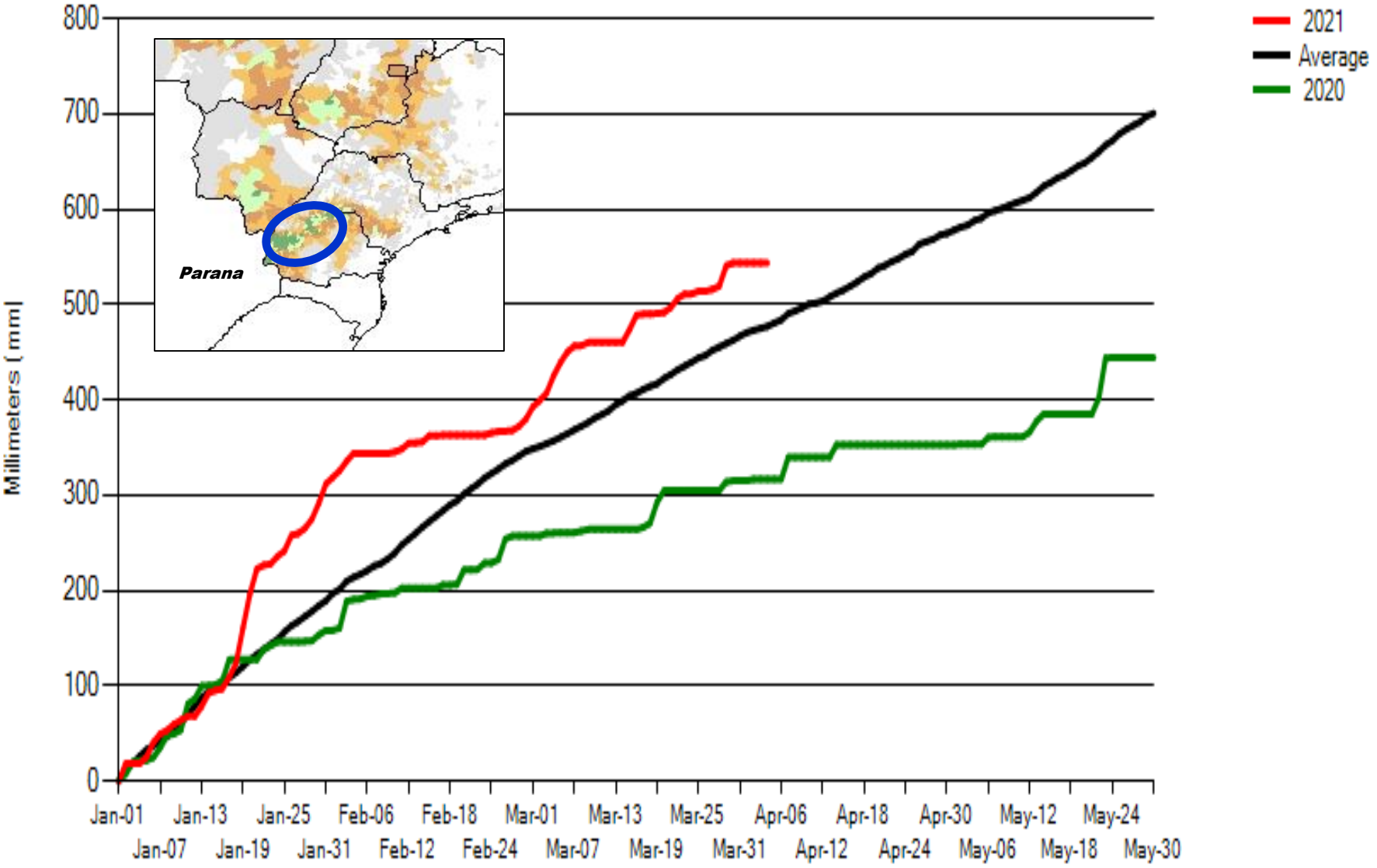
*** Most have data since at least 1982 (many with normals)**

Location of weather stations received daily via the WMO[1]

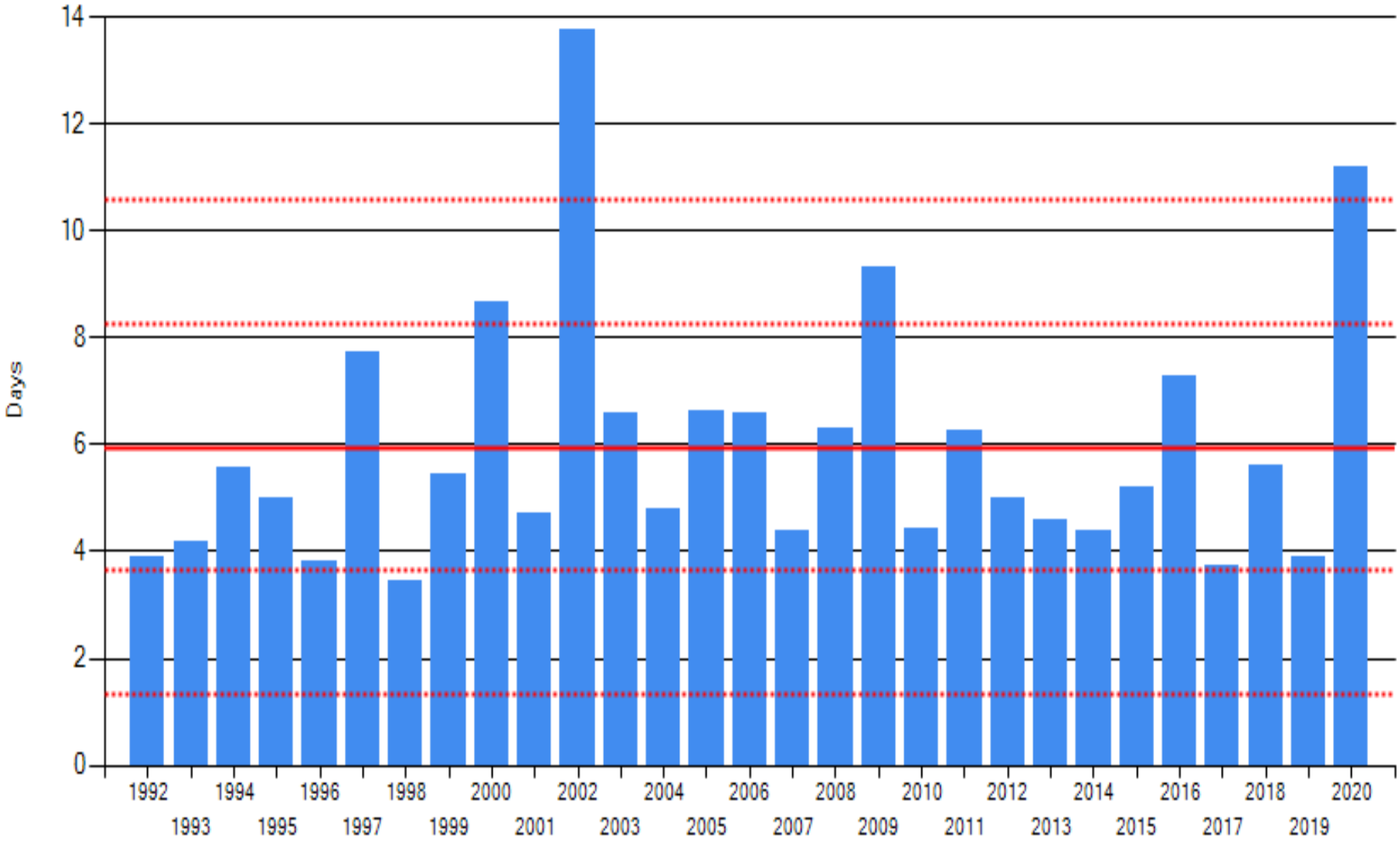
[1] United Nations World Meteorological Organization

19 - PARANA2

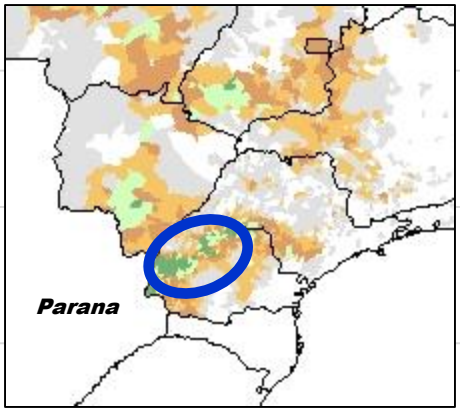
Cumulative Precipitation



19 - PARANA2
Average Days Between Rainfall: Mar 1 to Apr 30



Parana: 2nd Crop Corn
Observed vs Forecast Yield (kg/ha)



Yield estimate: ~4.9 mT/ha
(Trend: ~5.6)

<u>Significant Weather Parameters</u>
Mar & Apr: Days Between Rain
Mar & May: Average Temperature

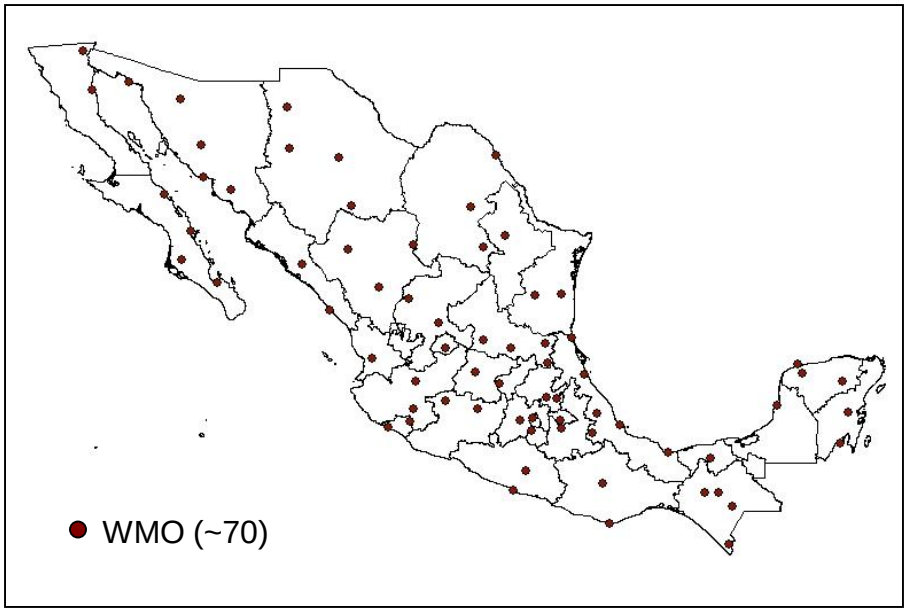
Adjusted R^2: .93
Standard Error: 383

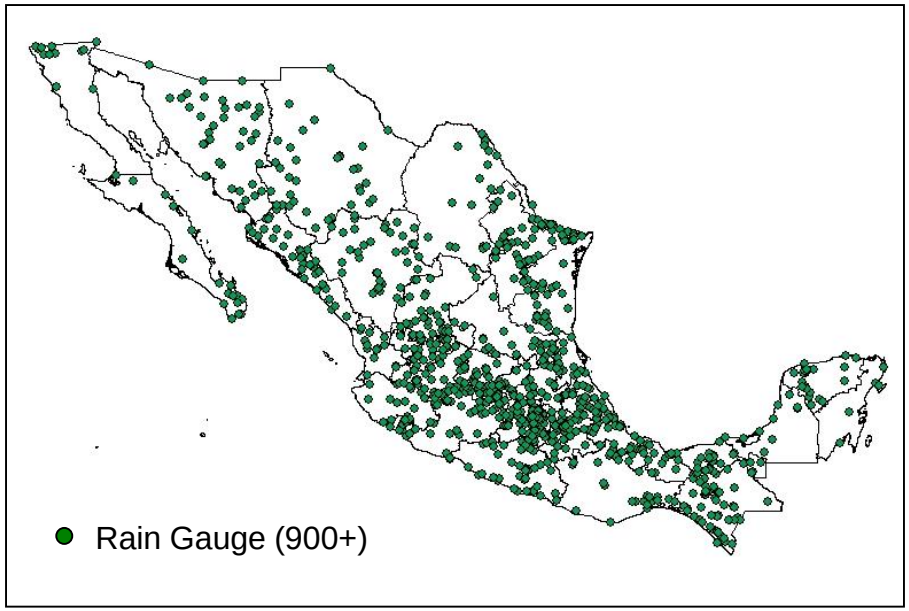
7,000
6,000
5,000
4,000
3,000
2,000
1,000
-

1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020

Observed Predicted

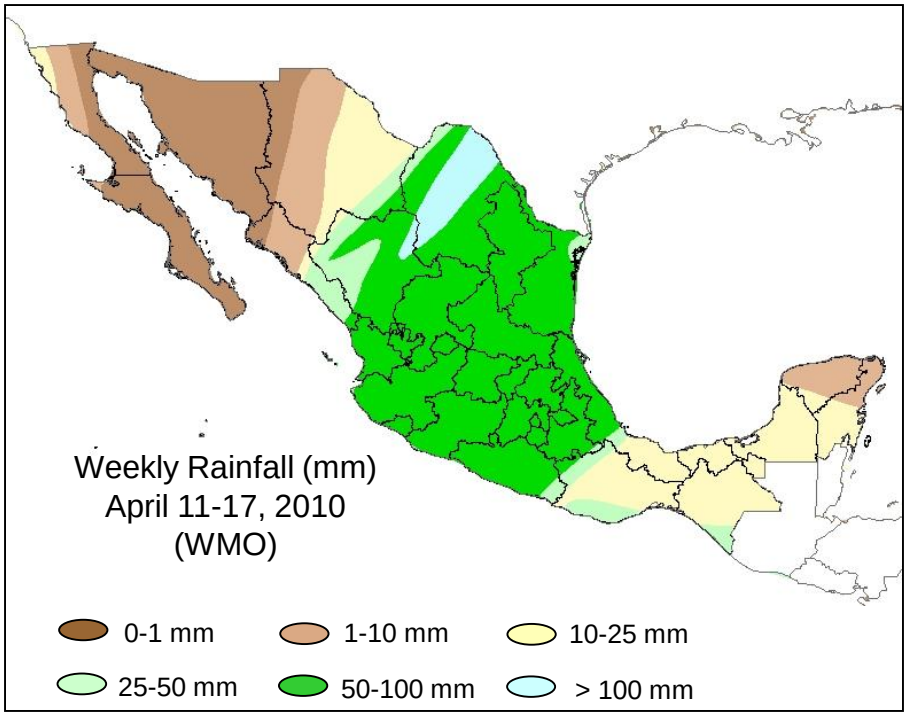
Primary vs. Secondary sources of weather data

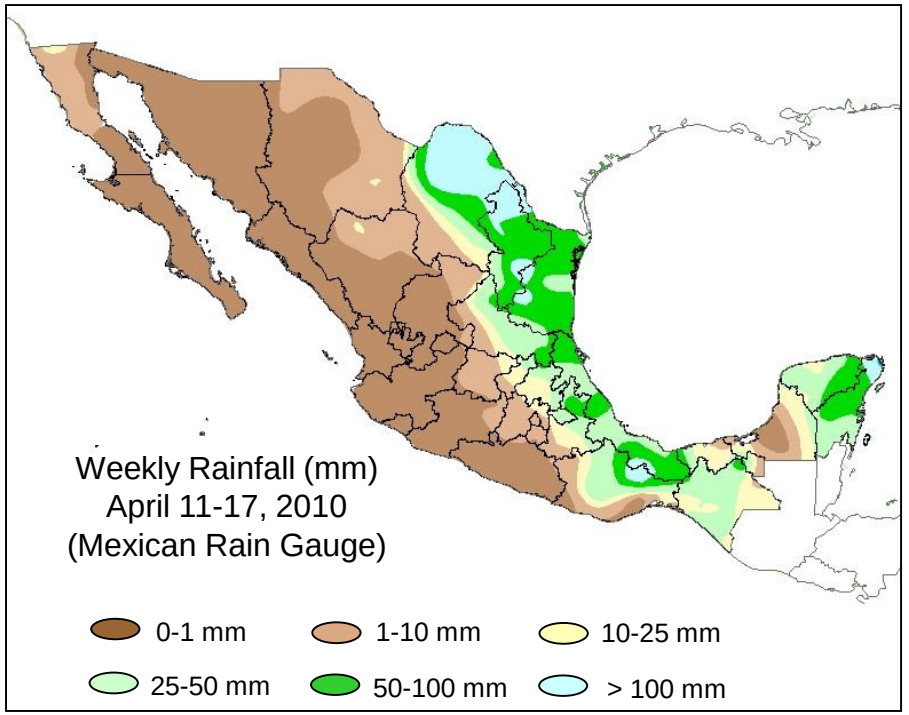




Data obtained by CPC from the Mexican weather bureau are incorporated into the weekly rainfall chart created for the *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin* and are provided separately to USDA analysts for their analysis of crop weather impacts.

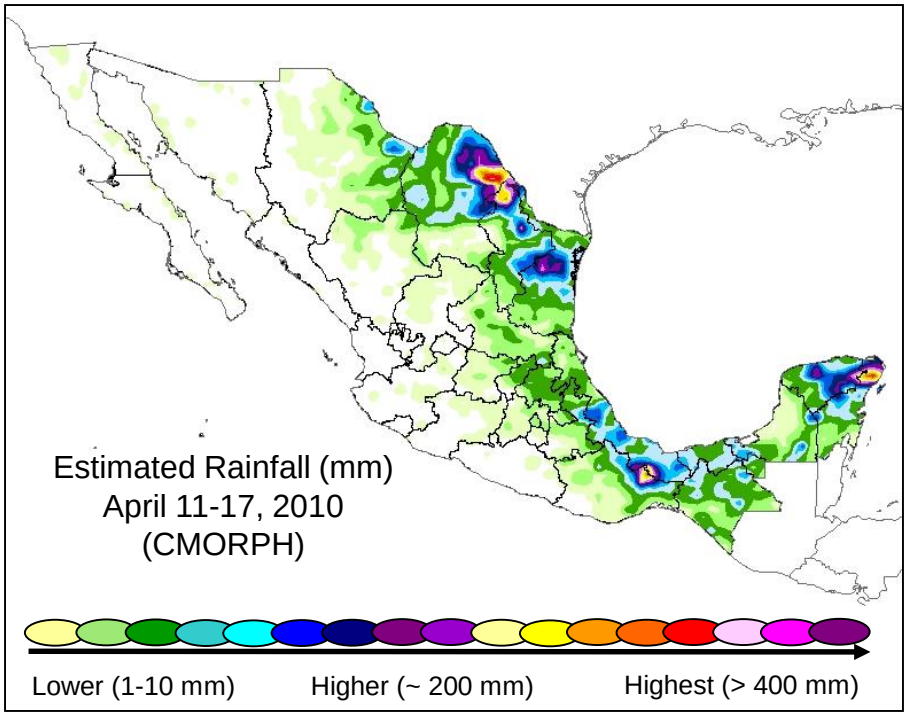
Primary vs. Secondary sources of weather data

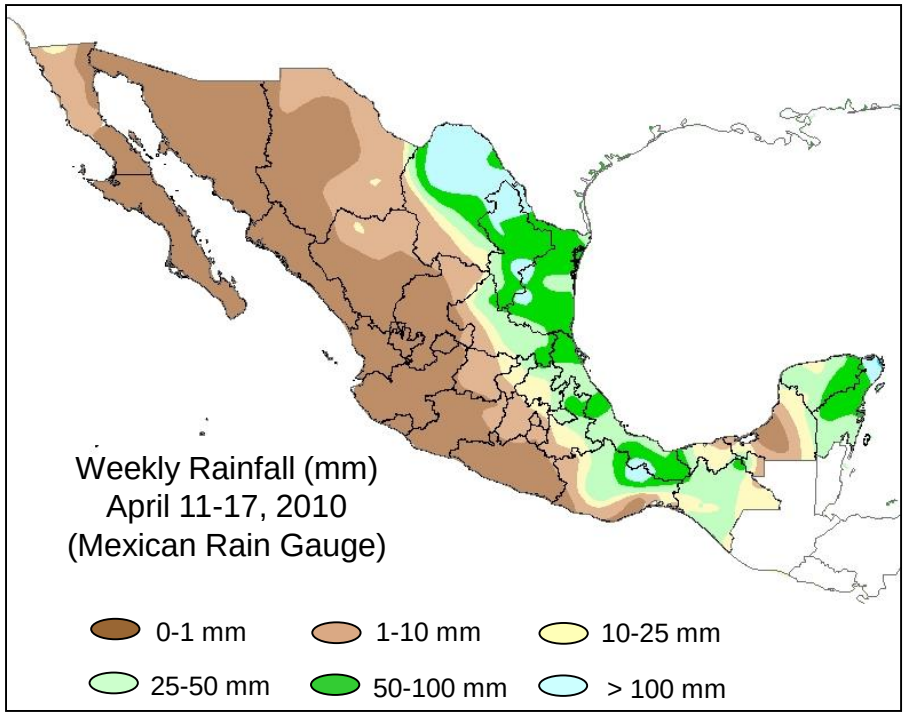




The maps above highlight the differences that arise using WMO data, which are sparse in coverage, versus the supplemental rain gauge data, which provides a denser network of stations and a better representation of rainfall.

Primary vs. Secondary sources of weather data



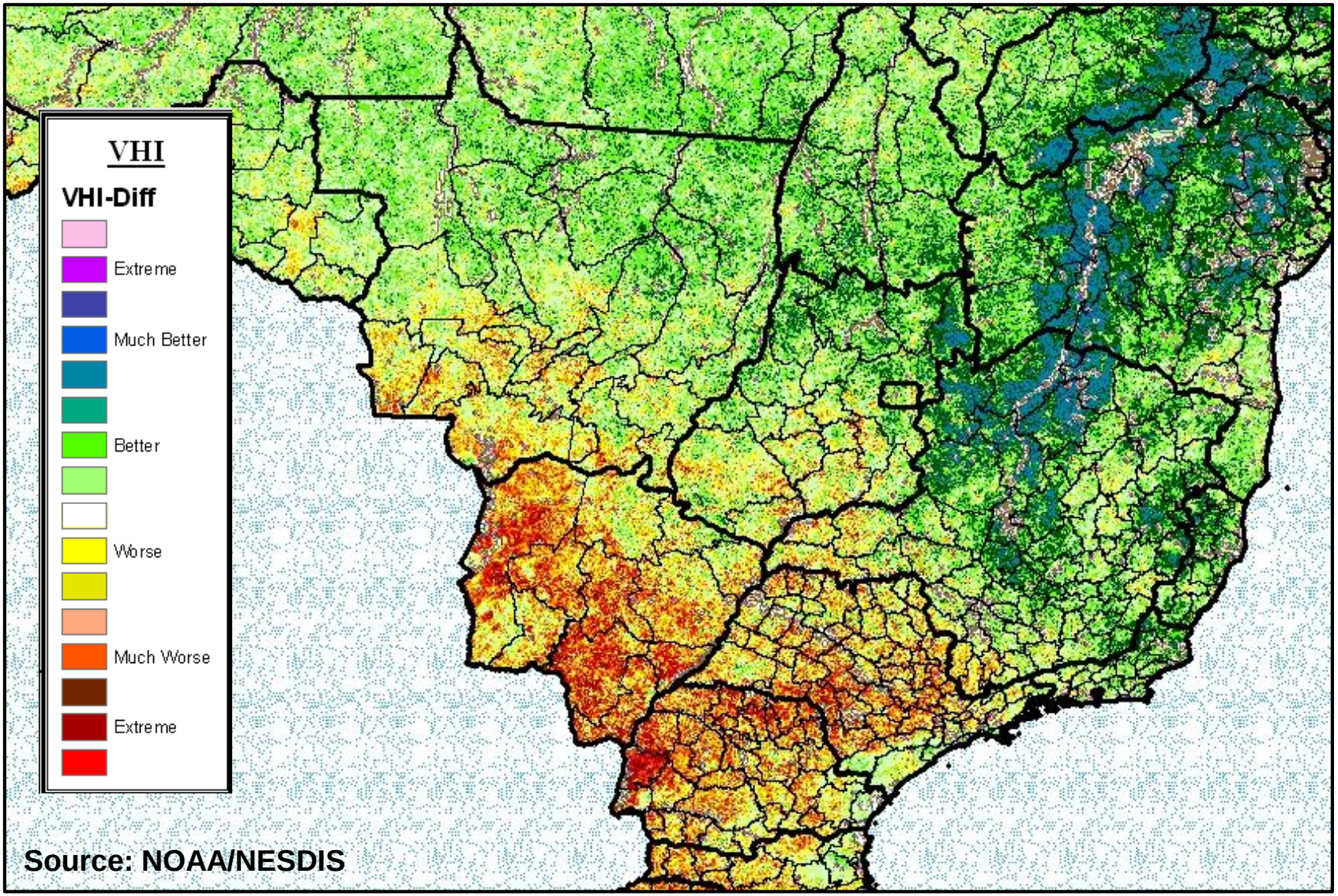


Comparison with other sources of information, including satellite derived estimates (CMORPH), support the rain gauge analysis.

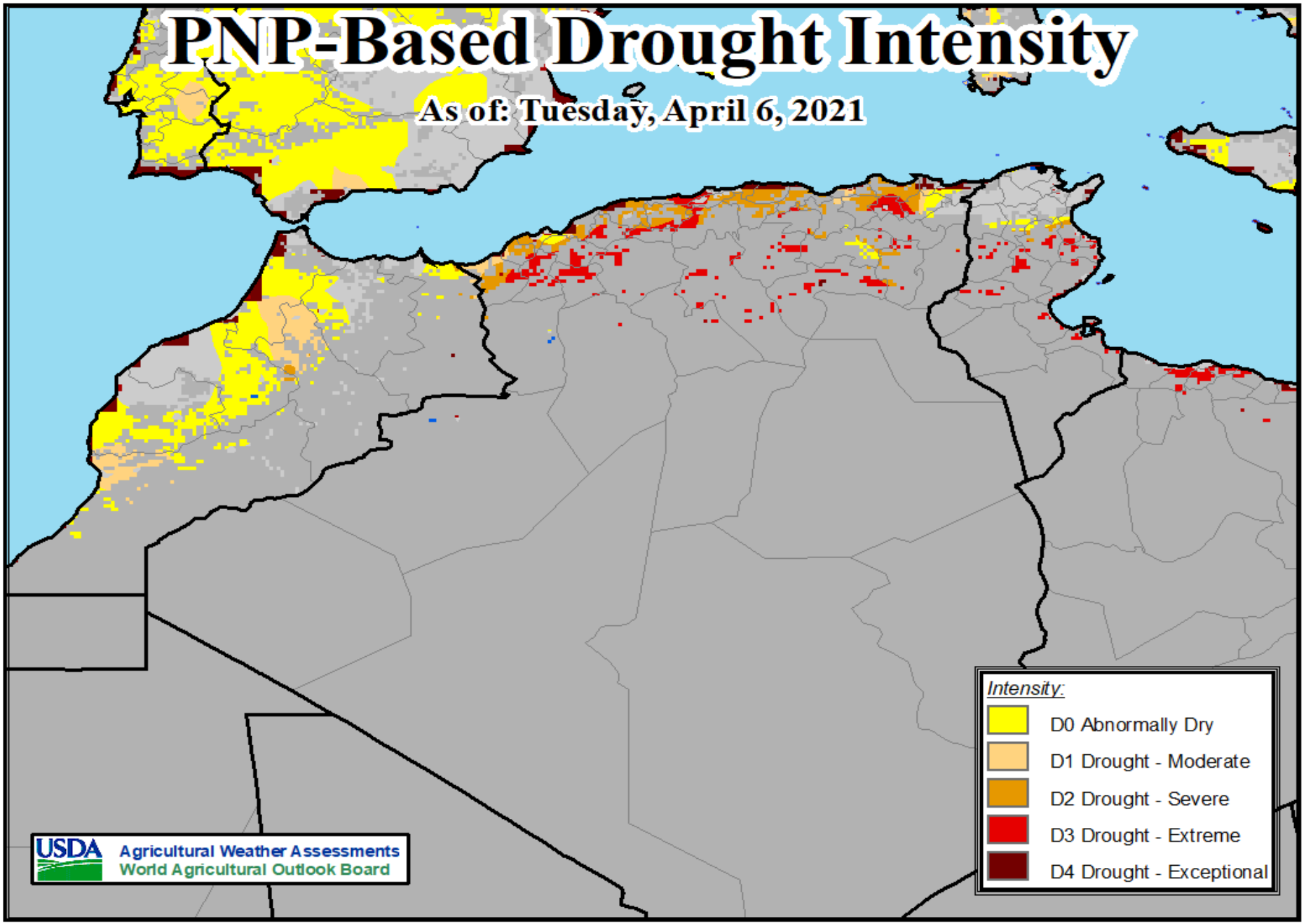
https://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/SOURCES/.NOAA/.NCEP/.CPC/.CMORPH/index.html?Set-Language=en

Vegetative Health Index: Year-to-Year Difference

April 27-29 (2020 vs 2017)

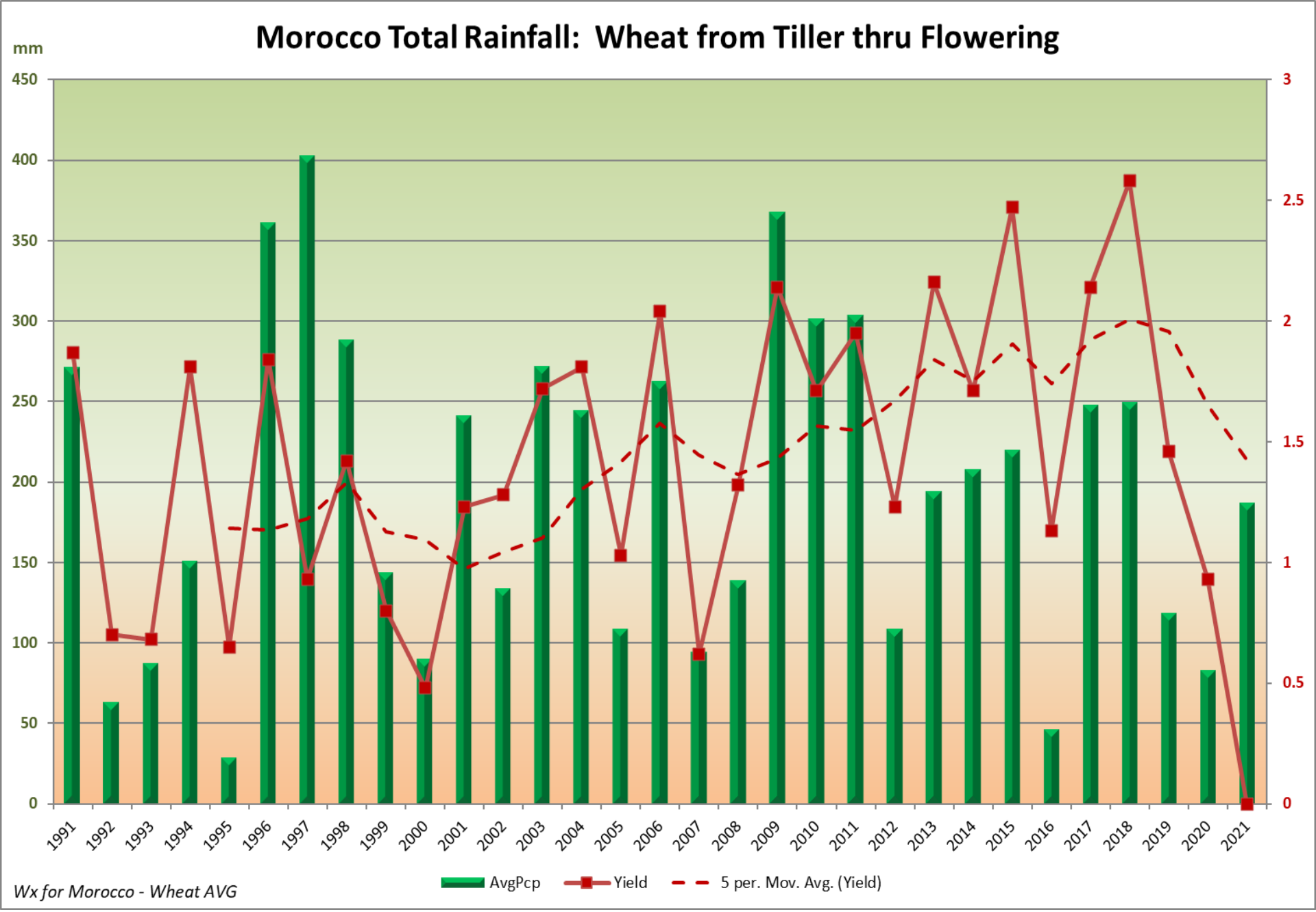


https://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/smcd/emb/vci/VH/vh_browse.php



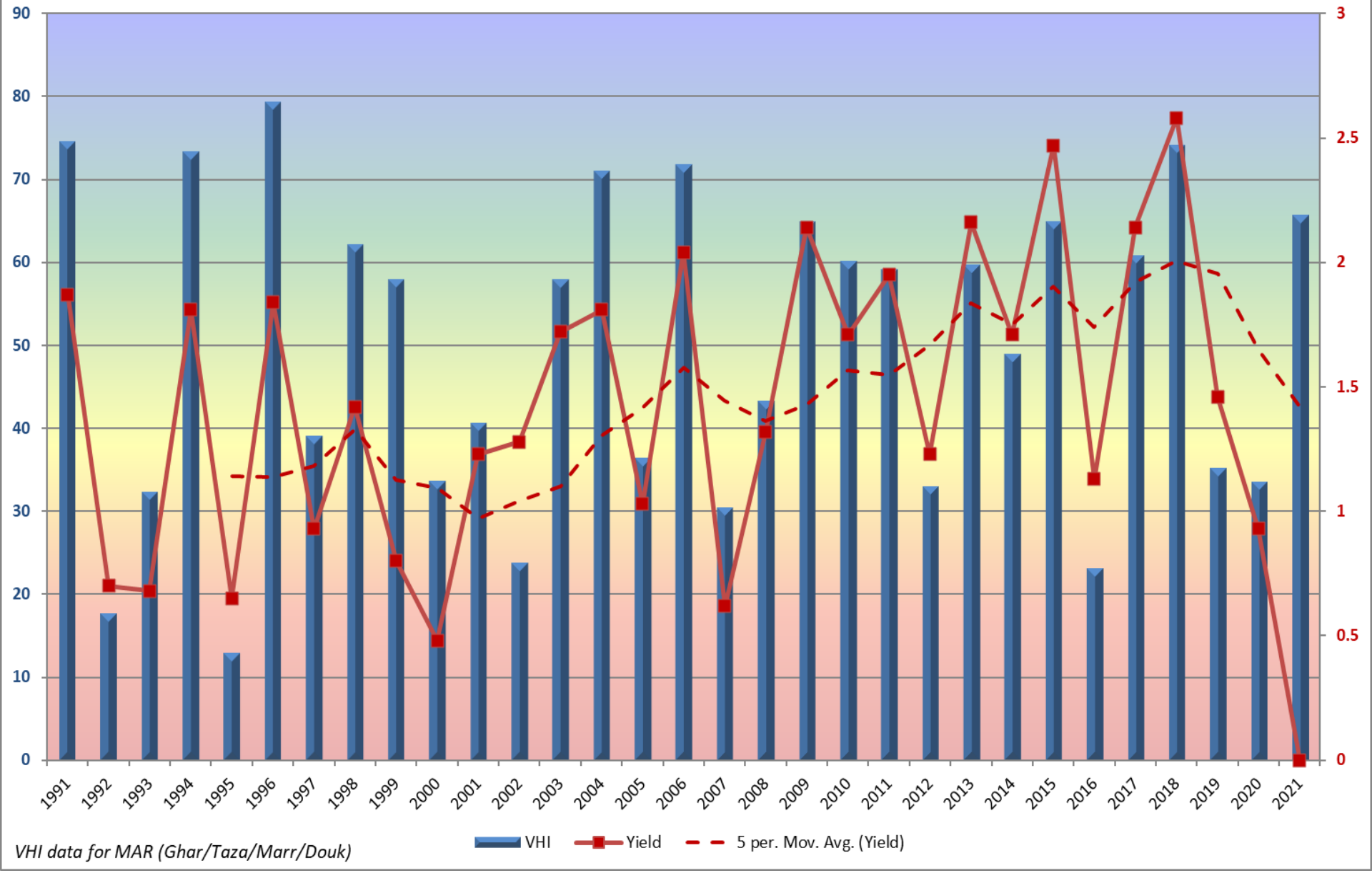
USDA Agricultural Weather Assessments
World Agricultural Outlook Board

