**Content Changes for 2017 Census of Agriculture**

All sections

* Removed “principal operator” wording in most places throughout the questionnaire (for example, Type of Organization section, Personal Characteristics section, internet question)

Personal Characteristics Section

* Changed wording from “involved in day to day decisions” to “involved in the decisions”.
* Removed “principal operator” wording in most places (see next change), including the column headings for listing the person’s involved in decisions.
* Added “Is this person a principal operator or senior partner?” and replaced “is operator 2 or 3 the spouse of the principal operator?” with “is this person the spouse of a principal operator or senior partner”?
* Added decision making questions.
* Added “is this person completing this form?”
* Added the veteran question.
* Removed “”What percent of this person’s total household income came from this operation?”
* Moved internet question and number of households who share in the income to other sections.

Type of Organization

* Changed the wording of the ownership question.

Land Use Practices

* Added “how many acres on this operation have been irrigated at least once in the past five years (2013-2017)?”

Crop Insurance and Government Programs Section

* Removed “Direct, counter cyclical and ACRE payments received in 2012 as defined under the 2008 Farm Bill”.
* Removed “Amount received in 2012 from loan deficiency payments, marketing loan gains, and net value of commodity certificates”.
* Added “do you know that you have the right to appeal ad adverse program decision to USDA’s National Appeals Division?”

Grain Storage Capacity

* Removed section.

Field Crops Section

* Added a question for “amount used on the operation for feed, seed, etc.” for each field crop
* Added 0verall number of acres harvested and acres irrigated.

Hay Section

* Added “amount used on the operation for feed, seed, etc.” for each type of hay.
* Added an option for the respondent to report in tons harvested or number of bales/weight per bale
* Some hay categories were combined.

Fruit/nuts/berries

* Combined into one section with new wording for column headings.

Hogs and pigs

* The inventory categories were combined into one question.

Sheep and lambs

* Sheep and lamb categories were combined into one question.

Equine Section

* Removed “For the horses and ponies NOT OWNED BY YOU reported in item 3 above, mark the one item which best describes they are on this operation: (operation is a race track, boarding facility, etc.)”.

Practices

* Value added question expanded to ask for the type of product and the gross value of sales.

Marketing practices

* Expanded questions to get the type of product and value of sales, not just a yes/no for food items marketed directly to consumers and to other outlets.

Fertilizers, Chemicals, and Soil Conditioners Applied

* Added “Acres of cropland and/or pastureland treated with organic fertilizer.”

Production Expenses

* Added additional breakout to capture “cover crop seed expense”
* Added “medical supplies, veterinary and custom services for livestock.”
* Added “total expenses” to the end of the list of production expenses.