



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



October 4, 2012

Dear Agricultural Producer:

Enclosed is the Agricultural Labor Survey. I hope you will take a few moments to respond to this important survey, in which USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) collects data on the number of farm workers hired, the hours they work, and average wage rates by type of worker.

The survey asks you to provide information for two one-week periods: July 8-14 and October 7-13. Your information will be combined with that of some 12,000 other producers nationwide and help NASS develop regional and national farm labor estimates. Farm organizations, private sector employers, and Federal, state, and local agencies use these estimates for such important purposes as setting minimum wage rates for agricultural workers, administering farm labor recruitment and placement service programs, and developing labor policies.

For your convenience, you have the following options to respond:

- **Online** at www.agcounts.usda.gov. It's easy, secure and fast. Please follow the instructions on the back of this letter.
- **By mail**. Complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it in the postage-paid envelope provided.

If you do not respond by October 17, 2012, we will contact you to arrange a telephone or personal interview. Please be assured that your responses to this survey are completely confidential, as required by federal law. NASS safeguards the privacy of all respondents, ensuring that no individual operation or grower can be identified.

Thank you in advance for your participation in this important survey. NASS will publish the results of the survey in the *Farm Labor* report on November 15, 2012.

Sincerely,

Hubert Hamer
Chairperson, Agricultural Statistics Board

Enclosures