

**OVERSIGHT OF USDA'S USE OF CENSUS OF  
AGRICULTURE AUTHORITY TO ACQUIRE  
FARMERS' PERSONAL FINANCIAL  
INFORMATION**

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**HEARING**  
BEFORE THE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
BIOTECHNOLOGY, HORTICULTURE, AND RESEARCH  
OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS  
FIRST SESSION

DECEMBER 9, 2015

**Serial No. 114-37**



Printed for the use of the Committee on Agriculture  
*agriculture.house.gov*

U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

97-972 PDF

WASHINGTON : 2016

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## CONTENTS

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	Page
Davis, Hon. Rodney, a Representative in Congress from Illinois, opening statement .....	1
Prepared statement .....	3
Submitted report .....	37
Submitted form .....	97
DelBene, Hon. Suzan K., a Representative in Congress from Washington, opening statement .....	9
Submitted memorandum .....	121
Peterson, Hon. Collin C., a Representative in Congress from Minnesota, opening statement .....	23
Submitted article .....	122
WITNESS	
Reilly, Joseph T., Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. ....	10
Prepared statement .....	12



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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON BIOTECHNOLOGY, HORTICULTURE, AND  
RESEARCH,  
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,  
*Washington, D.C.*

The Subcommittee met, pursuant to call, at 2:00 p.m., in Room 1302 of the Longworth House Office Building, Hon. Rodney Davis [Chairman of the Subcommittee] presiding.

Members present: Representatives Davis, Thompson, Scott, Gibson, Yoho, Newhouse, DelBene, Kuster, Graham, and Peterson (*ex officio*).

Staff present: Ashley Callen, Haley Graves, John Goldberg, Mary Nowak, Mollie Wilken, Stephanie Addison, John Konya, Anne Simmons, Keith Jones, Liz Friedlander, Matthew MacKenzie, Mike Stranz, Nicole Scott, and Carly Reedholm.

**OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. RODNEY DAVIS, A  
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM ILLINOIS**

The CHAIRMAN. This hearing of the Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research, regarding oversight of USDA's use of Census of Agriculture authority to acquire farmers' personal financial information, will come to order.

I will tell you, this is my first time in this room, and the technological disadvantages we have here are interesting. We actually have a toggle switch on the microphone. I haven't seen one of those here, so welcome to history.

I would now like to offer up a welcome to our witness, Mr. Reilly, from the USDA. Thank you for being here.

I will go ahead and commence with my opening statement, and then let the Ranking Member commence with her statement. I will let the Members know that we are expecting votes during this hearing. Hopefully, they will not last long and we can immediately come back here and complete the hearing in a very timely manner.

So with that, I want to begin by saying thank you again, Mr. Reilly. And today the Subcommittee will begin a public dialogue with the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service regarding concerns raised by producers pertaining to a perceived abuse of discretion in conducting the Census of Agriculture.

The Census of Agriculture is conducted every 5 years by NASS, the most recent Census being taken in 2012. Data collected from the Census of Agriculture is incredibly important as it provides the only source of consistent, county-level statistics on agriculture operations throughout the United States. This data is used to prepare estimates of farm income and production costs, calculate research and extension formula allocations to land-grant universities—like the one I serve, the University of Illinois—evaluate agricultural programs and policies, to administer farm programs, and plan for operations during disease or pest emergencies. The Farm Credit Administration also uses the data to evaluate farmer loan programs. It is also intended to assist Congress in considering legislation, most notably the farm bill, and in overseeing farm programs.

Implementation of the 2014 Farm Bill is particularly data-driven. It cannot be overstated how important it is that farmers have confidence in NASS' process and participate in the Census.

States and local governments, as well as farm organizations, use the data collected from the Census of Agriculture to analyze and develop policies on land use, water use and irrigation, rural development, and farmland assessment. Rural electric companies use such statistics, they do this all the time, to forecast future energy needs.

Prior to 1997, the Census of Agriculture was taken by the Census Bureau, an agency within the Department of Commerce. Following proposals by the Census Bureau to redefine farms solely in order to reduce its own workload and costs involved, the Agriculture Committee determined that it would be in the best interests of all parties to transfer the authority to conduct the Census from the Secretary of Commerce to the Secretary of Agriculture. Legislation was subsequently enacted to transfer the Census of Agriculture to the USDA.

When we reported this legislation, Congress was cognizant of the amount of time taken by producers to respond to the Census questionnaire. In the report filed by this Committee, we specifically highlighted these concerns and instructed USDA to ensure that the Census questionnaire would be concise, easily readable and understandable, and relevant to today's agricultural operations.

In fact, Congress specifically instructed the Secretary of Agriculture to undertake a review of all questions currently asked as a part of the Census of Agriculture to ensure their relevancy.

In January of 2015, the Committee, both Majority and Minority, were contacted by farmers and ranchers concerned that the NASS improperly used the Census of Agriculture authority to conduct a survey entitled Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land, or otherwise known as TOTAL. By invoking the Census authority, NASS rendered the TOTAL survey compulsory.

The farmers and ranchers in touch with the House Agriculture Committee were confounded by the duplicative, intrusive, and overbroad nature of TOTAL. The TOTAL survey inquired about all aspects of an operator's personal financial portfolio, as well as all aspects of farm-related income and expenses. We will discuss the specific questions on the TOTAL survey during our question and answer time, but I would like to welcome Mr. Joe Reilly, the Administrator of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, to help the

Committee understand how decisions were made to develop and mandate intrusive survey questions, questions that, on their face, have little to do with agricultural production. I think it is accurate to point out that these types of questions were certainly never intended by Congress to be included in a mandatory Census of Agriculture. In fact, the instructions Congress gave to the USDA at the time that the legislation was enacted point out that Congress was specifically concerned about this type of abuse of discretion.

Mr. Reilly, thank you for being here today. It is our hope that you can shed some light on the decision-making process.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Davis follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. RODNEY DAVIS, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS  
FROM ILLINOIS

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In January 2015, the Committee, both Majority and Minority, were contacted by farmers and ranchers concerned that the NASS improperly used the Census of Agriculture authority to conduct a survey entitled Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL). By invoking the Census authority, NASS rendered the TOTAL survey compulsory.

The farmers and ranchers in touch with the House Agriculture Committee were confounded by the duplicative, intrusive, and over-broad nature of TOTAL. The TOTAL survey inquired about all aspects of an operator's personal financial portfolio as well as all aspects of farm related income and expenses. We will discuss the specific questions on the TOTAL survey during our question and answer time, but I would like to mention that NASS asked farmers how much they spend on health care and dental visits. You may think those are relevant areas to probe, but then we discovered NASS asked farmers how much they spend on vacations and going to the movies, if that is one's hobby. If a farmer or rancher ignored the survey, that producer could face a monetary penalty.

The Committee began oversight in February 2015 by requesting briefings by NASS officials and has since reviewed approximately 49,000 documents produced by USDA. Over the course of the Committee's oversight, it became clear that certain anomalies occurred during the planning and approval phase of the survey. The e-mails produced to the Committee show USDA leadership involvement in the process, which raises questions about the motivations for the compulsory nature of the TOTAL survey. The motivation for conducting TOTAL as a mandatory survey is unclear.

Today we have invited Mr. Joe Reilly, the Administrator of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to help the Committee understand how decisions were made to develop and mandate intrusive survey questions, questions that on their face have little to do with agricultural production. I think it is accurate to point out that these types of questions were certainly never intended by Congress to be included in a mandatory Census of Agriculture. In fact, the instructions Congress gave to USDA at the time the legislation was enacted point out that Congress was specifically concerned about this type of abuse of discretion.

Mr. Reilly, thank you for being here today. It is our hope that you can shed some light on the decision-making process.

I now yield to the Ranking Member, Ms. DelBene for her opening comments.

#### POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

#### Slide 1

**Picanso, Renee - NASS**

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**From:** Picanso, Renee - NASS  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 26, 2014 3:24 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** TOTAL - Census authority

I stopped by to see Joe R to clarify how he wants to proceed on mandatory reporting authority. He says he is in agreement to replace ARMS III with TOTAL and ask for mandatory authority. He seemed to think that we were the ones pushing the dual mandatory and voluntary authority.

I told him I would give him a list of talking points before the OMB meeting that he could review so we are all on the same page. I stopped by and told [REDACTED]

R. Renee Picanso  
 Director, Census and Survey Division  
 National Agricultural Statistics Service  
 United States Department of Agriculture  
 202-720-3383  
 renee.picanso@nass.usda.gov

**Slide 2**

**From:** [REDACTED] - NASS  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 30, 2014 11:16 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED] - NASS  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] - NASS  
**Subject:** RE: TOTAL supporting statements

99 AELOS response rate:  
Operator: 74.9  
Landlord: 50.8

We didn't actually publish the %. Just total received, out of business, etc. And then a bunch of text to try to confuse people about our actual response rate. But doing the calculations on my own I came out with the numbers above. They don't help our argument much.

[REDACTED]  
202.690.8802

**Slide 3**

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 09, 2014 6:02 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Ag Surveys Program (201312-0535-001)

Good Morning,

Well [REDACTED] forwarded the message on to Joe R. yesterday, so I went and talked with Joe already. Joe said that we have approval to treat this as a mandatory survey under the discretionary rights of the secretary. I was going to wait till Monday or Tuesday to tell Jen that we investigated it and our Administration said it was ok to proceed.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
USDA - NASS - OMB Clearance Officer  
202-690-2388

Slide 4

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 18, 2014 1:45 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: ARMS 3 news release

Yes. For OMB purposes it is one survey.

[REDACTED]  
Survey Administration Branch  
Environmental and Economic Survey Section  
202-720-3598

---

**From:** [REDACTED] - NASS  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 18, 2014 3:21 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] - NASS  
**Subject:** FW: ARMS 3 news release

Sorry – for my benefit, and to be clear...There is only one press release to announce both ARMS3 and Landlord TOTAL, with no mention of ERS....correct?

Slide 5

**OMB Staff wrote:**

Thank you, [REDACTED]. I received a message back from our general counsel this morning, and had been meaning to get back to you.

Our OGC reviewed Title 7. From his read and consultations with his team, he believes that only the survey content named in the Title is designated as mandatory, and that any additional content (even if embedded or otherwise fielded alongside) is not be designated as mandatory under Title 7. However, our OGC noted that some agencies have discretion in naming a particular survey or set of items on a survey as mandatory. IF USDA/NASS/ERS has this discretion, they might be able to invoke it in the case of TOTAL/ARMS. Your OGC could advise you.

I will take a look at Ag Surveys Program as soon as I can.

Best [REDACTED]

On May 8, 2014, at 3:27 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:

Well, we got an answer from [REDACTED], but it wasn't exactly what we were expecting. I will be teleworking on Friday, if you want to talk. Do we want to give Joe Reilly a heads up on this? Let me know what you think.

**Slide 6**

**From:** [REDACTED] - NASS  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 18, 2014 1:09 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] NASS; [REDACTED] - NASS  
**Subject:** RE: ARMS 3 news release

Based on earlier discussions, we cannot mention ERS as a TOTAL partner since it's a Census product. Basically, Joe did not think it is appropriate for us to conduct a Census for another agency.

[REDACTED]  
Office: (202) 690-8121



**We cannot mention  
ERS as a TOTAL  
partner since it's a  
Census product.**

**Slide 7**

**From:** [REDACTED] - NASS  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 18, 2014 1:09 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] - NASS; [REDACTED] - NASS  
**Subject:** RE: ARMS 3 news release

Based on earlier discussions, we cannot mention ERS as a TOTAL partner since it's a Census product. Basically, Joe did not think it is appropriate for us to conduct a Census for another agency.

[REDACTED]  
Office: (202) 690-8121

Slide 8

SECTION M FARM OPERATOR & HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS		
<p><b>[NOTE: Please answer the following questions for yourself (the principal operator) and your spouse, if you reported one in Section L, Item 7.]</b></p>		
1. Are you and your spouse of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin or background, such as Mexican, Cuban, or Puerto Rican, regardless of race? .....	<p><b>Principal Operator</b></p> <p>1219 Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p><b>Spouse</b></p> <p>1220 Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
	2. What is your and your spouse's race? .....	<p><b>Mark one or more.</b></p> <p>1223 <input type="checkbox"/> White</p> <p>1217 <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American</p> <p>1213 <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native. Specify tribe:  <input type="text"/></p> <p>1218 <input type="checkbox"/> Asian</p> <p>1221 <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander</p>
3. What is the highest level of formal education you and your spouse have achieved? .....		<p><b>Mark one answer only.</b></p> <p>1257 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than high school diploma</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> High school</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Some college (include associates degree)</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> 4-year college graduate and beyond</p>
	4. At which occupation did you and your spouse spend the majority (50 percent or more) of your work time in 2014? .....	<p><b>Mark one answer only.</b></p> <p>1207 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Farm or ranch work.</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Work other than farming/ranching.</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Currently not in the paid workforce.</p>
5. Do you (the principal operator) now consider yourself to be retired from farming/ranching? .....		<p>1259 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
6. How many persons lived in the principal operator's household on December 31, 2014? (Include operator, spouse, children, and others living in the operator's household.) .....		<p>Number</p> <p>1227 <input type="text"/></p>
	7. Are you generally a person willing to take risks or do you try to avoid taking risks? Please mark one box on the scale below where the value "0" means "not at all willing to take risks" and the value "10" means "fully willing to take risks".	<p>Not at all willing to take risks</p> <p>0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p>

Slide 9

<b>HOUSEHOLD SPENDING – (Please see VALUE CODES on page 22.)</b>	
e. health and medical expenses of:	Value Code
(i) health and/or dental insurance costs? (costs not covered by the farm operation or an off-farm employer) .....	1108
(ii) out of pocket expenses for health and medical needs? (Include co-payments, co-insurance, deductibles, etc.) .....	1112
f. contributions to personal insurance (including life, disability, and liability insurance but not including health, homeowner or vehicle insurance) and retirement plans including pensions and Social Security? .....	1109
g. contributions to individuals outside of the household, including alimony, child support, gifts (not including bequests) and charitable contributions? .....	1110
h. mortgage interest for operators who live in a dwelling owned by the household and not the operation? (Exclude any parts of mortgage principal) .....	1120
i. property taxes for operators who live in a dwelling owned by the household and not the operation? .....	1121
j. all other family living expenses, such as non-farm household insurance payments, clothing and personal care products and services; house furnishings and equipment, education and child (or adult) care, entertainment (hobbies, recreation, and vacations)? .....	1118
<b>OFF-FARM ASSETS – (Please see VALUE CODES on page 22.)</b>	
3. Which value code on page 22 represents the total value of each of the following categories of off-farm assets owned by the operator and members of the operator's household on December 31, 2014, for – (Exclude assets of this operation, reported in Section J.)	
a. financial assets held in non-retirement accounts? (Include cash, checking, savings, money market accounts, certificates of deposit, savings bonds, government securities, outstanding personal loans due to the operator or household, corporate stock, mutual funds, cash surrender value of life insurance, other financial assets. Exclude all farm business-related assets.) .....	0953
b. retirement accounts? (401k, 403b, IRA, Keogh, other retirement accounts) .....	0954
c. operator's dwelling, if not owned by the operation? (not reported in Section J, Item 1a) .....	0984
d. real estate and other personal (second) homes? (other farms, residential rental, commercial, and other real estate) .....	0985
e. business not part of this farm? .....	0986
f. all household vehicles? (Including household share of vehicles partly owned by the operation) .....	0982
g. other assets not reported elsewhere? .....	0987

The CHAIRMAN. And I now yield to the Ranking Member, Ms. DelBene, for her opening comments.

**OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE, A  
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM WASHINGTON**

Ms. DELBENE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for holding this hearing today. And thank you, Mr. Reilly, for being with us.

The thoughtful acquisition of data is essential to an informed decision-making process, both in the public and in the private sectors. What data to collect, how and when to collect it, and how to protect its appropriate use are all important questions for any organization engaged in data collection.

*Big data* is a buzzword in agriculture these days. It is kind of a buzzword everywhere, and we had a hearing on it recently here in the Agriculture Committee. And this afternoon, we will hear from the National Agricultural Statistics Service, or NASS. NASS has been involved in the collection of big data long before today's innovation age, including things like The Internet of Things.

In light of this new and exciting time, it is critical to better understand not just how the private-sector collects data through the newest production hardware and software, but how agencies such as NASS and the Economic Research Service collect their data. Even more important, we need to understand and ensure an individual's data is protected with the utmost care.

The data that flows from the various NASS and ERS products are critical to virtually every aspect of sound decision-making within USDA and U.S. agriculture at large. Why? Because in some form or another, the data NASS collects informs decisions ranging from EPA pesticide registrations and USDA commodity program participation, to improving risk management tools for organic producers. I even use data collected from the Census of Agriculture when I introduced a resolution emphasizing the importance of specialty crops.

Federal agencies have a responsibility to fully and transparently explain the relevancy for each of their data sets, and to engage in producer outreach to reassure a sometimes skeptical public that data is essential to a producer's access to farm programs, and being appropriately and safely collected. Furthermore, we should work together to ensure those collecting data hear from a range of opinions when constructing their surveys, and that they are not duplicating what we are asking individuals to complete.

Realistically, if these data collection surveys are to adequately inform both public- and private-sector decision-makers, they may need to ask about some sensitive personal information; however, it is essential that this type of data be handled with the utmost care and concern.

I look forward to hearing from our witness today, and hope everyone will leave this hearing with a better understanding of this topic at hand.

And with that, I yield back.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Ms. DelBene.

And with that, Mr. Reilly, the floor is yours for your verbal statement.

**STATEMENT OF JOSEPH T. REILLY, ADMINISTRATOR,  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE, U.S.  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D.C.**

Mr. REILLY. Chairman Davis, Ranking Member DelBene, and all the Members of the Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to present the National Agricultural Statistics Service important role in agriculture.

NASS administers the U.S. Agricultural Estimates program, which began in the Department of Agriculture back in 1863, and NASS also has the responsibility for conducting the U.S. Census of Agriculture every 5 years. And this was first done in the Department of Agriculture in 1997.

Both the Agricultural Estimates program and the Census program align with the basic mission of NASS to provide timely, accurate, and useful statistics in the service of U.S. agriculture. NASS prepares estimates for numerous crops and livestock items, and we issue 400 separate reports annually, of which over 100 of them are Principle Economic Indicators of the United States. NASS provides technical assistance and training to other countries in support of the U.N. Global Strategy for Agricultural and Rural Statistics in the U.S. Feed the Future Program. NASS also conducts over 150 special surveys on a cost reimbursable basis for other agencies, State Departments of Agriculture, and universities and other agricultural organizations.

The work that NASS does is critically important. It provides stability to our commodity markets, it supports our crop insurance program, it supports our disaster assistance program, and various farm bill programs. Inputs for farmer decisions and data to inform policy debates, and overall national security that comes from having a stable, reliable, nutritious and affordable U.S. food supply, is part of our core mission.

I understand that the Committee has some concerns over this recent survey that we conducted, the Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land Survey, or TOTAL, and that we conducted in partnership with the Economic Research Service, and I am going to be happy to address all of those concerns today.

Precursors of this survey began in 1960, and the most recent, prior to this year, was conducted by the Department of Agriculture, called the Agricultural, Economic, and Land Ownership Survey in 1999, and these were conducted as special surveys under the Census of Agriculture authority. And myself, having worked with the government for 40 years, I was with the Agriculture Program back when it was at the Census Bureau during the transition, I led the Agriculture Program during the transition, and have been with NASS since 1997, so I have a strong background in this area.

NASS acquired the authority for the Census of Agriculture in 1997, and prior to that, as I have stated earlier, the Census of Agriculture and all of the special studies, including AELOS, were conducted by the Bureau of the Census pursuant to Title 13 of the *United States Code*, to require responses to the Census and its follow-on programs.

In 1997, as you know, Congress adopted the Census of Agriculture Act, which required and transferred the authority to conduct the Census of Agriculture from the Department of Commerce

to the Department of Agriculture. In addition, the Act authorizes the USDA, in connection with the Census, to conduct any survey or other information collection, and employ any sampling or other statistical method that the Secretary determines, or that USDA determines, is appropriate.

In summary, it is this Census of Agriculture Act that provides NASS the authority not only to conduct the Census and associated special studies, and where we invoke the mandatory reporting authority.

Publication of information on land ownership began as far back as 1880, with the classification of farm tenure. Land ownership has been an important tool to gauge who owns the land, what is going to happen to the transition of land, and what are the finances surrounding the land, and how it affects the availability of the land going to farmers, especially new and beginning farmers. The Secretary's Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics provided advice to us in two meetings conducted in 2012 and 2013, which stated that as one of the top priorities for the agriculture community: the importance of this land ownership and tenure data.

Also in partnership with ERS, NASS conducts an annual farm finance survey, which is called the Agriculture Resource Management Survey, or ARMS. The sampling population for our TOTAL survey and our ARMS survey were determined to have a very high level of overlap between the respondent farms, and, therefore, NASS and ERS decided early on in our planning activities to integrate the two surveys, which was a hope to reduce overall respondent burden, to save the taxpayers' resources, and would improve the quality of the data provided for this critical topic.

Subsequently, NASS requested funding in our Fiscal Year 2015 President's budget to conduct a mandatory survey under the Census of Agriculture authority on land ownership and farm finance. And if you read the details of our explanatory notes in our 2015 budget submission, it was clear that we did describe the process of how we were going to integrate this with the Agricultural Resource Management Study.

In April of 2014, the Office of Management and Budget approval process required us to issue a *Federal Register* notice, notifying the public and everyone else of our intention to conduct the TOTAL survey, and to incorporate questions from the ARM survey. And it was noted in there, and in the subsequent *Federal Register* notice issued during the summer of 2014, with more specific details on our intent, including a copy of the final questionnaire which notified the public and everyone else of the mandatory reporting status. NASS in that process received one public comment from the Bureau of Economic Analysis heavily supporting and identifying the important use of this land ownership information.

NASS conducted the first mailing of the TOTAL questionnaire in December 2014, and subsequent mailings occurred through the spring of 2015. Once the data collection began, we did our editing analysis, and issued the results released on August 31 of this year. This publication provided hundreds of important estimates, covering land ownership arrangements, the economics of land ownership, demographic characteristics, land unit uses, and a look ahead

at potential ownership transfer, and this data has been highly valued since its release.

NASS clearly understands the sensitivity of some of the questions that we pose to farmers and land owners. Questions covering the cost of health insurance, medical expenses and other things, appear to be of particular concern. In order to gauge the well-being of farm families, it is important to have a clear understanding not only of the farm operating expenses, but also of the farm household expenses. Similar questions have historically been asked in previous land ownership surveys and in the ARM surveys, and were both integrated in the TOTAL survey. Household expenses can be a significant factor in determining whether or not a farmer can pursue their full profession in agriculture, or are they necessitated to seek and obtain off-farm work and off-farm benefits. For all the information that NASS collects, we consistently offer a pledge of confidentiality, and we go to extreme measures to ensure that that occurs. In fact, I just left our crop report issuance which went out at noon today, and I invite all of you to see the security that is in place when we put out our crop report every month.

By integrating the ARMS and TOTAL survey, and using mandatory authority, this reduced overall respondent burden and data collection costs, and greatly increased the quality and reliability of the data. NASS estimates that by having this integrated approach, we saved over 53,000 burden hours on our American farmers and operators, and saved not only from our appropriations but the taxpayers about \$3 million in the implementation of the survey. While this is not a lot of money in the total Federal budget, to us in our data collection activities, it is quite a great deal.

In summary, I feel strongly that NASS has been open and transparent and consistent with Congress through our funding requests with OMB and through our survey approval process, and with the American public through the issuance of all the *Federal Register* notice and conversations about the land ownership program. We have fulfilled the recommendations of our advisory council and many of the NASS customers by providing a product that has been highly valued and appreciated throughout the agricultural industry.

And this concludes my statement, Mr. Chairman, and I am open to any questions.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Reilly follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF JOSEPH T. REILLY, ADMINISTRATOR, NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Chairman Davis, Ranking Member DelBene, and Members of the Subcommittee, I appreciate the opportunity to be here today to discuss the National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) and Census of Agriculture's important role in agriculture. NASS' mission is to provide timely, accurate, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. NASS administers the U.S. Agricultural Estimates program, which began at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in 1863. NASS also has conducted the Quinquennial U.S. Census of Agriculture since 1997, first collected by the Department of Commerce in 1840.

#### **Agricultural Estimates and the Census of Agriculture**

The primary activity of NASS is to provide reliable data to meet the decision-making needs of the agricultural industry. The agency fulfills its mission through an annual agricultural estimates program and the quinquennial Census of Agriculture.

NASS prepares estimates for over 120 crops and 45 livestock items that are published annually in more than 400 separate reports, of which 110 are Principal Economic Indicators of the U.S. Farmers, ranchers, and agribusinesses voluntarily respond to a series of nationwide surveys about crops, livestock, prices, chemical use, and other agricultural activities each year. Surveys are conducted during the growing season to measure the impact of weather, pests, and other factors on crop production. In many cases, NASS supplements farmer surveys with field observations of plan counts and measurements. NASS also uses administrative data from other USDA, Federal and state agencies; data on imports and exports; and other survey data to ensure official estimates accurately represent agricultural inventories.

#### **Stakeholder Input**

NASS annually seeks input from the public on determining priorities and improving its products and processes. It consults with customers and stakeholders through meetings of the Secretary of Agriculture's Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics, interaction with producers, data users meetings with agribusinesses and commodity groups, special briefings for agricultural leaders during the release of major reports, numerous individual contacts, and through *Federal Register* notices issued to the public. In response to this input, NASS continues to improve the quality and accessibility of its reports. The agency has adjusted its agricultural estimates program and published reports, and has expanded electronic access capabilities. All reports issued by NASS' Agricultural Statistics Board are made available to the public at a previously announced release time to ensure equal access to the information. All national statistical reports and data products, including graphics, are available on the Web, as well as in printed form, at the time they are released. Customers can electronically subscribe to NASS reports and download them in an easily accessible format using standard software. NASS also provides free Rich Site Summary (RSS). A summary of NASS and other USDA statistical data is produced annually in USDA's *Agricultural Statistics*, available on the NASS home page or in hard copy.

#### **Collaboration with Other Agencies**

NASS conducts special surveys and provides consulting services for USDA agencies, other Federal or state agencies, universities, and agricultural organizations on a cost-reimbursable basis. Consulting services include assistance with survey methodology, questionnaire and sample design, information resource management, statistical analysis, and data collection. NASS has assisted USDA agencies in programs that monitor nutrition, food safety, environmental quality, and customer satisfaction. In cooperation with State Departments of Agriculture, land-grant universities, and industry groups, NASS conducts over 130 special surveys each year covering a wide range of issues such as farm injury, nursery and horticulture, equine, farm finance, fruits and nuts, vegetables, and cropping practices.

#### **International Programs**

NASS provides technical assistance and training to improve agricultural statistical programs in other countries in cooperation with other government agencies on a cost-reimbursable basis. The NASS international program focuses on developing and emerging-market countries in Asia, Africa, Central and South America, and Eastern Europe. NASS assists countries in applying modern statistical methodology, including sample survey techniques. Accurate information about other countries is essential for successfully marketing U.S. farm products throughout the world. NASS has been an important contributor to the U.N. Global Strategy for Agricultural and Rural Statistics, and to the U.S. Feed the Future Program, contributing to better statistics for USDA global estimates of food supply.

#### **An Enhanced Research Program**

NASS's research program, which is focused on innovation and enhancement in statistical methods, business processes and data products in support, sustainment and improvement of NASS programs, has allowed the development of new statistical models for the estimating program; computer editing applications to replace manual review; expanded modes of data collection to include Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing and Computer Assisted Web Interviewing; implemented quality assurance protocols in routine operations; developed two new tools using remote sensing data—CropScape and VegScape; and further benefited from computer-based processing technology.

#### **Agricultural Estimates**

Annually, NASS issues over 400 agricultural estimates reports that are critically important in assessing current supply and demand in agricultural commodities. Pro-

ducers, agribusinesses, farm organizations, commodity groups, economists, public officials, and others use the data for decision-making. The statistics NASS collects and disseminates ensure buyers and sellers have access to the same official statistics at the same pre-announced time, and making markets fair. The free flow of information minimizes price fluctuations for U.S. producers, makes commodity markets more efficient, and makes our nation's agricultural industry more competitive. The data has become increasingly important as producers rely on future contracts to manage risks. In the latest farm bill, county level information is critical in implementing the Agriculture Revenue Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs administered by the Farm Service Agency.

### Census of Agriculture

In 1997, Congress adopted the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997 (the "Act"), which requires USDA to conduct the Census of Agriculture every 5 years. The Census of Agriculture provides comprehensive data on the agricultural sector at the national, state, and county level. The Census of Agriculture is the only source for this information on a local level and is extremely important to the agricultural community. Prior to 1997 the Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census (BOC) conducted the Census of Agriculture and Census special studies. These surveys were conducted by BOC pursuant to BOC's authority under Title 13 of the *U.S. Code* to require responses to the Census.<sup>a</sup> In addition to the requirement to conduct the quinquennial Census of Agriculture, the Act authorizes USDA, "in connection with the Census," to "conduct any survey or other information collection, and employ any sampling or other statistical method, that [USDA] determines is appropriate."<sup>b</sup> The Act also provides that anyone "who refuses or willfully neglects to answer a question, shall be fined not more than \$100." The Act of 1997 is what provides NASS the "mandatory" authority to conduct the Census of Agriculture and associated special studies.

NASS recently published a Census of Agriculture for all 50 states and Puerto Rico through a progressively detailed series of releases. NASS issued a preliminary release of 2012 Census of Agriculture data in February 2014 that contained high level estimates at the U.S. and state level. In May 2014 NASS released the full Volume I series of data at the U.S., state and county level. In addition to the in-depth large publication released in May 2014, a number of special tabulations were subsequently released. Those include state and county profiles; Congressional District Profiles; Watershed Publication; Race, Ethnicity and Gender Profiles and Specialty Crop Report.

After each Census of Agriculture is complete NASS uses the results to identify specific sectors of agriculture to collect in-depth details. Since the 2012 Census was published, NASS has conducted the following special studies: Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey (FRIS), Census of Aquaculture, Tenure Ownership and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL), Census of Horticulture, and Organic Production Survey. In 2016 NASS plans to conduct a special study on Local Foods. This will help evaluate the manner in which local food systems improve community food security, and assist populations with limited access to healthy food.

There are numerous, important uses for the data that come from the Census of Agriculture and the subsequent special studies. Below are a few:

- Provide critical data about the demographics and financial well-being of producers and the economic health of the farm sector;
- Evaluate historical agricultural trends to formulate farm and rural policies and develop programs that help agricultural producers and ultimately, consumers;
- Allocate local and national funds for farm programs, *e.g.*, extension service projects, agricultural research, soil conservation programs, and land-grant colleges and universities;
- Develop new and improved methods to increase agricultural production and profitability;
- Plan for operations during drought and emergency outbreaks of diseases or infestations of pests;
- Make informed decisions for individual operations within the farm, agribusiness, and related food and fiber sectors;

<sup>a</sup>See *1987 Census of Agriculture*, Volume 3, Part 2, "Agricultural Economics and Land Ownership Survey (1988)", at Appendix B, Report Forms and Information Sheets (available at <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/AgCensusImages/1987/03/02/1987-03-02-appendixes.pdf>), which has a copy of the AELOS questionnaire, which states: "[R]esponse to this inquiry is required by law (title 13, *U.S. Code*)."<sup>b</sup>

<sup>b</sup>Pub. L. 105-113 (codified primarily at 7 U.S.C. § 2204g); 7 U.S.C. § 2204g(b).

- Provide geographic data on production so agribusinesses can locate near major production areas for efficiencies for both producers and agribusinesses;
- Develop new and improved methods to increase agricultural production and profitability;
- Appraise water use trends and research crop production technologies that maintain precious water resources;
- Analyze land ownership and the prospect for new and beginning farmers to either start farming or expand their operations; [and]
- Study historic trends, assess current conditions, and plan for the future for both private and public decision-making.

In 2015 NASS started producing the vital Current Agricultural Industrial Reports (CAIR) that were previously discontinued by the Department of Commerce. Commodities covered in these reports include: Oilseeds, Beans & Nuts; Fats and Oils; Cotton Manmade Fiber Staple & Raw Linters; Flour Milling Products, and Grain Crushing's & Co-Products Produced. Like other NASS products, these reports support estimation requirements for NASS, Economic Research Service (ERS), the World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB), and the USDA Chief Economist. Private industry uses CAIR and other NASS data to monitor the effect of international trade on domestic production, evaluate the relationship between company and industry performances, market analyses, assess current business conditions, and plan future operations.

NASS is currently looking into the modern farm structure and its contributors, focusing on women and new farmers. NASS will modify statistical tools to better reflect the changing face of agriculture, especially including women, new farmers, and veterans on the farm.

#### **Protecting Producers' Personal and Financial Information**

With every survey NASS conducts, a pledge of confidentiality is provided to survey respondents and extensive measures are taken to honor that pledge. Title 7, *U.S. Code*, Section 2276 specifies neither the Secretary of Agriculture nor any USDA employee may, "disclose such information to the public, unless such information has been transformed into statistical or aggregate form that does not allow the identification of the person who supplied particular information." NASS employs a rigorous process to ensure that that the intent of this statute is met. Each year NASS employees are required to sign a "Confidentiality Certification" form that ensures understanding and compliance of Title 7 and other statutes covering data confidentiality. NASS processes information using approved and certified computer technology and protocols that protects data integrity. NASS maintains internal policies that specifies algorithms used to aggregate data and to determine if a summarized total may be disclosed or suppressed, prior to publication. Last, all NASS reports are released at an exact pre-determined and publicized time, to ensure that everyone has equal and fair access.

#### **Surveys Regarding Farmers' Financial Information**

Publication of data on land ownership characteristics began in 1880, with the classification of farm tenure. Land ownership surveys have been an important tool used to gauge who owns land, the transition of land, finances surrounding land, and the availability of land to new and beginning farmers. Varying elements of farm financial data have been collected since the first agriculture Census was taken in the United States in 1840. The principal financial characteristics in earlier data collections were value of farm land and sales of agricultural products, but in 1890, Census data were also requested on farm mortgage debt. In later Censuses, farm taxes were included. Prior to NASS taking over the Census of Agriculture from the Department of Commerce in 1997, BOC conducted land ownership surveys using mandatory authority under Title 13 of the *United States Code*. Most recently, BOC conducted the Agricultural Economics and Land Ownership (AELOS) survey in 1988, as a follow-on survey to the 1987 Census of Agriculture. AELOS included the majority of the financial measures collected in the 1979 and earlier Farm Finance Surveys and greatly expands the data on land ownership. That survey was conducted under BOC's mandatory authority. After the adoption of the Census of Agriculture Act, NASS conducted the AELOS survey in 1999, as a follow-on survey to the 1997 Census of Agriculture, using mandatory authority. As set forth in the report on the 1997 Census of Agriculture, "AELOS was an integral part of the 1997 Census of Agriculture and was conducted under the authority of the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997 . . . ." In 2014, NASS changed the name of the AELOS survey to the Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL). As set forth in the *Federal Register* notice announcing it, "[t]he 2014 Tenure, Ownership, and Transi-

tion of Agricultural Land (TOTAL) is an integral part of the 2012 Census of Agriculture and is conducted under the authority of the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997." The 2014 TOTAL sampling population heavily overlapped the sampling population for the Agricultural Resources Management Survey (ARMS). The ARMS is an annual economic survey conducted jointly by NASS and the Economic Research Service (ERS). In order to save taxpayer resources and minimize burden on respondents, NASS and ERS integrated the two surveys.

#### Summary

NASS's dedication to research and continued process improvement will ensure the organization remains relevant and viable to fill the urgent need for timely, accurate, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. Knowing where our food is coming from, who is producing it, how much is being produced, and how the agricultural sector is performing financially adds to our national security by providing assurance that Americans have a safe, nutritious, affordable, and adequate supply of food.

This concludes my statement, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this statement for the record.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Mr. Reilly. We appreciate you recognizing some of the points that I brought up during my opening statement about personal information, especially dental insurance, health insurance costs, but I want to start with a question.

Are you generally a person willing to take risks, or do you try to avoid taking risks?

Mr. REILLY. Well, sir, if you ask my wife, she will tell you that I am a risk-taker sometimes, but I am also very conservative in nature.

The CHAIRMAN. But how does one man answer in your situation question number 7? Please put *Slide 8* up on the screen.

The CHAIRMAN. Question number 7 in the Census TOTAL survey asks that exact question, and asks you to rate from a score to zero as not willing to take risks, or 10, willing to take risks, how do you answer that question? And you can imagine the frustration some of our farmers feel. And I guess I need to ask you, why is that question on there?

Mr. REILLY. When you look for questions like that, part of what individuals are looking for is dealing with farm and farm operations, and looking at the issues that they have to deal with managing their operation, how much risk do they want to incur, and what are they doing to try to mitigate risks involving with the farm operation.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, Mr. Reilly, the farmers in my district are risk-takers. I don't think we need to ask the psychology of the farmer and the farm operation on a questionnaire that is already being determined to be intrusive. That is a question that does not need to be on there, among other questions, and I would hope that you would take that statement back.

Let me go into a couple more issues. The House report language that accompanied the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997 contains some instructions for your agency. It reads, "The Committee recognizes the intrusive nature of a Census and the need to obtain relevant data for policymakers. Producers have serious time constraints and should only have to answer questionnaires that are concise, easily readable, understandable, and relevant to today's agricultural operations. The Committee is sympathetic to concerns of time spent filling out unnecessary paperwork."

That is why I bring this question up. I don't think it is relevant. But were you aware of this report language?

Mr. REILLY. I was involved in the transfer program when the Census transferred, but no, sir, I was not aware of that specific language.

The CHAIRMAN. Okay. Do you think NASS was mindful of this when TOTAL was drafted?

Mr. REILLY. We go through a pretty extensive review process of trying to determine the content of all of our questionnaires that we issue. We gather information from our stakeholders, that is why we have such avenues as our advisory committee on agriculture statistics. We meet with various officials throughout the Department. We meet with farm organizations. I have ongoing meetings with the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, and all of their Commissioners, Secretaries, and Directors of Agriculture, and we often discuss what are the data needs and what is necessary, and what individuals are looking for to manage various programs. And then to the best of our ability, we try to craft questions and things that will provide that needed information.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you. When and why did the USDA and NASS decide to conduct the TOTAL survey using the mandatory authority of the Census? Please put up *Slide 1*.

The CHAIRMAN. This document produced to the Committee by USDA shows there was a plan being carried out. It reads, "I stopped by to see Joe R.," which is you. I believe so. Is there another Joe R.?

Mr. REILLY. No.

The CHAIRMAN. All right. "To clarify how he wants to proceed. He says, He is in agreement to replace ARMS III with TOTAL, and asked for mandatory authority." Take a moment to read that e-mail to refresh your memory. And I ask you again, when and why did the USDA and NASS decide to conduct the TOTAL survey using the mandatory authority of the Census? Was it before or after this e-mail?

Mr. REILLY. Since I was not a party of this e-mail, and looking at the date of March 26, 2014, again, I will go back and look at our budget planning documents that were part of the 2015 budget submission. And clearly in our explanatory notes there, in our request for the appropriations, we did spell out that we were requesting to conduct a survey using mandatory reporting authority, and we did have descriptions in there describing how we intended to integrate this with the Agricultural Resource Management Study. So—

The CHAIRMAN. Do you recall—

Mr. REILLY.—when you talk about the—

The CHAIRMAN. Do you—

Mr. REILLY.—decision that—

The CHAIRMAN. Do you recall this conversation with Renee Picanso?

Mr. REILLY. I don't recall this specific conversation, but I do recall the general process of what we were going through because, from the beginning of the process, since, again, we looked at historical precedence in being that every one of the land ownership surveys that was conducted under the Bureau of Census' authority, and the first one of which was transferred and conducted by the

U.S. Department of Agriculture, each one of those was conducted under mandatory authority.

My understanding from the beginning, even from day one, and again, I just want to say that we were open and transparent because, even in our budget request, which went in early March, March 4 of 2014, we clearly put in there what our intention was and how we planned on doing it.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Reilly, as you look at that e-mail from Renee Picanso, says she, who refers to you, seemed to think we were the ones pushing the dual mandatory authority. What do you think that means?

Mr. REILLY. I am unclear what that means, what dual mandatory authority means. I think we were working on the details of how to integrate the two processes between the land ownership survey TOTAL and ARMS, and in doing so, and even in our *Federal Register* notice that we issued, it was our intention that we were suspending ARMS for the data collection year, and replacing the data collection with this TOTAL survey, again, with the idea that we were trying to minimize the reporting burden on the American farmer and the American public, and to ensure that we could obtain quality data, and to do it in a more cost-effective measure.

The CHAIRMAN. So what you said just a few minutes ago was that the mandatory nature, in your opinion, was based upon the mandatory nature of what was expected when this was part of the Census Bureau, right?

Mr. REILLY. And also with the first survey, the land ownership survey, conducted by USDA back in 1999. The same survey was mandatory at that time.

The CHAIRMAN. Okay, and as you sit here today though, what is your understanding of the decision to mandate TOTAL? It is the Census' fault? What is it? Or it is the 1999 survey?

Mr. REILLY. Well, again, many of the follow-on surveys are mandated because of the nature of what we are trying to do, and the sensitive data that we are trying to collect on those programs. If you think about the land ownership survey, it is essentially a Census of agricultural land in this country, and it is very important to try to figure out what is going on with the 915 million acres. And so having this mandatory authority in conducting this land ownership survey is really critical because we are going to two separate audiences. One is the farm operator, who is very involved with agriculture, but the other critical component is the farm landlord who, in many instances, is not involved in agriculture. Could be a resident, attorney, doctor, whatever, and have a practice, in New York City or any city across the country.

So again, I am taking it back to the broader spectrum of, to do a complete agricultural land survey, you have to cover both of those segments; both the farm operator and owner, and the land owner who is not an operator.

The CHAIRMAN. All right. Well, thank you.

I will defer to my Ranking Member, Ms. DelBene, for 5 minutes of questions.

Ms. DELBENE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First, I would like to submit for the record this memo from USDA that talks about both NASS and ERS wanting to use mandatory authority from the Cen-

sus to increase response rates. So that is some information to highlight what we were just talking about.

[The document referred to is located on p. 121.]

Thank you again, Mr. Reilly, for being here today. I appreciate that you and others at NASS have been working with folks on the Committee, and I would like to note here for everyone that throughout correspondence with the Committee, NASS has provided 49,000 documents and two briefings to the Committee. And so we appreciate all of your cooperation.

Mr. Reilly, I am aware that there is an Advisory Committee on Agricultural Statistics, and I wondered if you could tell us a little bit about the makeup of that committee, and how their opinions are incorporated in the process.

Mr. REILLY. Our Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics is a diverse membership. It is 20 committee members with two *ex officio* members. Out of the 20 members, we try to make sure that we have diverse representation from across agriculture. So we will have representatives that are there from commodity groups, commodity organizations. We will have representatives there from the universities', land-grant universities, we will have representatives that represent State Departments of Agriculture, and most importantly we have farmers and operators themselves who sit on our committee to provide us advice.

Normally, knowing there is a lot of competing interests for agricultural data, the committee helps us to shape what are the data needs out there needed to define policy and implement certain programs throughout agriculture. Knowing that we have limited financial resources, they give us a gauge of how to put it in priority order. Knowing that you can't do everything, what is the most important. So with limited financial resources, we can focus on what the committee says are the most important agricultural data needs in the country.

Ms. DELBENE. It seems like it could be helpful to make sure that representatives, like all of us here in D.C., could help alert our producers to surveys that are coming out, and reiterate the importance of accurate information and how that might be used, as well as the number of programs that use NASS data so that folks are aware of that.

Do you meet with agriculture groups on a regular basis, and is this something you have discussed so that people have more information about what is happening with the information you are collecting?

Mr. REILLY. Yes. We hold a very large agricultural data user meeting in Chicago each year. It conducted in October. We meet regularly with people from different areas across the country who advise us on our chemical use program. I meet quarterly and at the end of the year with the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, all the Commissioners, Secretaries, and Directors, who are advising me what needs they have to administer agricultural programs within their states, and on an ongoing basis I am meeting with representatives of all the different commodity groups. My door is always open, and normally on any given week, I have visitors who will come in from the corn growers, horticulture industry, Soybean Association, everything, and we are always discussing

about the needs that they have for their particular industry and for agriculture in general.

Ms. DELBENE. Several years ago, you suspended several specialized reports that were important to some sectors in agriculture. I understand that it was budget concerns that led to those suspensions, but can you share with the Committee how your budget works; whether you get funding for specific work or whether you are prioritizing what types of work you are doing, given the resources that you have?

