

NASS Programs

Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP)

About the Survey

The National Resources Inventory (NRI) – Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) survey collects information from farmers about farming and conservation practices on their cropland. The information collected through the CEAP survey is vital to help determine not only the effectiveness of existing conservation practices but also what resources farmers may need to further protect the soil, water and related resources in selected watersheds and to document on-farm conservation accomplishments.

Response Confidentiality

All information NASS collects in this survey will be kept strictly confidential, as required by federal law. The results of this survey will be available in aggregate form only, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

Why participate in CEAP?

The survey captures producers' current farming and management practices, including conservation practices designed to help protect soil and water resources. Each year, the survey provides a complete picture of conservation practices in selected watersheds. This information is used to maintain, modify and improve programs that assist farmers in planning and installing on-farm conservation practices. Changes made to these conservation programs have the potential to further reduce sediment and nutrient losses from cropland.

Maintaining conservation programs in the United States benefits producers by protecting the environment on which their livelihoods depend. The programs provide financial incentives such as rental payments and cost-sharing incentives to offset the cost of installing conservation practices.

How is CEAP conducted?

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) conducts the CEAP survey in selected watersheds. Since they were last surveyed, area farmers may have changed their on-farm best management practices. Collecting updated information helps document the prevalence of conservation practices and provides the base from which to strengthen conservation planning, implementation and management.

Do you want to know more?

For more information or questions about the CEAP survey, contact the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at 1-800-727-9540, or visit:

https://www.nass.usda.gov/Surveys/Guide_to_NASS_Surveys/Conservation_Effects_Assessment_Project/index.php

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/ceap>