Morocco Total Rainfall: Wheat from Tiller thru Flowering



Wx for Morocco - Wheat AVG

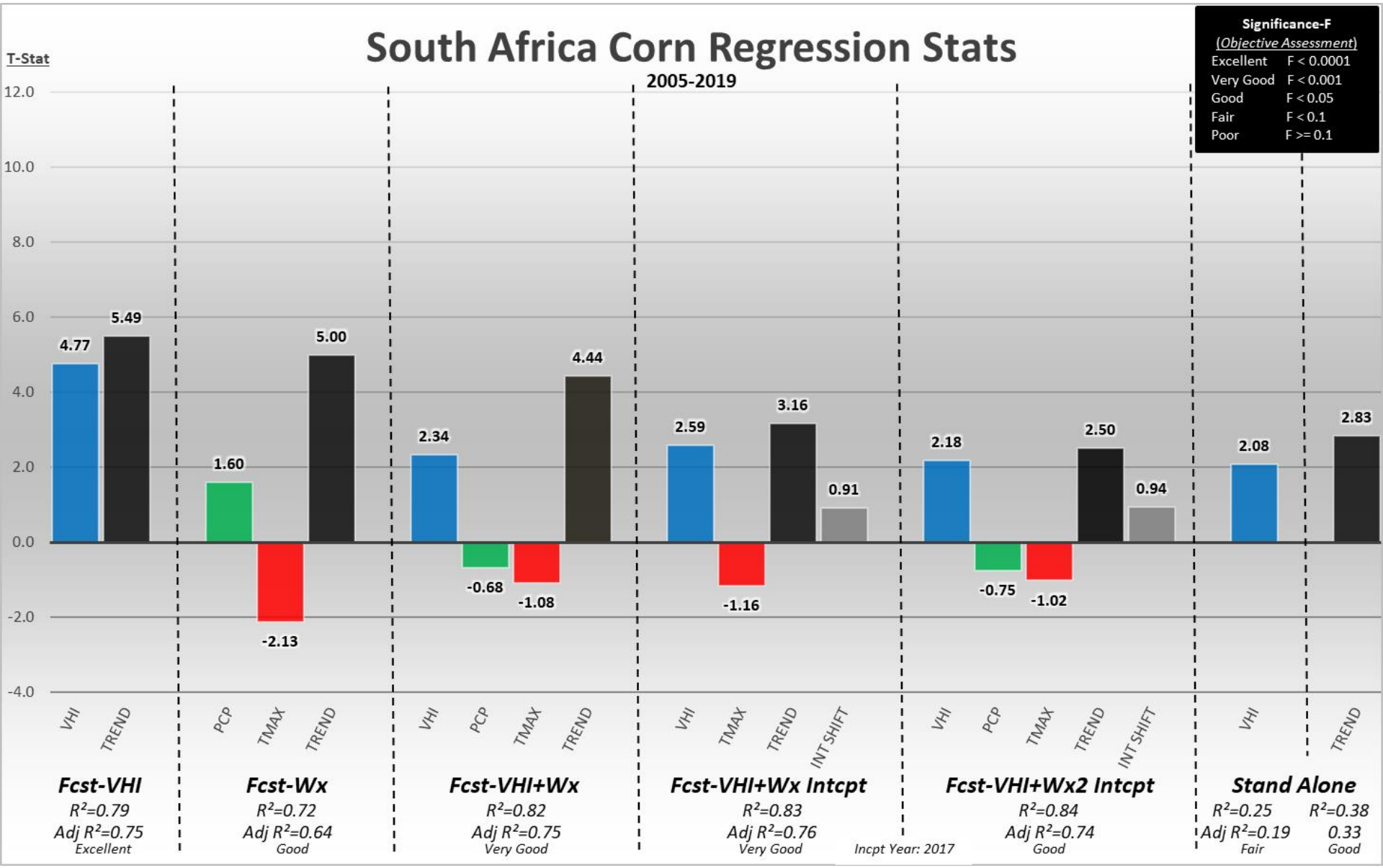
Morocco VHI for Wheat @ Heading



VHI data for MAR (Ghar/Taza/Marr/Douk)

South Africa Corn Regression Stats

2005-2019



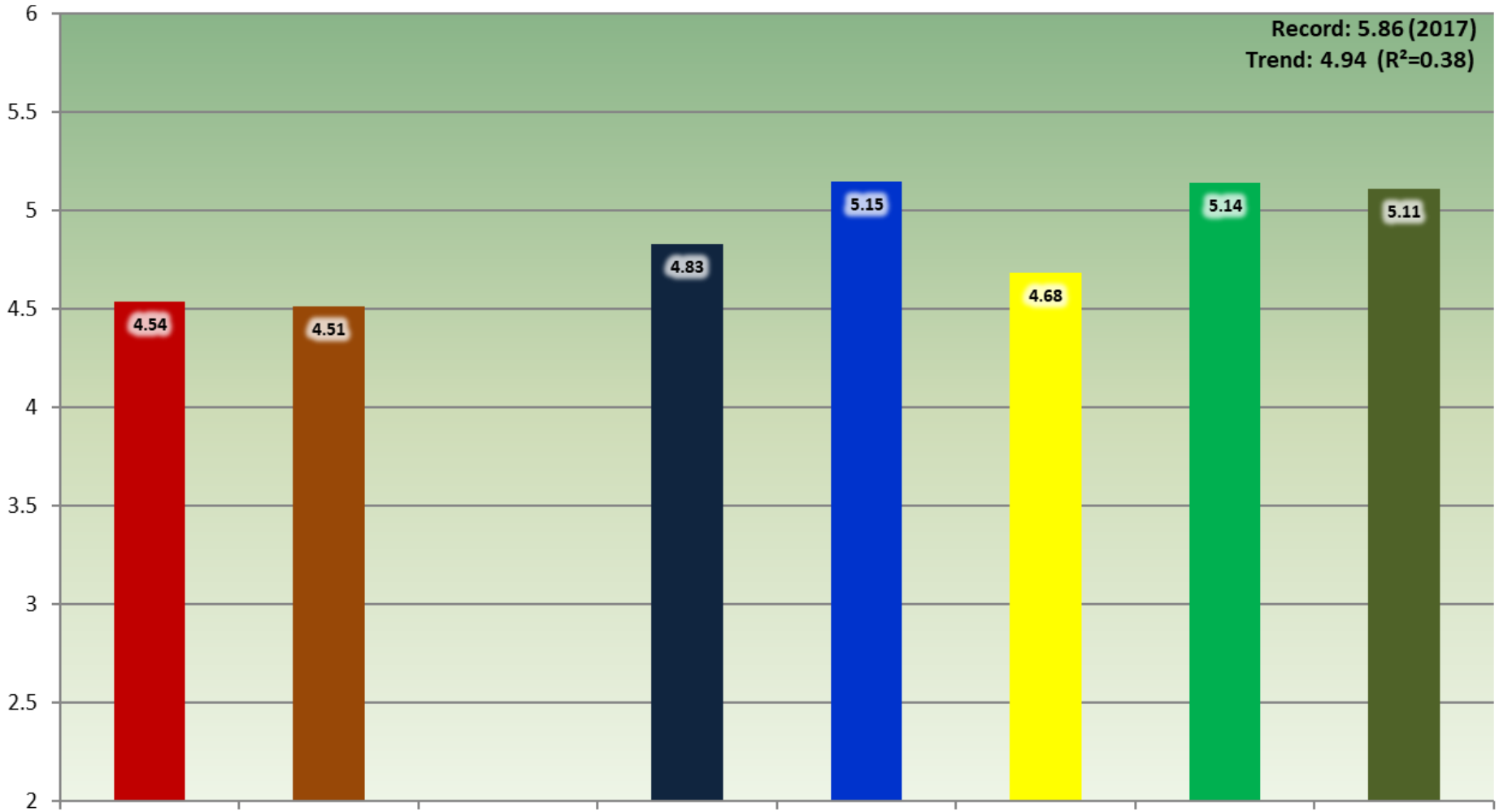
Significance-F
(Objective Assessment)

Excellent	F < 0.0001
Very Good	F < 0.001
Good	F < 0.05
Fair	F < 0.1
Poor	F >= 0.1

2/10/2020

South Africa Corn Regression

Regression: 2005-2019
Median Regression Yield: 5.12



*Includes Trend

USDA Agricultural Weather Assessments
World Agricultural Outlook Board

Thank You!

mark.brusberg@usda.gov

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ECONOMIST

- About Us
- Newsroom
- Agricultural Outlook Forum
- Commodity Markets
- Economic Analysis
- Energy and Environmental Policy
- Food Loss and Waste
- Labor Affairs
- Pest Management Policy

Meteorologists in USDA's World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB) provide weather assessments and real-time yield intelligence for global crop conditions in support of the monthly World Agricultural Supply and Demands Estimates (WASDE) report. WAOB's meteorologists are also responsible for the publication of the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin and are contributing authors to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

Featured

Daily U.S. Weather Highlights

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin

U.S. Agriculture Drought Monitor

https://www.usda.gov/oce/weather-drought-monitor

The U.S. Drought Monitor: Data Services and Applications

Mark Svoboda, PhD

Director and Associate Professor

and

Brian Fuchs, Monitoring Coordinator

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

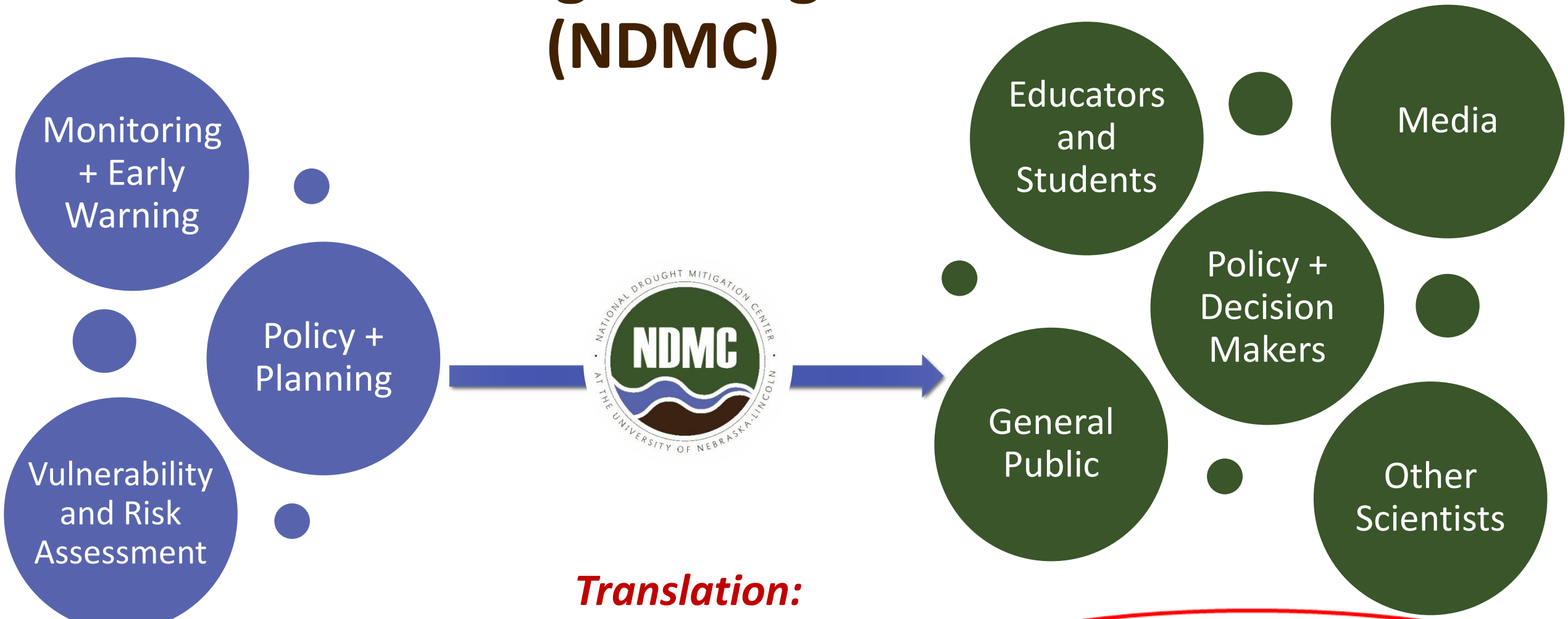
NATIONAL DROUGHT MITIGATION CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

USDA Spring Data User's Meeting

April 14-15, 2021

National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC)



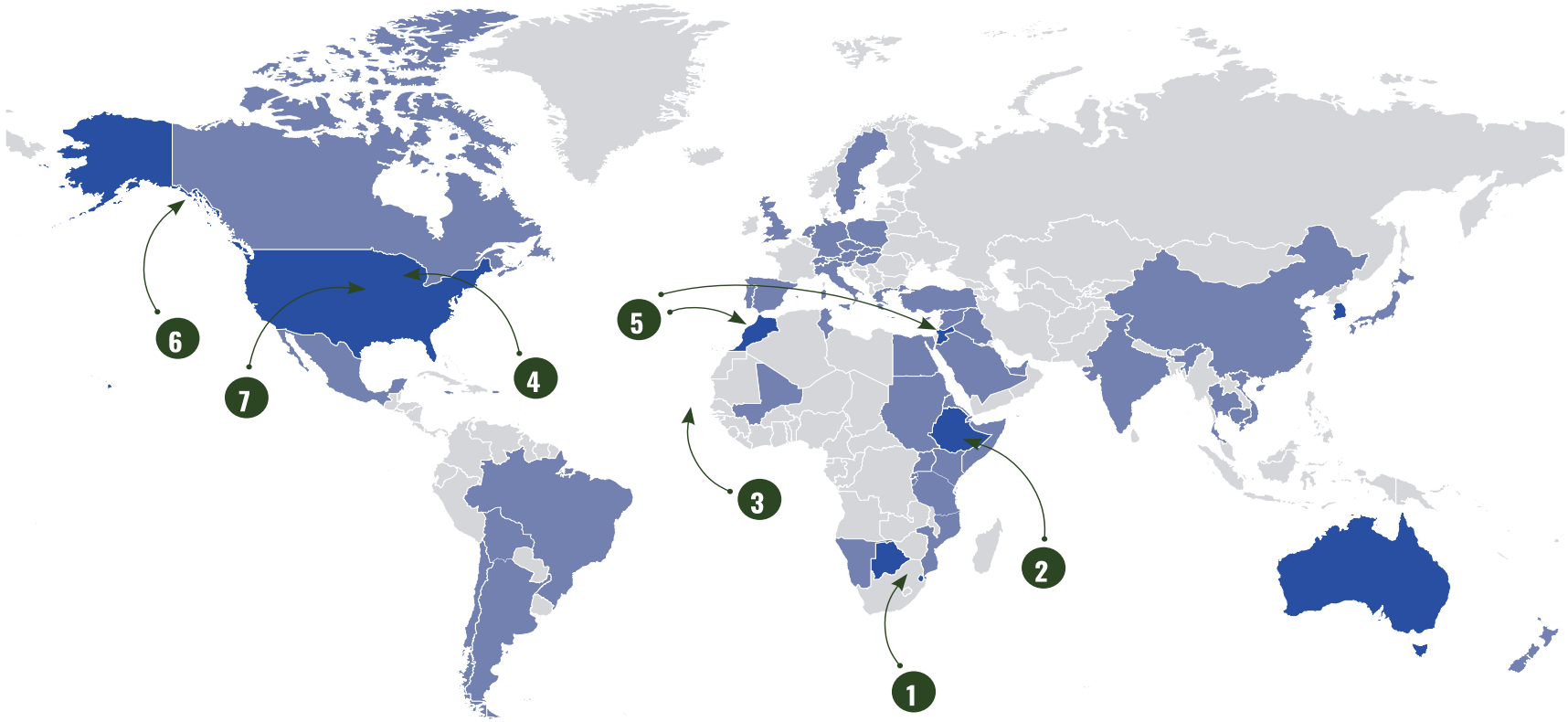
Drought Science
(Staff: 50-50 mix)

Translation:

Services, Education, Outreach, & Engagement

***Usable*, Actionable, & Policy Informing Information**

Where we work



1 Botswana and Eswatini Workshop

Location: Botswana and Eswatini

In January, National Drought Mitiga
director Mark Svoboda traveled to southe
to meet with meteorological, natural reso
emergency management and planning ex
Botswana and Eswatini thanks to a partn
the World Bank. For more information, re
the experts' 2019 visit to Lincoln on page

**2 The first-ever African Initiative f
Planetary and Space Science wo**

Location: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

In February, NDMC climatologist and rem
expert Tsegaye Tadesse participated in th
workshop, where researchers and leader
to discuss the cultural, economic and soc
impacts of space science development in
and other African nations.

**3 The Food and Agriculture Organiz
the United Nations' Global Frame
Water Scarcity (WASAG) Confere**

ney and International Water
tute staff organized a workshop
Svoboda also travelled to
ed Knutson, Hayes and NDMC
tor Deborah Bathke in Jordan in
A project workshop.

ght Workshop

aau, Alaska

nke facilitated a drought workshop
f the center's work with the U.S.
iculture. The event was designed
olders to transition from a snow to
tem.

l Workshop

rara, Nebraska

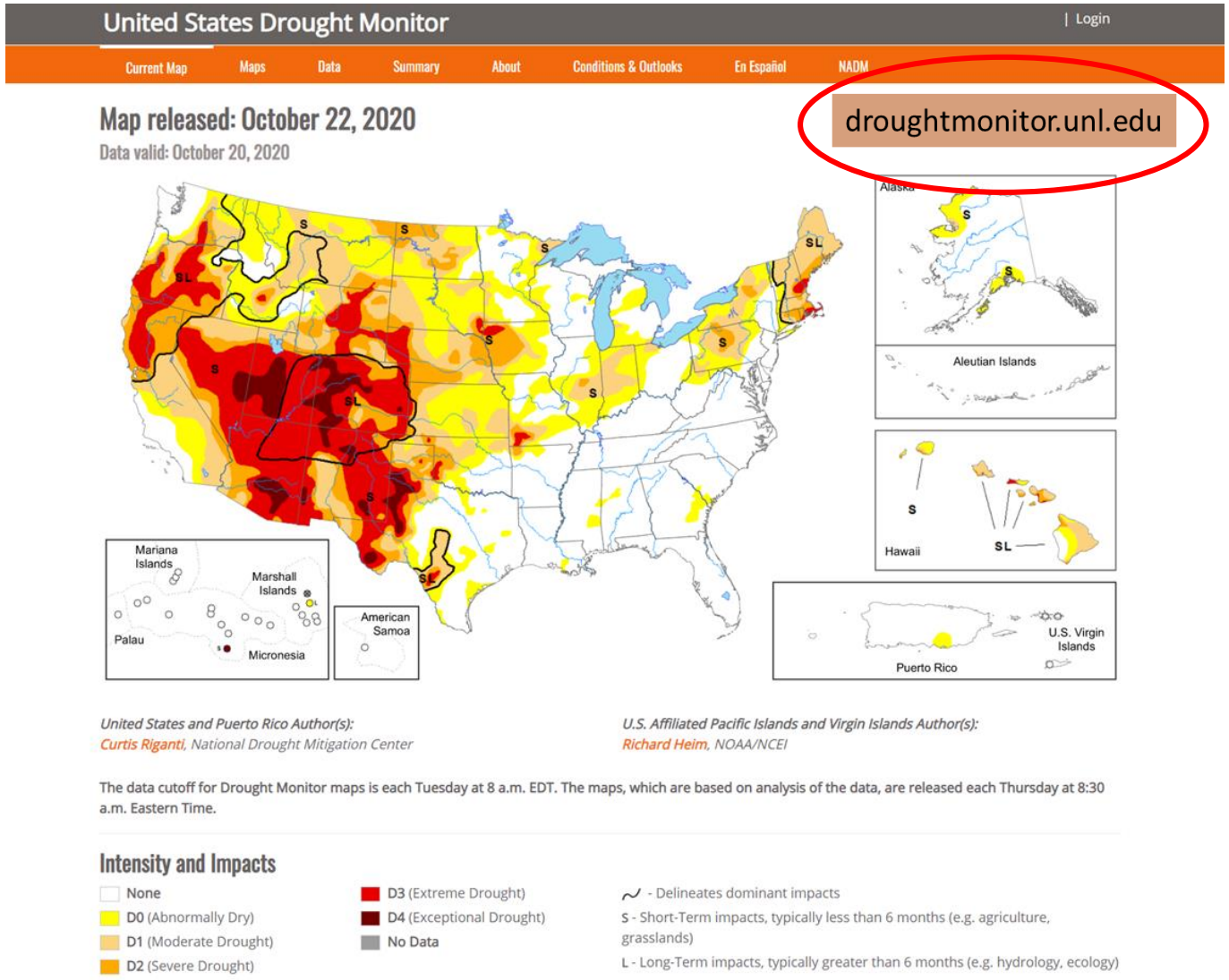
, Knutson and Hayes facilitated
i River Tribes Adaptation Planning
by the Santee Nation.

- ***NOAA/NIDIS + USDA***
- ***UN organizations*: FAO, ISDR, UNDP and CCD**
- ***World Meteorological Organization (WMO)***
- ***USAID, World Bank***
- ***WMO/Global Water Partnership: Integrated Drought Management Program (IDMP)***
- **Various regional and national climate centers**
- **Numerous government agencies and universities in different countries**

U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM):

(Science before Policy)

- **State-of-the-science** drought assessment in the U.S. since 1999
  - *Collaborative effort between NOAA, USDA and NDMC*
- Composite indicator blends objective indicators and indices with field input from over ~450 experts
- **"Convergence of Evidence"** approach
- Policy implications in Farm Bill (USDA), IRS, FERC, CDC, NOAA-NWS and several state drought plans and task forces
- **"Go to source"** for media and the public
  - ~12 million page views annually



Percentiles and the U.S. Drought Monitor

- **Advantages of percentiles:**
  - Can be applied to any parameter used in the drought analysis
  - Can be used for indicators of any length of data record
  - Puts drought into a historical perspective:
    - ***How many occurrences in a given period of time?***
- ***Backbone of the USDM process!***

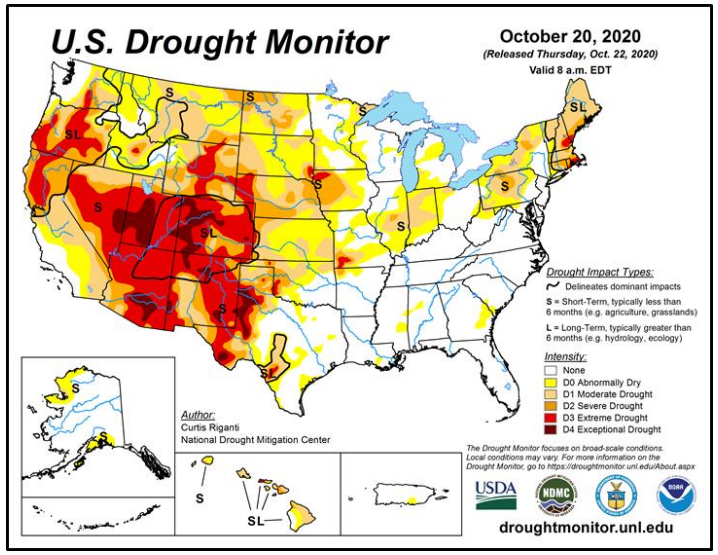
D4: Exceptional Drought (*1st-2nd* percentile)

D3: Extreme Drought (*3rd-5th* percentile)

D2: Severe Drought (*6th-10th* percentile)

D1: Moderate Drought (*11th-20th* percentile)

D0: Abnormally Dry (*21st-30th* percentile)



FSA Livestock Forage Disaster Program Eligibility Tool

Welcome! If you grow forage for livestock and have recently gone through drought, this website can help you find out whether you qualify for assistance. Qualifying for assistance is based on the U.S. Drought Monitor and on your county's designated grazing periods. To use this tool, you will need to know your county's grazing period. If you are not sure what it is, please consult your local Farm Service Agency representative.

2014 Farm Bill Criteria

- Is my county eligible?
- Which counties are eligible?
- Is my USAPI or USVI location eligible?
- Which USAPI or USVI locations are eligible?

2008 Farm Bill Criteria

- Is my county eligible?
- Which counties are eligible?

The FSA Eligibility Tool does not guarantee any financial aid. It simply estimates which U.S. counties meet the criteria, based on the U.S. Drought Monitor. Eligibility will be confirmed by the FSA once the signup period has begun. Please contact your local FSA agent for more details and to verify eligbility after the start of the signup period.

If you would like information for one county, please visit the County Eligibility section or return to the home page.

For help with this tool, please visit the FSA Eligibility Tool Help pages.

Criteria

- ○ D2 for at least eight consecutive weeks during the grazing period
- ◉ D3 at any time during the grazing period
- ○ D3 for at least four (nonconsecutive) weeks during the grazing period
- ○ D4 at any time during the grazing period
- ○ D4 for at least four (nonconsecutive) weeks during the grazing period

LFP payout criteria based on the US Drought Monitor

Location

◉ U.S. ○ By State Alabama

Grazing Period

Start of Grazing Period* 04/01/2021

End of Grazing Period* 10/31/2021

Eligible counties based on provided criteria

FIPS	State	County	Start Date	End Date
04001	AZ	Apache County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
04003	AZ	Cochise County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
04005	AZ	Coconino County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
04007	AZ	Gila County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
04009	AZ	Graham County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
04011	AZ	Greenlee County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
04012	AZ	La Paz County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
04013	AZ	Maricopa County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
04015	AZ	Mohave County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
04017	AZ	Navajo County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
04019	AZ	Pima County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
04021	AZ	Pinal County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
04023	AZ	Santa Cruz County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
04025	AZ	Yavapai County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
06007	CA	Butte County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
06011	CA	Colusa County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
06019	CA	Fresno County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
06021	CA	Glenn County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
06027	CA	Inyo County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
06029	CA	Kern County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
06033	CA	Lake County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
06035	CA	Lassen County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
06049	CA	Modoc County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05
06051	CA	Mono County	2021-03-30	2021-04-05

U.S. Agricultural Commodities in Drought

| Login

Home | Table | Graph | Maps | Animation

https://agindrought.unl.edu/

Welcome to the United States Agricultural Commodities in Drought website. This site will provide information about the percentage of various U.S. agricultural commodities being affected by drought. All drought information is derived from the U.S. Drought Monitor. This information is presented in a number of formats as listed below.

U.S. Agricultural Commodities in Drought Archive

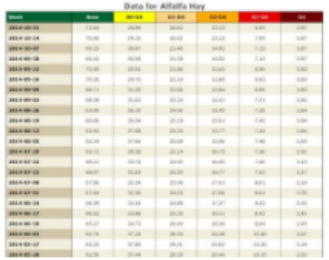
View the weekly PDF produced by the USDA. This document contains maps and other statistics.

Agriculture in Drought for Mar 30, 2021

All values listed below are percentages.

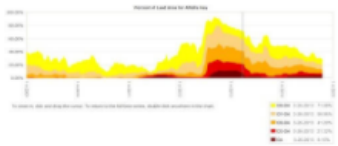
Alfalfa Hay acreage	46
Cattle inventory	35
Hay acreage	32
Hogs and Pigs inventory	15
Milk Cows inventory	39
Sheep and Lambs inventory	55

Data Table



View tabular data for the percent of the crop or livestock area classified by the U.S. Drought Monitor

Data Graph

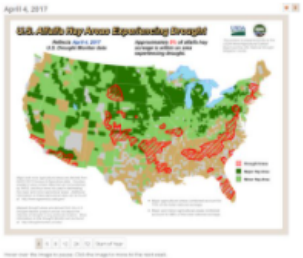


View a data graph for the percent of the crop or livestock area classified by the U.S. Drought Monitor

Maps

View a national map of the crop or livestock area overlaid with the drought extent as determined by the

Animations

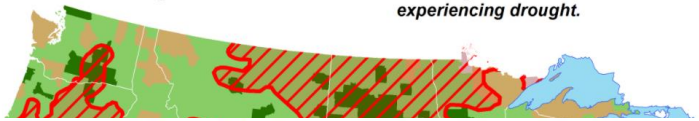


View a time series animation of the weekly maps. Choose from multiple time periods

U.S. Cattle Areas Experiencing Drought

Reflects March 30, 2021
U.S. Drought Monitor data

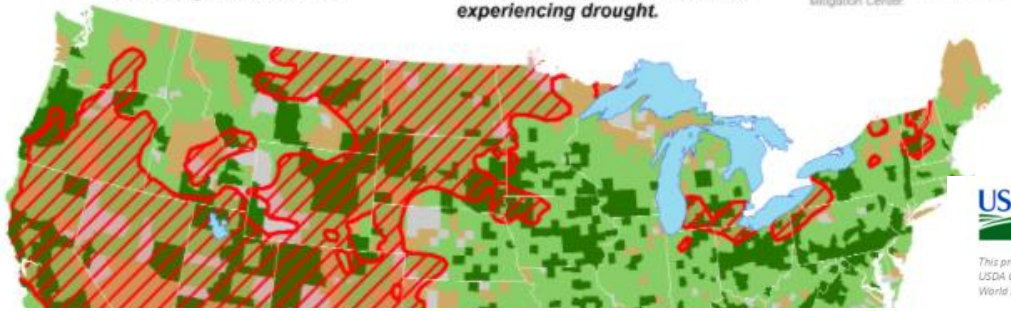
Approximately 35% of cattle inventory is within an area experiencing drought.



U.S. Sheep & Lamb Areas Experiencing Drought

Reflects March 30, 2021
U.S. Drought Monitor data

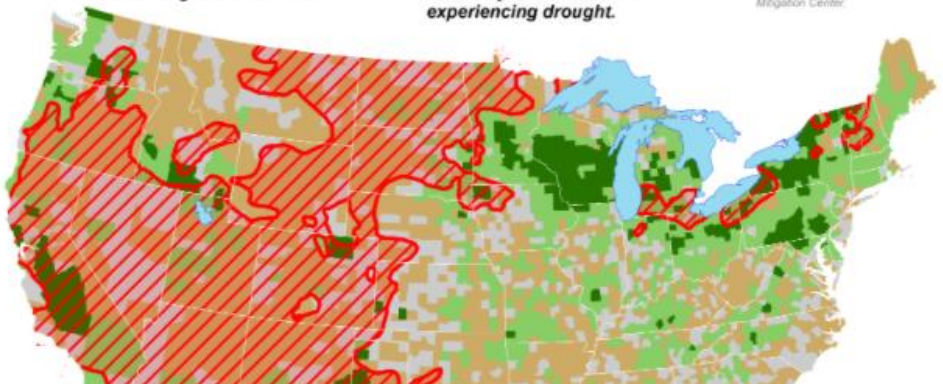
Approximately 55% of sheep and lamb inventory is within an area experiencing drought.



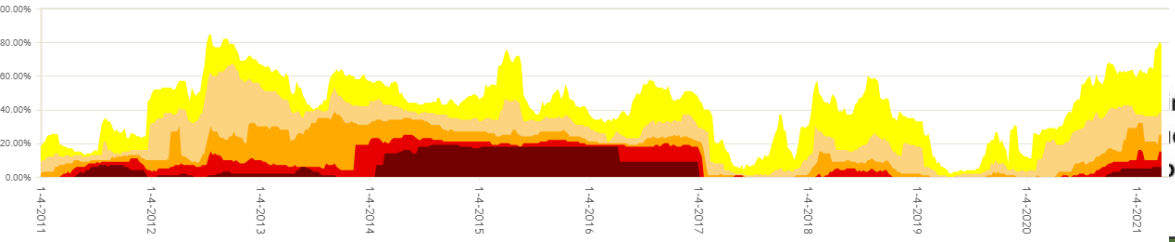
U.S. Milk Cow Areas Experiencing Drought

Reflects March 30, 2021
U.S. Drought Monitor data

Approximately 39% of milk cow inventory is within an area experiencing drought.



Percent of the Milk Cows Inventory in Drought (Total U.S.)



Corn Areas in Drought

Reflects July 28, 2020
U.S. Drought Monitor data

Cotton Areas in Drought

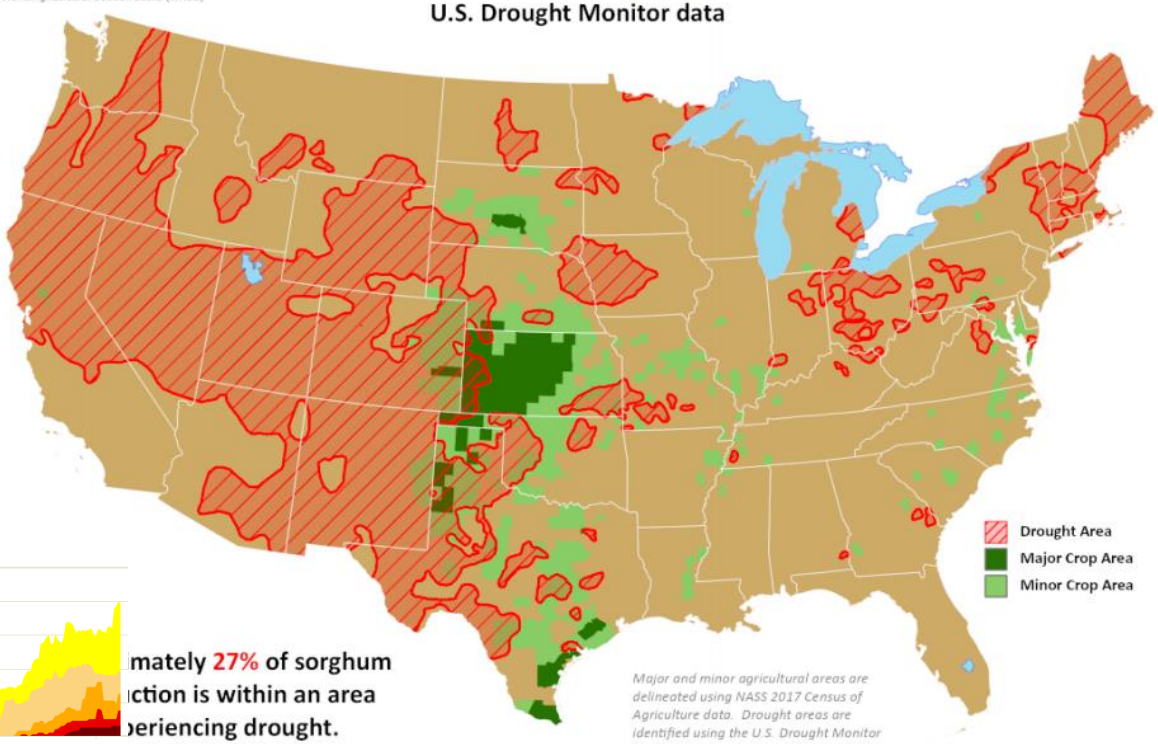
Reflects July 28, 2020
U.S. Drought Monitor data

Soybean Areas in Drought

Reflects July 28, 2020
U.S. Drought Monitor data

Sorghum Areas in Drought

Reflects July 28, 2020
U.S. Drought Monitor data



mately 27% of sorghum
ction is within an area
periencing drought.

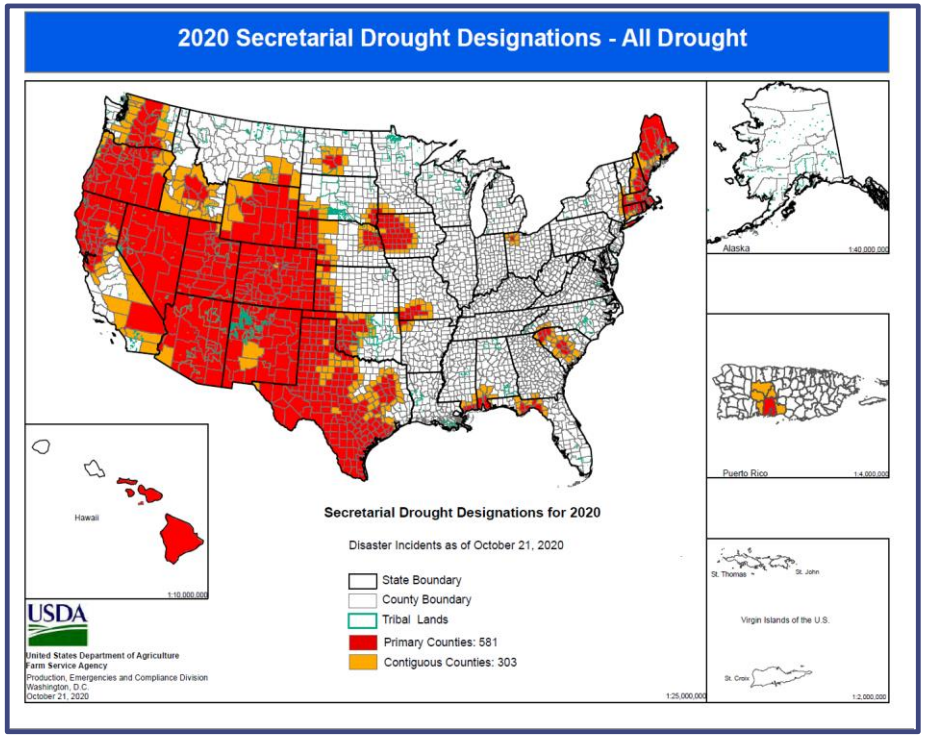
Major and minor agricultural areas are delineated using NASS 2017 Census of Agriculture data. Drought areas are identified using the U.S. Drought Monitor product.

Some Examples of Decision Making and Policy Using the USDM

(Science before Policy)

Policy and Practice:

- 2008/2014/2018 Farm Bills
  - USDA Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service
  - Risk Management Agency
- Internal Revenue Service
  - Livestock tax deferral program
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
  - Secretarial *"Fast Track"* Drought Designations
- Department of Energy
  - Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for non-fed hydro power project regulation
- NOAA National Weather Service
  - Drought Information Statements
- Environmental Protection Agency
  - Water quality monitoring
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
  - Public health
- Bureau of Land Management
  - Resource management (Manual Handbook): livestock grazing
- Several States use the USDM in their monitoring/plans or via their drought monitoring task forces

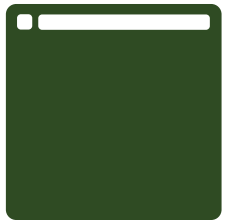


Thank You!
Questions?

