



NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
Delta Regional Field Office (serving Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi)
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USDA to gather cash rents data in Mississippi

Jackson, MS – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will conduct the annual Cash Rents and Leases survey starting Feb. 5. The survey provides the basis for estimates of the current year’s cash rents paid for irrigated cropland, non-irrigated cropland, and permanent pasture. Over 241,000 survey recipients across the United States, including 4,600 in Mississippi, have been selected to complete the survey, which can be completed online at agcounts.usda.gov, by mail or phone. The deadline to respond is February 20.

“Survey response from as many farm operators as possible ensures that cash rental rates accurately represent their locality,” said Esmerelda Dickson, Mississippi State Statistician. “The data from the Cash Rents and Leases survey will also give landowners a useful tool in negotiating rental agreements and making other business decisions for their agricultural operations.”

Information from this survey is also used in the Farm Service Agency Conservation Reserve Program as an alternative soil rental rate prior to finalizing new rates each year.

In accordance with federal law, NASS keeps survey responses confidential. The data will be available in aggregate form only to ensure that no individual producer or operation can be identified. NASS will publish the state-level data on August 2 and county-level data on August 23 at quickstats.nass.usda.gov/. For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Delta Regional Field Office at (800) 327-2970 or visit www.nass.usda.gov/Surveys/Guide_to_NASS_Surveys/Cash_Rents_by_County/index.php.

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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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