Mr. REILLY. That is a very good question. Again, going back to my statement, talking about our overall program, we have two defined appropriations. So we get funding and appropriations for our Agricultural Estimates program and then for the Census of Agriculture program. And on the Agricultural Estimates program, many of these are the ones I refer to as the Principle Economic Indicators of the United States. So if any financial limitations come in play, those are our core ones that we want to keep in place. Second to that, we work with other USDA agencies that administer many aspects of the farm bill. So if something is required and data is needed, whether it is for crop insurance, disaster assistance, or things like that, those are our next level of priority that goes out in our Agricultural Estimates program, and—

Ms. DELBENE. And just one last thing, since I am running out of time. Do you get a specific line item for the Census of Agriculture itself in the budget?

Mr. REILLY. Yes, we get an appropriation for the Census of Agriculture and all its related programs, and one for the Agricultural Estimates program and its sub-activities.

Ms. DELBENE. Thank you very much.

I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

The chair will let everyone know votes have been called. I would like to allow my colleague, Mr. Scott, to ask his questions before we take off, and then we will go into recess and come back immediately after the two votes.

Mr. Scott, you are recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCOTT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

And, Mr. Reilly, did I understand you to say that the reason the questions were on the survey were to deal with whether or not the farmer could pay their bills? Is that effectively what you are asking?

Mr. REILLY. Well, not necessarily, sir, whether they could pay their bills.

Mr. SCOTT. What was your justification for asking those additional questions?

Mr. REILLY. Okay. In recognizing agriculture, 97 percent of all the farms in this country are family-operated farms, and many individuals and policymakers, as you know, are concerned about maintaining the family farm in our nation. A family farm as a component, we know what their operating expenses are just for the business side of the farm operation, but out of our 2.1 million farms in the country, less than 1/2 of them are actually full-time farmers who can make a living doing farming full-time. So in looking at future security, the off-farm, what they do off-farm in their private

employment, what kind of benefits, and what kind of expenses that they have to incur are key to the overall economic picture of the farm.

Mr. SCOTT. Let's talk—

Mr. REILLY. And is kind of unique to agriculture.

Mr. SCOTT. Let's talk about one of those expenses. First, what if I simply choose not to fill this form out? I have, as a citizen of this country, the ability to just say I am not filling this out.

Mr. REILLY. And many people do. Not everyone, even though it is mandatory fill it out, that—

Mr. SCOTT. But according to the law, the citizen is required to fill it out?

Mr. REILLY. That is correct.

Mr. SCOTT. But what are the consequences for not filling it out?

Mr. REILLY. The penalty is a \$100 penalty.

Mr. SCOTT. It is a \$100 penalty. That may be the solution, to eliminate the penalty.

I want to ask you about this question. Contributions to individuals outside of the household, including alimony, child support, gifts, and charitable contributions. With all due respect, it is none of your business what somebody gives to a charity. It is not. None of my business as the government. We have a First Amendment in this country. What gives you the right to demand that people tell you what they are giving to a charity?

Mr. REILLY. Well, Congressman, and I respect privacy as well as everyone, and I know the sensitivity of a lot of this information, and I want you to know that we put a lot of effort on making sure that the same law that requires mandatory answers is the same law that guarantees the confidentiality and the protection of that information.

Mr. SCOTT. Let me interrupt you there, I am sorry, because we are getting short on time. OPM was hacked. So when you have my information, if you have all of my information, can you guarantee me that it will never be hacked and never be made public?

Mr. REILLY. We do extensive security—

Mr. SCOTT. Would you, yes or no? OPM couldn't guarantee it.

Mr. REILLY. Well—

Mr. SCOTT. Can your agency guarantee that all of this privileged personal information, including what a person gives to their church or another charity they may choose to, could never be hacked and made public?

Mr. REILLY. Well, sir, what I can guarantee is that we do everything possible to secure the information. We try to stay up-to-date with all of our IT protocols—

Mr. SCOTT. I will—

Mr. REILLY.—and things like that.

Mr. SCOTT. I will take that as a no, with all due respect. I am somewhat taken aback by this, and I am also taken aback by the fact that it seems, as you go through the questions, and the slides that we have looked at and the e-mails, it seems that if it wasn't specifically illegal, then the discretion was used to do it anyway. And so where Congress gives an authority to do a survey that much of the information might be necessary for land use, since we

didn't specifically say you can't do this, this, and this, you used your discretion to make it mandatory. Is that fair enough?

Mr. REILLY. The discretion that we used was to look at the entirety of the data that was trying to be collected, and apply that discretion to everything that was on the form. Yes, sir.

Mr. SCOTT. But you used discretion to make it mandatory instead of voluntary.

Mr. REILLY. Well, when I say *discretion*, again, following the principles and practices that every program that we have conducted since moving the Census of Agriculture—

Mr. SCOTT. But would you—

Mr. REILLY.—program—

Mr. SCOTT.—agree that there was a change to make this mandatory instead of voluntary?

Mr. REILLY. Could you repeat that again, sir? I—

Mr. SCOTT. Would you agree that there was a change to make this mandatory? This was not a mandatory report. The household characteristics was not a mandatory report until you used your discretion to make it one. Is that correct?

Mr. REILLY. No. Again, going back and looking at all the previous surveys of the aspects of this, the household characteristics and information of off-farm income—

Mr. SCOTT. Well, let me—

Mr. REILLY.—and things like that were—

Mr. SCOTT. Let me rephrase it. What did you—

Mr. REILLY.—in previous surveys.

Mr. SCOTT. What did you add this year?

Mr. REILLY. Which exact questions?

Mr. SCOTT. Yes.

Mr. REILLY. I would have to look and go through every exact question. But one of the principles of—

Mr. SCOTT. Let me ask one other thing then. What do you not have the authority to add to the question?

Mr. REILLY. We have the authority to do the survey and add things that are relevant and have to have a justified need for what the data is going to be used for.

Mr. SCOTT. Justify the need for making somebody disclose their charitable contributions to the government.

Mr. REILLY. Again, sir, that would go to the overall economic well-being of that household on how much—

Mr. SCOTT. Using that standard, there is no limit to what you can ask the American public.

Mr. REILLY. And, again, going through the process, what I rely on is being open and transparent. When we go through this in our discussions and in the development of the questionnaire, we lay out right from the beginning in all of our *Federal Register* notices what we intend to ask.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Chairman, my time has expired, but this is just a clear example of government overreach that we have responsibility to rein-in.

And with that, I will yield what time I don't have left.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's time has expired.

With that, since we are in the midst of a two-vote series, the chair will call this Subcommittee into recess until we return immediately after votes.

[Recess.]

The CHAIRMAN. This hearing of the Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research will come back to order.

Welcome back, Mr. Reilly. I—well, actually, thanks for allowing us the time to get back here. I apologize for making you wait. I appreciate your time here.

We are going to go straight into the questioning, and it is for the Minority side.

I recognize the Ranking Member of the full Agriculture Committee, Mr. Peterson, for 5 minutes.

**OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON, A  
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM MINNESOTA**

Mr. PETERSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

And, Mr. Reilly, yesterday or the day before, there was a story in a paper back home about farmers in two counties in North Dakota not receiving ARC county payments apparently because their neighbors had not sent in the NASS data, or the ones that did send them in were people that irrigated, and the ones that didn't irrigate didn't send them in. In any event, all of the counties around these two counties received payments, and it was quoted in there they thought their payments should have been \$30 an acre but they got zero. Are you familiar with this situation?

[The document referred to is located on p. 122.]

Mr. REILLY. Not of that particular situation, no, but I am familiar with the program itself and how our data is used in the program.

Mr. PETERSON. Well, so we are using data to determine these payments, that is given by farmers that are not actually required by any law to do it.

Mr. REILLY. It is voluntary, yes.

Mr. PETERSON. Well, what kind of a crazy system is that? Now, I was never in favor of this ARC county thing in the first place. If we had the PLC, this wouldn't have been an issue. But you can't explain to people how this is possible; that they were expecting to receive \$30,000 worth of payments, and they are getting zero. And apparently, for some reason or another, they can't use the RMA data in those counties either. So this is I believe Stutsman and LaMoure County in North Dakota.

First of all, I guess you need to become familiar with it, and second of all, there has to be a way to fix this. It is not right to treat people like this. So would you be able to fix it if there was—they said that it was only 15 percent of the people that sent their surveys in in that county?

Mr. REILLY. Well, Congressman, this goes back to one of our fundamental missions is providing credible, reliable data in support of all kind of policies in farm programs. And in the data that is used for this, we are providing information on county estimates, which is the acreage, average yield, and production within the county, and we rely on the voluntary cooperation of the farmers to do that. And in our working relationship, both with the Risk Management

Agency and the Farm Service Agency, we do, to the best of our ability, collect enough information to provide that data that is reliable for the counties. One of the situations that we deal with is not every county is equal with the number of people and the number of farms, but in the situations where we cannot provide credible, defensible information, we do not publish the information for that particular county.

Mr. PETERSON. Then if you don't publish information, they wouldn't be able to get the payments?

Mr. REILLY. Well, again, my agency does not administer the program. All we do is deliver the data.

Mr. PETERSON. So if—

Mr. REILLY. And FSA and RMA are looking for the best, most accurate data available, and in the situations like that, they have difficulties finding a source of data to determine, but that is not in my area.

Mr. PETERSON. If they only had 15 percent of the farmers respond with the NASS data, would that be considered inadequate?

Mr. REILLY. It is not necessarily 15 percent of the farmers, there are two indications; we want to get a good distribution of the farmers, and we look to see how much of the coverage or the acreage or production we cover. So in a situation, if there were large operators and maybe a handful of them that we knew covered over 25 percent of the production of that commodity in that county, that would meet our criteria for reliability.

Mr. PETERSON. I think that—

Mr. REILLY.—would be able to do it.

Mr. PETERSON.—maybe is what happened, because the large farmers that are irrigated sent in their data, and the smaller farmers that are not irrigated didn't, and so the irrigated acres got counted, and the yield is 40, 50 bushel more than the non-irrigated. Now, I don't know.

Anyway, I would appreciate it if you would look into it. It is not my district, but—

Mr. REILLY. We could look into that and get back to you with more information, yes, sir.

Mr. PETERSON. All right. And then the other thing that I am having questions about in my district is how you set the barley nationwide numbers. This is something I have been fighting over ever since I have been here in terms of trying to differentiate between feed barley and malting barley. And apparently, there have been questions asked of your agency about how you came up with this number on barley, and my people don't think they have gotten a good answer about how that was established. Do you know if it is some percentage of malting barley, some percentage of feed barley, how you came up with that number?

Mr. REILLY. Well, sir, on our prices program, what we do is that we publish the prices of barley in three different categories. We publish an all-barley price, we publish a feed barley price, and a malting barley price. So we have that available, those three different components.

Again, you have to look back to the actual ARC—I am not sure if that is the right program, but the farm program itself, as to which one of those did they choose to use. Are they choosing to use

the all-barley price or the feed barley price? And I believe in the past, they were using the feed barley price, and now may be using the all-barley price. We don't set which price is used, we just give the prices on the three different categories.

Mr. PETERSON. Well, I guess the issue is if my farmers don't feel like they have gotten a good answer on how you came up with the all-barley price, which apparently was \$5.30 for 2014, could you submit to my office how you came up with that price—

Mr. REILLY. Yes, we can.

Mr. PETERSON.—and what it was based on, and—

Mr. REILLY. Yes.

Mr. PETERSON.—so forth?

Mr. REILLY. We can give you an analysis of how we come up with that price.

Mr. PETERSON. Thank you.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Mr. Peterson.

I now recognize my colleague, Mr. Thompson, from Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Chairman, thank you so much. Mr. Reilly, thank you for being here.

I appreciate the fact that we work hard to try to have good data in order to make good public policy. I think the farm bill that we did was a reflection of that and we appreciate that data. Although it is not to say I don't hear from my farmers from time to time, and they understand that good policy is driven by good data. I have tried to make that point when it comes to reflecting on the really good things that we were able to accomplish in the farm bill. But, they do have a point at times, certainly, where there is a balance and making sure that we are collecting just the information we need, and we do it in a way that is efficient so it doesn't become a burden. And I appreciate your help achieving those two objectives.

I have a couple of questions for you. I understand there are two versions of TOTAL. Is that correct?

Mr. REILLY. Yes, sir.

Mr. THOMPSON. Okay. Now, there was the operator version and the landlord version. Does that sound accurate?

Mr. REILLY. That is correct, yes.

Mr. THOMPSON. The 1999 AELOS does not look like TOTAL, correct?

Mr. REILLY. When you say does not look, it also had two different versions. It had an operator type of version and a landowner type of version as well. The exact content in that does change over time, but there were two separate components.

Mr. THOMPSON. It is the current contents that is the distinguishing difference?

Mr. REILLY. It would be the actual content that—yes, that would be a little bit different from the previous.

Mr. THOMPSON. Okay. Now, farmers and ranchers are routinely asked these questions by ERS through the ARMS III Survey. Is that correct, Mr. Reilly?

Mr. REILLY. They are asked questions in the ARMS survey primarily focusing on farm finances and other aspects, yes, but noth-

ing on land ownership or intentions of transition of land or anything like that.

Mr. THOMPSON. Okay. So trying to determine the difference then, the difference is that the ARMS III Survey is optional. Is that correct?

Mr. REILLY. It is voluntary, yes.

Mr. THOMPSON. Okay, voluntary. Great. Now, one obvious rationale for making the TOTAL survey mandatory is to increase response rates, and I get that. The more complete data, the better the information. Perhaps historically NASS and ERS were not satisfied with the response rates for prior surveys, however, this document shows that the response rates historically were acceptable, and I am assuming statistically acceptable. Can we put up *Slide 2* up on the screen?

Mr. THOMPSON. Is it there already? Okay. The 50 percent and the 74 percent returns seem acceptable. Now, again, Mr. Reilly, what was the motivation for conducting TOTAL using the mandatory Census authority?

Mr. REILLY. Well, when you look at the term *acceptable* on the two response rates, and when you look at the reliability, especially for the landlord side, it is pushing some of our reliability boundaries of what we would deem *acceptable*. Now, we do publish with all of our numbers sort of a measure of error that goes with each one, but if sometimes those bounds are too great then we will not be able to publish the data.

Now, since that time, we have been experiencing, and all statistical agencies have been experiencing, declining response rates. So a response rate that you achieved in 1999 looking forward, we were very apprehensive that, especially on the landlord side, whether we were going to be able to collect enough reliable data.

Mr. THOMPSON. Also in the e-mail shown on the screen, it says, "We didn't actually publish the percent." Instead, they published "a bunch of text to try and confuse people about our actual rate." Who was NASS staff trying to confuse and why?

Mr. REILLY. Well, I cannot say who is the author of this e-mail, but in looking at our description, we put out a lot of different numbers and adjectives to describe the quality of our data. Response is one of them, and response is sort of how many do you send out, how many do you get back and take that out. We also put in there reliabilities of how variable the information is, and also within a survey itself, we may have gotten a questionnaire back but major portions of those questions or items within that may remain blank. So you just can't always look at just one number and say I received X percent back, you have to look at the details within that, how many of the questions were actually answered, or how many had to be statistically looked at, and whether it was imputation or something, to try to complete the missing items. So there are different measures of quality that we try to issue.

Mr. THOMPSON. No, I understand—

Mr. REILLY. Okay.

Mr. THOMPSON. I understand that, and I just want to clarify—the narrative concerns me, just the implications about, "a bunch of published a bunch of text to try and confuse people about our actual rate." I certainly understand the standard deviation, and there

are so many places to glean information from a survey participation rate and response, and those types of things, but any clarification in terms of what was being communicated or inferred in that e-mail by that statement?

Mr. REILLY. And, again, I am not sure what specifically we are talking about, but over time, OMB has changed some of their requirements of how we calculate and the formula that goes into calculating a response rate. It used to be simple, taking sort of the number of forms you sent out and the number of forms that you received back in. But since that time, there have been new parameters and requirements placed on how we calculate this, and when you start describing out-of-businesses, how you treat an out-of-business or somebody that says they are no longer a farmer, or things like that, and you do that, the text is very confusing based on what people normally perceive as a response rate.

Mr. THOMPSON. Sure. If you wouldn't mind and then I—

Mr. REILLY. But we could clarify, we could provide you exactly how the responses—

Mr. THOMPSON. Yes, if you work with your staff—

Mr. REILLY.—calculate.

Mr. THOMPSON.—to get a clarification for that, I would appreciate it.

Mr. REILLY. Yes.

Mr. THOMPSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

I would now like to recognize my colleague, Ms. Kuster, for 5 minutes.

Ms. KUSTER. Thank you very much. Thank you Chairman Davis and Ranking Member DelBene. And thank you to the Administrator for being with us.

I actually find this information helpful and very interesting, but I come from a much smaller state with much smaller farms. And it is important for me to understand the health and well-being of the communities in the rural part of my state, as well as the economy, and within families to understand do they have to take jobs off the farm to make life work, which is typically the case. It does seem to me, from this hearing, that there may be either a lack of coordination or maybe a lack of information and outreach that is causing the issues that have come up. I am wondering, can you suggest to me ways that NASS could improve outreach efforts to farmers, to industry, so that farmers will have a better understanding of the survey, know when and how the survey will be administered. But most importantly, they would have an understanding of how this is information on an aggregate level, not personal information. Also, how this type of data is helpful in making policy that then will come back to benefit their lives and rural communities.

Mr. REILLY. And that is a very good question, and we, within our agency, realize that we rely on the cooperation of the farmers and ranchers, and we are doing a lot through our public affairs area of describing sort of what it is we are collecting. But more importantly, we are trying to educate as many as we can on the uses. And, for example, we have worked with many of the commodity industries, going back to show how the information we collect relates

back to the ARC programs, how it relates back to crop insurance. And we have had joint brochures and explanatory statements developed both from us, RMA, the Corn Growers Association and Soybean Growers Association, that are looking at and trying to describe back to the farmers and ranchers how the data you provide to NASS is used to get you a crop insurance payment. And the more we educate and the more we can get that, the better off we are going to be able to complete our mission of getting the data, and the farmers will know how it is being used. And that is the critical thing that we are trying to communicate.

Ms. KUSTER. Yes, and I agree with you. I think that is critical. And I would say this is a very bipartisan Committee, that is rare on Capitol Hill, and we would like to work with you if there is a way that we can help communicate to our constituents, put out a press release, put it up on our websites in a way that helps make that case that this information is not meant to be intrusive, it is meant to be instructive as to how we make these decisions of public policy, and as you say, how the checks flow coming back to the farmers.

So thank you for your testimony. I appreciate your time.

Mr. THOMPSON [presiding.] The gentlelady yields back.

I now recognize the gentleman from Washington, Mr. Newhouse.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Reilly, welcome.

Mr. REILLY. Thank you.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. I appreciate your time here, your contributing to this conversation. It is very important stuff.

I am a farmer myself. I have filled out many of the surveys, sometimes begrudgingly.

Mr. REILLY. Yes, I understand.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. But I understand the importance of the information as it is gathered. Information is power and we need to make sure that producers in this country have good information, and so it is important stuff. That is why I am concerned about the program overall, and we want to make sure that there is confidence in it, that people see not only the need for it, but it is given that surveys are conducted in such a way that people feel that they are being treated fairly, and not questioning the information or the use of it, but just in the manner it is secured. Like I tried to express at the outset, farmers are busy—

Mr. REILLY. Yes.

Mr. NEWHOUSE.—as you well know. We have a million things to do before yesterday, and to sit down and fill out a survey that is going to take 30 minutes, and turns out to be several hours, we don't get any money for that, and there are other things that are high on the priority list. So it is a very sensitive thing that we have to be very careful in protecting our credibility in this.

I have a couple of questions. The 2014 TOTAL survey, administered by NASS, my understanding was 24 pages long, had 326 questions. Is that correct?

Mr. REILLY. Well, that would probably have been the operator component, yes.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Okay.

Mr. REILLY. There are two different components, yes.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. So would you describe in your estimation as that questionnaire being concise as Congress directed that it should be?

Mr. REILLY. Well, again, in looking at serving the needs of the public, we operate under several different parameters. We have to be very cognizant of minimizing the response burden. And we work with strict guidance through the OMB pre-approval process of looking at the response burden that we have, and we still have to be able to collect the needed information. So as we go through, again, every step of our process, I won't say it is actually one of our golden rules, but we try to keep the response burden as minimal as possible. And if we are looking for new items and things like that, we try to take items off to keep it equivalent. But the needs and the data needs for agriculture do change over time, and there has been an appetite for more information as more needs are being identified across the country. But we are very aware of the response burden, and we work to make sure that everything that gets on that document. And again, as part of the review process in the *Federal Register* notice, we do send it out and give it to the public to look at—here is the type of questions, and see are we hitting the target, anybody have any comments, is there something that we are missing, is there something too much or—

Mr. NEWHOUSE. So you—

Mr. REILLY.—anything like that.

Mr. NEWHOUSE.—saying it needs to be relevant information, relevant questions?

Mr. REILLY. Yes. Yes.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Would you say questions about furniture and office supplies and license taxes, health expenses, how much was spent on entertainment, generally, are those relevant questions?

Mr. REILLY. Well, again, especially dealing with agriculture, which is kind of unique, is because of the high percentage of farm operations that are family farms. Ninety-seven percent of all of our farms meet that criteria. And there is a difference, and there is a thing to look at the whole economic profile of the operation which doesn't just stop at the farm operation. So there is a need to gather some information about the off-farm-related activities to get a complete overall—

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Well—

Mr. REILLY.—economic well-being picture—

Mr. NEWHOUSE. I have—

Mr. REILLY.—of our farms and—

Mr. NEWHOUSE. I have just a short amount of time left, if I could ask quickly. I apologize for this, but in e-mails we have gotten from OMB, they directed NASS to speak with the USDA General Counsel about the content of the survey and whether USDA had the authority to combine TOTAL and ARM surveys to make them mandatory. I want to know if you were aware of those concerns, and do you know if that consultation ever took place? And I apologize for leaving you very little time.

Mr. REILLY. I am not sure specifically which concerns you are talking about, but in looking at our consultation with OGC, I am in constant communication with them about various aspects of our program. And we can get back with you on any type of what their opinion is or whatever. We have had discussions not only on this

program but other aspects of the Census of Agriculture program and the mandatory reporting over the years, and have a very strong working relationship with them. And in going through the OMB approval process, we do provide answers and questions and documentation to the OMB examiner, sort of justifying our request and our authority to do that.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. So you are saying those consultations did occur?

Mr. REILLY. Well, on this specific program, not necessarily, but I do consult with them all the time. And we did provide, and I have had recent conversations with them on other programs under the Census of Agriculture, and we did provide some of our documentations that we had from previous conversations to the OMB examiner. And we can get any clarification—

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Okay.

Mr. REILLY.—for the record if you need it of what OGC—because, again, every Census follow-on that we have conducted since the transfer at the Department of Agriculture has been conducted under the mandatory reporting authority.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. I have gone over my time, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate your leniency. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN [presiding.] It is freshman leniency, Mr. Newhouse. It won't happen in your next year. Thank you very much.

The chair would like to recognize the Ranking Member, Ms. DelBene, for 5 minutes.

Ms. DELBENE. We all support other Washington State Members of the Committee, I just had a couple of extra questions, Mr. Reilly.

We talk about voluntary and mandatory surveys, and so I wanted to know if you could explain for us the difference, why you decide to use one *versus* the other.

Mr. REILLY. Well, first of all, when you talk about a decision process, essentially, with the Census of Agriculture program and the authority that we have had, all the special follow-ons that we have conducted as part of that program have been mandatory. Okay. So it is not like yes, no, or whatever, we have just conducted all of them as mandatory. And other than those programs, and knowing the important nature of what we are trying to get on those programs, on our Agricultural Estimates programs we have very little mandatory reporting on that side at all. So again, I look at this, and you look at the Census of Agriculture program and all the key related issues that it is trying then to subsequently measure are critical. With the response rates and the quality of the data to measure those sometimes are difficult to get to, so each one, starting with the 1999 AELOS and every special study that has been conducted under the Census of Agriculture authority has been mandatory reporting.

Ms. DELBENE. Can you give us more information on the types of responses you get, what the difference in responses you get between a mandatory and a voluntary—

Mr. REILLY. Typically, we find that our response rate will probably increase and improve around 15 percent going from a voluntary to a mandatory program, about a 15 percent increase.

Ms. DELBENE. And how does that show itself in terms of the quality of the data that you get as a result?

Mr. REILLY. In many times, it is absolutely critical, because when you look at the Census of Agriculture program, yes, we are looking at measuring things at a national level, but oftentimes you have to make sure we are putting out information on a sublevel, whether it be a state, or in some instances even below the state level. And that is where it becomes critical. If you look at response rates and making sure that certain issues are important in all states, it is difficult for some of the smaller states for us to collect certain data at a defensible statistical level without the use of that mandatory reporting.

Ms. DELBENE. Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I yield back. I appreciate your time.

Ms. DAVIS. Thank you.

The chair now recognizes the gentleman from Florida, Mr. Yoho, for 5 minutes.

Mr. YOHO. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Reilly, thank you for being here.

And I am going to pick up where my colleagues from Washington, in Washington, left off. And I am not as refined as my colleague to the left.

Where I come from—I am a large animal veterinarian, I practiced for 30 years, I have dealt with rural agriculture all of my life since I was about 15. Where I come from, people are angry about these surveys. They are intrusive. If I were to ask you how many children do you have?

Mr. REILLY. I do not have any children.

Mr. YOHO. Do you travel?

Mr. REILLY. Yes, I do travel.

Mr. YOHO. Where do you like to travel?

Mr. REILLY. State of Washington—

Mr. YOHO. And if I kept going—

Mr. REILLY.—because that is where my family is from.

Mr. YOHO. And if I keep going and say how much do you spend on this, and what is in your annuity and things like that, you might get to a point where you say it is none of your darned business. That is what I run into.

And, these questions, I find them offensive, and especially when it is mandatory. It was brought up by Austin Scott about the Fourth Amendment, the right of the people to secure their persons, their house, their papers and effects against unreasonable search and seizures, shall not be violated and no warrants shall be issued but upon probable cause supported by an oath. I think we have overstepped the boundaries of this. And this is why, at this point of time in our country, especially where I come from, it is a very conservative district, there is a lot of mistrust of government. And this is an intrusive program. And I understand the importance of having the information, to get that information to make the decisions that we have to up here, but there is a better way to do that, and I would encourage you highly to do that. If not, Congress will act, and you will have help from your own government.

What I wanted to ask you is, OMB—and if you could raise *Slide 5* please.

Mr. YOHO. OMB raised concerns about making the TOTAL survey mandatory. This will be *Slide 5*. In the document on the screen

now, an OMB employee advises, he is referring to the OMB General Counsel, believes that only the survey content named in the title is designated as mandatory. Were you aware of these concerns raised by OMB?

Mr. REILLY. Well, I am not aware of these specific concerns, but in getting back to our OMB approval process, as you know, examiners come, examiners go, different things, and oftentimes people are not aware of all the rules and parameters. I have had conversations over the course of the year and my time, trying to explain to people what the authority provided to us under the Census of Agriculture Act was. And in looking at this, I can't comment specifically on this, but we have been through this. We have been through this several cycles. And I have talked with staff and I have a good relationship with OGC on many of the issues, but as far as my staff goes, we go back to what we have done before, how we have justified things before, and apparently whatever information that we provided back to OMB met their satisfaction because they did end up approving—

Mr. YOHO. Well, let me go on to my next question then. OMB staff then directed NASS staff to consult with the USDA General Counsel to determine whether the Secretary had the discretionary authority to mandate TOTAL as part of the Census for Agriculture program. Did any such consultation occur in your knowledge?

Mr. REILLY. Well, I am not aware—well, first of all, I am not aware of this request, and any conversation I am not—

Mr. YOHO. Okay, so—

Mr. REILLY.—aware of that, but—

Mr. YOHO. But—okay.

Mr. REILLY.—in dealings with the General Counsel, we just recently instituted a new Census of Agriculture report, current industrial reports, requested under Census of Agriculture authority, and I have had complete discussions with the General Counsel on that and those programs are being conducted—

Mr. YOHO. Well, let me ask you this. Do you think the NASS staff has the right to ask those questions, to mandate TOTAL as part of the Census for Agriculture program? Is that a yes or a no? I mean I am just kind of looking for a yes or no.

Mr. REILLY. Again, going back, all the programs that we have conducted on the Census of Agriculture and the special studies since the transfer over have been conducted under mandatory authority.

Mr. YOHO. All right. So the question is, do they have the discretionary authority to do that? You are saying yes?

Mr. REILLY. Well, I would say that, yes, all of them have been—

Mr. YOHO. Okay.

Mr. REILLY.—conducted that way.

Mr. YOHO. I have a follow-up question then. Why were there no related documents produced to the Committee then when requested? And if you can't answer that, I would appreciate a written answer for that for this Committee so that we can look at that more in-depth.

And, Mr. Chairman, I believe I have run out of time. And I am going to ask you to submit that. The question is, the OMB staff di-

rected NASS staff to consult with the USDA General Counsel to determine whether the Secretary has the discretionary authority to mandate TOTAL, and did any such consultation occur? You said yes, you thought. If yes, why were then no related documents produced to the Committee that was requested?

And I yield back. Thank you, sir. I will make sure you have them.

Mr. REILLY. If I can make one clarification. I did not have a discussion with OGC about the TOTAL survey, I had discussions with them about other Census of Agriculture special studies, and more recently, the current industrial reports. So those are the conversations that I had. And if you need something from OGC that would document the authority to conduct the TOTAL, we can provide—

Mr. YOHO. I will write this down. I am out of time, and I want to respect the Chairman's time and everybody else's. And I will get you those questions. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. Reilly, thank you again. I have a few more questions.

Following up a little bit on what Mr. Yoho started, several of the documents show various employees being instructed not to reveal ERS' involvement in the TOTAL survey. Let's put up *Slide 7*.

The CHAIRMAN. This is an example of this. This employee is under the impression that you do not want third parties to know about ERS' involvement and thereby create the appearance that NASS is conducting a Census for another agency. How do you explain this?

Mr. REILLY. Well, sir, I am not familiar with this specific e-mail. And, again, I will go back to the process and the plan that we put in place for this. When we looked at doing the two different surveys, we identified there was much overlap between the two, and we attempted to try to do something that was efficient and reduce respondent burden. So essentially, we eliminated or suspended ARMS III for the particular year and incorporated some of those questions and some of the content into the TOTAL survey. And what we didn't want to do is that, when we were talking about this to anyone, is that we were not conducting ARMS this year. We wanted to make sure all of our materials and stuff like that reflected that we were doing a land ownership survey.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, for the record, I would like to note that this information was submitted to you on Monday. So at some point in time, I would like to make sure that you have had a chance to see that before you arrived here, which is why we gave it to you—

Mr. REILLY. Okay.

The CHAIRMAN.—and I would hope we could get more of a response.

And one last question on this issue. Did you direct employees to hide ERS' involvement in TOTAL?

Mr. REILLY. I never directed or had any communication about hiding anything. In fact, I believe, and again, in my opening statement we, right from the beginning from our explanatory notes through the *Federal Register* process, talked about the collaboration with ERS on the program. So we never hid anything about the involvement or whatever. We were open and transparent right from the beginning.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, thank you. I wanted to follow up on Mr. Yoho, since he started that line of questioning, and then go back now to something that was mentioned earlier by many of my colleagues and me about the mandatory nature of TOTAL.

Can we put *Slide 3* up please?

The CHAIRMAN. This e-mail from NASS' OMB liaison states, "Joe said we have the approval to treat this as a mandatory survey under the discretionary rights of the Secretary." And you just mentioned the mandatory issue in regards to OGC. Who granted that approval?

Mr. REILLY. Well, I am not familiar with the particular e-mail, but again, in our process of submitting everything for OMB in our *Federal Register* notice and all the OMB approval process, we were right from the beginning with our intention to conduct this as mandatory reporting. So in our first *Federal Register* notice and in our second *Federal Register* notice, it was the intention in there that we were doing this as a mandatory reporting. And then, in essence, once we received OMB approval, then we proceed with implementing the program.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, Mr. Reilly, again, this information was in the report that was submitted by your employees to us. I find it disheartening that we can't have a conversation here on information that your agency provided to us and get questions answered.

Do you agree that the—well, you know what, I am going to skip that question.

Mr. Thompson, do you have any more questions? All right, I will go into our closing statements.

Mr. Reilly, thank you. I think all of us here on both sides, we understand the value of the Census of Agriculture survey. We truly do. Some of the responses that you have given today frustrate us to the point that maybe we will have another hearing on this. You mentioned the 1999 survey being the basis of the mandatory TOTAL survey. Well, let me for the record, and I will submit the 1999 survey for the record and also the TOTAL survey, you already know there is a major difference in what is being asked on the 1999 survey, and many of the questions that have been deemed intrusive on the TOTAL survey.

[The information referred to is located on p. 58, and p. 73.]\*

The CHAIRMAN. Our farmers have been frustrated by this new mandatory survey. They have been frustrated by the questions that have been asked. I appreciate your responses regarding dental insurance, health insurance questions, but I still don't see the need to ask that in an agricultural survey. That is something other surveys within the Federal Government ask. My colleague, Mr. Scott from Georgia, brought up the issue of spending and even charitable contributions. Well, the IRS gets that information from every American if they itemize, and if they don't, why does the Census of Agriculture survey, why does TOTAL have to ask that information? I started today by asking you about if you are a risk-taker. By your own response, Mr. Reilly, you couldn't answer that question accurately. And how can we expect our farmers who don't un-

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\***Editor's note:** The 1999 AELOS survey and the ARMS III survey are *Attachments 1* and *2* of the House Committee on Agriculture staff report, *Oversight of USDA's Use of the Census of Agriculture Authority To Acquire Farmer's Personal Financial Information*.

derstand the survey, who don't know the background of the survey, who don't know what that survey is going to be used for, how can you expect them to answer that question?

I hope you can see today why we are frustrated. I hope you can see today why we expect you and the USDA to go back and rework something like this. Let's use some common-sense. And I would hope that what we take away from here is an opportunity to continue to work together; because we do truly value the statistical analysis that this survey can give, and I am personally afraid that the response rate is going to continue to go down when you add questions that are seemingly absurd to many of us.

So with that, I want to say thank you again. Thank you to your staff. And I appreciate the opportunity to be here with you, and I look forward to working with you in the future.

And now I have to go through my usual adjournment speech. Under the rules of the Committee, the record of today's hearing will remain open for 10 calendar days to receive additional material and supplementary written responses from the witness to any questions posed by a Member.

This Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research hearing is now adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 3:55 p.m., the Subcommittee was adjourned.]

[Material submitted for inclusion in the record follows:]



SUBMITTED REPORT BY HON. RODNEY DAVIS, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM  
ILLINOIS

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

K. MICHAEL CONAWAY, CHAIRMAN



***Oversight of USDA's Use of the Census of Agriculture Authority To Acquire  
Farmer's Personal Financial Information***

**Staff Report Prepared for the House Committee on Agriculture, U.S. House  
of Representatives, 114th Congress**

*November 30, 2015*

**I. Executive Summary**

In January 2015, the Committee, both Majority and Minority, were contacted by farmers and ranchers, also referred to as producers or operators, concerned that the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) improperly used the Census of Agriculture authority to conduct a survey entitled Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL). By invoking the Census authority, NASS rendered the TOTAL survey compulsory. Farmers and ranchers across America were enraged when they realized the broadly scoped Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS III) was now being mandated by USDA.

The farmers and ranchers in touch with the House Agriculture Committee, having no insight into the behind-the-scenes planning and execution of the survey, were confounded by the duplicative, intrusive, and over-broad nature of TOTAL. **The TOTAL survey inquired about all aspects of an operator's personal financial portfolio as well as all aspects of farm related income and expenses. Examples of the intrusive nature include the following queries: "income from private pensions," spending on "health and/or dental insurance costs," and values of "financial assets held in non-retirement accounts" such as savings bonds and mutual funds. These questions on the TOTAL survey were required to be answered. Otherwise, the operator could face a monetary penalty.** In order to understand all the facts surrounding this novel approach to ARMS III, on February 2, 2015, Chairman Conaway and Ranking Member Peterson sent a letter to Secretary Vilsack requesting information, documents, and a staff-level briefing related to the TOTAL survey.

On February 5, 2015, and again on March 27, 2015, NASS officials briefed House Agriculture Committee staff regarding the TOTAL survey. Both briefings were fraught with contradictions and confusion. At one point, during the February briefing, NASS staff stated that the TOTAL survey had been conducted "for years—since 1998." Then, when Committee staff challenged this statement, it was retracted. Based on the confused nature of the February briefing, Committee staff determined it was necessary to continue to press USDA for documents related to TOTAL and NASS's authority to conduct TOTAL as a mandatory Census of Agriculture follow-on survey.

For 7 months, USDA produced approximately 49,000 documents, which Committee staff reviewed. On September 9, 2015, Chairman Conaway sent Secretary Vilsack a letter requesting transcribed testimony of two NASS employees, who have significant factual knowledge of the planning and execution of the TOTAL survey. USDA refused this request. Instead, USDA offered another briefing. Because USDA refused to produce witnesses to clarify certain documents and elaborate on the circumstances surrounding the TOTAL survey, the Committee is left with outstanding questions. These gaps in the record are addressed in *Section III* of this report.

Over the course of the Committee's oversight of the TOTAL survey, it became clear that certain anomalies occurred during the planning and approval phase of the survey. The pace, timing, and fact that TOTAL resembled the ARMS III survey—a survey traditionally conducted as an optional survey to inform research by the Economic Research Service (ERS)—was driven by department-level leadership. The electronic mail messages (e-mails) produced to the Committee show USDA's involvement in the process, which raises questions about the political motivations for the compulsory nature of the TOTAL survey. Administrator Reilly, the official in charge of NASS and other NASS staff appear to have been receiving input from USDA-main headquarters. It is unclear who at the department-level was involved in planning the TOTAL survey. Either USDA failed to produce documents and communications to answer this question or the directions were verbal. Without having the opportunity to question appropriate witnesses and USDA officials, the Committee's oversight efforts are impaired. This also shields facts from Congress and American agricultural producers. However, one thing is clear: the TOTAL survey that was sent to operators is essentially a mandatory version of the ARMS III survey. The complete rationale for mandating TOTAL is, at this point, opaque to the Committee.

Beyond the novel approach of mandating TOTAL, producers and ranchers from around the U.S. raised concerns about the survey content and the fact that it was extremely burdensome to complete. The TOTAL survey was broad and in some instances duplicative. While the Census of Agriculture is an important tool used by economists; state, local, and Federal policy-makers; financial analysts; and farmers themselves, it cannot be overly burdensome requiring farmers fill out unnecessary paperwork rather than focusing on their land. The House Agriculture Committee understood the importance of the Census as well as the balance that must be struck.

In the report accompanying the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997, the Committee wrote that “[p]roducers have serious time constraints and should only have to answer questionnaires that are concise, easily readable and understandable, and relevant to today's agricultural operations.”<sup>1</sup> Historically, the Census mandated reporting information focused on farm-related data such as crops planted, yields, crop insurance, and on-farm finances. With regard to the TOTAL survey, NASS engaged in a series of actions to convince the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to sign off on making TOTAL mandatory for all recipients to complete. These actions allowed them to compel—through the threat of a monetary penalty—the collection of a vast amount on-farm and off-farm data from farmers, ranchers, and land owners. This report calls into question the propriety of invoking the Census authority to require American farmers and ranchers to fill out a burdensome questionnaire probing not only their farm-related finances, but also their off-farm financial information.

OMB plays a role in approving mandatory information collections across government. Notably, documents produced to the Committee demonstrate that OMB raised questions about NASS's authority to conduct TOTAL as a mandatory Census follow-on. **The OMB General Counsel provided an informal opinion stating that NASS could not conduct the TOTAL survey under its mandatory Census authority.** The OMB General Counsel stated that only survey content enumerated in Title 7 could be mandatory. NASS, in contrast, argued the Secretary of Agriculture had the discretion to determine survey content.

OMB Staff advised NASS staff to seek guidance from the USDA General Counsel on the question of the Secretary's discretionary authority. NASS declined to follow OMB's advice. The record before the Committee is void of any legal analysis on the subject of whether it is permissible to conduct the TOTAL survey as a mandatory Census follow-on survey. In e-mails provided to the Committee, USDA contends it has broad authority to conduct smaller surveys containing material beyond what is enumerated in the Census of Agriculture statute. In responding to the TOTAL survey, operators are essentially providing all financial data related to farm and land operations as well as personal household financial data. USDA, by taking this new approach, has delved into data ranging from how much a rancher's family spends on everything from health insurance to dental checkups to how much they spend on vacations. The House Agriculture Committee staff disagrees with this approach.

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<sup>1</sup>*H. Rep. No. 105-296* (Oct. 2, 1997).

## II. Background

### *Relevant Agencies*

The Census of Agriculture is conducted every 5 years pursuant to the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997.<sup>2</sup> NASS is the USDA agency delegated the authority to conduct the Census. According to the NASS website, the agency “conducts hundreds of surveys every year and prepares reports covering virtually every aspect of U.S. agriculture.”<sup>3</sup> NASS employs approximately 435 staff members in Washington, D.C. and 650 staff in field offices across the U.S. Its headquarters is in Washington, D.C. with 12 regional field offices serving the nation. NASS’s annual budget is \$172 million in discretionary dollars. The Administrator of NASS is Joseph T. Reilly. Reilly has served at NASS since 1997 and prior to joining NASS, he served at the Department of Commerce’s Bureau of Census for 21 years.

ERS is the USDA agency responsible for producing analyses of economic and social science information on agriculture, rural development, food, commodity markets, and the environment. It compiles and disseminates data concerning USDA programs and policies to various stakeholders. Presently, ERS has no authority related to the Census of Agriculture. Since 2011, ERS has been led by Dr. Mary Bohman.

Both NASS and ERS are housed within the Research, Education, and Economics mission area of USDA. These agencies are overseen by Under Secretary of Agriculture Dr. Catherine Woteki.

### *The Census of Agriculture*

According to the NASS’s website:

[T]he Census of Agriculture is the leading source of facts and figures about American agriculture. Conducted every 5 years, the Census provides a detailed picture of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. It is the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every state and county in the United States. Participation by every farmer and rancher, regardless of the size or type of operation, is vitally important. By responding to the Census, producers are helping themselves, their communities and all of U.S. agriculture.<sup>4</sup>

NASS conducted the most recent Census of Agriculture in 2012. Initially, the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Bureau of Census (BOC) conducted the Census every 10

<sup>2</sup> 7 U.S.C. § 2204g states, in pertinent part:

**(a) Census of agriculture required**

**(1) In general**

In 1998 and every fifth year thereafter, the Secretary of Agriculture shall take a Census of Agriculture.

**(2) Inclusion of specialty crops**

Effective beginning with the Census of Agriculture required to be conducted in 2008, the Secretary shall conduct as part of each Census of Agriculture a Census of specialty crops (as that term is defined in section 3 of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note; Public Law 108–465)).

**(b) Methods**

In connection with the Census, the Secretary may conduct any survey or other information collection, and employ any sampling or other statistical method, that the Secretary determines is appropriate.

**(c) Year of information**

The information collected in each Census taken under this section shall relate to the year immediately preceding the year in which the Census is taken.

Frequently Asked Questions, About the Census, [http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Help/FAQs/General\\_FAQs/](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Help/FAQs/General_FAQs/) (last visited Oct. 13, 2015).

The Paperwork Reduction Act “requires agencies to submit approval requests for information collections to [the Office of Mgmt. & Budget’s] Office of Information & Regulatory Affairs [OIRA]. OIRA then evaluates them under the standards of the Paperwork Reduction Act, approving them if they comply and assigning a control number.” See [https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/OIRA\\_QsandAs/](https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/OIRA_QsandAs/). The Census of Agriculture and its follow-on surveys must be vetted in advance by officials at OIRA.

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.nass.usda.gov/About\\_NASS/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/About_NASS/) (last visited Oct. 21, 2015).

<sup>4</sup> See [http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/About\\_the\\_Census/](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/About_the_Census/) (last visited Sept. 11, 2015).

years.<sup>5</sup> From 1920 through 1992, the BOC conducted the Census every 5 years.<sup>6</sup> In 1997, the House and Senate passed the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997 to transfer the authority for conducting the Census from the BOC to USDA.<sup>7</sup> On November 21, 1997, President Clinton signed the Act (P.L. 105–113), which is now part of Title 7 of the *United States Code*.