Contact: Mark Svoboda
msvoboda2@unl.edu

Brian Fuchs
bfuchs2@unl.edu

ON THE WEB



drought.unl.edu

@droughtcenter

@droughtcenter

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Building a Weather-Ready Nation

CPC Forecasts of 2019 Climate Extremes in the Northern Plains

David G. DeWitt, Jon Gottschalck, and
Melissa Ou (Climate Prediction Center)

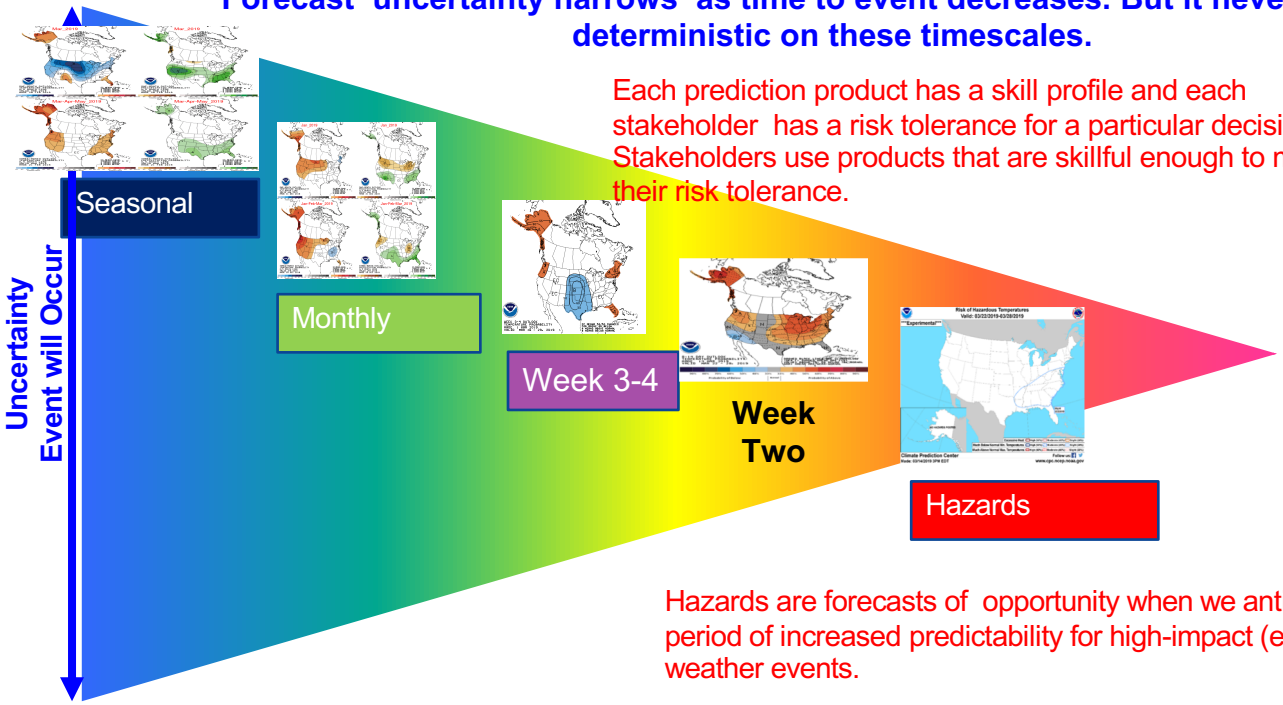
Outline

- Subseasonal to seasonal (S2S) threat vector of products
- Background on CPC Week-2 (Day 8 to 14) Hazards Outlooks
- CPC probability of extremes tool
- Decision support services (DSS) use cases for CPC Hazards Outlooks
  - Cold air outbreak end of January into early February 2019
  - High precipitation at end of September into early October 2019
- Summary

The S2S Threat Vector

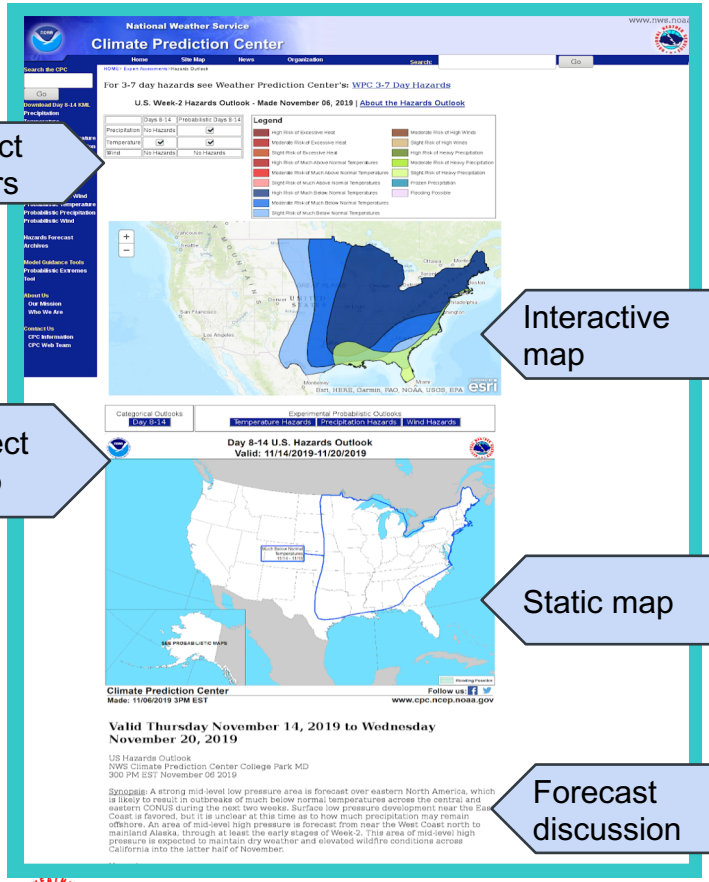
Forecast uncertainty narrows as time to event decreases. But it never becomes deterministic on these timescales.

Each prediction product has a skill profile and each stakeholder has a risk tolerance for a particular decision. Stakeholders use products that are skillful enough to meet their risk tolerance.



Hazards are forecasts of opportunity when we anticipate a period of increased predictability for high-impact (extreme) weather events.

CPC Week-2 U.S. Hazards Outlook - Background

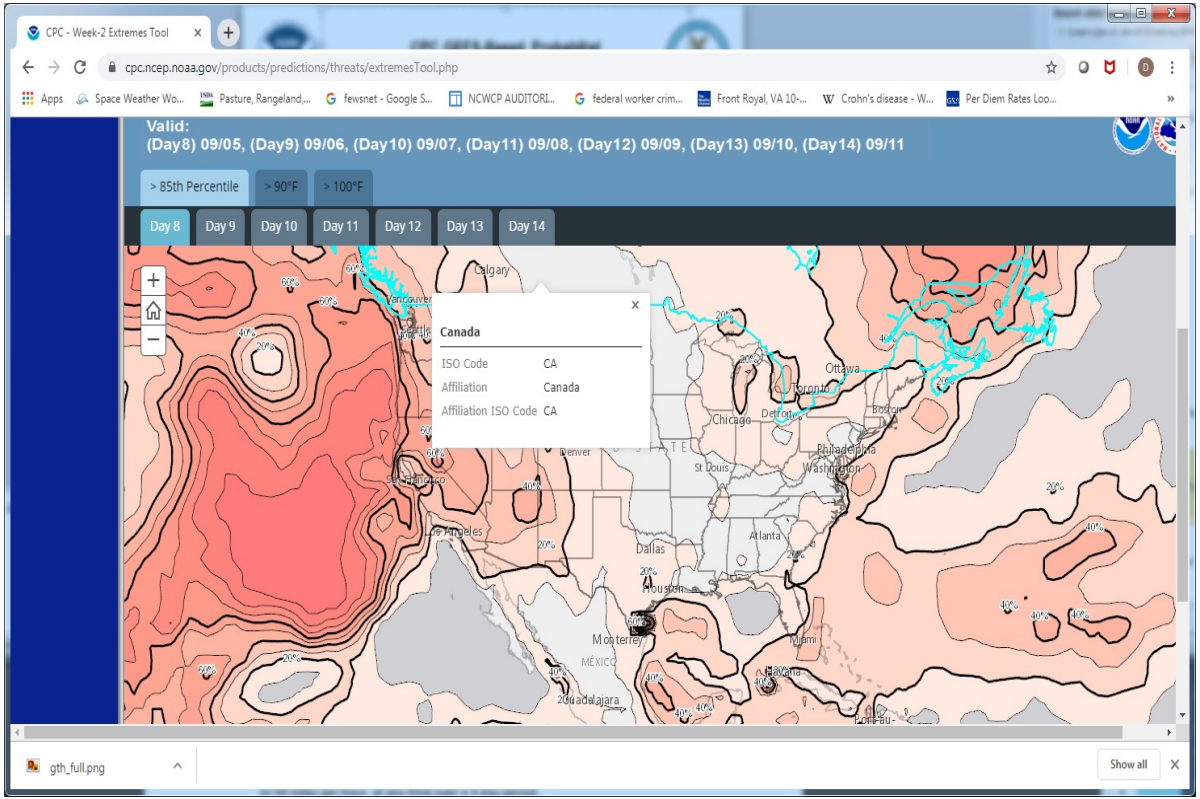


What is it?

- CPC issues a U.S. Week-2 outlook of potential weather related hazards (extremes/high impact events)
- Manually drawn by forecasters
- Mainly probabilistic format with a composite map
- Forecasts are human over the loop based on objective tools
- Issued daily, on weekdays

Scan QR code with smartphone camera to go to site

CPC GEFS-Based Probability of Extremes Tool



Allows users to see likelihood of extreme/high impact events for their location.

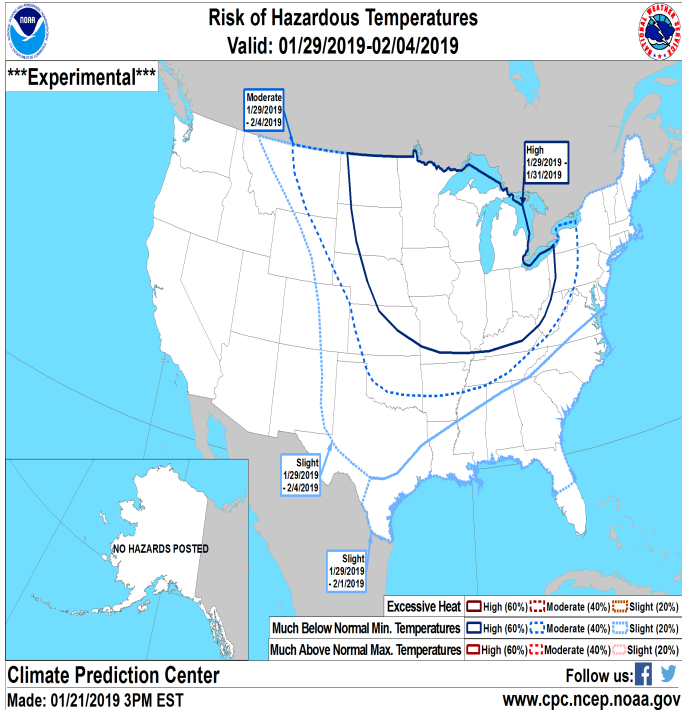
GEFS-based daily day 8 to 14 global probabilities of:

Temperature:
-Upper or lower 15%
-Over 80, 90 or 100F
-Less than 28, 32, or 40 F

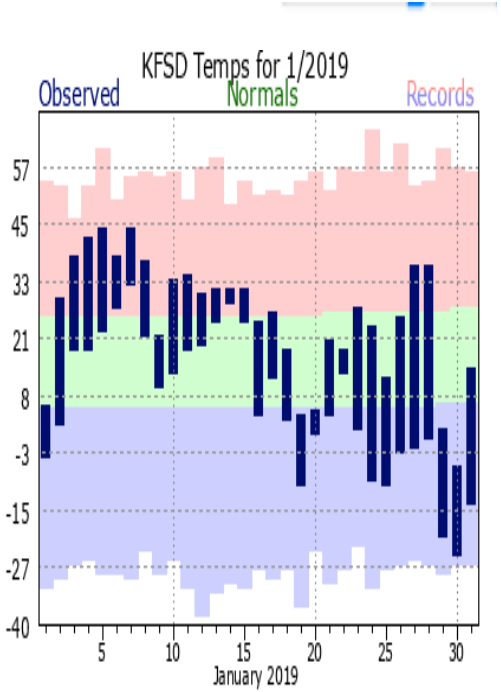
Precipitation:
-Upper 15%
-Over 1, 2, or 4 inches

Winds:
Upper 15%
Over 25, 40, 50 MPH

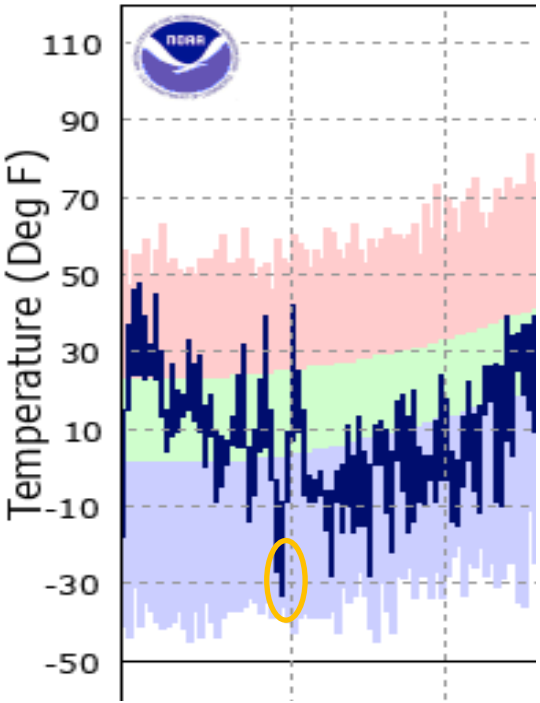
Exceptionally Cold Air Outbreak: Jan. to Feb. 2019



CPC Prob. Hazards Outlook from 1/21/2019



Obs. Temp.: Sioux Falls, SD

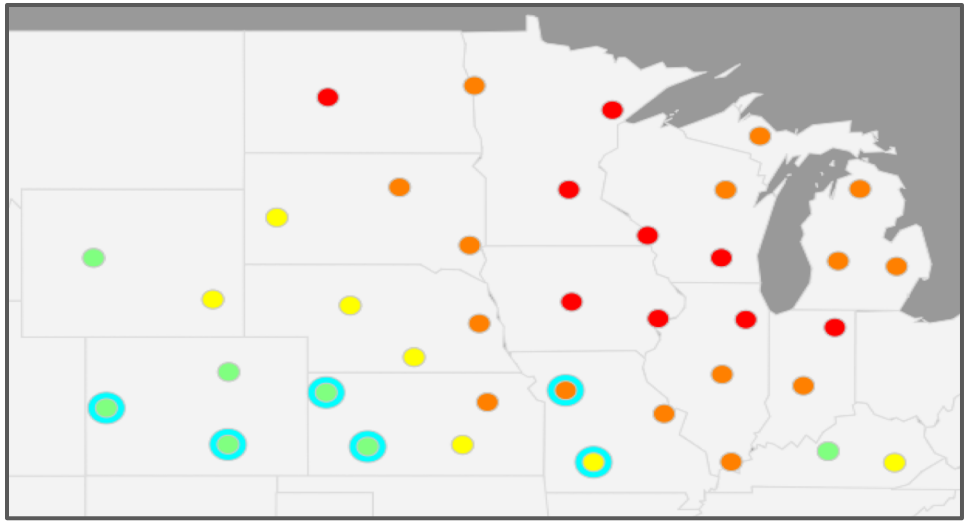


Obs. Temp.: Bismarck, ND

Regional DSS Coordination and Tempo

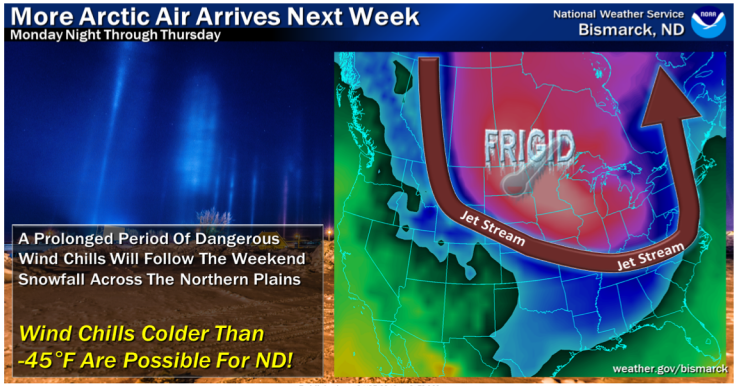
Based on CPC guidance the Regional Operation Center collaborates the potential of an extreme cold wave with field offices during daily briefings well in advance of the event.

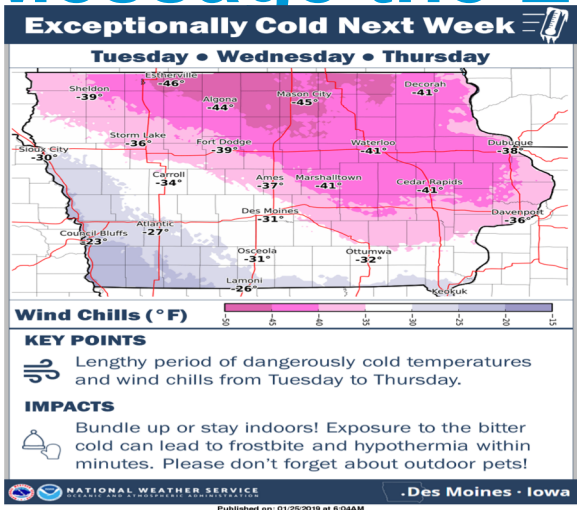
This sets in motion a consistent IDSS and operations tempo.

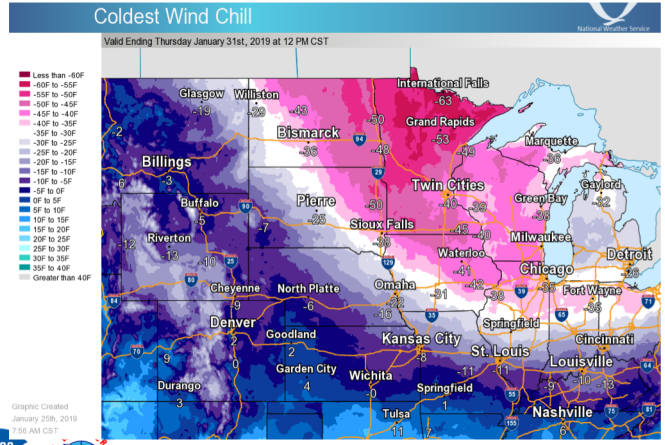


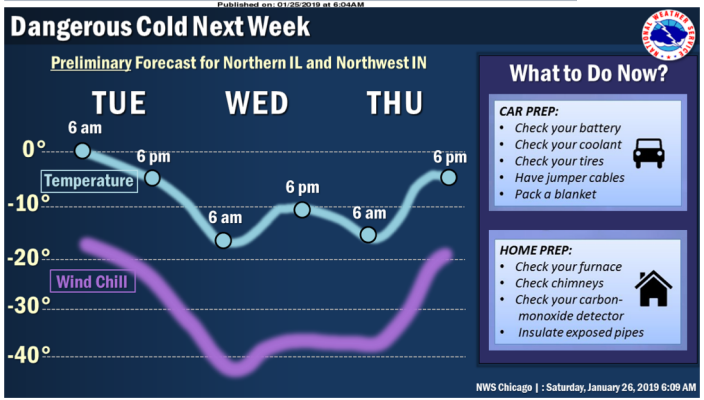
NWS Central Region Field Office Service Level Display

NWS Offices Message the Event

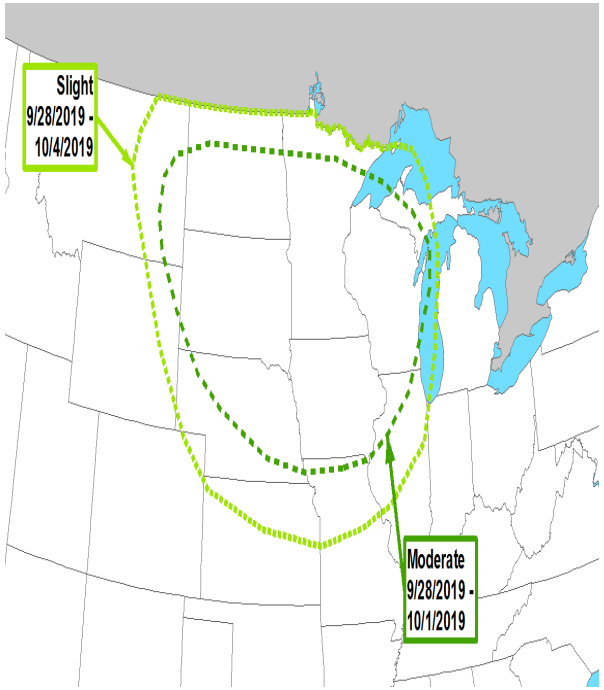




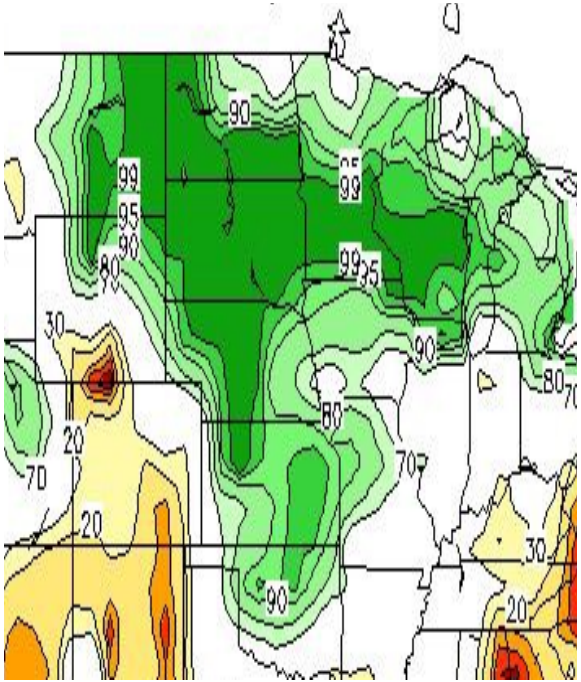




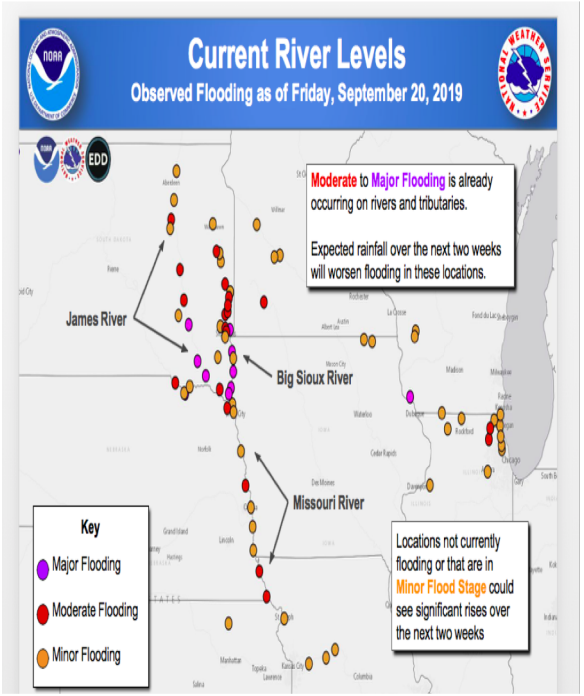
Continued/Worsened Flooding for Northern Plains Due to Heavy Rainfall: Late September into Early October 2019



CPC Prob. Hazards Outlook: 9/20/2019

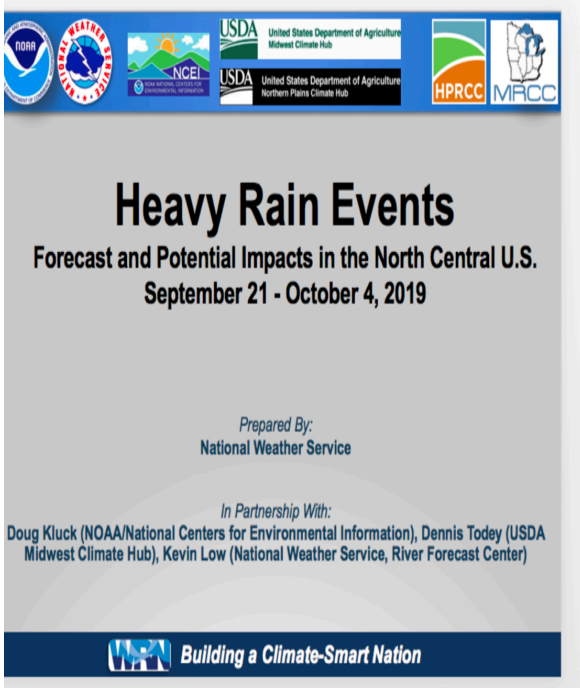


Antecedent conditions:
Saturated soils over much of the region

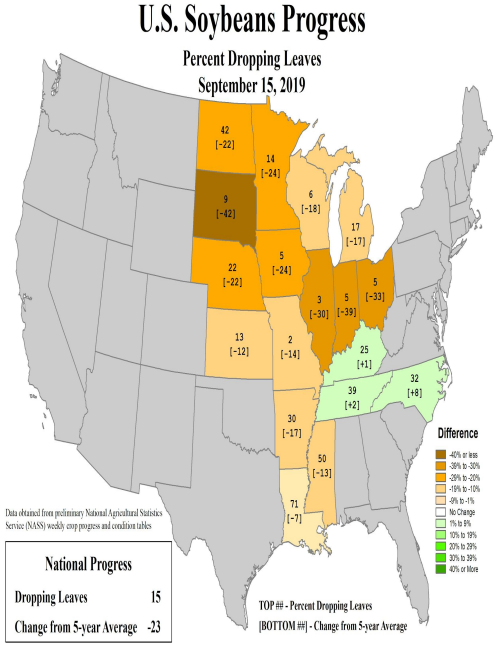


Antecedent conditions: Many rivers near or above flood stage

Decision Support Services (DSS) Briefings from Central Region and Partners about Heavy Rain Event



CPC Hazards Outlook Used in DSS Briefing from NWS CR and partners: Heavy interest from UCACE throughout 2019

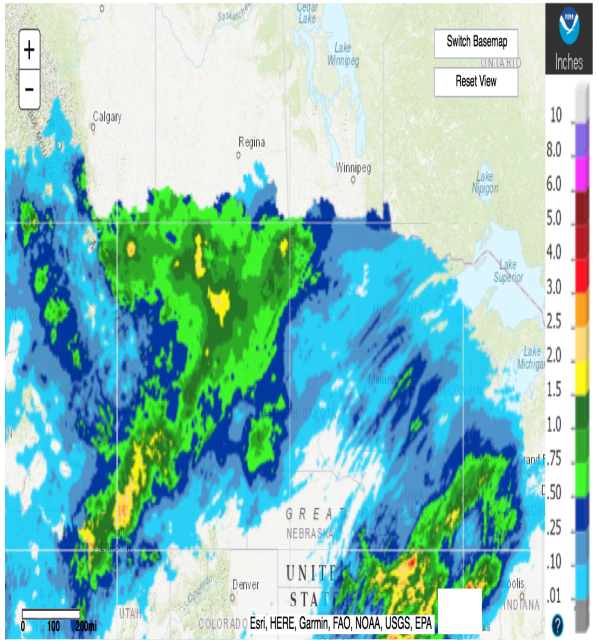


Current flooding exacerbating delays in crop harvesting due to previous Spring flooding

CPC Hazard Outlooks used as part of Decision Support Services (DSS) briefing from NWS Central Region and Partners including:

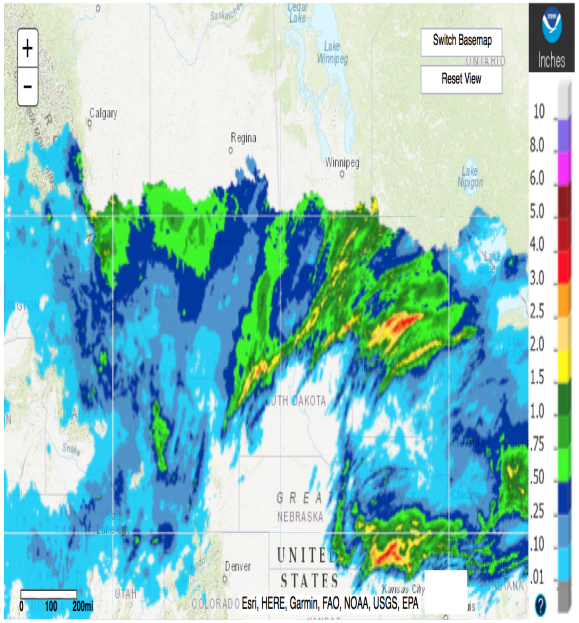
- -NCEI
- -Central Region Climate Services Director
- -USDA Midwest Climate Hub
- -High Plains Regional Climate Center
- -Midwest Regional Climate Center

Observed Precipitation from September 29-October 1, 2019



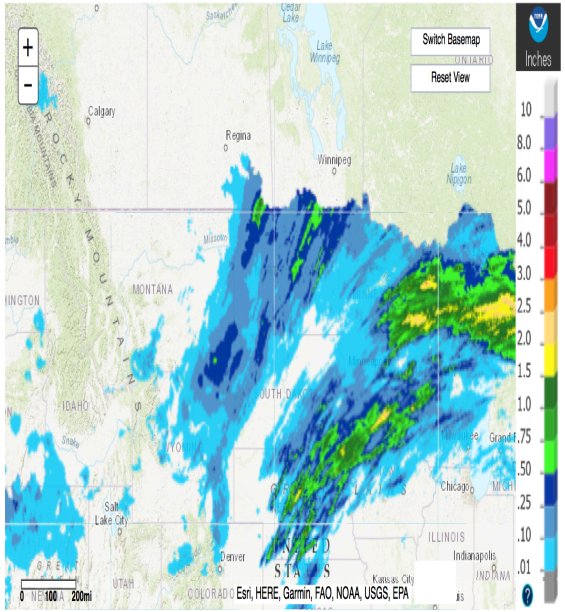
Displaying September 29, 2019 1-Day Observed Precipitation
Valid on: September 29, 2019 12:00 UTC
What is UTC time? Map Help

September 29



Displaying September 30, 2019 1-Day Observed Precipitation
Valid on: September 30, 2019 12:00 UTC
What is UTC time? Map Help

September 30



Displaying October 01, 2019 1-Day Observed Precipitation
Valid on: October 01, 2019 12:00 UTC
What is UTC time? Map Help

October 1

Summary

- CPC Probabilistic Hazards Outlooks highlights areas of potential extreme/high impact weather events from Days 8 to 14 (temperature, precipitation, and winds).
- CPC provides an interactive, ensemble-based tool for users to determine probability of extremes for their own location and dates.
- Stakeholders are using these products as part of their toolbox for decision support services (DSS) for high-impact events.
- Thanks to people whose graphics were used here: Doug Kluck, Dennis Todey, Brad Rippey, Kevin Lowe, Andy Foster, and Ray Wolf.
- We are interested to get your feedback on these products and how they can evolve to better meet your future DSS needs.

2021 USDA-NASS
Spring Data Users' Meeting

Grain Stocks Breakout Session

Jeff Bailey
Chris Hawthorn
Lance Honig

April 14, 2021

GROUND RULES / HOUSEKEEPING

Tips

- This session is being recorded and will be available with the Q&A transcripts and slides after the meeting.
- Closed Captioning is available – use the "Closed Caption" button on the Zoom ribbon.
- Use the Q&A button on the Zoom ribbon to submit questions.

NASS MISSION

To provide timely, accurate, and useful statistics

in service to U.S. agriculture.

- **<u>Continual Improvement</u>**
  - timely, accurate, useful
- **<u>Transparent</u>**
  - useful, in service

Continual Improvement

Grain Stocks

Grain Stocks Program Review

- "Top 10" Priority for NASS – Grain Stocks chosen for this year
- Examining all aspects of program
- Both on-farm & off-farm
- Sampling, Questionnaire, Editing, Summarization, Estimation

Transparent

Grain Stocks

Methodology and Quality Measures Report

- Report published April 8, 2021
- Will be issued annually
- Contains detailed methodology and metrics
- Methodology and Quality Measures Report

This Session

- Survey methodology
- Data editing and review procedures
- Non-response procedures
- Estimating procedures

A Tale of Two Surveys

- Total Grain Stocks measured by two quarterly surveys
  - Agricultural Survey: crop acreage and production, capacity, and on-farm stocks
  - Off Farm Grain Stocks (OFGS): capacity and off-farm stocks
- Reference date is 1st of the month for Sept., Dec., March, June
  - Can start data collection 2 days prior to reference date
- Data collection approx. 15 days
- *Grain Stocks* report released at end of month
  - Except December 1 stocks released in early January

Sampling

Agricultural Survey

- Survey of farms with cropland and capacity
- Dual frame approach:
  - List sample
  - Area sample
- Grouped into strata by amount of cropland and capacity for nonresponse (NR) adjustment

OFGS

- Census
- All known entities storing 1000+ bushels of grain off the farm
  - Elevators, terminals, etc.
- Grouped into strata by size and specialty for NR adjustment

Sampling (Agricultural Survey)

- List sample
  - Selected using multivariate probability proportional to size (MPPS) to target multiple commodities
  - Replicates within sample used to measure of change from quarter to quarter (i.e. stocks panel)
- Area sample
  - Measures undercoverage of list frame
  - Farms not on the list frame (NOL) identified in June Area survey
  - All data from NOL records used in June
  - NOL sample drawn in September, December, March

Edit and Analysis

- Data collection
  - Mail, web, but mostly computer assisted telephone interview (CATI)
- Editing
  - All data items within record consistent with previous reports and reasonable
- Analysis
  - Interactive tools with graphs, listings, and charts to compare against previous data and other complete reports
  - Identify outliers and assess impact

Nonresponse Adjustment

Agricultural Survey

- Very large and unique operations must be manually estimated by analysts in RFO
- All other farms are machine imputed if no response

OFGS

- Largest operations must be manually estimated by analysts in RFO
- Smaller operations have their weights adjusted for those that do not respond

Nonresponse Adjustment

- Machine Imputation for Agricultural Survey
  - Data imputed for all missing items
  - Grouped by Agricultural Statistics District (ASD) and strata (measure of size)
  - Capacity imputed first if missing
    - Previously reported capacity if available
    - Ratio of current reported capacity to list frame capacity
  - Individual stocks imputed
    - Ratio of current reported stocks to capacity
  - Each group must have 5 reports to be used for imputation, collapse groups if necessary

Sources of Error (Uncertainty)

- Sampling error
  - Created by taking a sample rather than a census
  - Measured with coefficient of variation (CV)
  - Evaluated against target CV's each year
- Nonsampling error
  - Reporting, recording, editing, nonresponse error, etc.
  - Minimized by:
    - Questionnaire testing
    - Interviewer training
    - Validation of processing systems
    - Detailed editing tools
    - Extensive data analysis

Estimators

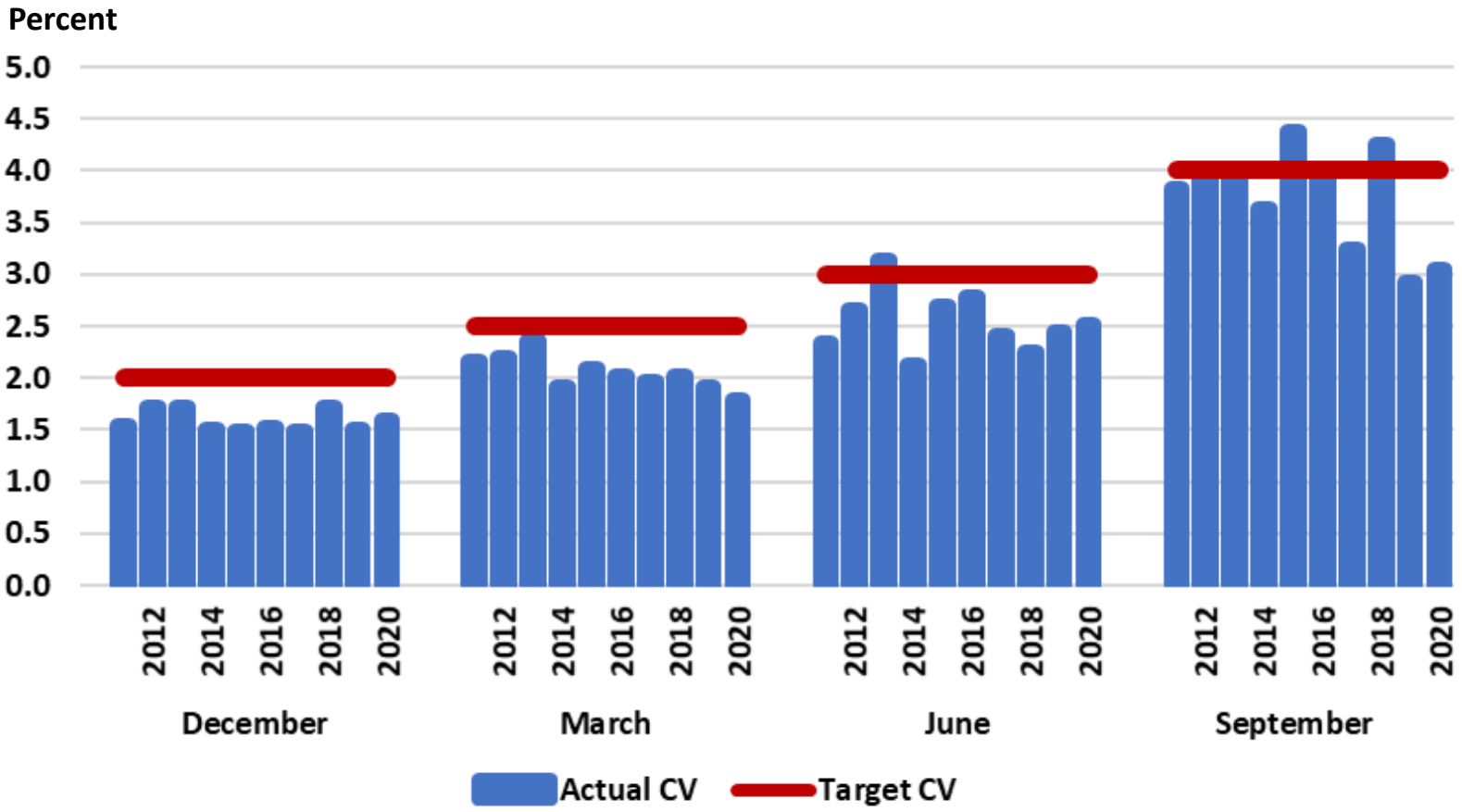
- Direct expansions
  - Weighted total of reported and imputed data using sampling weights (Agricultural Survey)
  - Weighted total of reported data using nonresponse adjusted weights (OFGS)
  - e.g., total capacity and total stocks
- Ratios
  - Ratio of two direct expansions
  - All records must have complete data for each item
  - e.g., stocks to capacity ratio, current to previous stocks

