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# Agricultural Surveys

Interviewer's Manual  
June 2025 - May 2026



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## 1 The Agricultural Surveys

### 1.1 General

This chapter contains information about the purpose of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) Agricultural Surveys Program. You will discover why crop and livestock reports are needed and how NASS reports are used. This chapter includes a list of reports associated with the Agricultural Surveys.

### 1.2 Survey Purpose

NASS is responsible for preparing State and National crop and livestock estimates. The Agricultural Surveys Program obtains basic agricultural data from farmers and ranchers all over the Nation. These surveys provide the basis for estimates of this season's crop production and supplies of grain in storage. Survey results also provide the foundation for setting livestock and poultry inventory numbers. Estimates derived from these surveys supply basic information needed by farmers to make decisions for both short-term and long-range planning. These estimates might influence a farmer to:

- Increase or reduce hog production.
- Place more or fewer cattle on feed.
- Expand a hog operation or build a new facility.
- Plant or harvest a particular crop.
- Hold or sell crops now in storage, etc.

A respondent surveyed has the right to know:

- Under what Authority information is collected.
- The purpose of the information collected.
- How information about their operation will be used.

Reports received from individual farmers and ranchers remain confidential and are used only in combination with other reports to arrive at State and National estimates. Official information regarding these rights can be found in the [NASDA Enumerator Handbook](#).

### **1.3 Need for Crop and Livestock Reports**

Crop and livestock reports provide reliable information to place farmers on an equal footing with product buyers, bankers, credit associations, agricultural economists, farm organizations, and Federal, State, and local policymakers. Ideally, when all market participants are equally informed, no one is at a disadvantage due to uncertainty.

Information for NASS reports comes from the best possible source — the producer. NASS reports contain the data used by most universities, extension service agents, private and government economists, farm periodicals, and others to analyze what is ahead, alerting farmers to possible shortages or surpluses in production.

It is critical for market information to be distributed widely at all levels of the farming sector. This assures a competitive market structure far superior to one in which no one or only a few are informed.

Crop and livestock reports provide a measure of the size of production or inventories. This allows prices to stay in line with true supply and demand. Without NASS reports, farm prices would never align with supply because the actual supply would not be known. This is especially true for a farmer without access to information sources available to many businesses. Without good information, risks of doing business increase and costs rise. Consumers, intermediaries, and especially producers suffer when costs increase.

Many farmers and ranchers feel the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) reports only drive down prices. The truth is that prices may be affected for several days surrounding the release of reports. However, several studies completed by universities and research organizations prove that prices go up after a report as often as they go down. Actual supply and demand for agricultural commodities entering the market determines prices. Price changes following NASS reports are usually due to adjustments in market expectations. More information on the impact of USDA reports on commodity prices can be found using an internet search of “[Price Reactions After USDA Crop Reports](#)” and “[Price Reactions After USDA Livestock Reports](#)”.

Some farmers think we would all be better off without information provided by USDA reports. They feel that packers, feed companies, and other large businesses benefit from the reports and that farmers suffer as a result. However, large companies usually have their own information-gathering systems. Thus, farmers and small agribusiness firms would suffer far more than large companies if USDA reports were eliminated.



## 1.4 How Reports are Used

Uses of crop and livestock information are extensive and varied. The producer is the main user of information. The impact of crop and livestock reports on a given producer depends on the type and size of operation. Cash crop farmers have more alternatives in planning crop acreage than those producing feed crops for use on the farm. For producers of cash crops, early indications of planting intentions are useful. Production and stock information helps producers with stored crops find the best market opportunity. Producers of perishable crops are interested in the timing of plantings and acreage planted as an indication of market flow during the harvest period.

Reliable crop and livestock reports are to establish insurance needs and rates and place valuable aids in financial institutions to serve farmers' credit needs. Lending institutions can monitor trends and prospects in the broad agricultural sector to use available credit more effectively. Insurance companies use the information to establish insurance needs and rates and to place farm loans.

Livestock and poultry producers and feeders evaluate a wide range of information when making decisions on purchases, sales, and capital investments. Reports on inventory numbers, breeding intentions, slaughter, prices, and crop production are examples of useful information they find.

For example, a pork producer who studies the Hogs and Pigs report may find it advantageous to reduce breeding stock or hold hogs off the market for a while. Based on information in the *Cattle on Feed* report, a rancher may decide it will be more profitable to sell cattle as feeders instead of finishing them out for the slaughter market. Even if producers use other data sources for making these types of decisions, USDA reports can be used as a benchmark for comparison purposes.

Often, recommendations and forecasts presented in agricultural magazines, news releases, etc., are based on data from Agricultural Surveys found in NASS reports.

Data uses by farm organizations, agribusinesses, State and National farm policy makers, and foreign buyers of agricultural products may range from maintaining a basic data series to preparing marketing campaigns.

Farm supply firms also rely heavily on statistics when planning purchases and sales of feed, fertilizer, machinery, fuel, seed, and other farm production items. For those engaged in marketing, processing, and distributing agricultural products, supply, and demand information is useful for linking producer and consumer.

Government agencies at various levels are important users of statistics. Federal farm programs require information on acreage, production potential, stocks, prices, and income. Agricultural statistics are used to plan and administer Federal and State programs in areas such as consumer

## Chapter 1

### The Agricultural Surveys

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protection, conservation, foreign trade, education, and recreation.

Economists and data analysts are important users of NASS information. The analyst transforms statistics into projections of current trends, interprets their economic implications, and evaluates alternative courses of action in terms of prospective outcomes. These projections multiply the usefulness of statistics.

Crop and livestock reports show what's available for export and pinpoint surplus commodities so exports can be more effectively promoted. They show areas of surplus and deficit production so rural transportation systems can allocate railcars, trucks, barges, etc., to move farm products when and where they're needed. They also help food processing plants, farm input companies, and other businesses decide where to locate their operations so they're close to areas of heavy production.

Schools and universities teaching farm management, farm economics, and other agricultural courses use NASS reports to teach effective decision-making processes to tomorrow's farmers and agriculture business people.

#### 1.5 Reports Associated with the Agricultural Surveys

##### Quarterly Hogs and Pigs Report

- Hog and pig inventory, inventory by class and weight, farrowing intentions (select States & U.S.), sows farrowed and pig crop.
- Published at the end of June, September, December, and March

##### Quarterly Grain Stocks Report

- On and off farm stocks, by crop
- Published in June, September, January, and March

##### Rice Stocks Report

- On and off farm stocks, by grain length
- Published in June, August, October (CA only), January, and March

##### Crop Acreage and Production Report

- Four major quarterly reports:
  - March Prospective Plantings, June Acreage, September Small Grains Summary, and January Crop Production – Annual
- Monthly Crop Production Reports:
  - Acreage and Production for major crops

##### Cattle

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- Estimates for inventory by class, calf crop estimates by State
- Published in January and July (Indications only)

#### Sheep

- Inventory by class, market lamb inventory by weight group, lamb crop, and wool production
- Published in January

#### Goats

- Inventory by type and class, kid crop, and mohair production
- Published in January

#### Farms and Land in Farms

- Number of Farms and Land in Farms, by State
- Published in February

#### Farm Computer Usage and Ownership

- Farm computer usage, computer access, and internet access
- Published in odd years in August

#### Land Values

- Irrigated and non-irrigated cropland and pasture values
- Published in August

#### Farm Production Expenditures Annual Summary

- Farm production expenditures by U.S. farm production regions and economic class for major expenses
- Published in July

**NOTES:**

## 2 Terms and Definitions

### 2.1 General

Enumerators working on Agricultural Surveys should be familiar with the definitions of the terms listed below. To gain the most benefit from training, you should review the definitions of these terms before attending the State training workshop. **Definitions for the terms listed below can be found on the [NASDA website](#) (from the home page go to [NASDA-NASS], [Personnel Resources], then [References] to get to [NASS Terms and Definitions Document](#)).**

Other terms, their corresponding definitions, and characteristics of specific commodities in the Agricultural Surveys may be included in the respective chapters of this manual.

### 2.2 Agricultural Surveys Terminology

Acre	Contractee
Acreage Grid	Contractor
Acreage Reduction	Control Data
Aerial Photo	Coring
Agricultural Statistics Board (ASB)	Corporate Farm
Allotment, Acreage	Cow
Angora Goat	Crib
Animal Unit	Crop
Animal Unit Month (AUM)	Crop Residue
Area Sample	Crop Rotation
Area Sampling Frame	Cropland
Barrow	Custom Feedlot
Beef cows	Data Collection
Boar	Diversion
Broiler	Doe
Bt (Bacillus Thuringiensis) Variety	Double Crop
Buck	Dry Cow
Bull	Dual Utilization
Bunker Silo	Editing
Calf	Enumerator
Calf Crop	EPA
Cash Crop	Estate
Cash Rent	Ewe
Cattle on Feed	Extreme Operator (EO)
Chemigation	Fallow
Confidentiality	Farm
Conservation Reserve Program	Farm Service Agency (FSA)
Contract Production	Farmstead

## Chapter 2

### Terms and Definitions

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Feeder	Lamb
Feedlot	Lamb Chop
Feedlot Capacity	Land Values
Field	Landlord
Flock	Legume
Flue Cured	Levee
Fodder	List Sampling Frame
Forage	Litter
Fresh Market	Livestock
Genetic Engineering	Marsh
Genetically Modified Organism (GMO)	Meadow
Germination	Military Time
Gilt	Milk
Grain Stocks	Milk Cow
Grazing Allotment	Milk Goat
Grazing Association	Milk Production
Grazing Period	Multiple Frame Sample
Green Manure	Mutton
Greenchop	National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)
Half Section	Native Cover
Harvested Acres	Nematode
Hatchery	New Crop Lambs
Hay	New Segment
Hay Stocks	Nonagricultural Land
Haylage	Nonoverlap (NOL)
Heifer	Nonresponse
Herbicide	Nurse Cow
Hired Manager	Nurse Crop
Hogged Off	Nursery
Honey Bee (Colonies)	Off Farm Grain Stocks
Idle Land	On Farm Grain Stocks
Imputation	On-Off Dates
Incorporated	Open-Fire Cure
Insecticide	Operating Arrangements
Integrated Pest Management (IPM)	Operator
Intentions	Orchard
Inter-cropping	Outlier
Irrigated Field	Out-of-business
Irrigation	Overlap (OL)
Kid	Over-seeding
Lactation	Partner
Lagoon	Pasture

Permanent Sod	Share Rent
Pesticide	Sharecropper
Pheromone	Sheep Off
Pick Your Own	Shelterbelt
Pig	Shoat
Pig Crop	Silage
PIGA (Private or Industrial Grazing Association)	Silo
Point Segment	Skip-Row Planting
Ponding	Small Grain
Poor Stand	Smothering
Population	Sod
Poultry	Sodbuster
Primary Name	Sold-Out
Pullet	Sow
QAS (Quarterly Agricultural Surveys)	Spanish Goat
Quarter Section	Specific Pathogen Free (SPF)
Questionnaire	Statistics
Ram	Steer
Ranch	Stock Sheep
Rancher	Stocker and Feeder
Rangeland	Storage Capacity
Ratooning	Stratification
Reference Date	Straw
Refusal	Target Name
Release Date	Tract
Replacement	Trench Silo
Resident Areas	Wether
Resident Farm Operator	Wild Hay
Resident Operator	Winter Forage
Resident Tract	Woodland
Respondent	Yearling
Retired	
Sample	
Sample List	
Sampling Frame	
Sampling Unit	
Scouting	
Secondary Name	
Section	
Segment	
Segment Boundaries	
Set-Aside	

**NOTES:**



### 3 Standard Survey Procedures

#### 3.1 General

The following pages describe materials and procedures for conducting interviews, guidelines for completing questionnaires, and instructions for turning in completed work. This chapter should be studied carefully before beginning work and used as a reference during the survey period.

#### 3.2 Materials

##### Field Interviewing (June Area Survey)

**NOTE: The 2025 June Area Survey will be conducted differently in 2025. Updated instructions will be provided at a later date, if needed.**

Although in-person interviewing is an available mode of data collection for the June Area Survey, attempts should be made to collect information by phone.

You should have the following materials before you start field or personal interviewing:

1. State highway map.
2. County highway maps showing segment locations in **red**.
3. Aerial photographs and/or maps with segment boundaries outlined in **red**. For segments enumerated last year, the photos may show tract boundaries and code letters in **blue**.
4. [Optional] Masonite or other type of board to hold photos or maps (including large clips or rubber bands for holding photo or map to the board).
5. [Optional] Clipboard to hold questionnaire or a large clip to hold questionnaire to the Masonite board.
6. Acreage grid(s) for measuring land areas and distances on aerial photos.
7. Pencils - special **blue** photo pencils for marking on photos or maps, and **black** lead pencils for recording information on questionnaires.  
**Important:** Never use ink pens on maps, photos, or questionnaires
8. Survey materials (1 or more per segment):
  - a. Area Screening Form(s). For segments screened in a previous survey, pre-printed labels identifying tract operators will be placed on the Area Screening Form.
  - b. Area Tract questionnaire(s). For segments completed in a previous survey, pre-printed labels identifying farm name, operator, and partner names will be placed on the Area Tract questionnaire.

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### Standard Survey Procedures

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9. Extra Area Screening and Area Tract questionnaires to add to segment envelopes as needed.
10. Response burden and sales cards or Respondent Booklet to use when interviewing farm operators.
11. Envelopes for mailing Administrative Forms and related documents to the Regional Field Office or to your supervisor.
12. NASDA Enumerator Handbook.
13. Interviewer's Manual.
14. NASDA Identification Card (NAS-005).

#### **Telephone Interviewing (All Surveys)**

You should have the following materials before you start telephone interviewing:

1. Black lead pencils for recording information on questionnaires.
2. Assigned questionnaires, if not available on the iPad.
3. NASDA Enumerator Handbook.
4. Interviewer's Manual.

### **3.3 Supervision and Quality Control**

Your supervisor/coach may set up an appointment to meet with you at the beginning of the survey. This initial phone call will allow you and your supervisor/coach to review and discuss work you have already completed and address any issues or questions you might have. If requested, you should hold some of your completed work for your supervisor/coach to review. You may have to call the respondent to clear up any mistakes uncovered during your supervisor's/coach's review.

Following the initial call with you, your supervisor/coach will maintain communication with you and probably call you again later in the survey. If you have problems during the survey, contact your supervisor/coach as soon as possible.

Your supervisor/coach or the Regional Field Office will call some of your respondents after you interview them as part of a quality check. The respondent will be asked to recall the interview and verify information collected during your interview. For the June Area Survey, your supervisor/coach will also review some segments you have observed to visually verify that the tract and field information you recorded are correct.

### 3.4 Interview and Call Back Procedures

**Important:** *Interview the farm or ranch operator.* Information collected from persons other than the operator often turns out to be less accurate.

In some rare cases, you can contact the operator and complete the interview on the first attempt, but you likely will need to make one or more callbacks. For in-person interview, plan each follow-up attempt to arrive at a different time of day. The following instructions are a guide.

#### 1. First Attempt:

If the farm operator is not present but is expected shortly, wait for the interview. If the operator is not available or is extremely busy, set up an appointment. It is very important to keep the appointment or call back if it cannot be kept.

Make notes on the questionnaire of observations or any information learned while trying to contact the operator. This information will be useful if you are unable to contact the operator on a later visit.

If the operator will not be available until after the survey is over, interview a well-informed person such as the spouse, partner, child, or hired person. Try to interview the person most knowledgeable about the farming operation.

#### 2. Second Attempt

If a second attempt is required, try again to interview the operator. Try to set up an appointment. You may try to interview a well-informed person associated with the operation or complete the questionnaire by observation.

#### 3. Final Attempt

If, after all previous attempts, the operator is not available, interview a well-informed person about the operation. If neither is available, your supervisor/coach may ask you to complete the questionnaire for the entire operation based on your observations. At the very least, try to find out if the person or operation named on the label is still farming or ranching. Write notes on the questionnaire to explain unusual circumstances.

**Important:** Do not attempt to interview a neighbor or anyone else if the farm operator refuses to complete an interview for this survey, as this promotes distrust among other operators.

Non-Edited Respondent Data (NERD) is being utilized for some surveys. Data are based on availability. Some records will have many data points, others none. Enumerators are asked

## Chapter 3

### Standard Survey Procedures

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to utilize NERD during the CATI or CAPI interviews. When conducting the interview, enumerators should utilize the still/remind method as noted in [PSM-ASMS-16](#). Ex. “Last time we recorded XX, is this STILL correct” RFOs should provide guidance to NASDA enumerators, in survey correspondence, on how NERD is presented for applicable surveys.

### 3.5 Burden Statement

Regulations require Federal agencies to estimate the average time required to complete a questionnaire. A burden statement (either on the questionnaire, respondent booklet or on a separate sheet) will include this estimated average time. The average time may represent the actual average completion time from previous surveys, or it may be an estimate based on similar surveys.

If the respondent has problems with a questionnaire or with the time required to complete it, he/she/they may write to the state Regional Field Office that appears on the questionnaire. The address is included near the logo area of the questionnaire. Since regulations require the use of the burden statement, any questions a respondent may have about the burden statement should be addressed in writing to the Regional Field Office that appears on the questionnaire.

The burden statement appears on all questionnaires mailed to respondents. If a respondent is mailed a copy of the questionnaire (including sample copies), an enumerator collecting data by personal interview need not present a copy of the burden statement at the time of the interview.

Questionnaires designed for personal interviews generally will not have a burden statement printed on them. For some surveys, a copy of the burden statement appears on a separate sheet given to the respondent after the interview or in the Respondent Booklet. You will receive your supply of burden statement supplements or Respondent Booklets before each survey.

Questionnaires used only for telephone interviews, including CATI, do not have a burden statement.

Respondents often ask, “How long will this survey take?” Enumerators should note the burden statement average time requirement and never directly contradict it. However, enumerators may provide additional information, such as:

"The official average for this survey is 25 minutes but interviews I have been doing in this area are averaging around 15 minutes."

### 3.6 Refusals

Most people you contact cooperate and furnish the needed information. However, there are always a few people who are reluctant to provide information. Some respondents may refuse to provide any information. It is important to be courteous and friendly. Make a diligent effort to obtain the respondent's cooperation by explaining the purpose of the survey, confidentiality of the data, and the need for accurate agricultural statistics. Chapter 1 of this manual and the [NASDA Enumerator Handbook](#) explains why reports issued from these surveys are important and suggests ways the respondent might use the reports to make decisions.

If the respondent refuses to report, you should:

1. Conclude the interview with a friendly attitude and always leave the respondent with a positive impression of you as a professional interviewer. Do not become discouraged.
2. Make observations on the questionnaire by being aware of what is around you.

**Important: Do not spy or deceptively try to obtain data. Do not try to interview hired workers or other family members if the operator has already refused.**

- a. **Agricultural List Surveys:** (Crops APS & Hogs: Jun, Sep, Dec, Mar; Cattle: Jan, Jul; Sheep & Goats: Jan)

The Ag Survey editing program requires the Regional Field Office to provide an explanation of presence or absence of crops, grain storage and livestock at a minimum. Observations from you can provide an up-to-date verification of information which can greatly improve the quality of the survey results.

Examples of valuable observations include:

- Presence of livestock on operation and number/size/type of livestock facilities.
- Specific types of machinery which would indicate a presence of crops (Press drill, row crop planter, hay equipment, etc.).
- Count and estimated size of grain storage facilities.

**b. June Area Survey (Not applicable for 2025):**

Detailed observations are required on the June Area Survey Tract Questionnaire, Section D. As the enumerator on the scene, you are the only person able to provide information to complete this section. When an operator refuses the June Area Survey Tract Questionnaire or the operator is inaccessible, **you must still complete** Section D through observation. Enter comments for the following into the June Area CAPI instrument:

- Provide observed tract boundaries.
  - Provide observed field usage (corn, waste, pasture, etc. in notes on the segment map and item level comments in CAPI.
  - Provide observations (presence/absence) for other parts of the questionnaire.
3. Record the reason for the operator's reluctance. Documenting the reason for a refusal provides the Regional Field Office with important information. The notes from a survey or a group of surveys create an overview that can be valuable to the Regional Field Office.

Above all, don't become discouraged if you get a refusal. Some people won't talk to anyone, and experience tells us most refusals are just caught at a bad time for a survey or interview. On your next interview continue to meet people with ease and friendliness.

### 3.7 Completing the Questionnaire

All Agricultural Surveys can be completed on the iPad. If instructed to complete the survey questionnaire on paper, make all entries clear and easy to read. Use a **black** lead pencil.

#### 1. Boxes or Entry Cells (item code boxes)

- a. Answers must be written entirely within the box or space provided (including YES and NO check boxes) and properly located in relation to pre-printed decimals and zeros. If the answer to a question is NONE, enter a dash (-) instead of a zero. A zero may be mistaken for a 6. Similarly, write all numbers clearly so a 3 and 5 are not confused, or a 1 and a 7.

#### 2. Enumerator Instructions

- a. Statements sometimes used at the beginning of a section include definitions and instructions about the next questions. The respondent must be made aware of this information. Read statements and questions exactly as written.

Please account for **whole grains** and **soybeans** on hand or stored on June 1 on the total acres operated, whether for **feed, seed, or sale**. They may have belonged to you or someone else, or been stored under a government program (loan, farmer owned reserve, or CCC.)

**Figure 3.1:** An introductory statement with definitions and instructions. Read these to respondents exactly as written.

- b. Enumerator instructions are enclosed in square brackets and printed in italics. These instructions should not be read to respondents.

Is any of the land in this operation cropland?

**Yes** – [Go to Item 3.]    **No** – [Continue.]

**Figure 3.2:** Enumerator instructions enclosed in square brackets. Do not read these to the respondent.

In this example, the instructions following the check boxes direct you to the next question to be asked. You will not read enumerator instructions to the respondent.

## Chapter 3

### Standard Survey Procedures

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- c. Optional words are enclosed in parentheses. You may read these words to the respondent to further clarify the question.

Were any livestock or poultry, regardless of ownership, on this operation at any time in the last 12 months? (Include hogs, cattle, sheep, goats, equine, bee colonies, etc.)

**Figure 3.3:** Optional Words are enclosed in parenthesis. You may read this to respondents if necessary to clarify the item.

The optional wording is "(Include hogs, cattle, sheep, goats, equine, bee colonies, etc.)." You may read this to the respondent if necessary to clarify the question and obtain the correct response.

- d. Always ask the next question, unless instructed to do otherwise with a skip instruction.

Is any of the land in this operation cropland?  
**Yes** – [Go to Item 3.]      **No** – [Continue]

**Figure 3.4:** Unless instructed otherwise, always ask the next question.

In this example, if Yes, go to Item 3. If No, ask the next question.

- e. Make notes about answers outside of expected ranges. Do not write notes or make unnecessary entries in the answer cell. One example would be if the operation suffered above normal death loss due to weather or disease. Your note provides an explanation to the reviewer when the questionnaire is reviewed in the Field Office.

### 3. Acreage Entries

If the answer cell has a pre-printed decimal, record acres to a tenth of an acre. If whole acres are reported, enter a zero to the right of the decimal point. Add notes in the margins, when appropriate.

### 4. Livestock Questions

A general rule is that the livestock reference date for the June Area Survey is June 1, unless otherwise specified.



### **3.8 Mailing**

Completed survey materials should be returned to the Field Office or Regional Field Office according to your supervisor's/coach's instructions. Usually, they will be mailed in envelopes provided by the Regional Field Office. For June Area segments, survey materials should be returned after data collection is complete, unless otherwise requested by your supervisor/coach. The envelope or "kit," must contain:

1. Completed Area Screening Questionnaire(s).
2. Completed Area Tract Questionnaires(s).
3. Any computations or note sheets you prepared on the segment.

**NOTE: All mail packages must be double wrapped to protect personally identifiable information (PII). Segment envelopes may only be used as double wrapping if no PII was written on the outside.**

**Important: Do not mail questionnaires in photo mailing boxes.**

Keep a record of all items you send or turn over to your supervisor/coach. You should record place, date, time of mailing and identification number of June Area segments, other assigned questionnaires, and aerial photos or maps sent. This information will help the Regional Field Office locate delayed questionnaires and survey materials.

Aerial photos and maps for completed segments should be mailed to the Regional Field Office unless your supervisor/coach instructs you otherwise. Photo mailing cartons and mailing instructions will be furnished by the Regional Field Office.

When you have completed your last assigned segment and sent all materials, put all your remaining aerial photos, maps, and any unused materials in a photo mailing box, tape the box securely, and send the box to the Regional Field Office. Do this the same day you finish your work unless your supervisor/coach instructs you otherwise.



## 4 Interviewing Procedures for the June Area Survey

**NOTE: Section not applicable for 2025**

### 4.1 General

This chapter contains basic instructions to help you complete your assignment for the June Area Survey. You will contact numerous farm and ranch operators over a very short period. Good, advanced planning and preparation will make your job much easier. Make every effort to plan your activities to prevent last minute problems. Problems due to insufficient planning could affect the quality of your work.

### 4.2 Area Frame Basics

The Area Frame is created by dividing an area of land to be surveyed into small blocks called segments. Each segment has unique boundaries identified on aerial photographs or maps. Samples selected from the Area Frame consist of randomly selected segments.

### 4.3 Name and Address Labels

Your Regional Field Office will provide labeled Tract questionnaires for segments enumerated during a previous survey. These labels contain the name and address for all persons identified as operators of land inside the segment during the previous survey.

Labeled tract questionnaires may also be provided for new tract operators identified during pre-screening.

A key point to remember when completing Area Frame questionnaires is the name on the label must be associated with land located inside the segment boundaries.

The following examples are for general reference only and may not be the exact label included on the questionnaires. Please refer to documentation and directions provided by your Regional Field Office regarding the actual format and content of labels.

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### Interviewing Procedures for the June Area Survey

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#### Screening Form Label


The Area Screening Form will have one label for each tract arrangement identified in a previous year.

Seg Identification, Tract Letter .....	<b>01 2003 100061 05</b>	<b>Tract: E</b>
Phone, Tract Acres.....	<b>PH: (555) 555-5555</b>	<b>Acres: 100</b>
Operation Name, Area POID .....	<b>FARMER ONE RANCHES LLC</b>	<b>110090000</b>
Primary Name.....	<b>JOHN FARMER</b>	
Address.....	<b>123 COUNTY RD</b>	
City, State, Zip.....	<b>CITY ST 10000</b>	

**Figure 4.1:** Standardized label format used in Area Screening Form.

#### Tract Questionnaire Label

Area Tract questionnaires will have one label for each name associated with an agricultural tract the previous year. A label will contain the operation name, if one was reported, the primary operator's names and address. A separate label for each partner identified previous year will also be on the Tract questionnaire.

Barcode .....		
Barcode Information .....	<b>01 000100061 05 00 002761 0000561944 0</b>	
NPC Sequence #.....	<b>SEQ001-00014</b>	
Seg Identification, Tract letter, Tier.....	<b>01 2003 100061 05 00</b>	<b>TRACT E TIER 3</b>
Sampling Information and Tract Acres .....	<b>STR 078 100 100 100 090 050 1100190000</b>	<b>ACRE 100.0</b>
Op Dom Status ID, Op Dist, Op County .....		<b>OPDOM 00 50 099</b>
Phone Number(s)/Cell Phone Indicators....	<b>(555) 555-5555 c (556 ) 556-5556 ( ) -</b>	
Supervisor ID, Enumerator ID.....		<b>01321 01381</b>
Operation Name .....	<b>FARMER ONE RANCHES LLC</b>	
Primary Name, List Cross Reference ID .....	<b>JOHN FARMER</b>	<b>LID 01 880000000</b>
Address.....	<b>123 COUNTY RD</b>	
City, State, Zip.....	<b>CITY ST 10000</b>	

**Figure 4.2:** Typical label formats used on Area Tract Questionnaires.

#### **4.4 June Area Data Collection Tiers**

There are three data collection tiers for the June Area Survey. The dates in CAPI will drive when data collection for each Tier is allowed to begin. The Tier for each ag tract will be printed on the label as seen in Figure 4.2. Definitions of the three tiers are as follow:

- Tier 1 – Prescreening (mid-March – mid-April). Non-ag tracts can be completed during this period.
- Tier 2 – Previous year’s ag tracts with no presence of crops or stocks. Data collection for this tier begins around May 20. Adjustments are made on Tier 2 records that match with other June surveys, and their data collection start date is set to 2 days prior to June 1 reference date.
- Tier 3 – New ag tracts and ag tracts from previous years with a history of having crops and/or stocks. Data collection for this tier begins two days prior to the June 1 reference date.

#### **4.5 Step-by-Step Guide for Area Frame Interviews**

**NOTE:** For the June Area Survey, initial contact should be made by phone if phone numbers are available. In-person enumeration will be allowed for some segments. Your RFO will provide guidance for segments/tracts eligible for in-person follow-up. Please follow the guidelines below when conducting interviews:

- Step 1:** First, mark the location of your home on a State or County highway map. Mark the location of segments to be observed on your map. Use this map to plan your daily travel route. Plan an efficient route to help reduce mileage and make good use of your time. Use all available resources (Google Earth, paper maps, etc.) to ensure travels are completed with cost efficiencies in mind.
- Step 2:** After determining the most efficient route, locate the first segment using the State highway map, County map, and aerial photo or quad map. When you arrive at the segment, orient your aerial photo or quad map with ground features. Identify your location on the photo using landmarks such as roads, ditches, streams, trees, and buildings.
- Step 3:** Drive around the segment, if possible, to identify boundaries and features shown on the aerial photo or map. Become familiar with the segment boundaries and landmarks. This will help you when talking with farmers about the boundaries of land they operate inside the segment. Locate any occupied residences and farmsteads inside the segment boundaries on your photo. Remember, the appearance of buildings, fields, and woodland could have changed since the photo was taken.

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### Interviewing Procedures for the June Area Survey

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- Step 4:** When possible, select a farmstead located inside the segment for your first phone interview. Non-resident farm operators often live near the segment. In most cases, you can locate them by inquiring when phoning neighboring respondents. When you locate a non-resident farm operator, identify their residence on the aerial photo, quad map, or county highway map if possible. This will help you if you contact the respondent again. Your State may provide graph or grid paper to aid in mapping the location of non-resident farm operators. Other sources of information for locating non-resident farm operators include grain elevators, feed dealers, county agents, FSA offices, Post Offices, etc.
- Step 5:** Phone the operator and introduce yourself. A sample introduction is provided on the face page of the Area Screening Form. Study it before starting work. The introduction on the questionnaire can be used as a guide for you to follow. You may use your own words to introduce yourself to respondents.
- Step 6:** Determine the boundaries of the land the respondent operates inside the segment. Ask the respondent the screening questions inside the Area Screening questionnaire to determine if the operator qualifies for an Area Tract questionnaire.
- Step 7:** Complete an Area Tract questionnaire for all operators who qualify based on responses to the screening questions in the Area Screening questionnaire. General guidelines for completing the Area Tract Form are covered in this chapter. Item-by-item instructions for completing the Area Tract questionnaire are in the next chapter.
- Step 8:** After completing each interview review your work. All tracts must be clearly identified with boundaries properly outlined on the aerial photo or map.
- Step 9:** Thank the respondent for the interview. Make a friendly, courteous departure since many operators may be revisited for Objective Yield, Agricultural Labor, or other follow-on Agricultural Surveys. They will also be contacted in the coming years for June Area as segments generally stay in rotation about 5 years.
- Step 10:** After completing the phone interview, but before the next interview, carefully review the questionnaire and make any necessary notes, additions, or deletions. Take time to double-check all math calculations and responses to make sure the questionnaire is complete and accurate. If necessary, immediately call the respondent back for corrections.
- Step 11:** Interview the operator for the next tract in the segment. You have completed screening of the segment when you have accounted for every parcel of land

inside the segment. Enter data for each Area Tract questionnaire into the CAPI form as they are completed.

**Step 12:** When you have completed a segment, fill in Items 1-5 on the back of the Area Screening Form. Your Regional Field Office or supervisor will give you instructions for mailing completed segments and when to mail your photos and maps. Make sure all tracts and screeners are correctly submitted in the CAPI instrument.

