



United States
Department
of Agriculture

December 28, 2012

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

Dear Agricultural Producer:

On behalf of the Secretary of Agriculture, I am requesting your assistance with the 2012 Census of Agriculture. This census is conducted once every 5 years, resulting in valuable information that is used by local communities to plan for their futures.



The 2012 Census of Agriculture must be accurate to provide the most benefit. As such, we are asking you to carefully complete and return the enclosed census form. Responses will be reported in aggregate form only (all individual responses are kept confidential) with trends and composite data available to you, your local community, your congressional representatives, and members of the general public.

As a reminder, the Census of Agriculture is both required by law and protected by law (Title 7, U.S. Code). As with all information collected by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Federal law requires that your individual answers are kept completely **confidential**. No information associated with any individual's name is shared with any other Federal, State or local agency, nor with any other agency within USDA.

As an alternative to the enclosed form, the 2012 Census of Agriculture can be reported via the Internet at www.agcensus.nass.usda.gov. This option will work better with a high-speed connection. Please follow the instructions on the site. You will need your report form with your Census ID printed on the label. If you have problems accessing or using the Web site, please call (888) 424-7828 (toll free).

Please help us make the census a success and give your voice to U.S. agriculture by completing and returning the enclosed report form or responding via the Internet by **February 4, 2012**. If you need guidance or have questions, call (888) 424-7828 (toll free). Please have your Census ID number (printed on the address label of your report form) handy if you call.

Thank you for taking part in this effort to provide a complete, accurate and timely 2012 Census of Agriculture. This truly is your opportunity to speak out and make a positive impact for your community and for U.S. agriculture. It is your future, your voice, your responsibility.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Clark
Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Enclosures



It's Convenient. It's Secure. **Online Survey Response**

Completing your survey online saves you time by allowing you to skip over questions that don't apply to you, by calculating totals automatically, and by providing drop-down menus for common answers. It also saves taxpayer dollars that would otherwise be spent on return postage and data entry.

To complete your survey online, just follow these steps:

1. Go to: www.agcounts.usda.gov. When you are ready to proceed, click "Next Page."
2. Enter the 17-digit SURVEY CODE found on your mailing label.



SURVEY CODE = AA BBBB BBBB 123456

ID ABBBBBBBBBBB CCC DD EEE F GG
JQP FARMS
JOHN Q PUBLIC
123 CTY RD1
ANYTOWN, ST 12345-6789

3. Select your survey by clicking the "Click for Survey" button.
4. Answer the questions then click "Continue with Survey."

Do not click the "Submit" button until you are sure you are finished with your survey. If you wish to save your form and return later, click "Save and Return Later." To return, just go back to step 1 above.

After you submit your survey, select the "click here" link to view your completed form. You may select the "Print" link to print a copy for your files.



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
NASS Online Survey Support (800) 727-9540

www.nass.usda.gov