Methodology and Quality Measures Report

- Most recent eight quarters published annually
- Survey methodology discussion
- Sample size
  - Excluding out of business and no item of interest reports
- Survey Response rate
  - Proportion of above sample size that had a complete report (OMB definition)
- Weighted item response rate
  - Proportion of the survey estimate that is reported and expanded by original sampling weight
- Coefficient of Variation (CV)
  - Ratio of standard error to survey estimate expressed as %

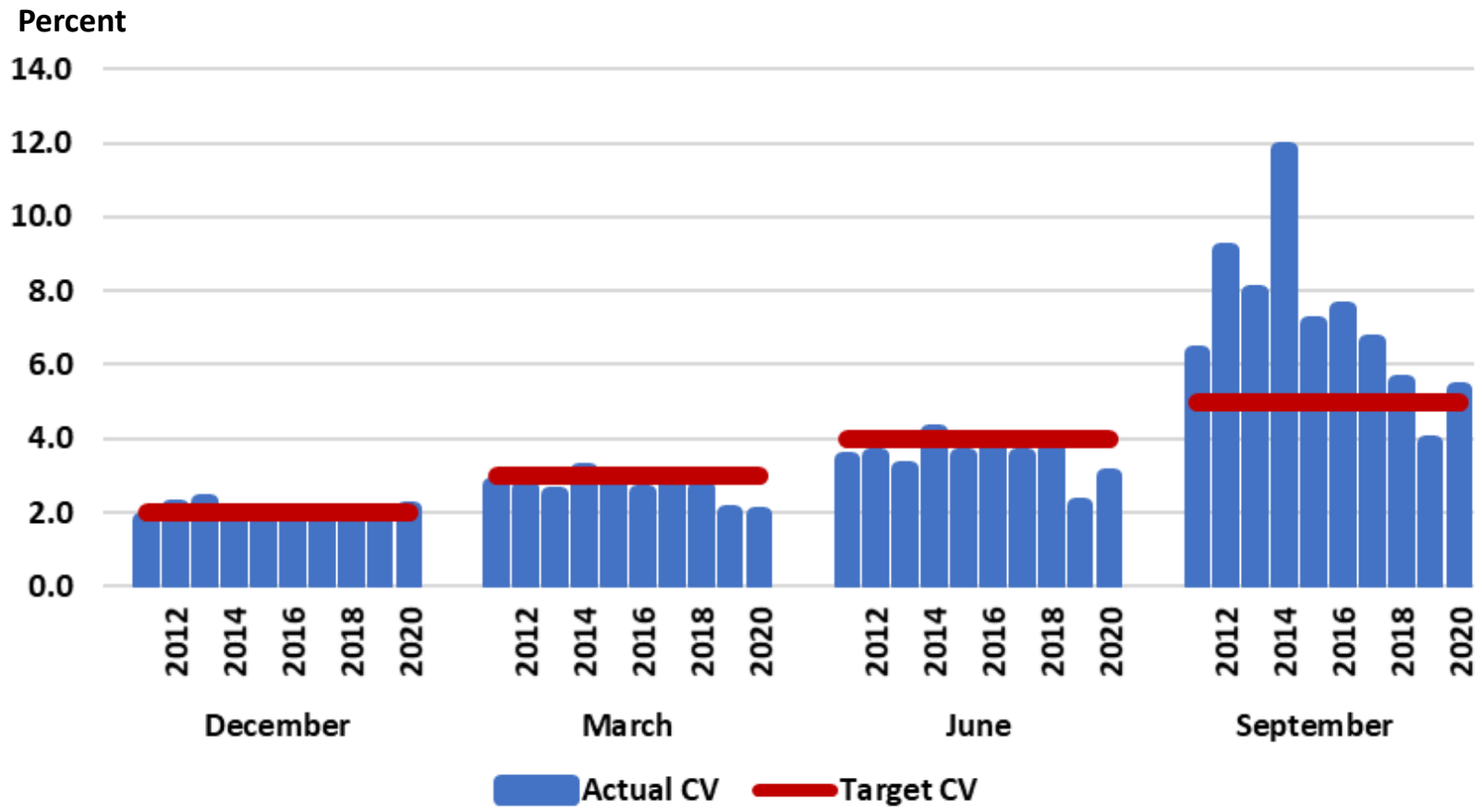
U.S. Corn On-Farm Stocks

Actual CVs (%) vs Target CVs (%)



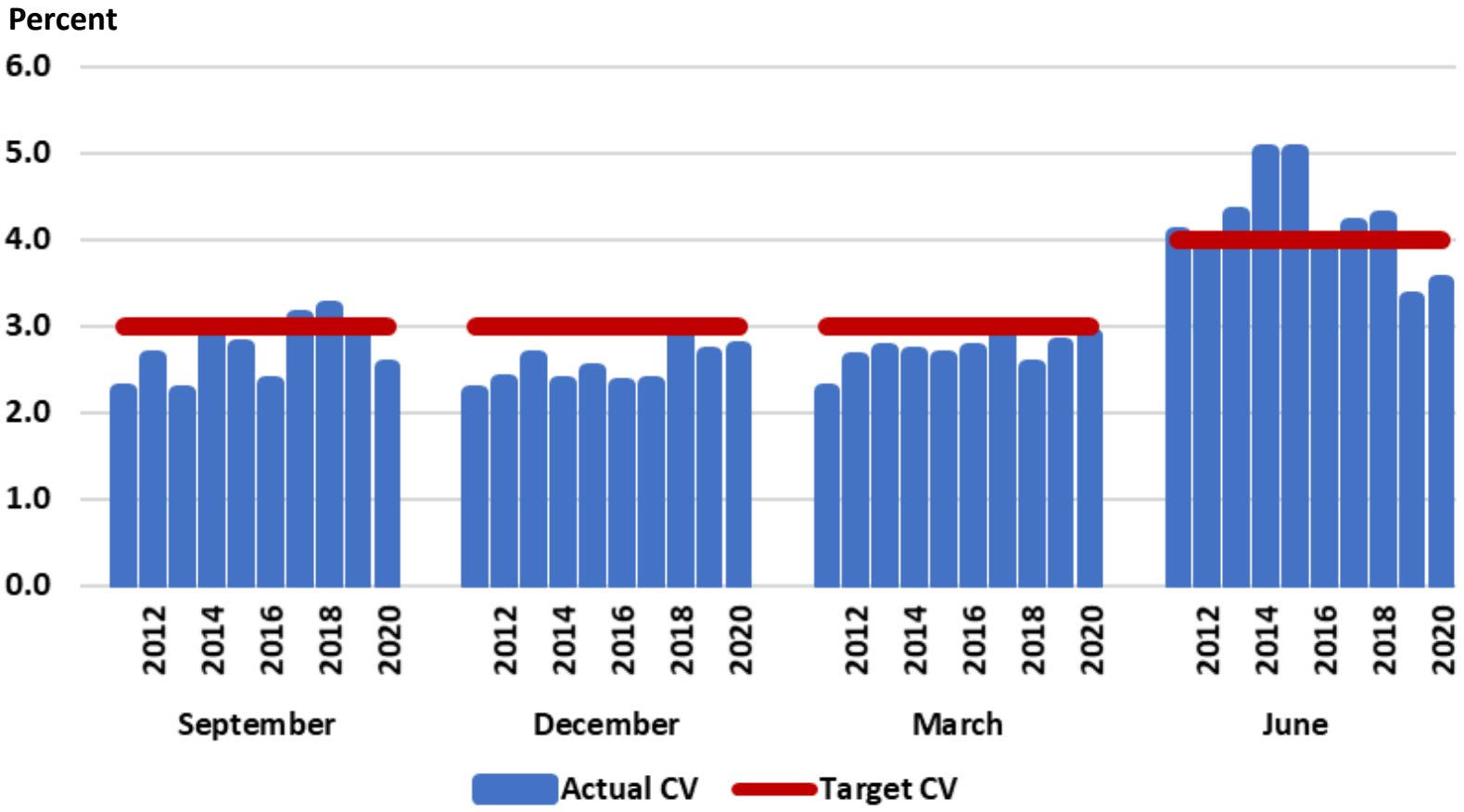
U.S. Soybean On-Farm Stocks

Actual CVs (%) vs Target CVs (%)



U.S. All Wheat On-Farm Stocks

Actual CVs (%) vs Target CVs (%)



Grain Stocks Report

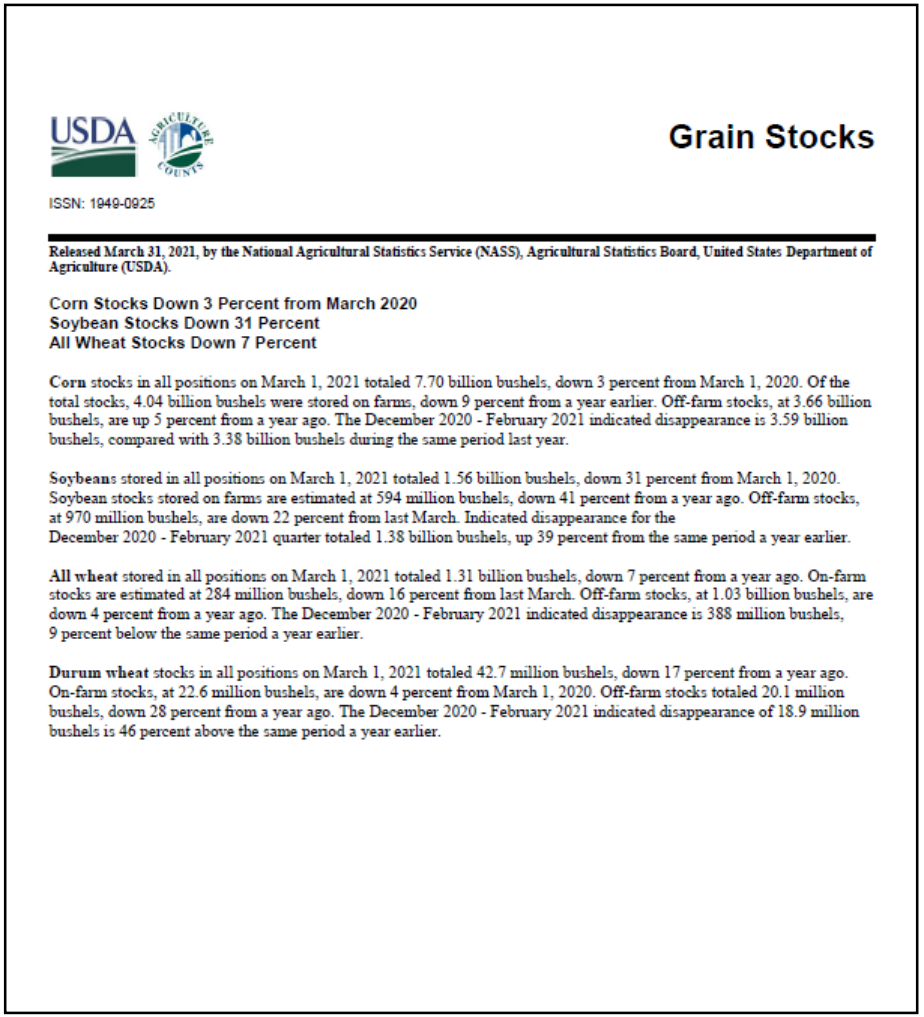
INCLUDES:

- Estimates of quantity of grain and oilseeds stored On-Farm, Off-Farm and Total stored by State and US as of:

  - December 1
  - March 1
  - June 1
  - September 1

DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Forecast of Ending Stocks



USDA

Grain Stocks

ISSN: 1949-0925

Released March 31, 2021, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Corn Stocks Down 3 Percent from March 2020
Soybean Stocks Down 31 Percent
All Wheat Stocks Down 7 Percent

Corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2021 totaled 7.70 billion bushels, down 3 percent from March 1, 2020. Of the total stocks, 4.04 billion bushels were stored on farms, down 9 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 3.66 billion bushels, are up 5 percent from a year ago. The December 2020 - February 2021 indicated disappearance is 3.59 billion bushels, compared with 3.38 billion bushels during the same period last year.

Soybeans stored in all positions on March 1, 2021 totaled 1.56 billion bushels, down 31 percent from March 1, 2020. Soybean stocks stored on farms are estimated at 594 million bushels, down 41 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 970 million bushels, are down 22 percent from last March. Indicated disappearance for the December 2020 - February 2021 quarter totaled 1.38 billion bushels, up 39 percent from the same period a year earlier.

All wheat stored in all positions on March 1, 2021 totaled 1.31 billion bushels, down 7 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 284 million bushels, down 16 percent from last March. Off-farm stocks, at 1.03 billion bushels, are down 4 percent from a year ago. The December 2020 - February 2021 indicated disappearance is 388 million bushels, 9 percent below the same period a year earlier.

Durum wheat stocks in all positions on March 1, 2021 totaled 42.7 million bushels, down 17 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 22.6 million bushels, are down 4 percent from March 1, 2020. Off-farm stocks totaled 20.1 million bushels, down 28 percent from a year ago. The December 2020 - February 2021 indicated disappearance of 18.9 million bushels is 46 percent above the same period a year earlier.

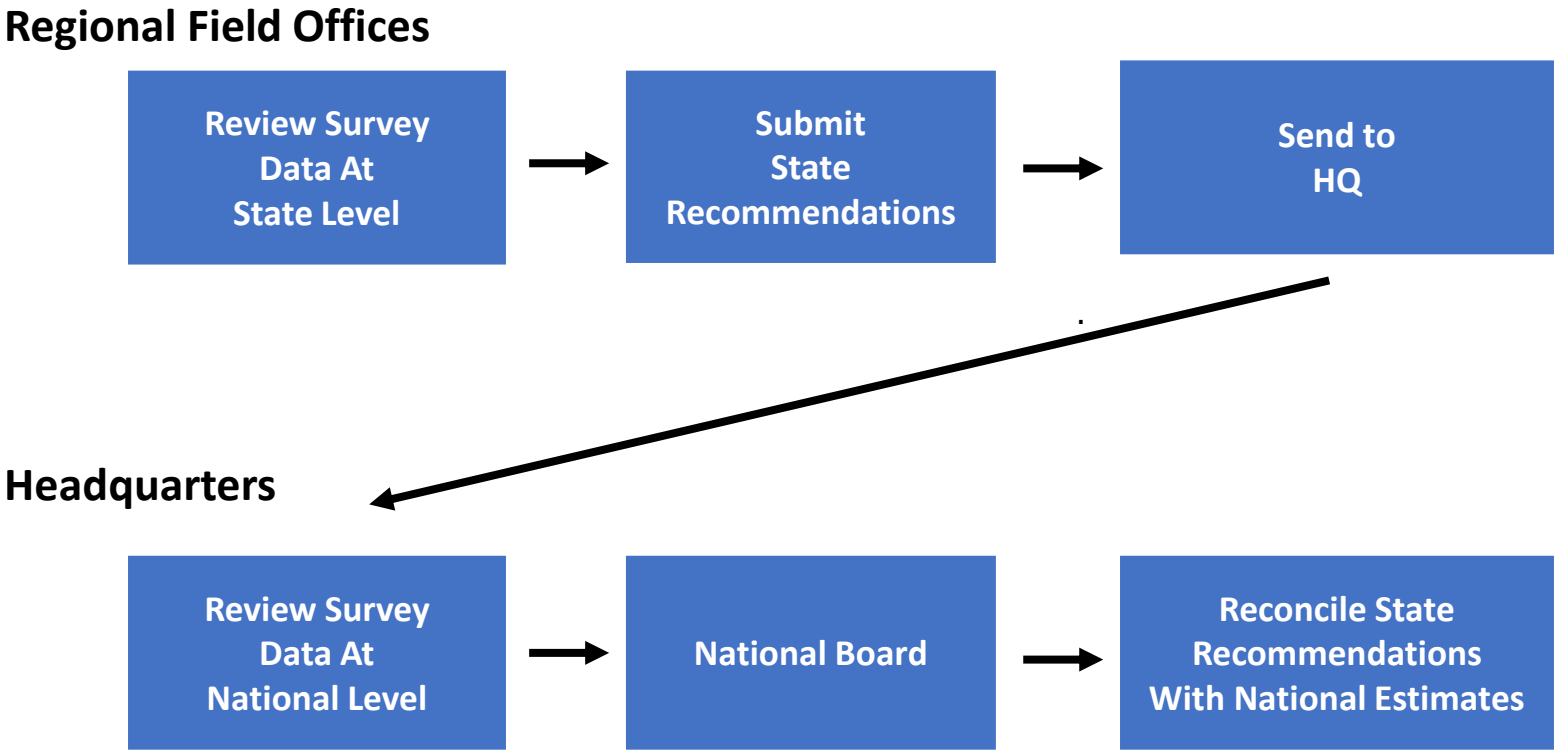
On-Farm Stocks

- All whole grains or oilseeds stored on the farm regardless of ownership or intended use on the survey reference date
- Includes grain in permanent and temporary storage
- Excludes grain in transit

Off-Farm Stocks

- All whole grains and oilseeds on hand or stored in any commercial facility off the farm – such as processing plants, terminals, and commercial elevators.
- Regardless of ownership or intended use
- Includes grain in permanent and temporary storage
- Excludes grain in transit

Estimation Flow



On-Farm Board Estimation

- On-Farm Survey Indications
  - Historic published Board/survey indication ratios
  - Stocks as a % of Board production
  - Survey indicated farm disappearance
  - Current stocks as a % of previous quarter stocks
- NASS Regional Field Office recommendations
- Outlier analysis
- FSA loan data

Off-Farm Estimation

- Off-Farm (commercial) Survey Indications
- % of data from imputed records
- State license data

Balance Sheet Board Review

- Once total US Board Review is complete, the two pieces are summed together to get the total stocks for the commodity.

- Board reviews total stocks in relation to available balance sheet data

Balance Sheet Information

Beginning Supply

- Previous season ending stocks (NASS) +
- Current season production (NASS) +
- Forecasted Imports (Commerce Department)

Known Disappearance (Usage)

- Exports (Commerce Department)
- Food, Seed, Industrial (various sources including NASS CAIR reports)
- DOES NOT INCLUDE FEED USE (part of Residual)

Balance Sheet Information (cont'd)

Grain Consuming Animal Units

- From USDA ERS Feed Grains Outlook
- Indication of Livestock on Feed, Used to identify whether residual level is reasonable

Residual (Feed and Imbalance)

- = Total Supply - Usage - Stocks
- Reviewed on Quarterly and Annual (accumulated) basis

Grain Stocks Balance Sheet

		Sources
1	Beginning Stocks	NASS
2	Production	NASS
3	Imports	Dept of Commerce
4	**Total Supply**	**(1+2+3)**
6	Exports	Dept of Commerce
7	Food and Industrial	NASS, WAOB
8	Seed	NASS, ERS
9	**Measured Disappearance**	**(6+7+8)**
10	**Indicated Stocks**	**(4-9)**
11	**Ending Stocks**	**NASS**
12	**Residual**	**(10-11)**

Board Discussion

- Negative accumulated residual indicated
- Residual not in line with historical trends
- Annual Residual determined be at odds with current livestock situation

Revisions

- Previous Quarter
  - Late or updated data received from Elevators
  - Re-Interview data
  - Board Balance Sheet review

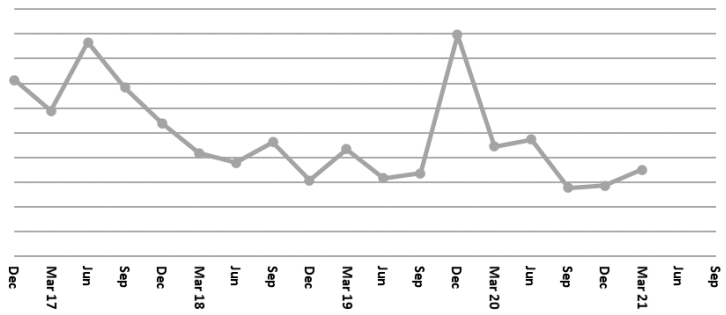
- Annual
  - Late or updated data received from Elevators
  - Board Balance Sheet review

- 5-year Census Revisions

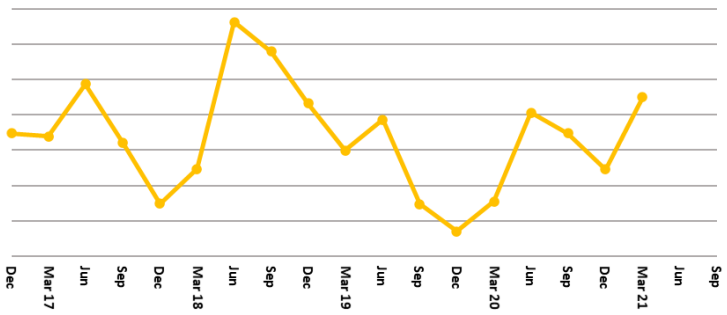
Balance Sheet Use

Component Analysis

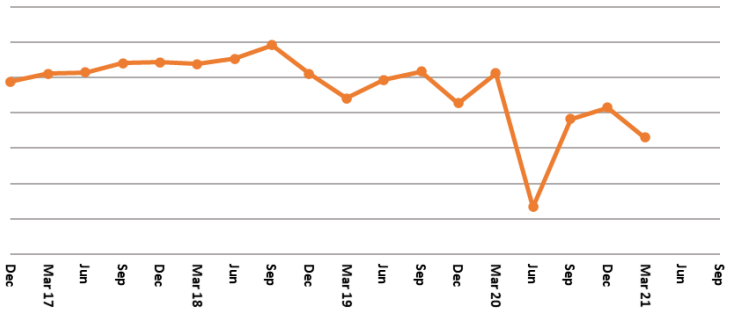
Imports



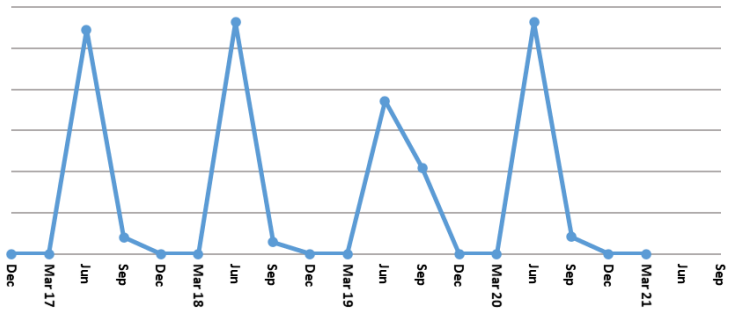
Exports



Food & Industrial Use



Seed Use



Data are incomplete each quarter and subject to revision.

Balance Sheet

Revision Timing

		Sources	Dec 1, 2020 First Quarter (1,000 Bushels)	Mar 1, 2021 Second Quarter (1,000 Bushels)	Jun 1, 2021 Third Quarter (1,000 Bushels)	Sep 1, 2021 Fourth Quarter (1,000 Bushels)	2020-2021 Annual (1,000 Bushels)
1	Beginning Stocks	NASS					
2	Production	NASS					
3	Imports	Dept of Commerce					
4	**Total Supply**	**(1+2+3)**					
6	Exports	Dept of Commerce					
7	Food and Industrial	NASS, WAOB					
8	Seed	NASS, ERS					
9	**Measured Disappearance**	**(6+7+8)**					
10	**Indicated Stocks**	**(4-9)**					
11	**Ending Stocks**	**NASS**					
12	**Residual**	**(10-11)**					

Stocks

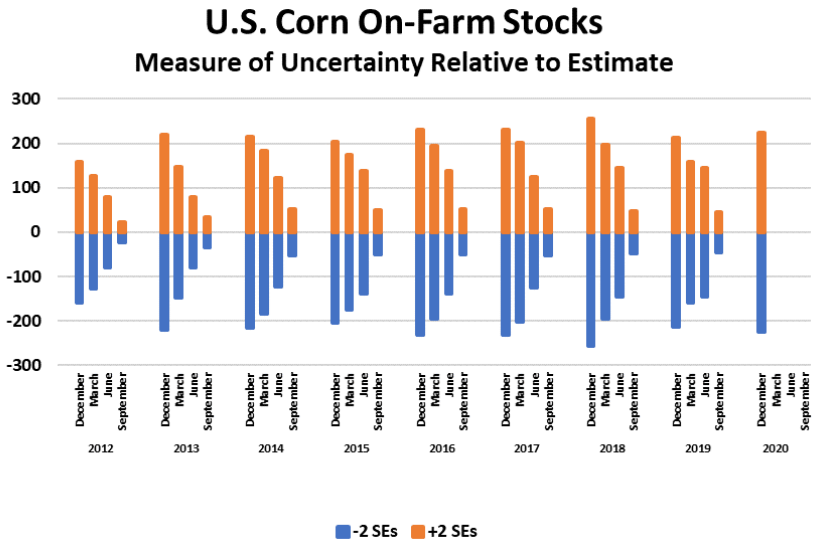
- Previous Quarter Subject to Revision
- All Quarters in Previous Market Year Open in January

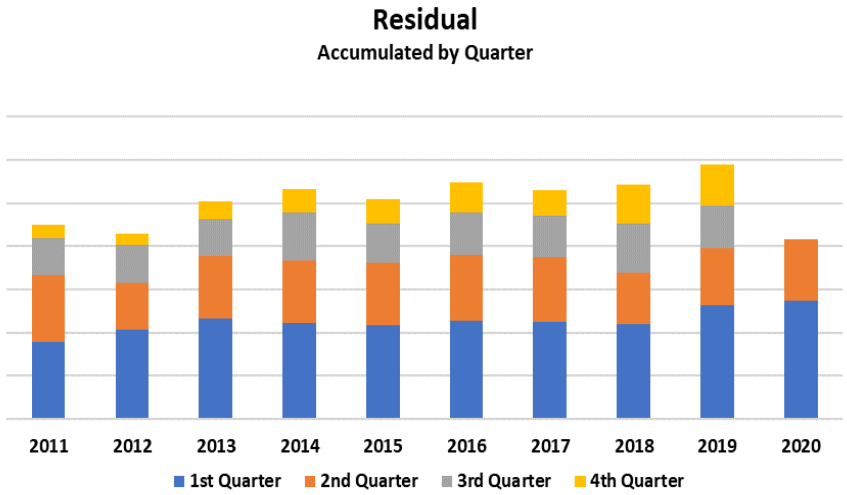
Production

- Previous Crop Year Subject to Revision in September (End of Market Year)

Balance Sheet Use

Residual & Measures of Uncertainty Relative to Estimates





Ending Stocks Level Relationship With Residual

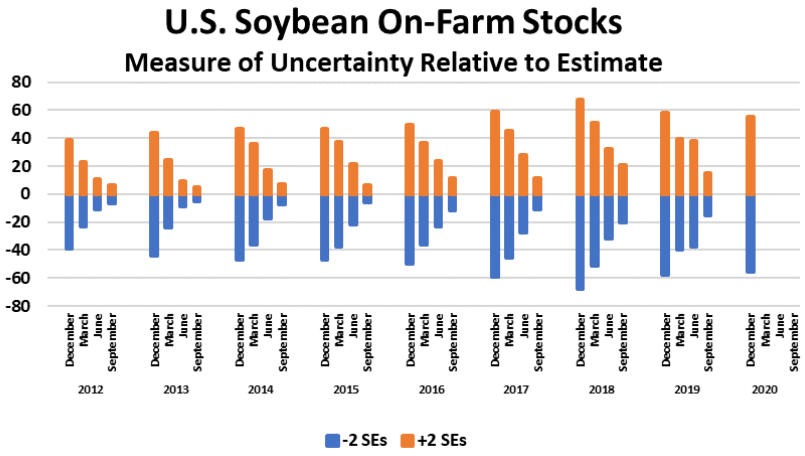
- Increasing Stocks → Lower Residual
- Decreasing Stocks → Higher Residual

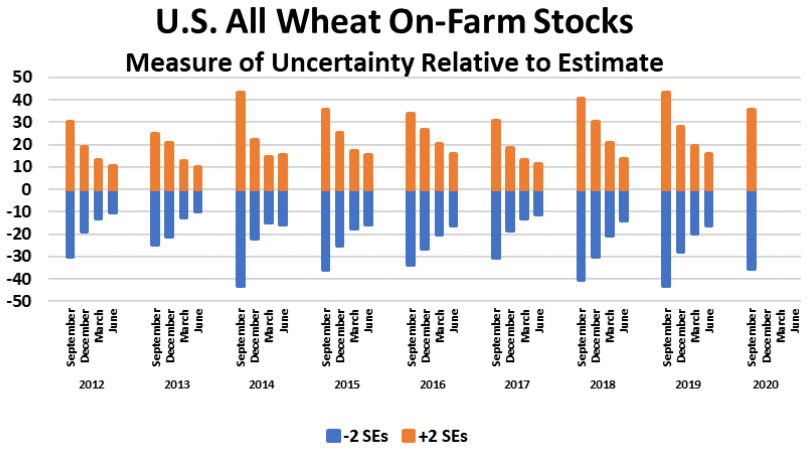
Production Level Relationship With Residual

- Increasing Production → Higher Residual
- Decreasing Production → Lower Residual

Balance Sheet Use

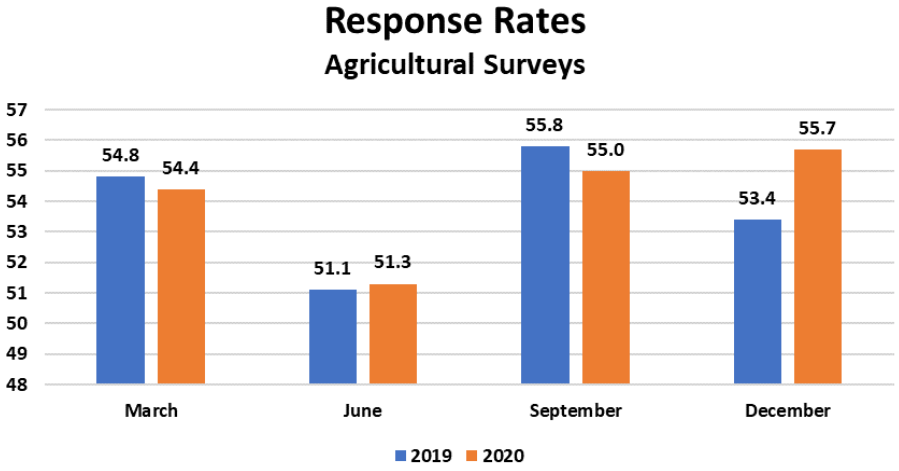
Measures of Uncertainty Relative to Estimates





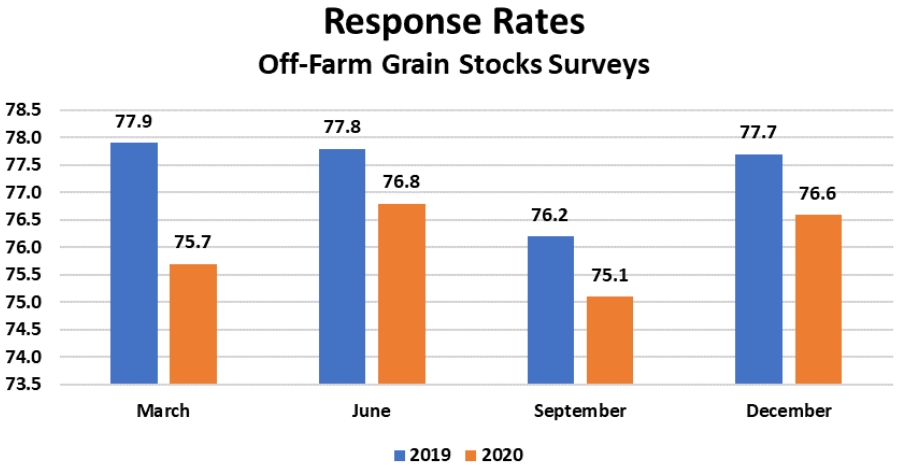
Response Rates

Surveys for Grain Stocks Estimates



On-Farm Stocks

Off-Farm Stocks



More Data is Always Better!

Grain Stocks

What's Next?

Grain Stocks Program Review

- Finalize findings & recommendations by September 30
- Minor improvements will be made immediately
- More substantial enhancements, if found, will be made beginning after October 1
- Any major changes, if needed, will be announced

All Reports Available At

www.nass.usda.gov

For Questions

(202) 720-2127
(800) 727-9540
Lance.Honig@usda.gov

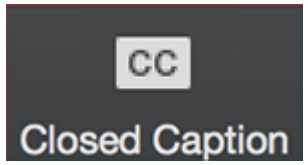
2021 USDA Spring Data Users' Meeting

April 14 & 15, 2021

Joe Parsons
Chair, Agricultural Statistics Board

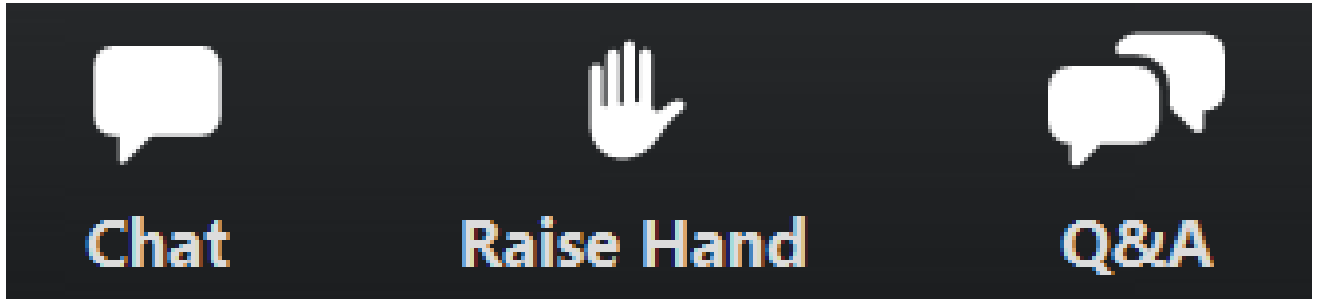
Housekeeping

- Closed captioning available through the Closed Caption button in Zoom.



- All sessions yesterday were recorded and are available on our website: https://www.nass.usda.gov/Education_and_Outreach/Meeting/index.php
- Today's sessions will also be recorded.
- Slides and transcript of Q&A with any additional questions we don't have time to answer will be available on our website after the meeting.

Open Forum



Q&A – Questions will be answered live by our panelists

Chat – Technical Issues

Email - Marisa.Reuber@usda.gov or LaKeya.Jones@usda.gov

Day 2 Agenda

All Times Eastern

12:00pm	Day 1 Recap
12:10pm	Open Forum
1:45pm	Break
2:00pm	Breakout Session #3
3:00pm	End

AMS Market News

AMS Market News presented information on the reporting various international markets by the Specialty Crops; Dairy; and Livestock, Poultry, & Grain Market News Divisions. This included collaboration efforts with other countries through the Market Information Organization of the Americas (MIOA). AMS also provided a brief update on the continued development of reports in the My Market News platform, and proposed changes ahead for the frequency and national reporting of certain egg and poultry reports.

AMS Market News

AMS received a variety of questions about tracking dairy cattle export numbers, national and regional historical poultry data sets, the thinness of the negotiated slaughter hog market, access to names of publicly traded companies which provide market information, tying domestic and global prices for grain, feed, and livestock into a single consistent database, and differences between LMR export beef reporting and FAS export beef sales reporting on weekly and month bases.

Climate Information for Informed Decision Making

- Timely access to accurate weather and climate information is vital for making informed decisions affecting the wellbeing of our nation's agricultural economy. From the on-farm selection of which varieties to plant this season to the targeting of foreign markers for our commodities, the same questions are invariably asked: "what's the weather been like, and what is it going to be?"
- This breakout session provided examples of the importance of understanding how a functional knowledge of how climate impacts agricultural production, both in the present and in the future, is vital to the economic stability of our agricultural sector:
- Mark Brusberg, Chief Meteorologist at USDA's OCE/WAOB, gave a brief overview of the evolution of weather intelligence used in production of the *World Agricultural Supply and Demands Estimate* report, which serves to identify opportunities for the American farmer.
- Dr. Mark Svoboda, Director of the National Drought Mitigation Center, demonstrated how the *United States Drought Monitor* has risen in its relatively short history from a tool to help decision makers plan for drought to a trigger for USDA programs.
- Dr. David DeWitt, Director of the Climate Prediction Center of NOAA's National Weather Service, provided an update on the mandate to improve the United States' capacity to develop more accurate Subseasonal and Seasonal Outlooks, and what potential benefits there are to our nation's farmers, ranchers, and foresters.

