



NEWS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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USDA to conduct Census of Agriculture special studies on aquaculture.

WASHINGTON – November 17, 2023 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will conduct two special studies as part of the 2017 Census of Agriculture to collect more detailed information on aquaculture practices in the U.S.

On December 17, NASS will mail the 2018 Census of Aquaculture to all farmers who indicated on their 2017 Census of Agriculture forms that they produce and sell aquaculture products. Results from this survey will help provide current and comprehensive industry-specific data at the state and national levels, including production volume and methods, surface water acres and sources, sales, and more. Federal, state and local governments, agribusinesses, trade associations, and producers use the information to make informed decisions that can impact the sustainability and growth of the U.S. aquaculture industry. The deadline for producers to respond is January 15.

"The 2023 Census of Aquaculture is a powerful voice for American agriculture. The information gathered through this survey influences policy decisions that will have a tremendous impact on ag producers and their communities for years to come," said NASS Administrator, Hubert Hamer. "I strongly encourage all producers, no matter how large or small their operation, to promptly complete and return their questionnaire. This is your opportunity to share your voice, uplift the value and showcase the uniqueness of American agriculture."

Managing your participation in this survey is easier than ever thanks to the USDA NASS Online Respondent Portal where you can view and complete NASS surveys, view historical reports, and access other resources. Go to www.agcounts.usda.gov to access the portal.

"Our farmers and ranchers have an incredible impact on our nation and the world. I want to thank them in advance for responding," said NASS Administrator Hubert Hamer. "We recognize how valuable their time is, so we have made responding more convenient and modern than ever before."

Responding to the 2023 Census of Aquaculture is required by law under Title 7 USC 2204(g) Public Law 105-113. The same law requires NASS to keep all information confidential, to use the data only for statistical purposes, and only publish in aggregate form to prevent disclosing the identity of any individual producer or farm operation. NASS will release the results of the Census of Aquaculture in late 2024.

To learn more about the 2023 Census of Aquaculture, visit www.nass.usda.gov/agcensus. On the website, producers and other data users can access frequently asked questions, past ag census data, other special study information, and more. For highlights of these and the latest information, follow USDA NASS on twitter @usda_nass.

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NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.

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