Data collected through the Census of Agriculture is used by numerous entities in both the public and private sectors. Farmers, farm product manufacturers, and the financial industry are among private sector consumers of the data. Additionally, state, local, and Federal policy-makers use the data to make decisions that will affect agriculture.<sup>8</sup>

In addition to the Census, NASS also conducts follow-on surveys. Follow-on surveys are authorized in order to collect detailed information about specific agriculture related topics. Past follow-on surveys have included the Census of Horticulture, Organic Survey, and the On-Farm Energy Production Survey, among others. With proper notice and opportunity to comment,<sup>9</sup> the follow-on surveys can be mandated under the Census of Agriculture authority.

As mentioned above, participation in the Census of Agriculture and many of its follow-on surveys is required by law. Producers failing to answer the Census of Agriculture questions may be fined up to \$100.

NASS' funding varies from year to year and it is difficult to parse out Census funding from the numerous follow-on surveys NASS conducts. The appropriation is at its largest sum the year after a Census year which can be attributed to the fact that the survey is a look back at the data from the previous year. In the table below, the highlighted years are the peak years—those in which the survey is released.

FY	Census Funding*
2016 (request)	\$45.747
2015	\$47.842
2014	\$44.545
2013	\$58.029
2012	\$41.639
2011	\$33.073
2010	\$37.908
2009	\$37.265
2008	\$51.985
2007	\$32.644
2006	\$28.824

\* Dollar figures are in millions.

#### *The Agricultural Economics and Land Ownership Survey (AELOS)*

The Agricultural Economics and Land Ownership Survey (AELOS) was a survey conducted to gather information related to “non-farming landlord contributions to production agriculture.”<sup>10</sup> The AELOS survey “provided estimates of farm and ranch land acquisition and ownership, capitalization and debt, operating inputs and costs, and operator-landlord relationships.”<sup>11</sup> It provided a more comprehensive picture of the financial conditions in agriculture. The inaugural AELOS survey was conducted by NASS in 1999. Although USDA stated that the AELOS survey has

<sup>5</sup> *S. Rep. No. 105–141* (Nov. 7, 1997); *H. Rep. No. 105–296* (Oct. 2, 1997).

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*; noting that between 1978 and 1982, the Census of Agriculture was conducted every 4 years so as to align it with other economic surveys.

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> Frequently Asked Questions, About the Census, [http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Help/FAQs/General\\_FAQs/](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Help/FAQs/General_FAQs/) (last visited Oct. 13, 2015).

<sup>9</sup> The Paperwork Reduction Act “requires agencies to submit approval requests for information collections to [the Office of Mgmt. & Budget’s] Office of Information & Regulatory Affairs [OIRA]. OIRA then evaluates them under the standards of the Paperwork Reduction Act, approving them if they comply and assigning a control number.” See [https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/OIRA\\_QsandAs/](https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/OIRA_QsandAs/). The Census of Agriculture and its follow-on surveys must be vetted in advance by officials at OIRA.

<sup>10</sup> [Redacted], Chief, Census Planning Branch, U.S. Dep’t of Agric., National Agric. Statistics Serv., Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land [TOTAL] Survey PowerPoint Presentation [USDA–CENSUS–0025401]; see also Letter from Hon. Todd Batta, Assistant Sec’y, Office of Cong. Affairs, U.S. Dep’t of Agric. to Hon. K. Michael Conaway, Chairman, H. Agric. Comm., Mar. 13, 2015 [hereinafter Batta Letter, Mar. 2015].

<sup>11</sup> [USDA–CENSUS–0025401].

“been completed about every 10 years as a follow-on survey to the Census of Agriculture,”<sup>12</sup> documents show the sole AELOS survey was conducted in 1999. AELOS was an updated version of similar surveys which were conducted in 1959, 1964, 1970, 1979, and 1988.<sup>13</sup> NASS had planned to conduct an AELOS survey in 2011, but canceled it due to budget constraints.<sup>14</sup> Between 1999 and 2000, NASS received \$2 million to fund the AELOS survey.<sup>15</sup>

The 1999 version of AELOS was conducted as a mandatory Census of Agriculture follow-on survey.<sup>16</sup> A copy of the 1999 AELOS survey is provided as an attachment [*Attachment 1*] to this report.

#### *The Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS)*

According to ERS’ website, the ARMS survey is USDA’s “primary source of information on the financial condition, production practices, and resource use of America’s farm businesses and the economic well-being of America’s farm households.”<sup>17</sup> ARMS has three phases. The third phase, ARMS III, which is relevant to this oversight initiative, contains broad, probing questions about “whole farm finance information” and “operator characteristics.”<sup>18</sup> For at least the past 10 years, ARMS has been conducted by ERS and NASS, jointly.<sup>19</sup>

ARMS is an annual survey which provides data used by economists for various sorts of research, by producers in decision-making, and policy-makers.<sup>20</sup> ARMS III data, in particular, is utilized by economists, financial analysts, and producers, among others. Data obtained through the ARMS survey is available on ERS’ website dating back to 1996.<sup>21</sup> Funding for the ARMS survey comes from funds appropriated for ERS and has been approximately \$19 million annually since Fiscal Year 2006.

It is important to note that historically the ARMS survey has *not* been mandatory for farm operators and has *not* been a part of the Census of Agriculture program. A copy of the ARMS III survey form is attached [*Attachment 2*] to this report.

#### *The Tenure, Ownership and Transition of Agricultural Land Survey (TOTAL)*

In March 2012, the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics (ACAS) recommended that NASS conduct a land tenure survey. Based on this recommendation, NASS decided to conduct the TOTAL survey for the first time.<sup>22</sup> Specifically, the ACAS report stated: “[t]he Advisory Committee recommends that NASS perform a Land Tenure survey as early as possible but no later than 2015. This should be the highest priority ‘optional’ [Census of Agriculture] follow-on.”<sup>23</sup> In its recommendation, the ACAS was not specific with regard to what questions should be included or excluded on a land tenure survey.

NASS and ERS, at some point, decided to combine ARMS III and AELOS to establish TOTAL, a Census follow-on that probed the agricultural and personal finances of farmers, ranchers, and land owners. The new survey was described by a NASS employee as “[a]n integrated survey of farm finance and land ownership from *all* agricultural land owners.”<sup>24</sup>

<sup>12</sup>Batta Letter, Mar. 2015.

<sup>13</sup>1997 *Census of Agric.: History*, AC97–SU–4, Vol. 2, Subject Series, Part 4, <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/1997/History/history1997.pdf> (last visited Oct. 8, 2015).

<sup>14</sup>Batta Letter, Mar. 2015.

<sup>15</sup>U.S. Dep’t of Agric. Budget & Explanatory Notes, (available at <http://www.obpa.usda.gov/>).

<sup>16</sup>[USDA–CENSUS–0025401]; see also Letter from Hon. Todd Batta, Assistant Sec’y, Office of Cong. Affairs, U.S. Dep’t of Agric. to Hon. K. Michael Conaway, Chairman, H. Agric. Comm., Mar. 13, 2015 [hereinafter Batta Letter, Mar. 2015].

<sup>17</sup>*Overview, What Is the Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS)?*, <http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/arms-farm-financial-and-crop-production-practices.aspx> (last visited Oct. 7, 2015) [hereinafter ERS webpage].

<sup>18</sup>USDA–CENSUS–0003565.

<sup>19</sup>ERS webpage; 1997 *Census of Agric.: History*, AC97–SU–4, Vol. 2, Subject Series, Part 4, <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/1997/History/history1997.pdf> (last visited Oct. 8, 2015).

<sup>20</sup>ERS webpage.

<sup>21</sup>ERS webpage.

<sup>22</sup>Batta Letter, Mar. 2015.

<sup>23</sup>Batta Letter, Mar. 2015; [http://www.nass.usda.gov/About\\_NASS/Advisory\\_Committee\\_on\\_Agriculture\\_Statistics/ACAS\\_Nov\\_2013\\_Meeting\\_Executive\\_Summary.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/About_NASS/Advisory_Committee_on_Agriculture_Statistics/ACAS_Nov_2013_Meeting_Executive_Summary.pdf) (last visited Sept. 14, 2015).

<sup>24</sup>[Redacted], *Workshop Overview: Why We Are Here PowerPoint Presentation*, U.S. Dep’t of Agric., [USDA–CENSUS–0004451].

NASS plans to conduct the TOTAL survey every 10 years to assist policy-makers, economists, financial analysts, and others who use the data.<sup>25</sup> The TOTAL survey received \$4.5 million in funding—\$2.5 million from NASS in Fiscal Year 2015 and \$2.0 million from ERS in Fiscal Year 2014.<sup>26</sup>

On December 26, 2014, NASS sent the target populations the initial mailing related to TOTAL.<sup>27</sup> A second mailing was sent on January 27, 2015, and telephonic and field follow-up took place between February 17, 2015 and April 2015.<sup>28</sup> NASS published preliminary TOTAL results on August 31, 2015.<sup>29</sup> Complete 2014 TOTAL results were released October 5, 2015.<sup>30</sup>

#### *Historical Relationship Between AELOS and ARMS III*

The 1999 version of AELOS was conducted as a mandatory Census of Agriculture follow-on survey.<sup>31</sup> Management level coordination occurred with respect to AELOS and ARMS III. The coordination resulted in:

Approximately  $\frac{1}{3}$  of AELOS records were completed using data from the 1999 ARMS Phase III. The goal was to have an ARMS questionnaire no longer in length than in 1998. Hence, some detail was sacrificed to make room for the needed AELOS items.<sup>32</sup>

In other words, NASS chose to rely on the non-mandatory ARMS III survey to gather some of the data needed for the mandatory AELOS. This allowed the agency to lessen the burden on producers and avoid redundancy, yet gather the necessary data without creating a super survey such as TOTAL.

#### *Two Versions of TOTAL*

TOTAL was comprised of two versions—the operator or producer version and the landlord-only version.<sup>33</sup> According to USDA documents, the operator version “target[ed] farm and ranch operators in the 48 contiguous states,” whose agricultural product sales totaled at least \$1,000 annually.<sup>34</sup> The operator version is most similar to the previously optional ARMS III survey.

For the landlord-only version, NASS targeted land owners who rent their land, but do not engage in farming operations.<sup>35</sup> The landlord-only version of TOTAL is similar in content to previously mandatory AELOS survey.

The content of ARMS III and the operator-only version of TOTAL are almost identical. This fact is borne out in numerous NASS staff e-mail messages. At one point a NASS staff member points out the confusion created by calling the landlord only version of TOTAL by its former name, ARMS III. On December 8, 2014, NASS staff wrote:

I am a little confused on our use of ARMS in this news release. **We continue to use “ARMS” internally to attempt to lessen the confusion in the TOTAL—Landlord Only survey and ARMS III but as far as any external communications go I was under the impression both surveys should be referred to as TOTAL.** “ARMS III” was suspended in the OMB docket for this year and in its place is TOTAL. The “ARMS” form that the respondent receives says TOTAL on it.<sup>36</sup>

<sup>25</sup> E-mail from NASS Staff to NASS Staff, Re: TOTAL Supporting Statements, Oct. 20, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0029795].

<sup>26</sup> U.S. Dept’t of Agriculture, Nat’l Agric. Statistics Serv., Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agric. Land (TOTAL) Survey, Mar. 19, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0002042].

<sup>27</sup> *TOTAL Data Collection PowerPoint Slide* [USDA-CENSUS-0004175]; see also Memorandum from [Redacted], Chief, Census Planning Branch, Nat’l Agric. Statistics Serv., Oct. 15, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0025932].

<sup>28</sup> *TOTAL Data Collection PowerPoint Slide* [USDA-CENSUS-0004175].

<sup>29</sup> U.S. Dept’t of Agric., Nat’l Agric. Statistics Serv., New Release available at [http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Newsroom/2015/08\\_31\\_2015.php](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Newsroom/2015/08_31_2015.php) (last visited Sept. 15, 2015).

<sup>30</sup> Press Release, *Most of the U.S. Rented Farmland is Owned by Non-Farmers*, available at [http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Newsroom/2015/08\\_31\\_2015.php](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Newsroom/2015/08_31_2015.php) (Oct. 5, 2015).

<sup>31</sup> [Redacted], Chief, Census Planning Branch, U.S. Dept’t of Agric., National Agric. Statistics Serv., Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land [TOTAL] Survey PowerPoint Presentation [USDA-CENSUS-0025401]; see also Batta Letter, Mar. 2015.

<sup>32</sup> 1997 Census of Agric., Volume 2, Part 4 “History,” at 159, (available at <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/1997/History/history1997.pdf>) (last visited Oct. 21, 2015).

<sup>33</sup> Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agric. Land (TOTAL) Survey [USDA-CENSUS-0026258].

<sup>34</sup> [USDA-CENSUS-0026258].

<sup>35</sup> [USDA-CENSUS-0026258].

<sup>36</sup> Electronic mail [E-mail] from NASS Staff A to a group of unnamed NASS Staff, Dec. 8, 2014 (emphasis added) [USDA-CENSUS-0004371].

To lessen NASS staff confusion, the TOTAL operator version was often referred to as ARMS III. As part of the same e-mail exchange referenced above, NASS staff wrote: "It does say ARMS III on it off to the side [of the questionnaire form] but the actual title of the survey is TOTAL."<sup>37</sup> Similarly, USDA, in correspondence with Chairman Conaway, referred to the TOTAL survey as being previously known as AELOS and ARMS.<sup>38</sup>

*The TOTAL Survey Received Extensive Criticism from Recipients*

Documents reveal that in January 2015, many operators received *both* the ARMS III survey as well as the TOTAL survey. Farmers, ranchers, and operators objected to the government demanding that they respond to these questions not once in the ARMS III survey, but twice when they received the TOTAL survey. Section N of the TOTAL survey, operator version, required that all income, assets, debt, and spending be reported to USDA. Following is a snapshot of one of the most intrusive sections related to household financial information.

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<sup>37</sup>Electronic mail [E-mail] from NASS Staff A to a group of unnamed NASS Staff, Dec. 8, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0004371].

<sup>38</sup>Batta Letter, Mar. 2015.

**HOUSEHOLD SPENDING – (Please see VALUE CODES above.)**

2. Which value code from the list above represents how much this household spent in 2014 on---

	Value Code
a. food, including food away from home? .....	1105
b. rent payments for the principal operator’s dwelling, if not owned by the household ( <i>Item 3c, on next page</i> ) or farm business ( <i>Section J, Item 1a has a zero value</i> )? .....	1104
c. utilities and household supplies? .....	1106
d. non-farm transportation for the:	
(i) renting or leasing of vehicles for household use, public transportation expenses, etc.? .....	1107
(ii) fuel, maintenance and repairs, vehicle insurance, parking and license fees for non-farm share of vehicles? .....	1119

USDA-CENSUS-0014411

**HOUSEHOLD SPENDING – (Please see VALUE CODES on page 22.)**

	Value Code
e. health and medical expenses of:	
(i) health and/or dental insurance costs? ( <i>costs not covered by the farm operation or an off-farm employer</i> ) .....	1108
(ii) out of pocket expenses for health and medical needs? ( <i>Include co-payments, co-insurance, deductibles, etc.</i> ) .....	1112
f. contributions to personal insurance ( <i>including life, disability, and liability insurance but not including health, homeowner or vehicle insurance</i> ) and retirement plans including pensions and Social Security? .....	1109
g. contributions to individuals outside of the household, including alimony, child support, gifts ( <i>not including bequests</i> ) and charitable contributions? .....	1110
h. mortgage interest for operators who live in a dwelling owned by the household and not the operation? ( <i>Exclude any parts of mortgage principal.</i> ) .....	1120
i. property taxes for operators who live in a dwelling owned by the household and not the operation? .....	1121
j. all other family living expenses, such as non-farm household insurance payments, clothing and personal care products and services; house furnishings and equipment, education and child ( <i>or adult</i> ) care, entertainment ( <i>hobbies, recreation, and vacations</i> )? .....	1118

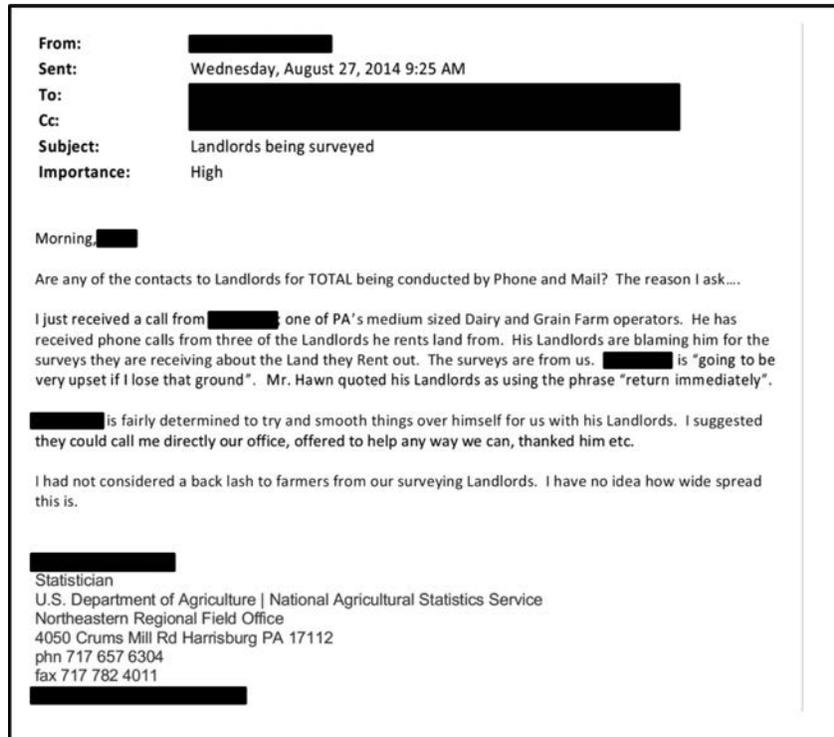
**OFF-FARM ASSETS – (Please see VALUE CODES on page 22.)**

3. Which value code on page 22 represents the total value of each of the following categories of off-farm assets owned by the operator and members of the operator’s household on December 31, 2014, for --- (*Exclude assets of this operation, reported in Section J.*)

	Value Code
a. financial assets held in non-retirement accounts? ( <i>Include cash, checking, savings, money market accounts, certificates of deposit, savings bonds, government securities, outstanding personal loans due to the operator or household, corporate stock, mutual funds, cash surrender value of life insurance, other financial assets. Exclude all farm business-related assets.</i> ) .....	0953
b. retirement accounts? ( <i>401k, 403b, IRA, Keogh, other retirement accounts</i> ) .....	0954
c. operator’s dwelling, if not owned by the operation? ( <i>not reported in Section 28, Item 1a</i> ) .....	0984
d. real estate and other personal ( <i>second</i> ) homes? ( <i>other farms, residential rental, commercial, and other real estate</i> ) .....	0985
e. business not part of this farm? .....	0986
f. all household vehicles? ( <i>including household share of vehicles partly owned by the operation</i> ) .....	0982
g. other assets not reported elsewhere? .....	0987

Farmers receiving the TOTAL survey were required to spend a great deal of time—time off the land they work—delving into their on-farm banking accounts as well as off-farm banking accounts. Numerous recipients had questions related to the survey. Agricultural producers e-mailed NASS’s customer service address to ask questions and express consternation with the TOTAL survey. One respondent complained directly to USDA as is evidenced in the following e-mail in which the respondent requests assistance from NASS.





Under the Paperwork Reduction Act, the department or agency gathering information from U.S. citizens is required to reduce the burden by means such as employing information resources and technology.<sup>42</sup> In addition, the Act requires the Director of OMB to "establish and oversee standards and guidelines by which agencies are to estimate the burden to comply with a proposed collection of information."<sup>43</sup> These estimations must be reported OMB and provided on the survey form for recipients. In a nutshell, OMB must approve all mandatory information collections sent by the U.S. government. Even before NASS engaged OMB in the approval process, officials at USDA and NASS had decided to conduct the TOTAL survey as a mandatory Census of Agriculture follow-on survey.

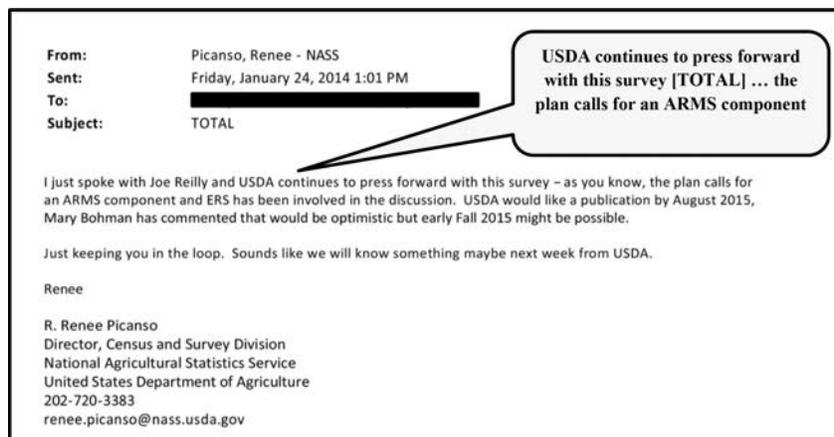
#### *Decision to Make TOTAL Mandatory*

The driving force behind the decision to mandate TOTAL is unclear, however based on the documents produced to the Committee by USDA, it is apparent that officials at the department-level were aware of the shift to mandatory.

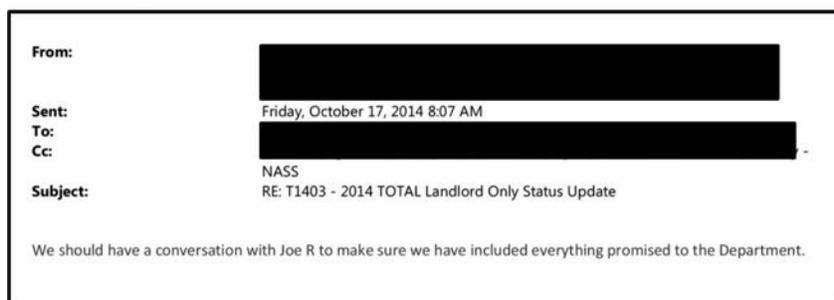
According to documents, the plan was to merge ARMS III and AELOS to create a hybrid survey and use the Census authority to require producers to answer the survey questionnaires. On January 24, 2014, the NASS Assistant Administrator sent an e-mail to two other NASS staff relaying a conversation she had with Administrator Reilly. Her e-mail, inserted below, shows that Administrator Reilly was receiving direction from USDA officials on how to proceed with the TOTAL survey. USDA was dictating the timeline, content, and future decisions as indicated by the clause "sounds like we will know something maybe next week from USDA." The entire e-mail is pasted below.

<sup>42</sup> See Public Law 104-13.

<sup>43</sup> See Public Law 104-13.



The following e-mail shows that numerous NASS staff members were aware of USDA's involvement in creating the content for the TOTAL survey. In the e-mail below, NASS staff suggested checking to insure content requested by USDA was included in the TOTAL survey. These e-mails demonstrate that USDA officials, perhaps within the Office of the Secretary, were dictating certain factors related to the TOTAL survey.

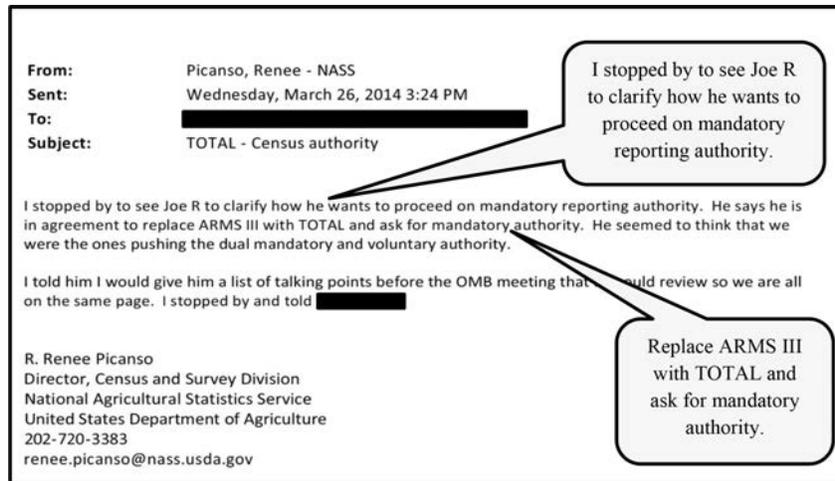


It appears that USDA, NASS, and ERS conducted the TOTAL survey as mandatory to increase response rates.<sup>44</sup> Yet, documents show USDA officials were influential in the execution of the survey—a fact which may indicate a political rationale for mandating TOTAL. In March 2014, a memorandum was circulated throughout NASS that noted in order to mandate the TOTAL survey, NASS suspended the OMB docket for ARMS and “submitted [a new docket] so we can carry the mandatory reporting statement on the questionnaires.”<sup>45</sup>

This March 26, 2014, e-mail confirms that Administrator Reilly, referred to below as Joe R., was carrying out the plan to rename ARMS III, TOTAL and make it mandatory. According to the e-mail, Reilly was not sure whose plan he was ratifying. Subordinate staff wrote: “He seems to think that we were the ones pushing the dual mandatory and voluntary authority.” On September 9, 2015, Chairman Conaway requested to interview two NASS staff members in order to fill gaps in the record such as this one. This request was not granted. Instead, USDA offered a third briefing. Without questioning NASS staff members, it is unclear who was proposing mandatory *versus* voluntary.

<sup>44</sup> U.S. Dep't of Agriculture, Nat'l Agric. Statistics Serv., Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agric. Land (TOTAL) Survey, Mar. 19, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0005647].

<sup>45</sup> U.S. Dep't of Agriculture, Nat'l Agric. Statistics Serv., Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agric. Land (TOTAL) Survey, Mar. 19, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0002042] (emphasis added).



#### *The TOTAL Survey Contravenes Congress' Intent for the Census of Agriculture*

Mandating a burdensome survey such as ARMS III by renaming it TOTAL was not what Congress likely intended when it enacted the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997. On the contrary, Congress was aware of the burden placed on producers when responding to Census questionnaires. In reporting the Act, Congress adopted House Report 105–296, which clarifies their intent. It states:

The Committee recognizes the intrusive nature of a Census and the need to obtain relevant data for policymakers. Producers have serious time constraints and should only have to answer questionnaires that are concise, easily readable and understandable, and relevant to today's agricultural operations. The Committee is sympathetic to concerns of time spent filling out unnecessary paperwork.<sup>46</sup>

Based on the documents produced to the Committee, it does not appear that USDA complied with spirit and intent of Congress when deciding to include the TOTAL survey as a mandatory, follow-on element of the 2012 Census.

#### *OMB Raises Questions Related to the Funding and Frequency of ARMS and TOTAL*

In an e-mail dated October 30, 2014, OMB staff asked about the frequency of the TOTAL survey. E-mails from NASS staff, in response, state that TOTAL will be conducted every 10 years.<sup>47</sup> The funding, according to an e-mail dated April 21, 2014, would come from “combining Congressional appropriations” earmarked for the Census of Agriculture as well as ERS’ funds. Combining funds from two agencies to conduct what NASS couched as a Census of Agriculture follow-on study raised a red flag for OMB.

#### *OMB's Role in Mandating TOTAL*

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act, NASS is required “to submit approval requests for information collections to the Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB), Office of Information & Regulatory Affairs (OIRA).”<sup>48</sup> The Census of Agriculture and its follow-on surveys must be vetted, in advance, by officials at OIRA. OIRA evaluates the materials related to the surveys *vis-à-vis* the standards of the Act, approving them if they comply and assigning a control number. In the summer of 2014, OMB staff engaged both in person as well as through e-mail regarding the mandatory nature of the TOTAL survey.

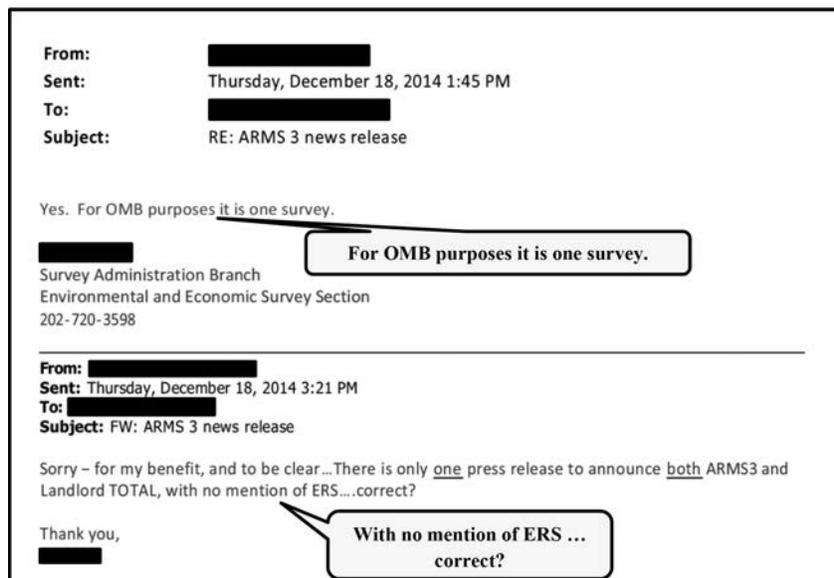
Internal NASS documents show that NASS staff knew to portray TOTAL as one survey—its precursor being AELOS in order to achieve mandatory status. If OMB suspected TOTAL was too similar to ARMS III, then OMB may not sign off on mandatory status for TOTAL. When asked about the public relations strategy for

<sup>46</sup> *H. Rep. No. 105–296*, Purpose & Needs Section (1997).

<sup>47</sup> E-mail from NASS Staff to NASS Staff, *Re: TOTAL Supporting Statements*, Oct. 20, 2014 [USDA–CENSUS–0029795].

<sup>48</sup> See Pub. L. No. 104–13.

TOTAL, and whether there would be a distinction for ARMS III and TOTAL landlord-only, NASS staff responded tersely stating: “For OMB purposes it is one survey.”<sup>49</sup> In actuality, operators received a now-mandatory ARMS III survey and the landlords received a version similar to AELOS. The entire e-mail exchange is below.



On March 21, 2014, NASS staff sent an e-mail to OMB staff, introducing the concept of the TOTAL survey.<sup>50</sup> When NASS staff engaged OMB staff on TOTAL, NASS staff portrayed the TOTAL survey as similar to AELOS and therefore deserving of mandatory status. NASS staff explained that they would like to “discuss some of the proposed details for integrating this new survey with the existing ARMS program.”<sup>51</sup> NASS staff also intimated that since the AELOS survey was mandatory, the TOTAL survey should be mandatory as well.<sup>52</sup>

Then, when OMB staff learned in an e-mail that ERS and NASS appropriations would be combined to fund the TOTAL survey,<sup>53</sup> OMB staff deemed it necessary to consult with their Office of General Counsel (OGC) to inquire as to whether NASS had the authority to mandate the TOTAL survey.<sup>54</sup> The following e-mail exchange shows NASS staff describing the funding sources for TOTAL. In response, OMB staff informed NASS that OGC was reviewing NASS’ statutory basis for mandating TOTAL.

<sup>49</sup> E-mail from NASS Staff to NASS Regional Field Office Staff, *Re: ARMS III news release*, Dec. 18, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0039968].

<sup>50</sup> Electronic Mail [E-mail] from NASS Staff B to OMB Staff A, *Meeting to Discuss the Combining [sic] of ARMS III survey with a new survey called TOTAL*, Mar. 21, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0009324].

<sup>51</sup> E-mail from NASS Staff B to OMB Staff A, *Meeting to Discuss the Combining [sic] of ARMS III survey with a new survey called TOTAL*, Mar. 21, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0009324]. *Id.*

<sup>52</sup> *Id.*

<sup>53</sup> E-mail from NASS Staff B to OMB Staff, *Re: Follow-up Information to TOTAL-ARMS meeting*, Apr. 21, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0012904].

<sup>54</sup> E-mail Exchange between NASS Staff B and OMB Staff A, Apr. 21, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0012904].

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 23, 2014 12:17 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Picanso, Renee - NASS; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Follow-up Information to TOTAL - ARMS meeting

Thank you, David. I wanted to let you know that I have followed up on this question with our Office of General Counsel, and I hope to have at least an interim response to you before the middle of next week.

Working through other bits and pieces that I "owe" you on the ICR front.

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 21, 2014 4:55 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Picanso, Renee - NASS; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Follow-up Information to TOTAL - ARMS meeting

Good Afternoon Jen,

In 2015 the ARMS III survey will be suspended for that one survey. The data that would have been collected with the ARMS III questionnaire will now be collected by the more comprehensive TOTAL questionnaires, which are Census of Ag. follow-on surveys. Originally I had attached the Title 7 Sec. 2204(g) to document that the Sec. of Agriculture has the authority to make this data collection into mandatory survey since it is a follow-on to the Census of Agriculture. We are planning to pay for the TOTAL survey (operator and landlord questionnaires) by combining Congressional appropriations (Census) with funding we are receiving from ERS for the ARMS program.

From the data that is collected from the TOTAL surveys we will be able to publish the ARMS III data as we have done in the past along with the TOTAL publication which will combine the operator and landlord components.

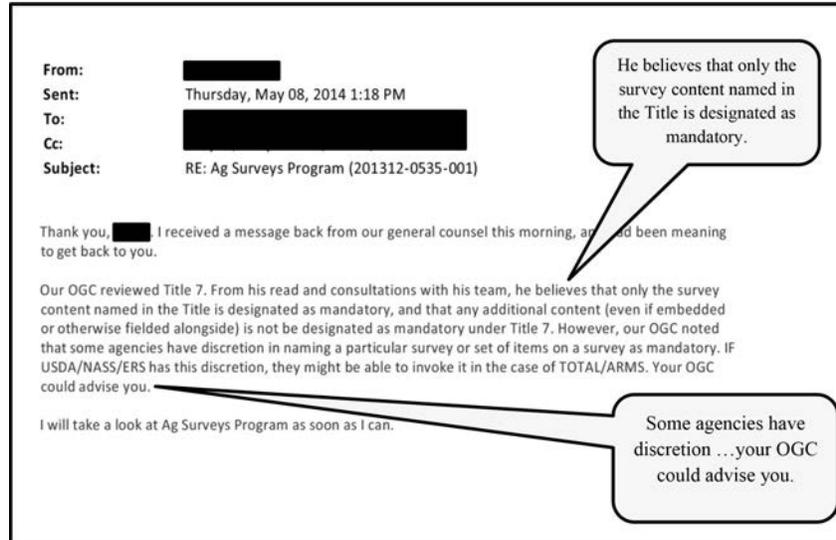
Please let me know if you have any other questions.

[REDACTED]

USDA - NASS - OMB Clearance Officer  
202-690-2388

*OMB Advises NASS on Whether It Is Permissible to Mandate TOTAL*

**On May 8, 2014, the OMB OGC provided an informal legal opinion regarding whether the Census of Agriculture mandatory statutory authority was applicable in the case of the TOTAL survey. He found it was not.** Below is the e-mail OMB staff sent NASS staff conveying the OMB OGC's opinion that only Census follow-on surveys with content laid out in the statute could be mandated. OMB staff also advised NASS staff to seek guidance from the USDA Office of General Counsel.



Documents show this was not the response NASS staff anticipated.<sup>55</sup> Staff contemplated giving Administrator Reilly “a heads up on this [development].”<sup>56</sup> On May 9, 2014, according to internal NASS e-mails, Administrator Reilly verbally assured staff that “we [NASS] have approval to treat this as a mandatory survey under the discretionary rights of the secretary [sic].”<sup>57</sup> NASS staff operated under the assumption that the Secretary of Agriculture has the discretionary authority to render TOTAL mandatory since AELOS had been mandatory.<sup>58</sup>

#### *NASS Staff Continued to Ignore OMB’s Guidance*

In the e-mail inserted above OMB suggested NASS seek the advice of USDA’s General Counsel regarding the question of whether NASS had the authority to conduct TOTAL as a mandatory survey.

**On July 17, 2014, OMB Staff again reiterated their opinion that if funds other than NASS funds are used for a particular survey, then that survey cannot carry the mandatory Census authority (see e-mail below).**<sup>59</sup> Continuing on July 18, 2014, OMB staff and NASS staff had a significant amount of correspondence related to the matter of whether the TOTAL survey could carry the Census mandatory authority. During the same time frame, NASS staff and OMB staff debated whether the Organic Survey was eligible to be conducted as a mandatory Census follow-on.

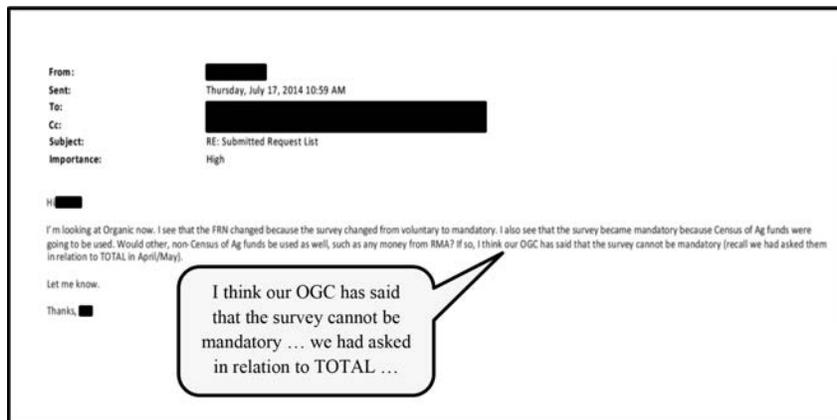
<sup>55</sup> E-mail Exchange between NASS Staff B and other NASS staff, May 8, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0013920].

<sup>56</sup> E-mail Exchange between NASS Staff B and other NASS staff, May 8, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0013920].

<sup>57</sup> E-mail Exchange between NASS Staff B and other NASS staff, May 9, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0013937].

<sup>58</sup> E-mail from NASS Staff to OMB Staff, Apr. 21, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0012904].

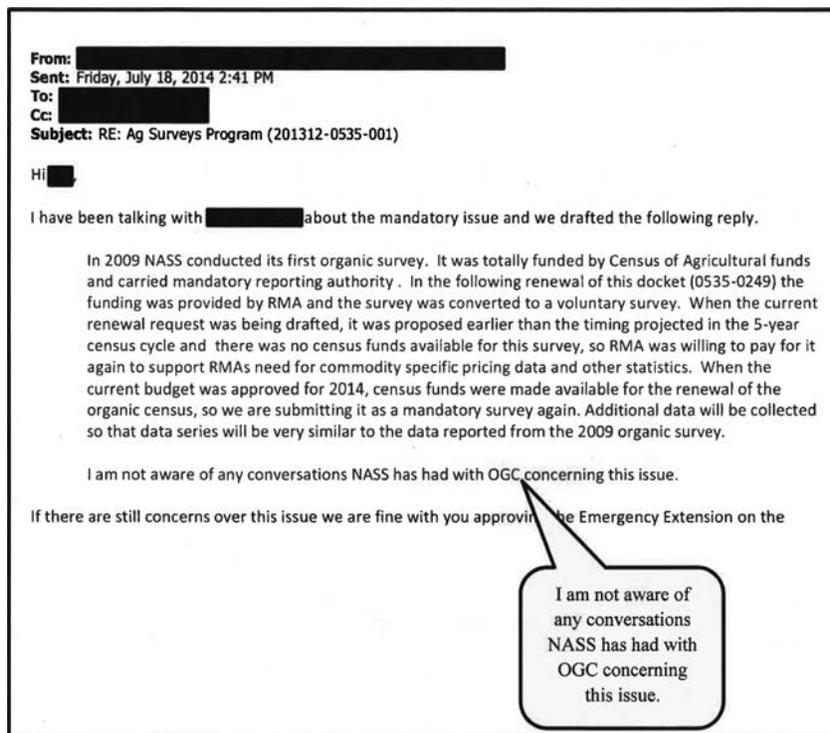
<sup>59</sup> Email from OMB staff to NASS staff, *Re: Submitted Request List*, July 17, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0016781].



Ultimately, the *Federal Register* notice (FRN) submissions to OMB were amended to reflect the fact that these surveys would be conducted as mandatory Census follow-ons. Both the TOTAL Survey FRN and the Organics Survey FRN required amendment to notify the public of the compulsory nature of the surveys. This amendment is reflected in the e-mail message above.

*NASS Staff Admits They Did Not Seek Guidance from USDA's General Counsel*

In the following document related to the Organic Survey, NASS staff admitted he was not aware of any legal analysis related to the question of which surveys are authorized to be mandatory.



In the e-mail above NASS staff argued that since the Organic Survey was partially funded by the Risk Management Administration of USDA, and conducted as

a mandatory follow-on, then NASS could proceed with TOTAL as a mandatory follow-on survey.<sup>60</sup>

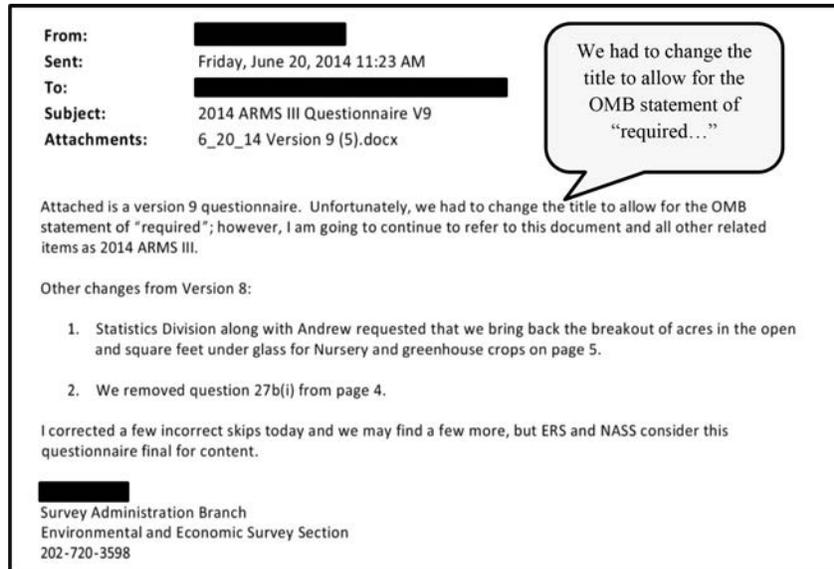
E-mails show that NASS staff internally debated the Secretary's authority to mandate the TOTAL survey. Instead of seeking guidance from the USDA Office of General Counsel, NASS staff decided, in a vacuum, that the Secretary had the discretion based on conversations with the NASS Administrator Reilly.<sup>61</sup>

On July 18, 2014, an internal NASS e-mail exchange shows that NASS staff did not believe it was necessary to clarify NASS' position with regard to mandating the TOTAL survey. In response to the question of whether Administrator Reilly needed to verify the agency's position on the question of authority, NASS staff wrote: "**I think if OMB wants clarification [on the mandatory authority] they can initiate that process.**"<sup>62</sup>

Also on July 18, 2014, OMB staff directed NASS staff to resubmit the FRN "clearly stating that this collection would be mandatory and the authority under which NASS can make it mandatory."<sup>63</sup>

*NASS Staff Believed Re-Titling the ARMS III Survey Sufficed to Render it Mandatory*

According to documents produced to the Committee, certain NASS staff believed the re-titling of the TOTAL survey allowed NASS to mandate the survey. On June 20, 2014, one NASS staff member wrote an e-mail expressing the idea that a simple title change in the survey was sufficient to render the TOTAL survey mandatory. Specifically, he wrote: "**Unfortunately, we had to change the title [from ARMS III to TOTAL] to allow for the OMB statement of 'required;' however I am going to continue to refer to this document and all other related items as 2014 ARMS III.**"<sup>64</sup> See below for the full e-mail text.



On August 4, 2014, the NASS staff member who liaises with OMB sent an e-mail to other NASS staff informing them that the TOTAL survey, landlord and operator versions were granted mandatory status by OMB. He directed his colleagues to in-

<sup>60</sup> E-mail from NASS Staff to OMB Staff, *Re: Ag Surveys Program* (201312-0535-001), July 18, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0017084].

<sup>61</sup> E-mail from NASS Staff to OMB Staff, *Re: Ag Surveys Program* (201312-0535-001) DRAFT note to [REDACTED], July 18, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0017040]; see also [USDA-CENSUS-0013937]; [USDA-CENSUS-0017058].

<sup>62</sup> E-mail from NASS Staff to NASS Staff, *Re: Ag Surveys Program* (201312-0535-001) DRAFT note to [REDACTED], July 18, 2014 (emphasis added) [USDA-CENSUS-0017058].

<sup>63</sup> E-mail from OMB Staff to NASS Staff, *Re: Ag Surveys Program* (201312-0535-001), July 18, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-00171155].