#### 4.6 June Area/ACES Online Respondent Parcel Map Instructions

If a respondent no longer has a copy of the map sent in the mail, a copy of the map can be accessed on the web. The survey code the respondent can enter in the Ag Counts website ([www.agcounts.usda.gov](http://www.agcounts.usda.gov)) is printed on the front of the screening form, is available on tract level records in CAPI, or the Regional Field Office can look it up in SMS. See images below:

**Figure 4.3:** Survey Code Displayed on Front of Screening Form

Part 1 of 1

County Pinal

021

**SURVEY CODE=0400-01NS-XHMN**

**Figure 4.4:** Survey Code Displayed in CAPI at the Tract Level

Operator Information Close

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JUNE AREA SURVEY - TRACT LEVEL

**POID:** 120032013      **TRA:** 1      **SUB:** 0      **OP DOM:** 0

**DCMS:** 220      **STR:** 2002

**LABELS:**

**Survey Code:** 0120-03HP-PXLZ

**Operator:**  
JOHN DOE  
3196 OLD HIGHWAY 431  
OWENS CROSS ROADS, AL, 35763

**Operation:**  
DOE FARMS INC

Person Phone: 5555555555

Survey Title	Seq.	OP DOM	Poid	Status
No Coordinated Surveys to Display.				

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### Interviewing Procedures for the June Area Survey

Figure 4.5: Survey Code Displayed in SMS

Smeta	survey subtitle	survey code	state id	area stratum	segment id	tract	poid	af tract letter
3838	SEGMENT LEVEL	SURVEY CODE=0120-03HP-PXLZ	1	2002	120032	0	120032	
2761	TRACT LEVEL	SURVEY CODE=0120-03HP-PXLZ	1	2002	120032	1	120032013	A
2761	TRACT LEVEL	SURVEY CODE=0120-03HP-PXLZ	1	2002	120032	2	120032023	B
2761	TRACT LEVEL	SURVEY CODE=0120-03HP-PXLZ	1	2002	120032	3	120032033	C

#### To access the web map:

1. GO TO [www.agcounts.usda.gov](http://www.agcounts.usda.gov)
2. ENTER the Segment SURVEY CODE and click Submit & Get Survey(s) (Figure 4.6)

Figure 4.6: Ag Counts Site to Enter Survey Code

3. There is one clickable item on this screen - The Open Area Map Icon
  - a. Clicking on the Open Area Map icon (see Figure 4.7) will take the respondent directly to the Segment Parcel Map.

Figure 4.7: Survey Title on Ag Counts Website

Survey Name	Due Date	Status	Action
JUNE AREA SURVEY SCREENING FORM - 2022-06-01 - 3838 - 566360	Submit By: 04/07/2023	Started	<a href="#">Open Area Map</a>



## 4.7 Aerial Photography/Map Problems

### 1. Two or More Aerial Photos for a Segment

If the same part of a segment appears on two photos, some tracts will be too large for only one photo. In this case, part of the tract boundary will have to be drawn on one photo and part on the other photo. When tracts must be marked on two photos, show the tract codes and field numbers on both photographs.

### 2. Boundaries of Segment Not Identifiable on Ground

Occasionally, a segment boundary will not be identifiable on the ground. This may be due to changes since the photo was made. A fence row may have been removed or a crop may be planted continuously across an old field boundary or fence line. Ask the respondent to identify exact field boundaries. Use your ruler or acreage grid to determine the acreage of the field(s) inside the segment boundaries.

A segment boundary may run through a pasture or open range where livestock may roam back and forth across the segment boundary. Make a note of this on the last page of the Screening Questionnaire. Show the boundary of fields extending outside the segment with a **dashed red** line.

### 3. Boundaries of Segment on Aerial Photo and County Map Do Not Agree

Sometimes, you may find the segment boundary on the photo does not agree with the boundary outlined on the county map. When this happens, use the aerial photo as your guide. If this is still a problem, contact your supervisor for assistance. Report the inconsistency on the back of the Area Screening Form.

### 4. Aerial Photos Not Provided for a Segment

Some segments, such as grazing areas in Western States, may only be shown on a quad or county highway map. Proper tract identification is a problem when a crop is present. Many times, the crop will be hay. For the June Area survey, if the area where hay was cut cannot be marked off easily, get the total acres harvested. If the planted acreage is an Objective Yield crop, corn, cotton, soybeans, wheat, an enumerator sketch may be helpful to account for the proper land in the proper tract. The Regional Field Office may request supplemental photography for the segment next year if the tract boundaries are a serious problem.

### 5. Segment Boundaries Extend into a Neighboring State

Segment boundaries are supposed to stop at the State line. You should only collect data for operators of land in your State. If a field boundary crosses the State line,

## Chapter 4

### Interviewing Procedures for the June Area Survey

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collect only the information for the portion of the field located in your State. If this is too difficult, collect data for the land in both States. The Regional Field Office will divide the information.

**Important:** Procedures for List surveys are different. Refer to Chapter 7, Interviewing Procedures for the June Agricultural List Surveys

## 5 The June Area Screening Form

**NOTE: Section not applicable for 2025**

This chapter provides detailed instructions for completing the Area Screening Form. At least one Area Screening Form must be completed for every segment.

The area screening form is a tract directory used to:

1. Record the name and address of all tract operators.
2. Determine if a tract operator qualifies for an Area Tract questionnaire.
3. Record full name, address, phone number and acreage for the non-agricultural tracts.
4. Enter the information into the June Area CAPI instrument.

### 5.1 Screening Purpose and Importance

The June Area Survey provides State and National level indications of crop acreage, livestock inventory, land values and number of farms. The screening process is used to decide when a tract questionnaire is necessary to capture detailed data on **any or all** of these items. A tract questionnaire is necessary for all operations that have the potential to qualify as a farm.

**Farm:** A farm is defined as “any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year.” Government payments are included in sales. Institutional farms, experimental and research farms, and Indian Reservations are included as farms. Places with their entire acreage enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, set aside, or other government programs are considered operating.

It will often be obvious during the screening process for a production crop farm, hog, or cattle operation that a tract questionnaire is necessary based on visible agriculture activity or prior knowledge of the operator. However, the screening process for other unique operations with cut hay, equine, nursery, vegetable, or fruit production, only a few head of livestock or acres enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) may not be so obvious. In these cases, the screening questions are critical to ensure that a tract questionnaire is completed when the operating arrangement has the potential to qualify as a farm.

It does require extra effort to ensure that all farms are screened properly and have a completed tract questionnaire.

## **5.2 Screening Segments**

The Area Screening process occurs in two phases. Pre-screening is done prior to the official data collection period and is usually reserved for new segments rotating into data collection and/or agri-urban type segments. Its purpose is to identify the segment boundaries, segment layout, non-agricultural areas within the segment and the names and addresses of possible contacts.

The Regional Field Office Staff worked to identify potential operators prior to pre-screening using data from outside sources. Data from two sources, CoreLogic and Report All, were obtained through a contract, and FSA data were gained through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). You will be provided maps with FSA common land units (CLU) displayed, as well as listings from FSA with names and contact information. Respondents will not be sent maps with the FSA CLUs, but you can use them as a guide when talking to respondents by phone. Parcel maps mailed to respondents prior to prescreening and data collection will be generated using county assessor data, which is public information.

Remember that possible contacts include all partners and/or associated operation names. No interviews or data are collected at that time. However, the advanced planning and identification reduces the time required to complete the segment during the actual data collection period. The second and largest screening phase is done during the official data collection period.

All land inside the segment must be screened for agricultural activity. All the land inside the segment must be accounted for, even land that is considered non-agricultural. Screening questions apply to all land in the identified operating arrangement, including land outside the segment. The ½ acre screening rule (explained in Section 5.3) should be used to screen residential or built-up areas.

All tracts with agricultural inventory or production inside the segment, regardless of size, must have an Area Tract questionnaire completed. Follow these steps when screening segments:

1. All contiguous non-agricultural, nonresidential areas can be drawn off and assigned one tract letter on the aerial photo or map.
2. Residential areas with lot sizes less than ½ acre with no visible crop production, livestock inventory, or crops stored, can be drawn off as one tract. However, residences with obvious agriculture potential should be assigned a separate tract letter in the Area Screening Form.
3. When two or more farm operators live in the same house and both have agricultural production or livestock inventory inside the segment, each should be assigned a separate tract letter and complete an Area Tract questionnaire.
4. For partnership operations where both the primary operator and the partner(s) live inside the segment - complete an Area Tract questionnaire including the primary operator's house. Draw off the partner's house(s) (regardless of size) and record them as non-ag tracts.

5. Land used for energy production should be accounted for in one of two ways. If the operator has access to and makes management decisions regarding the land, it should be included in the farm operation. If the operator does not have access (fenced off) or does not make decisions regarding the land, it should be drawn off and assigned a separate tract letter.

The interview for a tract is ended on the Area Screening Form when:

1. The person in charge of the tract does not have (or intend to have) crops, crop storage, livestock, hogs owned, equine or other related agricultural activities on the total acres operated.
2. The only part of an agricultural operation located inside the segment is the operator's residence of  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre or less, and if (1) no crops are produced on the tract; (2) no livestock are located on the tract; (3) no crops are stored on the tract; and (4) no crop storage facilities are located on the tract.
3. (AZ, CA, CO, ID, KS, MT, NE, NV, NM, ND, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, WA, and WY only) If the tract is Public, Industrial, or Grazing Association (PIGA) land used on a fee-per-head or Animal Unit Month (AUM) basis. (Refer to Special Screening Situations for instructions on the types of PIGA land and specific screening rules that apply for each type).

### 5.3 The $\frac{1}{2}$ Acre Screening Rule

You may be asked to screen residential areas for farm operators before the actual survey. You may complete the Area Screening Form and identify possible farm operators, but **do not** complete Area Tract questionnaires before the survey start date.

Visually inspect residential areas of  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre or less per parcel for agricultural activity:

1. If the residential parcel is  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre or less and agricultural activity or equine is present, assign a tract letter and complete a tract questionnaire.
2. If the residential parcel is  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre or less and no agricultural activity or equine is present, assume it is a non-agricultural tract.
3. If the residential parcel is over  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre with no agricultural activity present, interview the operator to determine if they operate a farm.
4. If the residential parcel is over  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre and a farm operator lives on it, assign a tract letter, and complete a tract questionnaire.

## Chapter 5

### The June Area Screening Questionnaire

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#### 5.4 Assigning Tract Letters

This section provides guidelines for assigning tract letters as you identify tracts within a segment.

##### Guidelines

1. For segments enumerated the first time, assign letters A, B, C, etc., as you screen them. For example, if John Jones is the first person interviewed, assign him tract letter A. If Bill Riggs is the second operator interviewed, assign him tract letter B. Continue through the alphabet as necessary, without skipping any letters. If all 26 letters are used, start using double letters: AA, BB, CC, etc. (see the side of Page 3 of the Area Screening Form for a listing of letters).
2. For segments enumerated last year, use the same tract letter if the tract operator did not change. You should be able to identify the tract letter for previously enumerated tracts on the label on Page 2 of the Area Screening Form.

Last Year		This Year	
John Jones <b>A</b>	Bill Riggs <b>B</b>	John Jones <b>A</b>	Bill Riggs <b>B</b>
Susan Hull <b>D</b>		Susan Hull <b>D</b>	
Henry Adams <b>C</b>		Henry Adams <b>C</b>	

**Figure 5.1:** Use the same tract letters used last year if the operator is the same.

3. If a different person is now operating a tract enumerated last year, cross out the old name and tract letter in the Area Screening Form. If the new operator is new to the segment this year, enter the new operator's name and address on a new line in the Area Screening Form, and assign the next unused tract letter to the new operator. Erase the old tract letter on the map or photo and write in the new letter. A tract letter can never be used twice. In the example below, tract B will never be used again for this segment.

Last Year			This Year		
John Jones <b>A</b>	Bill Riggs <b>B</b>	Henry Adams  <b>C</b>	John Jones <b>A</b>	Bob White <b>E</b>	Henry Adams  <b>C</b>
Susan Hull  <b>D</b>			Susan Hull  <b>D</b>		

**Figure 5.2:** Assign the next unused tract letter if someone different operates the tract this year, and the new operator is new to the segment.

## 5.5 Special Screening Situations

### Possible Screening Results

There are many references in this discussion regarding whether the tract acres in question should be included or excluded in Land in Farms. These are important points to understand.

The Area screening process produces one of three results for Western States (AZ, CA, CO, ID, KS, MT, NE, NV, NM, ND, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, WA, WY) and one of two possible results in Eastern States (all other states).

1. Non-Ag Tract (All States)
  - a. The screening result which identifies a tract of land inside the segment boundaries as non-agricultural. These acres are coded on the screening form in Column 18. This acreage will not be included in Land in Farms.
2. PIGA Tract (Western States)
  - a. The screening result which identifies a tract of land inside the segment boundaries as Public, Industrial or Grazing Association (PIGA) land which does not meet the definition of Land in Farms. This acreage is recorded in Column 21 of the Area Screening Form and will not be included in Land in Farms.
3. Ag Tract (All States)
  - a. The screening result which identifies a tract of land inside the segment boundaries which qualifies for a tract questionnaire based on a Yes or DK response in Columns 8-16. The data collected on the tract questionnaire will

## Chapter 5

### The June Area Screening Questionnaire

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be included in Land in Farms provided the operation meets the definition of a Farm (See Page 501 for the definition).

The following pages include a discussion on whether a tract of land will be included in Land in Farms or excluded from Land in Farms. Remember that this decision relates to these three possible outcomes of the screening actions taken for the tract.

#### Grazing Land

There are several grazing situations that require specific screening instructions and most likely additional probing to gain more information about the type of grazing arrangement. The Area Screening Form cannot include specific questions to identify all the unique details of various grazing arrangements. The following information discusses several different types of land that may be grazed and the resulting screening results that are required to ensure that the Number of Farms and Land in Farms criteria are followed.

**Western States:** (AZ, CA, CO, ID, KS, MT, NE, NV, NM, ND, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, WA, WY)

Western States have specific screening requirements for Public, Industrial or Grazing Association land. There are several different types of arrangements and terminology. The following is a description of the most common types, screening instructions and tract assignment explanations for grazing arrangements in these states.

**Eastern States:** (All remaining States)

Eastern States have a less likely chance of encountering special grazing arrangements although it does occur. Any specifics which concern Eastern States are also noted.

#### Grazing Land Types

##### **Federal Public Land:**

Public land is defined as land owned and regulated by a publicly controlled organization or government. A large portion of Public Land is owned and managed by the Federal Government. State, County, City, and Local governments also own and manage land. Other publicly held land may include School Land, Public Utility Land, or others. The most common types are documented in this section.

The following text and tables are excerpts from a report from the Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress in a report titled *"Federal Land Ownership: Overview and Data"* (February 21, 2020). The Congressional Research Service is a Branch of the Library of Congress which produces non-partisan research reports to members of the House and Senate. This report provides an excellent overview of the federally owned Public Land structure in the United States.

The United States Federal Government owns approximately 640 million acres of



land in the United States. This accounts for approximately 28% of the total 2.3 billion acres of land area in the U.S. Approximately 606.5 million acres of the land owned by the Federal Government is managed by four Federal Agencies: The Forest Service in the Department of Agriculture, the Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service, all in the Department of the Interior. Most of the land is located in the West and is managed for a variety of purposes.

**Forest Service (FS)** administers 193 million acres for multiple purposes which include timber harvesting, recreation, grazing, watershed protection and fish and wildlife habitats. The Forest Service includes several types of land. The National Forest System includes 154 national forests totaling 188.4 million acres (97.6%). The National Grasslands System includes 20 national grasslands covering 3.8 million acres (2.0%). There are 110 other areas which include land utilization projects, purchase units, and research and experimental area with 0.8 million acres (0.3%).

## Chapter 5

### The June Area Screening Questionnaire

#### National Forest Service Lands

**Table 1 - National and Regional Areas Summary**

The Quinault Special Management Area is classified as an Other Area, but is also contained within the Olympic National Forest in Region 6. To avoid duplication of acreage, the area is not included as an Other Area in the report.

Regional Area	No. Units	NFS Acreage	Other Acreage	Total Acreage
<b>National System</b>				
National Forest	154	188,524,540	37,012,571	225,537,111
Purchase Unit	58	405,179	1,512,635	1,917,814
National Grassland	20	3,835,509	618,518	4,454,027
Land Utilization Project	46	284	1,001,596	1,001,879
Research and Experimental Area	17	66,205	8,225	74,430
Other Area	29	298,089	12,703	310,791
<b>Totals</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>193,129,806</b>	<b>40,166,248</b>	<b>233,296,052</b>
<b>Western Region (Regions 1 through 6)</b>				
National Forest	101	141,374,511	14,879,287	156,253,798
Purchase Unit	18	8,049	9,787	17,836
National Grassland	18	3,797,699	472,440	4,270,139
Land Utilization Project	3	241	2,699	2,941
Research and Experimental Area	4	60,277	138	60,415
Other Area	25	106,831	3,323	110,153
<b>Totals</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>145,347,608</b>	<b>15,367,674</b>	<b>160,715,282</b>
<b>Eastern Region (Regions 8 and 9)</b>				
National Forest	51	25,009,203	20,329,888	45,339,091
Purchase Unit	40	397,130	1,502,849	1,899,979
National Grassland	2	37,810	146,078	183,888
Land Utilization Project	43	43	998,896	998,939
Research and Experimental Area	13	5,928	8,087	14,015
Other Area	4	191,258	9,380	200,638
<b>Totals</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>25,641,372</b>	<b>22,995,178</b>	<b>48,636,550</b>
<b>Alaska (Region 10)</b>				
National Forest	2	22,140,826	1,803,396	23,944,222
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>22,140,826</b>	<b>1,803,396</b>	<b>23,944,222</b>

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**Figure 5.9: 2023 Land Areas Report. Table 1 – National and Regional Areas Summary**

The Forest Service allows grazing by permit on over 102 million of the 193 million acres total. This area equals 6.9 million head months (HM). The unit head month represents the amount of time an animal spends on National Forest System land. This unit equates to Animal Unit Month (AUM). (*Grazing Statistical Summary, FY 2021*)

**Bureau of Land Management (BLM)** administers 244.4 million acres of land with an additional 700 million acres of subsurface mineral resources. BLM has a multi-use mandate with support programs including energy development, timber harvesting, recreation, grazing, wild horses and burros, cultural resources, and conservation. Livestock grazing is permitted on an estimated 164 million acres of BLM land.

BLM was created in 1946 by merging two agencies - the General Land Office (established by Congress in 1812) and the U.S. Grazing Service (established in 1934 to manage Public Land in accordance with the Taylor Grazing Act of 1934). The Taylor Grazing Act was enacted by Congress in 1934 to remedy the deteriorating condition of public rangelands due to overuse, the drought of the 1920's and the depression in the 1930's. The Taylor Grazing Act converted the public rangelands from a system of open grazing in common to one of exclusive permits to graze allotted lands.

#### **Federal Public Land Screening:**

The Federal Land administered by the Forest Service (FS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is largely excluded from the NASS definition of a Farm and Land in Farms. However, portions of the land do apply. The following paragraphs describe the specific types of FS or BLM land that are considered when determining Land in Farms.

There are **two key concepts** in determining if Public Land should be included or excluded from Land in Farms. First, does the rancher have **exclusive use** of the public land, meaning one operator with decision or management rights for the land, or is it **multiple use** land, meaning more than one operator with decision or management rights for the land or none of the operators have actual management rights for the land. Second, is the payment method based on **Animal Unit Month (AUM) or Head Month (HM)**? For public land to be included in NASS Land in Farms, the land must be considered with a payment method other than AUM or Head Month. Any Public Land obtained with a payment method of AUM or HM should be excluded from the NASS Land in Farms.

#### **National Forests and National Grasslands:**

Forest Service (FS) land is permitted on a Head Month (HM) basis whether it is National

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Forest Land or National Grassland. This land is **not** included in NASS Land in Farms. The ranchers apply and are granted a ‘permit’ by the Forest Service for a given number of Head Months. These acres are primarily **multiple use**, but some single use permits may be issued. No individual ranchers have management authority over the land.

- **Screening Action (Western States):** If a segment is in a National Forest or National Grassland grazing area, the land should be drawn off as a separate tract and recorded as a PIGA tract on the June Area Survey screening form. By coding these tracts as PIGA, the land will not be counted in Land in Farms.
- **Screening Action (Western States):** The National Forest Service Lands table, included earlier, explains that a portion of the land inside the National Forest and National Grassland boundaries are privately owned and not regulated or managed by the Forest Service. If this is found in a June Area segment, the PIGA tract assigned for the FS land must not include acres operated by the others inside the boundary. A separate tract must be assigned for each private operator inside the boundaries of the FS land.
- **Screening Action (Eastern States):** A segment located in a National Forest or National Grassland grazing area should be drawn off as a separate tract and recorded as a Non-Ag tract on the June Area screening form. By coding these tracts as Non-Ag, the land will not be counted in Land in Farms.
- **Screening Action (Eastern States):** The National Forest Service Lands table, included earlier, explains that a portion of the land inside the National Forest and National Grassland boundaries are privately owned and not regulated or managed by the Forest Service. If this is found in a June Area segment, the Non-Ag tract assigned for the FS land must not include acres operated by the others inside the boundary. A separate tract must be assigned for each private operator inside the boundaries of the FS land.

#### **Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Grazing:**

The Taylor Grazing Act (1934) allowed the issuance of exclusive use grazing arrangements with ranchers. The two types of BLM arrangements are Section 3 land, which is multiple use land inside a Grazing District with payment type of AUM, and the other, Section 15 land, which is exclusive use land outside of a Grazing District. **There are BLM arrangements which qualify as Land in Farms.**

There are a series of official BLM terms used to describe the difference between the exclusive use land (Section 15) and the multiple use land (Section 3). There may be others used by respondents that are not specifically documented here. In some cases, the respondents may not recognize any of these specific terms. When that occurs, it is necessary to probe for the information needed to determine if the requirements for NASS’s Land in Farms definition have been met.

**SECTION 3 BLM Land Terms:**

- “Section 3 Land”: Commonly used to describe the type of land defined in Section 3 of the Taylor Grazing Act. This land is “multiple use” and the payment type is AUM.
- Grazing District: An administrative subdivision of the rangelands under jurisdiction of the BLM established pursuant to Section 3 of the Taylor Grazing Act. The Secretary must provide for the protection, administration, regulation, and improvement of the grazing districts.
- Grazing Permit: An authorization that permits the grazing of a specified number and class of livestock on a designated area of grazing district lands during specified seasons. Grazing privileges are safeguarded but this permit does not create any right, title, interest, or estate in or to the land on behalf of the rancher. Improvements such as fences, wells, and reservoirs may only be made with the approval of the Secretary. In some cases, the permittees are required to cost share the upkeep and maintenance of partition fences.

**All three of these terms refer to Section 3 grazing arrangements. All Section 3 land should be excluded from NASS’s Land in Farms.**

**Screening Action**

- **Western States:** When a segment includes Section 3 BLM land, that Section 3 land area must be assigned a separate tract and coded as a PIGA tract on the June Area screening form.
- **Eastern States:** When a segment includes Section 3 BLM land, that Section 3 land area must be assigned a separate tract and coded as a Non-Ag tract on the June Area screening form.

**SECTION 15 BLM Land Terms:**

- “Section 15 Land”: Commonly used to describe the type of land defined in Section 15 of the Taylor Grazing Act. This land is exclusive use and the payment type is on a Per Acre basis.
- Lease: The authorization to lease for grazing vacant, unappropriated, and unreserved lands. Preference is given to owners, homesteaders, and lessees of contiguous

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(adjoining) land. A lease is usually held for a long period of time because of the preferences given to adjoining land operators. The lease holder is allowed to make land management decisions including improvements.

In general, Section 15 land is not part of a Grazing District; however, the Secretary does have the ability to “lease” exterior boundaries of a grazing district to promote the orderly use of the district. It is possible that while legally inside a Grazing District (Section 3), some land may be classified as Section 15 land and leased on a per acre basis.

- **Screening Action (All States):** Section 15 public land grazing arrangements should **not** be coded as a PIGA or Non-Ag tract automatically, but rather the ranchers with the lease must be screened for agricultural activity. Based on the screening result, the tract will either be coded as a Non-Ag Tract or will require a tract questionnaire. If a tract questionnaire is completed, the Section 15 land should be included as land rented from others in the June Area tract questionnaire for the operator holding the lease.
- **Privately Owned Land inside the Federal Public Land Boundaries:** All privately owned land, crop fields or residences that may be located inside the boundaries of a Federal Public Land area should **not** be considered part of the Federal Public Land. A separate tract should be assigned for each separate instance, and each must be screened using the Area Screening questionnaire (Columns 8-16).

#### **Non-Federal Public Land:**

There are many instances where State, County and Local governments, Public Utilities, Schools Districts, or other non-federal public organizations have grazing land that is leased or permitted to ranchers. This land is subject to the rules and conditions set forth by each locality. No two sets of rules are standard. Examples of non-federal public land include the Public Utilities, Railroads, Highway Departments, or others which issue permits to graze livestock or horses.

**The screening action** for this type of land involves asking the following two questions:

1. Does the renter, permittee or lessee have exclusive use of the land?
2. Is the payment type Fee per Acre or something other than AUM?

If one or both answers is NO, then the tract should be coded as a PIGA tract (Western States) or a Non-Ag tract (Eastern States).

If both questions are answered YES, then the remaining screening questions (Columns 8-16) must be completed to determine if it's a Non-Ag tract or if an Ag Tract Questionnaire should be completed.

**Privately Owned Grazing Land:**

Privately owned grazing land leased on an AUM basis is considered Land in Farms and should not be recorded as a PIGA tract (Western States). A separate tract for the Land Owner must be assigned and screened using Columns 8-16 of the Area Screening Questionnaire. If an Ag Tract questionnaire is required, the land must be reported on the Land Owner's form.

Privately owned grazing land rented on a per acre or free-of charge basis (anything other than AUM) is considered Land in Farms and must be screened using Columns 8-16. If an Ag tract questionnaire is required, the land must be reported on the Operator's form.

**Reservation Land:**

All land in Indian reservations is considered "private land." The characteristics of land operated are quite different from Reservation to Reservation although all land should be considered private land. Land inside the Reservation boundaries may be leased, rented, permitted, or owned by Native American or non-Native American operators. A great deal of land area will be operated by Tribal Governments or Tribal Councils.

Consider using the term 'occupy' when speaking to landowners and/or operators inside a Native American reservation. This term may be more meaningful in this situation, compared to using own, operate, lease, or trustee; in non-Native American reservation tracts.

- **Land Operated by the Tribal Government or Tribal Council:** A separate tract should be assigned for the Tribal Government or Tribal Council and it should be considered a Managed operation. Remember, all reservation land is considered private land and is subject to the screening procedures. If the screening questions in Columns 8-16 of the Area screening questionnaire indicate a tract questionnaire is required, all agriculture (crops, hay, livestock) operated by the Tribal Government or Tribal Council should be included in the Reservation's report. This land area will be included in Land in Farms.
- **Reservation Land Leased, Rented or Permitted (Exclusive Use):** All land that is leased, rented, or permitted by a Tribal Government for agricultural use by others on an "exclusive use" or per acre basis (anything other than AUM) should be assigned a separate tract. The operator of that land should be

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screened using Columns 8-16 of the Area Screening Questionnaire. The operator of this land should report the acreage and livestock data rather than the Tribal Government or Tribal Council.

- **Reservation Land that is Leased, Rented, or Permitted (Multiple Use):** All land that is leased, rented, or permitted on an AUM basis must be reported by the Tribal Government or Tribal Council. Any livestock located on this land must be reported by the livestock owners. Only livestock owned by the Tribal Government should be included on the Tribal Government's tract questionnaire.
- **Allotted or Privately Operated Land inside Reservation Boundaries:** All allotted or privately operated land (Native American or non-Native American Owner) inside the Reservation boundaries should be considered a separate tract. Each tract must be screened using the Area Screening Questionnaire (Columns 8-16). This land will be subject to the Area screening rules and procedures and will not automatically be considered Land in Farms.

#### **Industrial Land:**

Industrial land includes large land holdings of corporations or businesses such as paper mills, railroads, utility companies, mining operations or other types of privately held organizations. Depending on the State, some of these examples may be covered by the Non-Federal Public Land descriptions. Industrial land can be leased, rented or permitted for grazing in a similar manner as the Non-Federal Public land.

**The screening action** for this type of land involves asking two questions:

1. Does the renter, permittee or lessee have exclusive use of the land?
2. Is the payment type Fee per Acre or something other than AUM?

If one or both of the answers is NO, then the tract should be coded as a PIGA tract (Western states) or a Non-Ag tract (Eastern States).

If both questions are answered YES, then the remaining screening questions (Columns 8-16) must be completed to determine if it is a Non-Ag tract or an Ag Tract Questionnaire should be completed.



## 5.6 Special Operation Types

### Grazing Associations

A Grazing Association is a member owned, operated, and managed nonprofit association of farmers and ranchers, organized to provide shared seasonal grazing for their livestock. The land managed by a Grazing Association may be privately owned, industrial land, non-federal public land, or federal public land. These distinctions are important when determining if the land involved should be included in Land in Farms. **Not all Grazing Association land should be coded as PIGA (Western States) or Non-Ag (Eastern States).**

To make the decision-making process easier, think of a Grazing Association as simply another type of operating arrangement (**a managed operating arrangement**). A separate tract should be assigned for the Grazing Association. The type of land operated by the Grazing Association dictates what type of rules should be applied when screening for and accounting for Land in Farms:

**Federal Land:** If Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management land is leased or permitted by the Grazing Association, the screening rules discussed for those types of land apply. The FS land is 'permitted' and the Grazing Association does not have management authority over that land. Therefore, it should not be considered Land in Farms. BLM land should only be included as Land in Farms if it qualifies as Section 15 land (exclusive use to the Grazing Association and the payment method is not AUM). If Section 3 land is identified, the association should be recorded as a PIGA tract (Western States) or a Non-Ag tract (Eastern States) on the Area Screening Questionnaire.

**Non-Federal Public Land:** If Non-Federal Public land (State, County and Local governments, Public Utilities, Schools Districts, or other non-federal public organizations) is leased, permitted, or rented by a Grazing Association, the following rules for this type of land must apply:

1. Does the Grazing Association have exclusive use?
2. Is the payment type something other than AUM or Head Month?

**Reservation Land:** If Reservation land is leased, permitted, or rented by a Grazing Association from a Tribal Government on an AUM basis, a separate tract must be assigned to the Tribal Government and the land must be screened and recorded on the Tribal Government's tract questionnaire.

### Institutional Farms

Prison farms, Land Grant University Research Stations, Land Grant University Experiment Stations, Religious Organizations, or other semi-private organizations which operate land inside the

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segment boundaries should be assigned a separate tract and screened for agricultural activity using Columns 8-16 of the Area Screening Questionnaire. These operations are considered farms and the land will be included as Land in Farms.

#### Ag Businesses

There are several situations where agricultural businesses have unique circumstances which make the screening process difficult. The following are some of the more common situations:

**Slaughterhouses, Auction Barns, Stockyards, or Order Buyers:** These agricultural businesses have livestock committed for slaughter. The land inside the segment boundaries should be assigned a separate tract and should be coded as a Non-Ag tract. The livestock on that land have been committed to slaughter and should not be included in the cattle inventory that the June Area Survey supports.

If the operator of the Ag business also has another operation (order buyer also has a ranch and cattle), independent of the business venture, and includes land inside the segment boundaries, and this will require another assigned tract. The screening process should be completed on this tract using Columns 8-16 to determine if that requires a Tract questionnaire.

**Livestock Dealers, Speculators:** These operators with land inside the segment boundaries may own livestock which are not yet sold for slaughter. This type of operation should be assigned a separate tract and screened using Columns 8-16 of the Area Screening questionnaire. These operations will likely qualify as a farm and the land will be included in Land in Farms.

**Bonded Elevators and Seed Dealers:** These operations will have grains and oilseeds in storage. They are bonded for public storage and are included in the Off Farm Grain Stocks sample and survey. These operations with land inside the tract boundaries should be considered an Ag business, assigned as separate tract and coded as a Non-Ag Tract on the Area Screening Questionnaire.

Although it may seem like we are ignoring a large amount of grain and oilseed stocks, those crops in storage are being accounted for on the Off Farm Grain Stocks Survey. These data are not being ignored.

**Private Seed Dealer:** Many seed companies hire farmers as the local seed dealers and representatives of the company. In most cases, those farmers do not have the seed stock on the property that they operate as a farm, and it will not become a data collection issue. However, if a farmer does report seed on hand for distribution, and he considers it to be a separate business from the farming operation, assign a separate tract for that seed business. Complete the screening process and make notes describing the situation on the

screening questionnaire and/or Ag Tract questionnaire. The Regional Field Office will decide how to handle the seed stock data.

