

April 2, 2019

Mr. David Hancock
NASS Clearance Officer
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Room 5336, South Building
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250-2024

RE: *Federal Register* notice of February 28, 2019 for the National Agricultural Statistics Service's 2019 Census of Horticultural Specialties (Docket Number: 0535-0236)


Dear Mr. Hancock:

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) strongly supports the 2019 Census of Horticulture Specialties; a follow-on survey from the 2017 Census of Agriculture. The data collected on this form are crucial to key components of BEA's economic statistics.

BEA uses this information to prepare estimates for the annual input-output accounts (I-O), the benchmark I-O accounts, and the capital flow account. Specifically, information is used in these accounts to separately identify sales activities for retail and wholesale by product, household versus business use, and private equipment and software machinery. The attached table describes the items used and their purpose.

Please keep BEA informed concerning any modifications to this form. We are particularly interested in any modifications proposed during the forms approval process that would substantially affect our use of these data. For additional information, please contact Tiffany Burrell, Source Data Coordinator, on 301-278-9618 or by e-mail at Tiffany.Burrell@bea.gov. Should you need assistance in justifying this form to the Office of Management and Budget, please do not hesitate to contact BEA.

Sincerely,



Dennis J. Fixler
Chief Economist

Attachment

ATTACHMENT

Items Used by BEA from the Census of Horticultural Specialties

Items Used:	Use of Item:
Section 9: Nursery Stock Production	Annual I-O Accounts
Section 10: Nursery Stock – Sales Categories	Annual I-O Accounts
Section 11: Sod, Sprigs, or Plugs	Annual I-O Accounts
Section 20: Marketing Channels	Benchmark I-O Accounts
Section 21: Estimated Value of Land, Buildings, Machinery and Equipment	Production Account