

NASS comments on the “Survey of Egg Products Processing Plants” and FSIS’ responses:

1. For question 1.11 on page 5 the “typical lot size” is asked. Is the question intended to gather information on the average lot size, median lot size, etc.?

FSIS: We provided a definition of typical lot size. The intention was to get something like a mode – a rough estimate of lot sizes produced on most days. We did not want to suggest that the plant actually make a detailed calculation so we did not define the terms statistically.

2. As the intended respondent universe is limited to FSIS inspected plants, I assume a complete list frame is available and no coverage adjustment is needed?

FSIS: We are questioning all plants, so not adjustment for coverage is needed.

3. Although unidentified individual responses of the survey will be provided to FSIS, will FSIS be provided information that can link records from the current survey with those of the earlier 2003 survey? The record linkage to the prior survey’s data may be useful since trend analysis is being done, and also in the formation and analysis of classes utilized in non-response adjustment.

FSIS: Record linkage will be made by RTI; FSIS will be provided summaries in order to maintain confidentiality.