**Timber Tracts:** The North American Industrial Classification System designates the types of timber tracts which should be included under the farm definition (Agriculture) and those that are included under Forestry. The basis for the definition is the duration of growing time the timber is allowed. The timber which should be included as Agriculture (farms and Land in Farms) is defined as short rotation woody crops; those timber tracts which are allowed a growth cycle of 10 years or less. This includes all timber types like pine, cotton wood, Christmas trees and others. The short rotation timber tracts are used for pulp, pallets, cut Christmas trees, or other uses such as an energy crop for use in power stations. Timber tracts in a re-forestation program will generally have a growth cycle of more than 10 years and would be recorded as non-ag woods.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land planted to trees may in the future create problems with the timber definition. This land will resemble timber tracts in a few years. However, government payments are paid on those acres. This fact automatically includes those acres under the farm definition even though the growth cycle of the timber may end up being longer than 10 years. These acres are included in the Land in Farms definition because of the government payment received not because of the trees.

If a timber tract is inside the segment boundaries, ask enough questions to determine the intended growth period of the timber and the intended utilization of the timber. If the description meets the definition of a short rotation woody crop (above) then it should be included in Land in Farms and a “Yes” should be recorded in Column 15 of the Area Screening form. If it does not meet the definition of short rotation woody crops (and no other agriculture is found), the tract should be coded as a Non-Ag Tract on the Area Screening questionnaire.

**Equine Operations (Horses, Mules, Donkeys, Burros) *Exclude wild horses and zebras***

Equine operations present a unique challenge in the effort to account for farms and Land in Farms correctly. The equine industry is extremely varied and includes everything from families with a single horse and one acre to multi-million-dollar thoroughbred racing operations with thousands of acres and hundreds of horses. This industry also includes many niche service industries which include riding stables, boarding operations, training operations, stud, and semen services.

The varied operation types in this industry require a specialized effort to ensure that only those operations which meet the Farm definition are counted in the data summarization process. Rather than require the enumerator to complete an extensive and separate screening questionnaire for equine, all tracts with equine (1 or more equine) will screen into an Ag Tract

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Questionnaire and data will be collected.

If the screening process reaches **Column 13 on the Area Screening form**, all operations with **1 or more equine should be checked “Yes.”** This procedure, although seemingly burdensome, will allow the operator to define the type of operation they have in Section K of the Ag Tract questionnaire. Based on the respondent’s answer, the equine on the operation will be summarized according to NASS’s criteria of a farm and Land in Farms.

#### Example Situations

Below are examples of a few situations an enumerator may encounter during prescreening and data collection and the recommended ways to handle them.

NOTE: These examples do not include all possible situations that may be encountered during prescreening and data collection. They are only intended as a guide for the most miscoded instances.

Enumerators should make every effort to follow the procedures documented in this manual when completing the Area Screening Form. However, some allowances may have to be made during data collection due to the time and resources available. If you encounter a situation that you are not sure how to handle, contact your Regional Field Office for instructions.

#### Woods

1. **Woods interspersed with ag:** There are agriculture and residences in the segment in addition to wooded areas. Most of the landowners are local and easily identified. The enumerator should identify and speak with the owner/operator of the woods to determine how these acres should be accounted for. If the woods are part of an agricultural operation, they should be included in the operation’s tract questionnaire. If the woods are not part of an agricultural operation (Columns 8-16 are all answered no), they may be recorded as non-ag woods on the Area Screening Form.
2. **Woods, no ag activity:** The enumerator has driven around and through the segment. The entire segment is woods with old logging roads running through the segment. There are a lot of different landowners, both in state and out of state. There is no agriculture present or potential for agriculture. The land is used for hunting, recreation, or vacation and is obviously not part of anyone’s farm. This can be recorded as non-ag woods on the Area Screening Form.

#### Residential

1. **One acre lots, some have horses:** All residences would be assigned a tract letter and screened individually to determine if there is agricultural activity. A tract questionnaire should be completed for those tracts that have agriculture and are potentially a farm (in this case, horses).

2. **City lots, all less than ½ acre:** The enumerator has driven around and through the segment/tract and determined that all lots are less than ½ acre and there is no evidence of agriculture. This residential area can be drawn off as one tract and assigned a tract letter. However, if there is evidence of agriculture at one of the houses, that residence must be drawn off separately and assigned its own tract letter. A tract questionnaire would then need to be completed for that tract.

### **Other**

1. **Swamp or waste land:** If there is an area of swamp or wasteland in the segment, the owner of this land must be contacted, and the screening questionnaire completed. Although this land would not be considered agriculture, it may be part of an operation that is outside the segment.

**NOTE:** When drawing off large areas of woods and residences to group together under one tract letter, all land should be contiguous. Do not draw off several areas throughout the segment and assign all areas the same tract letter. Operating Arrangement Situations:

**Land being used “RENT FREE” by someone other than the tract operator:** “Rent free” refers to an arrangement where no cash or commodity share is exchanged as payment for land use. The person with operating control over land should be handled as a separate tract and should report that land in Land Rented from Others in Section E of the Ag Tract questionnaire.

**Out-of-State Operations:** Complete the segment like any other if the operator's residence or part of the operation's land is in another State. Collect information on the tract and the entire farm as directed by questionnaire instructions.

**Operator with Land in More Than One Segment:** The operator should be listed on the Area Screening Form for each segment in which they operate land. Complete an Area Tract questionnaire for each segment if the respondent qualifies as a farm operator. Questionnaire items referring to the entire farm will be the same in each questionnaire. In each questionnaire, enter all information required for the appropriate tract and for the entire farm. Each report will be summarized using a weighting system. The entire farm data summarized for each segment are prorated based on the proportion of the land operated in each segment. Thus, correctly identifying the operator and the tract and total farm acreage is critical.

**Landlord Rents Out Cropland but Keeps Control of Grain Storage Facilities:** The landlord is the operator of the land where these structures are located. The “landlord's operation” excludes any land rented out to others.

**Two or More Renters of Same Parcel During Year:** You may find a situation where one renter

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has winter wheat planted on June 1, and another renter will plant soybeans in the same field after the wheat is harvested. In June, both renters must be contacted because this survey is concerned with planted acreage of all crops. Use only one tract letter. The operator on June 1 should be listed on the Area Screening Form.

You may need to contact the second renter to be sure of the crop and acreage before including it in the Area Tract questionnaire. Make notes about this situation and how it was recorded.

#### 5.7 Segments with More Than 99 Tracts

A segment cannot have more than 99 tracts. During prescreening, if you have a segment with more than 99 tracts, non-agricultural tracts can be grouped and coded with the same tract letter. Begin with combining the non-agricultural tracts that have Column 18 of the screening form coded with the following:

- 5 – Water
- 6 – Reported non-agricultural by respondent
- 7 – Vacant houses
- 8 – Obvious non-agricultural
- 11 – Government land

If there are still too many tracts in the segment, contact your Regional Field Office for additional guidance.

#### 5.8 Completing the Area Screening Form

##### Segment Identification

The 2-digit State code, 4-digit stratum code, 6-digit segment number, and County will be pre-printed in the identification box. If you need to use additional Area Screening Forms when completing a segment, you should transfer the State, Stratum, Segment number, and County name to the new form.

If multiple Area Screening Forms are used for a segment, you should number the forms as shown in the following example:

Example: For 3 Screening forms, number each as follows:

- 1st Area Screening Form.... Part 1 of 3
- 2nd Area Screening Form.... Part 2 of 3
- 3rd Area Screening Form.... Part 3 of 3

##### Introductory Paragraphs

Introductory paragraphs appear on the Face Page of the Area Screening Form. These paragraphs provide information to help you introduce yourself to respondents, explain what you are doing,

and why you are interviewing them. Read the introduction on the Face Page aloud several times before starting work. Rephrase the introduction into your own words, until you feel comfortable explaining the information to a respondent. Tell the respondent that the information you are collecting is confidential and will only be used with other reports to prepare State and National crop and livestock estimates.

### **Item 1- Operate Land**

This question determines if the respondent operates land inside the segment. If the respondent owns land in the segment, but there is no agricultural activity, they are still considered the operator (for example: woods). The exception to this rule is if the owner is a landlord only. A landlord is an example of a person involved with a parcel of land but not considered the operator. Landlords are owners of land rented to someone else. Although the landlord may have some say in the way the land is operated, the renter is usually responsible for the day-to-day decisions affecting the land and is considered the operator.

### **Item 2- Boundaries of Operation**

If the respondent operates land inside the segment (Item 1 is yes), determine tract boundaries by asking Item 2. This may require considerable probing if the respondent is not familiar with aerial photographs or maps. Take as much time as needed, until both of you are sure about the tract's location and boundaries. If the segment was enumerated last year, tract boundaries will already be on the photo or map. However, you must determine if any changes occurred in the tract boundaries since the previous survey. Draw tract boundaries on paper maps with a **blue** pencil. Use the special **blue** pencil (Staedtler Lumocolor) provided by your Regional Field Office for drawing tract boundaries on aerial photos.

### **Item 3- Land Operated by Others**

This item is used to determine if any land inside the tract identified with Item 2 is operated by a renter, share tenant, hired manager, or someone else. For example, you may be talking to the owner of the land and draw in boundaries of land owned. When Item 3 is asked, the owner says, "I rent out the 100-acre corn field to Bob Parker." Draw off the corn field in **blue** on the photo. If Bob is not already identified as operating land in the segment, assign him the next unused tract letter.

### **Item 4- Fee-per-head or AUM Land (AZ, CA, CO, ID, KS, MT, NE, NV, NM, ND, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, WA, and WY Only)**

This question will provide an indication that extra care must be taken with land that is rented on an AUM basis. There are many different types of land that may be rented on an AUM or fee-per-head basis. The type of land rented (Federal Public Land, Non-Federal Public Land, Privately Owned grazing land, Reservation land, or Industrial Land) will dictate the exact information that you will need to make an informed choice between coding a PIGA tract, Non-Ag

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tract or Ag Tract. (Refer to the Special Screening Situations, found earlier in this chapter).

In most cases, the land area should be drawn off in **blue** on the aerial photo or map. Assign a separate tract letter to this land and complete a new line on Page 2 of the Area Screening Form. You will interview the agency controlling or administering this allotment or grazing unit to screen for crops and residences located inside the PIGA tract boundaries.

Residences and crop fields should not be included inside the PIGA tract boundaries. You should draw separate tracts, if possible, to identify residences and crop fields separate from the PIGA tract boundaries.

#### Column 5- Tract Letter

Enter the tract letter you assigned to the tract drawn on the map or photo. (The label has been adjusted to allow for longer Tract letter strings, such as AAAA)

#### Column 6- Operator Name, Address, and Phone Number

Record or verify the full name of the tract operator. Be sure the spelling is correct, since many names are not spelled the way they are pronounced. Enter the complete mailing address, including route and box number or street address, city, State, and zip code. A complete and accurate mailing address is required for all tracts (Non-Ag Tracts, Ag tracts and PIGA tracts). Record the phone number for all tract operators, in case a call back is needed on a later survey. For non-agricultural tracts without an identifiable operator, record the name and complete address of the organization or business using the land. A complete name, address, and phone number (if available) for non-agricultural tracts is required, because some non-agricultural tracts are selected for future surveys.

#### Column 7- PIGA Land (AZ, CA, CO, ID, KS, MT, NE, NV, NM, ND, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, WA, and WY Only)

Remember, PIGA land located inside the segment will most likely be drawn off as a separate tract. The Regional Field Office may have completed Column 7 for grazing tracts enumerated on previous surveys. Tracts containing PIGA land will be identified when you complete screening Questions 1 through 4 on the Face Page. If the type of land and operating specifics require that the tract be coded as PIGA land, you will enter the total acres of the PIGA tract in Column 21 and go to the next tract.

**Important:** Check for residents and verify no crops will be produced in PIGA tracts this year. If there are residents or crops on PIGA land, draw these as separate tracts.

#### Columns 8 through 16- Screening for Agricultural Activity

These questions refer to the entire operation associated with the tract, both inside and outside the segment.

When the first YES or DK (don't know) is checked, continue the interview with an Area Tract



questionnaire. If all NO's are checked, continue with Column 18 and code the tract Non-Ag.

**Column 8- Crops, Livestock or Poultry**

Check YES if the tract operator grows crops or plants, cuts hay, or raises cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, equine, poultry, honey bees, aquaculture, or any other livestock on the total acres operated. Include livestock or poultry on the total acres operated, even if they belong to someone else. Include hogs owned anywhere and sheep and goats owned anywhere in the Western states (AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, ND, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA, and WY).

If the respondent grew crops or had livestock or poultry earlier in the year, but has none now, Column 8 should still be checked YES, and an Area Tract questionnaire completed. Also, you will check YES if the operator intends to grow crops or have livestock or poultry before December 31.

If the respondent is not certain at the time of the interview whether any crops will be grown or livestock present on the total acres operated this year, check DK and complete an Area Tract questionnaire. If you already know the operator grows crops or has livestock or poultry, you can check Column 8 YES and complete an Area Tract questionnaire without asking the question.

To qualify as growing a crop, the respondent must decide on the planting, caring for, and harvesting of the crop. Crops or livestock received as share rent from land rented to someone else should not be considered grown by the landowner.

### Crops Grown

**Include:**

1. Field Crops of All Types
2. Mushrooms
3. Flowers
4. Nursery Stock
5. Greenhouse Crops
6. Hay
7. Fruits, Vegetables and Tree Nuts
8. Christmas Trees
9. Maple Syrup
10. Short - Rotation woody crops (hybrid poplar, cottonwood, pines, etc.)

**Exclude:**

- ## 1. Home Gardens

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### The June Area Screening Questionnaire

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#### Livestock and Poultry

##### Include:

1. Cattle & Calves
2. Hogs & Pigs
3. Sheep, Lambs, & Goats, Kids
4. Chickens, Turkeys, & Other Poultry
5. Bee colonies
6. Rabbits
7. Mink & Other Fur Bearing Animals
8. Ratites
9. Fish for Consumption (Commercial or Home Use)
10. FFA Livestock Projects
11. 4-H Livestock Projects
12. Exotic Livestock
13. Horses, Ponies, and Other Equine

**Important:** Although a tract may be idle at the time of interview, livestock may be put on the land later. Therefore, it is important to **interview the tract operator** for information on future intentions.

#### Column 9- Agricultural Sales or Government Payments

Column 9 determines if the tract operator has sold, or expects to sell, any agricultural products or receive government agricultural payments this year. Include sales of crops, livestock, and miscellaneous agricultural products from the total acres operated, both inside and outside the segment boundaries. Include as government farm payments any funds received for participation in various conservation programs. Government payments should include Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), loan deficiency, market assistance, production flexibility, oilseed program payments, and other similar government payments.

NOTE: For WRP the individual usually receives a lump sum in the first year and no money the following years. This land still needs to be accounted for and should be included.

Check this column NO if the respondent is a landlord who only sold agricultural products or received government payments from land rented out.

#### Column 10- Crop Storage

Check YES if any crops (including hay), regardless of ownership, were stored on the total acres operated. Check YES if the operator intends to store crops or hay prior to next June 1.

**Important:** Be sure the respondent understands this question refers to land both inside and outside the segment operated on the survey reference date. It does not refer to land farmed in the past year but not part of the operation on the reference date. For example, you should

exclude land operated during the previous year but sold or rented to someone else before the survey reference date.

Landlords may rent out cropland, but still have grain stored in facilities on their farmstead. In these cases, check Column 10 YES for the landlord, and continue the interview on an Area Tract questionnaire.

For screening purposes only, do not include hay or grains on hand to feed animals kept only for pleasure.

**Column 11- Hogs and Pigs Owned**

Check YES if the operation has (or will) own or raise hogs or pigs, at any location, this year, and complete an Area Tract Questionnaire.

**Column 12- Sheep or Goats owned or custom fed (AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, ND, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA, and WY Only)**

Information for sheep and goats are collected on an ownership basis in most Western States (AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, ND, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA, and WY). In these States, check YES if the operator has or will own or custom feed sheep or goats at any location this year, and complete an Area Tract questionnaire.

**Column 13- Horses, Ponies and Other Equine (All states)**

Determine if **any** equine (including horses, ponies, mules, donkeys, or burros) were on the total acres operated on the survey reference date. The type of operation (personal use, breeding operation, boarding stable, etc.) should not enter the screening decision. The Ag Tract questionnaire will allow the respondent to describe the type of operation and that will be used to determine how the equine data should be used in the farm and Land in Farms definitions.

**Column 14- Vegetables, Melons, Fruit, Nuts or Berries**

Verification of specialty crops and farmer's market crops which are not normally considered when screening for "Crops". This question is targeting operations which have production of these items. With only a few exceptions, wild fruit and berries and any home use production like gardens should be excluded.

**Column 15- Nursery, Greenhouse, Floriculture, Sod, Cut Christmas Trees, or Other Woody Crops**

Verification of other agricultural activities not normally considered when screening for "Crops." This question is targeting operations which have production of these items. The key is to isolate operations that are in business to produce goods for sale rather than home use. It is possible that an operation is currently growing these items for sale in the future, but the production will

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### The June Area Screening Questionnaire

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not be ready for sale during this calendar year. This is an important comment, and you should contact your Regional Field Office for specific screening instructions. The motto, “When in doubt fill it out,” applies in this situation, and be specific with enumerator notes.

#### **Column 16- Idle Cropland or more than 99 Acres of Pasture**

This screening question was added to screen for operations with idle cropland or with pasture of 100 acres or more. These two items are included in the definition of a farm and the definition of Land in Farms. The definition of cropland and pastureland is documented in Chapter 9 of this manual.

If Columns 8 - 16 are all checked “No,” continue with Column 18.

#### **Column 18- Acres of Non-Agricultural Land Use**

For non-agricultural tracts, enter the respondent's estimate of the number of acres in the tract. If necessary, use your acreage grid or ruler to determine tract acreage. Enter the land use of the tract. Non-agricultural uses may include lakes, woods, commercial, church, warehouse, vacant houses, highways, railroads, residential, etc. Careful observation and screening of these tracts is important to make certain they will not be used for agricultural purposes at any time this year.

#### **Column 20- Observed Agricultural Potential**

This item identifies non-agricultural tracts with potential for crops or livestock. These tracts may be sampled for the follow-on Agricultural Surveys. Potential for crops means that a crop could be seeded without having to improve or clear the land. Abandoned cropland and cropland pasture are good examples. A fenced pasture, barn, pen, or chicken house is a sign of potential for livestock or poultry. You will complete this item by observation. Use your best judgment to code whether the tract reasonably has agricultural potential before June 1 of next year.

#### **Column 20a- Type of Non-Agricultural Land**

This item records a code for the type of non-agricultural land in the tract. This information will be used to evaluate the types of non-agricultural land contained in segments and used to address possible misclassification. Careful observation and screening of these tracts is important to make certain they will not be used for agricultural purposes at any time this year.

Enter the code that corresponds with the land use recorded in Column 18.

Codes to be used in Column 20a are:

1. Residential
2. Woods
3. Idle Open Land (This is not idle cropland.)
4. Pasture (Less than 100 acres. Not hayed or grazed. If hayed or grazed, then should have accounted for as an Ag. Tract earlier in the screening process.)
5. Water (lakes, rivers, etc.)

6. Reported Non-Ag by Respondent
7. Vacant Houses
8. Obvious Non-Ag (schools, cemeteries, prisons/penitentiaries, roads/interstate highways, railroads, airports, hospitals, electrical substations, state/county/local transportation facilities, waste or water treatment facilities, churches, etc.)
9. Grassland (Not hayed or grazed. If hayed or grazed, then should have accounted for as an Ag. Tract earlier in the screening process.)
10. Hunting Preserve or Private Land Managed for Wildlife
11. Government Land (i.e. Dept. of Conservation, Dept. of Natural Resources)
12. Other - Explain the land use in the shaded box below Item Code 783

**Column 21- PIGA Acres (AZ, CA, CO, ID, KS, MT, NE, NV, NM, ND, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, WA, and WY Only)**

Enter the administrator's (agent, resource area manager, ranger, or overseer) estimate of the number of PIGA acres inside this tract. It may be helpful to determine the total acres in the grazing district or unit and estimate the percentage inside the tract.

**5.9 Back Page - Segment Review**

When you have finished all interviews and accounted for all the tracts inside the segment, complete the items at the top of the Back Page of the Area Screening Form. This consists of Items 1 through 6 for states with PIGA acreage (Column 21) and Items 1 through 5 for States without PIGA acreage. If more than one Area Screening Form was used, complete the items only on the first Form used for this segment.

**Item 1- Tracts Listed in Screening Questionnaire**

- Enter the number of tract letters listed in Column 5, Page 2 of all Area Screening Forms used for this segment.

**Item 2- Tracts Labeled on Photo or Map**

- Count the number of tract letters on the aerial photo or map. The totals in Items 1 and 2 must agree. If they do not, recount the letters to determine if you are missing any tracts. You must determine why there is a discrepancy; you want to have all tracts from the photo listed in the Area Screening Form, and all tracts on the Form need to be noted on the photo.

**Item 3- Area Tract Questionnaires Used**

- Count the number of Area Tract questionnaires used for the segment.

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#### Item 4- Non-Agricultural Tracts

- Count the number of lines containing an entry in Column 18 on Page 3. Tracts with an entry in Column 18 **should not** have an Area Tract questionnaire completed.

#### Item 5- Non-PIGA States Balance

Add Items 3 and 4 and enter the total in Item 5. The values in Items 1, 2 and 5 must be the same. If they do not agree, recheck until you have corrected all errors.

#### Item 5- PIGA Tracts (AZ, CA, CO, ID, KS, MT, NE, NV, NM, ND, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, WA, and WY Only)

- Count the number of lines with an entry in Column 21 on Page 3.

#### Item 6- PIGA States Balance

- Add Items 3, 4, and 5, and enter the total in Item 6. The totals in Items 1, 2 and 6 must be the same. If they do not agree, recheck until you have corrected any errors.

#### Reported and Digitized Acres

You must account for all land inside the red segment boundary on your map or photo. Digitized acres (DA) in the segment have been pre-printed. This is a machine measurement made from the map or photograph.

Add the reported acreage of all tracts (the acreage reported in Columns 18 and 21 of the screening form, and acreage reported in Section D of each Area Tract questionnaire) and enter the total reported acres (RA) in the designated box. Divide the sum of the reported acres (RA) by the digitized acres (DA) and enter the resulting value in the designated box (RA/DA). If the result is less than 90 percent or greater than 110 percent, use your acreage grid to recheck the reported acreage.

Determine if land outside the segment was included, or if some land inside the segment was missed. Correct any mistakes that were made. In a few cases the scale of the photograph may be incorrect. If you can determine the correct scale, note the correct scale in the comments section on the back of the Area Screening Form and enter your comments into the CAPI instrument for that segment. If you cannot identify the reason for the discrepancy between digitized and reported acres, make notes describing the situation in the comments section.

To help compare reported and digitized acres, a worksheet has been added to the back of the screening form. You can use this worksheet to keep track of the tract letter and corresponding acres of Ag Tracts, Non-Ag Tracts, and PIGA Tracts (if applicable for your state) so that the number of tracts and acres can be easily added up.

**Comments**

Space is provided on the back of the Area Screening questionnaire to document problems you encounter completing the segment. These problems may be caused by poorly marked segment boundaries, fields split by segment boundaries, outdated photos, or inadequate maps. Write comments to alert the Regional Field Office about these problems. Also note the number of hours required to complete a segment containing many agricultural tracts. Enter your comments into the June Area CAPI instrument.

**Your Name and the Date**

Write your name in the designated space. Enter the date the last interview for this segment was completed on the indicated line.





## 6 Completing the June Area Tract Questionnaire

**Note: Not applicable for 2025**

### 6.1 General

An Area Tract questionnaire must be completed for each tract operator who qualifies as a possible farm operator. This includes any operator with YES or DK checked in any one of Columns 8-16 on Pages 2 and 3 of the Area Screening Form.

Each Regional Field Office uses its own version of the Area Tract questionnaire. Since each State's version is unique, some of the instructions in this chapter may not apply to your State.

Data collected on each Area Tract questionnaire must be entered into the June Area CAPI instrument on the iPad. Data can be entered and submitted as each Tract questionnaire is completed. The Regional Field Office will provide more information on iPad data entry.

### 6.2 Face Page – Area Tract Questionnaire

#### Purpose

The Face Page provides space for the name of the operation and the operator's name and address.

**Important:** All information obtained in the Area Tract questionnaire applies to the farming or ranching operation associated with the Tract identified in the Area Screening Form. Some operators have more than one operation. However, only data from the operation which has land inside the segment boundary (tract operation) should be included on the form.

#### Segment, Tract, and County Identification

The segment number entered on the Area Tract questionnaire must be the same as on the segment envelope, aerial photo or map, and the Area Screening Form.

The tract letter must be the same letter assigned in Column 5, Page 2 of the Area Screening Form. Be sure to use the same letter on the aerial photo or map.

If the Regional Field Office did not provide a label with the county name, enter the name of the county where the segment is located into the space provided.

#### Item 1- Record or Verify Name(s) and Address

For segments enumerated last year, the Tract questionnaire will be labeled with the operator information. This label provides the operation name (if one was reported last year), and the operator's name and address. Read Item 1 to the respondent. If necessary, make corrections in

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### Completing the June Area Tract Questionnaire

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the spaces provided to the right of the label(s). If no changes are needed, enter a check mark in the verification box to show information on the label is correct.

Labeled questionnaires will not be available for new operators in old segments, operators of tracts determined to be non-agricultural last year, or operators of tracts in new segments.

If this is a new agricultural tract in the segment, enter the operation name (if one is used) and the operator's name and address in the spaces provided. Your entries must be clearly written, complete, and accurate. The National Operations Division Frames Maintenance Group checks these names for duplication with the List Sampling Frame. The addresses are also used to mail survey results and future survey questionnaires to the tract operator. **Correct mailing addresses are important.**

**Operation Name:** Enter (or verify) the farm or ranch name, institution name, corporation name, or partnership name if the operation uses one. The operation name is important for correctly checking names against the List Sampling Frame. If the operation does not use a business name, enter a dash in the space for the operation name.

**Important:** Managed operations must have an operation name. If the tract is a managed operation without an operation name, enter the landowner's name as the operation name.

**Example:** John L Brown - Owner

**Operator Name:** Enter (or verify) the full name of the tract operator, including middle name or initial. If the tract is operated by a partnership, enter the name of the partner determined to be the operator.

Follow these guidelines to determine who to record as the operator of a partnership:

1. Who makes most of the day-to-day decisions?

If one partner makes most of the day-to-day decisions for the partnership, this partner should be listed on the Face Page as the operator.

If partners share equally in decision-making, the oldest partner should be listed on the Face Page as the operator.

2. You will also record (or verify) names and addresses of the other partners in Section A on Page 2 of the questionnaire.
3. For corporations or institutions, enter the name of the person in charge of the farming or ranching operation. If the tract is managed land, enter the manager's name as the operator.

**Mailing Address:** Enter (or verify) the complete mailing address of the operator, including Zip Code. The Regional Field Office may contact this operation for future surveys. Some Regional Field Offices will send a letter to each respondent thanking them for their cooperation. Your Regional Field Office will also use this address to mail survey results to respondents.

If the operator has an out-of-State mailing address, probe to determine in which State the operator lives. Operators of land in segments located near State boundaries may live in your State but have a mailing address for a Post Office across the State line. Write a note on the questionnaire to inform the Regional Field Office of the operator's State of residence if it is not the same as the mailing address.

**Telephone Number:** The operator's telephone number is important. You may discover after your interview that you missed some items of the questionnaire, and a telephone call would allow you to get this information. Telephone numbers are also used on future surveys. Enter (or verify) the telephone number (including area code) of the tract operator in the space provided.

### **6.3 Section A – Operation Description**

#### **Purpose**

Identifying the tract operating arrangement is needed to help prevent duplicate reporting. This section is used to verify that you identified the correct operator for partnership operations, and to record names and addresses of other partners.

#### **Item 1- Operating Arrangement**

Check the box describing the type of operation for the tract and enter the appropriate code in the 9921 Code Box.

**Important:** You can only check one type of operation on a questionnaire. Each questionnaire applies to only one land operating arrangement. Different operating arrangements within the segment must be assigned separate tract letters in the Area Screening questionnaire and each one of those that qualify for a tract questionnaire (screening) should have a separate Tract questionnaire completed.

For partnerships, determine the number of partners and enter the count in the 9921 Code Box. The number of partners recorded should include the operator identified on the Face Page, plus the number of partners listed on Page 2.

Landlord-tenant, cash rent, share cropping, and managed land are not considered partnerships.

Family corporations must be handled carefully. When the respondent reports a family

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corporation, probe for the members who make day-to-day decisions for the corporation.

#### Item 2- Operator Identification

Ask Item 2 only if you checked PARTNERS in Item 1. This question verifies the correct operator is identified on the Face Page. If the wrong partner is identified as the operator on the Face Page, correct the Face Page to identify the correct operator.

#### Item 3- Partner Names and Addresses

Enter (or verify) the full name (including middle names or initials) and complete mailing address for each partner. Silent partners and family members should not be listed if they do not participate in the day-to-day decisions of the operation. If more space is needed for additional partners, use a blank page in the questionnaire. If no changes are needed to partner names and addresses printed on labels, enter a check mark in the verification boxes to show the information on each label is correct.

Why is a complete and accurate accounting of all partners necessary?

A critical responsibility of the office staff is to eliminate duplication of reported information between the June List data collection and the June Area data collection. The only way this can be done is through a positive match of information by name and address. Your diligence in documenting that information is the key to making a positive match, eliminating duplication of reported information, and significantly improving the quality of the survey results.

Granted, it can be difficult to get specific partner address and phone information from the respondent. However, keep in mind that it is the combination of name and/or address and/or phone which provides enough evidence to make a confident match. Care should be taken with the following issues:

1. Surnames and Initials (Mr. Anderson, J. Anderson)

It is likely that your state's list of operators contains several different people that match with the last name Anderson. A positive match is difficult without the first name. If the partner would like to have the Initial used, document the name like J (Joseph) Anderson.

2. Jr. and Sr. (Jim Johnson Sr. and Jim Johnson Jr.)

Father/son partnerships can be difficult if not documented. In some cases, both will have the same proper name, address, and phone. The middle initial is important to distinguish between the two people. Documenting which is Jr. and which is Sr. is also helpful.

3. Middle Initial

There are many commonly used first and last names. Often, only the middle initial may provide enough information to correctly distinguish between people on the list of operators. If possible, ask for the middle initial.

**Item 4 & Item 5- Additional Questions (Census Years Only)**

We are interested in both other operation/business names and names of people, like spouses, that might be on the Census Mail List (CML) but are not actually operating the tract. We don't need partner's names since they will have already been reported on Page 2. All names and addresses collected will be used to search the CML for possible duplication. The more complete this information is, the more likely the matching software will correctly identify any duplication.

**6.4 Section C – Sections to be Completed (June Area)**

**Purpose**

Section C determines if additional questions for the entire operation are required. Entire farm information is needed for any operation not represented in samples selected from the List Sampling Frame.

This section is important because it: (1) saves time when entire farm information is not needed, and (2) ensures questions are asked when entire farm information is needed, (3) reduces respondent burden by identifying questions that need to be asked.

Your Regional Field Office reviews all previously known operations before the survey period and identifies any operations not represented on the List Sampling Frame (NOL or non-overlap). The CROPS-STOCKS Box or the CATTLE Box in Section C may be checked before the survey.

**General**

This section contains a series of enumerator instructions. You will answer these items to determine if you will ask the operator for information about the entire farm. Your answers determine the possibility of the tract being NOL.

**Item 1- Boxes at Bottom of Page Checked**

The CROPS-STOCKS box or the CATTLE Box at the bottom of Section C may be checked before the survey if the operation identified on the Face Page and Section A of the questionnaire is known to be NOL. If both the CROPS-STOCKS Box and the CATTLE Box at the bottom of the page are checked, check YES, and go to Section D. If either box is not checked, check NO, and go to Item 2.

**Item 2- New or Previously Unknown Tract Operator**

Most of the time, Regional Field Office cannot check the List Sampling Frame for tract operations in new segments or for new agricultural tract operators in old segments before the survey. In most cases, questionnaires for these operators will not have name and address labels. If a label is not present on either the tract questionnaire or screening questionnaire, check YES, check the CROPS-STOCKS and CATTLE Boxes at the bottom of the page, and go to Section D. If

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the tract questionnaire or screening form has a name and address label, check NO, and go to Item 3.

**Important:** If the operator of an individual or partnership tract this year is not the person who operated the tract last year, you should use a new, unlabeled questionnaire for this interview. **Do not reuse a questionnaire if the individual or partner identified on the Face Page label is no longer associated with the tract. This would be a case of the tract operator being new to the segment this year.** Refer to Chapter 5 of this manual for instructions on assigning tract letters in segments enumerated last year.