Climate Information for Informed Decision Making

- The public is interested on hearing more about the techniques used by USDA to model crop yields in real time using weather data and other types of information;
- A better capacity to evaluate which crops and states are impacted by drought would be welcome, particularly in data-sparse areas; and
- Efforts underway to improve sub-seasonal and seasonal weather outlooks will allow USDA and others to provide better recommendations to farmers facing potential weather hazards.

NASS Grain Stocks Program

This session walked attendees through the entire process used by NASS in determining grain stocks estimates. This included detailed descriptions of procedures used from sampling through estimation, as well as information regarding how NASS uses the balance sheet. Similar details and quality metrics are available in a newly published report found here.

NASS Grain Stocks Program

There continues to be a lot of interest in:

- NASS's use of the balance sheet when establishing stocks estimates
- How/why revisions are made to earlier quarters

Foreign Production, Trade, and Import/Export Data

This session is a long-standing feature of the Data Users meeting and featured representatives from FAS, WAOB, Census Bureau and EIA, who collect, report and forecast U.S. goods trade, Export Sales data, and U.S. and Foreign production supply and demand for major commodities. Attendees had the opportunity to ask questions and understand the respective agencies' programs, procedures and systems to access the data efficiently.

Foreign Production, Trade, and Import/Export Data

The number and diversity of questions at this session illustrated the public's broad interest in foreign production and trade topics, with questions ranging from highly specific inquiries about things like HTS codes for biodiesel and the WTO definition for agricultural trade, to technical balance sheet-related questions such as USDA's use of China's trade data, to very general questions such as major trends and developments affecting the outlook for agricultural trade.

NASS Modernization

NASS strives to be recognized as a modern innovative customer-focused organization that readily adopts cutting-edge technologies and engages its world class workforce to produce the most trusted and useful statistics on all aspects of US agriculture. Please join Bryan Combs, Chief of Staff, and a panel of NASS experts this afternoon to learn more about the modernization efforts NASS has underway to achieve this vision.

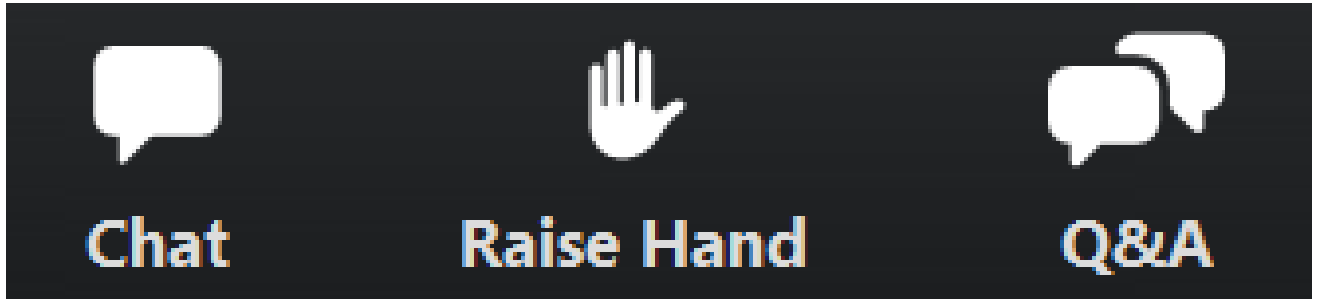
ERS Research

- This session will consist of three presentations by economists in ERS.
- Ms. Carrie Litkowski, Farm Income Team Lead, will showcase our farm sector income and wealth data product.
- Dr. Aaron Hrozencik will discuss the new Survey of Irrigation Organizations that was produced in collaboration with NASS.
- Dr. Jen Bond, Outlook Program Coordinator, will highlight innovations in data produced by our Markets and Trade Economics Division.

Panelists

- Mike Lynch, Agricultural Marketing Service
- Kelly Maguire, Economic Research Service
- Patrick Packnett, Foreign Agricultural Service
- Brad Karmen, Farm Service Agency
- Mark Jekanowski, World Agricultural Outlook Board
- Joseph DeCampo, U.S. Census Bureau
- Dan Kerestes, National Agricultural Statistics Service

Open Forum



Q&A – Questions will be answered live by our panelists

Chat – Technical Issues

Email - Marisa.Reuber@usda.gov or LaKeya.Jones@usda.gov

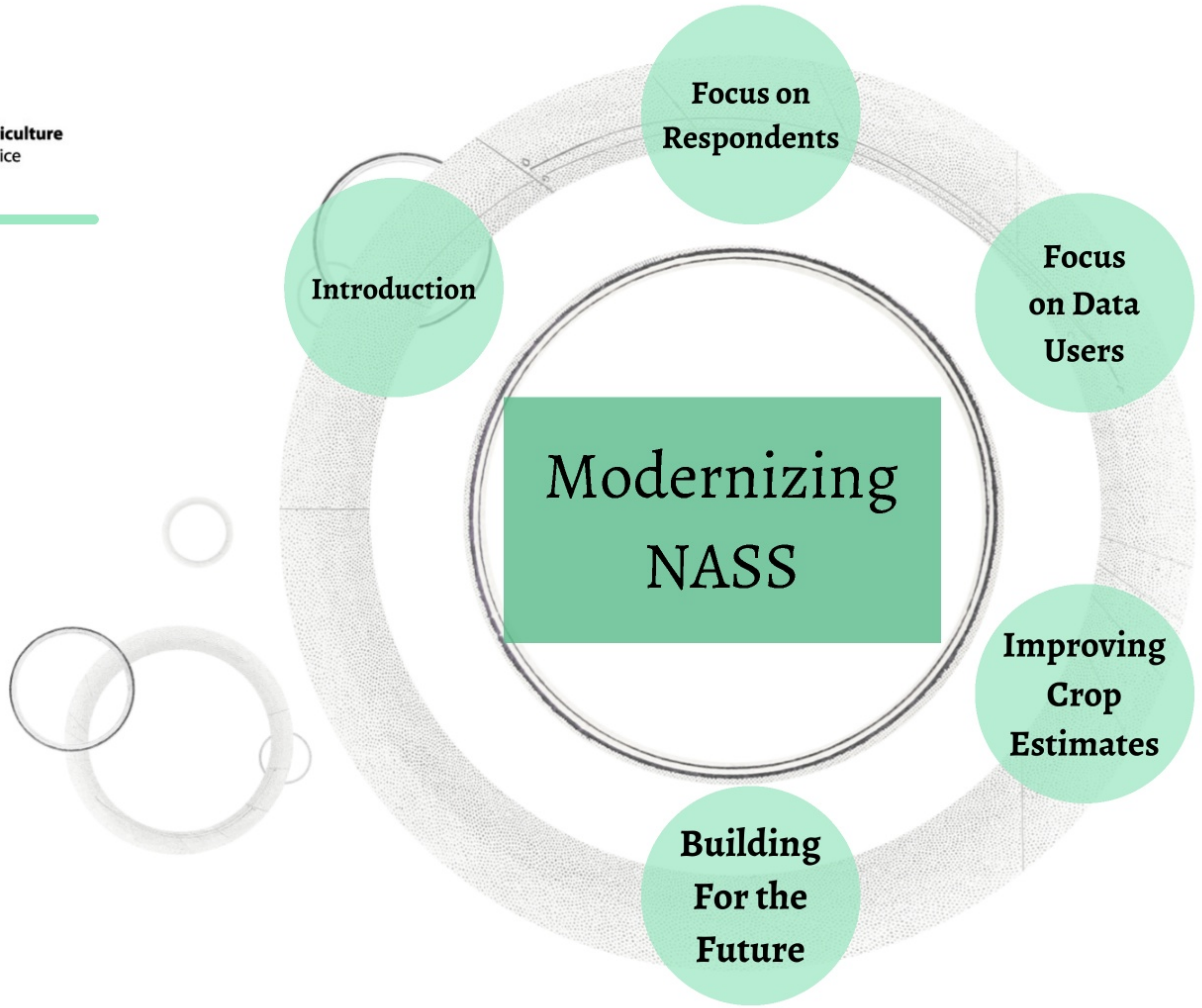
Day 2 Breakout Sessions

All times Eastern	**Session A**	**Session B**
2:00 p.m.	NASS Modernization *National Agricultural Statistics Service*	ERS Research *Economic Research Service*

Links to join can be found in

- Your registration or reminder email
- Emailed Booklet, page 5
- Chat window

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Vision

NASS is recognized as a modern, innovative, customer-focused organization that readily adopts cutting edge technologies and engages its world-class workforce to produce the most trusted, useful statistics on all aspects of U.S. agriculture.

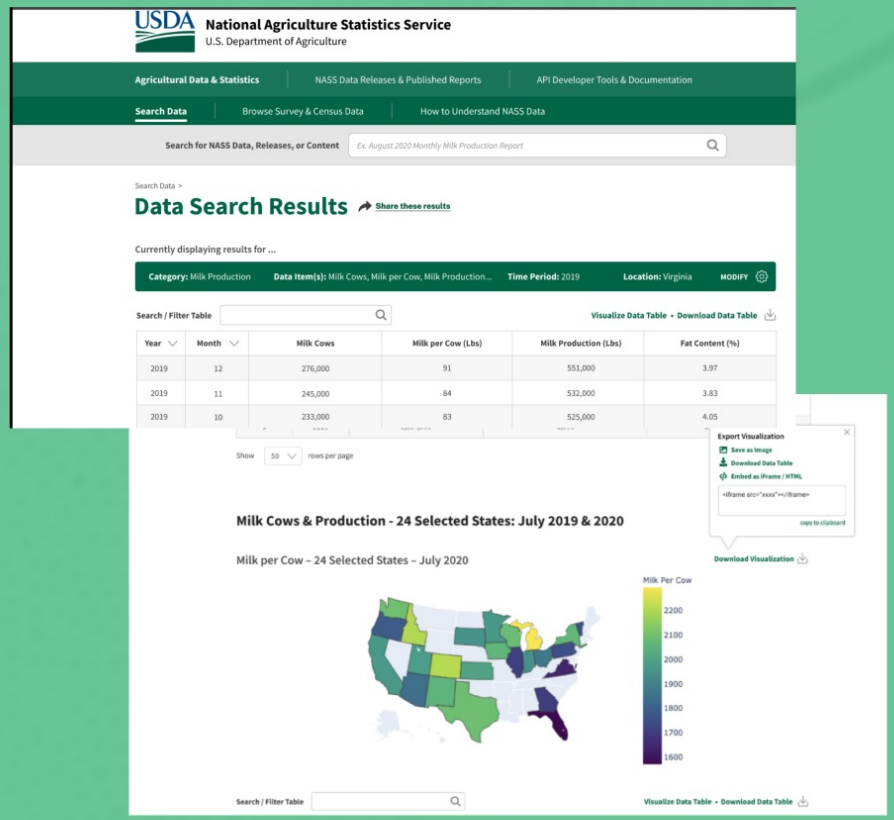
Focus on Respondents

Focus on Employees

Focus on Data Users

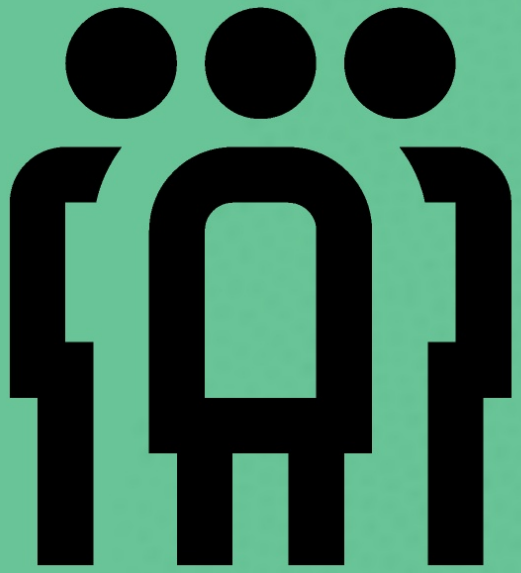
Strategic Initiative #1: Data Collection Dashboard

- Customer-centric dashboard
- One stop shopping
- Single point of entry to complete surveys
- Give back to respondents



Strategic Initiative #3: Improving the Ag Data User Experience

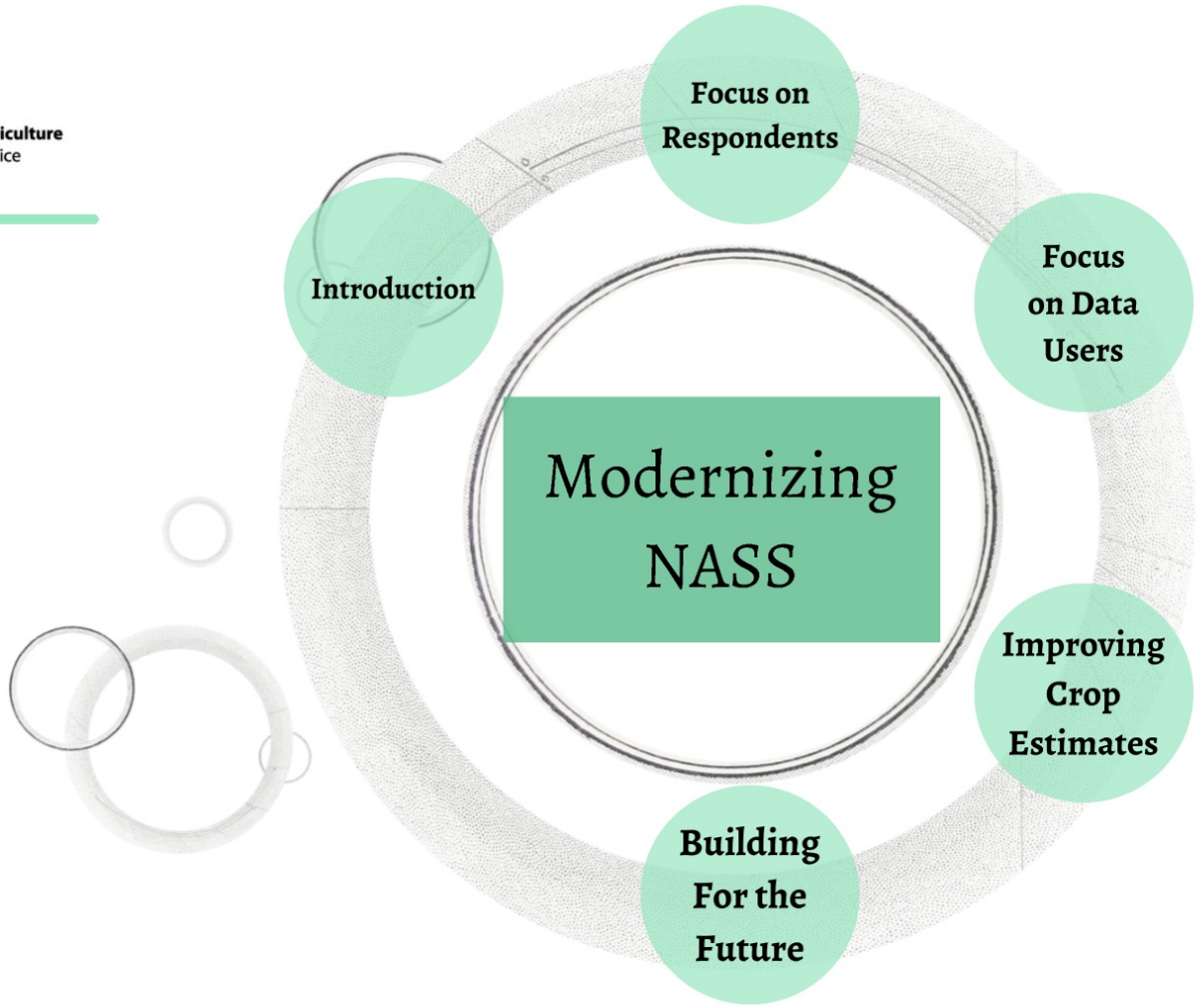
- Transform the NASS data interfaces
  - Simplify access
  - Increase usability
  - Empower modern analysis tools



Strategic Initiative #2: Operating Model Re-imagined

- Reduce process steps
- Streamline operations
- Improve data quality
- Equip staff with best tools
- Recruit & retain top talent

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Strategic Initiative #1:
Data Collection Dashboard

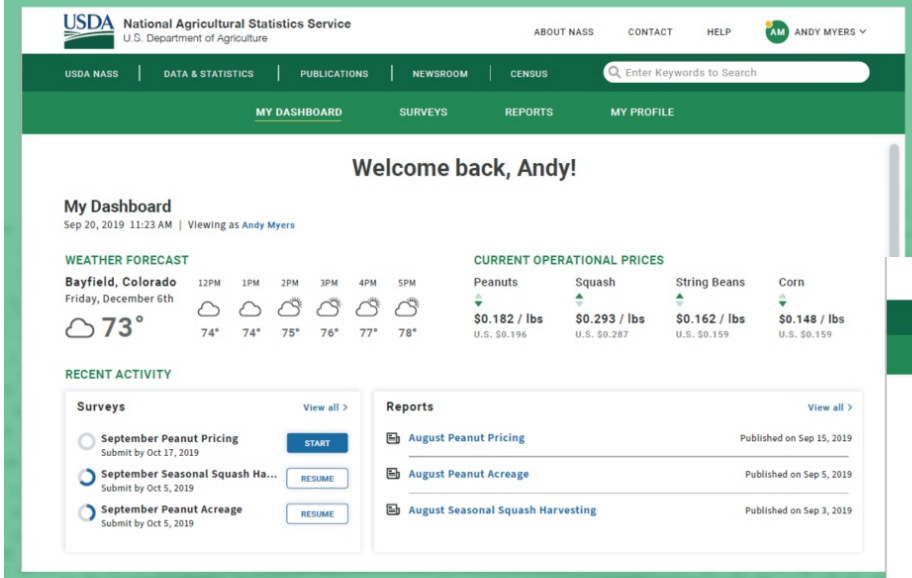
- Customer-centric dashboard
- One stop shopping
- Single point of entry to complete surveys
- Give back to respondents
- USDA Data Lake

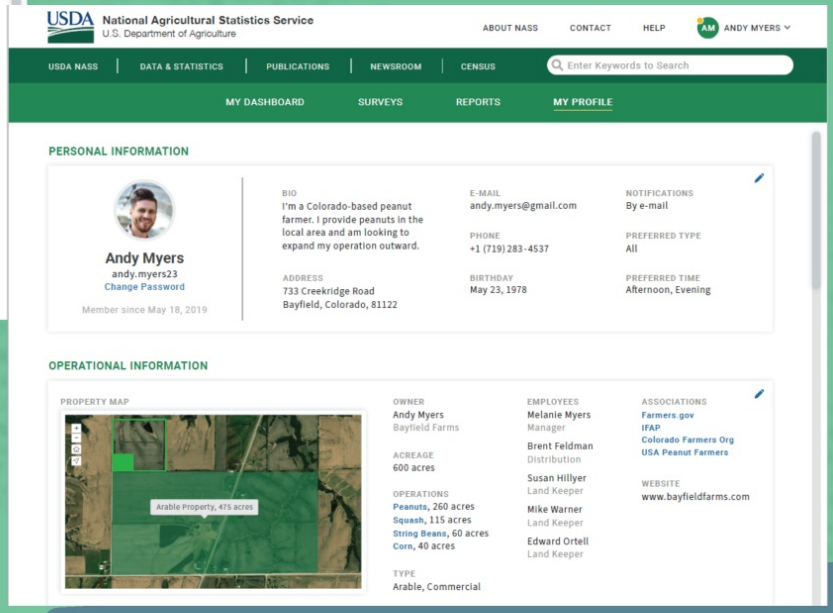
Tailored Experience

Giving Back

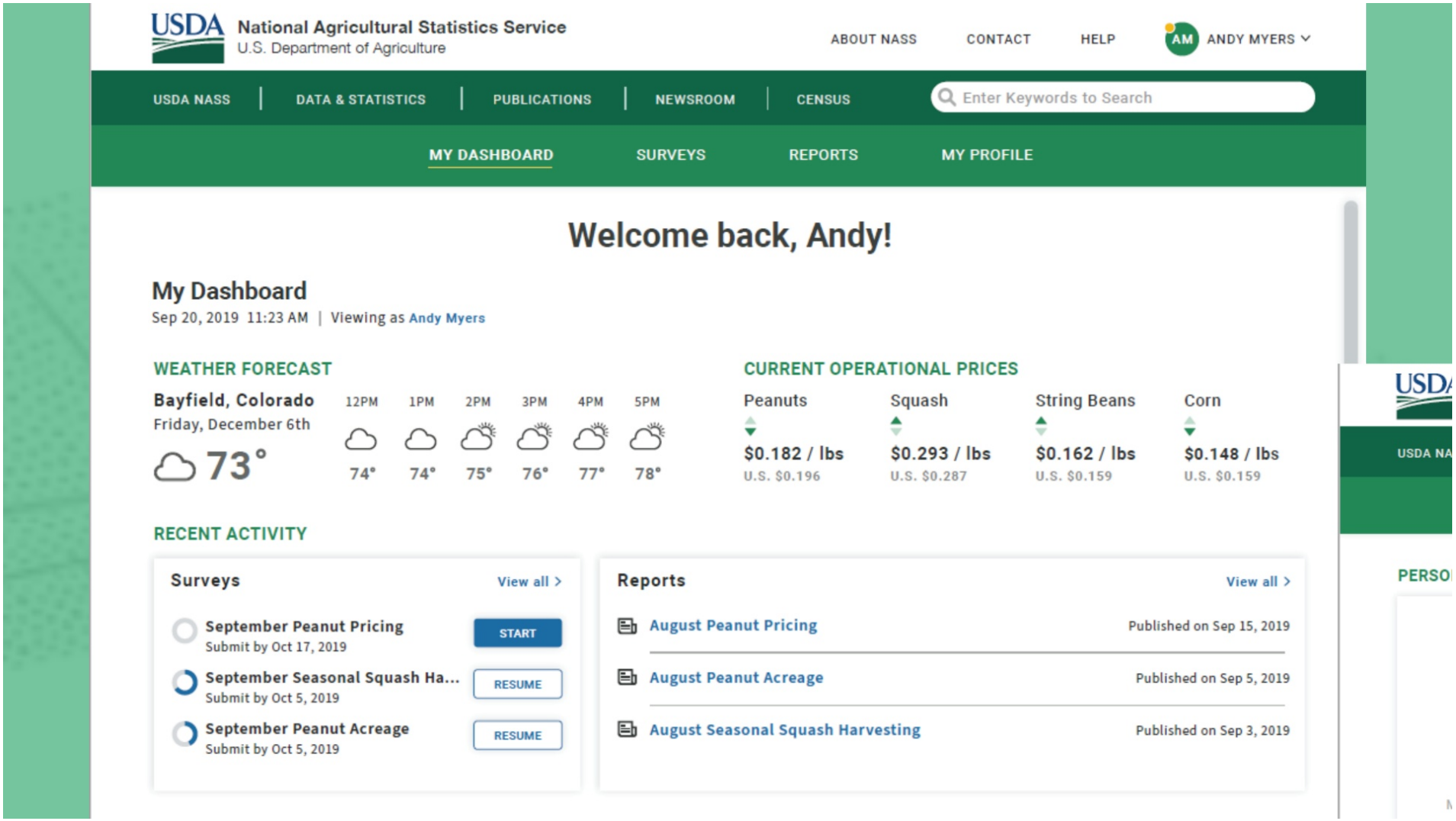
Improved Survey Experience

Timeline





Tailored Experience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ANDY MYERS
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DATA & STATISTICS
PUBLICATIONS
NEWSROOM
CENSUS
Enter Keywords to Search
MY DASHBOARD
SURVEYS
REPORTS
MY PROFILE
Welcome back, Andy!
My Dashboard
Sep 20, 2019 11:23 AM | Viewing as Andy Myers
WEATHER FORECAST
Bayfield, Colorado
Friday, December 6th
73°
12PM 1PM 2PM 3PM 4PM 5PM
74° 74° 75° 76° 77° 78°
CURRENT OPERATIONAL PRICES
Peanuts
$0.182 / lbs
U.S. $0.196
Squash
$0.293 / lbs
U.S. $0.287
String Beans
$0.162 / lbs
U.S. $0.159
Corn
$0.148 / lbs
U.S. $0.159
RECENT ACTIVITY
Surveys
View all >
September Peanut Pricing
Submit by Oct 17, 2019
START
September Seasonal Squash Ha...
Submit by Oct 5, 2019
RESUME
September Peanut Acreage
Submit by Oct 5, 2019
RESUME
Reports
View all >
August Peanut Pricing
Published on Sep 15, 2019
August Peanut Acreage
Published on Sep 5, 2019
August Seasonal Squash Harvesting
Published on Sep 3, 2019

Corn

$0.148 / lbs

U.S. $0.159

View all >

ished on Sep 15, 2019

lished on Sep 5, 2019

lished on Sep 3, 2019

USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

ABOUT NASS CONTACT HELP AM ANDY MYERS

USDA NASS | DATA & STATISTICS | PUBLICATIONS | NEWSROOM | CENSUS | Enter Keywords to Search

MY DASHBOARD SURVEYS REPORTS MY PROFILE

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Andy Myers
andy.myers23
Change Password

Member since May 18, 2019

BIO
I'm a Colorado-based peanut farmer. I provide peanuts in the local area and am looking to expand my operation outward.

E-MAIL
andy.myers@gmail.com

PHONE
+1 (719) 283-4537

ADDRESS
733 Creekridge Road
Bayfield, Colorado, 81122

BIRTHDAY
May 23, 1978

NOTIFICATIONS
By e-mail

PREFERRED TYPE
All

PREFERRED TIME
Afternoon, Evening

OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

PROPERTY MAP

OWNER
Andy Myers
Bayfield Farms

ACREAGE
600 acres

OPERATIONS
Peanuts, 260 acres
Squash, 115 acres
String Beans, 60 acres
Corn, 40 acres

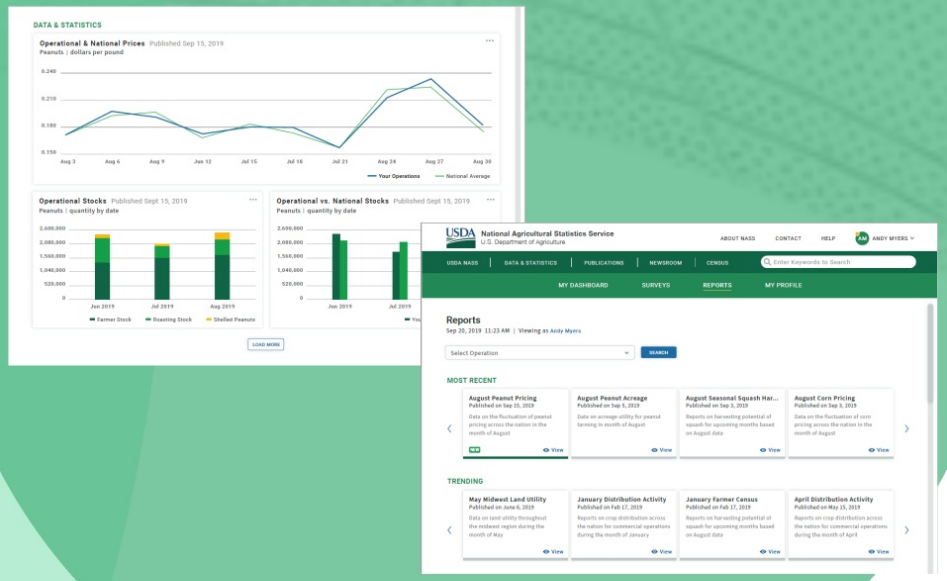
TYPE
Arable, Commercial

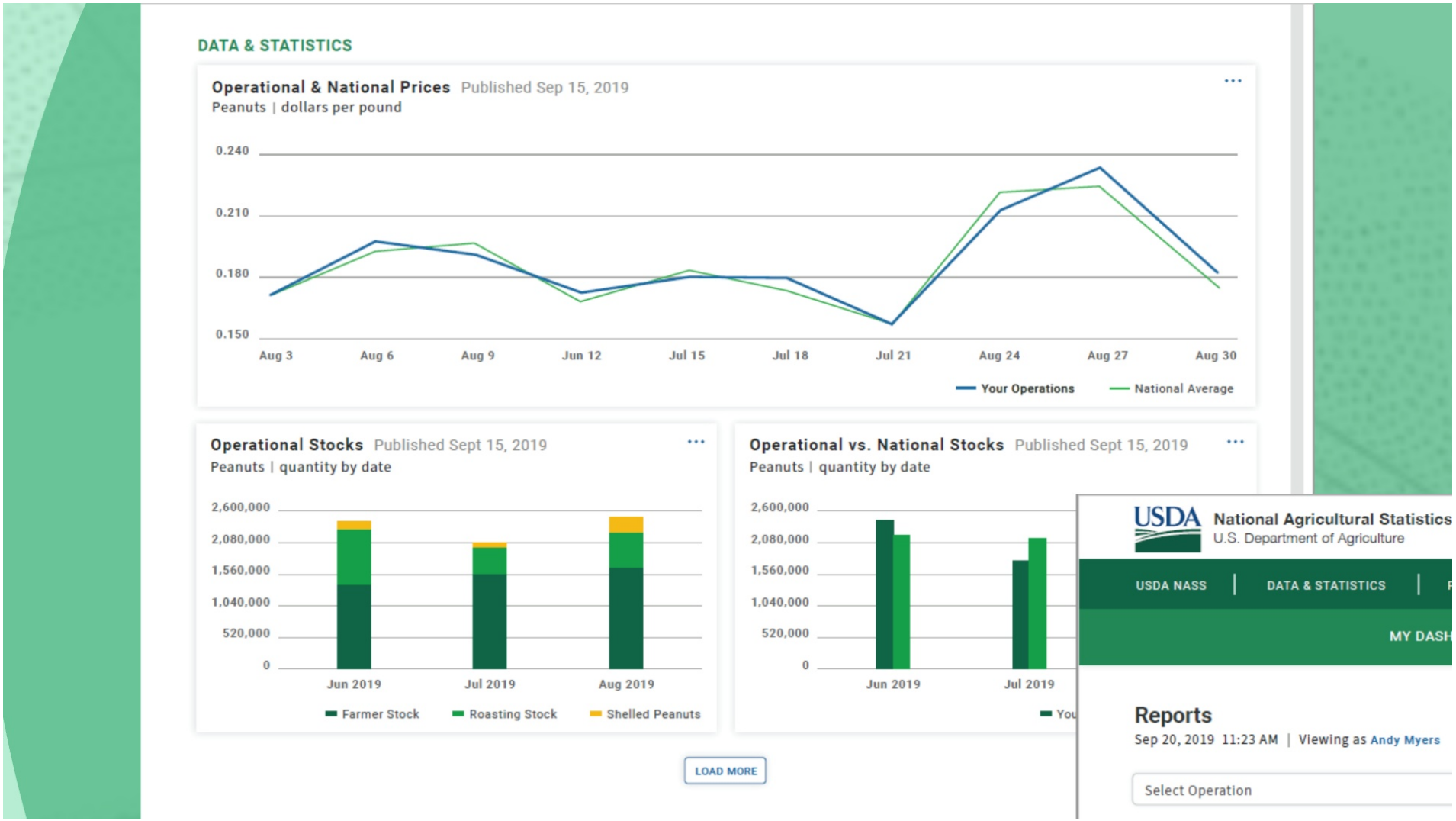
EMPLOYEES
Melanie Myers
Manager
Brent Feldman
Distribution
Susan Hillyer
Land Keeper
Mike Warner
Land Keeper
Edward Ortell
Land Keeper

ASSOCIATIONS
Farmers.gov
IFAP
Colorado Farmers Org
USA Peanut Farmers

WEBSITE
www.bayfieldfarms.com

Giving Back to Respondents




DATA & STATISTICS
Operational & National Prices Published Sep 15, 2019
Peanuts | dollars per pound
0.240
0.210
0.180
0.150
Aug 3
Aug 6
Aug 9
Jun 12
Jul 15
Jul 18
Jul 21
Aug 24
Aug 27
Aug 30
Your Operations
National Average
Operational Stocks Published Sept 15, 2019
Peanuts | quantity by date
2,600,000
2,080,000
1,560,000
1,040,000
520,000
0
Jun 2019
Jul 2019
Aug 2019
Farmer Stock
Roasting Stock
Shelled Peanuts
Operational vs. National Stocks Published Sept 15, 2019
Peanuts | quantity by date
2,600,000
2,080,000
1,560,000
1,040,000
520,000
0
Jun 2019
Jul 2019
LOAD MORE
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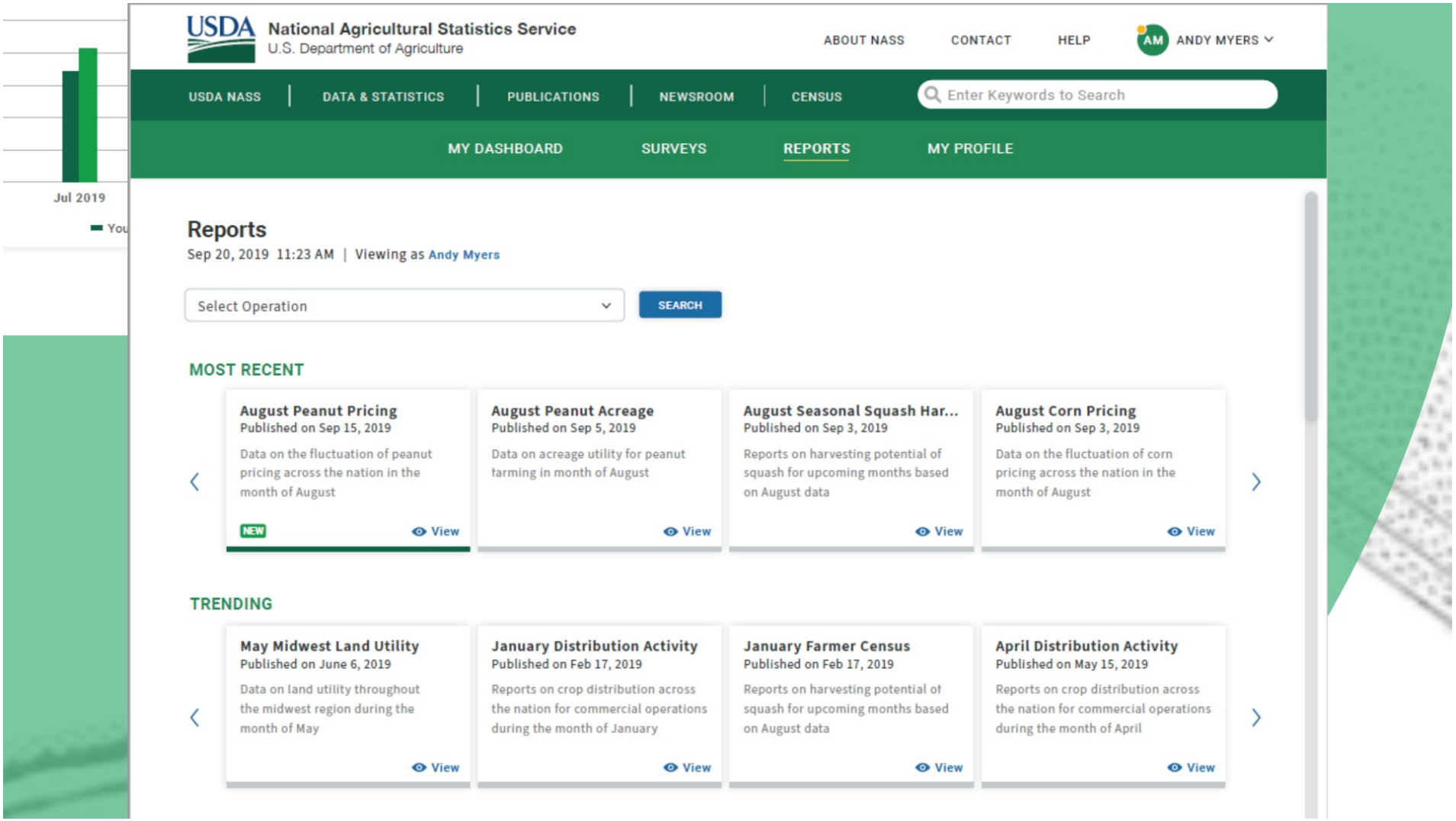
DATA & STATISTICS
MY DASH
Reports
Sep 20, 2019 11:23 AM | Viewing as Andy Myers
Select Operation


Jul 2019
You
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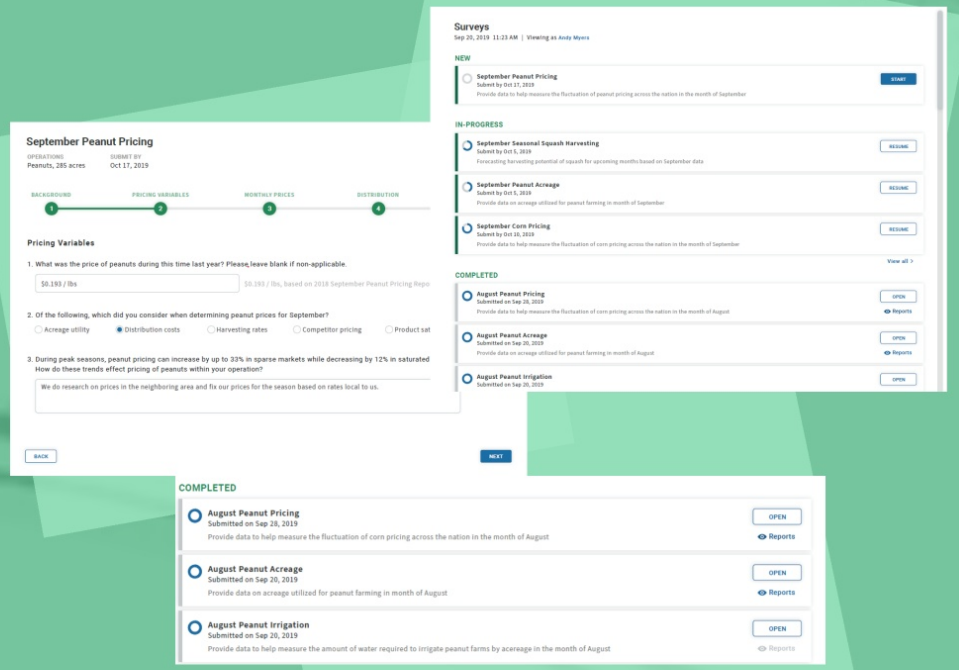
Reports
Sep 20, 2019 11:23 AM | Viewing as Andy Myers
Select Operation
SEARCH
MOST RECENT
August Peanut Pricing
Published on Sep 15, 2019
Data on the fluctuation of peanut pricing across the nation in the month of August
NEW
View
August Peanut Acreage
Published on Sep 5, 2019
Data on acreage utility for peanut farming in month of August
View
August Seasonal Squash Har...
Published on Sep 3, 2019
Reports on harvesting potential of squash for upcoming months based on August data
View
August Corn Pricing
Published on Sep 3, 2019
Data on the fluctuation of corn pricing across the nation in the month of August
View
TRENDING
May Midwest Land Utility
Published on June 6, 2019
Data on land utility throughout the midwest region during the month of May
View
January Distribution Activity
Published on Feb 17, 2019
Reports on crop distribution across the nation for commercial operations during the month of January
View
January Farmer Census
Published on Feb 17, 2019
Reports on harvesting potential of squash for upcoming months based on August data
View
April Distribution Activity
Published on May 15, 2019
Reports on crop distribution across the nation for commercial operations during the month of April
View

Improved Online Survey Experience

- Survey status
  - New
  - In progress
  - Completed
- Linked to data release



September Peanut Pricing

OPERATIONS
Peanuts, 285 acres

SUBMIT BY
Oct 17, 2019

BACKGROUND 1 — PRICING VARIABLES 2 — MONTHLY PRICES 3 — DISTRIBUTION 4

Pricing Variables

1. What was the price of peanuts during this time last year? Please leave blank if non-applicable.

$0.193 / lbs

$0.193 / lbs, based on 2018 September Peanut Pricing Repo

2. Of the following, which did you consider when determining peanut prices for September?

○ Acreage utility ◉ Distribution costs ○ Harvesting rates ○ Competitor pricing ○ Product sat

3. During peak seasons, peanut pricing can increase by up to 33% in sparse markets while decreasing by 12% in saturated How do these trends effect pricing of peanuts within your operation?

