



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



June 10, 2024

Mike McCarthy, PhD  
McCarthy Family Farm, llc  
Parkdale, Oregon 97041

Dear Dr. McCarthy:

Thank you for your letter pertaining to the National Agricultural Statistics Service' (NASS) intention to renew the surveys in the Agricultural Labor Information Collection Request (ICR). Your support of the Agricultural Labor Survey is appreciated.

NASS is transparent in our methodologies for data collection and estimation of the farm labor data. The *Farm Labor Methodology and Quality Measures* documents response rates along with information how the surveys are conducted. The Quality Measures document can be found at this link on NASS' public website:

[https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/Methodology\\_and\\_Data\\_Quality/Farm\\_Labor/index.php](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/Methodology_and_Data_Quality/Farm_Labor/index.php)

Hopefully, the *Farm Labor Methodology and Quality Measures* documents will answer your questions about how data are collected for the Agricultural Labor Survey.

The *Farm Labor Methodology and Quality Measures* and other documents pertaining to the Agricultural Labor Survey along with a proposed questionnaire and other comments NASS received will be made available later this summer for a 30-day public comment period. A Federal Register Notice (FRN) for OMB Control Number 0535-0109 will be published when that happens; the FRN will include instructions on how to review and comment further on the survey before official action is taken by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

As a reminder, the U.S. Department of Labor is responsible for all policy and implementation of the Adverse Effect Wage Rate (AEWR). Federal Register Notices on AEWR provide a Department of Labor contact for more information about AEWR. Federal Register Notices may provide the public an opportunity to comment on proposed methodology changes for setting the AEWR.

We will keep you informed of the progression of the Agricultural Labor Survey through Federal Register Notices.

Sincerely,

Lance Honig  
Chair, Agricultural Statistics Board  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service