#### Item 3- Non-Agricultural Tract Last Year

Tracts coded non-agricultural last year will have a label in Column 6 on Page 2 of the Area Screening Form but will not have a pre-labeled Area Tract questionnaire.

If a name and address label for the operation is on Page 2 of the Area Screening Form, but you did not have a pre-labeled Area Tract questionnaire, check YES, check the CROPS-STOCKS and CATTLE Boxes at the bottom of the page, and go to Section D. Check NO if the Area Tract questionnaire has one or more name and address labels, and go to Item 4.

#### Item 4- Changes or Corrections to Face Page Labels

Any changes or corrections made to the operation name or operator's name or address may affect the overlap status of the operation.

If you made any changes or corrections to the names or addresses printed on the label(s) on the Face Page, check YES, check the CROPS-STOCKS and CATTLE Boxes at the bottom of the page, and go to Section D. If all names and addresses on the Face Page labels were correct, check NO and go to Item 5.

#### Item 5- Partners' Label Changed, Corrected, or Deleted

For partnership operations, name and address labels were verified or updated in Section A on Page 2. Changes to the names and addresses on the partner labels may change the overlap status of this tract. If you made any changes, corrections, additions, or deletions to the partners' labels in Section A, check YES, check the CROPS-STOCKS and CATTLE Boxes at the bottom of the page, and go to Section D. If no changes or deletions were made to the partner labels, check NO, and go to Section D. If you added a partner to Section A on page 2, check NO and go to Section D.

**Important:** If you change any name or address appearing on any pre-printed label, or if this is a new agricultural tract this year, you must check the CROPS-STOCKS and CATTLE Boxes at the bottom of Section C.

## 6.5 Section D – Crops and Land Use on Tract

### Purpose

Section D provides information for estimates of crop acreage and land usage. Planted acreage and harvest intentions for this year will be published in the June *Acreage* Report. This section is used to account for all acreage inside the tract boundary.

Other uses of June tract acreage data include:

1. Measuring incompleteness of the List Sampling Frame for crop acreage.
2. Providing sample acreage for Cotton, Corn, and Soybeans Objective Yield Surveys.

### General

All acreage entries in the Area Tract questionnaire must be recorded in tenths, with a minimum entry of at least one-tenth (0.1) of an acre. If the respondent reports whole acres, enter the number to the left of the decimal and a zero to the right.

**Example:** 122 acres is entered as 122.0; 12 ½ acres is entered as 12.5.

This section is designed as a recording form rather than an interview form. You are required to ask questions in your own words to get the necessary information inside the tract. You must use the aerial photo or map and Section D together.

Do not include any land outside the segment boundaries in Section D.

You should review Chapter 9 of this manual for instructions specific to crop production practices and land uses.

### Total Acres in Tract

The tract should already have been drawn off in **blue** when you completed the Area Screening Form. The first question in Section D asks for the total tract acres operated inside the segment boundary. You should record the total tract acreage operated within the segment, even if the tract consists of two or more parcels. It may be necessary to identify landmarks on the map or photo to help the respondent understand the boundaries you have drawn. The minimum acreage for the entire tract is 0.1 acre.

Be sure both you and the operator agree on all tract boundaries before you continue the interview. A little extra time spent studying the photo and discussing the tract boundaries will mean a more accurate job of interviewing and less time spent with the respondent completing the questionnaire.

Next, read the introductory statement at the top of the page. This leads into the land use of the

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tract. You must account for the entire tract in Section D.

**NOTE:** Commodities included in Section D vary by state.

#### **Occupied Farmstead (Resident farm operators only)**

Line 2 is only used if the operator lives inside the segment. Record the farmstead acreage under question 2 (Item Code 843).

##### **Include:**

1. Lawn area around the operator's dwelling.
2. Garden area, if used only for home use.
3. Pens, buildings, and other structures around the operator's dwelling.

##### **Exclude:**

1. Unoccupied residences and vacant dwellings. Unoccupied dwellings should be accounted for on Line 3 (Waste, unoccupied dwellings, buildings...).
2. Cropland areas.
3. Pasture areas.
4. Woodland areas of any size. Record these areas on Line 4 (Woodland).
5. Wasteland areas of any size. These areas should be recorded on Line 3.
6. Dwellings occupied by anyone other than the operator. These residences should be assigned a separate tract letter in the Area Screening Form.

#### **Waste, Unoccupied Dwellings, Buildings and Structures, Roads, Ditches, Etc.**

This item (Item Code 841) includes areas of windbreaks, roads, swamps, vacant farmsteads, water, and other types of wasteland.

##### **Include:**

1. Areas in crop fields taken up by ditches, roads, or other waste areas.
2. Areas of feedlots, recreational fishponds, stock tanks, and creeks.
3. Areas of wasteland, roads, or ditches.
4. Aquaculture ponds.
5. Unoccupied dwellings.
6. **(LA Only):** Report crawfish ponds as waste. When crawfish/rice (dual purpose) are reported, report rice acres only.



**Exclude:**

1. Summer fallowed cropland. Record summer fallow land under “Land in summer fallow” if listed as a preprinted line on your questionnaire.
2. Idle cropland. Record idle cropland under Item Code 857: Idle cropland – idle all during YYYY (where YYYY is the current year).
3. Woodland areas. Record woodland areas on Line 4.

**Woodland (Not Pastured, Pastured)**

Woodland is defined as all wood lots or timber tracts, natural or planted

**Important:** Woodland grazed or woodland with limited grazing potential should be coded as Woodland Pastured (Item Code 831) by recording it on the appropriate row under the Woodland question. All other woodland should be recorded under Not Pastured (Item Code 832).

**Include:**

1. Land covered primarily with trees.
2. Woodland which may have limited grazing potential.
3. Land diverted to Government programs planted to trees (including CRP).
4. Timberland to be harvested for lumber or pulp wood. Cut-over and deforested land with young growth which has or will have value for wood products.
5. Abandoned fruit orchards, groves, and nut trees.
6. Tapped maple trees.

**Exclude:**

1. Land planted for Christmas tree production (code in Other Crops).
2. Bearing orchards and groves, nut trees (code in Other Crops).
3. Clear cut, cut-over and deforested land specifically improved for pasture (code in Permanent Pasture Line 5).

**Pasture**

See Chapter 9 for specific instructions for pasture.

**Land in Summer Fallow**

Summer Fallow is preprinted on questionnaires for some states. See Chapter 9 for specific instructions for summer fallow. (Only asked in certain states.)

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### Completing the June Area Tract Questionnaire

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#### **Idle Cropland**

See Chapter 9 for specific instructions for idle cropland.

#### **Crop or Land Use - Recording Rules**

Record acreage planted or to be planted, and acreage intended for harvest for grains, hay, tobacco, and sugarcane, etc. for crops preprinted on your questionnaire. If a crop or land use is reported but is not printed on your questionnaire, enter the acres of the crop under the Other Crops question (Item Code 848). Be sure to record the name of the crop and the acres in the table below the question.

See Chapter 9 for recording rules for planted and harvested acres, as well as individual crop instructions.

#### **Acres Left to be Planted**

If planting of the crop is not complete at the time of the interview, enter the number of acres left to be seeded. Acres remaining to be planted cannot exceed the total crop acres unless the planting intentions are for dual utilization.

#### **Other Uses of Grain Planted:**

The question “Other uses of *crop* planted” is included for some crops. The acreage entry for this item, plus the acreage to be harvested for grain or grain hay, must equal the acreage planted of the crop.

##### **Include:**

1. Acreage plowed under.
2. Acreage abandoned.
3. Acreage cut for silage or forage.
4. Acreage used only for pasture (grazed off).

#### **Soybeans Following Another Harvested Crop**

If double cropped acres reported are soybeans, record acreage of soybeans to be planted following another crop to be harvested (double cropped) in Item Code 602. If there is doubt whether the soybeans are double cropped, write a note in the margin and include a comment in CAPI. Most respondents can understand the meaning of double cropping, and report correctly.

The terminology “Following another harvested crop” means following another crop which was harvested this year. For example, winter wheat planted in the fall of 2023 and harvested for grain in 2024. Soybeans are planted after the winter wheat is harvested and the soybeans will also be harvested in 2024.

**Exclude:**

1. Soybeans planted following a cover crop. This is not double cropped because the cover crop would not be harvested. The soybeans should be coded under the Soybeans Planted and to be planted question (Item Code 600).

**Other Crops or Land Use**

Use the “Other crops” line to record acres in use or acres planted and to be planted of any crops or other land use not pre-printed on your state’s questionnaire. Acres “in use” refers to acreage planted to crops not replanted every year such as nut groves and Christmas trees. Write the name of the crop and the corresponding acres in the table below the question.

If two or more crops will be planted on the same acres for harvest or other use this year, record the total acres for all plantings of the same crop under Other crops.

**Example:** The respondent reports 10 acres of snap beans, followed by 10 acres of cucumbers, followed by 10 acres of snap beans. Record this in the Other crops workspace as: 20.0 acres of snap beans and 10.0 acres of cucumbers. Sum the acres and include the total in Item Code 848.

**Include:**

1. Small grain crops not preprinted on the questionnaire. If harvested for hay, also record under Hay, Grain (Item Code 656).
2. Grass silage, green chop, haylage, etc. (if not pre-printed on questionnaire).
3. Oilseed crops such as sunflower, flaxseed, safflower, canola, rapeseed, and mustard seed, (if not pre-printed on questionnaire).
4. Fruit orchard acreage, whether bearing or non-bearing. However, exclude abandoned fruit orchards. Abandoned orchards should be recorded under Woodland.
5. Vegetables for sale or commercial use. Exclude home gardens.
6. Small plots of vegetable crops grown as truck crops. Exclude home gardens.
7. Vineyards and nut groves.
8. Nurseries, greenhouses, sod, and flowers.
9. Flower and vegetable seeds.
10. Cultivated herbs and berries.
11. Christmas trees.
12. Newly seeded hay crops (if hay will not be harvested this year).

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### Completing the June Area Tract Questionnaire

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13. Summer fallow (if your questionnaire does not have summer fallow preprinted).

#### **Exclude:**

1. Any crop cut for hay this year, unless it is a small grain crop not preprinted in Section D. Enter these non-small grain crops under the Hay question.
2. Any preprinted crop listed in Section D.
3. Home gardens.
4. Abandoned orchards. Record abandoned orchards Woodland.
5. Maple syrup. Record areas of maple syrup trees under Woodland.
6. Summer fallow, if your questionnaire has summer fallow preprinted.

#### **Review of Tract Acreage**

The acreage of land used in the tract can exceed total acres (Item 1) only if the tract will have dual utilization during this crop year. Acreage in Item Code 1844 must account for this difference. Make sure the total tract acres recorded in Item 1 are completely accounted for.

#### **Tract Cropland with Irrigation Potential**

Some questionnaires include the question “How many of the cropland acres inside the red boundary have facilities and equipment available for irrigation? (Include land that may not be irrigated this year.)” near the end of Section D. If included on your questionnaire, record the number of acres in the tract that could be irrigated with facilities and equipment now on hand, even if the operator does not plan to irrigate the acres this year.

If a crop in Section D is double cropped, please only account for actual acres of ground with irrigation equipment.

#### **Include:**

1. Cropland that will be irrigated this year.
2. Cropland with irrigation facilities or equipment, even if the land is not irrigated this year.
3. Ditches and land associated with the irrigation facilities.

#### **Dual Utilization and Double Cropped Acres**

*“How many acres inside the red boundary were or will be planted to two different crops (including soybeans reported in Item Code 602 box) or will have two uses of the same crop in the current crop year?”* is a separate question at the end of Section D. This question reminds the farm operator to consider all uses of the fields in the tract this year. This includes dual utilization and double cropping. Dual utilization is when two (or more) different crops are

grown, or two different uses are made of the same crop in one growing season. Dual utilization refers to two or more uses of the same acres, but not necessarily two crops for harvest. Double cropping refers to two crops harvested from the same acres during the same crop year.

The term dual utilization has a broader definition than double cropping. For example, fall planted cover crops are a form of dual utilization, but are not considered double cropping, because the cover crop will not be harvested.

**Include:**

1. Soybeans, cotton, grain sorghum or other crops planted after a small grain crop is harvested.
2. Early season vegetable crops followed by late season vegetable crops.
3. Grasses or legumes harvested for hay during the early part of the season, and the regrowth harvested for seed, silage, or greenchop.
4. Hay acres cut for both dry hay and haylage or greenchop.
5. Any crop planted following a cover crop that was plowed under or abandoned where the second crop is not the same crop as the first crop.

**Exclude:**

1. Acreage replanted to the same crop due to a poor stand, hail, flood damage, etc.
2. The same acreage cut for hay two or more times.
3. Any crop byproduct (such as straw and corn stalks), where no regrowth of the original crop occurs.
4. Exclude acreage to be seeded this fall (for the next crop year).

**Example 1:** If 10.0 acres of early season vegetables are followed by 10.0 acres late season vegetables, enter 10.0 acres in the 1844 Code Box. Account for the acreages of both vegetable crops by recording 10.0 acres for each vegetable crop in the workspace under Other Crops.

**Example 2:** One hundred acres of fall seeded oat cover crop are plowed down in the spring and planted to corn for grain. Account for the oats by recording 100.0 acres under Oats Planted, and 100.0 acres under Other Uses of Oats Planted. Account for the corn acreage by recording 100.0 acres under Corn to Be Planted and 100.0 acres under Corn, Acres harvested for Grain. Enter 100.0 acres in Code Box 1844 to account for the dual utilization. A note indicating that the oats were plowed down is also helpful.

**Code 7793**

Item Code 7793 is included in Section D to monitor the source of the data recorded in Section D.

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### Completing the June Area Tract Questionnaire

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This code is to be completed by the enumerator only if Section D was reported (7793= 1) or if Section D was observed by the enumerator (7793= 2). Please include notes in CAPI, regarding your observations, when necessary.

#### 6.6 Section E – Total Acres Operated and Land Use

##### Purpose

This section is used to determine the total land in the operation identified on the Face Page on June 1. You will ask all respondents for the total acres owned, rented, and considered cropland acreage. Depending on whether the CROPS – STOCKS BOX is checked, some respondents will also be asked to report acres of specialty crops, and their intentions to plant small grains (wheat, oats, barley, or rye). Some respondents, depending on the state, will also be asked to report acres seeded to or to be seeded of new alfalfa or alfalfa mixtures. Cropland acres and small grain planting intentions are used to select samples for future surveys.

State estimates of Land in Farms and Number of Farms are based on items in this section. These estimates are published in the Farm Numbers and Land in Farms report in February.

Asking questions to determine total acres operated helps the respondent think of all land operated when accounting for crops, livestock, and poultry on the entire operation.

##### Item 2- Total Acres Operated

Total acres include the tract acreage inside the segment, plus any land outside the segment operated under the same land operating arrangement identified on the Face Page. Be sure the respondent understands that you are asking about all land operated under the operating arrangement identified on the Face Page.

If a member of a partnership also has individually operated land, this is considered two different land operating arrangements. Any land operated individually must not be included on a partnership questionnaire; any land operated in a partnership operation must not be included in an individual operation.

If the tract operator lives outside the segment, and the total farming operation is inside the segment, remember to include the operator's residence in the total acres operated.

##### Include:

1. Land owned by this operation. Land owned by this operation but rented to someone else will be subtracted out of total acres operated.
2. Land this operation rents from others. Land rented by this operation from someone else, and then rented to someone else by this operation will be subtracted out of total acres operated.
3. All land (cropland, woods, waste, pasture, idle and government program land)

regardless of location, provided the operator makes day-to-day decisions for that land. Include land across State lines if the operator located in your State makes the day-to-day decisions for the land located in the other State.

4. Land worked by sharecroppers. Sharecropper operations are a part of the landlord's overall operating unit. Sharecroppers are defined as workers who furnish only their own labor (and possibly that of their family) for a share of the crop. They do not furnish machinery or any other production materials.
5. Land used by a son or daughter for 4-H or FFA projects when the parent's equipment or facilities are used.

**Exclude:**

1. Separate parcels of non-agricultural land permanently withdrawn from agricultural use. This includes land in subdivisions and commercial buildings.

**Item 2a- Acres Owned**

**Include:**

1. All land owned by the operation identified on the Face Page as of June 1.
2. Land owned by this operation but rented, leased, managed, or administered by others.
3. Land owned by the operator, spouse, or dependent children under title, purchase contract, homestead law, or as an heir or trustee of a divided estate.
4. Cropland, pasture, orchards, woods, waste, idle land, and land enrolled in government programs.
5. Land currently considered non-agricultural but having potential to have livestock or crops in future years.
6. Land rented out on a fee-per-head or Animal Unit Month (AUM) basis. This privately owned land must be reported by the landowner rather than the operator.

**Exclude:**

1. Separate parcels of non-agricultural land permanently withdrawn from agricultural use. This includes land in subdivisions and commercial buildings.

**Item 2b- Acres Rented from Others**

Renters might report only cropland acres rented and forget to include areas of woodland or wasteland in the rented parcel. This often happens if the rent is based on the acres of cropland. If the renter has the responsibility of looking out for the owner's interest on the woodland and

## **Chapter 6**

### **Completing the June Area Tract Questionnaire**

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wasteland, this acreage should be included as part of acres rented from others.

#### **Include:**

1. All land the operation identified on the Face Page rents from others as of June 1. The respondent may not know the total acreage rented from others but may be able to provide the acres in each rented unit. In this case, add the units together to determine the total acres rented from others.
2. Land rented from others (private individuals, partnerships, corporations, and Federal, State, or local governments) for which the operation:
  - a. Pays cash rent on a per acre basis.
  - b. Pays for the land with a share of the crop (either standing or harvested).
  - c. Uses rent free.

#### **Exclude:**

1. Grazing land rented on a fee-per-head or Animal Unit Month (AUM) basis, including public lands the operation has grazing rights, sole use, or year-round use of.
2. Land operated by someone else where the operation's livestock are being fed under contract (such as a commercial feedlot).

#### **Item 2c- Acres Rented to Others**

Include land this operation owns or rents from others rented or subleased to another operation on June 1. Be sure this land is also included in Items 2a or 2b.

#### **Include:**

1. Land rented to others for cash, a share of the production, or other proceeds.
2. Pasture or grazing land rented to others on a per-acre basis.
3. Land this operation allows others to use rent free.
4. Land managed for a fee or salary by someone else.
5. Privately owned land administered by a Public, Industrial, Or Grazing Association agency as part of a range grazing unit on a fee-per-head or Animal Unit Month basis through exchange-of-use.

#### **Exclude:**

1. Land enrolled in a government program; Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), and other diverted lands.
2. Land worked by sharecroppers on this operation.



3. Land used by a son or daughter for 4-H or FFA projects when the parent's equipment or facilities are used.
4. Land used for a crop grown under contract, if the landowner furnished machinery or controls the seeding, growing, and harvest of the crop.
5. Land used for pasturing someone else's livestock when payment is made on a fee-per-head or AUM basis.
6. Land used by the operation to feed livestock under contract for others, such as a custom feedlot.

**Item 3- Total Acres Operated**

Add acres owned (Item 2a) and rented from others (Item 2b). Subtract acres rented to others (Item 2c) and record the balance in the 900 Code Box (Item 3).

**Item 3a- Total Acres Check Question**

This question verifies the respondent included the farmstead, pasture, woods, and waste in the Item 3 total acres. If respondent omitted any of this land, make appropriate corrections, and then go to the next item in your questionnaire.

**Item 4- Screening Question for Fee-Per-Head or Animal Unit Month (AUM) Land**

Ask this question to verify whether this operation used any land on a fee-per-head or AUM basis on June 1.

**Important:** Total acres operated recorded in Item 3 must not include any land administered on an AUM or fee-per-head basis, including exchange of use land. Exchange of use land should be treated as acres rented to others.

**Item 5- Acres of Fee-Per-Head or AUM Land**

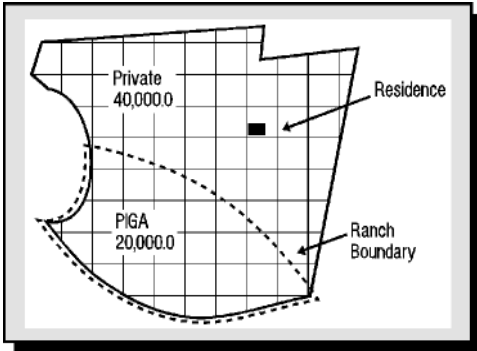
If the respondent answered YES to Item 4, you would then need to record the number of acres this operation used on a fee-per-head or AUM basis.

**Examples of Completing Section E, Item 2 for PIGA Operations (AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, and WY Only)**

The following pages contain examples to help you complete Section E for operations using PIGA land on June 1. Remember, the type of land dictates the exact rules for defining land as PIGA. Once the land is defined as PIGA, the following examples illustrate the methods used to account for the acreage in Section E. It is especially important to note how to handle **exchange of use** grazing arrangements to ensure acreage is accounted for correctly.

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### Completing the June Area Tract Questionnaire

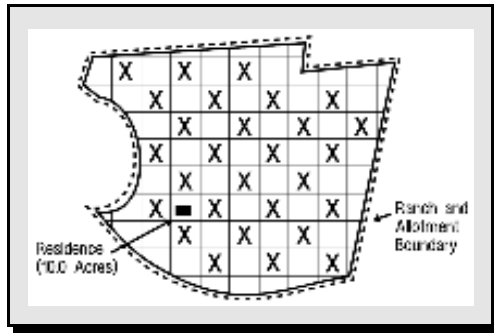


**Example 1: Boundary of operation as the respondent thinks of it. The parcel includes 40,000 acres of privately owned land, plus 20,000 acres of PIGA land administered as an allotment or grazing unit.**

--- = PIGA Allotment Boundary

1. Now I would like to ask about the **total acres operated** under this land arrangement. Include the farmstead, all cropland, woodland, pastureland, wasteland, and government program land.
2. On June 1, how many acres did this operation:

a. Own? .....	+	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> <div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">Acres</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; padding: 0 5px;"> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">901</span> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">40000.0</span> </div> </div>
b. Rent or Lease from Others, or use Rent Free? <i>(Exclude Federal, State and other types of land rented or leased on an AUM basis, BLM and Forest Service.)</i> .....	+	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> <div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">Acres</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; padding: 0 5px;"> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">902</span> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">.</span> </div> </div>
(i) Are any of these acres operated on a cash rent per acre basis?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes = 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No = 3 .....		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> <div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">Code</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">903</div> </div>
c. Rent or Lease to Others? .....	-	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> <div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">Acres</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; padding: 0 5px;"> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">905</span> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">40000.0</span> </div> </div>
3. [Calculate item 2a + 2b - 2c] Then the <b>total acres operated</b> on June 1 was. ....	=	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> <div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">Acres</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; padding: 0 5px;"> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">900</span> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">.</span> </div> </div>
a. Does this include the farmstead, all cropland, woodland, pastureland, wasteland, and government program land?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - [Continue.] <input type="checkbox"/> No - [Make corrections, then continue.]		



**Example 2:** The residence (ranch headquarters) is located inside the allotment or grazing unit. Private lands are mixed with PIGA lands and administered with the PIGA land through exchange-of-use.

--- = PIGA Allotment Boundary

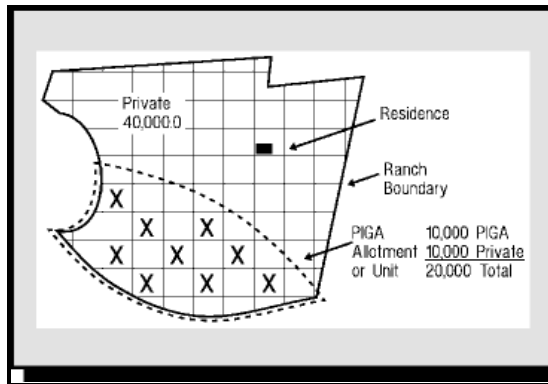
X = Land owned by a PIGA agency.

1. Now I would like to ask about the **total acres operated** under this land arrangement. Include the farmstead, all cropland, woodland, pastureland, wasteland, and government program land.
2. On June 1, how many acres did this operation:

a. Own? ..... +	<table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Acres</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">901    <b>30000.0</b></td> </tr> </table>	Acres	901 <b>30000.0</b>
Acres			
901 <b>30000.0</b>			
b. Rent or Lease from Others, or use Rent Free? ( <i>Exclude Federal, State and other types of land rented or leased on an AUM basis, BLM and Forest Service.</i> ) ..... +	<table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Acres</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">902    <b>0.0</b></td> </tr> </table>	Acres	902 <b>0.0</b>
Acres			
902 <b>0.0</b>			
(i) Are any of these acres operated on a cash rent per acre basis?			
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes = 1</b>      <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No = 3</b> .....                         </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">                             Code 903                         </div> </div>			
c. Rent or Lease to Others? ..... -	<table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Acres</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">905    <b>29990.0</b></td> </tr> </table>	Acres	905 <b>29990.0</b>
Acres			
905 <b>29990.0</b>			
3. <b>[Calculate item 2a + 2b - 2c]</b> Then the <b>total acres operated</b> on June 1 was ..... =			
a. Does this include the farmstead, all cropland, woodland, pastureland, wasteland, and government program land?	<table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Acres</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">900    <b>10.0</b></td> </tr> </table>	Acres	900 <b>10.0</b>
Acres			
900 <b>10.0</b>			
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes - [Continue.]</b>      <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No - [Make corrections, then continue.]</b> </div>			

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**Example 3:** This example is similar to Example 1, except private land is mixed with PIGA land, and administered as an allotment or grazing unit on an UM basis through exchange-of-use.

- - = PIGA Allotment Boundary

X = Land owned by a PIGA agency

- Now I would like to ask about the **total acres operated** under this land arrangement. Include the farmstead, all cropland, woodland, pastureland, wasteland, and government program land.
- On June 1, how many acres did this operation:

a. Own? ..... +

Acres	
901	50000.0

b. Rent or Lease from Others, or use Rent Free? (*Exclude Federal, State and other types of land rented or leased on an AUM basis, BLM and Forest Service.*) ..... +

902	0.0
-----	-----

(i) Are any of these acres operated on a cash rent per acre basis?

☐ Yes = 1

☐ No = 3

Code

903
-----

c. Rent or Lease to Others? ..... -

Acres	
905	10000.0

3. [Calculate item 2a + 2b - 2c]

Then the **total acres operated** on June 1 was. .... =

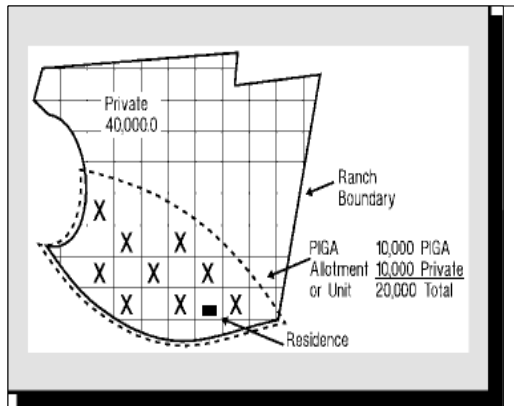
900	40000.0
-----	---------

a. Does this include the farmstead, all cropland, woodland, pastureland, wasteland, and government program land?

☐ Yes - [Continue.]

☐ No - [Make corrections, then continue.]

## Completing the June Area Tract Questionnaire



**Example 4:** This example is similar to Example 3, except the residence (ranch headquarters) is located inside the allotment or grazing unit administered by a PIGA agency.

-- = PIGA Allotment Boundary

X = Land owned by a PIGA agency

1. Now I would like to ask about the **total acres operated** under this land arrangement. Include the farmstead, all cropland, woodland, pastureland, wasteland, and government program land.
2. On June 1, how many acres did this operation:

a. Own? .....	+	Acres	901	50000.0
b. Rent or Lease from Others, or use Rent Free? <i>(Exclude Federal, State and other types of land rented or leased on an AUM basis, BLM and Forest Service.)</i> .....	+	Acres	902	0.0
(i) Are any of these acres operated on a cash rent per acre basis?				
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes = 1	<input type="checkbox"/> No = 3	Code	903	
c. Rent or Lease to Others? .....	-	Acres	905	10000.0
3. [Calculate item 2a + 2b - 2c] Then the <b>total acres operated</b> on June 1 was .....	=	Acres	900	40000.0
a. Does this include the farmstead, all cropland, woodland, pastureland, wasteland, and government program land?				
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - [Continue.] <input type="checkbox"/> No - [Make corrections, then continue.]				

## **Chapter 6**

### **Completing the June Area Tract Questionnaire**

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#### **Item 6- Enumerator Comparison of Tract and Farm Acreage**

Item 6 will provide an enumerator verification of tract and farm acreage to ensure all land in the operation, except for that rented on a fee-per-head or AUM basis, is accounted for in Item 3. After obtaining total acres operated, compare the total acres operated with the acres located inside the tract entered in the box at the top right corner of Page 4.

If the reported total acres operated is less than the tract acres, either (1) the tract acres include land that is not in this operation, or (2) the respondent did not report the correct total acres operated, including land both inside and outside the tract. Review both Section D and the total acres operated with the respondent to correct any mistakes.

If the tract acres in Section D and Total Acres Operated are equal, verify that the operation has no land (including the operator's residence) outside of the segment. You should make sure the respondent reports all land in the operation before continuing with Item 7.

If tract acres in Section D are less than the total acres operated, continue with Item 7.

#### **Item 7- Cropland on Total Acres Operated**

The total acres of cropland on the entire operation will be used to select a sample of June tracts for follow-on surveys. Refer to Chapter 9 for a discussion of what to include as cropland.

#### **Item 8- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)/Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)**

The total acres of CRP and WRP on the entire operation will be used to identify operations with land in Government programs like CRP/WRP. These data will be used in the Census evaluation of farms and Land in Farms that is not covered by the Census Mail List.

#### **Item 9- Enumerator Skip Instruction**

This question is directed to you, the enumerator, and should not be asked to the respondent. This question is used to help determine if questions or sections of the questionnaire should be completed. If the CROPS-STOCKS box in Section C is checked, ask all the questions that follow. If the box is not checked, skip to Section G.

#### **Item 10- Acres planted with Fruit, Berries, and Christmas Trees on Entire Operation**

This question identifies the total acres of fruit trees, grape vines, tree nuts, berries (excluding strawberries), and Christmas trees on the total acres operated. If answered yes, enter the total acres of these commodities on the entire operation. Exclude fruit, berry, and nut acreages used only for home consumption.

#### **Items 11- Small Grains Planted on Operation**

These items identify operations with small grains (wheat, rye, oats, or barley). Operations with intentions to grow small grains anywhere on the total acres operated will be contacted for the September Agricultural Survey, December Agricultural Survey and March Agricultural Survey.

If small grains were reported on any of Lines in of Section D, check YES, enter a 1 in the 161 Code Box, and go to Item 12.

If none of these small grains were reported in Section D, ask Item 11a to determine if any will be planted anywhere on the total acres operated for this crop year. Check the appropriate response and enter a 1, 2, or 3 in the 161 Code Box.

If you complete the questionnaire by observation, and you don't see any small grains on the tract, check DON'T KNOW and enter a 2 in the 161 Code Box.

**Item 12- Acres of New Alfalfa or Alfalfa Mixtures Seeded and to be Seeded on Entire Operation (All States except AL, GA, LA, MS, and SC)**

Alfalfa is a perennial legume which is mainly used as a hay or forage crop but can also serve as a cover crop. Alfalfa seeding normally occurs during the Spring in Northern States and during the late summer in Southern States. Spring seeding can begin as soon as the potential for damage from spring frosts has passed and late-summer seeding normally begins around the first of September.

**Important:** If the respondent refuses or is inaccessible for Item 12, observe as much of the tract and entire farm as possible. Try to determine if the operation has new seeded alfalfa acres. Provide as much information as you can in your notes.

**Include:**

1. New acres of pure alfalfa or alfalfa mixtures seeded during the current year regardless of when it will be harvested or grazed.
2. New acres of pure alfalfa or alfalfa mixtures seeded for harvest as hay or haylage, used for grazing, as a cover crop, or for any other purpose.
3. New acres of alfalfa mixed with a nurse crop or companion crop, other forages, or direct seeding (planted without a nurse crop).

**Exclude:**

1. Acres of existing alfalfa over seeded (re-seeded) with alfalfa or alfalfa mixtures to improve the stand or to replant areas damaged by winter kill.

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#### **6.7 Section F – Grains and Oilseeds in Storage on Entire Operation**

##### **Purpose**

Information in this section will be used to prepare estimates of the quantity of grains and oilseeds stored on farms. These estimates will be published in the Grain Stocks report.

##### **General**

You will only complete this section if the CROPS-STOCKS Box is checked in Section C.