We do research on prices in the neighboring area and fix our prices for the season based on rates local to us.

BACK

NEXT

IN-PROGRESS

September Seasonal Squash Harve
Submit by Oct 5, 2019
Forecasting harvesting potential of squash

September Peanut Acreage
Submit by Oct 5, 2019
Provide data on acreage utilized for peanu

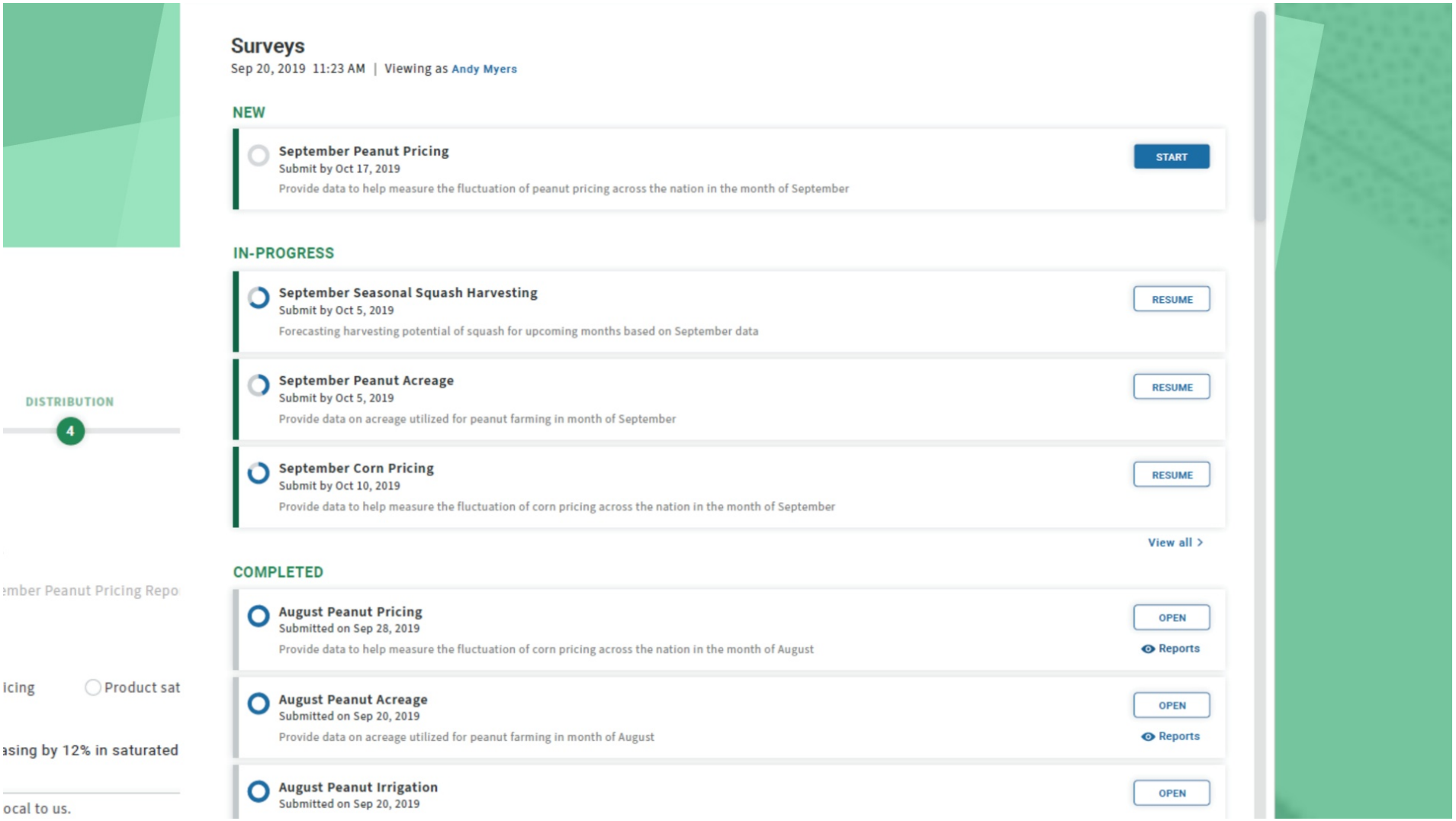
September Corn Pricing
Submit by Oct 10, 2019
Provide data to help measure the fluctuati

COMPLETED

August Peanut Pricing
Submitted on Sep 28, 2019
Provide data to help measure the fluctuati

August Peanut Acreage
Submitted on Sep 20, 2019
Provide data on acreage utilized for peanu

August Peanut Irrigation
Submitted on Sep 20, 2019


Surveys
Sep 20, 2019 11:23 AM | Viewing as Andy Myers
NEW
September Peanut Pricing
Submit by Oct 17, 2019
Provide data to help measure the fluctuation of peanut pricing across the nation in the month of September
START
IN-PROGRESS
September Seasonal Squash Harvesting
Submit by Oct 5, 2019
Forecasting harvesting potential of squash for upcoming months based on September data
RESUME
September Peanut Acreage
Submit by Oct 5, 2019
Provide data on acreage utilized for peanut farming in month of September
RESUME
September Corn Pricing
Submit by Oct 10, 2019
Provide data to help measure the fluctuation of corn pricing across the nation in the month of September
RESUME
View all >
COMPLETED
August Peanut Pricing
Submitted on Sep 28, 2019
Provide data to help measure the fluctuation of corn pricing across the nation in the month of August
OPEN
Reports
August Peanut Acreage
Submitted on Sep 20, 2019
Provide data on acreage utilized for peanut farming in month of August
OPEN
Reports
August Peanut Irrigation
Submitted on Sep 20, 2019
OPEN
DISTRIBUTION
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Product sat
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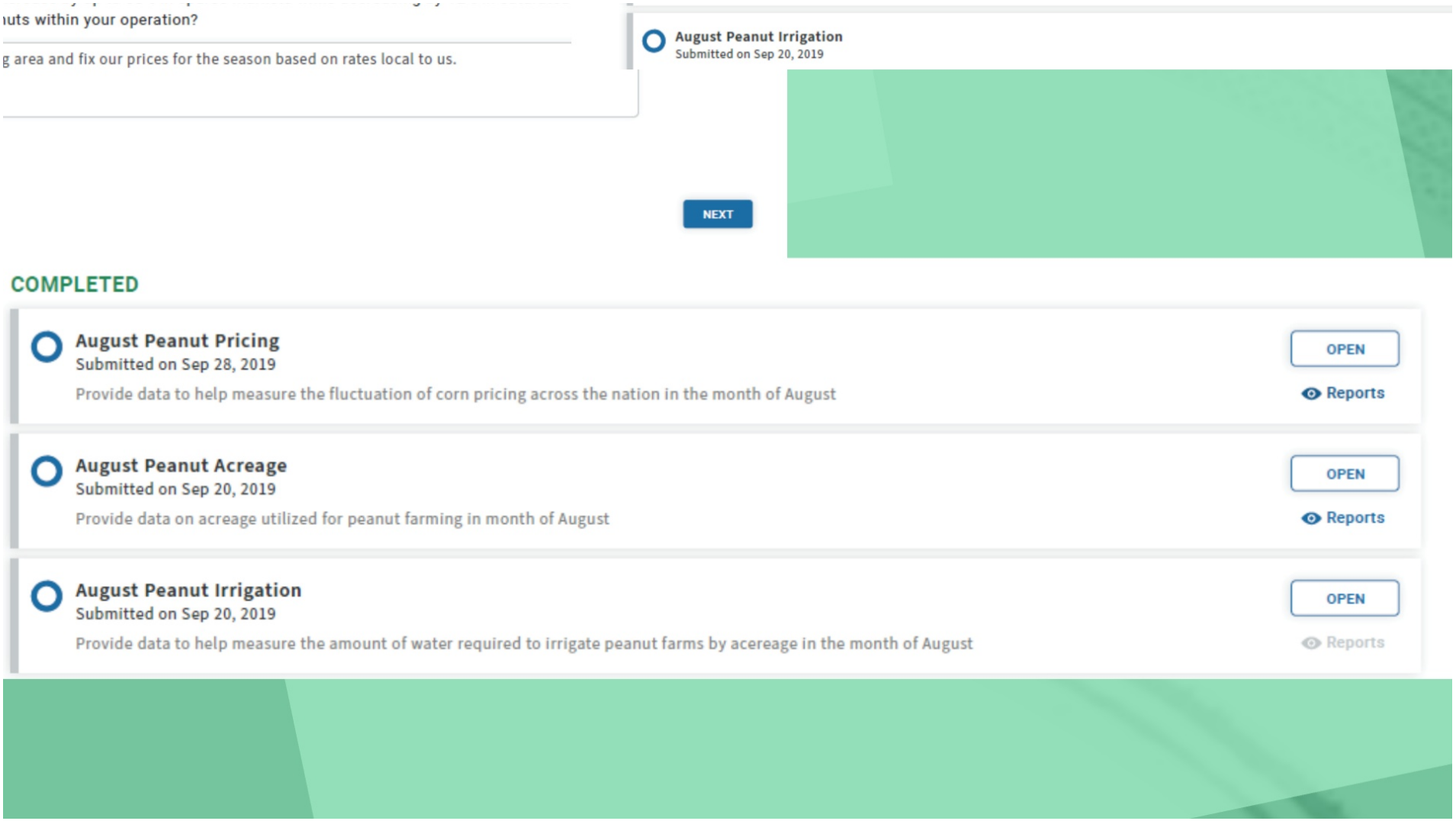
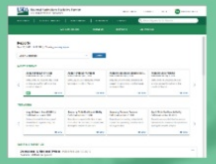

uts within your operation?
g area and fix our prices for the season based on rates local to us.
August Peanut Irrigation
Submitted on Sep 20, 2019
NEXT
COMPLETED
August Peanut Pricing
Submitted on Sep 28, 2019
Provide data to help measure the fluctuation of corn pricing across the nation in the month of August
OPEN
Reports
August Peanut Acreage
Submitted on Sep 20, 2019
Provide data on acreage utilized for peanut farming in month of August
OPEN
Reports
August Peanut Irrigation
Submitted on Sep 20, 2019
Provide data to help measure the amount of water required to irrigate peanut farms by acereage in the month of August
OPEN
Reports

Timeline

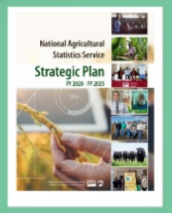
Strategic Initiative #1:
Data Collection Dashboard-Timeline

2021 Farmer/rancher portal and enumerator portal. Integration of existing survey management processes.

Consolidate, streamline, and modernize the number and complexity of NASS's software applications. **2022**



2023 Integration with Farmers.gov.



Provide data products based on user/customer research and validated learning. **2024**

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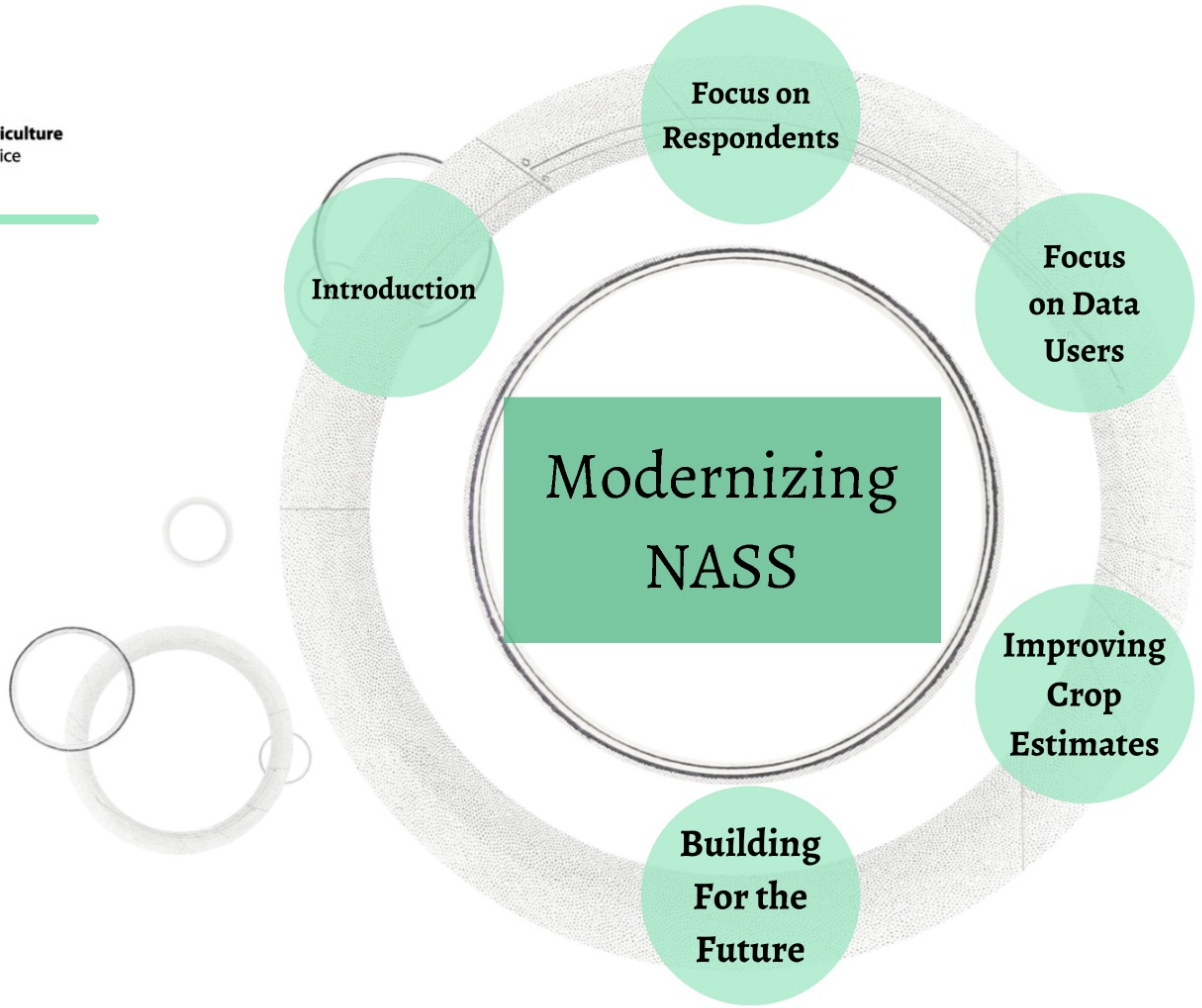
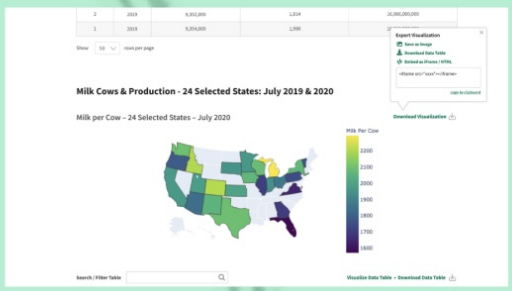


Strategic Initiative #3:
Improving the Data User Experience

- Transform NASS data interfaces
- Simplify access
- Increase usability
- Empower modern analysis tools
- Integrate with web content



Data Tables

Enhanced API

Topic Landing Pages

Timeline

Data Tables

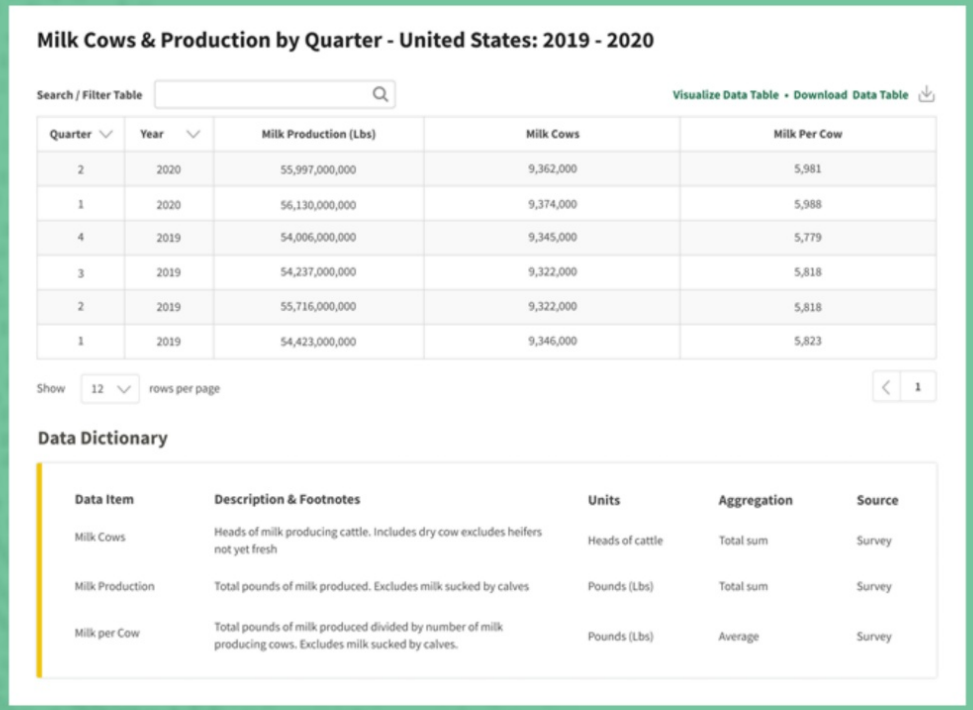
- Data Items + Time Period + Geo-Level
- "Tidy" data
- "Footnotes" included
- Shared features: Export, filter, pagination, add visualization

Milk Cows and Production by Quarter - United States: 2019-2020

[May not add due to rounding. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Quarter	Milk cows [1]		Milk per cow [2]		Milk production [2]		
	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	Change from 2019
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
January-March	9,346	9,374	5,823	5,988	54,423	56,130	3.1
April-June	9,331	9,362	5,971	5,981	55,716	55,997	0.5
July-September	9,322		5,818		54,237		
October-December	9,345		5,779		54,006		
Annual	9,336		23,391		218,382		

[1] Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.
[2] Excludes milk sucked by calves.



Milk Cows & Production by Quarter - United States: 2019 - 2020

Search / Filter Table

Visualize Data Table • Download Data Table

Quarter	Year	Milk Production (Lbs)	Milk Cows	Milk Per Cow
2	2020	55,997,000,000	9,362,000	5,981
1	2020	56,130,000,000	9,374,000	5,988
4	2019	54,006,000,000	9,345,000	5,779
3	2019	54,237,000,000	9,322,000	5,818
2	2019	55,716,000,000	9,322,000	5,818
1	2019	54,423,000,000	9,346,000	5,823

Show 12 rows per page

1

Data Dictionary

Data Item	Description & Footnotes	Units	Aggregation	Source
Milk Cows	Heads of milk producing cattle. Includes dry cow excludes heifers not yet fresh	Heads of cattle	Total sum	Survey
Milk Production	Total pounds of milk produced. Excludes milk sucked by calves	Pounds (Lbs)	Total sum	Survey
Milk per Cow	Total pounds of milk produced divided by number of milk producing cows. Excludes milk sucked by calves.	Pounds (Lbs)	Average	Survey

Milk Cows & Production by Quarter - United States: 2019 - 2020

Search / Filter Table

Visualize Data Table • Download Data Table

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Show 12 rows per page

1

Data Dictionary

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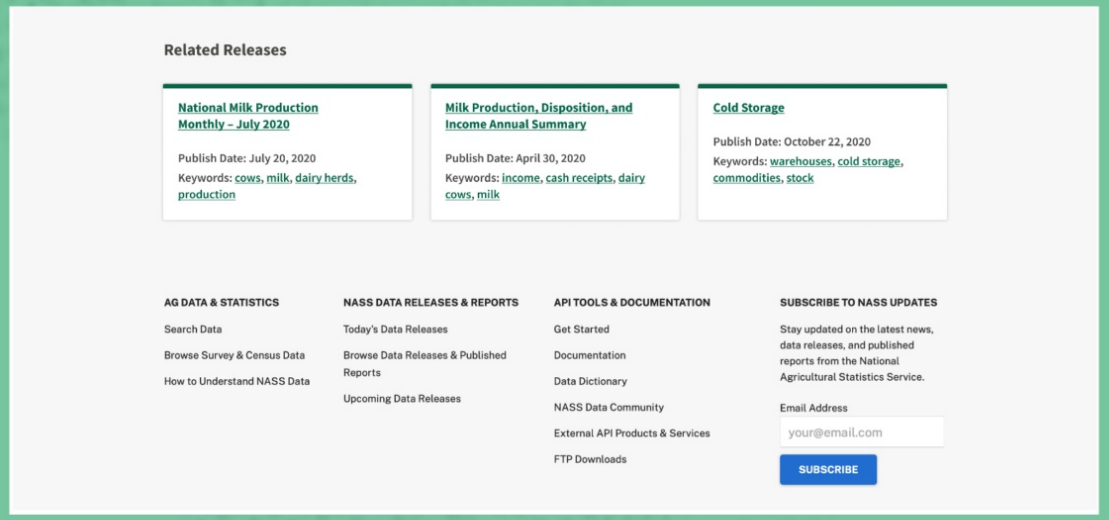
Enhanced API

- Improved Documentation
- Data Dictionary
- User Community



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Upcoming Data Releases

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Documentation

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NASS Data Community

External API Products & Services

FTP Downloads

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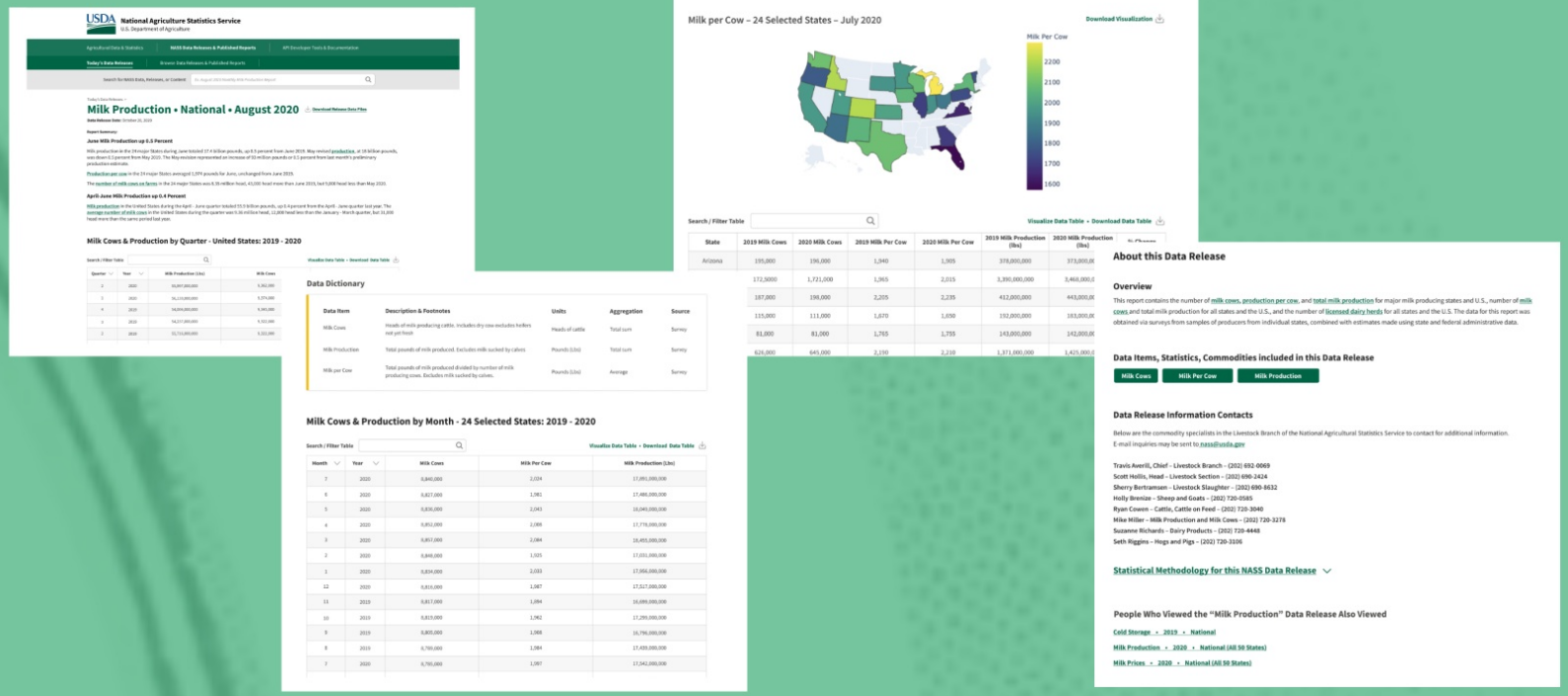

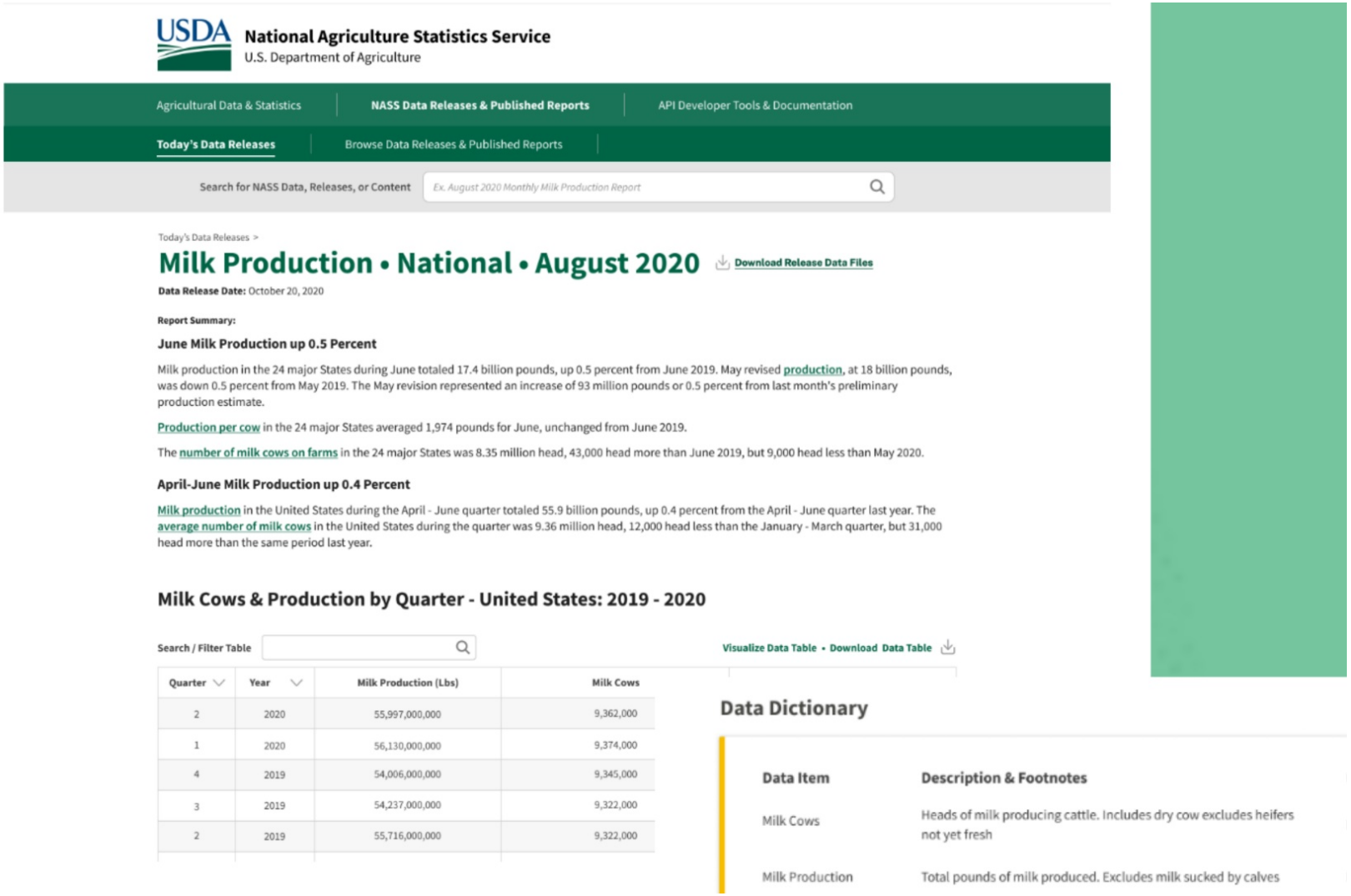

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Today's Data Releases | Browse Data Releases & Published Reports

Search for NASS Data, Releases, or Content — Ex. August 2020 Monthly Milk Production Report

Today's Data Releases >

Milk Production • National • August 2020

Download Release Data Files

Data Release Date: October 20, 2020

Report Summary:

June Milk Production up 0.5 Percent

Milk production in the 24 major States during June totaled 17.4 billion pounds, up 0.5 percent from June 2019. May revised production, at 18 billion pounds, was down 0.5 percent from May 2019. The May revision represented an increase of 93 million pounds or 0.5 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 24 major States averaged 1,974 pounds for June, unchanged from June 2019.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 24 major States was 8.35 million head, 43,000 head more than June 2019, but 9,000 head less than May 2020.

April-June Milk Production up 0.4 Percent

Milk production in the United States during the April - June quarter totaled 55.9 billion pounds, up 0.4 percent from the April - June quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the United States during the quarter was 9.36 million head, 12,000 head less than the January - March quarter, but 31,000 head more than the same period last year.

Milk Cows & Production by Quarter - United States: 2019 - 2020

Search / Filter Table

Visualize Data Table • Download Data Table

Quarter	Year	Milk Production (Lbs)	Milk Cows
2	2020	55,997,000,000	9,362,000
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4	2019	54,006,000,000	9,345,000
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2	2019	55,716,000,000	9,322,000

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Milk Production (Lbs)	Milk Cows
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Milk per Cow	Total pounds of milk produced divided by number of milk producing cows. Excludes milk sucked by calves.	Pounds (Lbs)	Average	Survey

Milk Cows & Production by Month - 24 Selected States: 2019 - 2020

Search / Filter Table

Visualize Data Table • Download Data Table

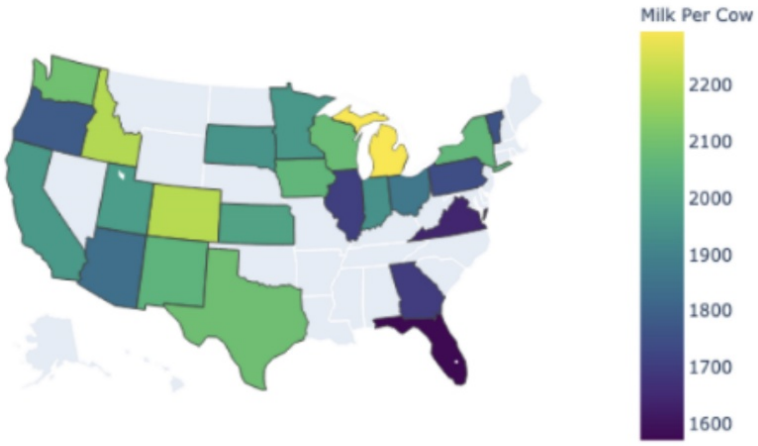
Month	Year	Milk Cows	Milk Per Cow	Milk Production (Lbs)
7	2020	8,840,000	2,024	17,891,000,000
6	2020	8,827,000	1,981	17,486,000,000
5	2020	8,836,000	2,043	18,049,000,000
4	2020	8,852,000	2,008	17,778,000,000
3	2020	8,857,000	2,084	18,455,000,000
2	2020	8,848,000	1,925	17,031,000,000
1	2020	8,834,000	2,033	17,956,000,000
12	2020	8,816,000	1,987	17,517,000,000
11	2019	8,817,000	1,894	16,699,000,000
10	2019	8,819,000	1,962	17,299,000,000
9	2019	8,805,000	1,908	16,796,000,000
8	2019	8,789,000	1,984	17,439,000,000
7	2020	8,785,000	1,997	17,542,000,000

172,5000	1,721,000	1,965
187,000	198,000	2,205
115,000	111,000	1,670
81,000	81,000	1,765
626,000	645,000	2,190

Milk Cows & Production - 24 Selected States: July 2019 & 2020

Milk per Cow – 24 Selected States – July 2020

Download Visualization



Search / Filter Table

Visualize Data Table • Download Data Table

State	2019 Milk Cows	2020 Milk Cows	2019 Milk Per Cow	2020 Milk Per Cow	2019 Milk Production (lbs)	2020 Milk Production (lbs)	% Change
Arizona	195,000	196,000	1,940	1,905	378,000,000	373,000,0	
	172,5000	1,721,000	1,965	2,015	3,390,000,000	3,468,000,0	
	187,000	198,000	2,205	2,235	412,000,000	443,000,0	
	115,000	111,000	1,670	1,650	192,000,000	183,000,0	
	81,000	81,000	1,765	1,755	143,000,000	142,000,0	
	626,000	645,000	2,190	2,210	1,371,000,000	1,425,000,0	

Aggregation	Source
Total sum	Survey
Total sum	Survey

About this Data Release

Overview

This report contains the number of milk cows, production p
cows and total milk production for all states and the U.S., ar
obtained via surveys from samples of producers from indivi

About this Data Release

Overview

This report contains the number of milk cows, production per cow, and total milk production for major milk producing states and U.S., number of milk cows and total milk production for all states and the U.S., and the number of licensed dairy herds for all states and the U.S. The data for this report was obtained via surveys from samples of producers from individual states, combined with estimates made using state and federal administrative data.

