

OMB No. 0535-0249: Approval Expires XX/XX/20XX

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Dear Sir/Madam,

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is conducting the 2020 Local Foods Market Practices Survey to gather detailed statistics on the local and regional food systems.

The 2020 Local Foods Market Practices Survey is part of the Census of Agriculture Program, and as such is **required** and protected by law (Title 7 USC 2204(g) Public Law 105-113). These federal laws require your response and the USDA to keep your identity and answers **confidential**.

Your response is critical, especially given this challenging time. When agricultural stakeholders, local and federal decision-makers, and other data users want to know how this pandemic affected producers and the agricultural industry, it will also help to increase the understanding of this type of business and help evaluate and inform many of the USDA programs that support local food systems,

You will soon receive a questionnaire in the mail but you may respond on-line today:

- 1. Go to: www.agcounts.usda.gov
- 2. Enter your 17-digit Survey Code: <<Survey\_code>>

For more information about the Local Foods Market Practices Survey, visit: https://www.nass.usda.gov/agcensus

If you have questions or have difficulty completing your survey, please call toll-free 1-888-424-7828.

Sincerely,

**Hubert Hamer** 

Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service United

States Department of Agriculture

## To respond to the 2020 Local Foods Marketing Practices Survey now, follow these steps:

- 1. Go to: www.agcounts.usda.gov
- 2. Enter your 17-digit survey code: <<Survey\_code>>
- 3. Select Continue
- Verify the contact information is correct and select ADDRESS VERIFIED NEXT, or make corrections by selecting MAKE CORRECTIONS
  - a. If you made Operation, Operator, or Contact Information corrections, select SAVE CHANGES – NEXT
- 5. Complete the survey through the Conclusion section and select Submit Survey

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB number is 0535-0218. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 50-75 minutes, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

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FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

U.S. CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE REPORT

YOUR RESPONSE IS RECHIRED BY LAW

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