

U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service

The Cropland Data Layer & Acreage Estimation Process

http://www.nass.usda.gov/research/Cropland/SARS1a.htm

Cropland Data Layer- 2009 States



New project Infrequent projects Annual projects

Land Cover Categories (by decreasing acreage)







- Grapes Misc. Vegs. & Fruits Millet Other Tree Nuts/Fruits Rve Lentils Apples/Cherries/Pears
- Flaxseed
- Other Crops
- Non-Agriculture Aquaculture Citrus Tomatoes Clover/Wildflowers Other Small Grains Safflower Peaches/Plums/Apricots Herbs Blueberry



Albers Equal Area Conic, North Amreican Datum 1983.

Map Production: ESRI ArcGIS 9.3.

FSA Common Land Units NASS June Area Survey Segment Data Wht Wintr 7 140 103 ND 5 Wht_Wintr 11 62 41 ND 67.1 Wht Wintr 19 215 55 ND 135.5 Wht Wintr 57 105 99 ND Wht Wintr 117 22 51 ND 4 Wht Wintr 121 34 41 ND 124. \A/ht_\A/intr 123 66 99 ND 151 8 Wht Wintr 175 161 101 ND 51 Wht Wintr 185 60 75 ND 138 Wht Wintr 229 84 9 ND Wht_Wintr 99 70 105 ND 4 **Customize SAS for** acreage estimation **Regression estimator:** Pixel count versus reported acreage





CROPLAND DATA LAYER PROCESSING SYNOPSIS

The Cropland Data Layer **Program** has been in development since the early 1970's. The methodology and resources used for crop identification and estimation processes in NASS are common to many remote sensing projects. Inputs include vector and tabular data to build ground truth and estimate acreage, and current satellite imagery plus derived products for the classifier. Outputs are categorized land cover imagery and acreage statistics

The project phases are:

1) Ground data collection and preparation linking digitized Farm Service Agency (FSA) Common Land Units with 587 Administrative Data on farmers' cropping intensions and acreages, and utilizing the National Land Cover Dataset (NLCD) for noncropland ground truth data;

2) Selection of current satellite imagery using Resourcesat-1 AWiFS and Landsat TM as primary sources and Terra MODIS as a backup source;

3) Training the decision tree classifier against the satellite and ancillary imagery based on known crop/non-crop sample information from the FSA and NLCD;

4) Building of the classification utilizing the derived decision rules;

5) Evaluation of the classifier by examining user and producer accuracies from independent ground truth;

6) Acreage estimation by regressing classified pixel counts against June Area Survey segments' reported acreages;

7) Creation of the Cropland Data Layer (CDL) -- a GIScompatible crop-specific land cover data layer.

This technique classifies every acre in a given area and produces state and county crop acreage statistics. This can lead to more accurate seasonal assessments due to late plantings or intentions to plant during the growing season.