



United States Department of Agriculture NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE DELTA REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE 10800 Financial Centre Parkway Suite 110, Little Rock, AR 72211



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## USDA to measure financial well-being of Arkansas farmers and ranchers

Little Rock, Arkansas –Beginning in late December, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will spend several months gathering information about farm economics from farmers and ranchers across Arkansas, as the agency conducts the third and final phase of the 2023 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS).

"ARMS is the only survey that measures the current financial well-being of Arkansas producers and their households as a whole," said Eugene Young, Director of the Delta Regional Field Office. "The data will help inform decisions on local and federal policies and programs that affect Arkansas farms and farm families."

To obtain the most accurate data, NASS will reach out to nearly 40,000 producers nationwide, including 1,650 in Arkansas, between December 2023 and April 2024. The survey asks producers to provide in-depth information about their operating revenues, production costs, and household characteristics. The 2023 ARMS survey includes a version of the questionnaire focused on farm costs of production and expenditures for peanut, oat, and soybean producers.

"In February, our interviewers will begin reaching out to those farmers who have not yet responded," said Young. "We appreciate their time and are here to help them with the questionnaire so that their information will continue to support sound agricultural decision-making."

Information provided to NASS is kept confidential, as required by federal law. The agency only publishes data in aggregate form, ensuring that no individual respondent or operation can be identified.

The expense data gathered in ARMS will be published in the annual *Farm Production Expenditures* report on July 26, 2024. That report and others are available at <u>nass.usda.gov/Publications</u>. Additional ARMS data analysis and reports are available at <u>ers.usda.gov/arms</u>.

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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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