<sup>64</sup> E-mail from NASS Staff to NASS Staff, *6\_20\_14 Version 9 (5).docx*, June 20, 2014 (emphasis added) [USDA-CENSUS-0015310].

clude the appropriate language to reflect the mandatory status in all public relations materials.<sup>65</sup> The fact that ERS was a partner in funding and planning the TOTAL survey, however, remained concealed from the public.

*NASS Concealed ERS' Cooperation on the TOTAL Survey*

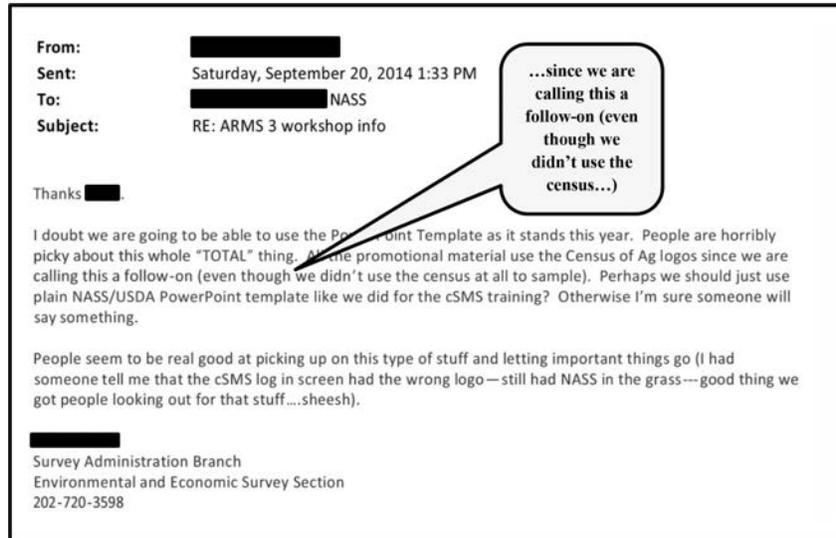
Administrator Reilly, according to NASS staff e-mails, “did not think it is appropriate for us [NASS] to conduct a Census for another agency,”<sup>66</sup> in this case, ERS. The e-mail below shows that as a result of Reilly’s views, NASS staff did not insert references to ERS in the publicity materials for the TOTAL survey. News releases and all other promotional materials related to the TOTAL survey *did not* contain the ERS logo or make mention of the fact that ERS was a partner in TOTAL. Following is an e-mail showing the rationale for excluding references to ERS.



Internally, NASS staff appears to have disagreed with the approach taken in referring to TOTAL as a Census of Agriculture follow-on. In the instance below, a NASS staff member pointed out: “the Census [was not used at all] to sample.” The tone of the e-mail indicates contempt for the approach to TOTAL, and shows that the manner in which it was conducted was novel. Staff appears not to approve of leadership’s decision with regard to the TOTAL survey. In particular, the staff member cited below stated: “People are horribly picky about this whole TOTAL thing.”

<sup>65</sup> E-mail from NASS Staff to NASS Staff, *TOTAL/ARMS Question*, Aug. 4, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0018429].

<sup>66</sup> E-mail from NASS Staff to NASS Staff, *Re: ARMS III news release*, Dec. 18, 2014 [USDA-CENSUS-0039961].



The record before the Committee demonstrates that USDA's NASS mandated a burdensome survey—ARMS III cloaked in the TOTAL title—a survey previously optional for producers. Their motives for this are unclear, but when questioned about it by OMB rather than seek counsel from USDA's OGC, NASS relied on Reilly's word. Since USDA has declined to fully cooperate with the Committee's oversight of TOTAL, gaps remain in the record. The following section focuses on what we do know—the findings, as well as the unanswered questions.

### III. Findings and Unanswered Questions

- The TOTAL Survey is over-broad, duplicative, and burdensome.
- The documents produced to the Committee showing numerous producer complaints related to TOTAL coupled with the feedback received by the Committee from producers indicates that the TOTAL survey simply goes too far.
- OMB advised NASS that the TOTAL survey could *not* be mandated under the Census of Agriculture authority and instructed NASS to seek guidance from the USDA Office of General Counsel.
- NASS failed to consult the USDA Office of General Counsel as advised by OMB before mandating the TOTAL Survey.

Despite a request from Chairman Conaway to interview pertinent NASS staff, those requests were denied by the Office of Congressional Relations.<sup>67</sup> As a result, the Committee needs answers to the following outstanding questions:

- When and why did USDA and/or NASS decide to conduct the TOTAL survey using the mandatory authority of the Census?
- Who at the department-level was involved in the decision to mandate TOTAL as well as the planning and execution of the TOTAL survey?
- When was the decision made to add ARMS III to the land tenure survey recommended by the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics?
- Who influenced the decision to integrate ARMS III and AELOS to produce the TOTAL survey?
- Who at USDA was involved in orchestrating the TOTAL survey and its execution plan?
- What was the rationale for mandating the TOTAL survey?
- Who, if anyone, was directing Administrator Reilly with regard to the TOTAL survey?

<sup>67</sup>Letter from Hon. Todd Batta, Assistant Sec'y, Office of Cong. Affairs, U.S. Dep't of Agric. to Hon. K. Michael Conaway, Chairman, H. Agric. Comm., Sept. 28, 2015.

- Why did NASS staff choose not to consult USDA's OGC when OMB advised that they do so?
- Whether Congress and more specifically, the Appropriations Committee is aware that NASS uses funds from other USDA agencies to conduct Census follow-on surveys?

Today, many questions linger. Either USDA failed to produce documents and communications far enough back in time to answer these questions, or the directions were verbal. Without having the opportunity to question appropriate witnesses and USDA officials, the Committee's oversight efforts are impaired. This also shields facts from Congress and American agricultural producers.

#### **IV. Conclusion**

This report is the result of Congress and, in particular, the House Agriculture Committee listening to its constituents. Farmers, ranchers, producers, and other operators contacted the Committee to raise concerns about what they viewed as an intrusive, burdensome, overreach of executive power. They had seen this survey before—it was the ARMS III survey. This time it was different. This time the USDA exercised its Census authority to mandate each farmer and rancher's participation. The fact that farmers and ranchers failing to fill out the 24 page operator version would be subjected to a monetary penalty was a tough pill to swallow. It was novel approach. This oversight initiative revealed that there were anomalies in the process.

USDA and NASS' motivation for renaming ARMS III as TOTAL is unclear. If they were hoping to deceive farmers, their plan failed. They were not deceived and they did not stay silent on the matter. Instead, farmers and ranchers were angry that the government would require them to report how much their household spent on health care, dental care, and the values of their homes, vehicles, and retirement accounts.

USDA, when crafting the TOTAL survey, failed to take into consideration the privacy of America's farmers, ranchers, and landowners. OMB advised NASS that their interpretation of the Census of Agriculture statute did not allow for mandating the TOTAL survey, which is essentially the ARMS III survey. NASS was unwilling to accept this answer. Repeatedly, NASS communicated to OMB that it was within the Secretary's discretion to mandate TOTAL. At the end of the day, OMB accepted this on face value and allowed NASS to resubmit the *Federal Register* notices indicating the mandatory status of the survey. NASS took all of these actions without once asking the advice of USDA's Office of General Counsel.

The Committee is deeply concerned with regard to the TOTAL survey, that USDA and NASS exceeded their authority under the Census of Agriculture. The Secretary, in this case, abused his discretion. This oversight initiative has borne out the fact that anomalies occurred in the process of mandating TOTAL. As a result of the findings above, Committee staff recommends that Members of the Agriculture Committee review the attached surveys and the findings herein to determine whether it is appropriate to narrow the statutory language in 7 U.S.C. § 2204g.

#### **V. Options for Legislation Related to the Census**

Following are some legislative options for Members and their staffs to consider:

1. Statutorily limit the number of questions in Census surveys to reduce the time burden on survey recipients.
2. Amend the statute to make clear that Census follow-on survey may not mandate responses.
3. Requests of other agencies regarding content of any survey must be first subject to notice and comment, and detailed explanation of any question (purpose, how the data will be utilized, etcetera) must be provided well in advance.

#### **VI. Timeline of the Committee's Oversight of TOTAL and the Census**

- On February 5, 2015, USDA and NASS staff briefed Committee staff. There were numerous unanswered questions flowing from this briefing.
- February 10, 2015, at the request of numerous producers, the Chairman and Ranking Member sent a letter to Secretary Vilsack requesting information and documents related to the Census of Agriculture and surveys conducted pursuant to that authority. The documents were due February 26, 2015.
- On February 26, 2015, Committee staff followed up with USDA staff to inquire about the status of the production.

- On March 16, 2015, USDA staff sent an e-mail containing a letter from Under Secretary Todd Batta, signed March 13, 2015. This letter answered the questions posed in the Chairman and Ranking Member's letter. No documents were provided.
- On March 18, 2015, Committee staff sent an e-mail to USDA staff narrowing the scope of and prioritizing the documents in the request.
- On March 23, 2015, USDA staff communicated to Committee staff that they would provide primarily publicly available documents to the Committee at the briefing on March 27, 2015.
- On March 27, 2015, USDA staff provided a briefing to Committee staff and produced a disk containing publicly available documents related to the Census of Agriculture.
- On April 7, 2015, USDA staff communicated that USDA was reviewing 56,000 documents that were potentially related to the Census of Agriculture request and that the Committee would receive relevant documents between April 10 and April 14, 2015.
- USDA produced documents to the Committee on April 17, 24, and June 8, 12, 26, and July 20, 2015. In total, USDA produced 49,000 documents.
- On September 9, 2015, the Chairman sent letter to Secretary Vilsack requesting transcribed interviews of two NASS employees with factual knowledge of the planning of execution of the TOTAL survey.
- On September 28, 2015, Under Secretary Todd Batta wrote Chairman Conaway offering another briefing, and thereby declining to produce witnesses for a transcribed interview.

[ATTACHMENT 1]

**1999 Agricultural Economics and Land Ownership Survey Operator's Report**



**1999 AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS and LAND OWNERSHIP SURVEY OPERATOR'S REPORT**

Form Approved  
O.M.S. Number 0535-0240  
Approval Expires 05/31/00  
Project Code 682

**NOTICE:** Response to this inquiry is required by law (Title 7, U.S. Code). By the same law, **YOUR REPORT IS CONFIDENTIAL** and it will only be used for statistical purposes. Your report **CANNOT** be used for purposes of taxation, investigation, or regulation. The law also provides that copies retained in your files are immune from legal processes.

Please return your completed report in the enclosed postage paid envelope.

Please correct errors in name, address and ZIP code. If you are involved in more than one operation, report only for the operation named on the label.

OFFICE USE ONLY	VERSION	POID	TRACT	SUBTRACT	T-TYPE	LINE
	01	-----	01	---	0	000

**SECTION A LAND in FARM/RANCH**  
*Include all cropland, idleland, CRP, pastureland, woodland, wasteland, etc.*

**In 1999, record for this operation--**

		ACRES
1. Farm and Ranch land OWNED .....	+	020
2. Farm and Ranch land rented or leased FROM OTHERS-- Exclude land used on a per-head basis under a grazing permit.		
a. For CASH .....	+	021
b. For a SHARE of crop or livestock production .....	+	022
c. Rent free .....	+	023
3. Farm and Ranch land rented or leased TO OTHERS-- <i>Include land rented for cash, for a share of crop or livestock production, or rent free.</i>	-	024
4. TOTAL ACRES in this operation in 1999 <i>(Items 1 + 2a + 2b + 2c - 3)</i> .....	=	025
5. RENT PAID in 1999-- Include rent paid in 1999 for previous years and rent paid in advance.		DOLLARS
a. Cash Rent Paid .....	None	026
b. Fees Paid for livestock grazed on an Animal Unit Month (AUM), head or gain basis .....		027
c. Value of Landlord's Share of production for land rented on a share basis .....		028

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY--**

- In 1999, did this operation--  
- grow crops or cut hay  
- raise livestock or poultry  
- have whole grain storage facilities,  
- receive government farm program payments, or  
- have agricultural sales

YES - Continue on next page.

NO - Please explain below, then go to Conclusion, back page.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION B LANDLORDS**

If this operation rented land in 1999 (either cash rent, share rent or rent free) complete this section. If no land was rented from others, go to Section C.

None  NUMBER  029

1. How many landlords did this operation rent land from in 1999? .....

OFFICE USE ONLY  T-TYPE  1

2. Please list the following information for EACH landlord or attach a listing with the following information.

L I N E	NAME of LANDLORD			MAILING ADDRESS of LANDLORD			NUMBER OF ACRES RENTED	
	FIRST NAME, MIDDLE INITIAL, LAST NAME	STREET ADDRESS or RURAL ROUTE and BOX NUMBER			CITY	STATE	ZIP	
1	PHONE ( )							030 OFFICE USE
2	PHONE ( )							030 OFFICE USE
3	PHONE ( )							030 OFFICE USE
4	PHONE ( )							030 OFFICE USE
5	PHONE ( )							030 OFFICE USE
6	PHONE ( )							030 OFFICE USE
7	PHONE ( )							030 OFFICE USE
8	PHONE ( )							030 OFFICE USE
9	PHONE ( )							030 OFFICE USE
10	PHONE ( )							030 OFFICE USE

**SECTION B LANDLORDS—continued**

L I N E	NAME of LANDLORD			MAILING ADDRESS of LANDLORD			NUMBER OF ACRES RENTED
	FIRST NAME, MIDDLE INITIAL, LAST NAME	STREET ADDRESS or RURAL ROUTE and BOX NUMBER			030		
11	PHONE ( )	CITY	STATE	ZIP	031	OFFICE USE	
	FIRST NAME, MIDDLE INITIAL, LAST NAME	STREET ADDRESS or RURAL ROUTE and BOX NUMBER			030		
12	PHONE ( )	CITY	STATE	ZIP	031	OFFICE USE	
	FIRST NAME, MIDDLE INITIAL, LAST NAME	STREET ADDRESS or RURAL ROUTE and BOX NUMBER			030		
13	PHONE ( )	CITY	STATE	ZIP	031	OFFICE USE	
	FIRST NAME, MIDDLE INITIAL, LAST NAME	STREET ADDRESS or RURAL ROUTE and BOX NUMBER			030		
14	PHONE ( )	CITY	STATE	ZIP	031	OFFICE USE	
	FIRST NAME, MIDDLE INITIAL, LAST NAME	STREET ADDRESS or RURAL ROUTE and BOX NUMBER			030		
15	PHONE ( )	CITY	STATE	ZIP	031	OFFICE USE	
	FIRST NAME, MIDDLE INITIAL, LAST NAME	STREET ADDRESS or RURAL ROUTE and BOX NUMBER			030		
16	PHONE ( )	CITY	STATE	ZIP	031	OFFICE USE	
	FIRST NAME, MIDDLE INITIAL, LAST NAME	STREET ADDRESS or RURAL ROUTE and BOX NUMBER			030		
17	PHONE ( )	CITY	STATE	ZIP	031	OFFICE USE	
	FIRST NAME, MIDDLE INITIAL, LAST NAME	STREET ADDRESS or RURAL ROUTE and BOX NUMBER			030		
18	PHONE ( )	CITY	STATE	ZIP	031	OFFICE USE	
	FIRST NAME, MIDDLE INITIAL, LAST NAME	STREET ADDRESS or RURAL ROUTE and BOX NUMBER			030		
19	PHONE ( )	CITY	STATE	ZIP	031	OFFICE USE	
	FIRST NAME, MIDDLE INITIAL, LAST NAME	STREET ADDRESS or RURAL ROUTE and BOX NUMBER			030		
20	PHONE ( )	CITY	STATE	ZIP	031	OFFICE USE	
	FIRST NAME, MIDDLE INITIAL, LAST NAME	STREET ADDRESS or RURAL ROUTE and BOX NUMBER			030		

3. If you had more than 20 landlords in 1999, list these additional landlords on a separate sheet of paper, and attach to this questionnaire. Be sure to include the name, address, phone number, and number of acres rented from each landlord.

<b>SECTION C AGRICULTURAL LAND OWNERSHIP</b>	OFFICE USE ONLY	T-TYPE 0	LINE 000
--	-----------------------	-------------	-------------

1. For Land Acquired or Disposed of (sold or given away) in 1999 report--  
*(Include acreage changes from purchases, sales, inheritances, or gifts.  
 Exclude land rented. If acreage did not change in 1999, leave blank.)*

Acreage in 1999 which was--	ACRES	TOTAL MARKET VALUE DOLLARS	AMOUNT FINANCED DOLLARS
Acquired	032	033	034
Sold/dispensed of for farming/ranching	035	036	
Sold/dispensed of for non-farm purposes	038	039	

2. Please report LAND OWNED on each specified date and land acquired and disposed of (sold or given away) during each specified time period. *(Exclude rented acres.)*

On December 31 of--	ACRES OWNED	TIME PERIOD	ACRES ACQUIRED	ACRES DISPOSED OF
1998	041	1988 - 1998	045	046
1987	042	1983 - 1987	047	048
1982	043	1973 - 1982	049	050
1972	044			

3. For the land OWNED by this operation, report the number of acres in the following land use categories--

	ACRES
a. Orchards/vineyards .....	+ 051
b. Cropland <i>(Include hay acres. Exclude orchards/vineyards and cropland pasture.)</i> .....	+ 052
c. Pastureland <i>(Include cropland pasture, woodland pasture, other pasture and rangeland.)</i> .....	+ 053
d. Forest/woodland not pastured .....	+ 054
e. Other <i>(farmstead, roads, ditches, wasteland, etc.)</i> .....	+ 055
f. Total Acres Owned (a + b + c + d + e) .....	= 056
g. How many of these acres were enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)? .....	057

4. For the land OWNED by this operation, report the Market Value on December 31, 1999 of--  
*(Provide your best estimate based on a recent appraisal, or similar sales in your area.)*

	DOLLARS
a. Farm operator's dwelling, if owned by this operation .....	+ 058
b. All other farm buildings, structures, and dwellings <i>(include barns, cribs, grain bins, greenhouses, silos, storage sheds, etc.)</i> .....	+ 059
c. Land <i>(Excluding houses and buildings.)</i> .....	+ 060
d. Total Market Value of Land and Buildings Owned (a + b + c) .....	= 061

5. For the land RENTED FROM OTHERS, report the Market Value of the land and buildings .....

6. For the land RENTED TO OTHERS, report the Market Value of the land and buildings .....

7. In 1999, did this operation purchase professional or farm management services, such as record keeping, farm practices advice, farm planning, rent collection, etc.?

064  YES  NO

**SECTION D PRODUCTION EXPENSES**

*(Include only farm/ranch expenses. Exclude expenses paid by landlords, the value of items furnished by contractors, and expenses paid on land rented to others.)*

**In 1999, how much did this operation spend on--**

	None	DOLLARS
<b>1. Seeds, sets, plants, seed cleaning and treatments, transplants, trees, and nursery stock?</b> <i>(Exclude items purchased only for direct resale.)</i> .....	065	<input type="text"/>
<b>2. Fertilizer, lime and soil conditioners?</b> <i>(Include custom application costs.)</i> .....	066	<input type="text"/>
<b>3. Agricultural Chemicals for crops, livestock, poultry, and general farm use?</b> <i>(Include custom application costs.)</i> .....	067	<input type="text"/>
<b>4. Livestock Purchases--</b>	068	<input type="text"/>
a. Breeding livestock and dairy cattle? .....	069	<input type="text"/>
b. All other livestock and poultry? .....	070	<input type="text"/>
c. Leasing of livestock? <i>(Include leasing of bees for pollination.)</i> .....	071	<input type="text"/>
<b>5. Feed for livestock and poultry?</b> <i>(Include grain, hay, silage, mixed feeds, concentrates, etc.)</i> .....	072	<input type="text"/>
<b>6. Fuels, Oils and Lubricants</b> including gasoline, diesel fuel, natural gas, LP gas and all other fuel? .....	073	<input type="text"/>
<b>7. Repairs, Maintenance and Supplies</b> <i>(Include maintenance and repair of farm machinery, equipment, building, houses, and land. Also include farm supplies, marketing containers, hand tools, farm shop power equipment, etc. Exclude any new construction or remodeling.)</i> .....	074	<input type="text"/>
<b>8. Insurance for the farm business?</b> <i>(Include insurance for machinery, buildings, livestock, crops, and the farm share for autos and trucks. Exclude health insurance and other payroll insurance.)</i> .....	075	<input type="text"/>
<b>9. Interest and fees paid on--</b>	076	<input type="text"/>
a. debts secured by real estate? .....	077	<input type="text"/>
b. debts NOT secured by real estate? .....	078	<input type="text"/>
<b>10. Property tax paid on--</b>	079	<input type="text"/>
a. real estate? .....	080	<input type="text"/>
b. livestock, machinery and other farm production items? .....	081	<input type="text"/>
<b>11. Cash wages paid to hired farm/ranch labor and Contract Labor?</b> <i>(Include gross cash payments to employees, including paid family members, before deductions for social security, taxes, insurance premiums, etc. and payments for contract labor. Exclude custom work.)</i> .....	082	<input type="text"/>
<b>12. All other Operating Expenses?</b>	083	<input type="text"/>
a. Custom work, machine hire, veterinary services and medical supplies .....	084	<input type="text"/>
b. Utilities used for the farm .....	250	<input type="text"/>
c. Marketing and storage expenses .....	084	<input type="text"/>
d. Transportation and leasing of vehicles, machinery and equipment .....		
e. Depreciation expenses claimed by this operation in 1999 for all capital assets .....		
f. General business and all other operating expenses not reported above. <i>(Exclude capital expenditures for vehicles and machinery, buildings, etc.)</i> .....		

**SECTION E CAPITAL EXPENDITURES**

Report the total cost of the following capital expenditures for this operation in 1999

TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES IN 1999

DOLLARS

- 1. **Improvements on land** such as land preparation, irrigation improvements, well drilling, ponds, drainage, roads, feedlots, trench silos, lagoons, new fences, etc. None 085  
*(Exclude moveable equipment.)* .....
- 2. **Buildings and structures** including all costs for new construction, remodeling or additions to the operator's dwelling if owned by the operation, dwellings for hired labor, barns, buildings, hog houses, poultry houses, milk barns, storage facilities, sheds, silos, etc. 086  
*(Exclude repairs and maintenance.)* .....

Report the total costs of the following capital purchases for this operation in 1999, after deducting the value of trade-ins, rebates, and discounts.

- 3. **Trucks and Autos** 087  
*(Include new or used trucks, pick-ups, sport utility vehicles, vans, campers, buses, cars, etc.)* .....
- a. What percentage of this was the Farm's Share? ..... PERCENT 088
- 4. **Tractors and Self-Propelled Farm Equipment** including implements and self-propelled equipment for livestock, dairy or poultry production 089  
*(Include the farm share only.)* .....
- 5. **Other Farm Machinery and Non Self-Propelled farm equipment**, implements, irrigation equipment and pumps and capital equipment for livestock, dairy, and poultry 090  
*(Include the farm share only.)* .....
- 6. **All Other Capital Expenditures** 091  
*(Include all other capital expenditures which were placed on a depreciation schedule.)* .....

**SECTION F FARM ASSETS**

For each item, report the MARKET VALUE of the assets owned by the operation on the date specified.

- |   | BEGINNING-of-YEAR<br>MARKET VALUE ON<br>JANUARY 1, 1999 | END-of-YEAR<br>MARKET VALUE ON<br>DECEMBER 31, 1999 |
|---|---|---|
| 1. <b>Crops owned and stored on or off this operation</b><br><i>(Include all grains, oilseeds, specialty crops, hay, silage, and nursery and greenhouse products not in the ground.<br/>Exclude crops under CCC loans.)</i> .....   | None 092  | None 093  |
| 2. <b>Livestock and poultry owned by this operation</b><br><i>(Consider number of head, weight, and market price.<br/>Exclude livestock owned by someone else.)</i>   |   |   |
| a. <b>Breeding livestock</b> .....  | 094   | 095   |
| b. <b>Non-breeding livestock and poultry</b><br><i>(Including cattle, hogs, sheep, poultry, and other<br/>livestock such as horses, mink, bees, aquaculture, etc.)</i> .....  | 105   | 106   |
| 3. <b>Production inputs purchased and on hand such as feed, seed, fertilizer, chemicals, fuels, parts, and other supplies, etc.</b> .....   | 107   | 108   |
| 4. <b>Farm share of autos and trucks owned</b> <i>(total value X percent farm use)</i> .....  |   | 110   |
| 5. <b>Tractors, machinery, equipment and tools owned</b> .....  |   | 112   |
| 6. <b>Stock in Farm Credit System</b> .....   |   | 114   |
| 7. <b>Stock in Farm Cooperatives</b> .....  |   | 116   |
| 8. <b>All Other Farm Assets</b><br><i>(Include farm checking accounts, cash, bonds, certificates of deposit, savings and checking accounts,<br/>and money owed to this operation, including crops and livestock sold for future payments and<br/>any other farm assets not reported above.)</i> ..... |   | 118   |

**SECTION G FARM INCOME**

**1. What was the total amount RECEIVED by this operation in 1999 for CASH and MARKETING CONTRACT SALES for—**  
*(Exclude production contracts and landlord's share of production.)*

a. Crop Sales <i>(All crops including nursery, greenhouse, and specialty commodities. Include the value of CCC loans.)</i> .....	None	DOLLARS 119
b. Livestock and Poultry sales <i>(All livestock and poultry including specialty items and livestock products sold.)</i> .....		120

**2. Did this operation have any PRODUCTION CONTRACTS to produce any crop, poultry, livestock or livestock products in 1999?**

*(A production contract is an arrangement which you receive a fee or percentage of the production for producing a commodity owned by someone else. The owner (contractor) of the commodity usually provides inputs or services.)*

121  YES - [Continue.]       NO - [Go to item 3.]

a. Which of the following commodities did the operation have production contracts for, in 1999?

YES=1 122	YES=1 125	YES=1 127
Broilers	Hogs	Vegetables
123	126	128
Layers, Pullets & Eggs	Custom Fed Cattle	Grains/Oilseeds
124		129
Turkeys		Other

b. What was the total dollar amount this operation received in 1999 for producing commodities under contract? .....	None	DOLLARS 130
c. What is the operators best estimate of the total market value of the commodities this operation produced under contract in 1999? <i>(This should be greater than the amount you received since it reflects the total value of production.)</i> .....		131
d. What is the operators best estimate of the total value of all inputs and services provided by the owner (contractor) of the commodities this operation produced under contract in 1999? .....		132

**3. Total Federal and State Farm Program Payments received in 1999?**

*(Include emergency and disaster payments, production flexibility transition payments (AMTA), loan deficiency payments (LDP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), and all other state and federal farm programs. Exclude CCC loans.)*

..... 133

**4. Farm Rent Income and Expenses**

a. Cash Rent Received in 1999 .....	134
b. Share Rent Received <i>Report the total value of crop or livestock shares received for share renting acres to others.</i> .....	135
c. EXPENSES paid by this operation as a landlord on land rented to others <i>(Include taxes, insurance, and all other production inputs this operation paid on land rented to others.)</i> .....	136

**5. All Other FARM RELATED Income and Expenses**

a. Other Farm Income <i>(Including custom work, machine hire, recreational services, hunting fees, livestock boarding, allotment leases, mineral rights, and right of ways, sale of forest products, and all other income closely related to this agricultural operation.)</i> .....	137
b. Other Farm Expenses associated with the income reported in (item a) above. <i>(Exclude operating and capital expenses associated with the agricultural production on this operation.)</i> .....	138

**SECTION H FARM DEBT**

1. Did this operation owe money to any banks, co-ops, individuals, merchants, or Federal agencies at the end of 1999?

- 139
- YES - [Continue.]
- NO - [Go to Section I, next page.]

2. Report the total farm debt owed to each of the following lenders on December 31, 1999—

*(Include principal and past due interest. Exclude finance or interest charges not yet accrued.)*

	None	TOTAL AMOUNT OWED ON DECEMBER 31, 1999 DOLLARS
a. Farm Credit System .....		140
b. USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) <i>(include previous FmHA loans.)</i> .....		141
c. Small Business Administration (SBA) .....		142
d. State and County Government Lending Agencies .....		143
e. Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Loans .....		144
f. Commercial Banks, Savings Banks and Residential Mortgage Lenders .....		145
g. Life insurance companies .....		146
h. Implement dealers and Financing Corporations <i>(including trucks and autos)</i> .....		147
i. Co-ops, Merchants and other Input suppliers .....		148
j. Contractors .....		149
k. Individuals from whom any land was bought under a mortgage or deed of trust .....		150
l. Individuals from whom any land in this operation was bought under a land purchase contract .....		151
m. Any other lenders <i>(including individuals.)</i> .....		152
n. Other debts such as unpaid bills, credit cards etc. ....		153
<b>TOTAL FARM DEBT</b> owed by this operation on December 31, 1999 <i>(sum of 2a - 2n)</i> .....		154

**SECTION I FARM HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS**

Report information in this section for the farm operator or senior partner's household.

1. How many persons lived in the operator's household on December 31, 1999? NUMBER  
155  
*(Include operator, spouse, children, and others living in operator's household.)*

a. How many were under 16 years of age? None 156

2. Are the day to day decisions for this operation made by a hired manager?  
1  YES - [SKIP to the Conclusion on page 10.]

3  NO - [Continue.]

3. Is this farm operation an individual or a family operation, partnership or a family corporation?

1  YES - [Continue.]

3  NO - [SKIP to the Conclusion on page 10.]

4. OFF-FARM WORK - please answer the following for the operator and spouse

**OPERATOR**

**SPOUSE**

a. Did the operator/spouse work off this farm for pay during 1999? .....

158 1  YES  
3  NO

159 1  YES  
3  NO  
5  No Spouse  
If YES, continue  
If NO or No Spouse,  
skip this column

If YES, continue  
If NO, skip this column

b. Was the operator/spouse--

- 1- EMPLOYED BY ANOTHER FARM OR RANCH
- 2- EMPLOYED BY A PRIVATE COMPANY, BUSINESS OR INDIVIDUAL
- 3- EMPLOYED BY THE FEDERAL STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT OR SCHOOL DISTRICT
- 4- SELF-EMPLOYED OPERATING ANOTHER FARM OR RANCH
- 5- SELF-EMPLOYED OPERATING A NON-FARM BUSINESS
- 6- OTHER

Enter Code ... CODE  
160

CODE  
161

c. How many WEEKS did the operator/spouse work off this farm for pay in 1999? .....

WEEKS  
162

WEEKS  
163

d. During those weeks, how many average HOURS PER WEEK did the operator/spouse usually work off this farm for pay in 1999? .....

HOURS PER WEEK  
164

HOURS PER WEEK  
165

5. HOUSEHOLD INCOME

How much did persons living in the operator's household receive in 1999 from each of the following categories--

- a. Wages received by household members for work on this farm or ranch? .....
- b. Wages from working on, or net income from, another farm or ranch? .....
- c. Net cash income from operating any other business? .....
- d. Other off-farm pay before deducting taxes and withholdings?  
*(Include bonuses, cash wages, commissions, military pay, piece rate payments, salaries, tips, etc.)* .....
- e. Income from disability, military retirement, Social Security, unemployment, Veteran's benefits, other public retirement and public assistance programs? .....
- f. Income from interest and dividends? .....
- g. All other sources of income? .....

None DOLLARS

170
171
172
173
174
175
176

*(Include alimony, annuities, net income from estates or trusts, private pensions, regular contributions from person(s) not living in this household, net rental income from non-farm properties, royalties for mineral leases, and any other off-farm income not reported above.)*

**SECTION I FARM HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS--continued**

6. Did any household(s) besides the operator's share in this operation's net income during 1999?

YES - [Continue.]

NO - [Go to item 7.]

a. How many households besides the operator's, shared in the net farm income of this operation? .....

NUMBER
178

b. What percent of the net income did the operator's household receive? .....

PERCENT
179

7. Report the Market Value for the following non-farm ASSETS owned by the operator's household on December 31, 1999--

a. Cash, checking, savings and money owed to the operator .....

DOLLARS
180

b. IRA, Keogh, 401K, and other retirement accounts .....

181
-----

c. Corporate stock, mutual funds, cash surrender value of life insurance, and all other financial assets .....

182
-----

d. all other ASSETS of the farm operators household  
(Exclude previously reported assets) .....

183
-----

8. Total value of all Non-Farm Debt owed by the operator and members of the operators household associated with the assets reported above  
(Exclude farm debt reported earlier) .....

184
-----

**CONCLUSION**

Reported by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your cooperation. Please return your completed form in the enclosed postage paid envelope.

OFFICE USE										
RESPONDENT	RESPONSE CODE	R. UNIT	SEC D	SEC E	SEC F	ENUMERATOR	EVALUATION	MM	DD	YY
101	910	921	200	201	202	098	100	185	-	-
S/E Name										

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 60 minutes per response.

## APPENDIX B. Report Forms and Information Sheets

OMB No. 0907-0297; Agricultural Finance 09/20/87

**Form 88-ABA** U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

**1988 AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND  
LAND OWNERSHIP SURVEY  
OPERATOR'S REPORT**

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS  
1201 East Tenth Street  
Jeffersonville, IN 47133

**NOTICE** — Response to this inquiry is required by law (Title 13, U.S. Code). By the same law YOUR REPORT TO THE CENSUS BUREAU IS CONFIDENTIAL. It may be seen only by sworn Census employees and may be used only for statistical purposes. Your report CANNOT be used for purposes of taxation, investigation, or regulation. The law also provides that copies retained in your files are immune from legal process.

In correspondence pertaining to this report, please refer to your Census File Number (CFN) **88-ABA**

Please correct errors in name, address, and ZIP Code. ENTER street and number if not shown.

**SECTION 1** **ACREAGE IN 1988 AND CURRENT MARKET VALUE of land and buildings (See Information sheet.)** Include all cropland, pastureland, woodland, wasteland, idle land, house lots, etc.

	Number of acres		Estimated current market value of these acres including the dwellings and other buildings on them.	
	Dollars	Cents	Dollars	Cents
1. ALL FARM AND RANCH LAND OWNED .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	043	\$	044
2. ALL land rented or leased FROM OTHERS, including land worked on shares; leased Federal, State, and railroad land; and land used rent free. (Do NOT include land used on a per-head basis under a grazing permit.) Also complete item 5 below. ....	<input type="checkbox"/>	045	\$	046
3. ALL land rented or leased TO OTHERS, including land worked on shares by others and land subleased. (Do NOT include land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program.) .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	047	\$	048
4. TOTAL ACRES IN "THIS PLACE" (Please ADD acres owned (item 1 above) and acres rented (item 2 above), then SUBTRACT acres rented to others (item 3 above), and enter your answer in this space.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	049	\$	050

*"THIS PLACE" means your farm or ranch, feedlots, poultry houses, greenhouses, and/or any other agricultural operations.*

5. If you rented land FROM OTHERS (item 2 above), please enter the following information for each landlord:

Name of landlord	Mailing address of landlord	Number of acres rented
First name, middle initial, last name	Number and street or rural route and box number City State ZIP Code	051
First name, middle initial, last name	Number and street or rural route and box number City State ZIP Code	052
First name, middle initial, last name	Number and street or rural route and box number City State ZIP Code	053
First name, middle initial, last name	Number and street or rural route and box number City State ZIP Code	054
First name, middle initial, last name	Number and street or rural route and box number City State ZIP Code	055

6. If you have more than the 5 landlords listed above, how many additional landlords do you have? List these additional landlords on the continuation sheet. ....

	Acres cash leased		Total cash rent	
	Dollars	Cents	Dollars	Cents
7. How much total cash rent did you pay for acres leased during 1988? .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	056	\$	057

**PLEASE READ** You may be able to skip most of this form if:

- a. All the land you owned or rented from others was rented to or worked on shares by someone else in 1988.
- b. There were no crops or livestock in 1988 on the acres in "THIS PLACE" (item 4 above).
- c. The land you operated before 1988 has been sold and is now operated by someone else.

If a, b, or c apply to your operation, please explain in section 13. Complete section 14 and mail back the report form in the return envelope.

	Acres		Sales value	
	Dollars	Cents	Dollars	Cents
8. Was any farm or ranch land sold by you in 1988 for —				
a. Farming or ranching purposes? .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	058	\$	059
b. Other purposes? .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	060	\$	061
9. Was "THIS PLACE" described in item 4 above a managed operation where the operator was employed as a farm manager? .....			1 <input type="checkbox"/> YES 2 <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
10. In 1988, did you purchase professional or farm management services such as recordkeeping, farm practice advice, financial planning, rent collection, etc.? .....			1 <input type="checkbox"/> YES 2 <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

**SECTION 2 AGRICULTURAL LAND OWNERSHIP**  
 The following questions refer to acres owned as reported in section 1, item 1. IF NO LAND WAS OWNED, SKIP TO SECTION 3.

**1a.** Copy reported acres from section 1, item 1 . . . . . 140

**b.** How many of these acres owned during 1988 were still owned by you on December 31, 1988? Report the market value of these owned acres.

Acres	Estimated market value
142	143 \$ 00

**2.** Using the market value reported in item 1b above as the TOTAL VALUE, please estimate the market value of the following:

a. Operator dwelling if on acres in 1b . . . . .  052 \$ 00

b. Dwelling(s) for hired labor if on acres in 1b . . . . .  053 \$ 00

c. All other buildings and structures on acres in 1b . . . . .  055 \$ 00

d. Land (excluding buildings) . . . . .  058 \$ 00

**3.** Of the land owned by you on December 31, 1988 (item 1b), how many acres were obtained by:

a. Purchase from non-relative . . . . .  144

b. Purchase from relative . . . . .  145

c. Inheritance or gift . . . . .  146

d. Other -- Specify . . . . .  147

TOTAL (Should equal acres in item 1b) . . . . . 148

**4.** For all the farm and ranch land owned on December 31, 1988 (item 1b), please report the number of acres in the following land use categories:

a. Cropland . . . . .  171

b. Orchard/vineyard . . . . .  172

c. Cropland used for permanent pasture . . . . .  173

d. All other pasture or rangeland . . . . .  174

e. Forest/woodland not pastured . . . . .  175

f. Other (farmstead, wasteland, roads, ditches, etc.) . . . . .  176

TOTAL (Should equal acres in item 1b) . . . . . 177

**5.** Please report land ACQUIRED and/or SOLD or DISPOSED OF during each specified time period and the total acreage OWNED at the end of each specified time period (December 31).

Land owned on December 31 of year below	Land owned (Acres)	Date	Land acquired (Acres)	Land sold or disposed of (Acres)
	(1)		(2)	(3)
1988	178	During 1988	184	189
1987	179	1983 - 1987	185	190
1982	180	1979 - 1982	186	191
1978	181	1976 - 1978	187	192
1974	182	1970 - 1974	188	193
1969	183			

**6a.** If you acquired land in 1988, PLEASE report estimated market value of land and buildings acquired and amount financed.

None	Market value December 31, 1988		Amount financed	
	Dollars	Cents	Dollars	Cents
<input type="checkbox"/>	198	197	\$	00

**b.** If you financed land purchased in 1988 (item 6a above), please enter the amount financed from the following sources:

None	Amount financed	
	Dollars	Cents
<input type="checkbox"/>	199	00
<input type="checkbox"/>	200	00
<input type="checkbox"/>	201	00
<input type="checkbox"/>	202	00
<input type="checkbox"/>		00

**7a.** Report the following information for land you owned on December 31, 1988 and leased to others.

* Type of lease	Number of leases	Total acres leased to others	Market value of acres leased		Value of rent received in 1988	
			Dollars	Cents	Dollars	Cents
1. Cash	<input type="checkbox"/> 191	194	195	193	\$	00
2. Share	<input type="checkbox"/> 192	196	190	194	\$	00
3. Cash/share	<input type="checkbox"/> 193	197	191	195	\$	00
4. Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 194	198	192	198	\$	00

**b.** What were the expenses paid by you as landlord on land leased to others in 1988? (Include your estimate of taxes, insurance, and inputs you made to the agricultural production on land leased to others.)

None	Dollars	Cents
<input type="checkbox"/>	190	00

**8.** For CASH LEASES reported in item 7 above, how many allow for adjustment of rental payment in the event of unusual or exceptional conditions?

None	Number of cash leases	Acres
<input type="checkbox"/>	197	188

**9.** Of the farm and ranch land you owned on December 31, 1988 (item 1b above), how many acres were enrolled in the Federal Conservation Reserve Program?