Depending on your State's questionnaire, you will ask the respondent to report stocks of oats, barley, all wheat (or wheat by type), rye, flaxseed, soybeans, corn, sorghum (milo), canola, and rapeseed.

Refer to Chapter 10 of this manual for additional instructions for storage capacity and crops in storage items.

##### **Item 1- Storage Capacity**

Storage capacity must be reported in bushels or tons, as specified on the questionnaire version used in your State.

Even though an operation may not have storage facilities, you must still ask Item 2. The operation may have grains or oilseeds stored on the operation, even if the operation does not have storage facilities.

##### **Exclude:**

1. Licensed on-farm storage and storage rented to others.

##### **Item 2- Stocks Item Introduction**

The introductory statement explains exactly which grains and oilseeds must be reported. You must read this entire statement to the respondent as written to help the respondent remember all crops in storage, especially those stored under a government program.

##### **Grains and Oilseeds in Storage on June 1**

Include whole grains and oilseeds from the previous crop year and earlier stored on the total acres operated, regardless of ownership or intended use. If the respondent has a crop stored on the total acres operated, but doesn't know the amount, check YES and probe for an estimate. If the respondent still is unable to report the quantity, print DK (don't know) in the right margin next to the appropriate answer box.

Notice that you do not have to repeat the entire question for each crop. Once you have asked it a few times, the respondent will know what is required when you give the name of the crop. Stocks of canola and rapeseed will be asked in some States. Notice that these crops are reported in pounds rather than bushels or tons.



**Item 3- New Crop Grains**

This item appears in questionnaires used in States where harvest of this year's small grain and oilseed crops might be underway by June 1 (primarily the southern half of the United States). All new crop stocks of wheat, barley, oats, rye, canola, and rapeseed should be excluded.

If one or more of these crops is reported in Item 2, ask Item 3. Stocks reported in Item 2 must include only crops stored on the total acres operated from the previous year and earlier crop years. If necessary, make corrections in Item 2 to exclude all new crop (harvested or to be harvested in the current year) grains and oilseeds.

**Completion Code for Stocks (141 Code Box)**

Complete this box only when stocks in Item 2 are inaccessible or refused, or if none of the crops listed in Item 2 are stored on the total acres operated on June 1. Do not complete this box for storage capacity (Item 1). Check with your supervisor for proper handling of partially completed sections. You will need to enter a code for the following three situations:

- 1= Incomplete, has stocks. Through observation or other current information, you know the operation has the listed grains, oilseeds, or pulse crops stored on the total acres operated.
- 2= Incomplete, stocks presence unknown. You do not know, either by observation or information provided by the respondent, if the operation has any of the listed grains, oilseeds, or pulse crops stored on the total acres operated.
- 3= Valid Zero. Enter this code whenever it is known, either from the respondent or other sources that the operation does not have any of the listed grains, oilseeds, or pulse crops stored on the total acres operated.

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#### 6.8 Section G – Hogs and Pigs

##### General

The purpose of this Section is to collect total inventories of hog and pigs on June 1. Estimates will be published in the Hogs and Pigs Report.

**Important:** Total hog inventory numbers are required of all tract operators that own or raise hogs and pigs. If the respondent is unwilling to cooperate or is unavailable during the survey period (refusal or inaccessible), you will need to observe as much of the tract and entire farm as possible to provide an estimate. Information about respondents that appear to have hog facilities and/or hog inventories should be provided in notes. Your best estimate of possible hog numbers is necessary to properly represent this operation. **Section G must be completed for every agricultural tract.**

##### Item 1- Screening for Hogs Owned or Raised

This question refers to all kinds and ages of hogs and pigs that are owned or raised by the tract operator. If hogs or pigs are owned or are being raised by the tract operator, check YES, and continue with item 2. If no hogs are owned or raised by the operator, proceed with Item 1a.

##### Item 1a- Intentions to Own or Raise Hogs on this Operation

You will only complete Item 1a. if Item 1 is checked NO. Item 1a. determines if any tract operators will own or raise any hogs on the operation in the next six months. This information is very important since it will be used to select samples for future hog surveys. Proceed to the next section after entering a code in the 492 Code Box.

##### Item 2- Hogs & Pigs Located on the Acres Operated on June 1

Record the number of all the hogs and pigs located on the acres operated by the tract operator on June 1. Include all hogs regardless of ownership on this question. Include hogs that are owned by others. Responses to question 2 should include hogs and pigs of all sizes, ages, and sex. Make sure you include all breeding, feeder, and market weight hogs and pigs. Pigs kept for home use should also be recorded on Item 2.

##### Item 3-3c- Hogs on Acres Operated but Owned by Someone Else

Record the number of hogs that are owned by someone else on the acres operated on Line 3a. Record the name of the owner who owns any hogs located on the tract operator's land or hog facilities. You may find situations where a hog producer will not own any of the hogs being raised on his operation. Hogs that are located on the operator's land or facilities may belong to either a contractor, another producer, a relative, or a neighbor. You may also find situations where the tract operator owns only some of the hogs located on his operation while the remaining hogs are owned by others.

If the tract operator is a hog contractee, you should obtain the complete name and address of

the contractor who owns the hogs and pigs being raised under contract. This information allows the Regional Field Office to correctly identify the contractor's report and avoid any possible duplication in reporting.

**Item 4- Hogs & Pigs Owned on June 1**

Record all the hogs and pigs owned by the tract operator or operation on June 1. The hogs do not have to be physically located on the operator's farm or hog facilities. In some instances, hog producers may have hogs being raised by someone else. Include all sows, gilts, boars, pigs for market or home use, unweaned pigs and hogs no longer used for breeding that are owned by the tract operator on June 1. If no hogs are owned by the tract operator, proceed to the next section, and skip Questions 5 and 6.

**Item 5- Hogs Located on Someone Else's Land or Facilities**

Ask the hog producer if any of the hogs he owns are located on someone else's land or hog facility. This information is important in determining future samples and to avoid any possible duplication among hog producers. If any of his hogs are located on someone else's land, record the name and address of the land or facility owner. This question is designed; (1) to obtain the names of hog facility owners who may be renting out their facilities to the tract operator, or (2) to record names of contractees raising hogs for the tract operator. If the tract operator is a large hog contractor with many contractees, you should provide as much information in notes explaining the situation. This item is not designed to collect a long list of contractee names. It is very likely that large contractors are already known by the Regional Field Office.

**Item 6- Other Business Name or Operator**

To avoid any possible duplication between our List and Area surveys, ask the hog producer if the operation he is currently operating has done business under any other business name in the last 12 months. If his current hog operation was previously operated by someone else or used another business name, record the name and address of the previous operator or business.

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#### 6.9 Section H – Total Cattle and Calves

##### General

Section H obtains inventories for all cattle and calves on the total acres operated, calf crop for the first half of the year, and calving intentions for the second half of the year. The information from this section will be used with data from the July Cattle Survey to provide estimates of total cattle inventory and calf crop for the July Cattle report.

Total cattle include all cattle, regardless of ownership, on the total acres operated. Tract operators should **include** cattle and calves they own or manage that are located on Public, Industrial or Grazing Association land leased from others on a fee-per-head or Animal Unit Month (AUM) basis. The owner of the AUM land does not report these cattle even if he/she/they is considered the operator.

- **NOTE:** Oxen should be excluded from cattle inventory. Record Oxen as other livestock.

The tract questionnaire for a Grazing Association (drawn off separately because the grazing land was inside the segment boundaries) should not include any cattle inventory unless the Grazing Association members jointly own the cattle. This is not a common situation given the non-profit nature of many of the Grazing Associations. The cattle located on the Grazing Association land would be reported by the owner of the cattle.

**Important:** If the respondent refuses or is inaccessible, observe as much of the tract and entire farm as possible. Try to determine if the operation has cattle outside the segment. Provide as much information as you can in your notes. **Section H must be completed for every agricultural tract that has the CATTLE Box checked in Section C.**

Refer to Chapter 12 for specific instructions on completing the cattle inventory, cattle on feed, calf crop, and grazing fee items.

##### Enumerator Skip Instruction – [Is the CATTLE BOX checked on Page 3?]

This question is directed to you, the enumerator, and should not be asked to the respondent. This question is used to help determine if questions or sections of the questionnaire should be completed. If the CATTLE Box in Section C is checked, ask all the questions that follow. If the box is not checked, skip to Section I.

##### Item 1- Cattle & Calves on the Entire Farm

This question refers to all kinds and ages of cattle and calves on the total acres operated on June 1, regardless of ownership. If cattle or calves were present anywhere on the operation, skip to Item 2.

##### Item 1a- Cattle & Calves Since January 1

If there were no cattle or calves on hand June 1, determine if there were any on the total acres

operated at any time between January 1 and May 31 of this year. If cattle were on the operation earlier this year, skip to Item 6 and collect information on calves born on the total acres operated between January 1 and May 31. If no cattle or calves were on the total acres operated at any time between January 1 and May 31, ask Item 1a (i).

**Item 1a (i)- Intentions to Have Cattle**

Item 1a (i) determines if the operation intends to have any cattle on the total acres operated before the end of the year. This information is used to select samples for future cattle surveys. Enter code 1, 2, or 3 representing the respondent's intentions to have cattle in the 493 Code Box.

If you complete the questionnaire by observation because the respondent refuses or is inaccessible, and you don't see any cattle or have any knowledge of the operation, check DON'T KNOW and enter a 2 in the 493 Code Box.

**Items 2, 3, and 4- Cattle, COF, and Calves on June 1**

Specific instructions for completing cattle inventory items are in Chapter 12 of this manual.

**Items 5, 6, and 7- Calf Crop**

Specific instructions for completing calf crop items are in Chapter 12 of this manual.

## 6.10 Section I – Sheep and Lambs

### General

The purpose of this section is to collect information on the June 1 total sheep inventory.

**Important:** If the respondent refused or is inaccessible, observe as much of the tract and entire farm as possible. Try to determine if the operation has sheep (Eastern States), or owns sheep (most Western States). Provide as much useful information as possible in notes.  
**Section I must be completed for every agricultural tract.**

### Reporting Rules for Sheep and Lambs

- **All States EXCEPT AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, ND, NV, SD, OR, UT, WA, and WY:** Questions for sheep and lambs in these States pertain to animals on total acres operated, regardless of ownership. Tract operators should **include** sheep and goats they own or manage that are located on Public, Industrial or Grazing Association land leased from others on a fee-per-head or Animal Unit Month (AUM) basis. The owner of the AUM land does not report these sheep even if he/she is considered the operator.
- **AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, ND, NV, SD, OR, UT, WA, and WY:** Questions for sheep and lambs in Western States pertain to animals owned or custom fed by the operation, regardless of location.

With the change to a more inclusionary Sheep and Goat section, please attempt to still probe as to for what purposes an operation may have sheep and/or goats.

Pay special attention to operations that identify sheep or goats as pets or for other non-commercial purposes (i.e., milked for home usage, 4-H, or kept for eventual meat slaughter for home consumption). For the sake of the data quality of future Sheep and Goat surveys, please attempt to exclude any operations that claim sheep or goats for non-commercial purposes. Some potential situations that would warrant attention are outlined below:

- If an operation owns/raises a large number of sheep or goats and considers them ‘pets,’ it would be advisable to still consider this a commercial operation and to check the ‘Yes’ box to Item 1, as they animals in all likelihood are in fact being used for commercial purposes.
- If an operation contains only a few acres of pasture and a few sheep and/or goats on hand (<5), they are likely being kept on hand as pets unless otherwise stated. Those using the sheep and/or goats for home consumption of milk or meat would be counted in this survey, as value of home consumption is measured. Further evaluation of other acres and other agricultural activity will determine if this operation still qualifies as a farm.
- If an operator verifies that their few sheep and/or goats on hand are being used

exclusively for non-commercial means, please mark 'No' to Item 1 and follow the proceeding question prompts.

**Item 1- Sheep and Lambs on June 1**

**All States EXCEPT AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, ND, NV, SD, OR, UT, WA, and WY:** This question refers to all kinds and ages of sheep and lambs on the total acres operated on June 1, regardless of ownership. If any sheep or lambs, regardless of ownership were on the total acres operated on June 1, check YES and skip to Section J. See Reporting Rules above for the type of presence in your state.

**Item 2- Sheep and Lambs Since January 1**

If there were no sheep or lambs present on June 1, determine if any were present at any time between January 1 and May 31 of this year. If sheep were present earlier this year, check YES and skip to Section J. If no sheep or lambs were present, check NO and continue to Item 3. See Reporting Rules above for the type of presence in your state.

**Item 3- Intentions to Have Sheep**

If there were no sheep present on June 1 or earlier this year, Item 3 determines if the operation intends to have any sheep or lambs before the end of the year. This item is used to select samples for future sheep surveys. If the questionnaire is completed by observation and you don't see any sheep, or have any other information, check DON'T KNOW and go to Section J. See Reporting Rules above for the type of presence in your state.

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#### 6.11 Section J – Goats and Kids

##### General

The purpose of this section is to collect information on the June 1 total goat inventory.

**Important:** If the respondent refused or is inaccessible, observe as much of the tract and entire farm as possible. Try to determine if the operation has goats. Provide as much useful information as possible in notes. **Section J must be completed for every agricultural tract.**

##### Reporting Rules for Goats and Kids

- **All States EXCEPT AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, ND, NV, SD, OR, UT, WA, and WY:** Questions for goats and kids in these States pertain to animals on total acres operated, regardless of ownership. Tract operators should **include** goats and kids they own or manage that are located on Public, Industrial or Grazing Association land leased from others on a fee-per-head or Animal Unit Month (AUM) basis. The owner of the AUM land does not report these goats even if he/she is considered the operator.
- **AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, ND, NV, SD, OR, UT, WA, and WY:** Questions for goats and kids in Western States pertain to animals owned by the operation, regardless of location.

##### Item 1- Goats and Kids on June 1

- **All States EXCEPT AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, ND, NV, SD, OR, UT, WA, and WY:** This question refers to all kinds and ages of goats and kids on the total acres operated on June 1, regardless of ownership. If any goats or kids, regardless of ownership were on the total acres operated on June 1, check YES and skip to Section K. See Reporting Rules above for the type of presence in your state.

##### Item 2- Goats and Kids Since January 1

If there were no goats or kids present on June 1, determine if any were present at any time between January 1 and May 31 of this year. If goats were present earlier this year, check YES and skip to Section K. If no goats or kids were present, check NO and ask Item 3.

##### Item 3- Intentions to Have Goats

If there were no goats present on June 1 or earlier this year, Item 3 determines if the operation intends to have any goats or kids before the end of the year. This item is used to select samples for goat surveys. If the questionnaire is completed by observation and you don't see any goats, or have any other information, check DON'T KNOW and go to Section K.



## 6.12 Section K – Horses and Other Equine

### General

The information collected in this section will provide indications of State and U.S. inventories of horses, ponies, mules, donkeys, and burros ON ALL PLACES (farm and non-farm). Currently, NASS doesn't estimate equine inventory, but this section provides information for states who conduct special projects for the equine industry.

**Section K must be completed for all tracts** that complete an area questionnaire. Screening instructions direct enumerators to complete an area questionnaire for any operation that has **one or more equine** on the total acres operated, regardless of the operation's farm status. **If the respondent refuses or is inaccessible, equine presence on the total acres must still be determined.** "Don't Know" is NOT a valid entry for Item 1. In non-response situations, observe as much of the tract and entire operation as possible. Try to determine if the operation has equine outside the segment. Provide as much useful information as possible in your notes.

### Item 1- Horses, Ponies, Mules, Donkeys or Burros on Total Acres Operated

Item 1 screens for June 1 presence of horses, ponies, mules, donkeys, or burros, regardless of ownership, on the total acres operated. Include equine of all ages and breeds, for all uses. Include equine owned or managed that are located on PIGA land. Exclude wild horses and zebras.

- If Item 1 is YES, then Item 2 and/or Item 3 must be positive.
- If Item 1 is NO, Items 2 and 3 must be blank.

### Items 2 and 3- Inventories of Horses, Ponies and Other Equine

For Items 2 and 3, include horses, ponies and other equine of all ages and breeds on the total acres operated, for all uses. Exclude wild horses and zebras. For Item 3, count all equine on the acres operated that are owned by the operation, including equine that are only partially owned by the operation.

### **6.13 Section L – Other Agricultural Information**

#### **General instructions for completing Section L**

If the respondent answers YES, enter a 1 in the Code Box to indicate the operation did or will have labor, then ask the next question to determine the largest number of hired workers for the current year.

If the respondent answers Don't Know, or if the questionnaire is completed by observation, enter a 2 in the Code Box and skip to the next section of the questionnaire.

If the respondent answers no, enter a 3 in the Code Box and skip to the next section of the questionnaire.

#### **Item 1- Screening for Agricultural Workers (All States except CA)**

Include all agricultural workers on the payroll of this operation, regardless of where they work. If the operation also provides agricultural services under the same name on the Face Page, include the service workers. Shareholders in a corporation or partners who pay themselves a regular salary should be counted only if they actively participate in day-to-day decisions.

##### **Include as Agricultural Work:**

1. Work done in connection with the production of agricultural products, including nursery and greenhouse products, and animal specialties such as furs, fish, and apiaries.
2. Work done OFF this operation such as trips to buy feed, deliver products to local market, taking a sick animal to the veterinarian, or to handle other farm-related business.
3. Repairs of farm buildings and machinery when related to agricultural production or distribution.
4. Managing a farm or ranch for an obligated salary or payment.
5. Office and wholesale sales work.

##### **Exclude from Agricultural Work:**

1. Housework, such as cooking and homemaking, by household members performed within the operator's home.
2. Plumbing, carpentry, or mechanical work when the person doing the work derived more income from sources other than agricultural work.
3. Operating a filling station, store or other such non-agricultural enterprises even though located on the operation.
4. Work involved in training, boarding, or renting animals such as horses and dogs for amusement or recreation. Also, exclude caring for research animals.

5. Work at a roadside stand if the operator produces less than 50 percent of the products sold at the stand. If the operator produces more than 50 percent of the products, then the work at the stand is agricultural.
6. Work that materially alters the form of the product, even if the processing facility is located on the farm and workers are paid by the operator.
7. All work provided by outside service firms such as ginning cotton at a commercial gin or bookkeeping, legal and other professional services provided at a location off the farm.
8. Custom work.

### **6.14 Section M – Land Values**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this section is to collect information on farmland, land and building values. This information will be used to prepare estimates of state-level farmland values from data collected in the June Area Survey.

Information on the value of farmland:

1. Provides an indication of the largest farm asset, land, as part of the financial condition of the farm sector.
2. Is an indication of the need for credit, and to design farm and credit programs to assist farmers.
3. Measures the year-to-year fluctuation of land values and net worth.
4. Is used by ag bankers, lenders, appraisers, and farm managers to evaluate farmland values.

#### **Background**

Because there are only about 5,000 farms sold annually and we are estimating the value of all land and buildings, sales alone are not a large enough of a sample, so we are asking land operators for their best judgment as to the value of the land they operate.

Farmland values are one of the major indicators of the financial health of farmers. The value of farmland and buildings owned accounts for 75% of all farm assets. Land is a primary source of collateral in obtaining operating loans, so changes in farmland values alter the ability of farmers to purchase additional farmland and to finance operating costs.

A few respondents may have a difficult time providing land values information. Do NOT use the tax assessed or appraised value. The survey is an indication of what the respondent believes the land and buildings are valued at, as the questions states. Read the introduction closely to be sure

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the respondent knows that the land values are referring to the entire farm.

#### **Market Value of Farmland**

Market value is the value on June 1 at which the land could be sold under current market conditions if allowed to remain on the market for a reasonable amount of time. This value should be for the most likely purpose the land would be sold, including non-agricultural uses.

It is preferred that the respondent report specific dollar amounts for the land value questions. However, the respondent may only be able to provide a range of values, rather than a single value.

If the value range is narrow relative to values for the same type of land in the area, then the midpoint for the range is acceptable, because it would reflect a close approximation of the current market value.

**Example 1:** If the respondent reports a value of "between \$2,000 and \$3,000 dollars per acre," the midpoint (\$2,500) is a good approximation of the actual market value of the land. You should enter \$2,500 in the Item Box.

**Example 2:** If the land is in an area under high developmental pressure, and the respondent reports a range of "\$10,000 to \$15,000;" record \$12,500 in the Item Box.

If the respondent reports a very broad range, however, the midpoint of the range may not be a good approximation of the current market value. If the range is so broad that the midpoint may not reflect the current market value, you should probe for an explanation. The respondent may be reporting values based on different uses the land could be sold for. In this case, do not record the midpoint unless it can be established that this midpoint price could be obtained on the "current" market.

**Example 3:** If the respondent reports a range of "\$1,000 if the land were sold for farming, to \$10,000 if the land were sold to a developer," the midpoint (\$5,500) probably does not reflect the actual current market value of the land. Do not record \$5,500, unless it is likely this price could be obtained on the "current" market.

If the respondent does report a range of possible values based on different uses for which the land could be sold for, ask the respondent which use is the most likely the land could be sold for in the current market.

When it is impossible to determine a current market value based on reported ranges, record DK (Don't Know) next to the appropriate box(es).

**Do not suggest answers to respondents.** For example, do not prompt respondents with values

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reported by other respondents in the area. Do not use assessed value because it might not represent the market value.

**Item 1- Market Value of Land and Buildings**

Item 1 of Section M should relate to the total acres for the entire operation which includes both land inside and outside the blue tract boundary. The introduction to this question needs to be read to ensure the respondent is correctly thinking about the entire farm.

Record the operator's best estimate of the Total Market Value of all Land and Buildings operated on June 1. The value reported should represent the value of the land, houses, barns and other buildings as if they were sold at the current market conditions. **The real estate tax assessment value should not be used.** Do not deduct real estate marketing charges from the operator's estimate.

Enter the value in total dollars. Do not record a value per acre. Often the value per acre does not adequately account for the impact that the value of houses and buildings can have on the total value.

If the operator is unable to report the total value, write DK (don't know) next to the cell.

**Land in Farms**

**Include:**

1. The operator's home, all houses for hired labor and houses occupied by partners or relatives.
2. All farm buildings, such as livestock/poultry facilities, barns, cribs, silos, equipment shops, grain bins, storage sheds, etc.
3. Permanent plantings in orchards, groves, vineyards, Christmas trees.
4. Include the value of water rights, mineral rights, grazing permits that go with the land, etc.
5. Permanently installed irrigation equipment and frost protection systems.

**Exclude:**

1. Processing facilities such as cotton gins, packing sheds, commercial elevator facilities, even if they are owned by and located on the operation.

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#### Items 1a & 1b- Percent Change of Total Market Value of Land and Buildings on the Operation.

Item 1a of Section M should indicate if land increased, decreased, or did not change from the previous year and by what percent. First, try to get a response to the direction (increase, decrease, no change). The direction alone provides an important piece of information when comparing this year to last year. Check the appropriate direction and enter the code in Item 1a.

If an increase or decrease is checked, proceed by asking for the percent change in Item 1b. The percent change is expected to be from 1 to 50. The percent change may be 50 or larger in special cases such as areas adjacent to commercial or residential developments where the value could double in one year.

Some examples of what you may get:

	Response	Action
(A)	8 percent increase over last year.	Check Increase, Enter 8.
(B)	3 percent decrease from last year.	Check Decrease, Enter 3.
(C)	No change from last year.	Check No Change, Leave Percent Blank.

If the respondent is unable to report the percent, write DK (don't know) next to the cell.

#### Item 2- Tract Acres – Market Value Per Acre

You will be collecting the current market value of all cropland and permanent pasture located inside the blue tract boundaries. This includes land reported in Section D, whether rented or owned by the operation. Values for each type of land inside the tract are necessary because values may be significantly different for different types of land. For example, cropland is normally valued higher than pastureland.

The *Check* boxes have been included next to each land type to help you record and document if any of the land types listed are present inside the blue tract boundary. Do not ask for values for types of land that are not present inside the tract. For instance, if the operation does not have any permanent pasture inside the tract, proceed to the next item.

If the respondent reports the same value for all types of land (or unusual values, such as pasture that is worth more than cropland), verify the answers and make notes on the questionnaire to explain the situation. Unusually high or low values should also be documented with notes.

When determining the current market value of cropland or pasture, the respondent should take into consideration all of the area in each field as it was recorded in Section D.

The reported land value for the different land types should exclude the value of

dwellings and buildings.

The value of capital improvements (fencing, drainage tiles, irrigation systems, etc.) that are part of the land and would be sold with the land should be included in the reported value of the land.

**Items a through c- Tract Cropland Values**

Depending on your State's questionnaire, you will obtain the average value per acre for either all cropland or irrigated and non-irrigated cropland.

**Cropland Values-** should be included for all land used to grow field crops, vegetables or harvested for hay. Land that switches back and forth between cropland and pasture should be valued as cropland. Hay land, idle cropland, and government program set aside cropland should be included when valuing cropland.

**Non-irrigated vs. Irrigated (cropland)-** States asking irrigated and non-irrigated cropland separately should only include cropland acres as defined. The value of specialized permanent crops (orchards, vineyards, groves, nursery stock, Christmas trees, etc.) should be recorded in Items 1a, b, or c, as appropriate. The value of these permanent type crops such as orchards, groves, and vineyards, should include the value of the trees and vines because they are attached to the land, and they would be sold with the land. These types of permanent crops are usually worth more than other traditional cropland.

**Item 2b- Non-irrigated cropland** is cropland that receives moisture by natural means only and does not have Irrigation facilities and equipment such as wells, pumps, canals, ditches, reservoirs, lakes, tanks, ponds, rivers, streams or creeks are usually present or on nearby acres.

**Item 2c- Irrigated cropland** is land that normally receives or has the potential to receive water by artificial means to supplement natural rainfall. Irrigated cropland may consist of both land that will or will not be irrigated during the current year but still has the facilities and equipment to do so. Irrigation facilities and equipment such as wells, pumps, canals, ditches, reservoirs, lakes, tanks, ponds, rivers, streams or creeks are usually present or on nearby acres. Irrigated cropland is normally worth more than land without irrigation potential or facilities. These acres should have been reported in the 803 Code Box of Section D for States asking this question.

If the respondent is unable to provide an average value per acre for cropland, write DK (don't know) next to the corresponding box (411 or 412 Code Box).

**Item 2d- Tract Permanent Pasture, Grazing or Grassland Value**

**Permanent pasture, grazing or grassland** - Record the average value per acre for land that is normally grazed by livestock. Remember that pasture does not need to have livestock grazing on it on June 1 or during the current year in order to be valued as permanent pasture, grazing or

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grassland. This land was identified and reported on Line 5 of Section D (842 Code Box).

Exclude cropland pasture recorded in Section D (856 Code Box). Cropland pasture should be included and valued as cropland in Items 2a, 2b, or 2c of this section.

If the respondent is unable to provide an average value per acre for pasture, write DK (don't know) next to the 413 Code Box.

#### **6.15 Section N – Economic Data on Entire Operation**

##### **Purpose**

This section is used to classify farm operations by type of farm and value of sales. The value of sales must represent sales from the previous year and/or earlier years from the current acres operated. The main source of income will be used to determine the type of farm.

##### **Item 1- Gross Value of Sales**

If in-person interviewing is allowed, present the sales card to help the respondent answer these questions. If conducting the interview by phone, present the value of sales categories on the tract questionnaire. Check appropriate total gross value of sales code according to respondent's answer. If the present operator was not the operator of the land during the previous year, get an estimate of value of sales from these acres.

In determining the code, be sure to include sales of products raised on the total acres operated both inside and outside the segment. For tenant farmers, include the value of production given to the landlord in lieu of cash rent.

When interviewing a tract operator who is a landlord, exclude money received for sale (or the value) of products received as payment for land rented out to others.

Crops sales include all previous crop year and earlier years' production which was sold during the calendar year.

Livestock and poultry refer to all kinds of livestock and poultry sold during the previous calendar year. Sales of all types of horses are considered farm income. Prizes or winnings from horse racing or showing are not considered farm income.

Sales of miscellaneous agricultural products include sales of honey, furs, fish, nursery and greenhouse products, rabbits, etc.

##### **Include:**

1. All government program payments received in the previous year.
2. The estimated value of product removed from contractee operations.



3. The value of crops grown and placed under CCC loan during the previous year.
4. The value of equity or premium payments received from the transfer or final sale of crops under CCC loan to others or repaid by others.

**Exclude:**

1. Fees received for producing items on contract.

**Value of Sales Less than \$1,000**

If the gross value of sales is equal to \$0-\$999 (Code 1) enter 1 in the 860 Code Box. Utilize the Point Recording Sheet (Section N) to list all current year crops (to tenths of acres), land uses, livestock and poultry and other agricultural activity on the total acres operated. Include crops planted the previous fall or in the spring of the current year if the crop is intended for harvest this year. Include government payments. (Note: CRP land is enrolled for 10 to 15 years, and the payments do not change from year to year.)

Crops cut or to be cut for hay, or used as pasture, should be listed as a crop or land use. If the respondent reports only idle pasture and no crops, record those acres of pasture on the Point Recording Sheet.

Item Code 027 (under Cropland) in Section N can be used to record any other land on the operation that has not previously been recorded and not recorded above as cropland. This land will not be used during the point calculation and therefore will not determine scope status of this respondent and/or operation.

Record all livestock, poultry, and miscellaneous livestock (bee colonies, mink, rabbits, etc.) on the total acres operated. This includes cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, and equine already reported, and livestock and poultry not included in the questionnaire. Indoor Nursery should be all nursery and greenhouses under protection including all area on which nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, sod, mushrooms, and propagative materials were grown under glass or other protection. Record indoor greenhouse and mushroom production areas in square feet.

Outdoor Nursery should be all nursery out in the open including all area on which nursery, floriculture, sod, mushrooms, and propagative material were grown in the open. Record outdoor nursery production areas in acres.

**Important:** The point recording sheet must be completed for all tract operators who had less than \$1,000 in sales or government payments during the previous year.

Although, most of these operations will be small, they account for a significant

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number of farms. The entries made on the Point Recording Sheet will be used by the edit to assign and calculate the total points for this tract operator. The calculation of points for these operations is a critical step in estimating the number of farms.

**For Census Years Only:** Additional information for the whole farm is collected for all operations if the gross value of sales is \$1,000 or more (860 Code Box greater than 1).

#### [ENUMERATOR ACTION]

2. Is the 2023 gross value of sales and government agricultural payments for this operation less than \$1,000?

Yes - [Go to Point Recording Sheet, Page 19.]

No - [Go to Point Recording Sheet, Page 20.]

To aid the Census of Agriculture, information for the whole farm is needed for the following:

- Crops Intended for Harvest Including:
  - Corn Acres
  - Cotton Acres, all types
  - Soybean Acres
  - All Wheat, Barley, Oat and Rye Acres
  - Sweet Potato/Yam Acres
  - Potato Acres
  - All Vegetable and Melon Acres
  - All Hay Acres, excluding straw, corn silage, and sorghum silage
- Nursery and Greenhouse Under Protection
  - Include all area (in square feet) on which nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, sod, mushrooms, and propagative materials were grown under glass or other protection
- Nursery Out in the Open
  - Include all area (in acres) on which nursery, floriculture, sod, mushrooms, and propagative material were grown in the open.
- Total Bearing and Non-Bearing Acres
  - Include all acres containing bearing and non-bearing fruit orchards, vineyards, nut trees, and berries.
  - Exclude abandoned acres, home gardens, personal or home use acres.
- Livestock
  - Cattle: Milk Cows number of head
  - Cattle: All Other number of head
  - Sheep number of head
  - Goats number of head

**Item 3- Largest Category of Sales**

Based on the gross value of sales recorded in Item 1, ask the respondent to indicate what category the largest portion of the gross value of sales came from among the commodity groupings. Government payments should be distributed among these categories according to the type of program in which the operator participated.

When the respondent reports that sales for two of the groupings are 50/50, ask which group is more important and is the primary production activity.

The commodity groupings on Item 3 are based on the 1997 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). These groups and the commodities included in each match those categories used in the Census of Agriculture.

Operations primarily engaged in producing short-term woody crops will be counted as farms and will be classified in “Nursery, Greenhouse and Floriculture” category. Short-term woody crops are softwood trees (hybrid poplar, cottonwoods, and pines) reaching maturity in 10 years or less and typically are used for paper production. A farm primarily engaged in raising dairy heifers for herd replacements is classified as a Cattle & Calves operation because no milk or dairy products are being produced.

**6.16 Section O – Technology Use (asked in odd number years)**

This section’s purpose is to collect information on computer use and Internet access on farms and ranches only. The questions, which are asked every other year, will help measure trends and changes in the use of these technologies in farm and ranch businesses as well as Internet availability in rural communities.

