



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
DELTA REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE



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

Jackson, Mississippi – 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 Mississippi, 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 Mississippi producers and their households as a whole,” said Esmerelda Dickson, Mississippi State Statistician. “The data will help inform decisions on local and federal policies and programs that affect Mississippi farms and farm families.”

To obtain the most accurate data, NASS will reach out to nearly 40,000 producers nationwide, including 570 in Mississippi, 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 Dickson. “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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