None	Acres
<input type="checkbox"/>	189

FORM 88-ABA (8-12-88) Page 2

SECTION 3A PURCHASES AND EXPENDITURES DURING 1988 FOR THE AGRICULTURAL OPERATION				SECTION 4 DEBITS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1988			
<p>These items concern the kinds of purchases and expenditures made during 1988 for agricultural operations on "THIS PLACE" AS REPORTED in SECTION 1, item 4. Report the total cost of the purchases or expenditures. (See enclosed information sheet.)</p>				<p>(See enclosed information sheet.)</p> <p>The debits to be reported are those owed as of December 31, 1988 arising from the operation of the acreage reported in section 1, item 4 "THIS PLACE." (Exclude landlord debt.)</p>			
Capital expenditures for "THIS PLACE" during 1988		Total cost of purchases or expenditures in 1988		Source of debt		Total amount owed on December 31, 1988 (Exclude interest unless past due)	
		Dollars	Cents			Dollars	Cents
1. Expenditures for improvements on land such as irrigation improvements, land preparation, well drilling, ponds, drainage, roads, fences, trench silos, lagoons, etc. (Exclude moveable equipment) . . . . .		073	00	1. Federal Land Banks (or Federal Land Bank Associations) . . . . .		081	00
2. Expenditures for buildings and structures - Include new or additions to dwellings, barns, shelters, milking parlors, hog houses, poultry houses, crop storage, silos, etc. (Exclude repairs) . . . . .		074	00	2. The Farmers' Home Administration . . . . .		082	00
3. Purchases of tractors and farm machinery (Report total cost minus trade-in values) . . . . .		075	00	3. Commodity Credit Corporation loans -		083	00
a. New . . . . .		076	00	a. On crops . . . . .		084	00
b. Used . . . . .		077	00	b. For crop storage facilities . . . . .		085	00
4. Purchases of all trucks and autos (Report total cost minus trade-in values) . . . . .		078	00	4. Insurance companies (Exclude premiums due) . . . . .		086	00
5. Purchases of breeding livestock and dairy cattle (Report all other livestock purchases in section 3b, item 2.) . . . . .		079	00	5. Commercial banks and savings banks (national or State banks, trust companies, etc.) . . . . .		087	00
6. All other agricultural capital purchases - Include moveable irrigation equipment and machinery such as pipes, siphons, nozzles, pumps, and engines; other motor driven vehicles such as airplanes or other special use vehicles and equipment that were used on this place. (Exclude capital purchases covered above) . . . . .		079	00	6. Individuals from whom you bought part or all of this acreage -		088	00
				a. Under a mortgage or deed of trust . . . . .		089	00
				b. Under a land purchase contract . . . . .		090	00
				7. Production credit associations . . . . .		091	00
				8. Other lenders -		100	00
				a. State and county lending agencies . . . . .		092	00
				b. Mortgage companies, real estate agents or dealers, savings and loan associations, agricultural credit corporations, credit unions, livestock loan companies, and Small Business Administrations, etc. . . . .		093	00
				9. Merchants and dealers, including cooperatives, mail order companies, farm machinery companies, and other manufacturers. (Exclude debts on 30-day accounts) for purchase of -		101	00
				a. Tractors and farm machinery, including repairs . . . . .		102	00
				b. Autos and trucks, including repairs, gasoline, oil, other fuel, feed, seed, fertilizer, livestock, poultry, and other purchases for the operation of this acreage from merchants and dealers, including building supplies, fencing, hardware, customwork, and similar purchases. . . . .		103	00
				10. Any other individuals, relatives, friends, landlords, estates, etc. (Exclude debts on 30-day accounts) . . . . .		104	00
				11. Unpaid bills for veterinary services, utilities, past due taxes or insurance premiums, and debts for other purposes relating to this acreage. (Include all debts on accounts you do not expect to pay in 30 days) . . . . .		105	00
SECTION 3B AGRICULTURAL OPERATING EXPENSES and other purchases for this place during 1988. Do not include depreciation, income taxes, cash rent; expenditures for the purchase of land, buildings, or machinery; expenditures for the farm dwelling including repairs, real estate taxes, insurance, and other items; also EXCLUDE EXPENSES PAID BY LANDLORDS, and value of items furnished by contractors.				SECTION 5 MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD DURING 1988			
		Total expenses					
		Dollars	Cents				
1. Expenditures for feed - grain, hay, silage, mixed feeds, concentrates, etc. . . . .		080	00	1. What was the total market value of farm products (crops, livestock, poultry, and products, etc.) sold from this place in 1988? INCLUDE THE VALUE OF THE LANDLORD'S AND/OR CONTRACTOR'S SHARE, estimating if necessary. Also include value of government CCC loans, but exclude sales of forest products. . . . .		106	00
2. Purchases of livestock and poultry other than breeding stock and dairy cattle (Report breeding stock and dairy cattle purchases in section 3A, item 5 above) . . . . .		081	00	2. If you rented or leased land from others on a share basis, what was the value of the landlord's share of the total sales reported in item 1 above? . . . . .		107	00
3. Purchases of fertilizer . . . . .		082	00				
4. Purchases of herbicides and pesticides . . . . .		083	00				
5. Expenditures for hired and contract labor (Report gross cash payments to employees, including paid family members, before deductions for Social Security, taxes, insurance premiums, etc. See information sheet.) . . . . .		084	00				
6. Purchases of gasoline, diesel fuel, LP gas, other fuel, motor oil, and grease for farm use only . . . . .		085	00				
7. Interest and service charges on:		086	00				
a. Farm real estate debt . . . . .		087	00				
b. Farm operating debt . . . . .		088	00				
8. Personal property taxes on livestock, machinery, and other farm production items (Report real estate taxes in section 3) . . . . .		089	00				
9. Insurance premiums for all types of crops, livestock, machinery, and buildings. (Include farm share for auto and truck insurance) . . . . .		090	00				
10. All other agricultural OPERATING expenditures such as machine hire, customwork, seeds, containers, water, transportation and marketing charges, utilities, upkeep of farm buildings, machinery and fences, drains and irrigation systems, feed drying and grinding, veterinary services and supplies, storage charges, lime and soil conditioners, and general business expenses. . . . .		091	00				

<p><b>SECTION 6 PRODUCTION CONTRACTS</b></p> <p>Did you have any contract to produce any crop, poultry, or livestock products in 1988? Do not include marketing only contracts. (See enclosed information sheet for definition.)</p> <p>108 <input type="checkbox"/> YES - Complete this section  <input type="checkbox"/> NO - Go to section 7</p> <p>1. Estimate the total market value of your production under contract (Report only for production moved off this place in 1988).          Specify items under contract: _____</p> <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width:80%;"></th> <th style="width:10%; text-align: center;">Dollars</th> <th style="width:10%; text-align: center;">Cents</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>109</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>2. How much did you receive for your production under contract? (Include any management fees received.)</p> <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width:80%;"></td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>3. What is your estimate of the cost of items and services provided to you under these production contracts?</p> <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width:80%;"></td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Dollars	Cents	109	\$	00		\$	00		\$	00	<p><b>SECTION 10A BUSINESS ASSETS OWNED BY THE FARM OPERATION</b></p> <p>(See enclosed information sheet.)</p> <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width:80%;"></th> <th style="width:10%; text-align: center;">None</th> <th style="width:10%; text-align: center;">Dollars</th> <th style="width:10%; text-align: center;">Cents</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Farm share of autos and trucks (percent farm use x total market value)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">None</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Tractors, farm machinery, tools, and equipment</td> <td style="text-align: center;">None</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Crops produced and stored and still owned on December 31, 1988. (Exclude crops under government CCC loans.)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">None</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>    a. On-farm</td> <td style="text-align: center;">None</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>    b. Off-farm</td> <td style="text-align: center;">None</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Beef, dairy, hogs, sheep, poultry, and other livestock (horses, mink, bees, fish, rabbits, etc.)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">None</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Purchased feed, seed, fertilizer, fuel, chemicals and other inputs on hand</td> <td style="text-align: center;">None</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. Stock in Federal land banks, production credit associations, and other farmer cooperatives</td> <td style="text-align: center;">None</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7. All other assets of this FARM OPERATION (cash, bonds, certificates of deposit, savings and checking accounts, and money owed to this operation, including crops and livestock sold for future payment.)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">None</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		None	Dollars	Cents	1. Farm share of autos and trucks (percent farm use x total market value)	None	\$	00	2. Tractors, farm machinery, tools, and equipment	None	\$	00	3. Crops produced and stored and still owned on December 31, 1988. (Exclude crops under government CCC loans.)	None	\$	00	a. On-farm	None	\$	00	b. Off-farm	None	\$	00	4. Beef, dairy, hogs, sheep, poultry, and other livestock (horses, mink, bees, fish, rabbits, etc.)	None	\$	00	5. Purchased feed, seed, fertilizer, fuel, chemicals and other inputs on hand	None	\$	00	6. Stock in Federal land banks, production credit associations, and other farmer cooperatives	None	\$	00	7. All other assets of this FARM OPERATION (cash, bonds, certificates of deposit, savings and checking accounts, and money owed to this operation, including crops and livestock sold for future payment.)	None	\$	00
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<p><b>SECTION 7 INCOME AND EXPENSES FROM OTHER FARM-RELATED SOURCES IN 1988.</b> Do not include income reported in section 6 and expenses reported in section 5. (See enclosed information sheet.)</p> <p>Report amount received before taxes</p> <p>1. INCOME</p> <p>a. Payments received by this operation for participation in FEDERAL FARM PROGRAMS and any DIRECT federal or state payment received in 1988. (Include deficiency payments, conservation reserve payments, disaster payments, etc. Exclude CCC loans.)</p> <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width:80%;"></td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>b. Gross income from ALL OTHER farm-related sources, customwork, machine hire, recreational services, boarding, lodging, lease of allotments, sale of forestry products, Christmas trees, gum for naval stores, and all other businesses or sources of income closely related to this agricultural operation. (Exclude gross cash rent and share payments.)</p> <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width:80%;"></td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>2. EXPENSES</p> <p>From ALL OTHER farm-related sources reported in items 1a and 1b above, enter the total estimated expenses paid by you and others in 1988. (Include all cash operating expenses, taxes, interest, insurances, etc. DO NOT include any expenses already reported in sections 3A and B.)</p> <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width:80%;"></td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		\$	00		\$	00		\$	00	<p><b>SECTION 10B HOUSEHOLD ASSETS</b></p> <p>Report for the farm operator, senior partner, or hired manager's household. (Do not include assets reported in section 10A above; see enclosed information sheet.)</p> <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width:80%;"></th> <th style="width:10%; text-align: center;">None</th> <th style="width:10%; text-align: center;">Dollars</th> <th style="width:10%; text-align: center;">Cents</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Total value of cash: checking, savings, and money market accounts; Certificates of Deposit; U.S. Savings Bonds and other bonds; and money owed to you</td> <td style="text-align: center;">None</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Corporate stock, cash surrender value of life insurance, and all other financial assets</td> <td style="text-align: center;">None</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Off-farm operator dwelling, if owned (Do not include value reported in section 2, item 2b.)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">None</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>    a. What was the estimated market value of this dwelling as of December 31, 1988?</td> <td style="text-align: center;">None</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>    b. What were the debts owed on this dwelling as of December 31, 1988?</td> <td style="text-align: center;">None</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Other assets owned and debts - Include real estate and businesses not part of this operation, such as farm input and processing enterprises, beauty shops, etc.; second/vacation homes and recreational vehicles; the household share of autos and trucks; and machinery and equipment for nonfarm uses, etc.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">None</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>    a. Estimated market value of these assets, as of December 31, 1988</td> <td style="text-align: center;">None</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>    b. 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Other assets owned and debts - Include real estate and businesses not part of this operation, such as farm input and processing enterprises, beauty shops, etc.; second/vacation homes and recreational vehicles; the household share of autos and trucks; and machinery and equipment for nonfarm uses, etc.	None	\$	00	a. Estimated market value of these assets, as of December 31, 1988	None	\$	00	b. Debts owed on these assets, as of December 31, 1988	None	\$	00							
	\$	00																																																			
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a. Estimated market value of these assets, as of December 31, 1988	None	\$	00																																																		
b. Debts owed on these assets, as of December 31, 1988	None	\$	00																																																		
<p><b>SECTION 8 NET CASH FARM INCOME OF PARTNERSHIPS ON THIS PLACE</b> (See enclosed information sheet under general information, item 2 for definition of operator within a partnership.)</p> <p>1. Was this place operated as a partnership in 1988?</p> <p>118 <input type="checkbox"/> YES - Complete this section  <input type="checkbox"/> NO - Go to section 9</p> <p>2. How many total partners were involved in this partnership operation in 1988 (including yourself)?</p> <p>119 _____</p> <p>3. What percent of the net farm income/losses (from sales and farm-related sources) was received by the OPERATOR as defined for this partnership? (See information sheet.)</p> <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width:80%;"></td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: center;">Less than 10 percent</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10 to 29 percent</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">30 to 49 percent</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">50 to 69 percent</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">70 percent and over</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		1	Less than 10 percent		2	10 to 29 percent		3	30 to 49 percent		4	50 to 69 percent		5	70 percent and over	<p><b>SECTION 9 REAL ESTATE TAXES</b></p> <p>Did you report owning any farm or ranch land in 1988? (Section 1, item 3)</p> <p>288 <input type="checkbox"/> YES - Complete this section (See enclosed information sheet.)  <input type="checkbox"/> NO - Go to section 10</p> <p>1. Report the number of acres of farm or ranch land shown on your 1988 Real Estate tax bill(s).</p> <p>118 _____ Acres</p> <p>2. What was the assessed value of farm and ranch land and buildings, and other improvements shown on your real estate tax bill(s) for 1988?</p> <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width:80%;"></th> <th style="width:10%; text-align: center;">Dollars</th> <th style="width:10%; text-align: center;">Cents</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>119</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>3. What was the total amount of farm and ranch real estate taxes (land, buildings, and other improvements) payable by you as shown on your real estate tax bill(s) for 1988?</p> <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width:80%;"></td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="width:10%; text-align: right;">00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Dollars	Cents	119	\$	00		\$	00																												
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	Dollars	Cents																																																			
119	\$	00																																																			
	\$	00																																																			

**SECTION 11 OFF-FARM INCOME DURING 1988 AND HOUSEHOLD SIZE** (See enclosed information sheet.) Report for the farm operator, senior partner, or hired manager's household.

1. How much did you and persons living in your household receive in 1988 from each of the following sources?

	None	Dollars	Cents
a. Cash wages, salaries, tips, military pay, commissions, piece-rate payments, and cash bonuses (report amount before deducting income taxes and other withholding items.)			
(1) Nonfarm jobs	<input type="checkbox"/>	200 \$	00
(2) Other farm and ranch work - Exclude custom work reported in section 7, item 1b.	<input type="checkbox"/>	207 \$	00
(3) Wages paid to household members for work on this place	<input type="checkbox"/>	208 \$	00
b. Operation of self-employment business (not reported in section 7) or professional practice. Report net after cash expenses (Net Cash Income)	<input type="checkbox"/>	209 \$	00
c. Retirement and/or disability			
(1) Social Security	<input type="checkbox"/>	210 \$	00
(2) Other public retirement or disability payments (government, military, or railroad)	<input type="checkbox"/>	211 \$	00
(3) Private pensions	<input type="checkbox"/>	212 \$	00
d. Public assistance, Supplemental Security Income, and unemployment compensation	<input type="checkbox"/>	213 \$	00
e. Interest and dividends	<input type="checkbox"/>	214 \$	00
f. Net income from estates or trusts, rental income from nonfarm properties, royalties for mineral leases. (Exclude one-time settlements.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	215 \$	00
g. Annuities, alimony, regular contributions from persons not living in the household, and money income from any other source	<input type="checkbox"/>	216 \$	00
h. Gifts or inheritance	<input type="checkbox"/>	217 \$	00
i. Net gain from sales of items such as real estate, machinery, stocks, allotments, and bonds (not included as part of this place)	<input type="checkbox"/>	218 \$	00

\* SIZE OF HOUSEHOLD

2a. How many persons were in your household on December 31, 1988? Include yourself (operator or senior partner) spouse, children, and others living in your household

2b. How many were under 16 years of age?

Number
219
220

**SECTION 12 OFF-FARM WORK AND EDUCATION** (See enclosed information sheet.)

NOTE: Answer column 1 for operator. Answer column 2 for spouse; if no spouse mark (X) box top of column 2.

1. Education - What was the highest grade (or year) of school ever completed? Mark (X) applicable box

Column 1	Column 2
REPORT FOR OPERATOR	REPORT FOR SPOUSE
224 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 8 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 9-11 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 12	281 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 8 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 9-11 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 12
4 <input type="checkbox"/> 13-14 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 15-16 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 or more	4 <input type="checkbox"/> 13-14 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 15-16 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 17 or more
225 1 <input type="checkbox"/> YES - Complete this column 2 <input type="checkbox"/> NO - If no for both, skip to section 13. If spouse is Yes, complete column 2	282 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse did not work off-farm
226 Specify _____	283 Specify _____
227 Specify _____	284 Specify _____
228 Specify _____	285 Specify _____
229 Specify _____	286 Specify _____
230 Specify _____	287 Specify _____
231 Specify _____	288 Specify _____
232 Specify _____	289 Specify _____
233 Specify _____	290 Specify _____
234 Specify _____	291 Specify _____
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236 Specify _____	293 Specify _____
237 Specify _____	294 Specify _____
238 Specify _____	295 Specify _____
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240 Specify _____	297 Specify _____
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243 Specify _____	300 Specify _____
244 Specify _____	301 Specify _____
245 Specify _____	302 Specify _____
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249 Specify _____	306 Specify _____
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339 Specify _____	396 Specify _____
340 Specify _____	397 Specify _____
341 Specify _____	398 Specify _____
342 Specify _____	399 Specify _____
343 Specify _____	400 Specify _____

2. Off-farm work - Did you or your spouse work for pay at an off-farm job during 1988? (Include self-employment business or professional work. Exclude exchange farm work.) If more than one off-farm job, describe the one at which the most hours were worked.

a. For whom did you or your spouse work? (Name of company, business, organization, or other employer.)

b. What kind of business or industry is this? (Public school, road construction, auto repair, State Labor Dept., farm, etc.)

c. What kind of work were you (or your spouse) doing? (Electrical engineering, stock clerk, typist, farm or ranch worker, etc.)

d. What were your (or your spouse's) most important activities or duties on the job? (Types, sell cars, operates a truck, finishes concrete, keeps accounts, etc.)

e. Were you (or was your spouse):

- Employee of another farm or ranch?
- Employee of a private company, business or individual, for wage, salary, or commission?
- Federal, State, local government, or school district employee?
- Self employed - operating an incorporated farm related business?
- Self employed - operating a nonincorporated farm related business?
- Self employed - operating an incorporated nonfarm related business or professional practice?
- Self employed - operating a nonincorporated nonfarm related business or professional practice?

3. How many hours per week were normally worked for pay at this off-farm job? \_\_\_\_\_ Hours

4. How many weeks per year were normally worked at this off-farm job? \_\_\_\_\_ Weeks

5. How many miles were traveled one way to work at this off-farm job? \_\_\_\_\_ Miles

COMPLETE COLUMN 2

**SECTION 13 REMARKS AND EXPLANATIONS**

**SECTION 14 PERSON COMPLETING THIS REPORT - Please print**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Area code \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

FORM 88-AAA (9-12-88) Page 5



SECTION A LAND IN FARM / RANCH							
For 2013, please report farm/ranch land owned, rented, or used by you, your spouse, or by the partnership, corporation or organization for which you are reporting. <b>(Include all cropland, idle land, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), pastureland, woodland, wasteland, farmstead, acres used for crop/livestock production facilities, and all other building sites associated with this operation, etc.)</b>							
<b>ACRES OPERATED</b>							
1. How many acres of farm/ranch land were <u>owned</u> ? .....	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>None</td> <td>+</td> <td>Number of Acres</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td></td> <td>0020</td> </tr> </table>	None	+	Number of Acres	<input type="checkbox"/>		0020
None	+	Number of Acres					
<input type="checkbox"/>		0020					
2. How many acres of farm/ranch land were <u>rented</u> or <u>leased from others</u> — ( <b>Exclude</b> land used on an animal unit month (AUM) or fee per head basis under a grazing permit.)							
a. for a fixed <u>cash rent</u> payment? .....	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>+</td> <td>0021</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/>	+	0021			
<input type="checkbox"/>	+	0021					
b. for a <u>flexible rent</u> payment? ( <b>Include</b> hybrid rental arrangements) .....	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>+</td> <td>0022</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/>	+	0022			
<input type="checkbox"/>	+	0022					
c. for a <u>share</u> of the crop or livestock production? ( <b>Exclude</b> hybrid rental arrangement where rent paid is based on a fixed cash payment plus some shared production.) .....	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>+</td> <td>0023</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/>	+	0023			
<input type="checkbox"/>	+	0023					
d. for <u>free</u> ? .....	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>+</td> <td>0024</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/>	+	0024			
<input type="checkbox"/>	+	0024					
3. How many acres of farm/ranch land were rented or leased <u>to others</u> ? ( <b>Include</b> land rented for cash, for a share of crop or livestock production, or rent free.) .....	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>-</td> <td>0025</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/>	-	0025			
<input type="checkbox"/>	-	0025					
<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>Total Acres</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>=</td> <td>0026</td> </tr> </table>		<b>Total Acres</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	=	0026	
<b>Total Acres</b>							
<input type="checkbox"/>	=	0026					
4. Then the TOTAL ACRES in this operation in 2013 were: (Total Items 1 + 2a + 2b + 2c + 2d - 3.) =							
<b>RENTED LAND</b>							
5. Including rent for land and/or buildings, what was the total <b>CASH RENT PAID</b> in 2013 by this operation? ( <b>Include</b> rent paid in 2013 for previous years and rent paid in advance. <b>Exclude</b> storage bins, to be reported in SECTION I, Item 20. <b>Exclude</b> grazing of livestock, to be reported in Item 6 below.) .....	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>None</td> <td>Dollars</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>0044</td> </tr> </table>	None	Dollars	<input type="checkbox"/>	0044		
None	Dollars						
<input type="checkbox"/>	0044						
6. Report any land this operation used (on a <b>per head</b> or <b>AUM</b> basis) that is administered either by: public or private agencies, industrial corporations, grazing associations, or rented from individuals on a short term grazing arrangement in 2013.							
a. In 2013, what were the total fees this operation paid for the use of <b>publicly owned</b> land on an AUM basis? ( <b>Include</b> fees paid for privately owned land administered by a public agency through exchange-of-use.) .....	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>0045</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/>	0045				
<input type="checkbox"/>	0045						
b. In 2013, how much did this operation spend on pasturing or grazing of livestock on <b>privately owned</b> land (railroads, another farm/ranch, etc.) used on a fee per head (AUM) or gain basis? .....	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>0046</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/>	0046				
<input type="checkbox"/>	0046						
7. Report any crop or livestock <b>SHARE RENT</b> payments in 2013.							
a. What was the estimated total MARKET VALUE of your landlord's share of <b>crop</b> production from this operation in 2013? .....	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>0184</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/>	0184				
<input type="checkbox"/>	0184						
b. What was the estimated total MARKET VALUE of your landlord's share of <b>livestock</b> production sold or removed from this operation in 2013? ( <b>Exclude</b> shared livestock production not part of a land rental arrangement.) .....	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>0276</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/>	0276				
<input type="checkbox"/>	0276						
8. What was the estimated market value of the land and buildings on the acres rented or leased <b>FROM OTHERS</b> on December 31, 2013? .....	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>0855</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/>	0855				
<input type="checkbox"/>	0855						

**[If land was rented from others in 2013, continue; otherwise go to Item 13.]**

9. Did your landlord participate in management decisions for this operation regarding land use and/or crop/livestock production? (If more than one landlord, consider the landlord from whom the most land is rented.)  
0053  Yes  No

10. Where does your landlord live relative to your rented land?  
 (If more than one landlord, consider the landlord from whom the most land is rented.)  
0054  
 1 Farm or rural area within the state (population of less than 10,000 people)  
 2 Urban area within the state (population of more than 10,000 people)  
 3 Out of state  
 4 Don't know

11. Is your landlord related to a current or former operator of this operation?  
 (If more than one landlord, consider the landlord from whom the most land is rented.)  
0055  Yes  No

12. Which of the following best describes your landlord's primary occupation in 2013?  
 (If more than one landlord, consider the landlord from whom the most land is rented.)  
0056  1 Farm or ranch work  2 Other  3 Retired  4 Don't know

13. Including rent for land and/or buildings, what was the total **CASH RENT RECEIVED** in 2013 for acres rented **TO OTHERS** by this operation? (Include rent received in 2013 for previous years, rent received in advance, and government payments received from those acres. **Exclude** grazing of livestock, to be reported in SECTION H, Item 3b) . . . . .  
0042  None 

Dollars	
0042	

14. For acres **SHARE-RENTED** to others, what was the total value of crop or livestock shares received in 2013 by this operation? (Include rent received in 2013 for previous years and government payments received from those acres.) . . . . .  
0043 

0043	
------	--

15. What was the estimated market value of the land and buildings on the acres rented or leased **TO OTHERS** on December 31, 2013? . . . . .  
0857 

0857	
------	--

**LAND USE AND CONSERVATION**

16. How many of the (item 4 page 2) total acres in this operation were:  
0058  None 

Acres	
0058	
0059	
0060	
0061	
0062	
0063	
0064	
0065	

a. Used to grow annual crops in 2013 but were in perennial cover in 2012? . . . . .  
 (i) Of the (item 16a) acres, how many have never been used for crop production before 2013? . . . . .  
0060

b. In perennial cover in 2013 but were used to grow annual crops in 2012? . . . . .  
0061

c. Under a conservation easement in 2013? . . . . .  
0062

(i) Of the (item 16c) acres, how many are grassland? . . . . .  
0063

d. Considered cropland in 2013? (Include land in government programs, fruit/nut/berry/nursery acres, and land planted to hay, including wild hay. **Exclude** CRP acres planted to trees.) . . . . .  
0064

e. Cropland covered under Federal crop insurance in 2013? . . . . .  
0065

f. Pasture covered under Federal crop insurance in 2013? (**Exclude** cropland reported in item 16e.) . . . . .  
0065

17. How many of the (item 16d) cropland acres did you:  
0066

a. Double crop (harvest two or more crops) in 2013? . . . . .  
0067

b. Harvest a crop in 2013 and plant a winter crop for harvest in 2014? . . . . .  
0068

c. Use no-till practices? . . . . .  
0069

d. Use conservation tillage practices? (**Exclude** no-till practices.) . . . . .  
0069

4

<b>SECTION B ACREAGE and PRODUCTION</b>				
1. Were any crops harvested from this operation or did this operation receive any income from these crops in 2013? <i>(Include your landlord's share and crops grown under contract. Exclude crops grown on land rented to others.)</i> 0104 <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> – Continue <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> – Go to Section C				
2. Report the acreage and production of crops harvested from this operation in 2013. Report quantity harvested in the unit specified, by crop. For income received in 2013, report the dollar amount this operation received from any year's production after subtracting marketing expenses. <i>(Exclude contract sales or removals and landlord's share of sales in column 5.)</i>				
1 CROP	2 How many acres were HARVESTED? (Acres)	3 What was the total production? <i>(Include landlord share and amount used on operation.)</i> (Total Amount)	4 How much of this operation's share of the total production was (will be) used on this operation? (Total Amount)	5 Cash or Open Market Sales <i>(from any year's production)</i> (Dollars)
<b>FIELD CROPS</b>				
Corn for grain . . . . .	0105	0106	Bu.	0108
Corn for silage or greenchop . . . . .	0109	0110	Tons	0112
Cotton, all types . . . . .	0113	0114	Lbs.	0116
Peanuts . . . . .	0117	0118	Lbs.	0120
Potatoes <i>(report sweet potatoes in all other crops)</i> . . . . .	0121	0122	Cwt.	0124
Rice . . . . .	0125	0126	Dry Cwt.	0128
Sorghum for grain or seed . . . . .	0129	0130	Bu.	0132
Sorghum for silage . . . . .	0133	0134	Tons	0136
Soybeans . . . . .	0137	0138	Bu.	0140
Tobacco, all types . . . . .	0141	0142	Lbs.	0144
<b>SMALL GRAINS</b>				
Barley for grain or seed . . . . .	0145	0146	Bu.	0148
Oats for grain or seed . . . . .	0149	0150	Bu.	0152
Wheat, all types, for grain or seed . . . . .	0153	0154	Bu.	0156
<b>DRY HAY CROPS</b>				
Hay, dry, alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures . . . . .	0157	0158	Tons	0160
Hay, dry, all others . . . . .	0161	0162	Tons	0164
<b>OTHER CROPS</b>				
Canola . . . . .	0165	0166	Lbs.	0168
Other oilseeds . . . . .	0169	0170	Lbs.	0172
Sugarcane or sugarbeets . . . . .	0173	0174	Tons	0176
Dry edible beans/peas/lentils . . . . .	0177			0185
Vegetables for processing . . . . .	0178			0186
All other vegetables and melons <i>(Exclude vegetables grown under glass or other protection.)</i> . . . . .	0179			0187
Fruits, nuts, and berries . . . . .	0180			0188
Nursery and greenhouse crops <i>(Include Christmas trees.)</i> . . . . .	0181			0189
All other crops not listed above <i>(Include sweet potatoes.)</i> . . . . .	0182			0190

**SEED TECHNOLOGY**

3. Was any alfalfa hay, canola, corn, cotton, sugarbeets, soybeans, or wheat harvested (item 2, column 2 on previous page) in 2013?  
 0101  **Yes – Continue**  **No – Go to Item 5**

Report the number of ACRES for each commodity	1 Genetically engineered (GE) herbicide-tolerant only seed varieties? (Acres)	2 GE Bt only varieties? (Acres)	3 GE Stacked gene varieties? (both Bt & herbicide tolerant) (Acres)	4 GE and non-GE drought tolerant varieties? (e.g. Genuity, DroughtGard, Optimum AQUAmax) (Acres)	5 Non-GE only seed varieties? (Acres)	6 All non-GE varieties for Identity Preserved (IP) Markets (Acres)
Corn for grain . . . . .	0192	0193	0194	0195	0196	0197
Cotton, all types . . . . .	0198	0199	0200	0201	0202	0203
Soybeans . . . . .	0204	0205		0207	0208	0209
Wheat, all types, for grain or seed . . . . .		0211			0214	0215
Hay, dry, alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures . . . . .	0216	0217	0218	0219	0220	0221
Canola . . . . .	0222	0223	0224	0225	0226	0227
Sugarbeets . . . . .	0228	0229	0230	0231	0232	0233

4. Was any of your Identity Preserved (IP) non-GE corn or soybean (reported in item 3, column 6) production rejected due to presence of GE material?  
 0102  **Yes – Continue**  **No – Go to Item 5**

	Bushels
(i) How many bushels of your IP non-GE corn were rejected? . . . . .	0234
(ii) How many bushels of your IP non-GE soybeans were rejected? . . . . .	0235

5. Was a decline in the effectiveness of glyphosate (e.g. Roundup) in controlling weeds on this operation observed during 2013?  
 0103  **Yes – Continue**  **No – Go to Item 6**

	Acres
a. On how many acres of this operation's cropland was there an observed decline in the effectiveness of glyphosate in 2013? . . . . .	0236

6. Which of the following weed management practices were used on this operation in 2013?

a. Use of multiple herbicides with different modes of action? . . . . .	0237	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	3 <input type="checkbox"/> No
b. Use of label recommended application rates at the appropriate time? . . . . .	0238	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	3 <input type="checkbox"/> No
c. Use of mechanical (e.g. tillage) and/or non-mechanical (e.g. hand weeding) measures? . . . . .	0239	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	3 <input type="checkbox"/> No
d. Rotation of crops? . . . . .	0240	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	3 <input type="checkbox"/> No
e. Planting of cover crops? . . . . .	0241	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	3 <input type="checkbox"/> No
f. Cleaning of equipment between fields? . . . . .	0242	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	3 <input type="checkbox"/> No
g. Maintenance of field borders? . . . . .	0243	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	3 <input type="checkbox"/> No

7. Were any of these (items 6a through 6g) practices adopted in response to:

a. Educational materials or discussions about ways to manage glyphosate resistance? . . . . .	0244	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	3 <input type="checkbox"/> No
b. A rebate defraying the cost of using an additional herbicide with another mode of action? . . . . .	0245	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	3 <input type="checkbox"/> No
c. The adoption of a NRCS Conservation Activity Plan under the Integrated Pest Management Herbicide Resistance Weed Conservation Plan? . . . . .	0246	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	3 <input type="checkbox"/> No

<b>SECTION C LIVESTOCK</b>				
1. Did you or anyone else have any livestock or poultry on this operation in 2013 (regardless of ownership), or did this operation receive any income from livestock, poultry, or livestock products in 2013? (Include your landlord's share & livestock/poultry grown for others on a contract basis. Exclude livestock/poultry grown or fed by someone else on a custom or contractual basis.) 0247 <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes – Continue</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No – Go to Section D</b>				
2. Report the total number of livestock, poultry, and livestock products, by type. For income received in 2013, report the total dollars this operation received in 2013 after subtracting marketing expenses. (Exclude contract sales or removals and landlord's share of sales in column 5.)				
1 LIVESTOCK	2 What was the total number of [column 1] sold or removed in 2013?	3 On Dec. 31, 2013, how many [column 1] regardless of ownership were on hand?	4 On Dec. 31, 2013, how many [column 3] were owned by this operation?	5 Cash or Open Market Sales (Dollars)
a. Beef cows (include beef heifers that have calved. Exclude heifers that have not calved, steers, calves, and bulls) . . . . .	0254	0255	0256	
b. Milk cows, including any dry cows (Exclude any heifers not yet freshened) . . . . .	0257	0258	0259	
(i) Milk produced in 2013 (report in cwt) . . . . .	0270	Cwt.		0510
c. Other cattle and calves (include heifers that have not calved, steers, calves, and bulls) . . . . .	0251	0252	0253	
d. Total cattle and calves (Items a + b + c) . . . . .	0260	0261	0295	
(i) Non-Breeding Stock . . . . .				0511
(ii) Breeding Stock . . . . .				0512
(1) Recognized gain/loss on sale of breeding cattle. (If loss was incurred, indicate w/ a negative sign) . . . . .				0535
e. All hogs and pigs . . . . .	0262	0263	0296	
(i) Non-Breeding Stock . . . . .				0508
(ii) Breeding Stock . . . . .				0509
(1) Recognized gain/loss on sale of breeding hogs. (If loss was incurred, indicate w/ a negative sign) . . . . .				0533
f. Egg layers . . . . .	0248	0249	0250	0526
(i) Chicken eggs (report in dozens) . . . . .	0266	Doz.		0514
g. Turkeys . . . . .	0268	0269	0298	0515
h. Broilers . . . . .	0264	0265	0297	0513
i. Other Poultry (include other chickens, ducks, emus, geese, hatchlings, ostriches, pigeons, pheasants, quail, poultry products, etc.) . . . . .	0274	0275	0299	0516
j. Non-Breeding Stock of other animals and other animal products (include sheep, goats, & their products (wool, mohair, & goat milk); horses, ponies, mules, burros, & donkeys; aquaculture; bees & honey; semen & embryo sales) . . . . .				0517
k. Breeding Stock of other animals . . . . .				0528
(i) Recognized gain/loss on sale of breeding stock. (If a loss was incurred, indicate w/ a negative sign) . . . . .				0534

**SECTION D OTHER OPERATIONS GROWING, FEEDING, or RAISING LIVESTOCK FOR THIS OPERATION**

1. Did any OTHER operation(s) grow, feed, or raise livestock or poultry owned by this operation under a contract arrangement in 2013 (you are the contractor)?

0271  **Yes – Continue**  **No – Go to Section E**

What livestock or poultry were being raised or fed for you? [List type below.]	Commodity Code <b>Office Use Only</b> (Code)	What was the market value of [type] on hand on contractee operations on Jan. 1, 2013? (Dollars)	What was the estimated market value (at placement) of [type] placed under contract DURING 2013? (Dollars)	How much was paid to contractees for labor, management, and reimbursement for expenses? (Dollars)	How much were your GROSS receipts from [type] sold or removed under this contract? (Dollars)	On Dec. 31, 2013 what was the market value of unsold [type] remaining under contract? (Dollars)
	0277	0278	0279	0280	0281	0282
	0283	0284	0285	0286	0287	0288
	0289	0290	0291	0292	0293	0294

**SECTION E MARKETING CONTRACTS**

1. Did this operation have **marketing** contracts for any commodities delivered<sup>1/</sup> in 2013?  
(A marketing contract is a verbal or written agreement reached before harvest of a crop or before completion of a livestock production stage, setting a price or pricing formula and market for the commodity.)

0300  **Yes – Continue**  **No – Go to Section F**

2. (If Yes) Report the commodities delivered in 2013 through **marketing** contract(s). List the quantities marketed and the final price received. (Include only the quantity owned by the operation. Exclude money received from contractors as reimbursement for expenses (report this in SECTION I). Exclude landlord shares (report in SECTION A) and marketing charges (report in SECTION I, Item 33).)

What commodities did this operation have MARKETING contracts for in 2013? [Write in commodities]	Commodity Code <b>Office Use Only</b> (Code)	What quantity of this commodity was delivered through this contract? <sup>1/</sup> (Exclude landlord's share.) (Quantity)	Unit Code (from list below) (Code)	What was (will be) the FINAL PRICE RECEIVED per unit by this operation for this commodity marketed under this contract? (Dollars & Cents)	What was the total dollar amount received in 2013 from this contract? (Total Dollars)
	0301	0304	0305	0306	0307
	0316	0319	0320	0321	0322
	0331	0334	0335	0336	0337
	0346	0349	0350	0351	0352
	0361	0364	0365	0366	0367
	0376	0379	0380	0381	0382
	1351	1354	1355	1356	1357
	1366	1369	1370	1371	1372
	1381	1384	1385	1386	1387
	1396	1399	1400	1401	1402
	1411	1414	1415	1416	1417
	1426	1429	1430	1431	1432

If more space is needed, please use a separate sheet of paper.  
<sup>1/</sup> "Delivered" includes commodities for which partial payment was made even if not physically delivered by December 31, 2013.

Unit	Code	Unit	Code	Unit	Code	Unit	Code
Pound	01	Bin	05	Dozen	09	Barrel	20
CWT	02	Box	06	Flat	10	Acre	22
Ton	03	Bale	07	Head / Bird	11	Animal Space	39
Bushels	04	Carton	08	Plant / Pot	13	Kilogram	40

<b>SECTION F PRODUCTION CONTRACTS &amp; CUSTOM FED LIVESTOCK</b>																																													
<p>1. Did this operation have <b>production</b> contracts for any commodities it produced in 2013?  <i>(A production contract is a verbal or written agreement setting terms, conditions, and fees to be paid by the contractor to the operation for the production of crops, livestock, or poultry. The contractor usually owns the commodity and often provides inputs.)</i></p> <p>0400 <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> – Continue      <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> – Go to Section G</p>																																													
<p>2. Report in the table below the commodities with <b>production</b> contracts in 2013. Also list the quantities removed under these contracts and the final fee received. <i>(Exclude money received to pay for production expenses. Expense reimbursements should be reported in SECTION I.)</i></p>																																													
What commodities did this operation have PRODUCTION contracts for in 2013? <i>[Write in commodities]</i>	Commodity Code <b>Office Use Only</b> (Code)	What quantity of this commodity was removed from the operation under this contract? <i>(Exclude landlord's share.)</i> (Quantity)	Unit Code (from list below) (Code)	What was (will be) the FINAL FEE RECEIVED per unit by this operation for producing this commodity under this contract? (Dollars & Cents)	What were the TOTAL FEES RECEIVED in 2013 under this contract? <sup>1/</sup> (Total Dollars)																																								
	0401	0404	0405	0406	0407																																								
	0416	0419	0420	0421	0422																																								
	0431	0434	0435	0436	0437																																								
	0446	0449	0450	0451	0452																																								
	1441	1444	1445	1446	1447																																								
	1456	1459	1460	1461	1462																																								
	1471	1474	1475	1476	1477																																								
	1486	1489	1490	1491	1492																																								
<p><i>If more space is needed, please use a separate sheet of paper.</i></p> <p><sup>1/</sup> Income received for commodities produced under contract in previous years should be recorded in Section G, Items 1a and 1a(i).</p>																																													
<table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Unit</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pound.....</td> <td>01</td> <td>Bin.....</td> <td>05</td> <td>Dozen.....</td> <td>09</td> <td>Barrel.....</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CWT.....</td> <td>02</td> <td>Box.....</td> <td>06</td> <td>Flat.....</td> <td>10</td> <td>Acre.....</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ton.....</td> <td>03</td> <td>Bale.....</td> <td>07</td> <td>Head / Bird.....</td> <td>11</td> <td>Animal Space.....</td> <td>39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bushels.....</td> <td>04</td> <td>Carton.....</td> <td>08</td> <td>Plant / Pot.....</td> <td>13</td> <td>Kilogram.....</td> <td>40</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Unit	Code	Unit	Code	Unit	Code	Unit	Code	Pound.....	01	Bin.....	05	Dozen.....	09	Barrel.....	20	CWT.....	02	Box.....	06	Flat.....	10	Acre.....	22	Ton.....	03	Bale.....	07	Head / Bird.....	11	Animal Space.....	39	Bushels.....	04	Carton.....	08	Plant / Pot.....	13	Kilogram.....	40
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<b>SECTION G ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE &amp; DEFERRED PAYMENTS</b>																																													
<p>1. For each item below, report income received or the amount owed to the operation on the dates specified.  <b>Exclude</b> crops in storage and not yet sold. <i>(Include cash sales, marketing contract sales, and production contract removals.)</i></p> <p><b>[NOTE: Crops in storage and not sold as of the reference date should be reported in Section J, Item 3a.]</b></p>																																													
<p>a. On January 1, 2013, what was the total dollar amount <b>owed</b> to this operation for all commodities produced and sold <i>(cash or contract)</i> <b>before</b> January 1, 2013? <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> 0685</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(i) How much did this operation receive from Item 1a during 2013? <input type="checkbox"/> 0675</p>																																													
<p>b. What was the total dollar amount owed to this operation on December 31, 2013, for all commodities produced, sold <i>(cash or contract)</i>, delivered, or removed under contract in 2013 and earlier years? <input type="checkbox"/> 0686</p>																																													

SECTION H GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS & OTHER FARM RELATED INCOME	
1. In 2013, did this operation receive or repay any Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) loans? 0560 <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> Yes – Continue <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> No – Go to Item 2	
a. In 2013, how much was received for all commodities placed under CCC loans? <i>(Include Austrian winter peas, barley, canola, rapeseed, corn, cotton, crambe, dry edible peas, flaxseed, honey, lentils, mohair, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, rice, safflower, sesame seed, small chickpeas, sorghum, soybeans, sugar, sunflower seed, and wheat.)</i> .....	None Dollars 0518
b. In 2013, what was the amount spent to repay all CCC loans? <i>(Exclude storage and service fees.)</i> .....	0519
<b>[NOTE: If any of the crops or livestock products redeemed from the CCC were sold in 2013, verify that these sales are recorded in Marketing Contracts (SECTION E, Item 2) or in Cash and Open Market Sales (SECTIONS B and C). If the redeemed crops were NOT sold in 2013, their value should be reported in SECTION J, Item 3a.]</b>	
2. In 2013, did this operation receive Federal, State or local farm program payments? 0563 <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup> Yes – Continue <input type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup> No – Go to Item 3	
a. In 2013, how much was received from the Direct Counter-cyclical Payment (DCP) programs? <i>(Include government payments received through a cooperative.)</i> .....	None Dollars 0525
(i) Of the total (Item 2a) dollars, what percent was for DCP direct payments?.....	None Percent of Item 2a 0520
(ii) Of the total (Item 2a) dollars, what percent was for DCP counter-cyclical payments?.....	0522
= 100%	
b. In 2013, how much was received from the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) programs? <i>(Include government payments received through a cooperative.)</i> .....	None Dollars 0530
(i) Of the total (Item 2b) dollars, what percent was for ACRE direct payments?.....	None Percent of Item 2b 0521
(ii) Of the total (Item 2b) dollars, what percent was for ACRE revenue payments?.....	0523
= 100%	
c. In 2013 how much was received in Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs), Marketing Loan Gains (MLGs)? <i>(Include government payments received through a cooperative.)</i> .....	None Dollars 0529
d. In 2013 how many acres were enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), and the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP)?.....	Acres 0028
(i) In 2013, what was the total dollar amount received from CRP, CREP, and WRP payments?.....	None Dollars 0477
e. In 2013, how many acres were enrolled in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Security Program (CSP), and the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSIP)?.....	None Acres 0029
(i) In 2013, what was the total dollar amount received from EQIP, CSP, and CSIP payments?.....	None Dollars 0478
f. In 2013, how much was received for Agricultural disaster payments? <i>(Include all disaster assistance and market loss payments. Exclude Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) payments, Federal crop insurance and other indemnity payments reported below.)</i> .....	None Dollars 0537
g. In 2013, how much was received for all other Federal, State, or local program payments? <i>(Include Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) payments; tobacco buyout payments, including lump sum payments; and other Federal, State or local programs. Exclude Federal crop insurance payments and other indemnity payments, to be reported below.)</i> .....	0545

3. In 2013, what was the total income received by you (the operator) and all partners for:

	None	Dollars
a. custom work, machine hire, and other agricultural services provided by this operation for farmers and others? <i>(Exclude if this is a separate business.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0546
b. grazing of livestock? <i>(Include payments for livestock pastured on a per-head basis, per-month basis, AUM basis, etc. Exclude contract arrangements previously reported.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0547
c. sales of all forest products? <i>(Include firewood, timber, etc. Exclude maple syrup and Christmas trees.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0549
		0550
d. sales of farm machinery and vehicles? <i>(farm share only)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	
e. proceeds from sales of farmland and other farm real estate owned by this operation only? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0558
(i) What was the recognized gain/loss on the (Item 3e) sales of farmland and other farm real estate? <i>(If a loss incurred, please indicate with a negative sign)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0559

(ii) How many acres were sold? . . . . .

