



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE
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USDA to conduct 2023 census of aquaculture

HARRISBURG, PA – The United States Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will conduct the 2023 Census of Aquaculture, a follow-on to the 2022 Census of Agriculture. At the same time, NASS will conduct the 2024 January Catfish Growers survey and the 2024 January Trout survey.

The Census of Aquaculture will target operations in the Northeastern region that either sold or produced \$1,000 or more in sales of agricultural products and at least \$1 of aquaculture products during the 2022 agricultural census year. Data for the Census of Aquaculture will be collected on aquaculture products released or distributed for purposes of restoration, conservation, enhancement, or recreation. Almost 800 operations will be sampled for the Census of Aquaculture in the Northeastern region, with about 250 operations sampled from the state of Pennsylvania.

The January Catfish Growers survey and the January Trout survey will target operations with any catfish or trout sales. Target commodities for these surveys include catfish, trout, food and/or sportfish production, baitfish, crustaceans and mollusks, ornamental fish, miscellaneous aquaculture, and amount of aquaculture distributed.

“The Census of Aquaculture, last conducted five years ago, is the only comprehensive source of information on the aquaculture industry in the nation. The results of this Census will serve as the baseline for many decisions involving the sustainability and growth of this critical sector,” said Northeastern Region Acting Director, Charles Butler.

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

The [2018 Census of Aquaculture](#) was last published in October 2019. 2023 Census of Aquaculture follow-on results will be published in the 2023 *Census of Aquaculture* report to be released on Tuesday, December 17, 2024. These and all NASS reports are available online at nass.usda.gov/Publications. For more information, call the NASS Northeastern Field Office at (800) 498-1518.

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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 in service to U.S. agriculture.

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