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The loss of the Farm to School census hurts producers as well as the school districts in loss of product availability to the schools. The producers need to know which schools participate in the FTS Census in order to forecast their product availability to School Nutrition programs. Child nutrition programs have the opportunity to maximize the impact of government funds by including farm to school activities, and this data helps understand how child nutrition program operators are doing so. The Farm to School Census is a vital communication tool between producers and purchasers who want to provide local food to their students.