



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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USDA to measure financial well-being of California farmers and ranchers

SACRAMENTO, CA – December 19th 2023 – 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 California, 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 California producers and their households as a whole,” said Gary Keough, Director of the NASS Pacific Regional Office. “The data will help inform decisions on local and federal policies and programs that affect California farms and farm families.”

To obtain the most accurate data, NASS will reach out to nearly 40,000 producers nationwide, including 2,500 in California, between January 2024 – April 2024. The survey asks producers to provide in-depth information about their operating revenues, production costs, and household characteristics. The 2023 ARMS survey also includes a version of the questionnaire focused on farm costs of production and expenditures for oat producers.

“In February, our interviewers will begin reaching out to those farmers who have not yet responded,” said Keough. “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 nass.usda.gov/Publications. Additional ARMS data analysis and reports are available at ers.usda.gov/arms.

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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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