Acres
0561

	None	Dollars
f. Federal crop and livestock insurance indemnity payments? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0552
g. other crop and livestock insurance indemnity payments? <i>(Exclude Federal payments reported in Item 3f.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0561
		0554
h. cooperative patronage dividends and refunds? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	
i. income from royalties or leases associated with energy production (e.g. natural gas, oil, and wind turbines)? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0555
j. all other farm related sources of income? <i>(Include: allotment or quota leases, animal boarding, sales of poultry litter and manure, income from recreational activities such as hunting, fishing, tourism, etc., State fuel tax refunds, tax refunds, real estate tax rebates for land preservation; refunds of marketing expenses; renting or leasing of livestock or machinery, sales of value-added goods such as cheese, cider, jams, etc. if these are not part of a separate business. Hedging profits and losses and if a loss was incurred, please indicate with a negative sign.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0556

4. In 2013, did the largest portion of this operation's total gross value of sales come from crops or livestock? *(If the operation had no sales in 2013, choose crops if the value of cropland on the operation exceeds the value of any livestock on the operation in 2013. Otherwise, choose livestock.)*

0562  CROP       LIVESTOCK

**SECTION I OPERATING & CAPITAL EXPENDITURES**

Report total production expenses paid by this operation in 2013. *(Include only expenses related to this operation. Exclude expenses NOT related to this farm/ranch; expenses of performing custom work FOR others, if this is a separate business; and expenses on land rented to others.)*

In 2013, how much was spent for (item) by (column) –

**OPERATING EXPENSES in 2013**

	None	OPERATOR(S) and PARTNER(S) (Dollars)	LANDLORD(S) (Dollars)	CONTRACTOR(S) (Dollars)
1. seeds, sets, plants, seed cleaning and treatments, transplants, trees and nursery stock? <i>(Include technology or other fees, seed treatments, and seed cleaning cost. Exclude items purchased for resale without additional growth.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0600	0601	0602
2. nutrients, fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners? <i>(Include cost of custom application and organic materials. Exclude potting mixes, vermiculite, and sterilized soil.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0606	0607	0608
3. biocontrols and agricultural chemicals for crops, livestock, poultry, and general farm use? <i>(Include biological pest controls and custom application costs.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0612	0613	0614
a. Of the (Item 3) dollars, how much was only for custom application? <i>(Include cost of chemicals used for custom application.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0618	0619	0620

In 2013, how much was spent for (item) by [column] –			
	OPERATOR(S) and PARTNER(S) (Dollars)	LANDLORD(S) (Dollars)	CONTRACTOR(S) (Dollars)
None			
4. livestock purchases of –			
a. breeding stock for beef cattle, dairy cattle, hogs and sheep? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0621	0622	0623
b. other cattle, calves, hogs and pigs? [Report other sheep in Item 4d.] .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0624	0625	0626
c. chickens and turkeys? [Report ducks and game birds in Item 4d.] .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0627	0628	0629
d. other livestock and poultry, including other sheep, lambs, bees, brooder fish, fingerlings, goats, etc.? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0630	0631	0632
5. leasing of livestock? (Include leasing of bees for pollination.) .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0633	0634	0635
6. purchased feed for livestock and poultry? (Include grain, hay, silage, mixed feeds, concentrates, etc.) .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0636	0637	0638
7. bedding and litter for livestock? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0639	0640	0641
8. medical supplies, veterinary and custom services for livestock? (Exclude manure disposal. Include artificial insemination (AI), branding, breeding fees, castrating, custom feed processing, hormone injections, performance testing, pregnancy testing, shearing, sheep shearing, etc.) .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0642	0643	0644
9. purchases for the farm business of –			
a. all fuels, oils and lubricants? (total of 9a(i) through 9a(v) must equal Item 9a.) .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0663	0664	0665
(i) diesel fuel? (Include biodiesel.) .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0645	0646	0647
(ii) gasoline and gasohol? (Include ethanol blends.) .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0648	0649	0650
(iii) natural gas? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0651	0652	0653
(iv) LP gas (propane, butane)? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0654	0655	0656
(v) oils and lubricants? (Include grease, hydraulic fluids, motor oils, transmission fluids, etc.) .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0657	0658	0659
(vi) all other fuel? (Include coal, fuel oil, kerosene, wood, etc.) .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0660	0661	0662
10. electricity for the farm business? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0675	0676	0677
11. purchased water for irrigation from off-farm suppliers? (Include irrigation assessments and fees.) .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0696	0697	0698
12. all other utilities, such as the farm share of telephone service, water purchased other than for irrigation, and Internet access? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0872	0873	0874
13. farm supplies, marketing containers, hand tools and farm shop power equipment? (Include expenses for temporary fencing. Exclude expenses for bedding/litter and permanent fencing.) .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0702	0703	0704
14. repairs, parts and accessories for motor vehicles, machinery and farm equipment? (Include repairs to drying equipment, tune-ups, overhauls, repairs to livestock equipment, replacement parts for machinery, tubes, tires, and accessories such as air conditioners, CB's, radios and hydraulic cylinders. Exclude irrigation equipment and pump repairs.) .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0708	0709	0710
15. maintenance and repair for the upkeep of all farm buildings, houses other than the operator's, land improvements, and all other farm/ranch improvements? (Include conservation improvements, corrals, feeding floors, feedlots, gravel, land drainage structures, tiling, trench, silos, wells, irrigation equipment and pump repairs and facilities. Exclude any new construction or remodeling.) .....	<input type="checkbox"/> 0714	0715	0716

In 2013, how much was spent for (item) by [column] –			
	OPERATOR(S) and PARTNER(S) (Dollars)	LANDLORD(S) (Dollars)	CONTRACTOR(S) (Dollars)
16. maintenance and repair of the operator's house if it was owned by the operation? ("Owned by the operation" means the house is — • recorded as an asset in farm record books, or • deeded as part of the farm.)	None <input type="checkbox"/>	0726 <input type="checkbox"/>	
17. insurance for the farm business? (Include all casualty insurance, hail insurance, and any other crop or livestock insurance; motor vehicle liability and blanket insurance policies. Include insurance on operator's dwelling, if owned by the operation. Exclude health insurance (reported in SECTION I, Item 26 or SECTION N, Item 2e(i) and other payroll insurance items.)	0729 <input type="checkbox"/>	0730 <input type="checkbox"/>	0731 <input type="checkbox"/>
a. Of the (Item 17) dollars how much was for Federal crop insurance?	0732 <input type="checkbox"/>	0733 <input type="checkbox"/>	0734 <input type="checkbox"/>
18. interest and fees paid on debts —			
a. secured by real estate? (Include interest paid on the operator's dwelling, if owned by the operation.)	0738 <input type="checkbox"/>	0739 <input type="checkbox"/>	
b. not secured by real estate? (Include service fees on CCC loan redemptions.)	0741 <input type="checkbox"/>	0742 <input type="checkbox"/>	
19. property taxes paid on —			
a. real estate (land and buildings)? (Include real estate taxes on the operator's dwelling, if owned by the operation.)	0744 <input type="checkbox"/>	0745 <input type="checkbox"/>	0746 <input type="checkbox"/>
b. livestock, machinery, and other farm production items?	0747 <input type="checkbox"/>	0748 <input type="checkbox"/>	0749 <input type="checkbox"/>
20. renting or leasing of tractors, vehicles, equipment or storage structures? (Include farm machinery, cars, trucks, irrigation equipment and other equipment. Exclude custom hire.)	0750 <input type="checkbox"/>	0751 <input type="checkbox"/>	
21. vehicle registration and licensing fees?	0753 <input type="checkbox"/>	0754 <input type="checkbox"/>	
22. depreciation expense claimed by this operation in 2013 for all capital assets? (If partnership, include amounts claimed by all partners in this operation. Estimate from 2012 if necessary.)	0756 <input type="checkbox"/>		
a. Of the (Item 22) dollars, how much was claimed for breeding livestock?	0757 <input type="checkbox"/>		
23. CASH WAGES paid to hired farm and ranch labor? (Include cash wages, incentives and bonuses; payments to corporate officers and paid family members, including yourself and other operators if they received a wage. Exclude wages paid for custom and contract work, wages paid for housework, Social Security on the owner-operator, withdrawals for living expenses, employer's share of Social Security and unemployment taxes, health and life insurance, pensions or retirement plans, and Worker's Compensation.)	0758 <input type="checkbox"/>	0759 <input type="checkbox"/>	0760 <input type="checkbox"/>
24. Of the (Item 23) dollars, how much salary or wage was paid to — (total 24a + 24b + 24c + 24d + 24e must equal Item 23)			
a. you (the principal operator)?	0764 <input type="checkbox"/>	0765 <input type="checkbox"/>	0766 <input type="checkbox"/>
b. your (the principal operator's) spouse? (Even if your spouse is an operator, include his/her wages here.)	0767 <input type="checkbox"/>	0768 <input type="checkbox"/>	0769 <input type="checkbox"/>
c. other members of your (the operator's) household? (Even if your other household members are operators, include their wages here.)	0574 <input type="checkbox"/>	0575 <input type="checkbox"/>	0576 <input type="checkbox"/>
d. other operators (outside the operator's household)? (Those persons responsible for the day-to-day management decisions for this operation.)	0770 <input type="checkbox"/>	0771 <input type="checkbox"/>	0772 <input type="checkbox"/>
e. all other paid farm and ranch labor?	0773 <input type="checkbox"/>	0774 <input type="checkbox"/>	0775 <input type="checkbox"/>

In 2013, how much was spent for (item) by [column] –			
	OPERATOR(S) and PARTNER(S) (Dollars)	LANDLORD(S) (Dollars)	CONTRACTOR(S) (Dollars)
25. payroll taxes for hired labor? (Include employer's share of Social Security and unemployment taxes. Include any amounts the farm paid for farm workers that are part of your (the operator's) household.)	0705	0706	0707
a. What percent of the (Item 25) dollars was for household members?	Percent 0788		
26. benefits for hired labor? (Include employer's share of health insurance, pension or retirement plans, Worker's Compensation, etc. Include any amounts the farm paid for farm workers that are part of your (the operator's) household.)	0915	0916	0917
a. What percent of the (Item 26) dollars was for household members?	Percent 0790		
27. contract labor? (Include expenses for labor, such as harvesting of fruit, vegetables, berries, etc. performed on a contract basis by a contractor, crew leader, cooperative, etc. Exclude contract work for building construction, repairs, or farm improvements, and payments to other operations that fed/raised livestock under contract FOR this operation.)	0782	0783	0784
28. custom work such as — (Custom work is work performed by machines & labor hired as a unit.)			
a. hauling? (Include all custom grain, livestock, milk, manure, and other custom hauling.)	0776	0777	0778
b. all other custom work done on this operation? (Report custom livestock services in Item 8.)	0791	0792	0793
29. The cash value of all commodities and NON-CASH PAYMENTS for farm work provided to:			
a. workers who were members of your (the operator's) household? (Include value of a percentage of crops, calves, etc. Exclude operator payments or draws.)	0797		
b. workers who were NOT members of your (the operator's) household? (Include feed, fuel, housing, meals, utilities, vehicles for personal use, etc. Exclude home gardens, unless expenses were recorded previously. Exclude partner payments or draws.)	0798		
30. The market value of commodities produced and used on this operation for home consumption? (Exclude any commodities provided as payment to household members for farm work reported in Item 29a.)	0799		
a. What percent of the (Item 30) dollars was for livestock and livestock products?	Percent 0800		
31. professional or farm management services such as record keeping, accounting, tax and business planning, farm product advice, conservation practices, etc.?	Dollars 0801		
32. general business expenses? Specify General Business Expenses & Amounts:	0804	0805	0806
33. Marketing and storage expenses incurred by this operation? (Include check-off, commissions, storage, inspection, ginning, etc. Include marketing expenses for contract sales.)	0868	0869	0870

**In 2013, how much was spent for (item) by (column) –**

	OPERATOR(S) and PARTNER(S) (Dollars)	LANDLORD(S) (Dollars)	CONTRACTOR(S) (Dollars)
<b>CAPITAL EXPENSES in 2013</b>			
34. improvements on land such as land preparation, irrigation improvements, well drilling, ponds, feedlots, trench silos, lagoons, new fences, etc.? <i>(Exclude moveable equipment.)</i> . . . . .	None <input type="checkbox"/> 0807	<input type="checkbox"/> 0808	<input type="checkbox"/> 0809
35. new construction and remodeling of dwellings <i>(excluding the operator's dwelling, barns, buildings, hog houses, poultry houses, milk barns, storage facilities, sheds, silos, etc.? (Exclude repairs and maintenance.)</i> . . . . .	None <input type="checkbox"/> 0810	<input type="checkbox"/> 0811	<input type="checkbox"/> 0812
36. new construction or remodeling of the operator's dwelling, if owned by the operation? . . . . .	None <input type="checkbox"/> 0813		
Report the <b>TOTAL NET COST</b> (after deducting the value of trade-ins, rebates & discounts) of the following items purchased in 2013 for the farm/ranch:			
37. Cars – <i>(Include new and used.)</i> . . . . .	None <input type="checkbox"/>	Percent for farm/ranch use <input type="checkbox"/> 0817	Dollars <input type="checkbox"/> 0816
38. Trucks – <i>(Include new and used trucks, pickups, sport utility vehicles, vans, campers and buses.)</i> . . . . .	None <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 0819	<input type="checkbox"/> 0818
39. Tractors – <i>(Include new and used.)</i> . . . . .	None <input type="checkbox"/>		Dollars <input type="checkbox"/> 0820
40. Self-propelled equipment – <i>(Include implements and self-propelled equipment for livestock, dairy, or poultry production. Exclude tractors.)</i> . . . . .	None <input type="checkbox"/>		Dollars <input type="checkbox"/> 0821
41. Other farm machinery, non-self-propelled farm equipment, pumps, and capital equipment for crop or livestock production. <i>(Include farm share only.)</i> . . . . .	None <input type="checkbox"/>		Dollars <input type="checkbox"/> 0822
42. Office equipment, furniture, and computers that were placed on a depreciation schedule. . . . .	None <input type="checkbox"/>		Dollars <input type="checkbox"/> 0823
43. Farmland and other farm real estate for expanding this operation. . . . .	None <input type="checkbox"/>	Acres <input type="checkbox"/> 0802	Dollars <input type="checkbox"/> 0803
44. All other capital expenditures. <i>(Include all other capital expenditures that were placed on a depreciation schedule.)</i> . . . . .	None <input type="checkbox"/>		Dollars <input type="checkbox"/> 0824
Specify Other Capital Expenditures & Amounts: <input type="text"/>			
45. What other expenses did this operation have in 2013 that have not been recorded? <i>(Include potting soil.)</i> . . . . .	None <input type="checkbox"/> 0825	<input type="checkbox"/> 0826	<input type="checkbox"/> 0827
Specify Other Expenses & Amounts: <input type="text"/>			

SECTION J FARM ASSETS	
1. What was the MARKET VALUE of the following assets OWNED by this operation on December 31, 2013: ( <i>Include owned assets on rented land.</i> )	
	None <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Dollars</span>
a. farm operator's dwelling, if <b>owned by the operation</b> ? ( <i>Owned by the operation means the house is recorded as an asset in farm record books or deeded as part of the farm.</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/> 0850
b. all other dwellings?	<input type="checkbox"/> 0851
c. all other farm buildings and structures? ( <i>Include barns, cribs, grain bins, greenhouses, silos, storage sheds, etc.</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/> 0852
d. orchard trees and vines, nursery trees, and trees grown for woody crops?	<input type="checkbox"/> 0853
e. land? ( <i>Include land rented to others. Exclude houses, buildings, orchard trees and vines, and trees grown for woody crops.</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/> 0854
2. What was the ESTIMATED MARKET VALUE of the following on December 31, 2013:	
a. trucks and cars <b>owned</b> by the operation? ( <i>Include farm share only.</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/> 0852
b. tractors, machinery, tools, equipment and implements <b>owned</b> by the operation?	<input type="checkbox"/> 0853
c. stock in farm cooperatives and the Farm Credit System?	<input type="checkbox"/> 0854
For each item below, report the MARKET VALUE(S) of the assets owned by the operation on the dates specified.	
3. What was the ESTIMATED MARKET VALUE for the farm share of [item] on —	None <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Beginning of Year JAN. 1, 2013? (Dollars)</span> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">End of Year DEC. 31, 2013? (Dollars)</span>
a. crops owned and stored on or off this operation? ( <i>Include crops stored at co-op or gin warehouse, specialty crops, fruit storage, hay, silage, and nursery and greenhouse products not in the ground. Exclude crops under CCC loans.</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/> 0858 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">0859</span>
b. breeding livestock <b>owned</b> by and <b>located</b> on or off this operation? ( <i>Include aquaculture, bees, cattle, equine, hogs, mink, poultry, sheep, etc., kept for breeding purposes. Exclude livestock being produced under contract on another operation (reported in Section F).</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/> 0863 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">0864</span>
c. non-breeding livestock <b>owned</b> by and <b>located</b> on or off this operation? ( <i>Include aquaculture, bees, cattle, equine, hogs, mink, poultry, sheep, etc., kept for non-breeding purposes. Exclude livestock being produced under contract on another operation (reported in Section F).</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/> 0876 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">0877</span>
d. production inputs <b>owned</b> by this operation, such as processed feed, fertilizer, chemicals, fuels, parts, purchased seed and other supplies?	<input type="checkbox"/> 0878 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">0879</span>
e. production inputs <b>already used</b> by this operation for cover crops or crops planted but not yet mature for harvest (also known as sunk costs), or the value of inputs used for production contracts that have yet to be delivered?	<input type="checkbox"/> 0880 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">0881</span>
<b>LIQUID ASSETS</b>	
4. What was the ESTIMATED MARKET VALUE of all other farm assets <b>not previously listed</b> on December 31, 2013? ( <i>Include money owed to this operation (except money owed from commodity sales), cash certificates of deposit, savings and checking accounts, hedging account balances, government payments due, insurance indemnity payments due, balance of land contract sales, and any other farm assets not reported earlier. Exclude any personal debt owed to the operator(s).</i> )	None <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">DEC. 31, 2013 (Dollars)</span>
	<input type="checkbox"/> 0887

**SECTION K FARM DEBT**

1. Was debt used in funding the operation of this farm/ranch in 2013, including any loans obtained in earlier years? *(Include seasonal production and other loans taken and repaid during 2013.)*  
 1080  **Yes – Continue**  **No – Go to Section L**

2. What was the total amount of all farm business loans **taken out** and **fully repaid** in 2013? *(Include seasonal production and other loans.)* .....  None  Dollars

3. To estimate the financial position of farms correctly and their ability to service debt and to categorize debt by types, we need to list loans this operation had on December 31, 2013, including any line of credit. *(Include farm/ranch loans, debt on the operator's house if owned by the operation, and multi-purpose loans used for both farm and non-farm purposes. Exclude CCC commodity loans and any loans used exclusively for non-farm purposes.)*

1 Who is the lender?  [From Lender Codes Below.] (Code)	2 What was the balance owed on Dec. 31, 2013 including outstanding principal plus unpaid interest?  (Dollars)	3 What was the interest rate on Dec. 31, 2013?  [Report in hundredths of a percent. Example: 9% = 09.00] (Percent)	4 What is the type of loan?  [From Loan Type Codes Below.] (Code)	5 What year was it obtained?  (Year)	6 What is the original term of the loan?  (Number of Years)	7 What percent is for operating expenses, capital expenditures, or other expenses of the farm operation?  (Percent)	8 What is the primary farm purpose of this loan?  [From Loan Purpose Codes Below.] (Code)	9 Is this loan a: 1 fixed rate loan? OR a variable/adjustable rate loan repaid: 2 monthly? 3 quarterly? 4 annually? 5 more than annually? (Code)
1001	1002	1003	1004	1005	1008	1006	1007	1009
1010	1011	1012	1013	1014	1017	1015	1016	1018
1019	1020	1021	1022	1023	1026	1024	1025	1027
1028	1029	1030	1031	1032	1035	1033	1034	1036
1037	1038	1039	1040	1041	1044	1042	1043	1045

*If more space is needed, please use a separate sheet of paper.*

Lender Codes (Column 1)		Lender Codes (Column 1) (continued)		Loan Purpose Codes (Column 8)	
Lender	Code	Lender	Code	Purpose	Code
Farm credit system	1	Any other individuals	14	Purchased real estate (land & its attachments)	1
USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA)	2	Any other lenders	15	➢ farm and home improvements	
Small Business Administration (SBA)	3	Credit cards	16	➢ building construction	
State & county government lending agencies	4	Farmer Mac	17	➢ construction of livestock and poultry facilities	
Savings and loan associations, residential mortgage lenders	5	Credit Union	18	➢ grove development and rehabilitation	
Commercial banks	6	Other debts (such as unpaid bills, etc.)	19	Purchase feeder livestock	2
Life insurance companies	7			Purchase other livestock	3
Implement dealers and financing corporations	8			Other current operating expenses	4
Input suppliers	9			➢ current crop production	
Co-ops and other merchants	10			➢ care and feeding livestock including poultry	
Contractor	11			➢ labor, feed, seed, fertilizer, grove caretaking, repair and maintenance	
Individuals from whom any land in this operation was bought under a mortgage or deed of trust	12			Farm machinery and equipment	5
Individuals from whom any land in this operation was bought under a land purchase contract	13			Debt consolidation	6
				Other	7

4. If you had farm loans in addition to the five reported in Item 3, what is the total amount of debt from these loans owed on December 31, 2013? *(Include farm/ranch loans and debt on the operator's house if it is owned by the operation. Exclude any loans exclusively for non-farm purposes that are secured by assets of the farm/ranch.)* .....  None  Dollars

5. How much of the total debt owed on December 31, 2013 (reported in items 3 and 4 above), was for the operator's dwelling? *(If the operator's dwelling is owned by the operation debt should be included here and above. Exclude operator's dwelling if not owned by the operation.)* .....

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**SECTION L FARM MANAGEMENT and USE OF TIME**

1. In 2013, how many owners of this operation were there? (**Exclude** landlords, contractors, and lending institutions holding farm debt. **Include** yourself if you have an ownership interest.) . . . . .

Number
1246

a. What percent of the ownership interest did you (the operator) and your household hold? (**Exclude** relatives not living in your household.) . . . . .

Percent
1248

2. In 2013, what was this operation's status for tax purposes?

1240  Family or individual operation (**Exclude** partnerships and corporations.)

2  Legal partnership operation (**Include** family partnerships.)

**➔** a. Is this partnership registered under State law? . . . . . 1204  Yes  No

Number
1232

**➔** b. How many partners are there in this operation? . . . . .

3  C-Corporation

4  S-Corporation

5  Other (**Include** estates, trusts, cooperatives, grazing associations, etc.)

3. Was this operation organized as a Limited Liability Company (LLC) under State law? . . . . . 1202  Yes  No

4. In 2013, did any households, other than your (the principal operator's) household, share in the net farm income of this business? (*Sharing can occur by receiving a share of profits/losses or, if incorporated, receiving corporate dividends.*)

1225  Yes - Continue  No - Go to Item 5

Number
0976

a. How many other households shared in the net income of the farm business? . . . . .

5. Is this operation either a C-Corporation or an LLC that chose to file as a C-Corporation in 2013?

1226  Yes - Go to Item 5a  No - Go to Item 5b

a. How much did you (the principal operator) and your household receive in corporate dividends from this farming operation in 2013? (*If your operation is an LLC that elected to file for tax purposes as a C-Corporation, consider this as income here.*) [After answering, skip Item 5b and proceed to Item 6.] . . . . .

Dollars
0975

b. What percent of net income (whether profit or loss) were you (the operator) and your household entitled to receive from this farming operation in 2013? (*If your operation is an LLC that elected to report income for tax purposes as a pass-through, consider this as income here.*) . . . . .

Percent
0974

6. In 2013, how many operators (individuals) were involved in the day-to-day decisions for this operation? (*Enter the number of operators, including the operator named on the front of this form, and family members if they are also operators. Exclude family members unless they make day-to-day decisions for the operation. Exclude hired workers unless they are a hired manager.*) . . . . .

Number
1200

7. Did you (the principal operator) have a spouse at any point during 2013?

1205  Yes - Continue  No - Go to Item 9

8. Did your spouse make day-to-day decisions for this farm/ranch at any point during 2013? [*If yes, the principal operator's spouse should be included in Item 6 above.*] . . . . . 1209  Yes  No

9. Answer the following questions for up to three primary operators of this operation as of **December 31, 2013**.  
*(If one of the operators is the principal operator's spouse and makes day-to-day decisions, record his/her information under operator 2.)*

	Principal Operator	Operator 2	Operator 3
a. Full name of operator.....			
b. Sex of operator.....	1243 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Male 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Female	1263 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Male 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Female	1283 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Male 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Female
c. What was the Operator's age on December 31, 2013?.....	1242 <input type="text"/> years	1262 <input type="text"/> years	1282 <input type="text"/> years
d. In what year did the operator begin to operate ANY farm?.....	1241 <input type="text"/>	1261 <input type="text"/>	1281 <input type="text"/>

**USE OF TIME – For items 10-12, please answer for each of the three-month periods during 2013.**

10. On average, for each of the three-month periods during 2013, how many paid and unpaid hours per week of work and management time did —

a. you (the principal operator) —

	None	Jan - Mar Hours / Week	April - June Hours / Week	July - Sept Hours / Week	Oct - Dec Hours / Week
(i) work for this farm/ranch <b>without</b> paying yourself a wage or salary?.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	0480	0481	0482	0483
(ii) work for this farm/ranch for a wage or salary?.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	0484	0485	0486	0487
(iii) operate another business other than this farm/ranch? <b>(Include operating another farm/ranch. Exclude commuting time.)</b> .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	1091	1092	1093	1094
(iv) work at other employment off this farm/ranch? <b>(Exclude commuting time.)</b> .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	0488	0489	0490	0491
(v) spend otherwise?.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	0492	0493	0494	0495
<b>TOTAL – Items 10a(i) through 10a(v) should total 168 hours for each three month period.</b>		<b>168</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>168</b>

b. your spouse (the principal operator's) —

	None	Jan - Mar Hours / Week	April - June Hours / Week	July - Sept Hours / Week	Oct - Dec Hours / Week
(i) work for this farm/ranch <b>without</b> being paid a wage or salary?.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	0580	0581	0582	0583
(ii) work for this farm/ranch for a wage or salary?.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	0584	0585	0586	0587
(iii) operate another business other than this farm/ranch? <b>(Include operating another farm/ranch. Exclude commuting time.)</b> .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	1095	1096	1097	1098
(iv) work at other employment off this farm/ranch? <b>(Exclude commuting time.)</b> .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	0588	0589	0590	0591
(v) spend otherwise?.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	0592	0593	0594	0595
<b>TOTAL – Items 10b(i) through 10b(v) should total 168 hours for each three month period.</b>		<b>168</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>168</b>

11. On average, for each of the three-month periods during 2013, how many hours per week of work and management time did —

a. Other members of your (the operator's) household, and all other operators (excluding the principal operator and spouse) work on this farm/ranch **without** receiving a wage or salary?  None

Jan - Mar Hours / Week	April - June Hours / Week	July - Sept Hours / Week	Oct - Dec Hours / Week
1061	1062	1063	1064

b. Other members of your (the operator's) household, and all other operators (excluding the principal operator and spouse) work on this farm/ranch **for** a wage or salary?  None

Jan - Mar Hours / Week	April - June Hours / Week	July - Sept Hours / Week	Oct - Dec Hours / Week
1065	1066	1067	1068

(Example: If the operation had 2 other salaried operators who averaged 40 paid hours per week during Jan - Mar, report 80 for column 1 of 11b.)

12. On average, for each of the three-month periods during 2013, how many hours per week did all other not previously reported farm/ranch labor work —

a. without receiving a wage or salary?  None  
(Exclude custom hire and contract labor.)

Jan - Mar Hours / Week	April - June Hours / Week	July - Sept Hours / Week	Oct - Dec Hours / Week
0840	0841	0842	0843

b. for a wage or salary?  None  
(Exclude custom hire and contract labor.)

Jan - Mar Hours / Week	April - June Hours / Week	July - Sept Hours / Week	Oct - Dec Hours / Week
0859	0860	0861	0862

(Example: If the operation had 10 hired workers (not operators, not household members, not custom or contract labor) who averaged 40 paid hours per week during Jan - Mar, report 400 for column 1 of 12b.)

**INTERNET USE**

13. Did you use the internet in the farm business in 2013?  
<sup>1233</sup>  1 Yes - Continue  3 No - Go to Item 14

a. Which one of the following was the primary type of Internet connection you used in 2013?  
<sup>1234</sup>  1 Dial-up  4 Wireless  
 2 DSL  5 Satellite  
 3 Cable  6 Other

14. Did you use a smart phone (Blackberry, iPhone, etc.) in 2013?  
<sup>1235</sup>  1 Yes - Continue  3 No - Go to Item 16

15. Thinking of all the time you spent using a smart phone for your farm business in 2013, what percent did you spend on:

	Percent
a. Gathering farm-related information, such as crop reports or USDA program and application information? .....	1236
b. Buying or selling farm goods, commodities, products, or services? .....	1237
c. Communicating with farm business associates such as farm owners, farm managers, business partners, cooperative associations, other farmers, bankers, brokers, etc.? .....	1238

16. Did you use GPS in your on-farm production activities in 2013? <sup>1239</sup>  1 Yes  3 No

**DIRECT SALES**

17. During 2013, did you produce, raise, or grow any commodities for human consumption that this operation sold directly to:

a. Individual consumers? (*Include sales from roadside stands, farmers markets, pick your own, door to door, Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs). Exclude non-edible products such as Christmas trees and flowers, craft items, and processed products such as jellies, sausages, and hams.*) ..... 1151 1  Yes 3  No

b. Retail outlets and regional distributors that sold directly to individual consumers? (*Include restaurants and local food aggregators.*) ..... 1152 1  Yes 3  No

c. Institutions such as schools and hospitals that provide dining services to consumers? ..... 1153 1  Yes 3  No

[If you answered YES to 17a, 17b, or 17c, continue; otherwise go to Item 20.]

18. In 2013, how much was received for the cash market, open market, or marketing contract sales of [column] sold: (*Exclude commodities produced under production contracts.*)

	Crop Commodities Dollars	Livestock Products and Livestock Commodities Dollars
a. directly to consumers at farmers markets? .....	1154	1159
b. directly to consumers from on-farm stores, u-pick, road-side stands, CSA's? .....	1155	1160
c. to a local retail outlet such as a restaurant or grocery store? .....	1156	1161
d. to a regional distributor such as a food hub? .....	1157	1162
e. to a local institutional outlet such as a school or hospital? .....	1158	1163

19. During 2013 did you produce, raise, or grow any commodities for human consumption under a **production contract** for a local retail outlet or a local institution? (*Include restaurants, grocery stores, schools, hospitals, etc.*) ..... 1164 1  Yes 3  No

20. During 2013 did you produce, raise, or grow any commodities **NOT USED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION** that this operation sold directly to individual consumers, or retail outlets and regional distributors that sold directly to individual consumers? (*Include hay, nursery commodities, Christmas trees, horses, etc.*) ..... 1165 1  Yes - Continue 3  No - Go to Item 22

21. What was the gross value received for the (item 20) nonfood direct sales in 2013? ..... Dollars 1166

**FARM PLANNING & SUCCESSION**

22. Do you (the principal operator) plan to retire from farm work within the next 5 years? ..... 1171 1  Yes 3  No

23. Do you have a succession plan for your farm operation? ..... 1172 1  Yes - Continue 3  No - Go to Item 25

24. Is the successor in your succession plan:

a. identified? ..... 1173 1  Yes - Continue 3  No - Go to Item 25

b. a family member? ..... 1174 1  Yes - Continue 3  No - Continue

c. currently involved in the farming operation? ..... 1175 1  Yes - Continue 3  No - Continue

25. Which one of the following best describes what you plan on doing with your farm operation after you retire? ..... 1176

1  Rent the farm or ranchland to someone else.

2  Sell the farm operation including the farm or ranchland.

3  Turn management and operation of the farm over to someone else but retain some ownership.

4  Other - Specify: \_\_\_\_\_ Office Use Only 2001

SECTION M FARM OPERATOR & HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS					
<p><b>[NOTE: Please answer the following questions for yourself (the principal operator) and your spouse, if you reported one in Section L, Item 7.]</b></p>					
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Principal Operator</th> <th>Spouse</th> </tr> </thead> </table>	Principal Operator	Spouse		
Principal Operator	Spouse				
<p>1. Are you and your spouse of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin or background, such as Mexican, Cuban, or Puerto Rican, regardless of race? .....</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>1219</td> <td> <b>Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin</b>                      1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 <input type="checkbox"/> No                 </td> <td>1220</td> <td> <b>Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin</b>                      1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 <input type="checkbox"/> No                 </td> </tr> </table>	1219	<b>Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin</b> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 <input type="checkbox"/> No	1220	<b>Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin</b> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 <input type="checkbox"/> No
1219	<b>Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin</b> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 <input type="checkbox"/> No	1220	<b>Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin</b> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<p>2. What is your and your spouse's race? .....</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2"> <b>Mark one or more.</b>                      1223 <input type="checkbox"/> White                      1217 <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American                      1213 <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native. Specify tribe:  <input type="text"/>                      1215 <input type="checkbox"/> Asian                      1221 <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander                 </td> <td colspan="2"> <b>Mark one or more.</b>                      1224 <input type="checkbox"/> White                      1218 <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American                      1214 <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native. Specify tribe:  <input type="text"/>                      1216 <input type="checkbox"/> Asian                      1222 <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander                 </td> </tr> </table>	<b>Mark one or more.</b> 1223 <input type="checkbox"/> White 1217 <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American 1213 <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native. Specify tribe: <input type="text"/> 1215 <input type="checkbox"/> Asian 1221 <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		<b>Mark one or more.</b> 1224 <input type="checkbox"/> White 1218 <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American 1214 <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native. Specify tribe: <input type="text"/> 1216 <input type="checkbox"/> Asian 1222 <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	
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<p>3. What is the highest level of formal education you and your spouse have achieved? .....</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2"> <b>Mark one answer only.</b>                      1257 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than high school diploma                      2 <input type="checkbox"/> High school                      3 <input type="checkbox"/> Some college (Include associates degree)                      4 <input type="checkbox"/> 4-year college graduate and beyond                 </td> <td colspan="2"> <b>Mark one answer only.</b>                      1260 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than high school diploma                      2 <input type="checkbox"/> High school                      3 <input type="checkbox"/> Some college (Include associates degree)                      4 <input type="checkbox"/> 4-year college graduate and beyond                 </td> </tr> </table>	<b>Mark one answer only.</b> 1257 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than high school diploma 2 <input type="checkbox"/> High school 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Some college (Include associates degree) 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 4-year college graduate and beyond		<b>Mark one answer only.</b> 1260 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than high school diploma 2 <input type="checkbox"/> High school 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Some college (Include associates degree) 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 4-year college graduate and beyond	
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<p>4. At which occupation did you and your spouse spend the majority (50 percent or more) of your work time in 2013? .....</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2"> <b>Mark one answer only.</b>                      1207 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Farm or ranch work,                      2 <input type="checkbox"/> Work other than farming/ranching.                      3 <input type="checkbox"/> Currently not in the paid workforce.                 </td> <td colspan="2"> <b>Mark one answer only.</b>                      1208 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Farm or ranch work,                      2 <input type="checkbox"/> Work other than farming/ranching.                      3 <input type="checkbox"/> Currently not in the paid workforce.                 </td> </tr> </table>	<b>Mark one answer only.</b> 1207 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Farm or ranch work, 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Work other than farming/ranching. 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Currently not in the paid workforce.		<b>Mark one answer only.</b> 1208 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Farm or ranch work, 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Work other than farming/ranching. 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Currently not in the paid workforce.	
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<p>5. Do you (the principal operator) now consider yourself to be retired from farming/ranching? .....</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>1259</td> <td>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 <input type="checkbox"/> No</td> </tr> </table>	1259	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 <input type="checkbox"/> No		
1259	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 <input type="checkbox"/> No				
<p>6. How many persons lived in the principal operator's household on December 31, 2013? (Include operator, spouse, children, and others living in the operator's household.) .....</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Number</td> <td>1227</td> </tr> </table>	Number	1227		
Number	1227				
<p>7. In 2013, was more than 50% of the ownership interest in this operation held by you (the principal operator) and/or persons related to you by blood, marriage, or adoption, including relatives not residing in your household? (Ownership interest is defined as having ownership of at least some of the farm business assets. Potential owners include individuals, partners, corporate shareholders, and members of a Limited Liability Company. Potential owners DO NOT INCLUDE landlords, contractors, and lenders.) 1249</p>	<p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Continue 3 <input type="checkbox"/> No - Go to Section O</p>				
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Office Use Only</td> <td>2003</td> </tr> </table>		Office Use Only	2003		
Office Use Only	2003				

SECTION N FARM OPERATOR HOUSEHOLD – INCOME, ASSETS, & DEBT																																																																																			
1. Which value code from the list below represents the total income the household, the principal operator, and spouse received in 2013 from – (Exclude farm income reported earlier.)																																																																																			
SOURCE	OPERATOR INCOME (Value Code)	SPOUSE INCOME (Value Code)	TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME (Value Code)																																																																																
a. all off-farm wages, salaries, and tips before taxes and withholdings?	0950	0951	0952																																																																																
b. net cash income from operating another farm or ranch (net of depreciation)? (if a loss was incurred, please indicate with a negative sign).	0955	0956	0957																																																																																
c. net cash income from operating any other business (net of depreciation)? (if a loss was incurred, please indicate with a negative sign).	0958	0959	0960																																																																																
d. net cash income from renting farmland to others, excluding land rented to others from this operation? (Include rental of farmland that is not part of this operation, which may include whole farms or ranches owned by household members as well as smaller parcels of land. Include cash or share-rental income. If a loss was incurred, please indicate with a negative sign).			0963																																																																																
e. interest income?			0969																																																																																
f. dividend income?			0966																																																																																
g. total proceeds from the sale of farm and non-farm capital assets? (Include operator household's share only).			0978																																																																																
(i) recognized gain/loss on the sale of capital assets reported above? (Item 1g) (if a loss was incurred, please indicate with a negative sign).			0981																																																																																
h. income from private pensions and private disability payments?			0939																																																																																
i. income from public sources? (Include Social Security, military and other public retirement, veteran's benefits, public disability, unemployment, or other public assistance).			0998																																																																																
j. other off-farm sources of income?			0993																																																																																
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Dollar Range</th> <th>Value Code</th> <th>Dollar Range</th> <th>Value Code</th> <th>Dollar Range</th> <th>Value Code</th> <th>Dollar Range</th> <th>Value Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>None</td> <td>01</td> <td>\$10,000 – 14,999</td> <td>10</td> <td>\$80,000 – 99,999</td> <td>19</td> <td>\$1,000,000 – 1,499,999</td> <td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$1 – 499</td> <td>02</td> <td>\$15,000 – 19,999</td> <td>11</td> <td>\$100,000 – 124,999</td> <td>20</td> <td>\$1,500,000 – 1,999,999</td> <td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$500 – 999</td> <td>03</td> <td>\$20,000 – 24,999</td> <td>12</td> <td>\$125,000 – 149,999</td> <td>21</td> <td>\$2,000,000 – 2,999,999</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$1,000 – 1,999</td> <td>04</td> <td>\$25,000 – 29,999</td> <td>13</td> <td>\$150,000 – 199,999</td> <td>22</td> <td>\$3,000,000 – 4,999,999</td> <td>31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$2,000 – 2,999</td> <td>05</td> <td>\$30,000 – 34,999</td> <td>14</td> <td>\$200,000 – 274,999</td> <td>23</td> <td>\$5,000,000 – 7,499,999</td> <td>32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$3,000 – 3,999</td> <td>06</td> <td>\$35,000 – 39,999</td> <td>15</td> <td>\$275,000 – 349,999</td> <td>24</td> <td>\$7,500,000 – 9,999,999</td> <td>33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$4,000 – 4,999</td> <td>07</td> <td>\$40,000 – 49,999</td> <td>16</td> <td>\$350,000 – 499,999</td> <td>25</td> <td>\$10,000,000 and over</td> <td>34</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$5,000 – 7,499</td> <td>08</td> <td>\$50,000 – 59,999</td> <td>17</td> <td>\$500,000 – 749,999</td> <td>26</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$7,500 – 9,999</td> <td>09</td> <td>\$60,000 – 79,999</td> <td>18</td> <td>\$750,000 – 999,999</td> <td>27</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Dollar Range	Value Code	Dollar Range	Value Code	Dollar Range	Value Code	Dollar Range	Value Code	None	01	\$10,000 – 14,999	10	\$80,000 – 99,999	19	\$1,000,000 – 1,499,999	28	\$1 – 499	02	\$15,000 – 19,999	11	\$100,000 – 124,999	20	\$1,500,000 – 1,999,999	29	\$500 – 999	03	\$20,000 – 24,999	12	\$125,000 – 149,999	21	\$2,000,000 – 2,999,999	30	\$1,000 – 1,999	04	\$25,000 – 29,999	13	\$150,000 – 199,999	22	\$3,000,000 – 4,999,999	31	\$2,000 – 2,999	05	\$30,000 – 34,999	14	\$200,000 – 274,999	23	\$5,000,000 – 7,499,999	32	\$3,000 – 3,999	06	\$35,000 – 39,999	15	\$275,000 – 349,999	24	\$7,500,000 – 9,999,999	33	\$4,000 – 4,999	07	\$40,000 – 49,999	16	\$350,000 – 499,999	25	\$10,000,000 and over	34	\$5,000 – 7,499	08	\$50,000 – 59,999	17	\$500,000 – 749,999	26			\$7,500 – 9,999	09	\$60,000 – 79,999	18	\$750,000 – 999,999	27		
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HOUSEHOLD SPENDING – (Please see VALUE CODES above.)																																																																																			
2. Which value code from the list above represents how much this household spent in 2013 on –																																																																																			
a. food, including food away from home?			Value Code 1105																																																																																
b. rent payments for principal operator's dwelling, if not owned by the household (Item 3c, on next page) or farm business (Section J, Item 1a has a zero value)?			1104																																																																																
c. utilities and household supplies?			1106																																																																																
d. non-farm transportation for the:																																																																																			
(i) renting or leasing of vehicles for household use, public transportation expenses, etc.?			1107																																																																																
(ii) fuel, maintenance and repairs, vehicle insurance, parking and license fees for non-farm share of vehicles?			1119																																																																																

**HOUSEHOLD SPENDING** – (Please see **VALUE CODES** on page 22.)

	Value Code
e. health and medical expenses:	
(i) health and/or dental insurance costs? (costs not covered by the farm operation or an off-farm employer) . . . . .	1108
(ii) out of pocket expenses for health and medical needs? (Include co-payments, co-insurance, deductibles, etc.) . . . . .	1112
f. contributions to personal insurance (including life, disability, and liability insurance but not including health, homeowner or vehicle insurance) and retirement plans including pensions and Social Security? . . . . .	1109
g. contributions to individuals outside of the household, including alimony, child support, gifts (not including bequests) and charitable contributions? . . . . .	1110
h. mortgage interest for operators who live in a dwelling owned by the household and not the operation? (Exclude any parts of mortgage principal) . . . . .	1120
i. property taxes for operators who live in a dwelling owned by the household and not the operation? . . . . .	1121
j. all other family living expenses, such as non-farm household insurance payments, clothing and personal care products and services; house furnishings and equipment, education and child (or adult) care, entertainment (hobbies, recreation, and vacations)? . . . . .	1118

**OFF-FARM ASSETS** – (Please see **VALUE CODES** on page 22.)

3. Which value code on page 22 represents the total value of each of the following categories of **off-farm assets** owned by the operator and members of the operator's household on December 31, 2013, for – (Exclude assets of this operation, reported in Section J.)

	Value Code
a. financial assets held in non-retirement accounts? (Include cash, checking, savings, money market accounts, certificates of deposit, savings bonds, government securities, outstanding personal loans due to the operator or household, corporate stock, mutual funds, cash surrender value of life insurance, other financial assets. Exclude all farm business-related assets.) . . . . .	0953
b. retirement accounts? (401k, 403b, IRA, Keogh, other retirement accounts) . . . . .	0954
c. operator's dwelling, if not owned by the operation? (not reported in Section J, Item 1a) . . . . .	0984
d. real estate and other personal (second) homes? (other farms, residential rental, commercial, and other real estate) . . . . .	0985
e. business not part of this farm? . . . . .	0986
f. all household vehicles? (including household share of vehicles partly owned by the operation) . . . . .	0982
g. other assets not reported elsewhere? . . . . .	0987

**OFF-FARM DEBT** – (Please see **VALUE CODES** on page 22.)

4. Which value code represents the total value of each of the following categories of **off-farm debt** (debt not associated with this operation) owed by the operator and members of the operator's household on December 31, 2013, for – (Include off-farm debt secured with farm assets. Exclude any debt – household debt, credit cards, etc. – reported in Section K, Farm Debt.)

[NOTE: If mortgage debt on the operator dwelling was reported earlier in Section K, Item 5, then skip Item 4a and continue with 4b. If mortgage debt on the operator dwelling was NOT reported in Section K, Item 5, then continue with Item 4a.]

