



August 2007

Dear Fellow Grower:

You have been selected for an extremely important role: as a participant in the 2007 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS) Phase II conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) in collaboration with the Economic Research Service (ERS).

This year, ARMS will focus on the production practices used to grow cotton and apples. Your participation is crucial to ensure that cotton growers are properly represented in the national sample. Every grower surveyed represents a sample of all cotton growers. Every response counts! A NASS representative will interview you about your crop production practices, cost of production, chemical applications, pest management practices, and irrigation.

Your participation in this survey will help show how producers use fertilizers and pesticides responsibly and apply beneficial land stewardship practices as you produce an abundant and safe fiber supply for America and the world.

Everyone in the agricultural industry – whether growers, buyers, suppliers or others – relies on this information to make sound business decisions. As we all know, conditions can change almost overnight due to weather, pests, disease and other factors. But your cooperation ensures that NASS is able to provide a timely, accurate, unbiased report on the current state of agricultural crop production according to the frontline source – YOU, the grower.

Rest assured that your survey responses will be kept completely confidential, as required by federal law. NASS safeguards the privacy of all respondents and publishes only state- and national-level data from this survey, ensuring that no individual operation or grower can be identified.

On behalf of your fellow cotton growers throughout the United States, I thank you in advance for your service to agriculture through participation in this important program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John E. Pucheu, Jr." The signature is written in a cursive style.

John E. Pucheu, Jr.
Chairman
National Cotton Council