



February 26, 2016

Dear Respondent:

Enclosed is your copy of the 2016 Prices Paid survey questionnaire. This survey collects data from agricultural suppliers to estimate the average prices producers pay for farming inputs and calculate the USDA Prices Paid Indexes.

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

- **Online** at www.agcounts.usda.gov beginning February 26, 2016. Responding online is the easiest, fastest, most secure way to complete your survey. You need the identification number on the survey form to begin.
- **By mail.** Complete the survey questionnaire and mail it back in the return envelope provided.

If you do not respond by March 15, 2016 we will contact you to arrange a telephone or personal interview.

As required by Federal law (Title 7, U.S. Code, and CIPSEA, Public Law 107-347), your responses are completely confidential. We safeguard the privacy of all respondents, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

Thank you for participating and for your support of agricultural statistics. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the National Agricultural Statistics Service Helpline at 1-888-424-7828.

Sincerely,

ames M. Harris

Mark Harris Chairman, Agricultural Statistics Board U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service

Enclosures

1400 Independence Avenue, SW \cdot Washington, D.C. 20250 www.nass.usda.gov

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

Responding to your agriculture survey online is both convenient and secure.

The online form:

- lets you skip questions that don't apply to you
- calculates totals automatically
- eliminates the need for return postage and data entry

To complete your survey online, follow these steps:

- 1. Go to <u>www.agcounts.usda.gov</u>.
- 2. Read the message, then click the arrow to complete the survey.
- 3. Enter your unique 17-digit Survey Code from the label on the letter or questionnaire you received in the mail, then click "Continue."



- 4. Find the survey you are completing and click on it.
- 5. Verify and complete your contact information, then continue to the survey.
- 6. Complete the survey questions.

If you need to stop, press the "Save & Return Later" tab at the top of the page. When you return, go back to Step 1 above. After the opening page, the survey tool will take you to the last page you visited.

7. When you finish the survey, click "Submit." *If you do not see the Submit button, reduce the zoom setting on your screen.*

You will receive a confirmation code and can choose to view your completed survey form. Using the options provided by your browser (Internet Explorer, Chrome, Mozilla, etc.), you can print, copy, or save the completed form. If you need assistance completing your Internet questionnaire, please contact the National Agricultural Statistics Service Helpline at 1-888-424-7828