



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



June 10, 2024

JWS
Saunders Brothers, Inc.
Virginia

Dear JWS:

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. Your submitted letter included some recommendations for the upcoming Agricultural Labor Surveys and use of the summarized data from the survey, which will be addressed here.

Thank you for your willingness to complete the Agricultural Labor Survey. To ensure you are on NASS' list of farmers, feel free to complete a short form on NASS' public website at this link: <https://www.agcounts.usda.gov/static/get-counted.html>. Information provided here will be used to update NASS' information (including how to contact you). Keep in mind that to minimize respondent burden, NASS conducts sample surveys with the goal of representing all types of farming operations. Hence, all farming operations do not receive an Agricultural Labor Survey.

NASS is transparent in our methodologies for data collection and estimation of the farm labor data. More information about how the survey is conducted is included in the *Farm Labor Methodology and Quality Measures* documents that accompany each Farm Labor publication. 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

Hopefully, the *Farm Labor Methodology and Quality Measures* documents will answer your questions on how data are collected and summarized 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 AEW. Federal Register Notices may provide the public an opportunity to comment on proposed methodology changes for setting the AEW.

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