	Value Code
a. mortgages on operator's dwelling, if not owned by the operation? (Include home mortgages, home equity loans, and lines of credit secured by the operator's dwelling) . . . . .	0988
b. mortgages on other real estate and other personal (second) homes? (Include mortgages, equity loans, and lines of credit secured by other real estate, including other farms, residential rental, commercial, and other real estate) . . . . .	0989
c. loans on businesses that are not a part of this farm operation? . . . . .	1101

**OFF-FARM DEBT** – (Please see VALUE CODES on page 22.)

d. personal loans? (Include credit cards, auto loans, unpaid taxes, and medical bills.)	Value Code
	1102
e. all other off-farm debt owed by the operator or household?	0983
5. Which value code on page 22 represents the amount of off-farm debt owed by the operator or household members that was secured by farm assets?	1117

**2012 INCOME & EXPENSES**

6. Which value code on page 22 represents the total farm sales last year (2012)? (Total farm sales includes livestock and crop income from cash and marketing contract sales, fees received from livestock and crop production contracts, the net change in CCC loans, and government payments.)	Value Code
	1113
7. Which value code on page 22 represents the net operating income for this operation in the previous year (2012)? (cash income from all farm sources minus production costs and depreciation; if negative net operating income, please indicate with a <b>negative sign</b> before the value code)	1114
8. Which value code on page 22 represents the total off-farm income in the previous year (2012)? (wages, salaries, tips, interest, dividends, other public sources, etc. before taxes, income from operating another farm, income from operating any other business; if negative off-farm income, please indicate with a <b>negative sign</b> before the value code)	1115

Office Use Only 2002

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**SECTION O CONCLUSION**

1. To receive the complete results of this survey on the release date, go to [www.usda.gov/results/](http://www.usda.gov/results/).  
 Would you rather have a brief summary mailed to you at a later date? ..... 0099 1  Yes 3  No

(Thank You for Your Participation)

2. In case we have questions, please provide your contact information.

Reported By:	Telephone:	Date Completed (MM-DD-YY):
	( )	9910 ____ / ____ / 14

Office Use Only		
Ending Time (Military)	OR	Time in Hours
0005		0008
		Reason Code
		0092

Office Use Only						
Response	Respondent	Mode	Enum	Eval	Dublication Adjustor	Field Office Use
1-Comp	1-Op / Mgr	1-Mail	9901	0098	0100	0093
2-R	2-Sp	2-Tel				0003
3-Inac	3-Acct / Bkpr	3-Face-to-Face				
	4-Partner					
	9-Other					
						Office Use for POID
						0789
						_____

Name \_\_\_\_\_

SUBMITTED FORM BY HON. RODNEY DAVIS, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM ILLINOIS

2014 TENURE, OWNERSHIP, AND TRANSITION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND (TOTAL)

OMB No. 0535-0240

2014 TENURE, OWNERSHIP, AND TRANSITION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND (TOTAL)										
ARMS Phase III CRR Project Code: 904 Version 9 (10/02/14)		  <b>National Agricultural Statistics Service</b> ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE  U.S. Department of Agriculture Rm 5030, South Building 1400 Independence Ave., S.W. Washington, DC 20250-2000 Phone: 1-888-424-7828 Fax: 202-690-2090 E-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov								
U.S. Department of Agriculture Rm 5030, South Building 1400 Independence Ave., S.W. Washington, DC 20250-2000 Phone: 1-888-424-7828 Fax: 202-690-2090 E-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov										
<i>Please make corrections to label name, address, and ZIP code, if needed.</i>										
<p>The information you provide will be used for statistical purposes only. In accordance with the Confidential Information Protection provisions of Title V, Subtitle A, Public Law 107-347 and other applicable Federal laws, your responses will be kept confidential and will not be disclosed in identifiable form to anyone other than employees or agents. By law, every employee and agent has taken an oath and is subject to a jail term, a fine, or both if he or she willfully discloses ANY identifiable information about you or your operation. Response to this inquiry is <b>required</b> by law (Title 7, U.S. Code).</p> <p>According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0535-0218. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 100 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.</p>										
<input type="checkbox"/> [If this operation is a partnership, please identify the other person(s) involved.]										
<b>Partner 1</b>					<b>Partner 2</b>					
Partner Name					Partner Name					
Address					Address					
City	State	Zip	Phone Number		City	State	Zip	Phone Number		
<b>Partner 3</b>					<b>Partner 4</b>					
Partner Name					Partner Name					
Address					Address					
City	State	Zip	Phone Number		City	State	Zip	Phone Number		
Office Use Only										
Screening Box	Beginning Time (Military)		Total Points	R. Unit	Partner Stratum				Office Use Only	Number of Supplements
	Hours	Minutes			9922	9923	9927	9928		
0006	0004		0929	9921					0009	0002

21814017



SECTION A LAND IN FARM / RANCH	
For 2014, please report farm/ranch land owned, rented, or used by you, your spouse, or by the partnership, corporation or organization for which you are reporting. <b>(Include all cropland, idle land, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), pastureland, woodland, wasteland, farmstead, acres used for crop/livestock production facilities, and all other building sites associated with this operation, etc.)</b>	
<b>ACRES OPERATED</b>	None <input type="checkbox"/> Number of Acres
1. How many acres of farm/ranch land were <u>owned</u> ? . . . . . 0020	<input type="checkbox"/> +
2. How many acres of farm/ranch land were <u>rented or leased from others</u> — <i>(Exclude land used on an animal unit month (AUM) or fee per head basis under a grazing permit.)</i>	
a. for a <u>fixed cash rent</u> payment? . . . . . 0021	<input type="checkbox"/> +
b. for a <u>flexible rent</u> payment? <i>(Include hybrid rental arrangements).</i> . . . . . 0022	<input type="checkbox"/> +
c. for a <u>share</u> of the crop or livestock production? <i>(Exclude hybrid rental arrangement where rent paid is based on a fixed cash payment plus some shared production.)</i> . . . . . 0023	<input type="checkbox"/> +
d. for <u>free</u> ? . . . . . 0024	<input type="checkbox"/> +
3. How many acres of farm/ranch land were rented or leased to <u>others</u> ? <i>(Include land rented for cash, for a flexible rent, for a share of crop or livestock production, or rent free.)</i> . . . . . 0025	<input type="checkbox"/> -
4. Then the <b>TOTAL ACRES</b> in this operation in 2014 were: <i>(Total Items 1 + 2a + 2b + 2c + 2d - 3.)</i> . . . . . 0026	=
5. Considered cropland in 2014? <i>(Include land in government programs, fruit/nut/berry/nursery acres, and land planted to hay, including wild hay. Exclude CRP acres planted to trees.)</i> . . . . . 0063	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>RENTED LAND</b>	
6. Including rent for land and/or buildings, what was the total <b>CASH RENT PAID</b> in 2014 by this operation? <i>(Include rent paid in 2014 for previous years and rent paid in advance. Exclude storage bins, to be reported in SECTION I, Item 20. Exclude grazing of livestock, to be reported in Item 7 below.)</i> . . . . . 0044	None <input type="checkbox"/> Dollars \$ .00
7. Report any land this operation used (on a <b>per head or AUM basis</b> ) that is administered either by: public or private agencies, industrial corporations, grazing associations, or rented from individuals on a short term grazing arrangement in 2014.	
a. In 2014, what were the total fees this operation paid for the use of <b>publicly owned land</b> on an AUM basis? <i>(Include fees paid for privately owned land administered by a public agency through exchange-of-use.)</i> . . . . . 0045	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ .00
b. In 2014, how much did this operation spend on pasturing or grazing of livestock on <b>privately owned land</b> (railroads, another farm/ranch, etc.) used on a fee per head (AUM) or gain basis? . . . . . 0046	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ .00
8. Report any crop or livestock <b>SHARE RENT</b> payments in 2014.	
a. What was the estimated total <b>MARKET VALUE</b> of your landlord's share of <b>crop</b> production from this operation in 2014? . . . . . 0184	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ .00
b. What was the estimated total <b>MARKET VALUE</b> of your landlord's share of <b>livestock</b> production sold or removed from this operation in 2014? <i>(Exclude shared livestock production not part of a land rental arrangement.)</i> . . . . . 0276	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ .00
9. What was the estimated market value of the land and buildings on the acres rented or leased <b>FROM OTHERS</b> on December 31, 2014? . . . . . 0855	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ .00
	Number
10. How many different landlords did this operation rent land from in 2014? . . . . . 0054	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Of the total landlords reported in Item 10, how many operated a farm or ranch in 2014? . . . . . 7147	<input type="checkbox"/>



11. Including rent for land and/or buildings, what was the total **CASH RENT RECEIVED** in 2014 for acres rented TO OTHERS by this operation? (*Include rent received in 2014 for previous years, rent received in advance, and government payments received from those acres. Exclude grazing of livestock, to be reported in SECTION H, Item 6b.*) . . . . . 0042

None  Dollars \$ .00

12. For acres **SHARE-RENTED** to others, what was the total value of crop or livestock shares received in 2014 by this operation? (*Include rent received in 2014 from previous years and government commodity payments received from those acres.*) . . . . . 0043

None  Dollars \$ .00

13. Did this operation **RENT or LEASE LAND TO OTHERS** for agricultural purposes in 2014? 0143

**Yes - Continue**  **No - Go to Item 24**

14. What was the estimated market value of the land and buildings on the acres rented or leased TO OTHERS on December 31, 2014? . . . . . 0857

None  Dollars \$ .00

15. For the acres **rented or leased** TO OTHERS and not fully paid for, what is the remaining debt owed on these acres as of December 31, 2014? . . . . . 7148

None  Dollars \$ .00

16. For the acres **rented or leased** TO OTHERS, what amount of expenses did you incur in 2014 related to property taxes, interest payments, and other ownership costs of the owned land? . . . . . 7149

None  Dollars \$ .00

17. For the acres **rented or leased** TO OTHERS, what amount of expenses did you incur in 2014 related to the agricultural production that occurred on the owned land? (*Include inputs purchased and provided such as fertilizer or pesticides.*) . . . . . 7150

None  Dollars \$ .00

18. For the acres **rented or leased** TO OTHERS, what amount of expenses did you incur in 2014 related to capital purchases on the owned land? (*Include land improvements, irrigation equipment, machinery purchases, etc.*) . . . . . 7110

None  Dollars \$ .00

19. For the acres **rented or leased** TO OTHERS in 2014, how many acres were:

a. Fully paid for? . . . . . 7120

b. Not fully paid for (purchased under mortgage or acquired under other financial arrangements)? . . . . . 7121

None  Acres

20. For the acres **rented or leased** TO OTHERS in 2014, how many acres were:

a. Enrolled in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), the Conservation Stewardship program (CSP) or another conservation program (excluding CRP) in 2014? . . . . . 7010

b. Under conservation easement? (*e.g., against non-agricultural development, draining wetlands, tilling grassland for crop production, etc.*) . . . . . 7161

None  Acres

21. How many total tenants did you have in 2014? . . . . . 7030

Number

22. Report the following information for up to three tenants you had in 2014. If you had more than three tenants, report for the three that rented the largest number of acres from you in 2014.

	Tenant 1	Tenant 2	Tenant 3
a. How many total <b>ACRES</b> did you rent to this tenant in 2014? . . . . . 7031	7032	7033	
b. How many <b>YEARS</b> have you rented land to this tenant? . . . . . 7034	7035	7036	
c. What type of rental agreement is used? [1 = FIXED CASH, 2 = FLEXIBLE CASH (include hybrid), 3 = SHARE, 4 = FREE] . . . . . 7037	7038	7039	
d. Is the tenant related to you or another operator of this operation? [1 = YES, 3 = NO] . . . . . 7040	7041	7042	
e. Is the lease written? [1 = YES, 3 = NO] . . . . . 7043	7044	7045	
f. Did the lease allow payments to be adjusted due to exceptional or unusual conditions? [1 = YES, 3 = NO] . . . . . 7046	7047	7048	
g. How often is the lease renewed? [1 = annually, 2 = every two years, 3 = every three years, 4 = every four or more years] . . . . . 7049	7050	7051	



23. Thinking of all of the tenants you **rented or leased** land to in 2014, which of the following **codes** best represents who made the management decisions in 2014 for the following practices listed below?

1 = Tenant only    2 = Landlord only    3 = Landlord and tenant together    4 = Landlord and tenant separately

	None	Code
a. Selection of fertilizers and chemicals . . . . .	7060 <input type="checkbox"/>	
b. Cultivation practices. . . . .	7061 <input type="checkbox"/>	
c. Selection of crop varieties or livestock breeds . . . . .	7062 <input type="checkbox"/>	
d. Harvesting decisions . . . . .	7063 <input type="checkbox"/>	
e. Marketing agricultural products . . . . .	7064 <input type="checkbox"/>	
f. Crop insurance . . . . .	7065 <input type="checkbox"/>	
g. Adoption of permanent conservation practices ( <i>terraces, grass waterways, etc.</i> ) . . . . .	7066 <input type="checkbox"/>	
h. Adoption of one-season conservation practices ( <i>conservation tillage, etc.</i> ) . . . . .	7068 <input type="checkbox"/>	
i. Government Program Participation ( <i>commodity and conservation programs</i> ) . . . . .	7069 <input type="checkbox"/>	

**LAND USE**

24. For the acres **OWNED** in 2014, how many acres were?

	None	Acres OWNED and OPERATED	Acres OWNED and RENTED TO OTHERS
a. Orchards/vineyards . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/> 0964		7964
b. Cropland ( <i>Include hay acres, land in government programs</i> ) . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/> 7801		7802
c. Pastureland ( <i>Include cropland pasture, woodland pasture, other pasture and rangeland and land in government programs</i> ) . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/> 7004		7003
d. Other ( <i>Include forest, woodland not pastured, farmsteads, buildings, livestock facilities, ponds, roads, ditches, wasteland, etc.</i> ) . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/> 7006		7005

25. For the acres **OWNED** in 2014, how many acres were?

a. Purchased from a non-relative through a direct sale or real estate broker? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/> 0077		7077
b. Purchased from a relative through a direct sale or real estate broker? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/> 0076		7076
c. Purchased in an auction? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/> 7071		7070
d. Inherited or received as a gift? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/> 0067		7067

26. Do you anticipate transferring ownership of any owned land in the next 5 years?

7074  **Yes - Continue**       **No - Go to Section B**

27. For the acres **OWNED** in 2014, how many acres do you anticipate transferring ownership through the following methods in the next 5 years?

	None	Acres OWNED and OPERATED	Acres OWNED and RENTED TO OTHERS
a. Sell to a relative . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/> 7081		7080
b. Sell to a non-relative ( <i>Include like-kind exchanges</i> ) . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/> 7083		7082
c. Gift . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/> 7085		7084
d. Put or keep in a Trust . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/> 7087		7086
e. Put or keep in a will ( <i>even though ownership will transfer at an unknown time in the future</i> ) . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/> 7089		7088

SECTION B ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, and CASH SALES									
1. Were any crops harvested from this operation or did this operation receive any income from these crops in 2014? (Include your landlord's share and crops grown under contract. Exclude crops grown on land rented to others.) 0104 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Continue <input type="checkbox"/> No - Go to Section C									
2. Report the acreage and production of crops harvested from this operation in 2014. Report quantity harvested in the unit specified, by crop. For income received from cash sales in 2014, report the dollar amount this operation received from any year's production after subtracting marketing expenses. (Exclude contract sales or removals and landlord's share of sales in column 5.)									
1 CROP	2 How many acres were HARVESTED?		3 What was the total production? (Include landlord share and amount used on operation.) (Total Amount)		4 How much of this operation's share of the total production was (will be) used on this operation for feed, seed, etc.?		5 How much was received in Cash Sales from any year's production? (Exclude marketing contract sales.) (Dollars)		
	(Acres)				(Amount Used on Operation)				
<b>FIELD CROPS</b>									
Corn for grain . . . . .	0105		0106	Bu.	0107		Bu.	0108	\$ .00
Corn for silage or greenchop . . . . .	0109		0110	Tons	0111		Tons	0112	\$ .00
Cotton, all types . . . . .	0113		0114	Lbs.				0116	\$ .00
Peanuts . . . . .	0117		0118	Lbs.	0119		Lbs.	0120	\$ .00
Potatoes (report sweet potatoes in all other crops) . . . . .	0121	Acres : : : : : :	0122	Cwt.	0123		Cwt.	0124	\$ .00
Rice (report wild and brown rice in all other crops) . . . . .	0125		0126	Cwt.	0127		Cwt.	0128	\$ .00
Sorghum for grain or seed . . . . .	0129		0130	Bu.	0131		Bu.	0132	\$ .00
Sorghum for silage . . . . .	0133		0134	Tons	0135		Tons	0136	\$ .00
Soybeans . . . . .	0137		0138	Bu.	0139		Bu.	0140	\$ .00
Tobacco, all types . . . . .	0141	Acres : : : : : :	0142	Lbs.				0144	\$ .00
<b>SMALL GRAINS</b>									
Barley for grain or seed . . . . .	0145		0146	Bu.	0147		Bu.	0148	\$ .00
Oats for grain or seed . . . . .	0148		0150	Bu.	0151		Bu.	0152	\$ .00
Wheat, all types, for grain or seed . . . . .	0153		0154	Bu.	0155		Bu.	0156	\$ .00
<b>DRY HAY CROPS</b>									
Hay, dry, alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures . . . . .	0157		0158	Tons	0159		Tons	0160	\$ .00
Hay, dry, all others . . . . .	0161		0162	Tons	0163		Tons	0164	\$ .00
<b>OTHER CROPS</b>									
Canola . . . . .	0165		0166	Lbs.	0167		Lbs.	0168	\$ .00
Other oilseeds . . . . .	0169		0170	Lbs.	0171		Lbs.	0172	\$ .00
Sugarcane or sugarbeets . . . . .	0173		0174	Tons	0175		Tons	0176	\$ .00
Dry edible beans/peas/lentils . . . . .	0177							0185	\$ .00
Vegetables for processing . . . . .	0178							0186	\$ .00
All other vegetables and melons (Exclude vegetables grown under glass or other protection.) . . . . .	0179							0187	\$ .00
Fruits, nuts, and berries . . . . .	0180		SQUARE FEET UNDER glass or other protection	ACRES in the OPEN	Tenths			0188	\$ .00
Nursery and greenhouse crops (Include Christmas trees.) . . . . .			0191		0192			0189	\$ .00
All other crops not listed above . . . . .	0182							0190	\$ .00



SECTION C LIVESTOCK INVENTORY, NUMBER SOLD/REMOVED, and CASH SALES				
1. Did you or anyone else have any livestock or poultry on this operation in 2014 (regardless of ownership), or did this operation receive any income from livestock, poultry, or livestock products in 2014? (Include your landlord's share & livestock/poultry grown for others on a contract basis. Exclude livestock/poultry grown or fed by someone else on a custom or contractual basis.) 0247 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Continue <input type="checkbox"/> No - Go to Section D				
2. Report the total number of livestock, poultry, and livestock products, by type. For income received in 2014, report the total dollars this operation received from cash sales after subtracting marketing expenses. (Exclude contract sales or removals and landlord's share of sales in column 5.)				
1  LIVESTOCK	INVENTORY		SALES	
	2 On Dec. 31, 2014, how many [column 1] regardless of ownership were on hand? (Number)	3 On Dec. 31, 2014, how many [column 1] were owned by this operation? (Number)	4 What was the total number of [column 1] sold or removed in 2014? (Number)	5 How much was received in Cash Sales of [column 1] from any year's production in 2014? (Exclude marketing contract sales.) (Dollars)
a. Beef cows (Include beef heifers that have calved. Exclude heifers that have not calved, steers, calves, and bulls.)	0255	0256	0254	1254 \$ .00
b. Milk cows, including any dry cows (Exclude any heifers not yet freshened.)	0258	0259	0257	1258 \$ .00
c. Other cattle and calves (Include fed cattle, beef and dairy cull animals, stockers and feeders, veal calves, etc.)	0252	0253	0251	1251 \$ .00
d. Total cattle and calves (Items a + b + c)	0261	0265	0260	1295 \$ .00
(i) Of the total (row d, col. 5) dollars, how much was for breeding stock? <sup>1)</sup>				0512 \$ .00
(ii) Recognized gain/loss on sale of breeding stock. (If a loss was incurred, indicate w/ a negative sign)				0535 \$ .00
e. Total milk produced in 2014 (report in cwt)			0270	Cwt 0510 \$ .00
f. All hogs and pigs	0263	0296	0262	1296 \$ .00
(i) Of the total (row f, col. 5) dollars, how much was for breeding stock? <sup>1)</sup>				0509 \$ .00
(ii) Recognized gain/loss on sale of breeding stock. (If a loss was incurred, indicate w/ a negative sign)				0533 \$ .00
g. All layers, including table and hatching	0249	0250	0248	0526 \$ .00
(i) All eggs, including hatching eggs (report in dozens)			0266	Doz 0514 \$ .00
h. Turkeys	0269	0298	0268	0515 \$ .00
i. Broilers	0265	0297	0264	0513 \$ .00
j. Other Poultry (Include other chickens, ducks, emus, geese, hatchlings, ostriches, pigeons, pheasants, quail, poultry products, etc.)	0275	0299	0274	0516 \$ .00
k. Other animals and other animal products (Include sheep, goats, & their products (wool, mohair, & goat milk); horses, ponies, mules, burros, & donkeys; aquaculture; bees & honey; semen & embryo sales)	0273	1273	0272	0517 \$ .00
(i) Of the total (row k, col. 5) dollars, how much was for breeding stock? <sup>1)</sup>				0528 \$ .00
(ii) Recognized gain/loss on sale of breeding stock. (If a loss was incurred, indicate w/ a negative sign)				0534 \$ .00

<sup>1)</sup> Report breeding and non-breeding stock as defined on Tax form 1040F and form 4797.



SECTION D OTHER OPERATIONS GROWING, FEEDING, or RAISING LIVESTOCK FOR THIS OPERATION							
1. Did any OTHER operation(s) grow, feed, or raise livestock or poultry owned by this operation under a contract arrangement in 2014 (you are the contractor)? 0271 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Continue <input type="checkbox"/> No - Go to Section E							
What livestock or poultry were being raised or fed for this operation? [List type below.]	Commodity Code Office Use Only (Code)	What was the market value of [type] on hand on contractee operations on Jan. 1, 2014? (Dollars)	What was the estimated market value (at placement) of [type] placed under contract DURING 2014? (Dollars)	How much was paid to contractees for labor, management, and reimbursement for expenses? (Dollars)	How much were the GROSS receipts from [type] sold or removed under this contract? (Dollars)	On Dec. 31, 2014 what was the market value of unsold [type] remaining under contract? (Dollars)	
	0277	0278	0279	0280	0281	0282	
	0283	0284	0285	0286	0287	0288	
	0289	0290	0291	0292	0293	0294	
SECTION E MARKETING CONTRACTS							
1. Did this operation have marketing contracts for any commodities delivered <sup>1/</sup> in 2014? (A marketing contract is a verbal or written agreement reached before harvest of a crop or before completion of a livestock production stage, setting a price or pricing formula and market for the commodity.) 0300 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Continue <input type="checkbox"/> No - Go to Section F							
2. Report the commodities delivered in 2014 through marketing contract(s). List the quantities marketed and the final price received. (Include only the quantity owned by the operation. Exclude money received from contractors as reimbursement for expenses (report this in SECTION I). Exclude landlord shares (report in SECTION A) and marketing charges (report in SECTION I, item 33).							
What commodities did this operation have MARKETING contracts for in 2014? [Write in commodities]	Commodity Code Office Use Only (Code)	What quantity of this commodity was delivered through this contract? (Exclude landlord's share.) (Quantity)	Unit Code (from list below) (Code)	What was (will be) the FINAL PRICE RECEIVED per unit by this operation for this commodity marketed under this contract? (Dollars & Cents)	What was the total dollar amount received in 2014 from this contract? (Total Dollars)		
Commodity example	0000	0000	100	0000 01	0000 1000 . 001	0000 1000	
	0301	0304		0305 0306	.	0307	
	0316	0319		0320 0321	.	0322	
	0331	0334		0335 0336	.	0337	
	0346	0349		0350 0351	.	0352	
	0361	0364		0365 0366	.	0367	
	0376	0379		0380 0381	.	0382	
	1351	1354		1355 1356	.	1357	
	1366	1369		1370 1371	.	1372	
	1381	1384		1385 1386	.	1387	
	1396	1399		1400 1401	.	1402	
	1411	1414		1415 1416	.	1417	
	1426	1429		1430 1431	.	1432	
If more space is needed, please use a separate sheet of paper. <sup>1/</sup> "Delivered" includes commodities for which partial payment was made even if not physically delivered by December 31, 2014.							
Unit	Code	Unit	Code	Unit	Code	Unit	Code
Pound	01	Bin	05	Dozen	09	Barrel	20
CWT	02	Box	06	Flat	10	Acre	22
Ton	03	Bale	07	Head / Bird	11	Animal Space	39
Bushels	04	Carton	08	Plant / Pot	13	Kilogram	40

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SECTION F PRODUCTION CONTRACTS & CUSTOM FED LIVESTOCK										
1. Did this operation have <b>production</b> contracts for any commodities it produced in 2014? <i>(A production contract is a verbal or written agreement setting terms, conditions, and fees to be paid by the contractor to the operation for the production of crops, livestock, or poultry. The contractor usually owns the commodity and often provides inputs.)</i>										
0400 <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes - Continue</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No - Go to Section G</b>										
2. Report in the table below the commodities with <b>production</b> contracts in 2014. Also list the quantities removed under these contracts and the final fee received. <i>(Exclude money received to pay for production expenses. Expense reimbursements should be reported in the contractor column in SECTION I.)</i>										
What commodities did this operation have PRODUCTION contracts for in 2014? <i>[Write in commodities]</i>	Commodity Code <b>Office Use Only</b> (Code)	What quantity of this commodity was removed from the operation under this contract? <i>(Exclude landlord's share.)</i> (Quantity)	Unit Code <i>(from list below)</i> (Code)							
<i>Commodity example</i>	0000	0000	100	0000	01	0000	1000	0001	0000	1000
	0401	0404		0405	0406				0407	
	0416	0419		0420	0421				0422	
	0431	0434		0435	0436				0437	
	0446	0449		0450	0451				0452	
	1441	1444		1445	1446				1447	
	1456	1459		1460	1461				1462	
	1471	1474		1475	1476				1477	
	1486	1489		1490	1491				1492	
<i>If more space is needed, please use a separate sheet of paper.</i> <i><sup>1/</sup> Income received for commodities produced under contract in previous years should be recorded in Section G, Items 1a and 1a(i).</i>										
<b>Unit</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Code</b>	
Pound	01	Bin	05	Dozen	09	Barrel	20			
CWT	02	Box	06	Flat	10	Acre	22			
Ton	03	Bale	07	Head / Bird	11	Animal Space	39			
Bushels	04	Carton	08	Plant / Pot	13	Kilogram	40			
SECTION G ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE & DEFERRED PAYMENTS										
1. For each item below, report income received or the amount owed to the operation on the dates specified. <b>Exclude</b> crops in storage and not yet sold. <i>(Include cash sales, marketing contract sales, and production contract removals.)</i>										
<b>[NOTE: Crops in storage and not sold as of the reference date should be reported in Section J, Item 3a.]</b>										
										None
										Dollars
a. On January 1, 2014, what was the total dollar amount <b>owed</b> to this operation for all commodities produced and sold <i>(cash or contract)</i> <b>before</b> January 1, 2014? . . . . . 0885 <input type="checkbox"/>										\$ .00
(i) How much did this operation receive from Item 1a during 2014? . . . . . 0875 <input type="checkbox"/>										\$ .00
b. What was the total dollar amount owed to this operation on December 31, 2014, for all commodities produced, sold <i>(cash or contract)</i> , delivered, or removed under contract in 2014 and earlier years? . . . . . 0886 <input type="checkbox"/>										\$ .00



**SECTION H GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS & OTHER FARM RELATED INCOME**

1. In 2014, did this operation receive or repay any Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) loans?  
 0560  Yes - Continue  No - Go to Item 2

a. In 2014, how much was received for all commodities placed under CCC loans?  
*(Include Austrian winter peas, barley, canola, rapeseed, corn, cotton, crambe, dry edible peas, flaxseed, honey, lentils, mohair, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, rice, safflower, sesame seed, small chickpeas, sorghum, soybeans, sugar, sunflower seed, and wheat.)* . . . 0518  None  Dollars \$  .00

b. In 2014, what was the amount spent to repay all CCC loans?  
*(Exclude storage and service fees.)* . . . . . 0519  None  Dollars \$  .00

**[NOTE: If any of the crops or livestock products redeemed from the CCC were sold in 2014, verify that these sales are recorded in Marketing Contracts (SECTION E, Item 2) or in Cash Sales (SECTIONS B and C). If the redeemed crops were NOT sold in 2014, their value should be reported in SECTION J, Item 3a.]**

2. In 2014, did this operation receive Federal, State or local farm program payments?  
*(Include government payments received through a cooperative. Exclude CCC loan payments.)*  
 0563  Yes - Continue  No - Go to NOTE before Item 3

a. In 2014, how much was received in upland cotton transition payments?  
*(Include government payments received through a cooperative.)* . . . . . 0524  None  Dollars \$  .00

b. In 2014, how much was received in counter-cyclical payments from the Direct Counter-cyclical Payment Program (DCP) and in revenue payments from the Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE) for crop year 2013? *(Include government payments received through a cooperative.)* . . . . . 0523  None  Dollars \$  .00

c. In 2014, how much was received in Loan Deficiency Payments (LDPs), and Marketing Loan Gains (MLGs)? *(Include government payments received through a cooperative.)* . . . . . 0529  None  Dollars \$  .00

d. In 2014, what was the total dollar amount received from Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) payments? . . . . . 0477  None  Dollars \$  .00

(i) In 2014, how many total acres were enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)? . . . . . 0028  None  Acres

e. In 2014, what was the total dollar amount received from Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Security Program (CSP), and Conservation Stewardship Program (CSIP) payments? . . . . . 0478  None  Dollars \$  .00

(i) In 2014, how many acres were enrolled in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Security Program (CSP), and the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSIP)? . . . . . 0029  None  Acres

f. In 2014, how much was received for Agricultural disaster payments?  
*(Include all disaster assistance and market loss payments. Exclude Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) payments, Federal crop insurance and other indemnity payments reported below.)* . . . . . 0537  None  Dollars \$  .00

g. In 2014, how much was received for all other Federal, State, or local program payments? *(Include Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) payments; tobacco buyout payments, including lump sum payments; and other Federal, State or local programs. Exclude Federal crop insurance payments and other indemnity payments, to be reported below.)* . . . . . 0545  None  Dollars \$  .00

**NOTE: The following questions pertain to the new programs authorized under the Agricultural Act of 2014 and crop insurance. In order to analyze the impact of these new programs, we need to obtain information on current base acre enrollments and crop insurance participation.**

3. In 2014, did this operation enroll in any of the price or revenue based assistance programs for elected base acres?  
 0564  Yes - Continue  No - Go to Item 5



4. For the total acres operated in 2014, please indicate the number of base acres, how many acres for each crop were enrolled in different programs authorized under the Agricultural Act of 2014, and whether or not you updated base acre yields.

Crop	Base Acres		Enrolled in Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC)		Enrolled in Price Loss Coverage (PLC) (Acres)	Yields Updated? 2014-2018 1=Yes, 3=No (Code)
	2013 (Acres)	2014 (Acres)	County Option (Acres)	Individual Option (Acres)		
Corn	1500	1501	1502	1503	1504	1505
Soybeans	1520	1521	1522	1523	1524	1525
Wheat	1530	1531	1532	1533	1534	1535
Cotton/Generic	1540	1541	1542	1543	1544	1545
Rice	1570	1571	1572	1573	1574	1575
All other	1590	1591	1592	1593	1594	1595

**CROP INSURANCE**

5. For the total acres operated in 2014, please indicate the number of acres insured with buy-up policies, the average coverage rates for these acres, and how the acres are insured for commodities insured under either a (1) **Yield Policy**<sup>1/</sup> or a (2) **Revenue Policy**<sup>2/</sup>. Only report acres insured under a yield or revenue policy for one of the commodities listed. **Exclude** acres insured under the Catastrophic Risk Protection Endorsement program (CAT).

Crop	Acres Insured Under		Average Coverage Level Under		Acres Insured Under		
	Yield Policy (Acres)	Revenue Policy (Acres)	Yield Policy (Percent)	Revenue Policy (Percent)	Basic Units (Acres)	Optional Units (Acres)	Enterprise Units (Acres)
Corn	1300	1301	1302	1303	1304	1305	1306
Corn silage	1310	1311	1312	1313	1314	1315	1316
Soybeans	1320	1321	1322	1323	1324	1325	1326
Wheat	1330	1331	1332	1333	1334	1335	1336
Cotton	1340	1341	1342	1343	1344	1345	1346
Rice	1360	1361	1362	1363	1374	1375	1376

<sup>1/</sup> Yield Protection (YP), Area Yield Protection (AYP, or GRP).  
<sup>2/</sup> Revenue Protection (RP), Revenue Protection with Harvest Price Exclusion (RP-HPE), Area Revenue Protection Insurance (ARPI, or GRIPH), and Area Revenue Protection Insurance with Harvest Price Exclusion (ARPI-HPE, or GRIPH).

**OTHER FARM RELATED INCOME**

6. In 2014, what was the total income received by you (the operator) and all partners for:

	None	Dollars
a. custom work, machine hire, and other agricultural services provided by this operation for farmers and others? ( <b>Exclude</b> if this is a separate business.) . . . . . 0546	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ .00
b. grazing of livestock? ( <b>Include</b> payments for livestock pastured on a per-head basis, per-month basis, AUM basis, etc. <b>Exclude</b> contract arrangements previously reported.) . . . 0547	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ .00
c. sales of all forest products? ( <b>Include</b> firewood, timber, etc. <b>Exclude</b> maple syrup and Christmas trees.) . . . . . 0549	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ .00
d. sales of farm machinery and vehicles? ( <b>Include</b> farm share only) . . . . . 0550	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ .00
e. Federal crop and livestock insurance indemnity payments? . . . . . 0552	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ .00
f. other crop and livestock insurance indemnity payments? ( <b>Exclude</b> Federal payments reported in Item 2f.) . . . . . 0551	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ .00
g. cooperative patronage dividends and refunds? . . . . . 0554	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ .00

	None		Dollars
h. income from royalties or leases associated with energy production (e.g. natural gas, oil, and wind turbines)? . . . . . 0555	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	.00
i. proceeds from sales of farmland and other farm real estate owned by this operation only? . . . . . 0558	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	.00
(i) What was the recognized gain/loss on the (item 6i) sales of farmland and other farm real estate? (if a loss was incurred, please indicate with a <b>negative sign</b> ). . . . . 0559	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	.00
Acres			
(ii) How many acres were sold? . . . . . 0561	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>		
j. all other farm related sources of income? (Include: allotment or quota leases, animal boarding, sales of poultry litter and manure, income from recreational activities such as hunting and fishing, tourism, etc., State fuel tax refunds, tax refunds, real estate tax rebates for land preservation; refunds of marketing expenses; renting or leasing of livestock, or machinery, sales of value-added goods such as cheese, cider, jams, etc. if these are not part of a separate business; Hedging profits and losses and if a loss was incurred, please indicate with a <b>negative sign</b> .) . . . . . 0556	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	.00
7. In 2014, did the largest portion of this operation's total gross value of sales come from crops or livestock? (If the operation had no sales in 2014, choose crops if the value of cropland on the operation exceeds the value of any livestock on the operation in 2014. Otherwise, choose livestock). . . . . 0562			
<input type="checkbox"/> CROP <input type="checkbox"/> LIVESTOCK			

SECTION I OPERATING & CAPITAL EXPENDITURES			
Report total production expenses paid by this operation in 2014. (Include only expenses related to this operation. Exclude expenses NOT related to this farm/ranch; expenses of performing custom work FOR others, if this is a separate business; and expenses on land rented to others.)			
<b>In 2014, how much was spent for (item) by [column] – OPERATING EXPENSES in 2014</b>			
	None	OPERATOR(S) and PARTNER(S) (Dollars)	LANDLORD(S) (Dollars)
		CONTRACTOR(S) (Dollars)	
1. seeds, sets, plants, seed cleaning and treatments, transplants, trees and nursery stock? (Include technology or other fees, seed treatments, and seed cleaning cost. Exclude items purchased for resale without additional growth.) . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0600	0601
		<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>
2. nutrients, fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners? (Include cost of custom application and organic materials. Exclude potting mixes, vermiculite, and sterilized soil.) . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0606	0607
		<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>
3. biocontrols and agricultural chemicals for crops, livestock, poultry, and general farm use? (Include biological pest controls and custom application costs.) . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0612	0613
		<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>
a. Of the (Item 3) dollars, how much was only for custom application? (Include cost of chemicals used for custom application.) . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0618	0619
		<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>
4. livestock purchases of –		0621	0622
a. breeding stock for beef cattle, dairy cattle, hogs and sheep? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>
b. other cattle, calves, hogs and pigs? [Report other sheep in Item 4d.] . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0624	0625
		<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>
c. chickens and turkeys? [Report ducks and game birds in Item 4d.] . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0627	0628
		<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>
d. other livestock and poultry, including other sheep, lambs, bees, brooder fish, fingerlings, goats, etc.? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0630	0631
		<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>
5. leasing of livestock? (Include leasing of bees for pollination.) . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0633	0634
		<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>
6. purchased feed for livestock and poultry? (Include grain, hay, silage, mixed feeds, concentrates, etc.) . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0636	0637
		<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>
		0639	0640
7. bedding and litter for livestock? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width:100%;" type="text"/>



In 2014, how much was spent for (item) by (column) –			
	OPERATOR(S) and PARTNER(S) (Dollars)	LANDLORD(S) (Dollars)	CONTRACTOR(S) (Dollars)
8. medical supplies, veterinary and custom services for livestock? <i>(Exclude manure disposal. Include artificial insemination (AI), branding, breeding fees, castrating, castrating, custom feed processing, hormone injections, performance testing, pregnancy testing, seining, sheep shearing, etc.)</i> . . . . .	None 0642	0643	0644
<input type="checkbox"/>			
9. purchases for the farm business of –	0663	0664	0665
a. all fuels, oils and lubricants? <i>(total of 9a(i) through 9a(vi) must equal Item 9a)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	0645	0646	0647
(i) diesel fuel? <i>(Include biodiesel)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	0648	0649	0650
(ii) gasoline and gasohol? <i>(Include ethanol blends)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	0651	0652	0653
(iii) natural gas? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	0654	0655	0656
(iv) LP gas <i>(propane, butane)</i> ? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	0657	0658	0659
(v) oils and lubricants? <i>(Include grease, hydraulic fluids, motor oils, transmission fluids, etc.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	0660	0661	0662
(vi) all other fuel? <i>(Include coal, fuel oil, kerosene, wood, etc.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	0675	0676	0677
10. electricity for the farm business? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	0696	0697	0698
11. purchased water for irrigation from off-farm suppliers? <i>(Include irrigation assessments and fees)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	0872	0873	0874
12. all other utilities, such as the farm share of telephone service, water purchased other than for irrigation, and Internet access? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	0702	0703	0704
13. farm supplies, marketing containers, hand tools and farm shop power equipment? <i>(Include expenses for temporary fencing. Exclude expenses for bedding/litter and permanent fencing)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	0708	0709	0710
14. repairs, parts and accessories for motor vehicles, machinery and farm equipment? <i>(Include repairs to drying equipment, tune-ups, overhauls, repairs to livestock equipment, replacement parts for machinery, tubes, tires, and accessories such as air conditioners, CB's, radios and hydraulic cylinders. Exclude irrigation equipment and pump repairs)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	0714	0715	0716
15. maintenance and repair for the upkeep of all farm buildings, houses other than the operator's, land improvements, and all other farm/ranch improvements? <i>(Include conservation improvements, corrals, feeding floors, feedlots, gravel, land drainage structures, tiling, trench, silos, wells, irrigation equipment and pump repairs and facilities. Exclude any new construction or remodeling)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	0726		
16. maintenance and repair of the operator's house if it was owned by the operation? <i>(Owned by the operation means the house is –</i> • recorded as an asset in farm record books, or • deeded as part of the farm.) . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	0729	0730	0731
17. insurance for the farm business? <i>(Include all casualty insurance, hail insurance, and any other crop or livestock insurance; motor vehicle liability and blanket insurance policies. Include insurance on operator's dwelling, if owned by the operation. Exclude health insurance (reported in SECTION I, Item 26 or SECTION N, Item 2e(i)) and other payroll insurance items.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	0732	0733	0734
a. Of the (Item 17) dollars how much was for Federal crop insurance? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		



In 2014, how much was spent for (item) by [column] –			
	OPERATOR(S) and PARTNER(S) (Dollars)	LANDLORD(S) (Dollars)	CONTRACTOR(S) (Dollars)
18. interest and fees paid on debts —	None	0738	0739
a. secured by real estate? (Include interest paid on the operator's dwelling, if owned by the operation.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	0741	0742
b. not secured by real estate? (Include service fees on CCC loan redemptions.)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
19. property taxes paid on —		0744	0745
a. real estate (land and buildings)? (Include real estate taxes on the operator's dwelling, if owned by the operation.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	0747	0748
b. livestock, machinery, and other farm production items?	<input type="checkbox"/>		0749
20. renting or leasing of tractors, vehicles, equipment or storage structures? (Include farm machinery, cars, trucks, irrigation equipment and other equipment. Exclude custom hire.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	0750	0751
		0753	0754
21. vehicle registration and licensing fees?	<input type="checkbox"/>		
22. depreciation expense claimed by this operation in 2014 for all capital assets? (If partnership, include amounts claimed by all partners in this operation. Estimate from 2013 if necessary.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	0756	
a. Of the (Item 22) dollars how much was claimed for breeding livestock?	<input type="checkbox"/>	0757	
23. CASH WAGES paid to hired farm and ranch labor? (Include cash wages, incentives and bonuses, payments to corporate officers and paid family members, including yourself and other operators if they received a wage. Exclude wages paid for custom and contract work, wages paid for housework, Social Security on the owner-operator, withdrawals for living expenses, employer's share of Social Security and unemployment taxes, health and life insurance, pensions or retirement plans, and Worker's Compensation.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	0758	0759
			0760
24. Of the (Item 23) dollars, how much salary or wage was paid to — (total 24a + 24b + 24c + 24d + 24e must equal Item 23)		0764	0765
a. you (the principal operator)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	0767	0768
b. your (the principal operator's) spouse? (Even if your spouse is an operator, include his/her wages here.)	<input type="checkbox"/>		0769
c. other members of your (the operator's) household? (Even if your other household members are operators, include their wages here.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	0874	0875
			0876
d. other operators (outside the operator's household)? (Those persons responsible for the day-to-day management decisions for this operation.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	0770	0771
		0773	0774
			0775
e. all other paid farm and ranch labor?	<input type="checkbox"/>		
25. payroll taxes for hired labor? (Include employer's share of Social Security and unemployment taxes. Include any amounts the farm paid for farm workers that are part of your (the operator's) household.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	0705	0706
			0707
a. What percent of the (Item 25) dollars was for household members?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Percent	
		0788	



In 2014, how much was spent for (item) by [column] –			
	OPERATOR(S) and PARTNER(S) (Dollars)	LANDLORD(S) (Dollars)	CONTRACTOR(S) (Dollars)
26. benefits for hired labor? (Include employer's share of health insurance, pension or retirement plans, Worker's Compensation, etc. Include any amounts the farm paid for farm workers that are part of your (the operator's) household.)	None 0915	0916	0917
	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Percent 0790		
a. What percent of the (Item 26) dollars was for household members?	<input type="checkbox"/>		
27. contract labor? (Include expenses for labor, such as harvesting of fruit, vegetables, berries, etc. performed on a contract basis by a contractor, crew leader, cooperative, etc. Exclude contract work for building construction, repairs, or farm improvements, and payments to other operations that fed/raised livestock under contract FOR this operation.)	0782	0783	0784
	<input type="checkbox"/>		
28. custom work such as — (Custom work is work performed by machines & labor hired as a unit.)	0776	0777	0778
a. hauling? (Include all custom grain, livestock, milk, manure, and other custom hauling.)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
b. all other custom work done on this operation? (Report custom livestock services in Item 8.)	0791	0792	0793
	<input type="checkbox"/>		
29. The cash value of all commodities and NON-CASH PAYMENTS for farm work provided to:			
a. workers who were members of your (the operator's) household? (Include value of a percentage of crops, calves, etc. Exclude operator payments or draws.)	0797		
	<input type="checkbox"/>		
b. workers who were NOT members of your (the operator's) household? (Include feed, fuel, housing, meals, utilities, vehicles for personal use, etc. Exclude home gardens, unless expenses were recorded previously. Exclude partner payments or draws.)	0798		
	<input type="checkbox"/>		
30. The market value of commodities produced and used on this operation for home consumption? (Exclude any commodities provided as payment to household members for farm work reported in Item 29a.)	0799		
	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Percent 0800		
a. What percent of the (Item 30) dollars was for livestock and livestock products?	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Dollars 0801		
31. professional or farm management services such as record keeping, accounting, tax and business planning, farm product advice, conservation practices, etc.?	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	0804	0805	0806
32. general business expenses? Specify General Business Expenses & Amounts:	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>			
33. Marketing and storage expenses incurred by this operation? (Include check-off, commissions, storage, inspection, ginning, etc. Include marketing expenses for contract sales.)	0868	0869	0870
	<input type="checkbox"/>		



