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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 18, 2023 Contact: Eugene Young (800) 327-2970

USDA to Measure Small Grains Production

Little Rock, AR– Starting in late August, a sample of producers around the country will receive Agricultural Survey questionnaires from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The agency is taking a comprehensive look into the 2023 production and supply of small grains such as wheat and oats.

"The small grains industry is an important part of Arkansas' agriculture. It is crucial for all involved to have accurate data about this key sector of the economy," said NASS Regional Director Eugene Young. "We will contact more than 1,500 producers in Arkansas to accurately measure 2023 acreage, yield, and production for small grain crops. The data collected from this survey will be used along with additional information to help set small grain acreage, yield, and production estimates at the county level, which will be available this December in NASS's Quick Stats database at https://guickstats.nass.usda.gov

NASS will contact Arkansas producers to gather information on their 2023 production and the quantities of grains and oilseeds stored on the farm. Additionally, NASS will survey commercial grain storage operations to determine estimates of grain stocks stored in any off-farm facilities. Producers are encouraged to respond online at https://portal.agcounts.usda.gov/home or return their completed surveys by mail. Producers who have not responded by Wednesday, August 30, may be contacted by a NASS representative to schedule a time to help fill out the survey.

"NASS safeguards the privacy of all respondents by keeping responses confidential and publishing the data in aggregate form only, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified," stated Young. "We recognize that this is a busy time for farmers and ranchers, but the information they provide becomes useful data for decision-making on the farm, for federal farm programs, and the markets. I urge them to respond to this survey and thank them for their time and cooperation."

NASS will publish state and national data in the annual *Small Grains Summary* and quarterly *Grain Stocks* reports on September 29 on the NASS website. All NASS reports are available at <u>https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/index.php</u>. For more information, call the NASS Delta Regional Field Office at (800) 327-2970.

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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.