It is imperative that special emphasis is put on collecting data for all questions in this section as the information is published in the biennial Computer Use Publication.

**All items in this section are coded with Yes= 1 or No= 3. All of Section O - Technology Use, needs to be completed unless No was selected for IC7655 in item 3, then the skip pattern should be followed.**

**Item 1- Precision Ag Practices:**

Determine if the operation used precision agriculture practices to manage crops or livestock in the last 12 months. Examples of precision agriculture include Global Positioning System (GPS), yield monitoring, soil mapping, drones, etc.

**Item 2- Own or Use a Computer:**

Verify if the operator owned or used a computer for the farm or ranch. A computer is defined as any electronic device that stores and manipulates information.

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#### Types of Computers:

- a. Desktop or laptop
- b. Smartphone
- c. Tablet or other portable wireless computer
- d. Some other type of computer - if this is selected, be sure to specify the type

#### Item 3- Access to the Internet:

Access to the Internet in this question is defined as on the farm or ranch operation or at operator's residence. If the operator's or partners' access to the Internet is only at libraries or other public information centers, the answer should be coded No, and the skip pattern should then be followed by proceeding to Section P.

#### Item 4- Type of Internet Access

Select the type of internet access the farm or ranch had that allowed them to access the internet.

#### Internet Access Options:

- a. Cellular data plan for a smartphone or other mobile device
- b. Broadband (high speed) internet service (cable, fiber optic, DSL service)
- c. Satellite internet service
- d. Dial-up internet service
- e. Some other service – if this is selected, be sure to specify the type

#### Item 5

For the following questions, identify if the farm or ranch used the internet for purchases, marketing, or other business transactions.

**Item 5a- Purchases:** Emphasis should be placed on the fact that the internet purchases are made for agricultural inputs. Internet purchasing activity must be farm-related, in order to qualify as a Yes= 1 for this item.

Examples: on-line purchasing of seed, fertilizer, chemicals, veterinarian supplies, feed, machinery, replacement parts, farm supplies, etc.

**Item 5b- Marketing:** Stress the fact that the internet marketing activity must be farm-related, to qualify as a Yes= 1 for this item.

Examples: on-line crop and livestock auctions, on-line market advisory series, commodity price tracking, etc.

**Item 5c- Business:** This item applies to the use of the internet to “conduct non-agricultural business.”

Examples: making airline reservations, ordering gifts or services, purchasing tickets for family amusement, etc.

**Item 6- Access NASS Website:**

This item applies strictly to the use of the Internet for looking up, researching, or gathering data from NASS reports.

**Item 7- Access USDA Website (excluding NASS):**

This item excludes NASS reports and only applies to the use of the internet for using and researching farm-related information, or for other USDA services.

**Item 7a- Reports or Research Information:** This item applies to USDA, not NASS, reports and information gathered from the USDA websites.

Examples: Checking current commodity prices from AMS, reviewing commodity loan rates from FSA

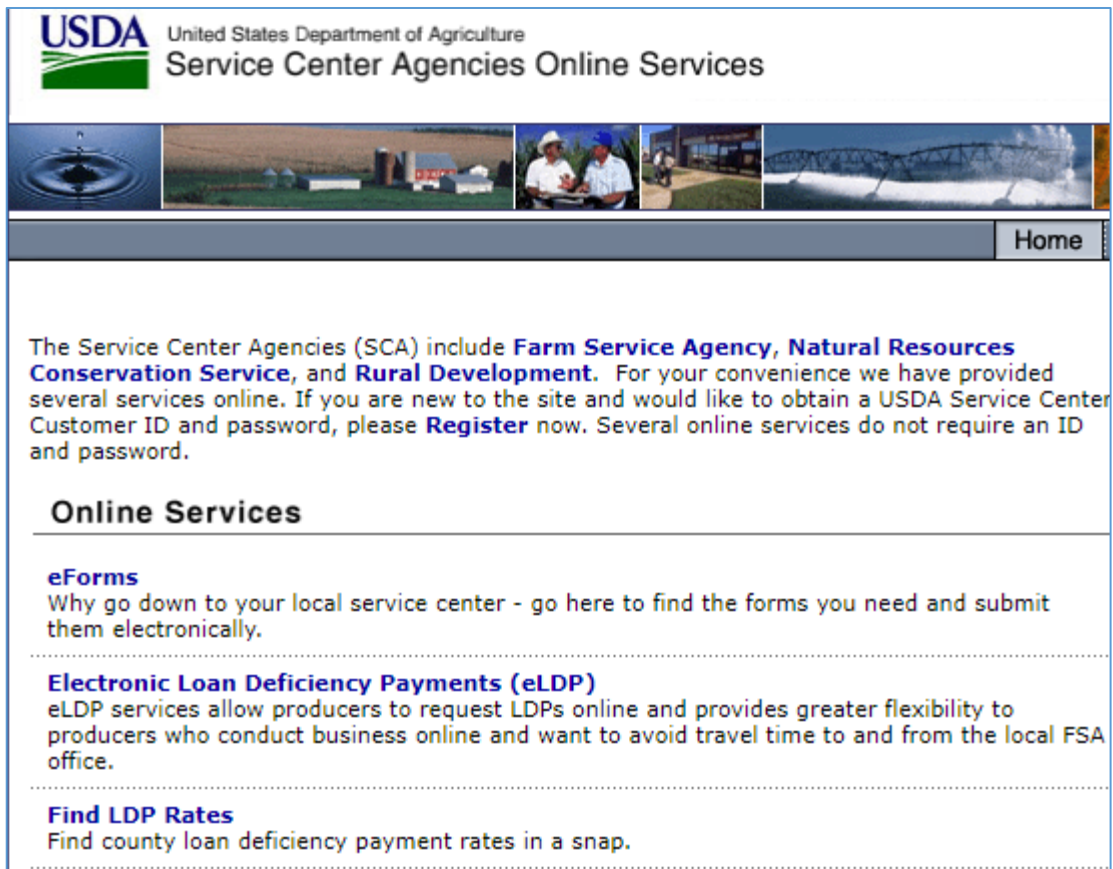
**Item 7b- Conduct Business:** This item applies to USDA websites accessed to conduct agricultural or farm business. Stress the fact that the activity must be farm-related, in order to qualify as a Yes= 1 for this item.

Examples: USDA service center eForms, USDA customer statement

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#### Item 8- Access Other Government Web sites:

This item applies to the use of the internet for accessing any other Federal government websites, excluding all USDA websites.

**Item 8a- For Any Reason:** Was a Federal government website accessed for any reason?

**Item 8a- Conduct Business:** Was a Federal government website accessed to conduct agricultural or farm business.

Examples: Federal Disaster relief, applying for hazardous materials registration

### **6.17 Section P – Personal Characteristics**

A series of Personal Characteristic questions are on the June Area questionnaire. These responses are necessary to describe the operators demographically. They will help to ensure that all demographic sectors of agriculture are represented in the survey indications.

Questions in this section will be asked of up to four individuals who were involved in the decisions for the operation. All questions in this section must be asked of the respondent. If the operator refuses to answer any of the questions, after the interview is completed, please complete the questions based on your observations, except for Items 2d (race) and 2e (ethnicity). Do not complete Items 2d and 2e from observation. Those two times should be left blank if a response is not received. You may leave other questions blank as well if you feel you cannot accurately answer a question(s) by observation. If the operator is inaccessible, and therefore not observable, then leave the questions blank. These questions may be sensitive for the respondent, but they follow the guidelines provided by the Office of Management and Budget for demographic and race questions.

#### **Item 1- Number of Partners by Gender**

Record the total number of male and female persons involved in the decisions of this operation.

- INCLUDE family members and hired managers.
- EXCLUDE hired workers unless they were a hired manager of family member.

#### **Item 2- Answer the following for up to four individuals who were involved in the decisions for this operation as of December 31**

##### **Item 2a- Full Name:**

Record the full name of each individual.

##### **Item 2b- Sex:**

Record the sex, male or female, of each individual.

##### **Item 2c- What was the person's age on December 31?:**

Record the age of the individual as of December 31, of the previous year.

##### **Item 2d- Is this person of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish in origin?:**

Check the correct answer for each individual. This question is a separate response from Item 2e- Race because an individual can be Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino **and** be a specified race.

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#### **Item 2e- Race:**

Check all races that apply. A respondent may be a combination of races. If American Indian or Alaska Native is selected, specify the Tribe on the line provided.

The questions below are used to help aid in the accuracy and completeness of the Census of Agriculture.

**Item 2f- In what year did this person begin to operate any part of THIS operation?**

**Item 2g- In what year did this person begin to operate ANY farm operation?**

## **6.18 Conclusion**

### **Item 1- Survey Results**

Agency wide, paper copies of the results are no longer sent to respondents. A link to publications is now given and the email release question was added to all survey instruments (paper, web, CAPI and CATI) beginning August 1, 2018. This enhancement allows NASS to move away from mailing hard copies of results while meeting the needs of our customers through electronic media.

### **Operation Email and Operation Phone**

Record the email address of the operation if different from the email provided for survey results. Also, record the operation phone number and indicate whether it is a cell phone.

### **Respondent Name, Phone, and Date**

Record the name of the person who responded to the survey, the best phone number to use to get in touch with them and whether it is a cell phone, and the date that the survey was completed.

### **Thank You!**

Thank the respondent for their time and assistance. In closing, remind the respondent the data they provided are confidential and used only in combination with similar reports from other producers. This is also a good time to mention they may be selected for future surveys. These include:

1. Objective Yield Surveys (If your State is in an objective yield program and the crop is grown in the tract.)
2. January Cattle or Sheep and Goats Surveys
3. December Hog Survey
4. September, December, and/or March Crops Agricultural Surveys



5. Agricultural Labor Surveys
6. Agricultural Resource Management (ARMS) Survey

### **Completion Code Boxes**

Code the Response Box (9901) with one of the following codes:

Code 1	Complete	Respondent completed all or the majority of the questionnaire.
Code 5	Refusal - Estimated	Respondent refused to participate, and questionnaire was completed by observation.
Code 6	Inaccessible - Estimated	Respondent was not available to participate, and questionnaire was completed by observation.

Code the Respondent Box (9902) with the description that best fits the respondent who completed the questionnaire.

Code the Mode Box (9903) with the format in which the interview occurred. If the interview was conducted in person (when available), code 9903= 1 (face-to-face). If the interview was conducted by phone on paper, code 9903= 2 (paper assisted telephone interview). If conducted by phone using the iPad, code 9903= 9 (mobile computer assisted telephone interview). (Valid codes for the 2024 June Area survey are 9903= 2 and 9903= 9).

Code the Enumerator Box (9998) with your assigned enumerator ID number.

The Evaluation Box (9900) will be coded by your supervisor or Regional Field Office personnel.

### **6.19 Reviewing Completed Questionnaires**

After leaving the respondent, but before you go to your next interview, carefully review each section of the questionnaire. Also, make any comments which you feel the office should be aware of.

When you are satisfied that the questionnaire is complete and accurate, please sign the questionnaire in the S/E Name box. Enter the data from the questionnaire into the June Area CAPI instrument. Include any notes that would be helpful to the Regional Field Office.

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**NOTES:**

## 7 Interviewing Procedures for the June Agricultural List Surveys (Crops APS and Hogs)

### 7.1 General

June is the base quarter for the Crops Acreage, Production, and Stocks (APS) survey program. The questionnaire name for the June Crops APS Survey is *Agricultural Survey - June 1 YYYY*, where YYYY is the four-digit year. It is sampled from the NASS list frame. The remaining three quarters (September, December, and March) are tied directly back to the June Crops APS Survey. Most procedures for completing June Crops APS Survey questionnaires are also followed during the September, December, and March Surveys. Special instructions for follow-on surveys are covered in Chapter 18 of this manual.

The December Hog Survey is the base survey for Hogs. March, June, and September Hog Surveys are tied directly back to the December Hog Survey and will only have sampled operations from the list frame. The December Hog Survey is the only quarter which will utilize a NOL component of the sample.

### 7.2 List Sampling Frame Basics

Data collection and screening procedures for the Agricultural List surveys are different from those for the Area Frame, although concepts for most inventory and production items are identical.

List questionnaires may be self-administered (mail & web), personally enumerated or collected by telephone enumeration. The method of data collection varies from one survey to another, depending on the timing and resources of your Regional Field Office (RFO).

Your RFO will determine before the June Survey period if any name selected from the List Frame operated land in an Area Frame segment from the previous year. Target names selected for both the Area Frame and List Frame Surveys will be coordinated by your RFO to reduce respondent burden. You should complete an Area Tract questionnaire first, then copy the appropriate data to the list questionnaire and complete any additional questions.

Most operations selected from the List Frame who are not in the Area Frame will be mailed a list questionnaire or telephoned from the RFO. Respondents who do not return questionnaires by mail will be interviewed by telephone or in person. Field enumerators will be notified by RFO staff, your supervisor, or a telephone enumerator from the RFO of any List Frame names for you to contact, and whether phone or personal follow-up is required.

### **7.3 Name and Address Labels**

#### **Farm (Operation) Name**

Usually, an individual's name appears on the address label. The operation may use a farm or ranch name. The RFO checks operation names against the List Sampling Frame to identify duplication. If the respondent indicates the operation has a farm or ranch name, you should ask if this name should appear on the label. This information helps the RFO know whether to update the label for future surveys.

Names such as "The Old Smith Place," "Jones Farm," etc., should not be included if they are used only to identify different parcels of land in the respondent's operation. The farm or ranch should do business and be known by the operation name.

#### **Target Name**

It is important for you to understand the meaning of the term "**Target Name.**" "Target Name" refers to the individual's name appearing alone on the label, and the operation name on the label for managed operations. The individual name appearing on the label is the person you should contact. Your RFO will provide information on identifying the Target Name at your training workshop.

#### **Name and Address Labels**

The List Frame name and address label will contain at least this basic information.

Target POID, Tract, SubTract  
Survey Code  
OperName  
Wholename  
Address  
Placename, StateAlpha, Zip5 & Zip4

Displayed on the label will be an individual's name. In some cases, an operation name (farm or ranch) or a combination of individuals' names may be present.

**Rule #1:** The Target Name (the individual name) is the sampled unit. Information collected will focus on this individual.

Consider the following examples:

**Example 1:**

DENNIS R. SCOTT  123 AGRICULTURE WAY  ANYTOWN, YS 12345
---

**Figure 7.1:** Individual Target Name listed on the label.

Dennis R. Scott is the Target Name. **You should collect data for all operations Dennis is involved in.** If Dennis is involved in more than one operation (i.e., an individual row crop operation and a partnership cattle operation), then two questionnaires must be completed.

The original questionnaire should contain the data for the individual operation. A second questionnaire must be completed for the partnership operation with the partner(s) names listed in the PARTNER NAMES Section of the questionnaire. If Dennis is involved in a partnership operation only, then the original questionnaire should be completed for the partnership operation, with the partner(s) names listed in the PARTNER NAME Section of the questionnaire.

**Example 2:**

BILL & JOE FORD  BILL FORD  456 MODELTEE DRIVE
--

**Figure 7.2:** Combination of Names with Individual Target Name listed on the label.

In this example, Bill Ford is the Target Name. **You should collect data for all operations Bill is involved in.** The partnership or combination of individual names is listed to let you know Bill was involved in a partnership with Joe in the past.

You should complete the original questionnaire for the partnership if it still exists.

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### Interviewing Procedures for the June Agricultural List Surveys

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Complete a separate questionnaire(s) for any other operation(s) Bill is involved in. If the partnership no longer exists, make a note, correct the label to delete Bill and Joe Ford, **and complete the questionnaire for Bill's individual operation.**

#### Example 3:

WINDY ACRES FARM
RALPH DEAN
789 LONG WINDING ROAD

**Figure 7.3:** Operation Name and Target Name listed on label.

In this example Ralph Dean is the Target Name. You should collect data for all operations Ralph is involved in. The name Windy Acres Farm is included to let you know Ralph used this farm name in the past. You should complete the original questionnaire with Ralph Dean's individual information. If Ralph Dean is involved in a separate partnership operation, complete a separate questionnaire.

**If you determine Ralph Dean is still operating but not as Windy Acres Farm, mark through the farm name, write a note on the questionnaire, and complete the original questionnaire to include information for Ralph Dean's operation.**

#### Example 4:

OPERATION ONE FARM OD-85	OPERATION TWO FARM OD-45
WILLIAM L. SIMONS	WILLIAM L. SIMONS
901 YOUR STREET	901 YOUR STREET

**Figure 7.4:** Multiple Operation (OD-85/45) Situations

This is an example of two operating arrangements for the target, William L. Simons. You should complete each questionnaire accordingly. If either one no longer exists, an explanatory note is necessary.

**Complete a questionnaire for any and all operations William is involved in. More than two questionnaires are possible.**

**Rule #2:** Information for managed operations will always be collected for the operation named on the label.

**Example 1:**

BERRA, INC.
PETER ANDERSON, MGR
901 YOUR STREET

**Figure 7.5:** Managed Operation

Figure 7.5 suggests Berra, Inc. is a managed operation. If this is true, complete the questionnaire for Berra Inc., regardless of Peter's involvement. This data collection rule is true for all managed operations.

Once the questionnaire for the managed operation is completed, Rule #1 applies to the person managing the operation. An additional questionnaire must be completed if Peter has a separate individual or partnership operation.

**In the case where Peter Anderson operates a farm or ranch and has no association to Berra Inc., correct the label, write an explanatory note, and complete the questionnaire for Berra Inc. and an additional questionnaire for Peter Anderson's operation.**

**Example 2:**

GREEN ACRES FARM   OD-99
WALTER PHILLIPS
901 YOUR STREET

**Figure 7.6:** OD-99 Operation, Special Handling

This example shows an **OD-99** operation. Your office will use an OPDOM status code (OD) of 99 to indicate that the target name is the **Operation Name** shown on the label, and not the **individual's name**. **You will only complete one questionnaire for the operation named on the label.** Even though the individual named on the label (Walter Phillips) may be involved in other operations, you will not complete additional questionnaires for the other operations. The designation of OD-99 is reserved for extremely large or complicated operating arrangements. Your Field Office will provide special instructions for handling OD-99 situations.

**Examples of typical OD-99 operations include:**

1. Operators with numerous operating arrangements and each operation is maintained as a separate OD-99 record by your Field Office to minimize respondent burden.
2. Large, stable firms that may readily change managers or operators.
3. Operations that may require different individuals to be contacted for various types of data (for instance, a University Farm or Prison Farm.)
4. Farms or ranches identifying individuals who manage more than one operation.

**Name and Address Corrections**

Verify the correct spelling of the name(s) and that the address is complete. Make corrections on the label. Examples of common corrections are:

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: 300px;"><p>JOE FARMER</p><p><del>RR1, BOX 96</del> 140 Tobacco Road</p><p>NASSVILLE, ND 12345</p></div>	<p><i>Updated to 911 Address</i></p>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: 300px;"><p>CATTLE AND PIGS, INC.</p><p><del>Everett Olbertt</del></p><p>901 MOUNTAIN TOP LANE</p></div>	<p><i>Correct Spelling is Everett Olbert</i></p>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: 300px;"><p>CROPS / STOCKS, INC.</p><p><del>GERALD TILLMAN</del></p><p>123 AG SURVEY WAY</p></div>	<p><i>Suzanne Avilla is the new Manager.</i></p>

**Figure 7.8:** Common Corrections to Name and Address Labels

Most post offices will not deliver third class mail if the address is not complete. In many cases, a rural route number is not sufficient if the Target Name also has a box number.



## **7.4 Locating List Sampling Frame Respondents**

The following procedures will be helpful in locating operations selected from the List Sampling Frame:

1. The name of the town in the address will indicate the general area where the respondent is located. Other identifying data such as county, township, or section may be available. These features can be located on a county highway map.
2. If township or section data are not available, inquiring in the general neighborhood is usually the quickest way to locate a respondent.
3. Some Field Offices have County Directories or plat books available showing farm locations.
4. County Extension Service Agents, FSA offices, NRCS offices, Post Offices, grain companies, Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service offices are examples of good sources for help in locating a respondent.
5. Internet lookups and searches, (ex. Google and Whitepages) may help locate addresses and phone numbers. Searching on an operation name may lead you to the operation's website.
6. If an operation selected from the List Sampling Frame has been unusually hard to find, make notes on the questionnaire describing travel directions to the operation. Directions can be kept on file in the Regional Field Office and given to enumerators on future surveys.

## **7.5 Responding to Questions**

Successful interviewers in all professions agree that one of the keys to success is to rehearse their responses to various situations, a form of mental preparation for the job ahead. Arming yourself with this level of preparation will provide you with one of the keys necessary for successful interviewing.

Shown below are situations you might encounter when interviewing operations selected from the List Frame, and possible solutions. These are not the only situations (or solutions) you will discover. However, a key to successful interviewing is your ability to respond properly to any situation. Take the time to discuss these and other situations with your supervisor/coach. Find out how they have handled similar situations, and the success of their approach.

## Chapter 7

### Interviewing Procedures for the June Agricultural List Surveys

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#### The Respondent:

1. Completed a mail questionnaire but has not mailed it at the time of your arrival.

Offer to deliver the questionnaire to the Regional Field Office. Review the recorded answers with the respondent to verify it is complete and accurate.

2. Claims the questionnaire has been mailed to the Regional Field Office.

Tactfully ask for the data again. Tell the respondent the information is important and needed in case the mailed questionnaire is not received in time. Thank the respondent for having mailed the questionnaire.

3. Is reluctant and claims the questionnaire has been mailed back to the Regional Field Office.

You are expected to complete a questionnaire for each assigned Target Name. Indicate to the respondent the report may not be received in time and it will only take a few minutes to obtain the data. Since you will visit most of these respondents again on future surveys, be courteous and pleasant so you will always be welcome.

4. Asks, "Why are you back again, I was just contacted for a survey last month?"

Explain that the Agricultural Statistics Service makes grain stock estimates every three months, cattle estimates every six months, and other estimates on a monthly or seasonal basis. The reason for making this visit is to obtain current information for the various crop and livestock reports to be issued in the next several weeks.

Most large operations are contacted each survey. The reason they are contacted so often is because a small number of operations like theirs have a significant effect on the total estimate for your State. To make our inventory and production estimates as reliable as possible, we need their information.

#### 7.6 Cross-State Operations

**Important:** These instructions apply only to operations selected from the List Frame. For operations selected in the June Area Survey, you should review Chapter 4 of this manual.

Operations will sometimes cross State lines. Record the information for farms and ranches with land in more than one State as follows:

1. Operator (*Target Name*) is an individual or partner, operates land in both states:
  - a. Operator (*Target Name*) resides in your State:

Complete one questionnaire. Include crops and livestock in both states. Note in what state the largest value of agricultural product is raised or produced.

- b. Operator (*Target Name*) resides in the other State:

Complete a questionnaire. Note where the Operator (*Target Name*) resides and the state where the largest value of agricultural product is raised or produced. The office will notify the NASS office in the other state(s) to coordinate future data collection efforts.

2. Target Name is an operation name, operates land in both states:

- a. Largest value of agricultural product is raised or produced in your State:

Complete one questionnaire. Include crops and livestock in both states.

- b. Largest value of agricultural product is raised or produced in adjoining State:

Complete a questionnaire. Note where the headquarters are located and the state where the largest value of agricultural product is raised or produced. The office will notify the NASS office in the other state(s) to coordinate future data collection efforts.

**Important:** In most cases when the *Target Name* is an operation name, the operator will be a hired manager. Data should be accounted for by the State where the largest value of agricultural product is raised or produced, regardless of where the operator lives. Your Regional Field Office will provide instructions for these special cases.

3. Operator (*Target Name*) lives in one State, but entire operation is in another State:

- a. Questionnaire should be completed in the State where the operation is located.

**Chapter 7**  
**Interviewing Procedures for the June Agricultural List Surveys**

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**NOTES:**

## **8 Completing List Frame Questionnaires**

### **8.1 General**

Questionnaires used to collect data for names selected from the List Frame are organized in a standard manner. The first section contains screening and operation description items. The operating arrangement is then determined; identifying other individuals involved in the operation. The next sections obtain acres operated, acreage and production of specific crops, stocks of crops stored on the operation. Questionnaires end with items that determine if the Target is involved in making the day-to-day decisions for another farm or ranch and providing respondents the opportunity to receive survey results.

This chapter covers items common to all Agricultural Survey Questionnaires. Instructions for obtaining specific commodity information are contained in Chapters 9 through 17. Additional instructions for Agricultural Surveys conducted after the June Survey (follow-on surveys) are contained in Chapter 18.

### **8.2 Screening Questions**

A series of screening questions on the Face Page of List Frame questionnaires are used to verify the Target Name on the label is involved in agricultural production, no matter how small or insignificant. Screening each Target Name for agricultural activity before asking specific items of interest is important.

If the respondent answers YES to any screening question, then the questionnaire should be completed for the Target Name.

If all screening questions are answered NO for the Target Name, then you should determine the status of the land the Target Name operated in the past and make notes to explain the situation. You should verify that the Target Name on the label did not have any crops, stocks, or livestock during the time covered by the screening questions. If the Target Name has no crops, stocks, or livestock on the survey reference date, but did have crops or livestock during the year, you will need to obtain crop production and livestock information for the part of the year the Target Name was operating land.

### 8.3 Operation Description

This question determines the type of operating arrangement for the Target Name and is used to identify duplication in the List Frame. Write notes and supply additional information whenever possible, especially when unusual situations occur.

**Determining The Operating Arrangement** (Check only one of these categories):

1. **Individual Operator:** The Target Name makes all day-to-day decisions. This Target Name may be the landowner, or a person who is renting or leasing land. Be careful not to confuse Target Names operating as individuals with hired managers.
2. **Partners:** Each person in the partnership contributes to making day-to-day decisions. Partners may or may not share equally in day-to-day decisions.
3. **Hired Manager:** A hired manager is a person paid by the Target Name to make all day-to-day decisions. Key criteria for checking hired manager are (1) the person is paid by the owner; and (2) the person is responsible for day-to-day decisions. Be careful not to confuse foremen or hired workers who are not responsible for day-to-day decisions with hired managers.

### 8.4 Partners' Names and Addresses

The purpose of this item is to identify other persons sharing in the day-to-day decisions of a partnership operation. Your Regional Field Office needs this information to help prevent duplication of reported data in the event one or more of the partners are also on the List Frame.

Space is provided to identify up to four partners. Use notes and comment spaces on other pages to identify any additional partners. If the Regional Field Office has already entered partners' names and addresses, then you should verify this information. Complete names and mailing addresses and correct spellings are important. Remember to check whether the partner operated individually in the State on June 1. This question is overlooked or missed most of the time, but it is important in identifying possible duplication.

### **8.5 Section Completion Code Boxes**

Completion Code Boxes (or Item Presence Boxes) are located at the end of the crops and grain stocks sections of all questionnaires. Complete these boxes only if all items in the section are reported as zero, inaccessible, or refused. Check with your supervisor for proper coding of partially completed sections.

The more information you obtain from (or about) Target Names who refuse or are inaccessible, the better you can code these boxes.

If all items in a section are zero, refused, or inaccessible, you will enter one of the following codes:

- 1= Incomplete but has (*items in section*). Through observation or other information, you know the Target Name has the items of interest on the total acres operated.
- 2= Incomplete, Presence (*of items in section*) Unknown. You do not know, either by observation or information provided by the respondent, if the Target Name has the items of interest on the total acres operated.
- 3= Valid Zero. Enter this code when you are certain, either through interviews or other sources, the Target Name has none of the items of interest on the total acres operated.

### **8.6 Change in Operator Section**

You will only complete this section if responses to all screening questions on the Face Page are NO. If all agricultural land associated with the Target Name listed on the label has been sold or turned over to someone else, obtain the name of the new operator(s).

You need to probe carefully to confirm the Target Name on the label is no longer involved in any agricultural production activity.

If the Target Name has retired, sold, or rented out part of his/her operation, but still has pastureland, cropland, crops in storage, or livestock or poultry on the remaining acres operated, then the Target Name is not out-of-business. Questionnaires should be completed if the Target Name is involved in any agricultural activity.

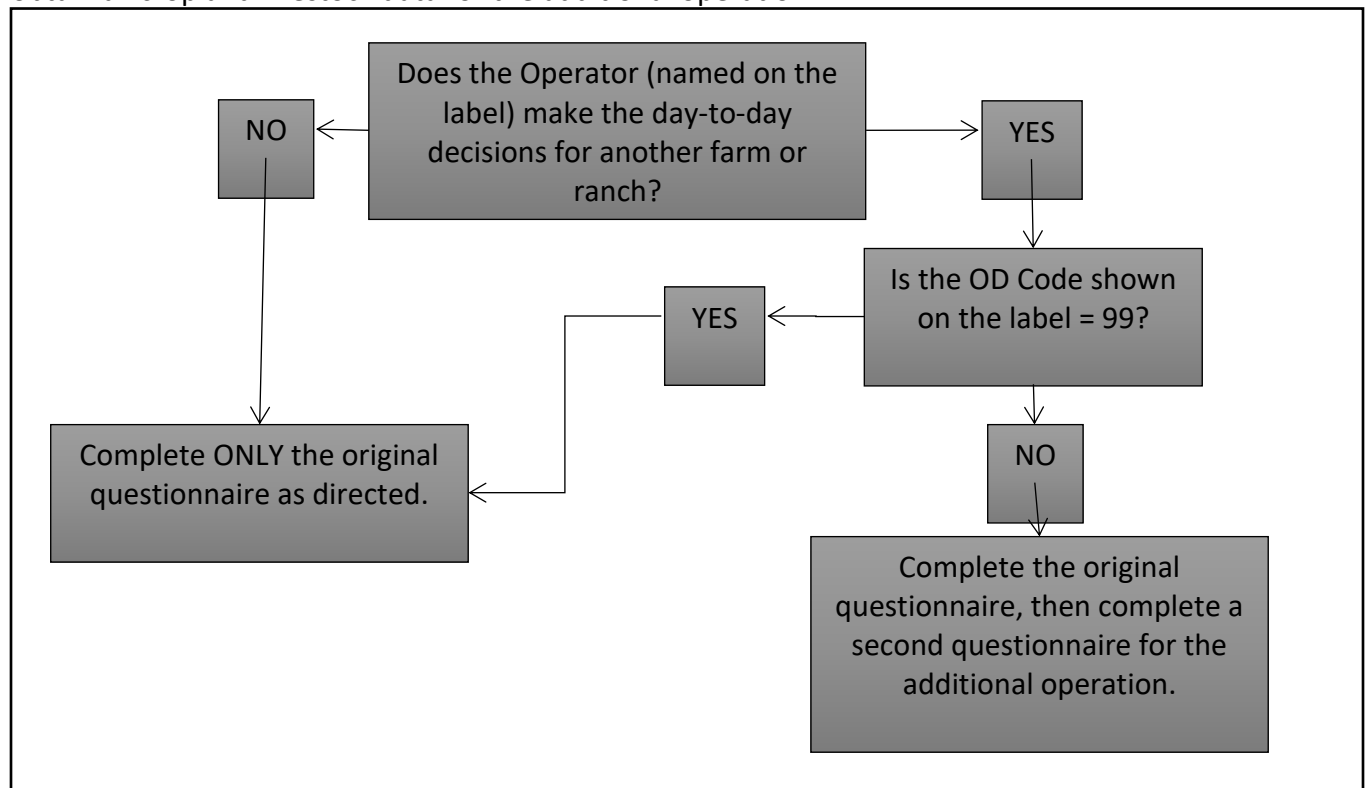
### **8.7 Conclusion Section**

This section determines if the Target Name is involved in another farm or ranch operation. Also, agency wide, paper copies will no longer be sent to respondents. A link to publications is now given and the email release question was added to all survey instruments (paper, CAWI, CAPI and CATI) beginning August 1, 2018. This enhancement allows NASS to move away from mailing hard copies of results while meeting the needs of our customers through electronic media.

### **8.8 Other Operating Arrangements**

This item determines if the Target Name on the label makes day-to-day decisions for another farm or ranch. Examples of multiple operating arrangements include 1) a person who operates a farm or ranch as an individual operator and is also a partner in a partnership operation; 2) an individual operator who also manages a separate operation; and 3) a partner who is also involved in another partnership. Rental or share crop arrangements are generally not separate land arrangements and should be included as part of the operation in the original questionnaire.

When the Target Name on the label is also involved in another operation, you will complete a separate questionnaire for each operation. This is applicable to all types – individual, partnerships, and managed operations, unless specifically instructed otherwise by your Regional Field Office. Use a separate questionnaire, copy the ID information onto the Face Page, and obtain all crop and livestock data for the additional operation.