**In 2014, how much was spent for (item) by [column] – CAPITAL EXPENSES in 2014**

	None	OPERATOR(S) and PARTNER(S) (Dollars)	LANDLORD(S) (Dollars)	CONTRACTOR(S) (Dollars)
34. improvements on land such as land preparation, permanent irrigation improvements, well drilling, ponds, drainage, roads ditching, tiling, feedlots, trench silos, lagoons, new fences, etc.? <i>(Exclude moveable equipment.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0807	0808	0809
35. new construction and remodeling of dwellings <i>(excluding the operator's dwelling), barns, buildings, hog houses, poultry houses, milk barns, storage facilities, sheds, silos, etc.?</i> <i>(Exclude repairs and maintenance.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0810	0811	0812
36. new construction or remodeling of the operator's dwelling, if owned by the operation? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0813		
Report the <b>TOTAL NET COST</b> (after deducting the value of trade-ins, rebates & discounts) of the following items purchased in 2014 for the farm/ranch:				
	None	Percent for farm/ranch use	Dollars	
37. Cars – <i>(Include new and used.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0817	0816	
38. Trucks – <i>(Include new and used trucks, pickups, sport utility vehicles, vans, campers and buses.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0819	0818	
39. Tractors – <i>(Include new and used.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		Dollars	
40. Self-propelled equipment – <i>(Include implements and self-propelled equipment for livestock, dairy, or poultry production. Exclude tractors.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		0820	
41. Other farm machinery, non-self-propelled farm equipment, pumps, and capital equipment for crop or livestock production. <i>(Include farm share only.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		0821	
42. Office equipment, furniture, and computers that were placed on a depreciation schedule. . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		0822	
43. Farmland and other farm real estate for expanding this operation. . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	None	Acres	Dollars
		0802	0803	
44. All other capital expenditures. <i>(Include all other capital expenditures that were placed on a depreciation schedule.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>		Dollars	
			0824	
Specify Other Capital Expenditures & Amounts:				
<input type="text"/>				
	None	OPERATOR(S) and PARTNER(S) (Dollars)	LANDLORD(S) (Dollars)	CONTRACTOR(S) (Dollars)
45. What other expenses did this operation have in 2014 that have not been recorded? <i>(Include potting soil.)</i> . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	0825	0826	0827
Specify Other Expenses & Amounts:				
<input type="text"/>				

SECTION J FARM ASSETS																																								
1. What was the MARKET VALUE of the following assets OWNED by this operation on December 31, 2014: <i>(Include owned assets on rented land.)</i>																																								
	None <span style="margin-left: 20px;">Dollars</span>																																							
a. farm operator's dwelling, if owned by the operation? <i>(Owned by the operation means the house is recorded as an asset in farm record books or deeded as part of the farm.)</i> . . . . . 0850	<input type="checkbox"/> <span style="margin-left: 100px;"></span>																																							
b. all other dwellings? . . . . . 0851	<input type="checkbox"/> <span style="margin-left: 100px;"></span>																																							
c. all other farm buildings and structures? <i>(Include barns, cribs, grain bins, greenhouses, silos, storage sheds, fences, corrals, etc.)</i> . . . . . 0852	<input type="checkbox"/> <span style="margin-left: 100px;"></span>																																							
d. orchard trees and vines, nursery trees, and trees grown for woody crops? . . . . . 0853	<input type="checkbox"/> <span style="margin-left: 100px;"></span>																																							
e. oil, gas, and mineral rights . . . . . 7101	<input type="checkbox"/> <span style="margin-left: 100px;"></span>																																							
f. land? <i>(Include land rented to others. Exclude houses, buildings, orchard trees and vines, and trees grown for woody crops.)</i> . . . . . 0854	<input type="checkbox"/> <span style="margin-left: 100px;"></span>																																							
2. What was the ESTIMATED MARKET VALUE of the following on December 31, 2014:																																								
a. trucks and cars owned by the operation? <i>(Include farm share only)</i> . . . . . 0882	<input type="checkbox"/> <span style="margin-left: 100px;"></span>																																							
b. tractors, machinery, tools, equipment and implements owned by the operation? . . . . . 0883	<input type="checkbox"/> <span style="margin-left: 100px;"></span>																																							
c. stock in farm cooperatives and the Farm Credit System? . . . . . 0884	<input type="checkbox"/> <span style="margin-left: 100px;"></span>																																							
<i>For each item below, report the MARKET VALUE(S) of the assets owned by the operation on the dates specified.</i>																																								
3. What was the ESTIMATED MARKET VALUE for the farm share of [item] on —	<table border="1" style="font-size: x-small; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2" style="width: 10%;"></th> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Beginning of Year</th> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">End of Year</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">JAN. 1, 2014?</th> <th style="text-align: center;">DEC. 31, 2014?</th> <th style="text-align: center;">JAN. 1, 2014?</th> <th style="text-align: center;">DEC. 31, 2014?</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">(Dollars)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(Dollars)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(Dollars)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(Dollars)</td> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>a. crops owned and stored on or off this operation? <i>(Include crops stored at co-op or gin warehouse, specialty crops, fruit storage, hay, silage, and nursery and greenhouse products not in the ground. Exclude trees and vines and crops under CCC loans.)</i> . . . . .</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0858</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0859</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0858</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0859</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b. breeding livestock owned by and located on or off this operation? <i>(Include aquaculture, bees, cattle, equine, hogs, mink, poultry, sheep, etc., kept for breeding purposes. Exclude livestock being produced under contract on another operation (reported in Section D).)</i> . . . . .</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0863</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0864</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0863</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0864</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c. non-breeding livestock owned by and located on or off this operation? <i>(Include aquaculture, bees, cattle, equine, hogs, mink, poultry, sheep, etc., kept for non-breeding purposes. Exclude livestock being produced under contract on another operation (reported in Section D).)</i> . . . . .</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0876</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0877</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0876</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0877</td> </tr> <tr> <td>d. production inputs owned by this operation, such as processed feed, fertilizer, chemicals, fuels, parts, purchased seed and other supplies? . . . . .</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0878</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0879</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0878</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0879</td> </tr> <tr> <td>e. production inputs already used by this operation for cover crops or crops planted but not yet mature for harvest (also known as sunk costs), or the value of inputs used for production contracts that have yet to be delivered? . . . . .</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0880</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0881</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0880</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0881</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Beginning of Year		End of Year		JAN. 1, 2014?	DEC. 31, 2014?	JAN. 1, 2014?	DEC. 31, 2014?		(Dollars)	(Dollars)	(Dollars)	(Dollars)	a. crops owned and stored on or off this operation? <i>(Include crops stored at co-op or gin warehouse, specialty crops, fruit storage, hay, silage, and nursery and greenhouse products not in the ground. Exclude trees and vines and crops under CCC loans.)</i> . . . . .	0858	0859	0858	0859	b. breeding livestock owned by and located on or off this operation? <i>(Include aquaculture, bees, cattle, equine, hogs, mink, poultry, sheep, etc., kept for breeding purposes. Exclude livestock being produced under contract on another operation (reported in Section D).)</i> . . . . .	0863	0864	0863	0864	c. non-breeding livestock owned by and located on or off this operation? <i>(Include aquaculture, bees, cattle, equine, hogs, mink, poultry, sheep, etc., kept for non-breeding purposes. Exclude livestock being produced under contract on another operation (reported in Section D).)</i> . . . . .	0876	0877	0876	0877	d. production inputs owned by this operation, such as processed feed, fertilizer, chemicals, fuels, parts, purchased seed and other supplies? . . . . .	0878	0879	0878	0879	e. production inputs already used by this operation for cover crops or crops planted but not yet mature for harvest (also known as sunk costs), or the value of inputs used for production contracts that have yet to be delivered? . . . . .	0880	0881	0880	0881
	Beginning of Year		End of Year																																					
	JAN. 1, 2014?	DEC. 31, 2014?	JAN. 1, 2014?	DEC. 31, 2014?																																				
	(Dollars)	(Dollars)	(Dollars)	(Dollars)																																				
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b. breeding livestock owned by and located on or off this operation? <i>(Include aquaculture, bees, cattle, equine, hogs, mink, poultry, sheep, etc., kept for breeding purposes. Exclude livestock being produced under contract on another operation (reported in Section D).)</i> . . . . .	0863	0864	0863	0864																																				
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e. production inputs already used by this operation for cover crops or crops planted but not yet mature for harvest (also known as sunk costs), or the value of inputs used for production contracts that have yet to be delivered? . . . . .	0880	0881	0880	0881																																				
<b>LIQUID ASSETS</b>																																								
4. What was the ESTIMATED MARKET VALUE of all other farm assets not previously listed on December 31, 2014? <i>(Include money owed to this operation (except money owed from commodity sales), cash certificates of deposit, savings and checking accounts, hedging account balances, government payments due, insurance indemnity payments due, balance of land contract sales, and any other farm assets not reported earlier. Exclude any personal debt owed to the operator(s).)</i> . . . . . 0887	<table border="1" style="font-size: x-small; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> <th style="text-align: center;">DEC. 31, 2014</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">(Dollars)</td> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 100px;"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		DEC. 31, 2014		(Dollars)	<input type="checkbox"/>																																		
	DEC. 31, 2014																																							
	(Dollars)																																							
<input type="checkbox"/>																																								



**SECTION K FARM DEBT**

1. Was debt used in funding the operation of this farm/ranch in 2014, including any loans obtained in earlier years? *(Include seasonal production and other loans taken and repaid during 2014.)*  
 1080  Yes - Continue  No - Go to Item 7

2. What was the total amount repaid on farm business loans taken out in 2014? None  Dollars  
 (Record any outstanding balances of loans taken out in 2014 in Item 3.)  
*(Include only seasonal production and other short term farm loans.)* . . . . . 0890  \$ \_\_\_\_\_ .00

3. To estimate the financial position of farms correctly and their ability to service debt and to categorize debt by types, we need to list loans this operation had on December 31, 2014, including any line of credit. *(Include farm/ranch loans, debt on the operator's house if owned by the operation, and multi-purpose loans used for both farm and non-farm purposes. Exclude CCC commodity loans and any loans used exclusively for non-farm purposes.)*

1 Who is the lender? <i>[From Lender Codes Below.]</i> (Code)	2 What was the balance owed on Dec. 31, 2014 including outstanding principal plus unpaid interest? (Dollars)	3 What was the interest rate on Dec. 31, 2014? <i>[Report in hundredths of a percent. Example: 9% = 09.00]</i> (Percent)	4 What is the type of loan? <i>[From Loan Type Codes Below.]</i> (Code)	5 What year was it obtained? (Year (YYYY))	6 What is the original term of the loan? (Number of Years)	7 What percent is for operating expenses, capital expenditures, or other expenses of the farm operation? (Percent)	8 What is the primary farm purpose of this loan? <i>[From Loan Purpose Codes Below.]</i> (Code)	9 Is this loan a: 1 fixed rate loan? OR a variable/adjustable rate loan repaid: 2 monthly? 3 quarterly? 4 annually? 5 more than annually? (Code)
1001	1002	1003	1004	1005	1006	1007	1008	1009
1010	1011	1012	1013	1014	1017	1015	1016	1018
1019	1020	1021	1022	1023	1026	1024	1025	1027
1028	1029	1030	1031	1032	1035	1033	1034	1036
1037	1038	1039	1040	1041	1044	1042	1043	1045

*If more space is needed, please use a separate sheet of paper.*

Lender Codes (Column 1)		Lender Codes (Column 1) (continued)		Loan Purpose Codes (Column 8)	
Lender	Code	Lender	Code	Purpose	Code
FARM CREDIT SYSTEM	1	Any other individuals	14	Purchased real estate (land & its attachments)	1
USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA)	2	Any other lenders	15	> farm and home improvements	
Small Business Administration (SBA)	3	Credit cards	16	> building construction	
State & county government lending agencies	4	Farmer Mac	17	> construction of livestock and poultry facilities	
Savings and loan associations, residential mortgage lenders	5	Credit Union	18	> grove development and rehabilitation	
Commercial banks	6	Other debts (such as unpaid bills, etc.)	19	Purchase feeder livestock	2
Life insurance companies	7			Purchase other livestock	3
Implement dealers and financing corporations	8			Other current operating expenses	4
Input suppliers	9			> current crop production	
Co-ops and other merchants	10			> care and feeding livestock including poultry	
Contractor	11			> labor, feed, seed, fertilizer, grove caretaking, repair and maintenance	
Individuals from whom any land in this operation was bought under a mortgage or deed of trust	12			Farm machinery and equipment	5
Individuals from whom any land in this operation was bought under a land purchase contract	13			Debt consolidation	6
				Other	7

4. If you had farm loans in addition to the five recorded above, what is the total amount of debt from these loans owed on December 31, 2014? *(Include farm/ranch loans and debt on the operator's house if it is owned by the operation. Exclude any loans exclusively for non-farm purposes that are secured by assets of the farm/ranch.)* . . . . . 1047  None  Dollars \$ \_\_\_\_\_ .00

5. How much of the total debt owed on December 31, 2014 (reported in items 3 and 4 above), was for the operator's dwelling? *(If the operator's dwelling is owned by the operation debt should be included here and above. Exclude operator's dwelling if not owned by the operation.)* . . . . . 1057  None  Dollars \$ \_\_\_\_\_ .00



6. Did you make any of the following adjustments to existing loans for agricultural purposes in 2014?

a. Re-negotiate a lower interest rate or re-finance at a lower rate ..... 1088  Yes  No

b. Consolidate multiple loans or convert short-term debt to longer term debt ..... 1089  Yes  No

7. Did you apply for any new loans or line of credit for agricultural purposes in 2014?

1083  Yes - Continue  No - Go to Item 8

a. Was a request for credit or loan application for agricultural purposes either turned down or were you not given as much credit as you applied for in 2014?

1086  Yes - Go to Section L  No - Go to Section L

8. What was the MAIN reason you did not apply for any new loans or line of credit for agricultural purposes in 2014? .....

1 Had sufficient funds without these loans	Code
2 Expected to be unable to obtain new or additional credit	
3 High costs associated with loan applications	
4 Risk associated with debt	

..... 1087

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**SECTION L FARM LABOR AND MANAGEMENT**

1. In 2014, how many owners of this operation were there? (Exclude landlords, contractors, and lending institutions holding farm debt. Include yourself if you have an ownership interest.) ..... 1246

Number

a. What percent of the ownership interest did you (the operator) and your household hold? (Exclude relatives not living in your household.) ..... 1248

Percent

2. In 2014, what was this operation's legal status for tax purposes?

1240

1  Family or individual operation (Exclude partnerships and corporations.)

2  Legal partnership operation (Include family partnerships.)

➔ a. Is this partnership registered under State law? ..... 1204  Yes  No

Number

➔ b. How many partners are there in this operation? ..... 1232

3  C-Corporation

4  S-Corporation

5  Other (Include estates, trusts, cooperatives, grazing associations, etc.)

3. Was this operation organized as a Limited Liability Company (LLC) under State law? 1202  Yes  No

4. In 2014, did any households, other than your (the principal operator's) household, share in the net farm income of this business? (Sharing can occur by receiving a share of profits/losses or, if incorporated, receiving corporate dividends.)

1225  Yes - Continue  No - Go to Item 5

Number

a. How many other households shared in the net income of the farm business? ..... 0976



5. Is this operation a C-Corporation or an LLC that chose to file as a C-Corporation in 2014?  
 1226  Yes - Continue  No - Go to Item 5b

a. How much did you (the principal operator) and your household receive in corporate dividends from this farming operation in 2014? (If your operation is an LLC that elected to file for tax purposes as a C-Corporation, consider this as income here.) [Skip 5b and proceed to item 6.] ..... 0975 

Dollars
\$ <input type="text"/> .00

b. What percent of net income (whether profit or loss) were you (the operator) and your household entitled to receive from this farming operation in 2014? (If your operation is an LLC that elected to report income for tax purposes as a pass-through, consider this as income here.) ..... 0974 

Percent
<input type="text"/>

6. In 2014, how many operators (individuals) were involved in the day-to-day decisions for this operation? (Enter the number of operators, including the operator named on the front of this form, and family members if they are also operators. Exclude family members unless they make day-to-day decisions for the operation. Exclude hired workers unless they are a hired manager.) ..... 1200 

Number
<input type="text"/>

7. Did you (the principal operator) have a spouse at any point during 2014?  
 1205  Yes - Continue  No - Go to Item 9

8. Did your spouse make day-to-day decisions for this farm/ranch at any point during 2014? (If yes, the principal operator's spouse should be included in Item 6 above.)  
 1209  Yes  No

9. Answer the following questions for up to three primary operators of this operation as of **December 31, 2014**. (If one of the operators is the principal operator's spouse and makes day-to-day decisions, record his/her information under operator 2.)

	Principal Operator	Operator 2	Operator 3
a. Full name of operator, .....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
b. Sex of operator? .....	1243 <input type="checkbox"/> Male 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Female	1263 <input type="checkbox"/> Male 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Female	1283 <input type="checkbox"/> Male 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Female
c. What was the Operator's age on December 31, 2014? .....	1242 <input type="text"/> Age	1262 <input type="text"/> Age	1282 <input type="text"/> Age
d. In what year did the operator begin to operate ANY farm? .....	1241 <input type="text"/>	1261 <input type="text"/>	1281 <input type="text"/>

10. On average, for each of the three-month periods during 2014, about how many hours per week (work and management time) did —

	None	Jan - Mar	April - June	July - Sept	Oct - Dec
		Hours / Week	Hours / Week	Hours / Week	Hours / Week
a. you (the principal operator) work for this farm/ranch? (Include both paid and unpaid hours) .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	0828	0829	0830	0831
b. your spouse (the principal operator's) work for this farm/ranch? (Even if your spouse is an operator, include his/her hours here. Include both paid and unpaid hours) .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	0832	0833	0834	0835
c. all other operators and household members work for this farm/ranch? (Exclude the principal operator and spouse. Include both paid and unpaid hours) .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	0836	0837	0838	0839
d. all other unpaid workers not previously reported work for this farm/ranch? .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	0840	0841	0842	0843
e. all other paid workers not previously reported work for this farm/ranch? .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	0859	0860	0861	0862

(Example: If the operation had 2 hired farm workers who were not household members who averaged 40 paid hours per week during Jan-Mar, report 80 for column 1 of Item 10e.)



**DIRECT SALES**

11. During 2014, did you produce, raise, or grow any commodities for human consumption that this operation sold directly to

a. Individual consumers? (*Include sales from roadside stands, farmers markets; pick your own, door to door, Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs). Exclude non-edible products such as Christmas trees and flowers, nursery products, craft items, and processed products such as jellies, sausages, and hams.*) . . . . . 1151  Yes  No

b. Retail outlets and regional distributors that sold directly to individual consumers? (*Include restaurants, grocers, food hubs, and other local food aggregators.*) . . . . . 1152  Yes  No

c. Institutions such as schools and hospitals that provide dining services to consumers? . . . . . 1153  Yes  No

[If you answered YES to 11a, 11b, or 11c, continue; otherwise go to Item 13.]

	Crop Products and Commodities (Dollars)	Livestock Products and Commodities (Dollars)
12. In 2014, what was the gross value of the direct sales of [column] sold:	1154	1159
a. directly to consumers at farmers markets? . . . . .	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
b. directly to consumers from on-farm store, u-pick, road-side stands, CSA's? . . . . .	1155 <input type="text"/>	1160 <input type="text"/>
c. to local retail outlets such as restaurants or grocery stores? . . . . .	1156 <input type="text"/>	1161 <input type="text"/>
d. to a regional distributor such as a food hub or an internet aggregator? . . . . .	1157 <input type="text"/>	1162 <input type="text"/>
e. to a local institutional outlet such as a school, college, or hospital? . . . . .	1158 <input type="text"/>	1163 <input type="text"/>

13. During 2014 did you produce, raise, or grow any commodities **NOT USED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION** that this operation sold directly to individual consumers, or retail outlets and regional distributors that sold directly to individual consumers? (*Include hay, nursery commodities, Christmas trees, horses, etc.*) . . . . . 1165  Yes - Continue  No - Go to Item 15

14. What was the gross value received for the (item 13) nonfood direct sales in 2014? . . . . . 1166 

Dollars
\$ <input type="text"/> .00

15. For all the acres **OWNED**, including acres rented to others, how many acres have: . . . . . None

	Acres	Year Sold or First Leased (YYYY)
a. The oil and gas rights been SOLD? . . . . . <input type="checkbox"/>	7011	7012
b. Other rights been SOLD? . . . . . <input type="checkbox"/>	7017	7018
c. The oil and gas rights been LEASED? ( Exclude acres in Item 15a) . . . . . <input type="checkbox"/>	7020	7021
d. Other rights been LEASED? ( Include leases for hunting and wind turbines) . . . . . <input type="checkbox"/>	7026	7027

16. Do you (the principal operator) plan to retire from farm work within the next 5 years? . . . . . 1171  Yes  No

17. Do you have a succession plan for your farm operation? . . . . . 1172  Yes  No

2001  
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SECTION M FARM OPERATOR & HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS		
<p><b>[NOTE: Please answer the following questions for yourself (the principal operator) and your spouse, if you reported one in Section L, Item 7.]</b></p>		
	Principal Operator	Spouse
1. Are you and your spouse of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin or background, such as Mexican, Cuban, or Puerto Rican, regardless of race? .....	1219 <b>Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	1220 <b>Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. What is your and your spouse's race? .....	<b>Mark one or more.</b> 1223 <input type="checkbox"/> White 1217 <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American 1213 <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native. Specify tribe: <input type="text"/> 1215 <input type="checkbox"/> Asian 1221 <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	<b>Mark one or more.</b> 1224 <input type="checkbox"/> White 1218 <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American 1214 <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native. Specify tribe: <input type="text"/> 1216 <input type="checkbox"/> Asian 1222 <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
3. What is the highest level of formal education you and your spouse have achieved? .....	<b>Mark one answer only.</b> 1257 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Less than high school diploma <input type="checkbox"/> 2 High school <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Some college (include associates degree) <input type="checkbox"/> 4 4-year college graduate and beyond	<b>Mark one answer only.</b> 1260 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Less than high school diploma <input type="checkbox"/> 2 High school <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Some college (include associates degree) <input type="checkbox"/> 4 4-year college graduate and beyond
4. At which occupation did you and your spouse spend the majority (50 percent or more) of your work time in 2014? .....	<b>Mark one answer only.</b> 1207 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Farm or ranch work. <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Work other than farming/ranching. <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Currently not in the paid workforce.	<b>Mark one answer only.</b> 1208 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Farm or ranch work. <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Work other than farming/ranching. <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Currently not in the paid workforce.
5. Do you (the principal operator) now consider yourself to be retired from farming/ranching? .....	1259 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
6. How many persons lived in the principal operator's household on December 31, 2014? (Include operator, spouse, children, and others living in the operator's household) .....		Number <input type="text"/>
7. Are you generally a person willing to take risks or do you try to avoid taking risks? Please mark one box on the scale below where the value "0" means "not at all willing to take risks" and the value "10" means "fully willing to take risks".	Not at all willing to take risks 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Fully willing to take risks 9 10
8. In 2014, was more than 50% of the ownership interest in this operation held by you (the principal operator) and/or persons related to you by blood, marriage, or adoption, including relatives not residing in your household? (Ownership interest is defined as having ownership of at least some of the farm business assets. Potential owners include individuals, partners, corporate shareholders, and members of a Limited Liability Company. Potential owners DO NOT INCLUDE landlords, contractors, and lenders.)	1249 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Continue <input type="checkbox"/> No - Go to Section O	Code <input type="text"/>
	Office Use Only	2003 <input type="text"/>



SECTION N FARM OPERATOR HOUSEHOLD – INCOME, ASSETS, & DEBT																																																																																			
1. Which value code from the list below represents the total income the household, the principal operator, and spouse received in 2014 from – (Exclude farm income reported earlier.)																																																																																			
SOURCE	OPERATOR INCOME (Value Code)	SPOUSE INCOME (Value Code)	TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME (Value Code)																																																																																
a. all off-farm wages, salaries, and tips before taxes and withholdings?	0950	0951	0952																																																																																
b. net cash income from operating another farm or ranch (net of depreciation)? (if a loss was incurred, please indicate with a negative sign).	0955	0956	0957																																																																																
c. net cash income from operating any other business (net of depreciation)? (if a loss was incurred, please indicate with a negative sign).	0958	0959	0960																																																																																
d. net cash income from renting farmland to others, excluding land rented to others from this operation? (Include rental of farmland that is not part of this operation, which may include whole farms or ranches owned by household members as well as smaller parcels of land. Include cash or share-rental income. If a loss was incurred, please indicate with a negative sign.)			0963																																																																																
e. interest income?			0969																																																																																
f. dividend income?			0966																																																																																
g. total proceeds from the sale of farm and non-farm capital assets? (Include operator household's share only).			0978																																																																																
(i) recognized gain/loss on the sale of capital assets reported above? (Item 1g) (if a loss was incurred, please indicate with a negative sign)			0981																																																																																
h. income from private pensions and private disability payments?			0939																																																																																
i. income from public sources? (Include Social Security, military and other public retirement, veteran's benefits, public disability, unemployment, or other public assistance.)			0998																																																																																
j. other off-farm sources of income?			0993																																																																																
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Dollar Range</th> <th>Value Code</th> <th>Dollar Range</th> <th>Value Code</th> <th>Dollar Range</th> <th>Value Code</th> <th>Dollar Range</th> <th>Value Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>None</td> <td>01</td> <td>\$10,000 – 14,999</td> <td>10</td> <td>\$80,000 – 99,999</td> <td>19</td> <td>\$1,000,000 – 1,499,999</td> <td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$1 – 499</td> <td>02</td> <td>\$15,000 – 19,999</td> <td>11</td> <td>\$100,000 – 124,999</td> <td>20</td> <td>\$1,500,000 – 1,999,999</td> <td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$500 – 999</td> <td>03</td> <td>\$20,000 – 24,999</td> <td>12</td> <td>\$125,000 – 149,999</td> <td>21</td> <td>\$2,000,000 – 2,999,999</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$1,000 – 1,999</td> <td>04</td> <td>\$25,000 – 29,999</td> <td>13</td> <td>\$150,000 – 199,999</td> <td>22</td> <td>\$3,000,000 – 4,999,999</td> <td>31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$2,000 – 2,999</td> <td>05</td> <td>\$30,000 – 34,999</td> <td>14</td> <td>\$200,000 – 274,999</td> <td>23</td> <td>\$5,000,000 – 7,499,999</td> <td>32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$3,000 – 3,999</td> <td>06</td> <td>\$35,000 – 39,999</td> <td>15</td> <td>\$275,000 – 349,999</td> <td>24</td> <td>\$7,500,000 – 9,999,999</td> <td>33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$4,000 – 4,999</td> <td>07</td> <td>\$40,000 – 49,999</td> <td>16</td> <td>\$350,000 – 499,999</td> <td>25</td> <td>\$10,000,000 and over</td> <td>34</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$5,000 – 7,499</td> <td>08</td> <td>\$50,000 – 59,999</td> <td>17</td> <td>\$500,000 – 749,999</td> <td>26</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$7,500 – 9,999</td> <td>09</td> <td>\$60,000 – 79,999</td> <td>18</td> <td>\$750,000 – 999,999</td> <td>27</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Dollar Range	Value Code	Dollar Range	Value Code	Dollar Range	Value Code	Dollar Range	Value Code	None	01	\$10,000 – 14,999	10	\$80,000 – 99,999	19	\$1,000,000 – 1,499,999	28	\$1 – 499	02	\$15,000 – 19,999	11	\$100,000 – 124,999	20	\$1,500,000 – 1,999,999	29	\$500 – 999	03	\$20,000 – 24,999	12	\$125,000 – 149,999	21	\$2,000,000 – 2,999,999	30	\$1,000 – 1,999	04	\$25,000 – 29,999	13	\$150,000 – 199,999	22	\$3,000,000 – 4,999,999	31	\$2,000 – 2,999	05	\$30,000 – 34,999	14	\$200,000 – 274,999	23	\$5,000,000 – 7,499,999	32	\$3,000 – 3,999	06	\$35,000 – 39,999	15	\$275,000 – 349,999	24	\$7,500,000 – 9,999,999	33	\$4,000 – 4,999	07	\$40,000 – 49,999	16	\$350,000 – 499,999	25	\$10,000,000 and over	34	\$5,000 – 7,499	08	\$50,000 – 59,999	17	\$500,000 – 749,999	26			\$7,500 – 9,999	09	\$60,000 – 79,999	18	\$750,000 – 999,999	27		
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HOUSEHOLD SPENDING – (Please see VALUE CODES above.)																																																																																			
2. Which value code from the list above represents how much this household spent in 2014 on –			Value Code																																																																																
a. food, including food away from home?			1105																																																																																
b. rent payments for principal operator's dwelling, if not owned by the household (Item 3c, on next page) or farm business (Section J, Item 1a has a zero value)?			1104																																																																																
c. utilities and household supplies?			1106																																																																																
d. non-farm transportation for the:																																																																																			
(i) renting or leasing of vehicles for household use, public transportation expenses, etc.?			1107																																																																																
(ii) fuel, maintenance and repairs, vehicle insurance, parking and license fees for non-farm share of vehicles?			1119																																																																																



**HOUSEHOLD SPENDING** – (Please see **VALUE CODES** on page 22.)

	Value Code
e. health and medical expenses of:	
(i) health and/or dental insurance costs? (costs not covered by the farm operation or an off-farm employer) . . . . .	1108
(ii) out of pocket expenses for health and medical needs? (Include co-payments, co-insurance, deductibles, etc.) . . . . .	1112
f. contributions to personal insurance (including life, disability, and liability insurance but not including health, homeowner or vehicle insurance) and retirement plans including pensions and Social Security? . . . . .	1109
g. contributions to individuals outside of the household, including alimony, child support, gifts (not including bequests) and charitable contributions? . . . . .	1110
h. mortgage interest for operators who live in a dwelling owned by the household and not the operation? (Exclude any parts of mortgage principal) . . . . .	1120
i. property taxes for operators who live in a dwelling owned by the household and not the operation? . . . . .	1121
j. all other family living expenses, such as non-farm household insurance payments, clothing and personal care products and services; house furnishings and equipment, education and child (or adult) care, entertainment (hobbies, recreation, and vacations)? . . . . .	1118

**OFF-FARM ASSETS** – (Please see **VALUE CODES** on page 22.)

3. Which value code on page 22 represents the total value of each of the following categories of **off-farm assets** owned by the operator and members of the operator's household on December 31, 2014, for – (Exclude assets of this operation, reported in Section J.)

	Value Code
a. financial assets held in non-retirement accounts? (Include cash, checking, savings, money market accounts, certificates of deposit, savings bonds, government securities, outstanding personal loans due to the operator or household, corporate stock, mutual funds, cash surrender value of life insurance, other financial assets. Exclude all farm business-related assets.) . . . . .	0953
b. retirement accounts? (401k, 403b, IRA, Keogh, other retirement accounts) . . . . .	0954
c. operator's dwelling, if not owned by the operation? (not reported in Section J, Item 1a) . . . . .	0984
d. real estate and other personal (second) homes? (other farms, residential rental, commercial, and other real estate) . . . . .	0985
e. business not part of this farm? . . . . .	0986
f. all household vehicles? (Including household share of vehicles partly owned by the operation) . . . . .	0982
g. other assets not reported elsewhere? . . . . .	0987

**OFF-FARM DEBT** – (Please see **VALUE CODES** on page 22.)

4. Which value code on page 22 represents the total value of each of the following categories of **off-farm debt** (debt not associated with this operation) owed by the operator and members of the operator's household on December 31, 2014, for – (Include off-farm debt secured with farm assets. Exclude any debt – household debt, credit cards, etc. – reported in Section K, Farm Debt.)

[NOTE: If mortgage debt on the operator dwelling was reported earlier in Section K, Item 5, then skip Item 4a and continue with 4b. If mortgage debt on the operator dwelling was NOT reported in Section K, Item 5, then continue with Item 4a.]

	Value Code
a. mortgages on operator's dwelling, if not owned by the operation? (Include home mortgages, home equity loans, and lines of credit secured by the operator's dwelling) . . . . .	0988
b. mortgages on other real estate and other personal homes such as second homes? (Include mortgages, equity loans, and lines of credit secured by other real estate, including other farms, residential rental, commercial, and other real estate) . . . . .	0989
c. loans on businesses that are not a part of this farm operation? . . . . .	1101



**OFF-FARM DEBT** – (Please see VALUE CODES on page 22.)

	Value Code
d. personal loans? (Include credit cards, auto loans, unpaid taxes, and medical bills) . . . . .	1102
e. all other off-farm debt owed by the operator or household? . . . . .	0983
5. Which value code on page 22 represents the amount of off-farm debt owed by the operator or household members that was secured by farm assets? . . . . .	1117

**2013 INCOME & EXPENSES**

	Value Code
6. Which value code on page 22 represents the total farm sales last year (2013)? (Total farm sales includes livestock and crop income from cash and marketing contract sales, fees received from livestock and crop production contracts, the net change in CCC loans, and government payments.) . . . . .	1113
7. Which value code on page 22 represents the net operating income for this operation last year (2013)? (cash income from all farm sources minus production costs and depreciation; if negative net operating income, please indicate with a <b>negative sign</b> before the value code) . . . . .	1114
8. Which value code on page 22 represents the total off-farm income last year (2013)? (wages, salaries, tips, interest, dividends, other public sources, etc. before taxes, income from operating another farm, income from operating any other business; if negative off-farm income, please indicate with a <b>negative sign</b> before the value code) . . . . .	1115

2002  
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**SECTION O CONCLUSION**

1. To receive the complete results of this survey on the release date, go to [www.usda.gov/results/](http://www.usda.gov/results/).  
Would you rather have a brief summary mailed to you at a later date? . . . . .  Yes  No

9990

(Thank You for Your Participation)

2. In case we have questions, please provide your contact information.

Reported By:	Telephone:	Date Completed (MM-DD-YY):

9910

Office Use Only					
Ending Time (Military)		OR	Time in Hours		
Hours	Minutes		Hours	Minutes	
		0008			0005

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Office Use Only											
Response	9901	Respondent	9902	Mode	9903	Enum	9908	9900	9922	Field Office Use	Optional
1-Comp		1-Cp / Mgr		1-Mail						0093	0003
2-R		2-Sp		2-Tel							
3-Inac		3-Acct / Bkpr		3-Face-to-Face							
		4-Partner									
		9-Other									
										Office Use for POID	
										9989	
Name											

SUBMITTED MEMORANDUM BY HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE, A REPRESENTATIVE IN  
CONGRESS FROM WASHINGTON

USDA-CENSUS-0003500

**USDA United States Department of Agriculture**

*National Agricultural Statistics Service*

***Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL) Survey***

March 19, 2014—DRAFT

**Background**

The TOTAL Survey has been funded \$4.5 million (\$2.0 million from ERS in FY14 and \$2.5 million in NASS' FY15 Census budget). Unlike the Agricultural Economics and Land Ownership Survey (AELOS) conducted for 1999, we are decoupling the request for names and addresses from the operators and expanding the scope of the Agricultural Resources Management Survey (ARMS), Phase III to collect data from the owners/operators. We are building a frame of landlords only from the June Area Frame (2014, rotated out segments from 2013, and rotated out segments from 2012) matched against administrative sources. The two administrative sources will be tax records purchased from CoreLogic and owners identified to Farm Services Agency (FSA). When those two sources do not provide information, NASS will utilize NASDA staff to visit the county tax assessor office to identify the land owners. Data from the landlords only will be collected on a questionnaire separate from the ARMS Phase III but during the same data collection window. It is a requirement that data be turned over to ERS no later than the end of July 2015 so products can be developed and shared with USDA by the end of September 2015.

**Issue**

NASS and ERS both desire to use the mandatory authority of the Census of Agriculture to increase response rates. The current ARMS docket will be suspended and a new docket submitted so we can carry the mandatory reporting statement on the questionnaires.

One issue is the access to ARMS records by sworn data users via the ERS data lab and through the data enclave. NASS has prohibited access to Census of Agriculture data and without approval, this combined effort under the Census authority would limit record level access. **Should ERS and the data enclave be given access to the data file?**

A second issue is the NASS publication. Due to the narrow window of time between clean data file and data dissemination, **should NASS agree to data dissemination via only on-line methods?**

**In regards to the publication, should NASS utilize the new ERS farm typology definitions?** The revised farm typology is summarized on page 2 and page 3. Note that the categories size breaks are different and that they use gross cash farm income instead of gross farm sales.

**Proposal\***

\* **Editor's note:** this is an excerpt of the Memorandum.

SUBMITTED ARTICLE BY HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS  
FROM MINNESOTA

***Scrooged by the survey: Farmers miss out on ARC payments***



Video hyperlink: <https://content.jwplatform.com/videos/zXmgQ62z-hWqsCqCS.mp4>.

By Mikkel Pates/Agweek on Dec. 7, 2015 at 9:34 a.m.

JUD, N.D.—Jeremy Nitschke says he fills out a lot of Federal agricultural surveys and responds to government surveys, but says a National Agricultural Statistics Survey that failed in his county shouldn't have cost him \$30,000.

At age 38, Nitschke is a farming partner with his younger brother, Nathan. The two farm in both Logan and LaMoure counties in North Dakota. They work in a loose association with an older Nitschke partnership that includes their father, Jon Nitschke, and their uncle, Jeff Nitschke.



Jeremy Nitschke (right) and his uncle, Jeff Nitschke, are partners in separate family farming ventures. They farm primarily in North Dakota's LaMoure and Logan counties—the only two counties in North Dakota that

are not eligible for corn payments in the Agriculture Risk Coverage-County program for the 2014 crop year. (Mikkel Pates/*Agweek*).



LaMoure and Logan counties were the only counties in North Dakota that didn't get payments for corn in the Agriculture Risk Coverage-County program for the 2014 crop year. Farmers had budgeted \$20 to \$67 per acre but got nothing, largely because they didn't fill out a voluntary yield survey. (Mikkel Pates/*Agweek*).



Farmers in North Dakota's LaMoure and Logan counties, including the Nitschke families who farm in Jud, N.D., didn't get the expected payments from the Agriculture Risk Coverage-County program for the 2014 crop year. (Mikkel Pates/*Agweek*).

When only one out of five farmers who received NASS corn yield returned those surveys last fall, it affected whether farmers in the two counties would get a payment in the Agriculture Risk Coverage-County, also called ARC-CO.

Jeremy and Nathan's partnership is typical and easy to calculate. The younger partners together have 1,000 acres of corn base on their FSA farm. With help from their loan officer, they calculated that, depending on yield, they might expect a net ACR-CO ranging from \$20 to \$67 per acre, or roughly \$20,000 to \$67,000.

Instead, they got nothing. Jeremy says he might have made different program decisions if he'd known how ARC-CO could go wrong.

"How can you take \$30,000 away just because people didn't fill out a survey?" he says.

#### **How could it be?**

The Federal Agricultural Act of 2014, signed into law Feb. 7, 2014, is administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency. Corn farmers who wanted to participate were offered a choice of two FSA farm programs on a farm-by-farm basis—the Price Loss Coverage program or the Agriculture Risk Coverage-County program.

The PLC program has a reference price of \$3.70 per bushel. Corn farmers would need to see the 2014 marketing year average fall below that to get a PLC payment.

Few predicted prices would fall below that level.

The final 2014 marketing year average national price came in right at \$3.70 per bushel, so farmers did not receive a PLC payment on corn.

Most corn farmers chose ARC-CO, which allows participants to receive revenue coverage when the current year revenue falls below a guarantee.

Under ARC-CO, the benchmark price for corn is \$5.29 per bushel. Software programs largely predicted that if farmers received normal yields and decreased prices the next 2 or 3 years, they'd likely get a payment in ARC-CO.

In North Dakota, farmers typically relied on spreadsheets provided by North Dakota State University Extension Service. NDSU farm management specialists estimated 140 to 150 bushel per acre yields for LaMoure County and 90 to 100 bushel per acre yields for Logan County.

Farmers wanting to participate in ARC-CO for the 2014 crop year had until April 7 to make program elections. By Sept. 30, they had to sign up a second time, to enroll into a contract. The same deadline was used for both the 2014 and 2015 crop contract.

#### **Olympic Averages**

ARC-CO guarantees were based on 5 years of county average yields and marketing year average prices—2009 to 2013.

The benchmark revenue figure to determine whether payment should be made is the combination of yield and price—the Olympic average yield for those years multiplied by the Olympic average price for the same years.

The ARC-CO payment guarantee was based on 86 percent of benchmark revenue, calculated with a formula based on Federal budgetary limits. It is further reduced by a factor of 0.932 (another seven percent reduction) for Congressional sequestration, another budget cut passed in 2011.

In educating farmers about their options, the FSA and Extension Service routinely noted payments would be made on county yields generated by a hierarchy of sources: National Agricultural Statistics Service county yield surveys, if available; FSA data-mined yields from the Risk Management Agency, or crop insurance; crop reporting district; and a yield set by the FSA state committee, using neighboring counties with similar production.

Everybody heard how it worked, but no one imagined the first option wouldn't be available because of a NASS survey. No one expected the second option would have such a negative impact.

#### **Survey Failure**

Darin Jantzi, NASS state statistician in Fargo, says there are roughly 282 corn producers in LaMoure County, according to the 2012 Census of Agriculture.

Yield surveys for the 2014 crop year were sent to 125 county producers in mid-October 2014. NASS waited for mailed responses for 3 weeks. NASS surveyors then attempted to phone recipients, giving up only if the farmer refused, or at the end of the survey period.

Only 27 of the surveys came back—three shy of the 30 producer minimum required. Further, the responses represented only 9.5 percent of the production acres in the county—far short of the 25 percent needed for a valid NASS yield.

The next option was the RMA figure, which was 165 bushels per acre.

Jeremy wasn't aware this was a problem until October.

He got word from AgCountry Farm Credit Services officials in Jamestown. It sunk in when he wanted to pay a farm loan bill with his ARC-CO payment, and a clerk in the office said it would be impossible.

"She said I got paid on 270 acres of wheat," he says. "Nothing on the corn."

Jeremy's uncle, Jeff, 59, thinks he failed to fill out the survey. But he also says if it were critical to paying farmers what they're owed, NASS should have done something to redo the surveys "if it was this important for our payments."

**RMA, FSA Differ**

Dale Ihry is a former FSA state specialist in Fargo and part of the ARC-CO farm bill team. He left that post in October to take a job as executive director of the North Dakota Corn Utilization Council. Ihry says FSA and RMA matches best in years when almost everyone in a county reports losses and RMA adjusts them.

In years of no loss, RMA corn yields often run roughly 10 bushels per acre higher than the NASS yield.

Ihry says the most reliable yield average for administering ARC-CO is the NASS County average yield. The FSA found that for corn counties in North Dakota, RMA yields would run roughly 10 bushels per acre higher than the county NASS yield. Yields certified to RMA during non-loss years might not reflect moisture content, test weight or damage.

Aaron Krauter, North Dakota FSA state executive director, says he can vividly remember telling farmers about the NASS survey basis for ARC-CO, and the “seed corn caps going up and down.”

He says farmers need to understand the surveys are more important today. Farm programs have become more of a safety net and aren’t simply direct payments.

“The reality is that farmers say they just throw these in the basket,” Krauter says. “I tell them, you can’t.”

Farmers right now are in the middle of filling out surveys for the 2015 crops.

In October, the FSA state committee requested the FSA in Washington, D.C., allow them to skip the RMA yield step for Logan and LaMoure counties, because it is “obvious the yield is an outlier.”

The national officials declined.

Krauter says the 165 bushel per acre yield for LaMoure County is a record yield for any county in the state. The FSA state committee requested to use NASS yields for counties with similar productivity.

Corn council and grower association boards have asked for the situation to be revisited. Krauter says he will keep asking Washington to “consider the anomaly” and allow the state committee to make a “reasonable yield decision.”

Sen. John Hoeven, R-N.D., has requested that FSA Administrator Val Dolcini revisit the issue and consider making things right in LaMoure, Logan and other counties with similar situations, such as Ransom and Steele.

**County Rules**

Some counties in southeast North Dakota received \$40 to \$60 per acre payments on their corn base acres.

“A lot of corn producers in LaMoure and Logan counties think that is what they should be getting,” Ihry says.

Most realize LaMoure County was unlikely to have gotten a payment that high. He says if the state committee had been allowed to adjust the yields properly, LaMoure County would have received about \$30 per base acre on their corn.

But Ihry says it makes no sense that LaMoure County—a predominantly non-irrigated county—could exceed the state’s record average corn yield by 10 bushels an acre. Next door, Dickey County, which completed its NASS surveys, had a yield of 150—a difference of 15 bushels per acre.

“How, statistically, would that ever happen?” Ihry asks.

The FSA did change the rules for farmers in multiple counties. Farmers like Jeremy who declare LaMoure County their “control” county for FSA payments, can be paid for acres they farm in nearby counties, such as Stutsman County.

About 90 percent of the Nitschkes’ land is in LaMoure County, within 5 miles of the Stutsman County border.

Meanwhile, some farmers who live in LaMoure County, but declare Stutsman County as their control county, receive the Stutsman County payment rate, before budget-reduction factors, of \$61.36 per acre, even for land they farm in LaMoure County.

Jeremy doesn’t indicate his operation is jeopardized by the ARC-CO snafu, but it did hurt.

He came back to the farm in 2004 and holds an associate’s degree in agricultural finance from North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpeton. He is the Chairman of the CHS-Dakota Prairie Ag elevator board in Edgeley, N.D., and is concerned about the dozens of farmers have been hit with the problem.

“It’s a lot of money,” Jeremy says, estimating it is a multi-million-dollar difference from what was anticipated. “It’s going to make a huge impact in LaMoure County.”