



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
North Carolina Field Office
P.O. Box 27767- Raleigh, North Carolina 27611



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Contact: Dee Webb
(919) 707-3333

Still time to respond to the 2022 Census of Agriculture
USDA to follow up with North Carolina producers who have not yet responded

Raleigh, NC – February 17, 2023 – Farmers and ranchers in North Carolina still have time to be counted in the 2022 Census of Agriculture, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). Although the deadline for submitting the ag census has just passed, NASS will continue to accept completed census questionnaires through the spring to ensure all farmers and ranchers take advantage of the opportunity to be represented in the widely used data.

"We would like to thank the roughly 35% of North Carolina farmers that have responded to the 2022 Census of Agriculture so far." said NASS's State Statistician Dee Webb. "However, we want to ensure and encourage all farmers to take advantage of the opportunity to be represented in the widely used census data. NC farmers start to lose their voice when we don't have enough data to publish for commodities or localities. Response means strong data and strong data lead to better informed decisions."

NASS will continue to follow up with NC producers through the spring with mailings, phone calls, and personal visits. Farmers and ranchers are encouraged to complete their ag census either online at agcounts.usda.gov or by mail as soon as possible.

Federal law under Title 7 USC 2204(g) Public Law 105-113 mandates that everyone who received the 2022 Census of Agriculture questionnaire complete and return it, even if they are not currently farming. The same law requires NASS to keep all submissions confidential, use the information for statistical purposes only, and publish aggregate data to prevent disclosing the identity of any individual producer or farm operation.

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. For highlights of these and the latest information, follow USDA NASS on Twitter at [@usda_nass](https://twitter.com/usda_nass). NASS reports are available online at nass.usda.gov/Publications/. For more information call the NASS NC Field Office at (919) 733-6333.

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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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