**Figure 8.1:** Decision Diagram for Multiple Operations



### **8.9 Questionnaire Review**

Review the questionnaire to make sure all necessary questions are answered. Enter your name in the S/E Name space at the bottom of the page.

### **8.10 Office Use Boxes**

#### **Response Code Box**

Identify the type of response by coding the 9901 Code Box. The valid codes are:

- 1 = Complete
- 2 = Refusal (Target Name refused to provide information)
- 3 = Inaccessible (Target Name or satisfactory respondent could not be located)
- 4 = Office Hold
- 5 = Estimated Refusal (Target Name refused to provide information and the Regional Field Office will estimate for the operation)
- 6 = Estimated, inaccessible (Target Name or satisfactory respondent could not be located and the Field Office will estimate for the operation)
- 7 = Office Hold- Estimated

#### **Respondent Code Box**

Identify the respondent by coding the 9902 Code Box. The valid codes are:

- 1 = Operator (Target Name), Manager
- 2 = Spouse (of Operator or Partner)
- 3 = Accountant or Bookkeeper
- 4 = Partner (any person not covered by codes 1 through 3)
- 9 = Other (any person not covered by codes 1 through 4)

**Mode Code Box**

Identify the type of response by coding the 9903 Code Box. The valid codes are:

- 1 = Mail Completed
- 2 = Telephone Completed on Paper
- 3 = Personal Interview Completed on Paper
- 4 = Computer Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI)
- 5 = Web complete
- 6 = E-mail complete
- 7 = Fax complete
- 8 = Mobile Computer Assisted Personal Interview (mCAPI)
- 9 = Mobile Computer Assisted Telephone Interview (mCATI)
- 19 = Other

**Date Code Box**

A Date is a code used by the computer edit system to represent a day of the year. Record the code representing the day the questionnaire is completed in the 9910 Code Box. The Date is recorded, in two digits, for month (MM), Day (DD), and Year (YY). For example, June 9, 2024 is recorded: 060924.

**Enumerator Identification Code Box**

Enter your Enumerator Identification Number in 9998 Code Box.

NOTES:



## 9 Acres Operated, Crops, and Land Use

### 9.1 Purpose

Data collected for Acres Operated, Crops, and Land Use are used to prepare estimates of Land in Farms, and prepare forecasts and estimates of crop acreage, yields, and production throughout the year. Land in Farms estimates are published in the February *Farm Numbers* release. Crop acreage and production estimates are published monthly in the *Crop Production* release, and annually in the *Crop Production Annual Summary* and *Small Grains Summary*. Additionally, crop acreage estimates are published in *Acreage* and *Prospective Plantings* reports.

### 9.2 Total Acres Operated

The concept of total acres operated is the same for List Frame questionnaires and the Area Tract questionnaire. Agricultural Survey questionnaires contain a series of questions to determine the total acres of land in the Target Name's entire farming or ranching operation. These items are important to clearly define the operation reported in the questionnaire. Crop acreage and production items are to be reported only if produced on the total acres operated. Stocks of grains, oilseeds, and hay are only counted if stored on the total acres operated. Livestock inventory and related items (except hogs in All States and sheep and goats in AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, ND, SD, OR, UT, WA, and WY) are to be counted if on the total acres operated, regardless of ownership. Those select Western States obtain sheep and goat inventory items from owners and custom feeders. Hogs are to be reported by the owner, regardless of location.

## Chapter 9

### Acres Operated, Crops, And Land Use

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#### Acres Operated, Crops, And Land Use

#### Section 1 – Acres Operated Questions (All states except AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NE, NM, OR, UT, WA & WY):

1. Now I would like to ask about the **total acres operated** under this land arrangement. Include the farmstead, all cropland, woodland, pastureland, wasteland, and government program land.

2. On June 1, how many acres did this operation:

		Acres		
a. Own?.....	+	<table border="1"><tr><td>901</td><td>.</td></tr></table>	901	.
901	.			
b. Rent or Lease from Others, or use Rent Free? (Exclude Federal, State and other types of land rented or leased on an AUM basis, BLM and Forest Service.).....	+	<table border="1"><tr><td>902</td><td>.</td></tr></table>	902	.
902	.			
c. Rent or Lease to Others?.....	-	<table border="1"><tr><td>905</td><td>.</td></tr></table>	905	.
905	.			
3. [Calculate item 2a + 2b - 2c] Then the total acres operated on June 1 was.....	=	<table border="1"><tr><td>900</td><td>.</td></tr></table>	900	.
900	.			

a. Does this include the farmstead, all cropland, woodland, pastureland, wasteland, and government program land?

☐ Yes - [Continue.]

☐ No - [Make corrections, then continue.]

4. On June 1, 2021, did this operation pay on a per-head or animal unit month (AUM) basis for livestock to graze on any land (private, Federal, State, Indian Reservation, etc.)?

☐ Yes - [Enter code 1 and continue.]

☐ No - [Enter code 3, then go to item 6.].....

Code	
<table border="1"><tr><td>906</td></tr></table>	906
906	

5. How many acres did this operation use on a fee-per-head or animal unit month (AUM) basis? (Include private, Federal, State, railroad, Public School District or Indian Reservation Land.).....

Acres		
<table border="1"><tr><td>904</td><td>.</td></tr></table>	904	.
904	.	

6. Enumerator Action - Compare total acres operated and total tract acres in Section D. If total acres operated are:

☐ Less than Tract Acres?

Make corrections to tract or total acres.

☐ Equal to Tract Acres?

Verify tract and total acreage. Make corrections if needed.

☐ More than Tract Acres?

Continue. No action needed.

7. Of the total acres operated, how many acres are considered cropland, including land in hay, summer fallow, idle cropland, cropland used for pasture and cropland in government programs? (Including land in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and in the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP)).....

Acres		
<table border="1"><tr><td>902</td><td>.</td></tr></table>	902	.
902	.	

8. Of the total acres operated, how many acres are in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or in the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP)?.....

<table border="1"><tr><td>911</td><td>.</td></tr></table>	911	.
911	.	

**Section 1 – Acres Operated Questions Used in Western States: AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NE, NM, OR, UT, WA, and WY Only. Questions include a reminder to exclude PIGA land.**

1. Now I would like to ask about the **total acres operated** under this land arrangement. Include the farmstead, all cropland, woodland, pastureland, wasteland, and government program land.

2. On June 1, how many acres did this operation:

		Acres
a. Own?.....	+	901 .
b. Rent or Lease from Others, or use Rent Free? (Exclude Federal, State and other types of land rented or leased on an AUM basis, BLM and Forest Service.).....	+	902 .
c. Rent or Lease to Others?.....	-	905 .

3. [Calculate item 2a + 2b - 2c]

Then the total acres operated on June 1 was..... = 900  
.

a. Does this include the farmstead, all cropland, woodland, pastureland, wasteland, and government program land?

☐ Yes - [Continue.]

☐ No - [Make corrections, then continue.]

4. On June 1, 2021, did this operation pay on a per-head or animal unit month (AUM) basis for livestock to graze on any land (private, Federal, State, Indian Reservation, etc.)?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - [Enter code 1 and continue.]	<input type="checkbox"/> No - [Enter code 3, then go to item 6.].....	Code
		906

5. How many acres did this operation use on a fee-per-head or animal unit month (AUM) basis? (Include private, Federal, State, railroad, Public School District or Indian Reservation Land.).....	Acres	904 .
---	-------	----------

6. Enumerator Action - Compare total acres operated and total tract acres in Section D. If total acres operated are:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than Tract Acres? | Make corrections to tract or total acres.                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Equal to Tract Acres?  | Verify tract and total acreage. Make corrections if needed. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More than Tract Acres? | Continue. No action needed.                                 |

7. Of the total acres operated, how many acres are considered cropland, including land in hay, summer fallow, idle cropland, cropland used for pasture and cropland in government programs? (Including land in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and in the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP)).....	Acres	802 .
8. Of the total acres operated, how many acres are in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or in the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP)?.....		911 .

## Chapter 9

### Acres Operated, Crops, And Land Use

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#### Include:

1. Farmstead, all cropland, woodland, pastureland, wasteland, and government program land.
2. Land rented from others (private individuals, partnerships, corporations, and Federal, State, or local governments) if the Target Name:
  - a. Pays cash rent on a per acre basis.
  - b. Pays for the land with a share of the crop (either standing or harvested) or livestock.
  - c. Uses the land rent free.
3. Non-agricultural land if the land could be used to grow crops or graze livestock in future years without major improvements.
4. Land worked by sharecroppers. Sharecroppers furnish only their labor for a share of the crop. They do not furnish machinery, capital, or other production inputs.

#### Exclude:

1. Land in other operating arrangements. If the Target Name makes day-to-day decisions for a farm or ranch other than the one identified on the label, the land in the other operating arrangement should be counted in a separate questionnaire.
2. Grazing land used on an AUM (Animal Unit Month) or fee-per-head basis if the acreage is Public (Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, State land departments, etc.), Industrial (Energy, Timber, Railroads, etc.) or a common Grazing Association (PIGA).
3. Private pastureland rented on a fee-per-head or AUM basis for grazing of the respondent's livestock.

For example: It is common in some areas for a livestock owner to rent pasture (or crop residue) from a neighboring farmer or rancher on a fee-per-head or AUM basis for short periods (one to three months). In these cases, the acreage rented should be included in the landowner's questionnaire, not in the livestock owner's questionnaire.

4. Land on which the respondent's livestock are being fed under contract (such as a commercial feedlot).



### **9.3 Types of Land**

In general, land in the total acres operated will be in one of the following categories:

1. Cropland
2. Pasture (Permanent and Cropland)
3. Idle Land
4. Summer Fallow
5. Woodland
6. Wasteland

#### **Cropland**

Cropland is land which can produce a crop for harvest. Cropland includes land cropped, idle land suitable for cropping, land in orchards, berries, vineyards, nursery, greenhouse, wild hay, and short rotation woody crops. Exclude woodland, marshes, farmsteads, wasteland suitable only for pasture. Pasture is not considered a crop, but cropland used for pasture is included.

#### **Include:**

1. Land in crop-pasture rotation and cropland used for pasture or grazing during the current year.
2. Land in summer fallow.
3. Idle cropland (no crops planted or harvested in current year).
4. Crop land diverted for government programs (including CRP), unless the land is planted to trees.
5. Fruit orchards, vineyards, nut trees, and citrus groves.
6. Vegetables, melon crops, and other specialty food crops.
7. Nursery crops, turf grass, sod, and Christmas trees.
8. Land in hay crops, including wild hay.
9. Pastureland tilled in the past if the land could be tilled again without first clearing brush, trees, undergrowth, etc.

#### **Exclude:**

1. Pasture and rangeland that has never been tilled.
2. Government program acres planted to trees. These acres are woodland.
3. Woodland and Wasteland.

## **Chapter 9**

### **Acres Operated, Crops, And Land Use**

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#### **Pasture**

Land normally grazed by livestock. Livestock do not have to graze the land during the current year.

#### **Permanent Pasture**

##### **Include:**

1. Permanent grass and rangeland not in regular crop-pasture rotation.
2. Open grassland, brush land, and browse.
3. Pasture and rangeland that has never been tilled.

##### **Exclude:**

1. Pasture acreage in crop rotation, such as cropland planted to grass. These acres are Cropland Pasture.
2. Small grains pastured. Record these acres under the specified crop.
3. Land harvested or to be harvested for hay crops. Record these acres under the specified hay crop.
4. Woodland having no grazing potential should be recorded as Woodland - Not Pastured.
5. Woodland used as pasture or with limited grazing potential should be recorded as Woodland-Pastured.

#### **Cropland Pasture**

##### **Include:**

1. Cropland in crop-pasture rotation and all other cropland to be used only for pasture or grazing during the current year. Cropland pasture could be used for crops without additional improvement.
2. Land in crop diversion programs pastured under special permit.

##### **Exclude:**

1. Land planted for pasture but not grazed in the current year. This land should be recorded in Other Crops (Section D, Item Code 848 of the June Area Survey questionnaire only).
2. Land pastured before or after another crop is harvested. Record this land as the

- specified crop.
3. Producing orchards grazed or pastured. Record these acres in Other Crops (Section D, Item Code 848 of the June Area Survey questionnaire only).
  4. Native pasture or rangeland that has never been tilled. These acres should be recorded as permanent pasture.
  5. Woodland grazed or pastured. Record these acres as Woodland - Pastured.

### **Idle Land**

Idle land is land not used for crops during the current year.

#### **Include:**

1. Cropland with no crops planted or harvested during the current year if the land will not be summer fallowed or grazed this year.
2. Land diverted for Government programs planted to grass.
3. Acres tilled in the past if the land could be plowed and planted again without first clearing brush.
4. Uncultivated skipped areas in skip rowed cotton fields if FSA excluded these skip areas from the measured acres.
5. Acres of vineyards if abandoned.

#### **Exclude:**

1. Idle cropland that is tilled to conserve moisture. This is summer fallow.
2. Cropland seeded for any crop use, such as new strawberry plantings, new alfalfa seedings, etc. If these crops will not be harvested this year, they should be recorded in Other Crops (Section D, Item Code 848 of the June Area Survey questionnaire only).
3. Acreage planted to a crop that failed or was abandoned. These acres should be reported as acres planted of the specified crop.
4. Land diverted for Government programs planted to trees. These acres would be recorded in woodland.
5. Fruit orchard groves or nut trees which have been abandoned. These acres would be recorded as woodland.

## **Chapter 9**

### **Acres Operated, Crops, And Land Use**

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#### **Summer Fallow**

Summer Fallow is seeding land to crops in alternate years under a practice requiring the seed bed be worked (tilled) periodically during the growing season of the idle year sufficiently to control weeds and conserve moisture. No crops are planted for harvest during the current year on summer fallowed land.

Do not include small grain crops planted last fall, abandoned, plowed under, grazed off, or diverted for government compliance in the spring and left idle until fall as summer fallow this year. These acres would be recorded as planted acres of the specified crop.

#### **Woodland**

Woodland is defined as all wood lots or timber tracts, natural or planted.

##### **Include:**

1. Land covered primarily with trees.
2. Woodland with limited grazing capacity should be coded as woodland pasture (IC832).
3. Land diverted to Government programs planted to trees (including CRP).
4. Timberland to be harvested for lumber or pulp wood.
5. Abandoned fruit orchards, groves, and nut trees.
6. Native acres of maple trees which may be tapped for maple syrup.

##### **Exclude:**

1. Land with trees or brush used primarily for livestock grazing if the respondent considers it pasture. Record as pasture.
2. Cropland or pasture.
3. Bearing orchards, groves, nut trees, and Christmas trees.
4. Clear cut land.

## 9.4 Recording Rules for Crops

The following rules apply for recording crops on questionnaires:

### Planted Acres

1. Report acreage planted and to be planted for all purposes.
2. Report acreage planted and replanted to the same crop only once.
3. Report acreage planted to one crop and then replanted to another crop as acres planted to each crop, even if one or both crops are not harvested.
4. Report acreage planted and later plowed down, hogged off, grazed, or abandoned, including cover crop acreage as the specified crop planted.
5. Report volunteer acreage as planted only if the acreage will be harvested for grain, silage, etc. Volunteer crops sprout from seed that had fallen from the previous year's crop.
6. Report acreage planted, but later entered in Government diversion programs.
7. When strip cropping is practiced, acres should always be prorated according to the number of rows for the specified crop. If two crops or uses are in alternating rows or strips (2 rows, 4 rows, etc.) in the same field, half the total acreage should be reported as each use. This is true regardless of the crops or land uses in the field.

**Example:** Soybeans and corn are planted in alternating strips in the same 10-acre field. Record 5 acres of soybeans planted, and 5 acres of corn planted.

8. If a crop is or will be planted, but acreage is unknown, probe for the respondent's best estimate. If he still will not give a response, write DK next to the answer cell.

### Harvested Acres

1. Include acres already harvested at the time of interview.
2. Include acres the respondent intends to harvest during the remainder of the crop year.
3. Acres of the same crop (such as hay) harvested two or more times for the same utilization from the same planting should be reported only once. If two uses are made of the same crop (such as hay harvested for dry hay, then harvested later for greenchop), then you should enter the acreage in both crops (dry hay and greenchop).
4. If acres harvested are unknown, write DK next to the answer cell.

## Chapter 9

### Acres Operated, Crops, And Land Use

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#### Total Production

1. When both total production and average yields appear on the questionnaire, you should try to obtain total production. Total production is more precise than rounded yields.
2. Record total production in the units specified. If the respondent reports in other units, convert the response to the required unit before recording in the item cell.
3. If harvest is not complete at the time of the interview, ask the respondent for an estimate of final production from all acres harvested and remaining to be harvested.
4. If the respondent refuses to provide production, or if total production is unknown, you may ask the respondent for the average yield he expects from all acres harvested and to be harvested. However, total production is preferred.
5. Write notes about unusual situations affecting total production.

#### Yield per Acre

Crop yields for major crops for the past two years can be recorded in the table at the end of this chapter. Space is provided for you to write in your State's average yields.

1. When both production and yield appear in a questionnaire, total production is preferred over average yield.
2. Reported yield for unharvested acreage should reflect expectations at the time of the interview, considering moisture, temperature, weediness, etc., from all acres harvested and to be harvested.
3. Record yield in the units specified on the questionnaire.
4. Accept the respondent's report of average yield, even if it appears high or low. Write notes about conditions causing unusual yields.

#### Non-irrigated and Irrigated Cropland

Some questionnaire versions ask for non-irrigated and irrigated crop acreage, production, yield, or cropland values separately. Cropland should be reported as irrigated if the ground will be artificially watered at least once before planting or during the growing season. Some States may refer to non-irrigated land as dryland.

Your questionnaire may ask for irrigated and non-irrigated acres of some crops, and total acres for other crops. Where only total acres, production, yield, or values are required, be sure to include both irrigated and non-irrigated acres in the reported items.

## **9.5 Small Grains (Wheat, Oats, Barley, Rye)**

### **Planted For All Purposes**

Be familiar with local terminology used to identify various varieties of small grains.

#### **Include:**

1. Acres planted in the previous fall or current spring even if the crop is abandoned before harvest.
2. Acres planted to winter wheat, and later over seeded with spring wheat to improve the stand or to replant areas damaged by winter kill.
3. Acres planted to Winter Wheat, plowed up, and completely reseeded to Spring Wheat as 1) Winter Wheat planted; 2) Winter Wheat abandoned; and 3) Spring Wheat planted.
4. Acres planted to a small grain crop and then replanted to another crop for harvest during the same crop year in both crops and in acres double cropped.
5. Acres planted for pasture or cover crop as the specified crop planted for all purposes.
6. Volunteer acres as planted to the specified crop only if the acres are intended for harvest for grain or hay.

#### **Exclude:**

1. Mixtures of wheat, oats, barley, and other grains planted on the same acreage. Record mixed grains in Other Crops (Section D, Line 81 of the June Area Survey questionnaire only) or as Other Hay (if cut for hay.)
2. Volunteer acres if the acres will not be harvested for grain or hay.

### **Harvested For Either Grain or Seed**

#### **Include:**

1. Acres harvested for grain.
2. Acres harvested for seed.
3. Volunteer acreage if harvested for grain.

## **9.6 Corn**

### **Planted For All Purposes**

Include acres planted for grain, seed, silage, or other uses, even if the crop will be plowed down, hogged off, or abandoned. If another crop is inter-planted with corn (both crops in the same drill row), or soybeans are broadcast between the corn rows, total acres planted should be reported only as corn since this is the dominant crop. However, a corn and sorghum mix planted for silage should be recorded in Other Crops (Section D, Line 81 of the June Area Survey questionnaire only).

**Exclude:**

1. Sweet Corn.
2. Popcorn.
3. Corn planted in home gardens.

### **Corn Harvested for Either Grain or Seed**

**Include:**

1. Corn harvested for seed, unless seed corn is listed as a separate item in your state's questionnaire version.

### **Seed Corn**

In some States, corn for seed is asked separately from corn for grain. The policy of some seed corn companies is to destroy the male rows after pollination. Include the destroyed male rows in both acreages planted and harvested, not as abandoned. Yield per acre for seed corn usually is much lower than for corn harvested for grain because of the destroyed rows.

### **Corn harvested for silage**

This includes acreage from which both the stalk and ear are harvested together. Includes green chopped corn fed immediately to animals.

**Include:**

1. Snaplage – Corn harvested by taking the entire ear of corn (husk, cob, grain, and part of the shank.) Snaplage is harvested by a silage harvester with a snapper head and a kernel processor. Snaplage should be recorded as silage as it takes the husk and part of the shank.
2. Earlage – Similar to snaplage, but it generally does not include the husk and has very little of the shank. Earlage is harvested using a snapper head or by adjusting the combine to break up the cob and return the cob and grain to the bin. Like snaplage, earlage should be recorded as silage.



### **Other Corn Uses**

Record acreage not harvested for grain or seed.

**Include:**

1. Acres for silage
2. Fodder
3. Pastured
4. Hogged down
5. Abandoned

### **Yield and Production**

Corn yield is reported at the standard dried down moisture content of 15.5 percent (one bushel of shelled corn equals 56 pounds.)

### **High Moisture Corn (NY and PA December)**

High moisture corn can be harvested as whole shelled corn. It is an attractive alternative to dry corn systems, because of the savings in time and money through elimination of drying. It cannot be readily marketed and is mainly a livestock feed. High moisture corn is harvested at moisture contents usually 24-30% moisture.

Record acreage, production or yield along with average percent moisture.

## **9.7 Soybeans**

Soybeans can be reported in several different ways, depending on your state's questionnaire version. Some of the various ways are:

1. Total Soybeans.
2. Irrigated and Non-irrigated Soybeans separately.
3. Single Cropped and Double Cropped Soybeans separately.
4. Total Soybeans (planted and to be planted) and Soybeans Following Another Harvested Crop.

### **Planted for All Purposes**

Single cropped soybeans will be the only crop harvested from the acres during the current year. Double cropped soybeans are produced on the same ground following the harvest of another crop (usually small grains, particularly winter wheat) in the same crop year.

**Total Production and Yield per Acre**

The yields shown in the table at the end of this chapter represent yields for all soybeans. Yields per acre for double cropped soybeans are usually lower than yields for single cropped soybeans.

**9.8 Proso Millet**

The National Agricultural Statistics Service began estimating proso millet acreage and grain production in Colorado, Nebraska, and South Dakota during 2000. These three States produce the vast majority of proso millet for grain in the United States. The sum of production for these three states will be considered a "US" production, not just a "3-State" total. Proso millet can be harvested for grain, seed, or hay. Proso millet harvested for hay should be included in "grain hay." Data will be collected in June and December.

**9.9 Sorghum (Milo)**

**Planted and Harvested for All Purposes**

**Exclude:**

1. Sudan and Sorghum x Sudan crosses.

**Other Uses for Sorghum**

**Include:**

1. Silage
2. Fodder
3. Hay
4. Pasture
5. Abandoned

**9.10 Sudan and Sorghum X Sudan Crosses**

Questionnaires for CO, KS, OK, and TX have a separate item for recording Sudan and Sorghum x Sudan crosses. Other States should record Sudan and Sorghum x Sudan crosses in Other Crops (Section D, Item Code 848 of the June Area Survey questionnaire only).

**Exclude:**

1. Sorghum (Milo)

### 9.11 Cotton

Questionnaires may have items for Upland Cotton, American Pima Cotton, or both.

#### Acres Planted

In fields where cotton is inter-planted or skip-row planted, the acres actually planted to cotton are less than total acres in the field. The following table shows factors to use in converting total field acres to cotton acreage for common planting patterns:

Planting Pattern		
Cotton Rows	Skip Rows	Factor
2	1	.667
2	2	.500
2	4	.333
4	2	.667
4	4	.500

Multiply the total acres in the field by the factor to determine net acres planted to cotton. The balance of the land (skipped rows) should be recorded as idle cropland if no crops are planted in the skipped rows.

#### Total Production

Total production will be recorded in total bales.

#### Yield per Acre

Yield per acre should be reported in pounds of lint per acre. If the respondent reports yield in bales, ask for the net weight per bale. This will usually be between 450-510 pounds per bale, excluding the weight of any bagging or ties used by the gin.

#### PIMA Cotton

Your questionnaire version may ask for Pima Cotton separate from Upland Cotton. Acreage of extra-long staple cotton, primarily Pima S-7 varieties, are grown in AZ, CA, southern parts of NM, and the Trans-Pecos area of TX. If Pima Cotton is not listed on your questionnaire, record Pima Cotton in Other Crops (Section D, Line 81 of the June Area Survey questionnaire only).

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#### 9.12 Forage

Forage acreage estimates will be published in seventeen States (CA, ID, IL, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, NY, OH, PA, SD, TX, VT, WA, and WI). State level estimates will be published for these seventeen States annually. Estimates of harvested acres, yield, and production will only be published in the Crop Production Annual Summary. The published U.S. total is a seventeen State total. Acreage for forage includes both traditional hay crops (i.e., alfalfa) and small grain crops, provided they are harvested as haylage or greenchop (removed from the field before it is dried).

#### 9.13 Hay Crops

##### Acres Cut and To Be Cut for Dry Hay

Acres cut and to be cut should only be recorded if harvested for dry hay. Do not include acres cut or to be cut **only** for silage, greenchop, or straw in dry hay items. Greenchop and silage should be reported in Other Crops (Section D, Item Code 848 of the June Area Survey questionnaire only) if not listed separately on your questionnaire. Acres cut for straw should not be recorded on any questionnaire.

##### Alfalfa and Alfalfa Mixtures

If your state's questionnaire version does not ask for Alfalfa and Alfalfa Mixtures separately, include these acres in Other Hay. Alfalfa seeded following a crop harvested (i.e., wheat) would not be recorded in Section D unless the alfalfa acreage is also harvested in the current crop year. The newly seeded acres would be recorded in Section E as acres of "New Alfalfa Seeded".

##### Grain Hay

Include barley, oats, proso millet, rye, and wheat cut and to be cut for dry hay. This acreage must also be recorded as planted to the specific crop(s) (or under Other Crops, Item Code 848 of the June Area Survey questionnaire if the crop is not preprinted in Section D). Exclude straw baled after the grains were harvested.

##### Other Hay

Include acres of all other kinds of hay cut and to be cut for dry hay. Other hay varieties include Clover, Timothy, Coastal Bermuda, Wild Hay, Native Hay, other tame grasses, Soybeans, Lespedeza, Sorghum, Sorghum x Sudan crosses, perennial peanut hay, alfalfa (Southeastern States), fodder, stover, etc. if harvested for dry hay. Also exclude residual peanut hay (peanut vines harvested for hay following the harvesting of nuts).

##### All Hay

Some questionnaire versions ask only for All Hay cut and to be cut for dry hay. All Hay should

include Alfalfa and Alfalfa Mixtures, Grain Hay, Wild Hay, and Other Hays described previously.

### **Hay Production and Yield per Acre**

Record total production or average yield per acre from all cuttings in whole tons. If production is reported in bales, ask for the number of bales and average weight per bale. Multiply the number of bales times average weight per bale to get total production.

### **New Alfalfa or Alfalfa Mixtures Seeded**

Alfalfa is a perennial legume which is mainly used as a hay or forage crop but can also serve as a cover crop. Alfalfa seedings normally occur during the Spring in northern States and during the late summer in southern States. Spring seedings can begin as soon as the potential for damage from spring frosts has passed and late summer seedings normally begin around the first of September.

#### **Include:**

1. New acres of pure alfalfa or alfalfa mixtures seeded during current year regardless of when it will be harvested or grazed.
2. New acres of mixtures seeded for harvest as hay or haylage, used for grazing, as a cover crop, or for any other purpose.
3. New acres of alfalfa mixed with a nurse crop or companion crop, other forages, or direct seeding (planted without a nurse crop).

#### **Exclude:**

1. Acres of existing alfalfa over seeded (re-seeded) with alfalfa or alfalfa mixtures to improve the stand or to replant areas damaged by winter kill.

### **9.14 Peanuts**

#### **Planted**

Include peanuts planted for nuts or green peanuts only. Perennial peanut hay should be excluded from peanut planted acres and reported as other hay only.

NOTE: **Peanut residual hay** should NOT be included in hay. (Residual peanut hay is where remaining plants are cut after the crop has been harvested for peanuts and is not considered a true hay crop.) These peanut acres should already be included in peanut planted acres and harvested for peanuts. Residual hay acreage should not be included anywhere additional.

#### **Harvested Acres**

Peanuts planted for green peanuts, hay, plowed down or abandoned should be excluded from harvested.

### **9.15 Tobacco**

#### **Harvested Acres**

Record acres of tobacco harvested and to be harvested to the **nearest tenth** of an acre for each type specified in your questionnaire. If a type not listed separately on your questionnaire is reported, enter the type and acres (to the nearest tenth) in Other Crops (Section D, Line 81 of the June Area Survey questionnaire only).

### **9.16 Rice**

Acres planted, acres harvested, production, and yield are asked by length of grain (long, medium, and short).

Count acreage only once, even if more than one crop of rice is harvested in the same crop year. Total production and average yield per acre should represent the total production from all rice crops harvested this crop year.

Total production or average yield per acre can be reported in either dry weight or green weight. Dry weight is the preferred method. You should indicate on the questionnaire the method used.

### **9.17 Potatoes**

Exclude potatoes in home gardens. Questionnaires for your State may list potatoes by type (Whites, Reds, Yellows, Russets, and Others. Include Blues with Reds). Potato production should be the total quantity of potatoes marketed from the field or placed in storage.

### 9.18 Dry Edible Beans

Most States obtain dry bean acreage, production, or yields for total dry beans. Exclude acreage and production of green beans used for canning, freezing, fresh market, and garden seed. Be sure to exclude chickpeas and soybeans as well.

### 9.19 Minor Oilseeds

Provisions in the 2008 Farm Bill require NASS to collect minor oilseed acreage and production. Crops included in this category are: Sunflower (oil varieties and non-oil varieties), Flaxseed, Safflower, Canola, Rapeseed, and Mustard Seed. Major producing States will have each commodity listed separately on questionnaires. For other States, record these crops in Other Crops (Section D, Item Code 848 of the June Area Survey questionnaire only).

### 9.20 GMO/GE (Genetically Modified/Genetically Engineered)

The purpose of collecting genetically modified (GMO/GE) acreage data is to estimate the percent of operations using GMO/GE seed and level of acres planted to each type.

The term biotechnology refers to GMO/GE seed varieties that have been developed to possess particular “input” or “output” traits. For the purposes of our data collection, we are interested in those which have particular “input” traits. This type of trait influences the production practices of the crop rather than how the grain/oilseed/lint can be used.

#### Definitions:

- **Input Traits:** Plant traits that influence the production practices of a crop. For example, Round-Up Ready soybeans allow the operator to apply that chemical to acres intended for soybean production. Prior to this biotech change, this was not possible.
- **Output Traits:** Plant traits that influence how the grain, oilseed or lint is used. For example, waxy corn’s starch properties are useful for thickening pies, soups, baby food and other processed food and industrial materials. Now, because of outstanding results, many livestock feeders and dairymen are including waxy corn in their feeding rations.
- **Bt Variety:** (Corn and Cotton) Developed through bioengineering, Bt corn contains an insecticidal protein. The protein, which is present in all green parts of the Bt corn plant, kills various insects, including corn borer. Bt cotton was developed to control three major cotton pests: the tobacco budworm and the cotton and pink bollworms.

Include varieties that have been genetically modified to contain more than one gene that can resist different types of insects. For example, a corn variety with Bt traits for both corn

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borer and rootworm should be included as a Bt variety. This example is NOT a stacked gene variety since it resists two different types of insects.

- Trade Names
  - Bt Corn: YieldGard®, YieldGard Plus®, Knockout®, NatureGuard®, Herculex I®
  - Bt Cotton: BollGard(R), BollGard II®
- **Herbicide Resistant:** (Corn, Soybeans, and Cotton) Biotech seed varieties which provide the plant resistance to the effects of certain herbicides which would otherwise harm that plant.
  - Trade Names:
    - Corn: RoundUp Ready®, Liberty Link®
    - Soybean: Roundup Ready®, Enlist E3TM, Roundup Ready 2 Xtend®, LibertyLink®
    - Cotton: RoundUp Ready®, BXN®
- **Stacked Gene Variety:** (Corn and Cotton) Biotech seed varieties that include both genetically modified insect resistance and genetically modified herbicide resistance. Only include varieties that have both. If the variety contains more than one gene for resistance to different types of insects but not herbicide resistance, it is NOT a stacked gene variety.
  - **Refuge in a Bag (RIB):** In 2012 seed companies began offering producers Refuge in a Bag (RIB) seed products for corn. What farmers generically refer to as RIB seed is a combination of non-traited corn (which serves as a refuge) and Bt insect-protected corn premixed in one bag. In most of the US, the single bag products combine 95% Bt seed with 5% non-Bt seed. Due to different refuge requirements in the southern corn/cotton growing areas, a mix of 80% Bt seed with 20% non-Bt seed is used. For NASS purposes, RIB products fall under the “Stacked Gene” category since they contain genetic resistance to both insects and herbicides.