Data Items, Statistics, Commodities included in this Data Release

Milk Cows | Milk Per Cow | Milk Production

Data Release Information Contacts

Below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information.
E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@usda.gov

Travis Averill, Chief – Livestock Branch – (202) 692-0069
Scott Hollis, Head – Livestock Section – (202) 690-2424
Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter – (202) 690-8632
Holly Brenize – Sheep and Goats – (202) 720-0585
Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed – (202) 720-3040

Sherry Bertramsen – Livestock Slaughter – (202) 690-8632

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Ryan Cowen – Cattle, Cattle on Feed – (202) 720-3040

Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows – (202) 720-3278

Suzanne Richards – Dairy Products – (202) 720-4448

Seth Riggins – Hogs and Pigs – (202) 720-3106

Statistical Methodology for this NASS Data Release

People Who Viewed the "Milk Production" Data Release Also Viewed

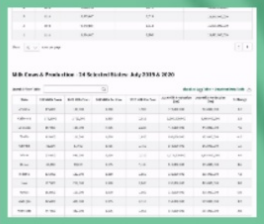
Cold Storage • 2019 • National

Milk Production • 2020 • National (All 50 States)

Milk Prices • 2020 • National (All 50 States)

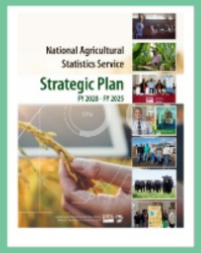
Strategic Initiative #3:
Improving the Ag Data User Experience-Timeline

2021 Initial pilot with dairy data.



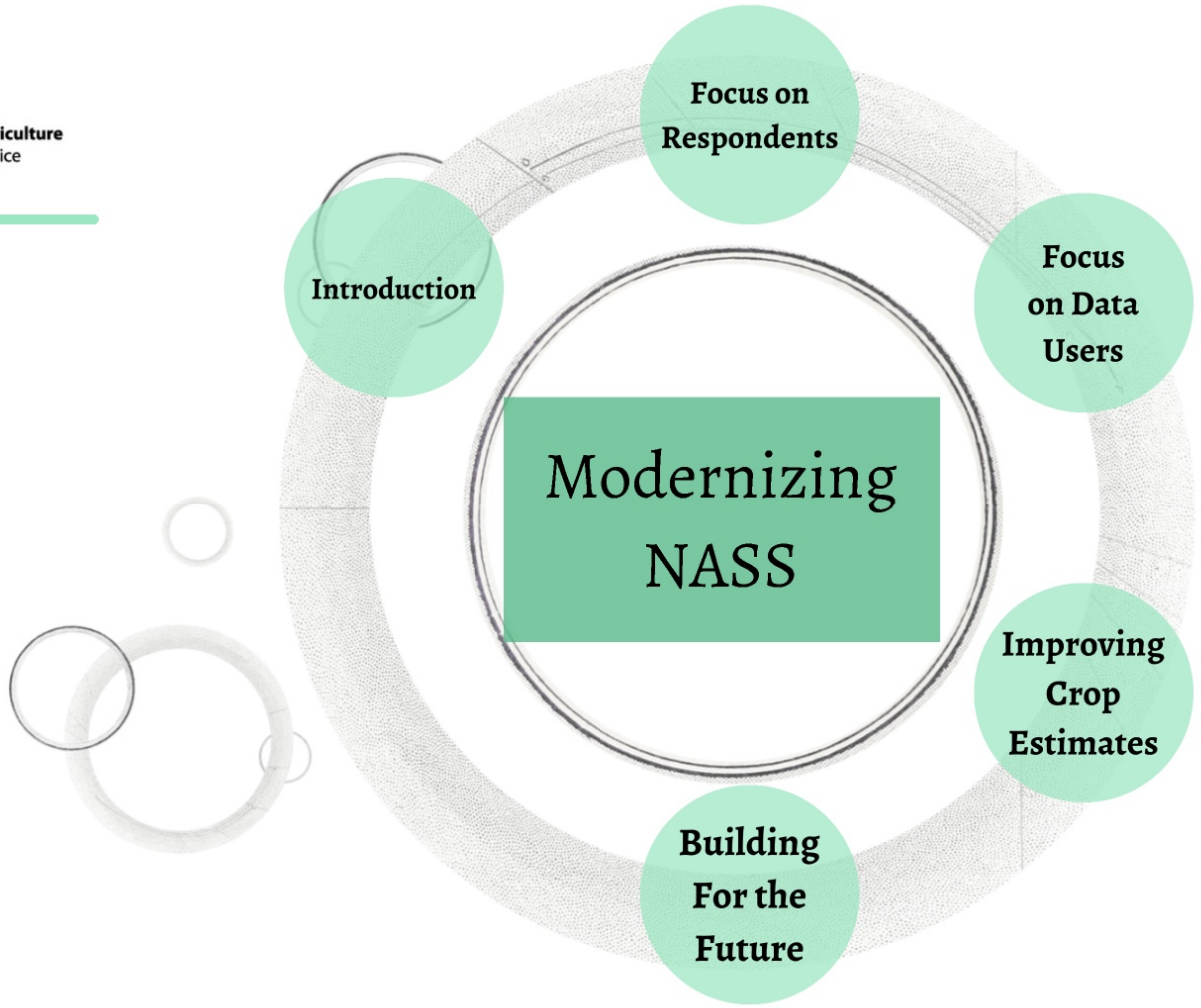
Additional commodity groups integrated.
Continued development of data landing pages. **2022**

2023 Additional commodity groups integrated.
Enhanced search capabilities.



Additional commodity groups integrated.
Continued development of data landing pages. **2024**

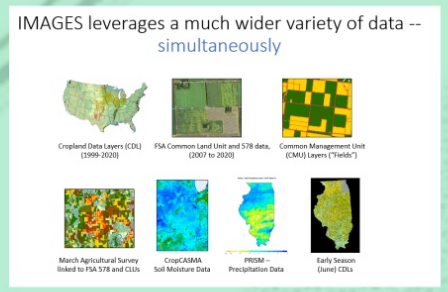
United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



IMAGES

Integrated Modeling and Geospatial Estimation System

- Using all available, useful data
- New analysis methods
- Powerful new tools
- Future dividends



Why Now

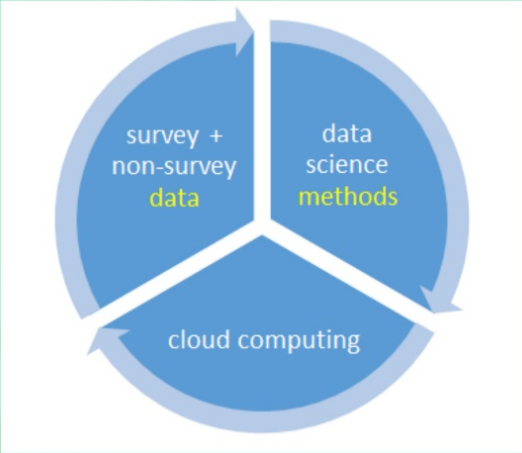
All Data

New Tools

Future Dividends

Timeline

Necessity and Opportunity



Challenges

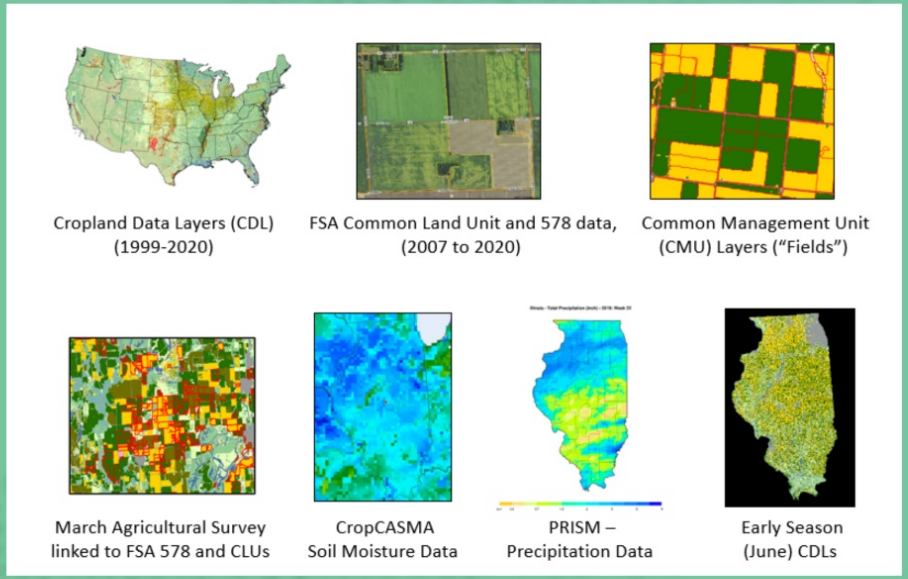
- Survey burden
- Perceived duplication
- Increasing costs
- Aging systems

Opportunities

- Fuller utilization of data
- New insights
- Timelier information

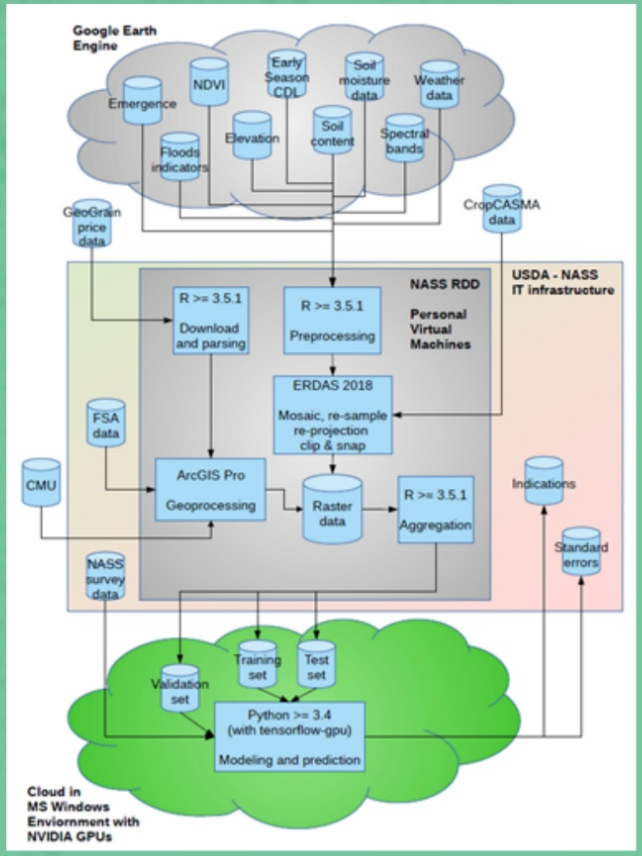
All available, useful data

- Administrative data
- Geospatial data
- Economic data
- **+ NASS survey data**



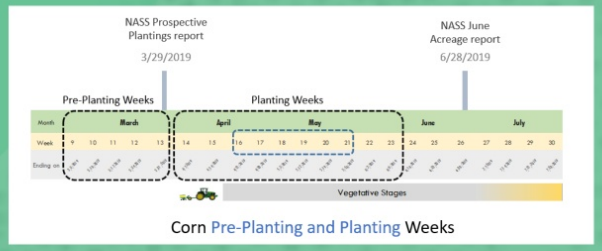
New tools

- USDA cloud computing
- Google Earth Engine
- AWS
- Machine learning, predictive modeling
- Partnerships
    - ERS
    - ARS
    - NRCS
    - FSA



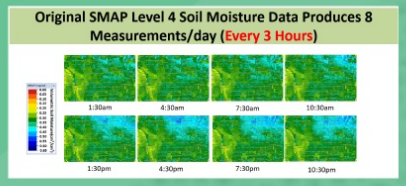
Future Dividends

- Potential new products
- Supplement/replace survey data
- Enhanced disaster monitoring
- Customer benefits
- Exciting work
    - recruit/retain top talent

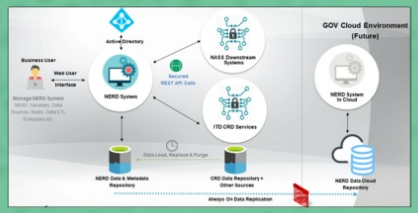


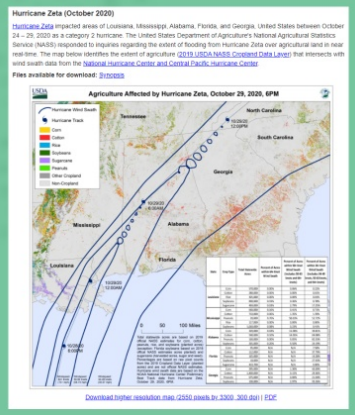
Corn Pre-Planting and Planting Weeks

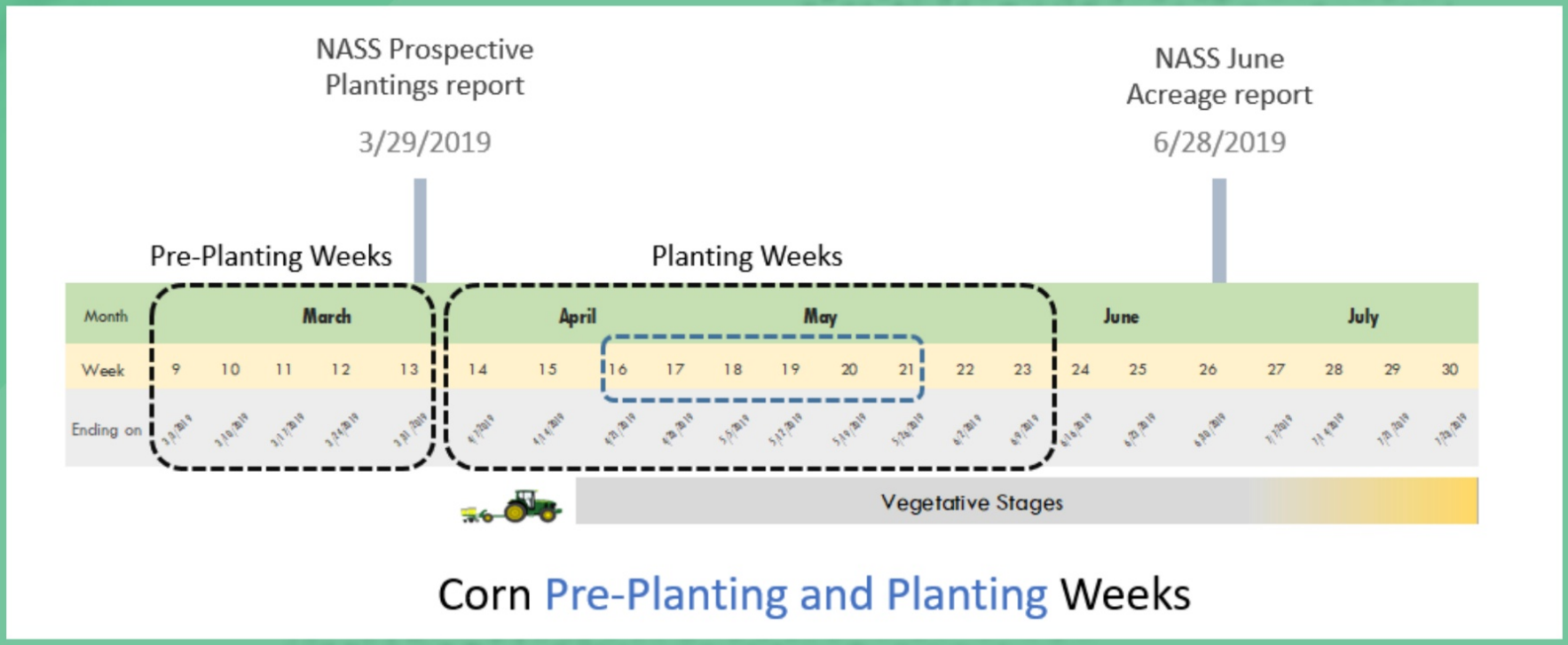
CropCASMA



Non-edited Respondent Data

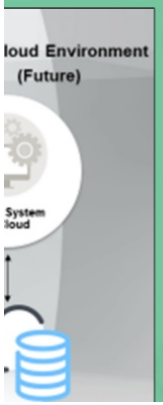






Corn Pre-Planting and Planting Weeks

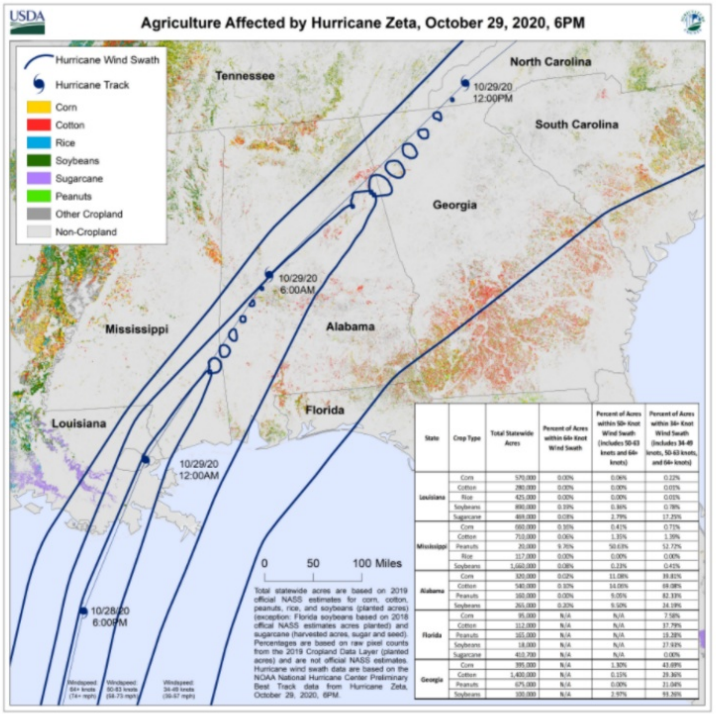
dent



Hurricane Zeta (October 2020)

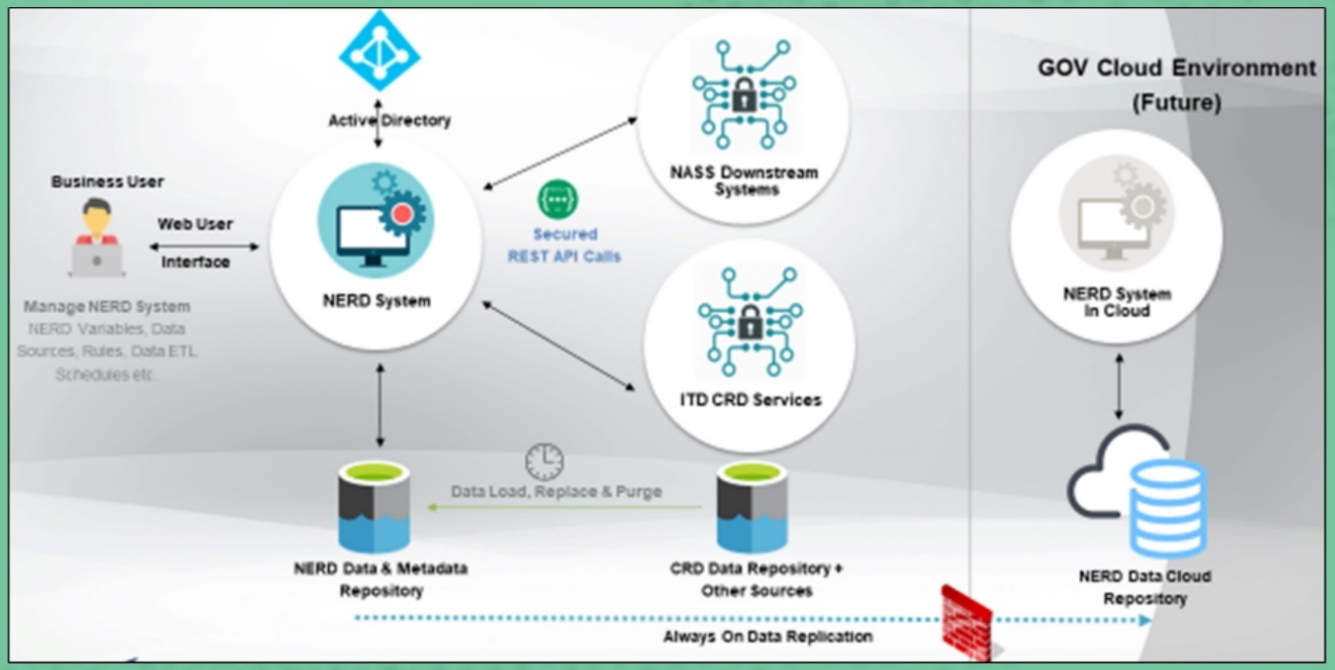
Hurricane Zeta impacted areas of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, and Georgia, United States between October 24 – 29, 2020 as a category 2 hurricane. The United States Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) responded to inquiries regarding the extent of flooding from Hurricane Zeta over agricultural land in near real-time. The map below identifies the extent of agriculture (2019 USDA NASS Cropland Data Layer) that intersects with wind swath data from the National Hurricane Center and Central Pacific Hurricane Center.

Files available for download: Synopsis



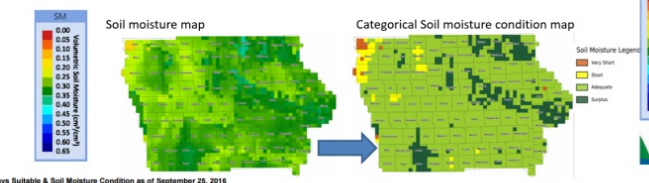
Download higher resolution map (2550 pixels by 3300, 300 dpi) | PDF

Non-edited Respondent Data



CropCASMA

NASS Categorical Soil Moisture Condition Map Data

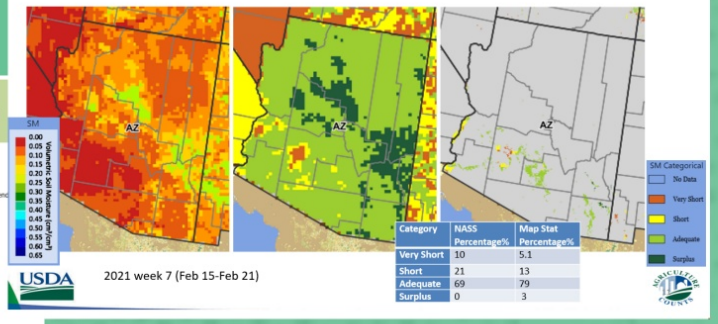


Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of September 25, 2016

Item	Districts									State	Last week	Last year
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE			
Days suitable	4.0	1.7	2.0	4.1	3.1	4.0	4.5	4.3	6.4	3.6	3.3	4.3
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	1	1	0
Short	4	0	1	0	1	1	0	4	15	2	3	4
Adequate	70	40	42	83	73	68	82	87	72	67	77	84
Surplus	26	60	57	17	26	31	18	8	2	30	19	12

- Provides crop soil moisture conditions at any location!

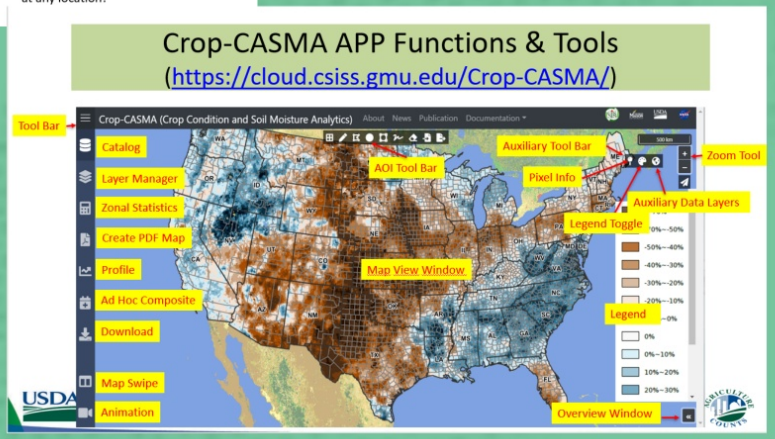
Arizona SM condition Map –Topsoil



2021 week 7 (Feb 15-Feb 21)

Category	NASS Percentage%	Map Stat Percentage%
Very Short	10	5.1
Short	21	13
Adequate	69	79
Surplus	0	3

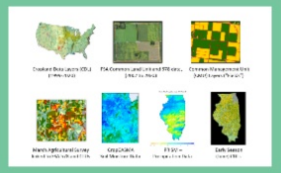
Crop-CASMA APP Functions & Tools (https://cloud.csiss.gmu.edu/Crop-CASMA/)



Timeline

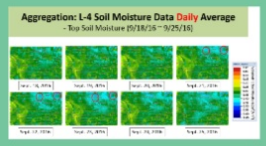
Improving Crop Estimates-Timeline

2021 Cloud computing, modeling, and linking FSA records.
- One state.



Modeling, and linking FSA records.
- 10 states.

2022

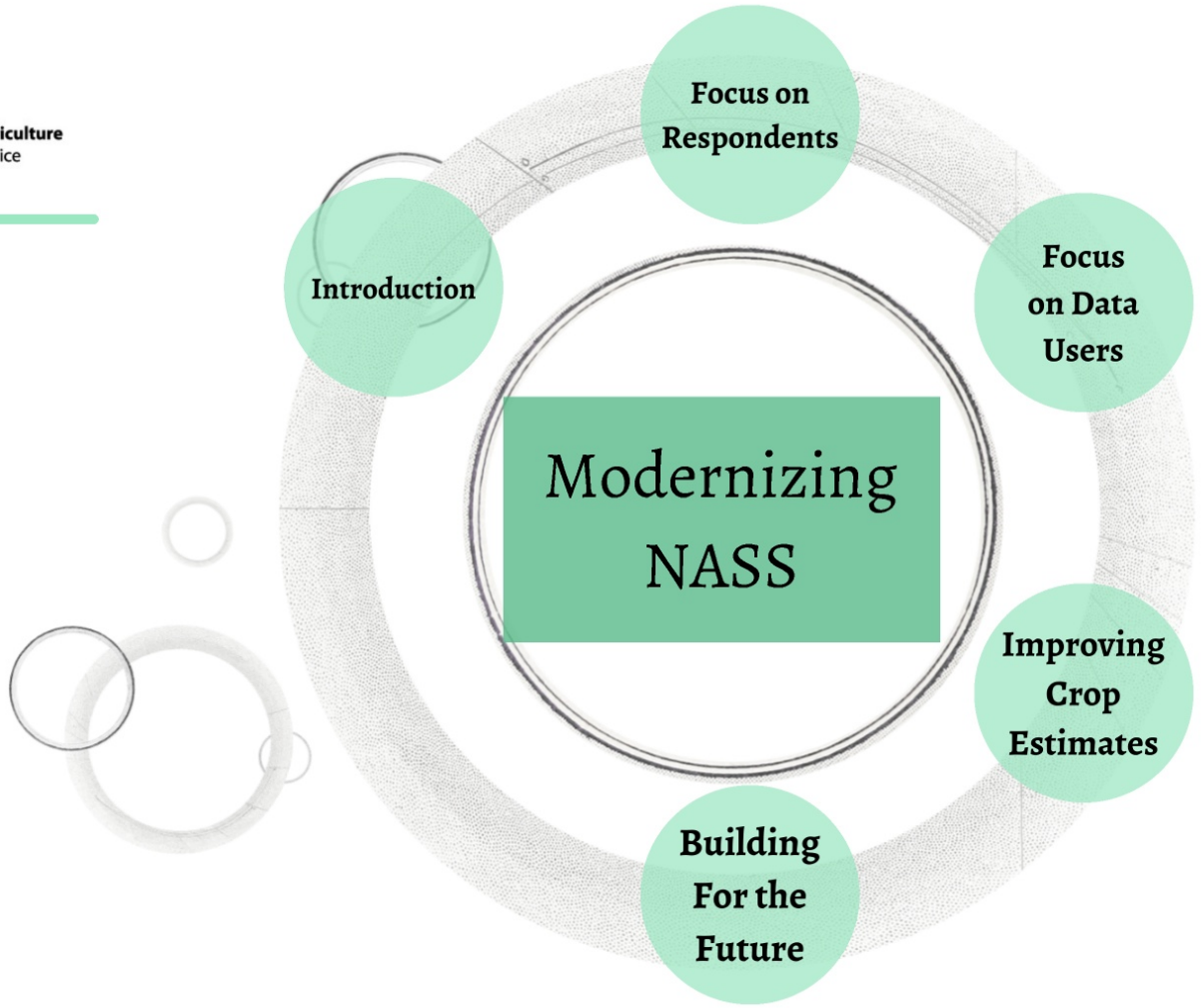


2023 Begin modeling, and linking FSA records.
- Continental U.S.

Complete modeling, and linking FSA records.
- Continental U.S.

2024

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Future

Modernize & Position NASS for future

- **$10 - $15 million per year**
- **3 - 5 years**
- Data quality
- Multiple data sources
- Customer-focused products/usability
- Modern tools and staff skills
- Relevance - Climate change, research access, conservation, business

USDA

United States Department of Agriculture

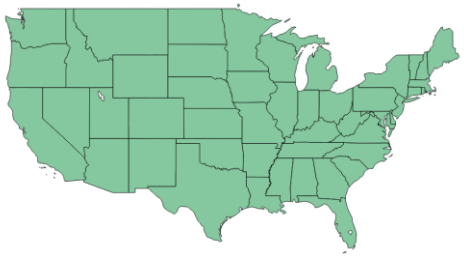
Farm Sector Income and Wealth Data Product: A Brief Overview

2021 USDA Data Users' Meeting

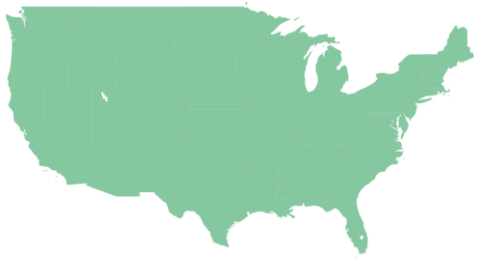
Carrie Litkowski

4/15/2021

Farm Sector Income and Wealth Statistics



Historical State Estimates



Historical National Estimates

National Forecasts

Data: http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/farm-income-and-wealth-statistics

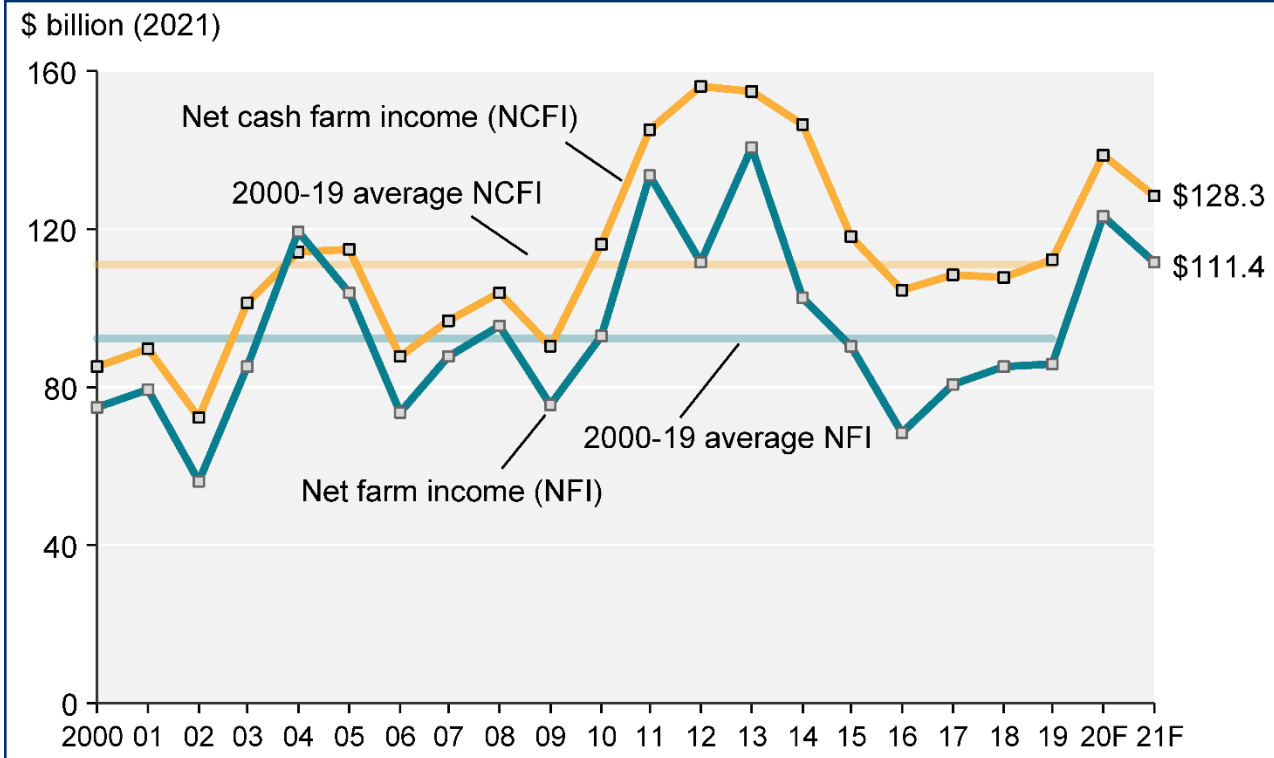
Forecast Discussion: https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/farm-economy/farm-sector-income-finances/

Farm Income and Wealth Statistics

- Overview
- Data Files: U.S. and State-Level Farm Income and Wealth Statistics
- Summary of Data Findings
- Charts and Maps About Your State
- Charts and Maps of U.S. Farm Balance Sheet Data
- Charts and Maps of U.S. Farm Income Statement Data
- Update and Revision History
- General Documentation

Farm sector profits expected to decline in 2021 after increasing in 2020

U.S. net farm income and net cash farm income, 2000–21F



Note: F = forecast. Values are adjusted for inflation using the Gross Domestic Product chain-type price index, 2021=100.
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service, Farm Income and Wealth Statistics.
Data as of February 5, 2021.

