Why is CEAP important?

The CEAP survey will provide the farming community, the general public, legislators, and others involved in environmental policy with a current accounting of the environmental impacts of conservation practices. CEAP will also help determine what resources farmers may need to further protect the soil, water and related resources.

CEAP will provide information on the efficacy of conservation programs that agricultural leaders value due to the positive impact they provide in protecting and restoring the environment and natural resources.

Do you want to know more?

If you have questions about the survey, please 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.

To learn more about CEAP cropland assessments, visit nrcs.usda.gov/ceap/croplands.

National Resources Inventory

Conservation Effects Assessment Project

Survey of Farming and Conservation Practices

U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Natural Resources Conservation Service

USDA
AGRICULTURE COUNTS
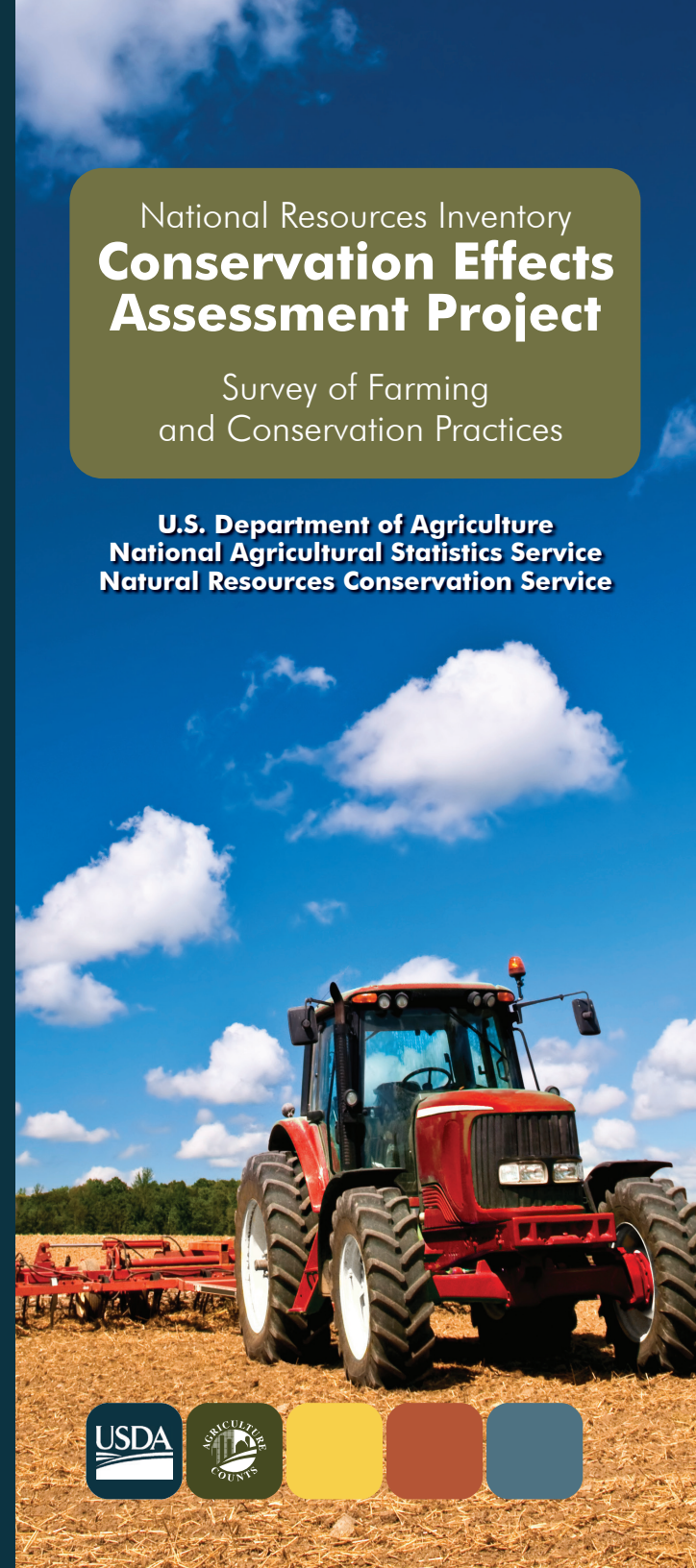
What is the
CEAP Survey?

The Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) survey collects information from producers about farming and conservation practices on their cropland. Information collected through the CEAP survey is vital to help determine the effectiveness of existing conservation practices.

Why participate in CEAP?

CEAP captures producers' current farming and management practices, including conservation practices designed to help protect soil and water resources. CEAP information is used to maintain, modify and improve programs that assist farmers in planning and installing on-farm conservation practices.

Billions of federal dollars have supported the implementation of conservation programs and practices on U.S. private lands. Maintaining USDA conservation programs protects the natural resources on which producers' livelihoods depend and ultimately strengthens their resiliency and productivity. These conservation programs provide financial incentives such as rental payments and cost-sharing incentives to offset the cost of installing conservation practices.

Current USDA conservation programs include:
» Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
» Regional Conservation Partnership Program
» Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
» Conservation Reserve Program
» Conservation Stewardship Program
» Environmental Quality Incentives Program
» Farmable Wetlands Program

In addition to these and other federal programs, assistance is available from state agencies and nonprofit organizations, while many farmers install conservation practices without public incentives or assistance.

How is CEAP conducted?

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) conducts the CEAP survey. Collecting updated information helps document possible changes in the prevalence and type of conservation practices adopted over time. CEAP provides a base from which to strengthen conservation planning, implementation and management.

NASS representatives visit farms in the selected areas to collect information such as on-farm production practices; chemical, fertilizer and manure applications; integrated pest management activities; and installed conservation practices.

NASS safeguards the privacy of all respondents. The information you provide will be used for statistical purposes only. In accordance with federal law, your responses will be kept confidential and will not be disclosed in identifiable form.