**Non-substantive Change Request**

**0535-0213 – Agricultural Surveys Program**

**AGRICULTURAL SURVEY – All Quarters**

This non-substantive change request addresses two items on the Quarterly Agricultural Surveys: the use of text message reminders and modifications to the Dry Bean Exclude statement.

**1. Text Message Reminder**

Starting in September, NASS is requesting to use text message reminders for respondents who have opted in to receive text messages.

The example in this email is [ICR 0535-0236, Census of Horticultural Specialties](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.reginfo.gov%2Fpublic%2Fdo%2FPRAViewICR%3Fref_nbr%3D202404-0535-006&data=05%7C02%7Cbrent.chittenden%40usda.gov%7Cf3655747c2984ad764ad08ddbe207350%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1%7C0%7C638875768790407630%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=mwKDTeGQFc%2BJnah35VLNq22txuppIkwnOULIrtsTHpM%3D&reserved=0). In the [burden sheet calculation in question 12 on supporting statement A](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.reginfo.gov%2Fpublic%2Fdo%2FDownloadDocument%3FobjectID%3D143986801&data=05%7C02%7Cbrent.chittenden%40usda.gov%7Cf3655747c2984ad764ad08ddbe207350%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1%7C0%7C638875768790439409%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=gyoT0mXilHy3K99INrkxa1aLLSafyw1h%2FwgOW%2BL%2F9Ac%3D&reserved=0), we list under publicity materials, "reminder email," and we list the burden time as 1 minute. For this example, if there were any Census of Horticultural respondents who have opted in for text messaging, we would send them a text message reminder instead of an email reminder. The respondent burden would not change.

Text message reminder example wording:

*USDA NASS Reminder: Please complete your 2024 Census of Horticultural Specialties form at agcounts.usda.gov or mail back. Thank you! Questions 888-424-7828*

Current Email reminder wording:

*The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently mailed you a form for the 2024 Census of Horticultural Specialties. Everyone who receives a Census form is* ***required by law*** *to respond (Title 7 USC 2204(g) Public Law 105-113). If you are not farming or ranching, please call us toll free at 1-888-424-7828 and enter 0 to speak with a representative so we can update our records.*

*If you have already responded, thank you! If not, please respond by* ***February 15, 2025****,**in one of the following ways:*

* ***Online*** *at* [*www.agcounts.usda.gov*](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJmcm9tX2VtYWlsIjoidXNkYS5uYXNzQHNlcnZpY2UuZ292ZGVsaXZlcnkuY29tIiwiZGF0ZV9zZW50IjoiMjAyNC0wNS0xNVQxNzozMzo1MC4wNjYrMDAwMCIsInVzZXJfaWQiOjI3LCJzcmMiOiJoeXJ1bGUiLCJtZXNzYWdlX2lkIjoiMTQ0NTc4NDc3NiIsInVyaSI6Im9kbTpjbGljayIsImVtYWlsIjoiaGFyb2xkLmJhbGxvdUB1c2RhLmdvdiIsImNhbXBhaWduX2lkIjpudWxsLCJsaW5rX2lkIjoxMDAsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vcG9ydGFsLmFnY291bnRzLnVzZGEuZ292L3BvcnRhbC9zLz91dG1fc291cmNlPW5lbW8jdXRtX21lZGl1bT1lbWFpbCN1dG1fY2FtcGFpZ249YWdjZW5zdXNfMjIiLCJyZWNpcGllbnRfaWQiOiIxNTk4NTEzMTEwIn0.pfOcN9II8zcIutTdqeke1lhIRNUTAu_fjW8pYTuDkWs) *and enter your unique survey code found on the front of the Census of Agriculture form mailed to you.*
* ***Mail*** *your completed Census form back using the prepaid envelope.*

*All information you provide is confidential and protected by federal law. For more information, visit* [*www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus*](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJmcm9tX2VtYWlsIjoidXNkYS5uYXNzQHNlcnZpY2UuZ292ZGVsaXZlcnkuY29tIiwiZGF0ZV9zZW50IjoiMjAyNC0wNS0xNVQxNzozMzo1MC4wNjYrMDAwMCIsInVzZXJfaWQiOjI3LCJzcmMiOiJoeXJ1bGUiLCJtZXNzYWdlX2lkIjoiMTQ0NTc4NDc3NiIsInVyaSI6Im9kbTpjbGljayIsImVtYWlsIjoiaGFyb2xkLmJhbGxvdUB1c2RhLmdvdiIsImNhbXBhaWduX2lkIjpudWxsLCJsaW5rX2lkIjoxMDIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3Lm5hc3MudXNkYS5nb3YvQWdDZW5zdXMiLCJyZWNpcGllbnRfaWQiOiIxNTk4NTEzMTEwIn0.m4PDgRLUqcyoP6BvUIlamaJbSuORRAQNB8Ot7F-aDdA)*.*

*Thank you for responding and for your support of U.S. agriculture.*

**Potential Impact:** For the 2024 Census of Horticultural Specialties, NASS sent 6,437 reminder emails. If text messaging was available, an estimated 193 respondents could have received a text reminder instead of an email reminder.

**2. Dry Bean Include/Exclude Change on Dec/June Agricultural Production Surveys (APS)**

Adding instructions to the Dry bean question to explicitly exclude soybeans.

By including these updates, we aim to improve the efficiency and clarity of our Agricultural Surveys.

**December APS:**

Currently, the question looks like this:

**Change to:**

                Dry Edible Beans, all classes (EXCLUDE chickpeas and soybeans.)

**March APS:**

Currently, the question looks like this:



**Change to:**

                Dry Edible Beans, all classes? (EXCLUDE chickpeas and soybeans.)

**June APS:**

Currently, question looks like this:



**Change to:**

Dry Edible Beans, all classes? (EXCLUDE chickpeas and soybeans.