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Period: Most recent data

Nominal/real dollars: Nominal (cu

1 of 51 Find | Next

ent Map

State_US
United States
Alabama
Alaska
Arizona
Arkansas
California
Colorado
Connecticut
Delaware
Florida
Georgia
Hawaii
Idaho
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana

Value added to the U.S. economy by the agricultural sector, 2012-2021F
Nominal (current dollars)

United States	2012	2013	2014
	$1,000	*$1,000*	*$1,000*
Value of crop production	212,864,572	233,764,498	206,311,808
Crop cash receipts	231,571,461	220,948,387	211,680,565
Cotton	8,230,448	6,515,834	7,111,320
Feed crops	82,136,536	70,845,938	65,888,944
Food grains	19,292,117	17,236,764	16,058,149
Fruits and nuts	28,107,818	30,214,108	32,248,510
Oil crops	46,925,602	47,270,761	42,624,290
Tobacco	1,347,847	1,564,990	1,728,991
Vegetables and melons	17,412,740	19,490,674	18,951,858
All other crops	28,118,353	27,809,317	27,068,502
Home consumption	106,138	160,068	239,478
Inventory adjustment	-18,813,027	12,656,043	-5,608,235
Value of animals and products production	169,113,930	181,112,181	214,340,139
Animals and products cash receipts	169,818,778	183,137,335	212,290,239
Dairy products, Milk	37,064,731	40,282,881	49,351,199
Meat animals	88,182,234	91,555,897	107,566,114
Miscellaneous livestock	6,283,566	6,862,426	6,900,663
Poultry and eggs	38,288,247	44,436,132	48,472,262
Home consumption	278,213	329,285	348,665

The Farm Income Atlas

created by: The ERS Farm Income Team

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Cash receipts | Farm-related income | **Government payments** | Production expenses

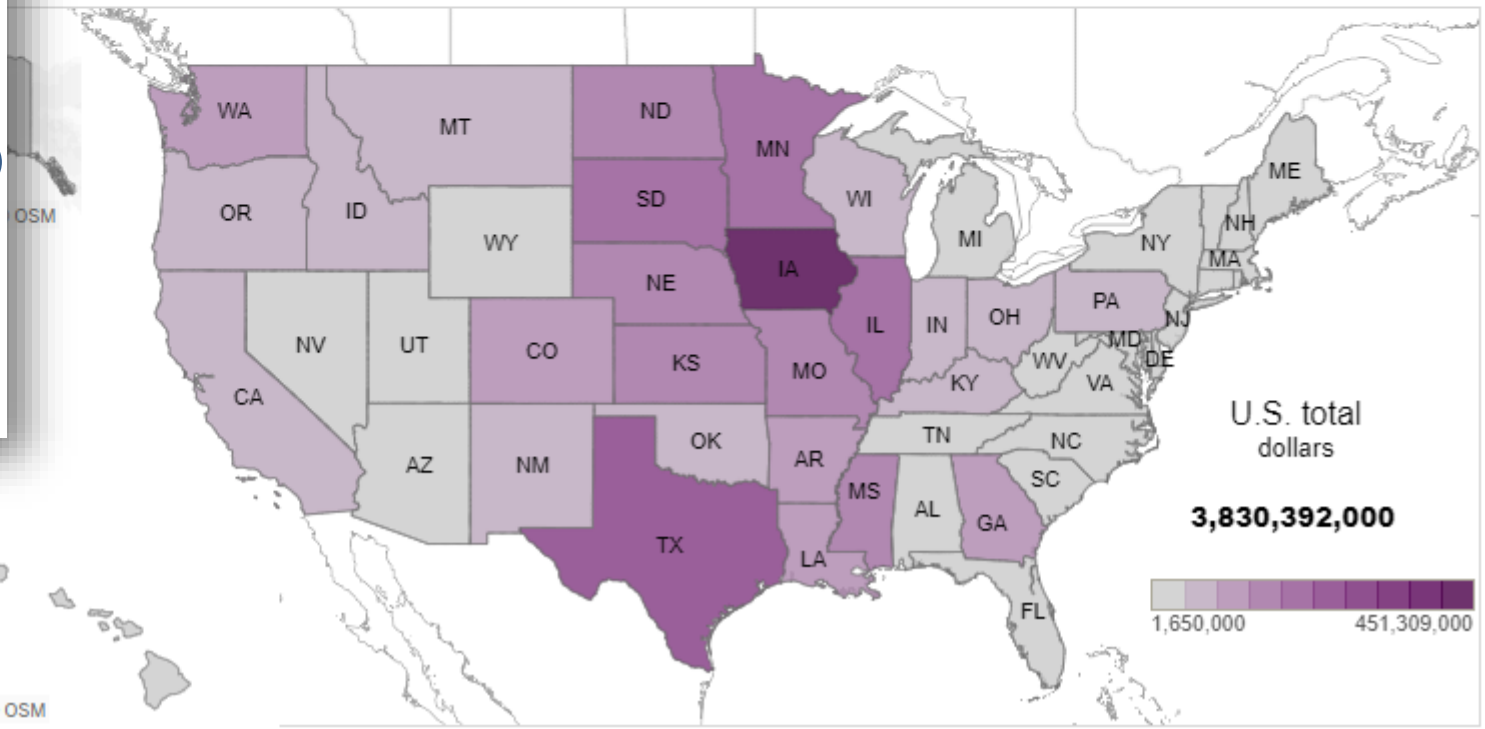
Select Federal Government payment: Conservation program payments

Select year: 2019

Choose units: dollars

Conservation program payments by State in 2019

dollars



Farm Income and Wealth Statistics

- Overview

Data Files: U.S. and State-Level Farm Income and Wealth Statistics

Summary of Data Findings

Charts and Maps About Your State

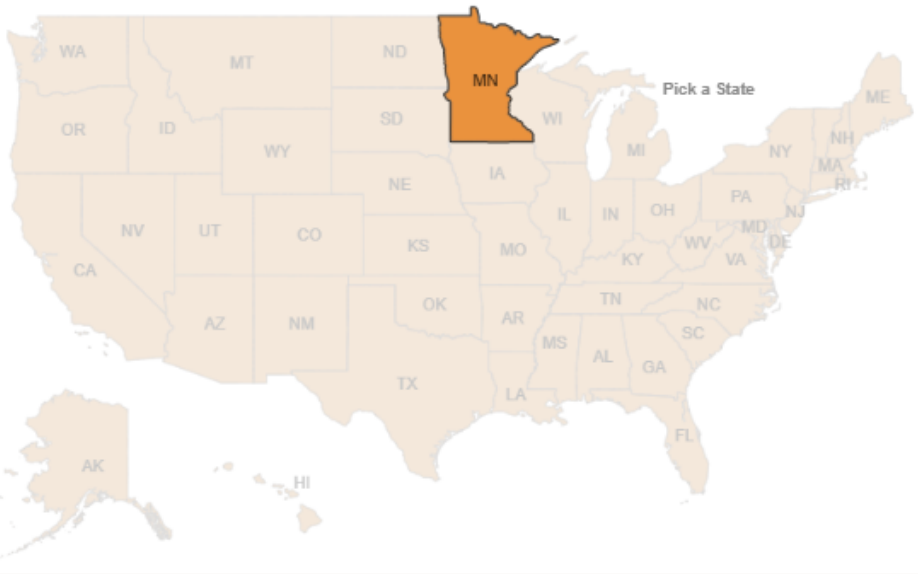
Charts and Maps of U.S. Farm Balance Sheet Data

Charts and Maps of U.S. Farm Income Statement Data

Update and Revision History

General Documentation

Get to know farms in Minnesota, 2019

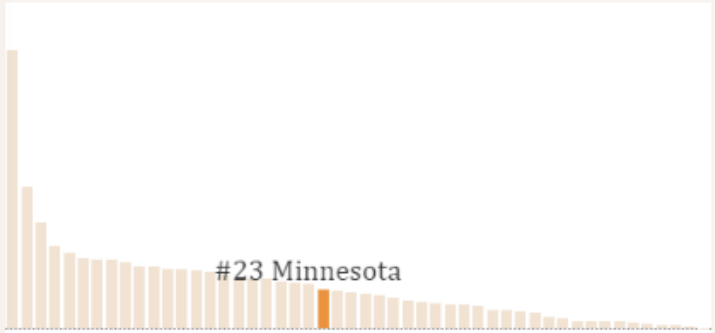


Farm facts

Number of farms	Acres of farmland
68,000	25,500,000
Net farm income	**Government payments**
$1,480,793,000	$1,332,790,000
Federal insurance premiums	**Federal insurance indemnities**
$229,180,000	$680,015,000

Ranked by: Net farm income | 2019

Net farm income, 2019 dollars



Net farm income

2008-19 (current-year dollars)

Top 5 cash receipts (2019 dollars)

1	Corn	$4,233,465,000
2	Soybeans	$2,896,822,000
3	Hogs	$2,722,730,000
4	Cattle and calves	$1,996,271,000
5	Dairy products, milk	$1,897,576,000

Top 5 production expenses (2019 dollars)

1	Feed	$3,210,000,000
2	Miscellaneous*	$1,695,606,000
3	Seed	$1,570,000,000
4	Capital consumption*	$1,544,633,000
5	Fertilizer, lime, & soil conditioner	$1,330,000,000

*Includes expenses associated with operator's dwellings.

Digging Into the U.S. Farm Balance Sheet

created by: The ERS Farm Income Team

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w | Farm assets: total vs. real estate | Farm assets: real estate values | Farm assets: other assets | Farm debt: trends | **Farm debt: by lender** | Financial ratios

Debt Type

Real estate debt

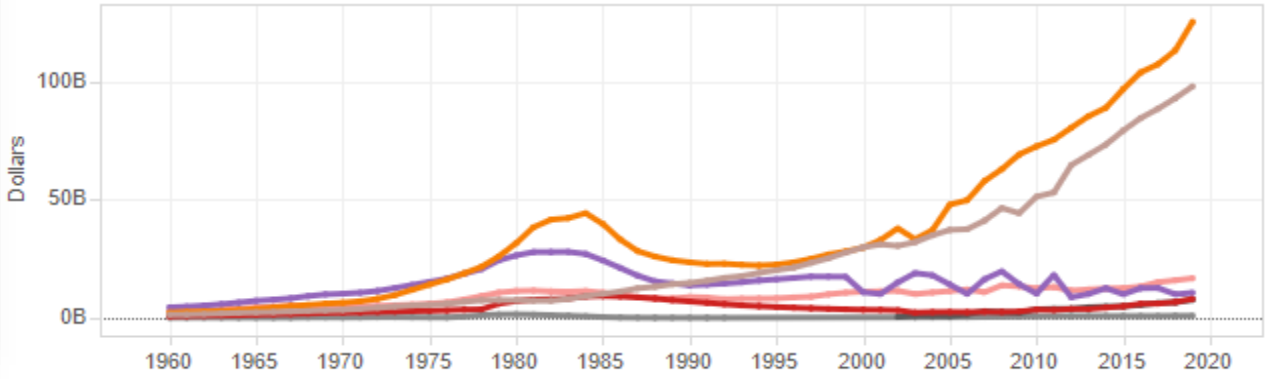
Nominal/real dollars

Nominal (current dollars)

Choose the lender(s) to display

- ☑ Commercial banks
- ☑ Farm Credit System
- ☑ Farm Service Agency
- ☑ Farmer Mac
- ☑ Individuals and others
- ☑ Life insurance companies
- ☑ Storage facility loans

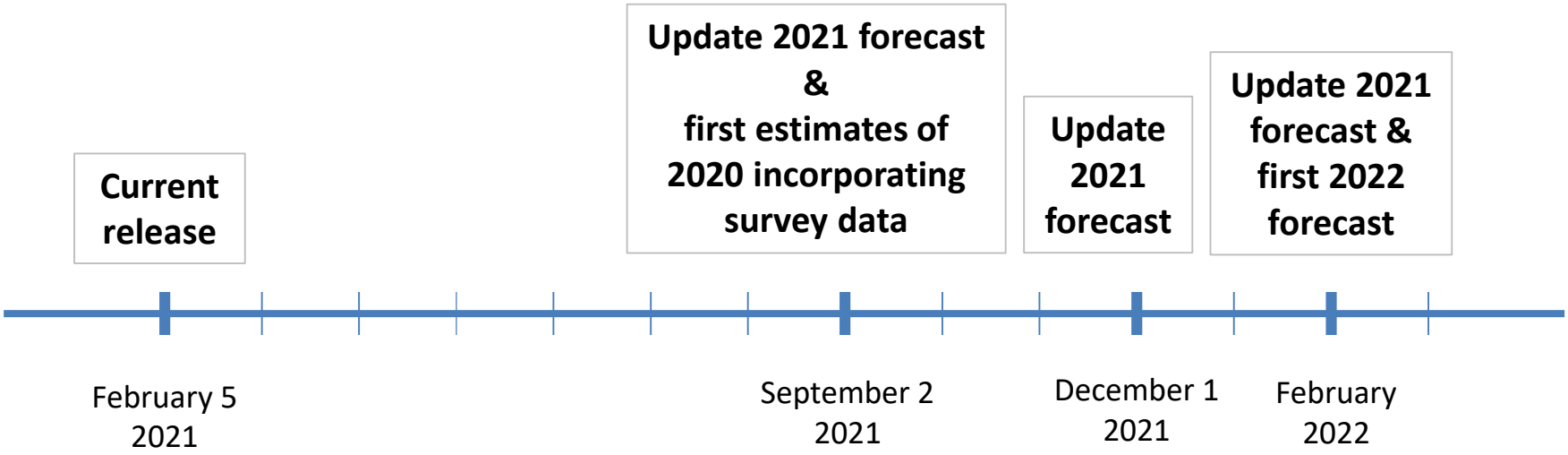
Real estate debt by lender, 1960 to 2019



Note: 2019 debt by lender is the latest avilable statistic. Values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars. Inflation-adjusted values use the chain-type GDP deflator, 2021=100. K=thousand, M=million, B=billion, T=trillion.

Commercial banks
Farm Credit System
Farm Service Agency
Farmer Mac
Individuals and others
Life insurance companies
Storage facility loans

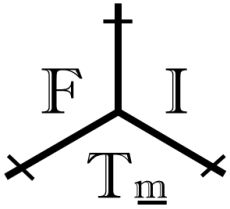
Farm Sector Income and Wealth Statistics Timeline



Data product updated 3 times per year.

Current Release: **February 5, 2021**

Next Release: **September 2, 2021**



Farm Income Team

FarmIncomeTeam@usda.gov

Carrie Litkowski

Carrie.Litkowski@usda.gov

United States Department of Agriculture

2019 Survey of Irrigation Organizations

USDA Spring Data Users' Meeting
April 15, 2021

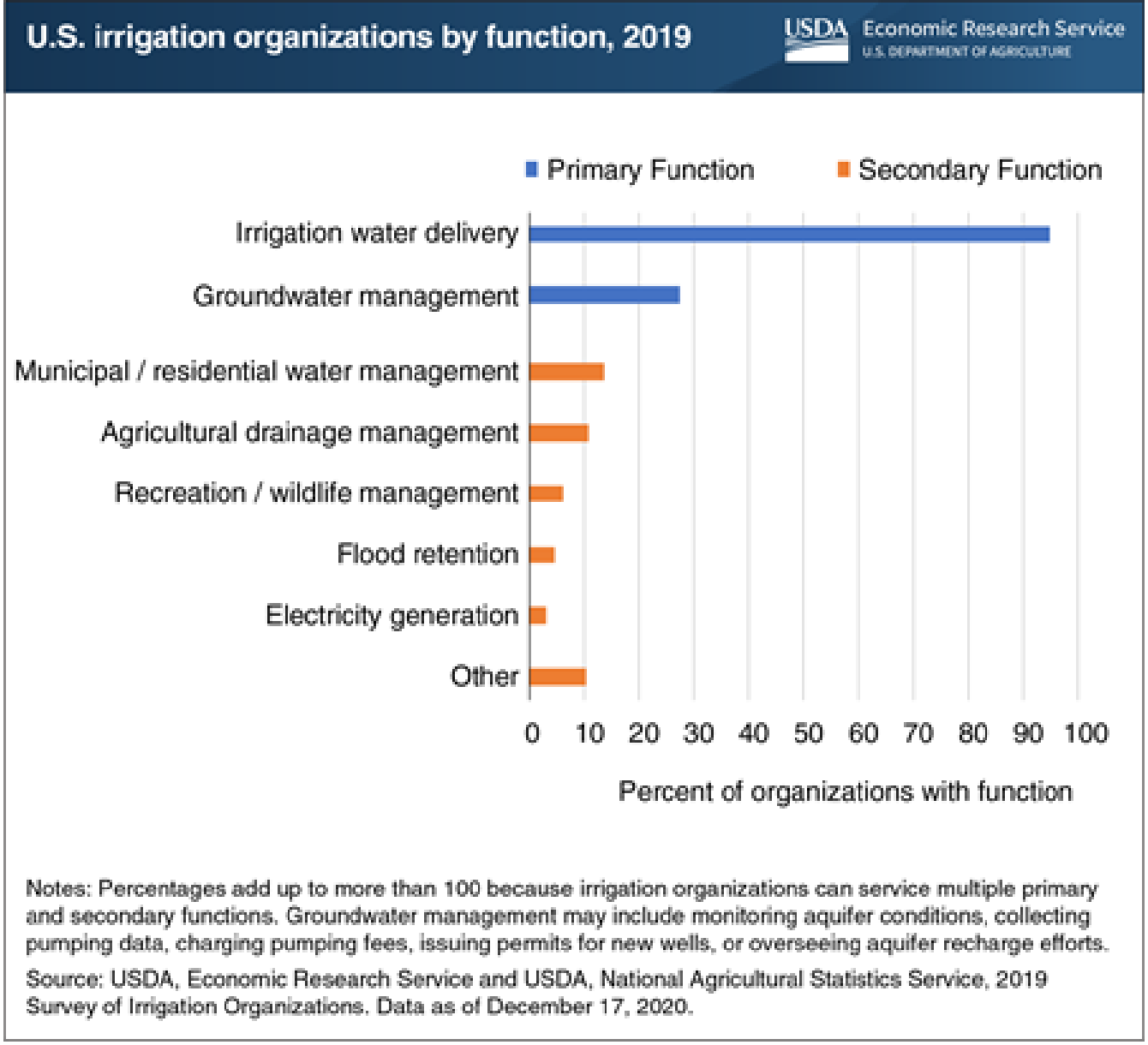
Aaron Hrozencik, Steven Wallander, and Marcel Aillery
USDA Economic Research Service

Background

- Collaboration between ERS, NASS, & OCE
- Update of 1978 Census of Irrigation Organizations
- Survey collected data on 2,677 organizations:
  - Water supply delivery
  - Groundwater management
- Developed in partnership with other Federal agencies and regional, state and local stakeholders

Initial data release and output

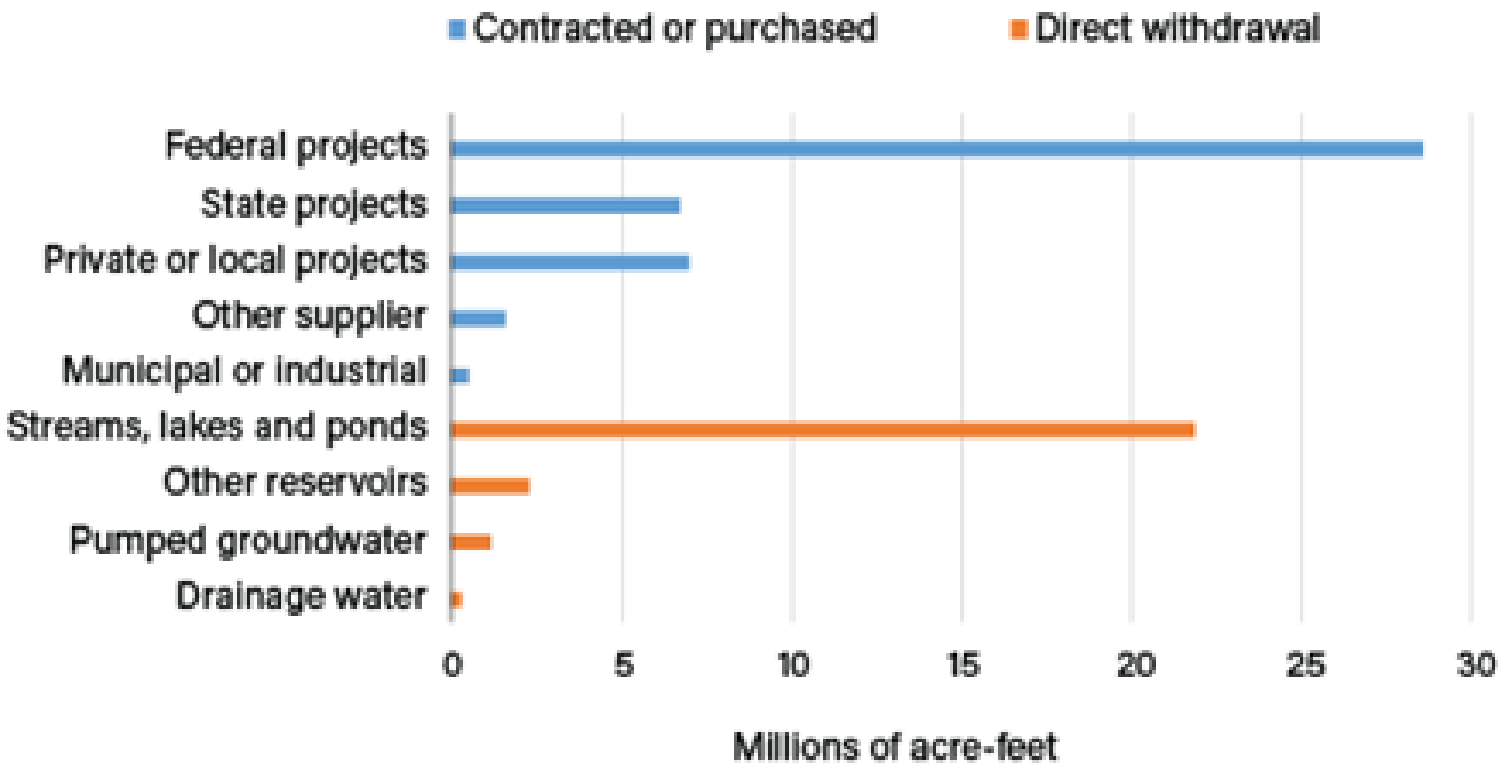
- NASS data tables
  - Five tables summarizing key variables at the national and regional level
  - https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/Todays_Reports/reports/siog1220.pdf
- ERS Charts of Note
  - Three charts based on the NASS tables
- USDA blog
  - https://www.usda.gov/media/blog/2021/02/11/usda-invests-data-agricultural-irrigation-improvements



https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/chart-gallery/gallery/chart-detail/?chartId=100194

Water sources for irrigation water delivery organizations, 2019

USDA Economic Research Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



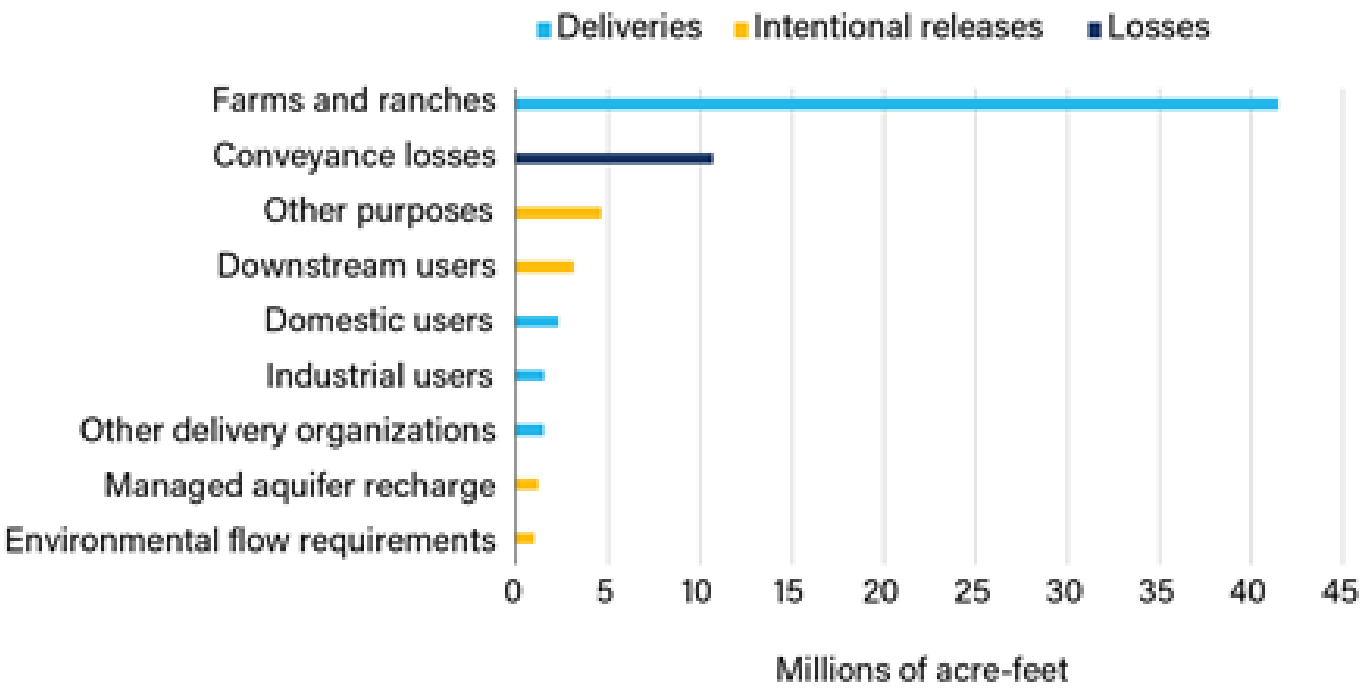
Note: "Acre-feet" is the amount of water needed to cover one acre of land under a foot of water.

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service and USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2019 Survey of Irrigation Organizations. Data as of December 17, 2020.

https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/chart-gallery/gallery/chart-detail/?chartId=100431

Water outflows for irrigation water delivery organizations, 2019

USDA Economic Research Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Note: Acre-feet is the amount of water needed to cover one acre of land under a foot of water. Conveyance losses represent water lost during transport or storage because of groundwater seepage or evaporation. Conveyance loss data only accounts for self-reported losses that occurred within organizations' storage and conveyance infrastructure and do not account for losses that might occur before water entered the organizations' systems or after water is delivered to the farm.

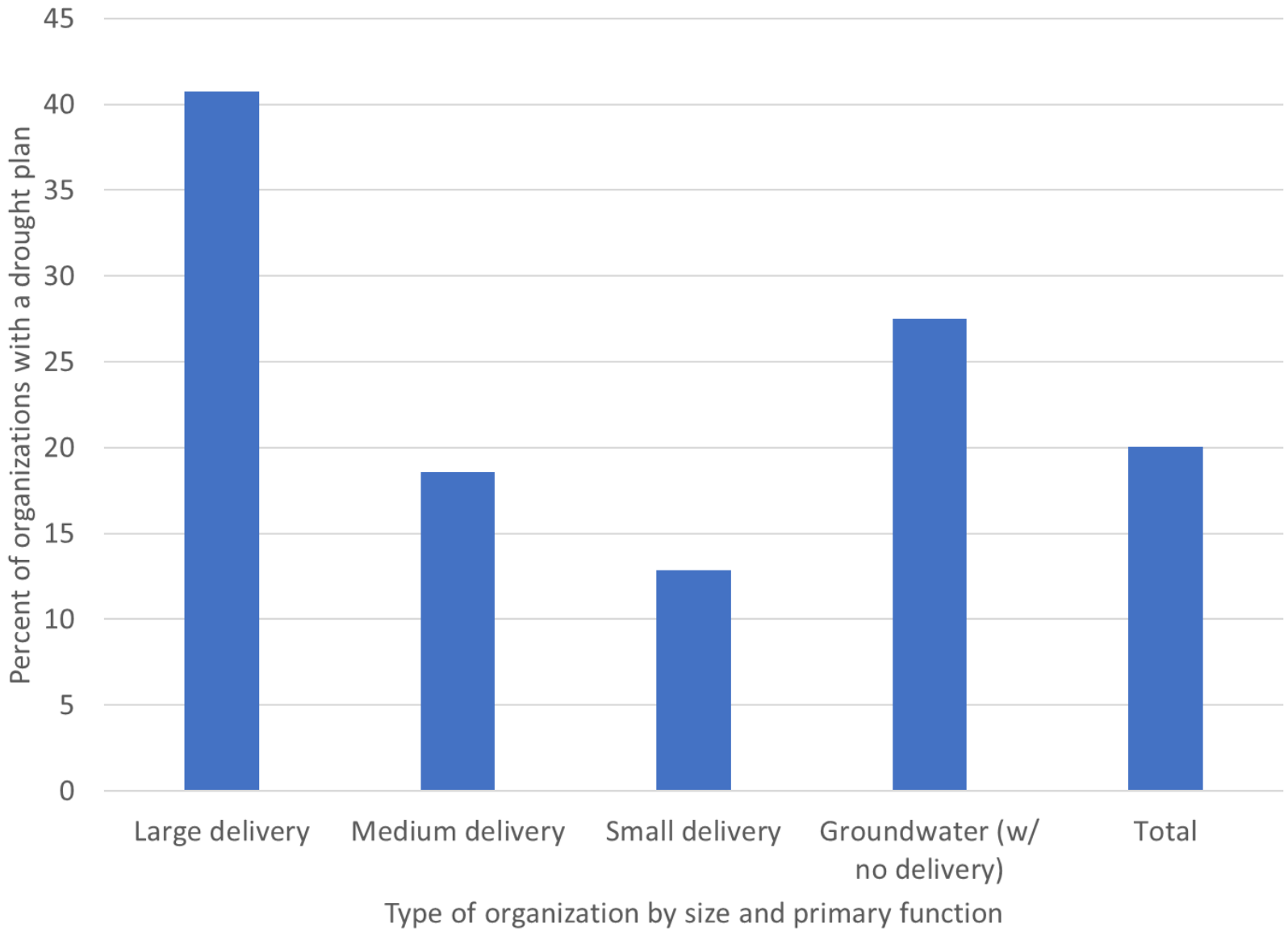
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service and USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2019 Survey of Irrigation Organizations. Data as of December 17, 2020.

https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/chart-gallery/gallery/chart-detail/?chartId=100544

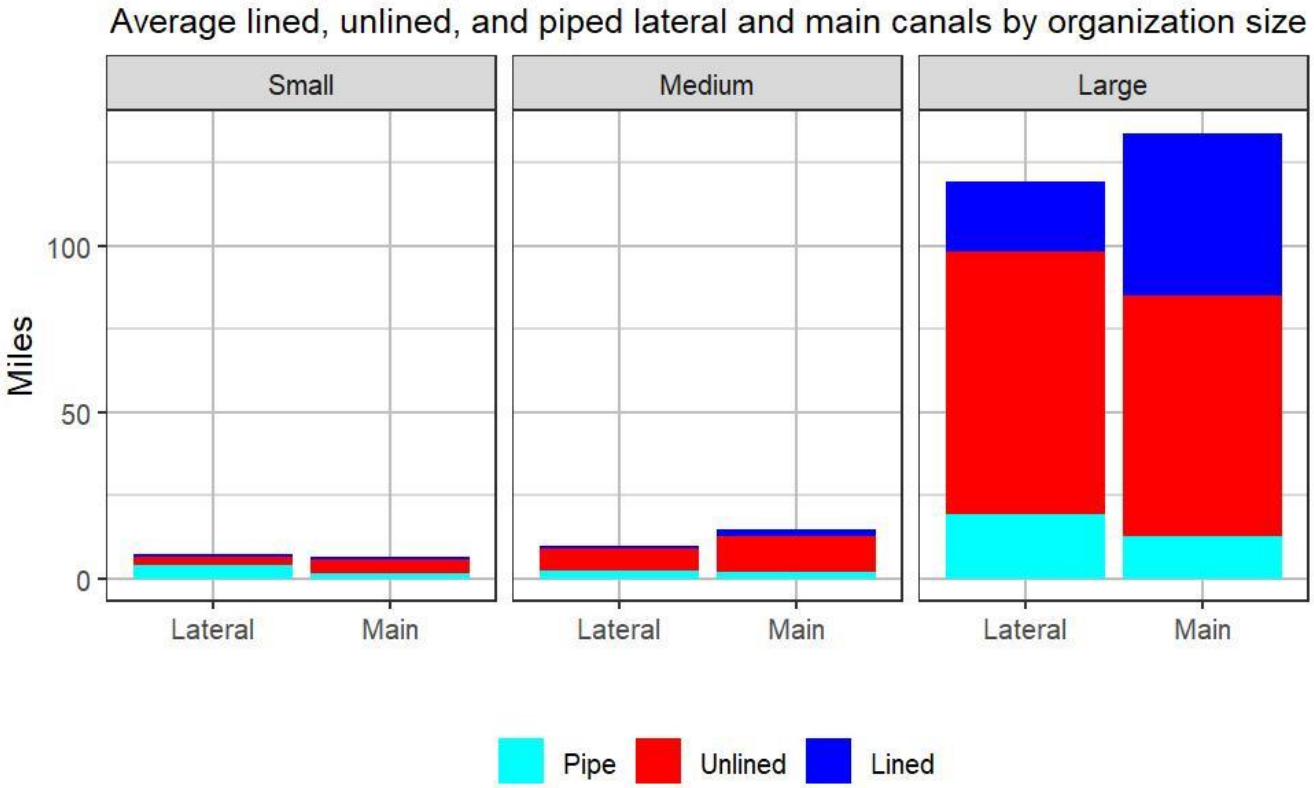
ERS Research Plans

- Initial studies in progress
  - Drought planning and resilience
  - Storage and conveyance infrastructure
- Other topics planned
  - Water budget
  - Groundwater organizations
  - Governance structure
  - Finances and price structure

Drought Planning



Irrigation Infrastructure



Source: 2019 Survey of Irrigation Organizations. Figure only represents organizations that identify as water delivery organizations.Small organizations have the potential to provide water for up to 1,000 irrigated acres. Medium organizations have the potential to provide water to between 1,000 and 10,000 irrigated acres. Large organizations have the potential to provide water for more than 10,000 irrigated acres.

United States Department of Agriculture

Data Innovation at ERS:
Markets and Trade Economics Division (MTED)

Disclaimer: The findings and conclusions in this presentation are those of the author(s) and should not be construed to represent any official USDA or U.S. Government determination or policy

MTED Data Overview, by Branch

- **Agricultural Policy and Modelling**
  - Baseline Data
  - Macro-economic Data
- **International Trade and Development**
  - Country-Level Ag. Imports & Exports
  - Tariff Data
  - State Exports
- **Field Crops**
  - Specialty Crops S&U
  - ***Field Crops S&U***
  - ***Commodity Price Forecasts***
  - Cost of Production
- **Animal Products**
  - ***Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry***
  - ***Meat Price Spreads***
  - Cost of Production

Stakeholder-Driven Data Enhancements

Frequency

Accessibility

Reactivity

Granularity

MTED Response

Frequency

- Daily Hog Slaughter
- Weekly Specialty Crops Movements
- Monthly Disaggregate Trade

Usability

- WASDE *At a Glance*
- Enhanced Visualizations

Reactivity

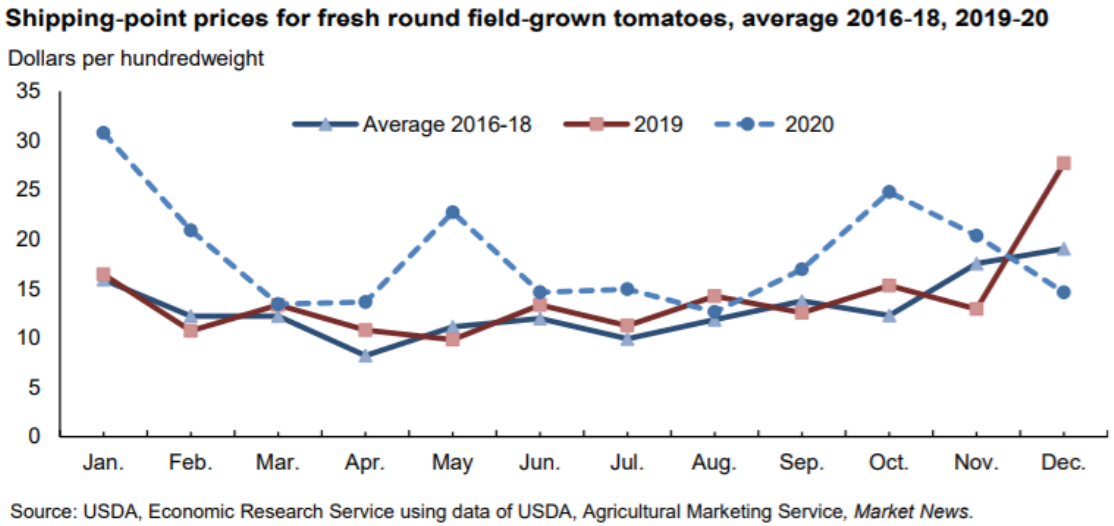
- COVID-19
- Impact of Foreign Tariffs on U.S. Ag Exports

Granularity

- State Exports and Imports Trade Data Product

Weekly Fresh-Market Vegetable Movement and Price

- Describes the change in shipment volume, farm prices, and retail prices of select vegetable which can be affected by various factors, including pests, weather, imports, exports, retail promotions, and labor disruptions.



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data of USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, *Market News*.

WASDE At a Glance

Feed Outlook Reports

For more information, contact Michael McConnell at

Select a commodity: Corn

Select an attribute: Production

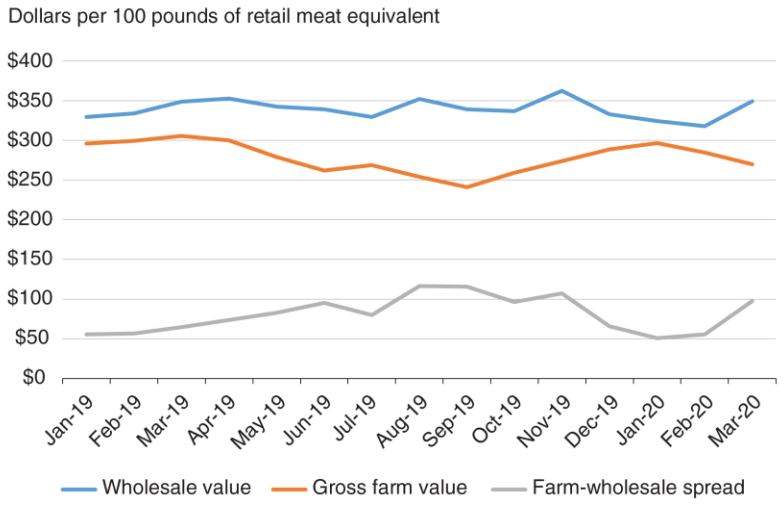
Corn production (million metric tons)

United States	2019/20	Estimates	345.96
	2020/21	Feb. projections	360.25
		Mar. projections	360.25
China	2019/20	Estimates	260.78
	2020/21	Feb. projections	260.67
		Mar. projections	260.67
Brazil	2019/20	Estimates	102.00
	2020/21	Feb. projections	109.00
		Mar. projections	109.00
European Union	2019/20	Estimates	66.72
	2020/21	Feb. projections	63.60
		Mar. projections	63.70
Argentina	2019/20	Estimates	51.00
	2020/21	Feb. projections	47.50
		Mar. projections	47.50
Ukraine	2019/20	Estimates	35.89
	2020/21	Feb. projections	29.50
		Mar. projections	29.50

Corn world production, March projections for 2020/21: 1,136.31 million metric tons.

Meat-Price Spreads, Hogs & COVID-19

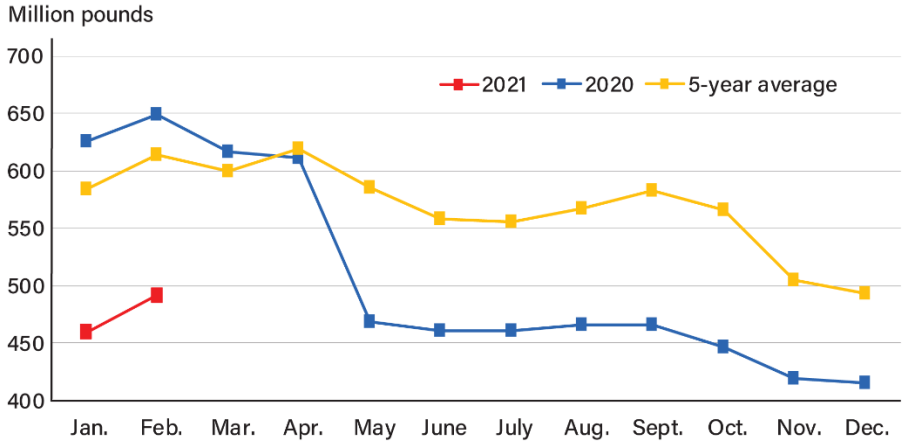
U.S. beef wholesale value, farm value, and difference (spread), January 2019 to March 2020



Notes: USDA, Economic Research Service (ERS) calculates the wholesale value of beef using the USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) Choice beef cutout. These prices are adjusted on a pounds of retail-beef basis. The farm-to-wholesale spread compares the cost of a steer to the value of its meat and byproducts.
Source: ERS calculations using AMS data.

U.S. monthly pork cold stocks

USDA Economic Research Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Note: Five-year average is for 2016-2020.
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

State Trade Data

- The State Exports, Cash Receipts Estimates and State Trade by Country of Origin and Destination provide values of internationally traded commodities by State.

MTED Data on the Horizon

- Tariff-rate quota database
- Trade openness indices
- Improved searchability
- Co-linked data bases
- Data visualizations optimized for mobile viewing

Comments, Questions?

Top Four MTED Data Products by Views