



NEWS RELEASE

United State Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Still time to respond to the 2022 Census of Agriculture

LOUISVILLE, KY – April 19, 2023 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is reminding Kentucky farmers that the window is closing on the opportunity to participate in the 2022 Census of Agriculture. To date, NASS has received over 52,000 completed questionnaires from Kentucky producers for a return rate of almost 48%. NASS is encouraging producers who have not returned their completed ag census questionnaires to do so as soon as possible.

"Thank you to those who have returned their questionnaire, we appreciate your response. If you haven't completed your Census, there is still time," said director of the NASS Eastern Mountain Regional Office in Kentucky. "By responding, you are helping your county publish reliable statistical data. The more responses received the better the data quality."

NASS is reminding producers that if they produced and sold \$1,000 or more of agricultural product in 2022, or normally would have produced and sold that much, they meet USDA's definition of a farm. However, federal law requires everyone who received the 2022 Census of Agriculture questionnaire complete and return it, even if they do not currently meet this definition.

"If you received the ag census but do not fit the definition of a farm, are no longer farming, never farmed, or are a landowner who leases your land to a producer, please write your status on the form and mail it back," said Knopf.

The Census of Agriculture remains the only comprehensive and impartial source of agriculture data for every state and county in the nation. Census data are used by policymakers, trade associations, researchers, agribusinesses, educators, and many others. The information helps inform decisions on farm policy, rural development, the development of farm technologies, and more. It also aids in the creation and funding of loans and insurance programs and other forms of assistance.

The ag census differs from other NASS surveys. Beyond being conducted just once every five years, it provides important demographic information and data on certain commodities, such as horses,

bison, and Christmas trees, that would not otherwise be available. The Census of Agriculture collects information on nearly every aspect of agriculture for a complete picture of the health of the industry.

NASS will release the results of the ag census in early 2024. To learn more about the Census of Agriculture, visit nass.usda.gov/AgCensus. On the website, producers and other data users can access frequently asked questions, past ag census data, special study information, and more.

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NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate, and useful statistics.

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