#### 9.21 Acres Double Cropped

Double cropping is defined as: Two (or more) different crops grown and harvested or to be harvested from the same area in one growing season. This definition, when applied literally, will satisfy virtually any situation where double cropping may be in doubt.

##### **Include:**

1. Soybeans, cotton, grain sorghum or other crops planted after a small grain crop is harvested.
2. Early season vegetable crops followed by late season vegetable crops.



3. Grasses or legumes harvested for hay during the early part of the season, and the regrowth harvested for seed, silage, or greenchop.

**Example:** Alfalfa, Red Clover, etc., cut for hay and the re-growth harvested for seed. If 10 acres of alfalfa are cut for hay from the first and second cuttings, and the third growth left for seed, record only 10 acres for Alfalfa Hay harvested for dry hay. The acres harvested for seed could be recorded as 10 acres in Other Crops (Section D, Line 81 of the June Area Survey questionnaire only).

**Exclude:**

1. Acreage replanted to the same crop due to a poor stand, hail, flood damage, etc.
2. The same acreage cut for hay two or more times.
3. Any crop by-product (such as straw and corn stalks) where no re-growth of the original crop occurs.
4. Any crop following a cover crop that was plowed under or abandoned.

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AVERAGE CROP YIELDS TABLE			
Crop	Unit	Your State	
		Current Year	Previous Year
Winter Wheat	Bushels		
Durum Wheat	Bushels		
Other Spring Wheat	Bushels		
Oats	Bushels		
Barley	Bushels		
Rye	Bushels		
Corn for Grain	Bushels		
Corn for Silage	Tons		
Soybeans	Bushels		
Sorghum for Grain	Bushels		
Sorghum for Silage	Tons		
Cotton - Upland	Pounds		
Cotton - Pima	Pounds		
Hay - Alfalfa	Tons		
Hay - All Other	Tons		
Peanuts	Pounds		
Tobacco - All	Pounds		
Tobacco - Burley	Pounds		
Tobacco - Flue-Cured	Pounds		
Sunflowers	Pounds		
Dry Beans	Pounds		
Flaxseed	Bushels		
Rice - Short Grain	Pounds		
Rice - Medium Grain	Pounds		
Rice - Long Grain	Pounds		
Potatoes	Cwt.		

NOTES:



## 10 Grains and Oilseeds in Storage

### 10.1 General

NASS collects information from two major sources to publish grain stocks estimates. Estimates of grains, oilseeds, and pulse crops stored **on-farms**, combined with data for **off-farm** stocks, provide a total quantity of grains, oilseeds, and pulse crops in storage. At the designated point in time (for example, June 1), these estimates represent the total stocks of grains and oilseeds in the U.S.

Data for the on-farm storage of grain, oilseeds, and pulse crops comes directly from the Agricultural Surveys Program and its sampling of farms nationwide. Your instructions for completing this portion of the Ag Survey are on the following pages.

To assist in your collection of on-farm grain stocks, it is important for you to know what distinguishes on-farm from off-farm grains, oilseeds, and pulse crops. In the great majority of cases the difference is as clear as night and day. However, as farm operations grow larger and more diversified, it becomes necessary to establish these differences in this manual.

Off-farm storage of grains, oilseeds, and pulse crops includes commercial storage, grain, oilseed, and pulse crop processing plants, terminals, etc. As a rule of thumb, off-farm storage facilities must be licensed, bonded, and/or insured, as provided by your state government. Some farm operations seek this certification to buy and sell grain and may be included in this category. The Regional Field Office has a list of off-farm storage facilities and collects information from these sources separately from the Agricultural Surveys. One job of the Regional Field Office is to ensure that all grains and oilseeds in storage are counted only once. There should be no duplication of grain stocks between on-farm and off-farm storage.

Your Regional Field Office should provide guidelines for defining off-farm storage facilities. You need to have a clear understanding of these definitions and should alert your supervisor and/or the Field Office NASDA Coordinator of any unusual situations that you encounter while collecting on-farm data for the Agricultural Surveys.

Because of diverse climates, the harvest season for some crops varies considerably throughout the U.S. For example, wheat may be harvested in Georgia by the June 1 Survey but will only be in the boot stage in North Dakota. It is important to know when to include new crop grains and oilseeds (those harvested or intended to be harvested during the **current** crop year). This is particularly true for the June 1 and September 1, Surveys.

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### Grains and Oilseeds in Storage

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#### Old crop, new crop, and unharvested crop guidelines (all questionnaires):

1. **March 1 Survey:** Include all grains and oilseeds in storage from any crop year.
2. **June 1 Survey:** Include only old crop grains, oilseeds, and pulse for the crop specified. Do not include any new crop grains and oilseeds that may have been harvested this year and are now in storage.
3. **September 1 Survey:** Include small grains from any crop year, including those from the new crop year. However, for corn, sorghum, soybeans, and oilseeds (sunflowers, safflower & mustard seed) include only old crop grains in storage.
  - a) **CO, ID, MN, MT, ME, ND, OR, SD, UT, WA, & WY:** Additional questions are asked regarding acreage and expected yield of new crop small grains that are unharvested but **intended** for harvest. A final yes/no question asks if these were included in the Stocks totals.
4. **December 1 Survey:** Include all grains, oilseeds, and pulse crops in storage.
  - a) **AL, AR, CO, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, NE, NJ, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, WV & WI:** Additional questions are asked regarding acreage and expected yield of row crops (new crop) that are unharvested but **intended** for harvest. A final yes/no question asks if these were included in the Stocks totals.

### 10.2 Reporting Storage Capacity

Total storage capacity of all structures normally used (bins, cribs, sheds, etc.) to store whole grains or oilseeds should be reported in **bushels** or the unit specified on your questionnaire. Exclude ground storage and structures not normally used to store whole grains or oilseeds. If the respondent reports some other unit, make notes in the margin. Then convert to the specified unit and enter the converted value in the answer cell.

If the respondent has capacity but does not know how much, write DK next to the answer cell.

### 10.3 Introductory Statement

The introductory statement explains exactly what grains and oilseeds must be included. The entire statement must be asked as written to help prompt the operator to remember all crops in storage, especially any stored under a government program.

#### **10.4 Crops in Storage or On-Hand**

On-farm Grain Stocks consists of all whole grains, oilseeds, and pulse crops on hand or stored on the total acres operated, regardless of ownership or intended use.

**Include:**

1. Grains, oilseeds, and pulse crops in temporary or permanent storage facilities.
2. Any unprocessed whole grains, even those to be used for feed or seed.
3. Someone else's grain if stored on the acres operated.
4. All government stored grain located on the acres operated.
5. All stocks from previous years' production.

**Exclude:**

1. Cracked, rolled, processed, or milled grains or any grain where its original form has been changed.
2. Mixed grains, soiled, contaminated, or rotted supplies which have no economic value.
3. Grains, oilseeds, and pulse crops stored off farm, e.g., commercial storages, processors, farmer cooperatives, etc.

When the respondent has the crop in storage but does not know the amount, check YES and probe for an estimate. If the respondent still does not report the quantity, write DK (don't know) next to the appropriate answer cell.

#### **10.5 High Moisture Corn (NY Only)**

High moisture whole grain shelled corn stocks are no longer asked separately in NY. All corn stored on-farm, including high moisture whole grain shelled corn converted to a standard moisture content, should be reported under tem Code 121, Whole Grain Corn.

High moisture corn can be harvested as whole shelled corn. It is an attractive alternative to dry corn systems, because of the savings in time and money through elimination of drying. But it cannot be readily marketed and is mainly a livestock feed. High moisture corn is stored at moisture contents of usually 24-30% moisture.

#### **10.6 Reporting Units for Grain and Oilseed Stocks**

Most crops stored are reported in bushels. However, safflower, mustard seed, sunflowers, canola, and rapeseed are recorded in pounds. Chickpeas and pulse crops are reported in hundredweight.

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### Grains and Oilseeds in Storage

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Some States require all crops stored to be reported in tons. If stocks are reported in some unit other than the one pre-printed on the questionnaire, enter the answer and **specify the reported unit**. For example, if the respondent reported two tons of oats, enter 2 tons next to the answer cell.

#### 10.7 Hay Stocks

Include all types of dry hay baled, stacked, or stored loose on the acres operated.

Exclude silage, green chop, haylage, etc. that are not fully cured (dried). Small grain straw, other plants harvested for non-feed purposes, and corn and sorghum fodder or forage are not included in hay stocks.

If the respondent reports stocks in some unit other than tons, enter number of units and weight per unit next to the answer cell.

#### 10.8 Section Completion Code Box

This box applies only to the grain, oilseed, and pulse crop questions. This box is completed only when all data are inaccessible or refused, or when valid zeros are reported for **all** stock items. Check with your supervisor for proper handling of partially completed sections.

Refer to Chapter 8 of this manual for additional information on how to code the completion box.



## 11 Hogs and Pigs

### 11.1 General

Information requested in the Hogs and Pigs Survey is used to make estimates of hog and pig inventory, pig crop, death loss, and farrowing intentions. These estimates are published in the *Hogs and Pigs* report, generally issued around the last Thursday of the quarterly reference month.

The Hog questionnaire is designed to obtain data for **hogs owned** by the selected target operator or operation regardless of location. Instructions in this chapter apply to all States, including the States that conduct a Hog survey on an annual basis in December.

### 11.2 Hog Survey Program

**Note: These states may change due to 5-year Census revisions.**

**Major 16 Quarterly States:** CO, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MI, MN, MO, NE, NC, OH, OK, PA, SD, TX

**12 Reduced Quarterly States:** AR, AZ, CA, MS, MT, ND, SC, TN, UT, VA, WI, WY

**Annual States\*:** AK, AL, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, ID, LA, ME, MD, MA, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OR, RI, VT, WA, WV

\* Annual States conduct the Hog survey only during December.

### 11.3 Swine Definitions and Traits

- **Sow:** Adult female hog usually used for breeding
- **Boar:** Adult male hog usually used for breeding
- **Gilt:** Young female hog; can be used to replace sows or sold for slaughter
- **Barrow:** Castrated male hog sold for slaughter
- **Age of Gilts When First Bred:** Six to seven months of age
- **Sows and Gilts per Boar:** Normally 1 boar for every 10 to 20 sows and gilts; exceptions may occur if the operator recently sold boars or raises purebred breeding stock. Increased use of Artificial Insemination (AI) may decrease the number of boars per sow ratio. Make notes on the questionnaire for operations using AI. Also list any other reasons the ratio of boars to sows may be outside the norm.
- **Gestation Period (Pregnancy):** Between 112 and 115 days; 114 days on average (approximately 3 months, 3 weeks, & 3 days)

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### Hogs and Pigs

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- **Litters per Sow per Year:** Normally 2; maximum is 3 litters every 365 days.
- **Size of Litters:** Average 7 to 11 pigs per litter; Normal range is between 6 and 12 pigs per litter but may range from 0 to 16. Litter sizes of less than 5 or more than 14 pigs per litter should be explained in notes.
- **Lactation Period (Birth to Weaning):** Average 2 to 4 weeks; Normal range is 1 to 8 weeks. Some producers are using Medicated Early Weaning (MEW) or Segregated Early Weaning (SEW), sometimes called Isowean, technology to wean pigs in 7-14 days. These methods are used to limit diseases passed from the sow to her pigs. By weaning pigs earlier, the chances of passing on diseases are greatly reduced.
- **Growth Rate of Pigs & Market Hogs (Approximate)**
- **Weaning Weights:** Average weaning weights range from 7 to 20 pounds.
- **Slaughter Weights:** Average slaughter weights for barrows and gilts range from 260 to 290 pounds; Sow slaughter weights average 350 to 550 pounds. Slaughter weights have increased over time as packers desire bigger carcasses for bigger cuts, while still demanding leaner slaughter hogs.
- **Death Rate:** Normal death rate is between 1 and 3 percent of total hogs (weaning age and older) per quarter. Zero losses, or losses of more than 5 percent of total hogs, should be noted. While Medicated Early Weaning (MEW) and Segregated Early Weaning (SEW) have allowed for larger pig crops, death losses have also increased as younger and smaller pigs are weaned. MEW and SEW pig death losses must be counted in this ratio.

## 11.4 Hog Screening Questions

### Hogs and Pigs Owned or Raised (Face Page)

For the reference period, all sampled records will be screened for hogs owned or raised on the operation. This question refers to all kinds and ages of hogs and pigs owned or raised by the operator/operation, regardless of location. A YES answer will direct you to proceed with the interview.

### Hogs Owned by Someone Else (Face Page)

If the first screening question is answered NO, the respondent is asked if there are any hogs owned by someone else on the operation. A YES answer will route to the contractee question(s) on Page 5. A NO answer will route to Section 2 near the back of the questionnaire to check for Intentions to raise hogs or pigs. These operations will be re-contacted as necessary on future surveys.

### Screening for Hogs and Pigs Owned (Page 3)

All operations which owned or raised hogs or pigs during the reference period are screened to determine if any hogs or pigs are owned on the survey reference date. A YES answer will route to the inventory items.

### In the Last 3 Months - Quarterly States; In the Last Year - Annual States

When there are no hogs and pigs owned by the operator/operation, determine if any hogs or pigs were owned during the last three months (Quarterly States) or the last year (Annual States). A YES answer will route to questions on sows farrowed, pig crop, and deaths on Page 4.

### Screening for Hogs and Pigs Owned by Someone Else

When no hogs are owned now or during the reference period, this screening question identifies if someone else owns hogs or pigs on the selected operator/operation's land or hog facilities. A YES answer routes to the contractee question(s) on Page 5. **Other owners** can include **contractors** or **other producers** who may own some or all the hogs or pigs being raised on the hog facilities belonging to the sampled operator. A NO answer will route to the Hog Intentions Section on page 6.

### **11.5 Questionnaire Items**

#### **Inventory Item**

##### **Sows and Gilts for Breeding:**

Include all sows, gilts, and young gilts already bred or to be bred. Do not overlook young gilts bred or expected to be bred for their first litter.

##### **Include:**

1. Sows and gilts already bred.
2. Sows re-bred after pigs are weaned.
3. Young gilts of any age which will be bred. If the operator is unsure at the time of the interview how many of the young gilts on hand will be bred, ask him or her to provide an estimate of the number to be selected for breeding replacements. Some gilts are identified for breeding purposes before they are weaned. These unweaned gilts that are designated for the breeding herd must be recorded as young gilts and gilts to be bred. They are **NOT** recorded in market hogs less than 50 pounds.
4. Any sows and gilts that will be sold as breeding stock before farrowing.

##### **Exclude:**

1. Sows bred for the purpose of adding weight prior to marketing for slaughter.
2. Sows to be marketed for slaughter after their pigs are weaned.

##### **Expected Farrowings:**

Expected Farrowings are asked for in three-month periods. The first period is the three months following the survey reference date and the next period is the second three months after the survey reference date.

Sows or gilts may farrow at any location, but they must be owned by the selected operator/operation on the survey date. Total sows and gilts to farrow during the two time periods can exceed the number of sows and gilts reported in the inventory if sows are re-bred immediately after farrowing. Document these continuous farrowing type operations with questionnaire notes. Remember to include gilts that are being bred for the first time.

**Include:**

1. Sows and gilts already bred.
2. Sows and gilts bred, even if they may be sold or moved to another location or State as breeding stock before farrowing.
3. Young gilts and sows not yet bred but expected to be bred to farrow during the specified period.

**Exclude:**

1. Sows and gilts to be purchased later and moved onto the farm.

**Boars and Young Males for Breeding:**

**Include:**

1. Young male pigs to be selected for breeding. Some may not have been weaned; however, if they have been selected to enter the breeding herd, include them in this category.
2. Boars of serviceable age. They may be used on this farm or operation, or elsewhere in the future, but must be included if owned as of the survey reference date.
3. All boars and young males to be sold for breeding stock even if they have been estimated.

Make a note about purebred breeding stock producers with an unusually high number of male breeding stock relative to sows and gilts on hand.

**Exclude:**

1. Males no longer used for breeding.

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### **Hogs and Pigs**

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#### **Market Hogs and Pigs:**

Explain that there are four weight groups for reporting hogs and pigs for market and home use. Identify the four weight groups before recording inventory into separate categories.

##### **Include:**

1. All hogs and pigs for market or home use.
2. All weaned and unweaned pigs on hand not intended for breeding herd replacements.
3. Sows that will not be bred again.
4. Sows that are nursing pigs; if the sows will be marketed for slaughter after the pigs are weaned.
5. Sows bred for the purpose of adding weight prior to marketing for slaughter.
6. Boars no longer used for breeding.

##### **Exclude:**

1. Breeding hogs and pigs recorded in the previous questions.

#### **Total Hogs and Pigs:**

Add the breeding and market hog inventory items being careful not to include expected farrowings. Verify the total with the respondent. If necessary, make corrections to arrive at the correct total.

#### **Value per Head (ALL States, December Only)**

Refer to Chapter 17 of this manual for instructions on Inventory Values. Report a value for each class only if that class was reported in the inventory owned items. Minus ones (-1) are valid.

#### **Out-Of-State Hogs and Pigs**

Sampled hog producers who own hogs or pigs in more than one State as of the survey reference date should be asked to complete a separate report for hogs owned in each of the other States. Check and enter the appropriate code even for operations that have two or more pre-labeled questionnaires provided by the Field Office. If a YES is coded, verify that the report includes only hogs owned in that State.

#### **Pigs Born and Owned on Reference Date (Quarterly States only)**

Pigs born and owned from the sows and gilts farrowed must be accounted for in the breeding or market hog inventory. Pigs born in the last three months will generally weigh less than 120

pounds on the survey reference date. Make notes to explain if the respondent indicates some of the pigs born in the last three months weigh more than 120 pounds. Pigs which are owned but have been moved to another operation, within the State, because of a contract or other arrangement should be included in this report as Born and Owned. See Pigs Born and Sold below for pigs moved outside the State but still owned.

### **Pigs Born and Sold or Slaughtered (Quarterly States only)**

Include any pigs farrowed on this operation that have been sold or slaughtered before the survey reference date. Make notes to clarify unusual situations. Pigs moved to another operation, outside the State, which are still owned, should be accounted for as 'Pigs sold.' They should not be accounted for in the inventory on this report.

### **Pigs Born and Owned, Moved Cross-State (Quarterly States only)**

In this example, a farrowing operation in Minnesota farrowed 100 sows in April. These sows had 900 pigs, which were moved in May to a finishing operation in Iowa. They were all still owned by the Minnesota operation. These should be accounted for in two separate June 1 reports in the following manner:

State Report				
Minnesota		Farrowings		
		May Sows	April Sows	March Sows
	Sows and Gilts Farrowed	0	100	0
	Pigs Born and Owned		0	
	Pigs Sold or Slaughtered		900	
Minnesota	Inventory 50 Lbs or less = 0			
Iowa	Inventory 50 Lbs or less = 900			

### **Pigs Weaned by Quarter (Annual Survey States)**

Annual Survey States will collect pig crop numbers based on the number of pigs that were saved or weaned from the sows that farrowed during the respective quarters. Pigs born during the most recent quarter will generally weigh less than 120 pounds on the survey reference date. Pigs born less than 30 days before the survey reference date may not yet be weaned thus requiring the respondents to give their best estimate of how many weaned pigs are expected from those litters. Most of the pigs born in the June - August quarter, generally will weigh more than 120 pounds. Pigs born during the first two quarters (December-February; March-May) will

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not have a direct relationship with the market hogs reported in the inventory items.

#### Pigs per Litter

Add pigs owned from sows farrowed and pigs already sold or slaughtered (Annual States - use number of weaned pigs), then divide the total by number of sows and gilts farrowed during the specified time. This is the pigs per litter ratio and should be between 0 and 16. Zero pigs per litter are possible if all pigs from a litter died before being weaned. Make notes about unusually small or large litter sizes (less than 5 or more than 14).

#### Deaths after Weaning

Record deaths of weaned pigs and older hogs owned during the three-month period specified prior to the survey reference date (Quarterly States). Record the deaths by quarter for the past year (Annual States).

##### Include:

1. Deaths of all weaned pigs and older hogs owned by this operation whether raised or purchased.
2. Death losses occurring during transit of weaned pigs from one facility to another facility that is part of the same operation.
3. Contractor death losses in transporting weaned pigs from their operation to contractee operations should be recorded in the contractor questionnaire.
4. Deaths of MEW and SEW pigs. These pigs usually weigh around 10 pounds but are considered weaned and should be included in deaths.

##### Exclude:

1. Pigs that died before weaning.
2. Pigs slaughtered on the farm.

#### On-Farm Slaughter for Consumption by the Operation (ALL States, December Only)

Farm slaughter data is needed to estimate the number of hogs and pigs slaughtered on farms. This estimate is published in the *Meat Animals PDI* publication in April. Farm slaughter is defined as animals slaughtered on farms **primarily** for home consumption. Farm slaughter would include all animals slaughtered on the operation to be consumed by the operation.

##### Include:

1. Mobile slaughtering on the farm for consumption by this operation.



**Exclude:**

1. Custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments.
2. Animals slaughtered on the farm that are not consumed by this operation.

Minus ones (-1) are **not** valid for these questions.

**Custom Slaughter for Consumption by the Operation (ALL States, December Only)**

Custom slaughter data is needed as a component of the value of home consumption and marketings published in the *Meat Animals PDI* publication in April. Custom slaughter is defined as animals slaughtered at commercial establishments **primarily** for home consumption. Custom slaughter would include all animals slaughtered at commercial establishments to be consumed by the operation.

Minus ones (-1) are **not** valid for these questions.

**Contract Hog Information**

Contractors must report all hogs and pigs owned including those being raised for them under contract by someone else. If the respondent is involved in contract hog production, either as a contractor or contractee, it is important to probe carefully to ensure the hogs are only collected in the owner's or contractor's questionnaire.

Each Field or Regional Office should maintain careful documentation to ensure hogs are summarized in the correct questionnaire to prevent duplication of data. Usually, each Field or Regional Office will provide specific instructions on how to handle a particular contract operation.

**Hogs and Pigs Owned - but Raised by Someone Else**

A **Contractor** is defined as an individual, partnership, or managed operation that owns hogs or pigs being raised on land operated by someone else and provides some, but not all production inputs and/or services. If the sampled operation is a contractor, you will be expected to record the total number of producers (contractees) raising hogs for the contractor as well as total hogs being raised by contractees.

An enumerator verification note is included to verify that all contract hogs raised by others are included in the inventory items on the previous page.

**Hogs and Pigs Owned by Someone Else**

You may find situations where a hog producer will only own some of the hogs being raised on the sampled operation. Hogs on the operator's land or facilities may belong to a contractor, another

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producer, a relative, or a neighbor.

If the target operator is also a hog contractee as well as a hog owner, you should obtain the complete name and address of the contractor who owns the hogs and pigs being raised under contract. This information allows the Field or Regional Office to correctly identify the contractor's report.

An enumerator verification note is included to verify that these contractee hogs are not included in the inventory items on the previous page.

#### Completing a Separate Questionnaire for Hogs Owned by Others

All operations that are identified as having hogs owned by someone else (Item Code Box 322 = +) on the selected operation's acres operated **must follow the steps** discussed below. Hog inventories must be collected on a separate questionnaire from the selected target operator for any hogs that are located on the operation but are owned by someone else. Unless instructed otherwise by the Field or Regional Office, an additional questionnaire must be completed for all hogs recorded in Item Code Box 322.

#### Steps to follow when Item Code Box 322 is Positive

1. Record the name of the owner(s) who owns hogs on the selected operation's land or hog facilities (Item Code Box 322).
2. Verify that not all hogs in Item Code Box 322 are included in the target operator's inventory numbers. Complete an additional questionnaire (from the sampled operator) for every owner identified on question "hogs owned by someone else." All hogs reported in Item Code Box 322 of the original questionnaire must be accounted for on the new owner's questionnaire. **Do NOT record hogs belonging to the new owner that are located at another operation.**

#### Intentions to Raise Hogs or Pigs (Contractee Section)

You will only complete this question if Item Code Box 322 is positive and Item Code Box 300 equals zero. This question should help to determine if the operator will raise hogs or pigs on this operation for the specified period. This information is very important since it will be used to correctly capture hogs owned control data.

#### Section 1 Completion Code Box (499)

The Section 1 Completion Code Box (499) is located at the end of Section 1 - Hogs and Pigs Owned. Complete this box only when all data in the section are inaccessible, refused, or when

valid zeros are reported for all items in the section. Completion Code Box 499 refers to the entire section.

Check with your supervisor for proper handling of **partially** completed sections. Refer to Chapter 8 for additional information on section completion code boxes.

## **Section 2 – Intentions to Own or Raise Hogs**

### **Intentions to Raise Hogs or Pigs on this Operation**

You will only complete this question if all screening items are NO on the face page or if all screening questions on page 3 are answered NO. This question should help to determine if anyone will raise hogs or pigs on this operation for the specified period. This information is very important since it will be used to select samples for future hog surveys. This question applies to the sampled operator or anyone else that may decide to raise hogs on the acres operated or in the hog facilities during the specified period.

### **Presence of Hog Facilities Available to Raise Hogs**

All sampled operations with intentions to own hogs equal to “No” or “Don’t Know” (IC492= 2 or 3) will be asked to provide information about the presence or absence of hog facilities on their operation. This question should provide information about hog facilities, structures, or buildings that may be readily available to raise hogs. Information about hog facilities will be used in making substitution determinations and in updating the hog producer’s list.

### **Completing Additional Questionnaire for New Producers Now Using the Hogs Facilities (Hog Substitution Rules)**

Enumerators should collect an additional questionnaire for all producers (potential substitutes) identified as now operating or using the hog facilities that used to belong to the original sampled target operation. The original sampled operation does not have to necessarily be out-of-business to complete another questionnaire for a new producer now using the hog facilities.

### **Other Information:**

Potbellied pigs should be handled in the following way. If the operation has enough other agricultural activity that would qualify it as a farm or if the animals are being raised for agricultural production (slaughter or breeding stock), we should count these animals. If the animals are considered pets and the operation does not have any other agricultural activity that would qualify it as a farm, these animals should not be included in the inventory.



## 12 Cattle and Calves

### 12.1 General

Questions for cattle and calves on the January and July surveys, as well as June Area Survey, pertain to animals on the total acres operated, including cattle and calves owned or managed on grazing land leased from others on a fee-per-head or Animal Unit Month (AUM) basis. Therefore, cattle on AUM land (Public or Private) or on land leased on a fee-per-head basis should be reported by the owner of the cattle. The owner of the AUM land does not report these cattle even if he/she is considered the operator.

Cattle and calves survey data are used to make estimates of cattle and calf inventory, calf crop, and deaths. These estimates are published in the Cattle report, issued in January and July.

### 12.2 Enumerator Skip Instruction

At the beginning of Section H, there is skip instruction directed to you, the enumerator, and should not be asked to the respondent. This question is used to help determine if this section of the questionnaire should be completed. If the CATTLE Box in Section C is checked, ask all the questions that follow. If the box is not checked, skip to Section I.

### 12.3 Cattle Definitions and Traits

**Cow:** Adult Female usually used for breeding

**Bull:** Adult Male usually used for breeding

**Steer:** Castrated Male usually sold for slaughter

**Heifer:** Young Female; can be used to replace cows or sold for slaughter

**Stockers and Feeders:** Steers and heifers weighing 400 to 800 pounds. They may be on pasture or a maintenance or backgrounding ration until being put on feed for slaughter market. Animals weighing less than 500 pounds must be recorded as calves.

**Age of Heifer at First Breeding:** Between 14 and 16 months old (yearlings)

**Cows and Heifers per Bull:** Normally 1 bull for every 10 to 40 cows; exceptions may occur if the operator recently sold bulls, artificially bred cows, or raises purebred breeding stock.

**Gestation Period (Pregnancy):** Between 279 and 290 days (approximately 9 months)

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**Calving Practices:** Beef cows generally calve during spring or fall and early winter. Milk cows are not bred to calve seasonally. Nationally, over 70 percent of calves are born between January and July.

**Calf Weights:** Calves born in the first half of the year will normally weigh less than 500 pounds on July 1. By the end of the year, these calves will generally weigh over 500 pounds. Improved management, feeds, and genetics make it possible for calves to weigh 800 pounds or more in 12 months. Calves born between July and December will generally weigh less than 500 pounds on January 1.

**Death Rate (Live Birth and Older):** A normal annual death rate for cattle weighing 500 pounds or more is between 1 and 2 percent, or around 1 percent per six-month period. A death rate of more than 2 percent or no deaths at all, should be explained with a note on the questionnaire.

A normal death rate for calves weighing less than 500 pounds is between 2 and 10 percent per six-month period. A death rate of 10 percent or more, or no deaths at all, should be explained with a note on the questionnaire.

#### 12.4 Questionnaire Items

Questionnaire items refer to all kinds and ages of cattle and calves, regardless of ownership. Include those owned or managed on grazing land leased from others on a fee-per-head or animal unit month (AUM) basis.

Beefalo are a genetic cross between bison and beef breed cattle.

- Include beefalo in cattle items.
- Exclude bison from cattle items.

#### 12.5 Screening Questions

The following screening instructions refer to the January and July Cattle Surveys. Screening question instructions for the Cattle portion of the June Area Survey are covered in Chapter 6 of this manual.

##### **Cattle and Calves on Total Acres Operated (Face Page)**

A screening question is asked first to determine if the operation has any cattle or calves on hand on the total acres operated, regardless of ownership, in the specified time. A YES response requires that at least some items in the Cattle and Calves section be asked.

##### **Intentions to have Cattle or Calves (Face Page, January only)**

If no cattle or calves were on hand now or in the past year, determine if any will be on hand this year. These operations will be contacted as necessary on the next survey.

### **Operating a Farm or Ranch**

If no cattle or calves were on hand, determine if the operator is still in business. This will determine which sections to complete at the end of the questionnaire.

### **Cattle and Calves on Total Acres Operated (Page 3)**

A screening question is asked first to determine if the operation has any cattle or calves on hand on the survey reference date, regardless of ownership, on the total acres operated. A YES response requires that all items in the Cattle and Calves section be asked. In July, a NO response will route to questions on Calf Crop. In January, a NO response will route to the next screening question below.

### **Cattle and Calves Previously on Hand (January only, Page 3)**

When there are no cattle and calves on the total acres operated on the survey reference date; determine if there were any cattle or calves on the total acres operated during the specified period. If the answer is YES, the questionnaire routes to questions on calf crop and death loss.

## **12.6 Inventory Items**

### **Beef Cows**

#### **Include:**

1. Cows and heifers, regardless of breed, that have had at least one calf, and are **not** kept for producing milk for human consumption. These will be predominantly beef breeds kept to raise or nurse calves.
2. Cows kept primarily for raising or nursing calves.
3. Cows being fattened for slaughter.

#### **Exclude:**

1. Cows and heifers kept primarily to produce milk for human consumption, either for home use or for sale.
2. Heifers that have not calved.

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#### Milk Cows

##### Include:

1. All cows that have had at least one calf, regardless of breed, kept primarily to produce milk for human consumption, either for home use or for sale.
2. Milk cows; both dry and those being milked.
3. Heifers being kept for milk that have calved at least once.

##### Exclude:

1. Cows kept primarily to raise or nurse calves. Record these as beef cows.
2. Heifers that have not calved.

#### Cows Milked (January and July)

Record the number of cows milked on the survey reference date on the total acres operated. Cows milked may be equal to total milk cows, but will usually be less, particularly in commercial dairy operations.

#### Milk Produced (January and July)

Report total milk produced on the survey reference date. If the respondent does not know the production for this date, use production for the day nearest to the reference date. Be alert for unreasonable answers, as respondents sometimes report two days' production. To check the amount of milk produced per cow in one day, divide Total Milk Produced by Cows Milked. This should range from 8 to 80 pounds. Per cow milk production of less than 8 pounds or more than 80 pounds should be explained in notes.

#### Bulls 500 Pounds or More

Include all bulls weighing 500 pounds or more regardless of breed or purpose for which they are kept. Include bulls to be sold as breeding stock and those on feed for slaughter market. Make notes about purebred breeders who may have an unusually large number of bulls on hand. Bull calves weighing less than 500 pounds should be excluded from this item and included in calves less than 500 pounds.

#### Heifers 500 Pounds or More

Record heifers weighing 500 pounds or more that have never calved into one of the three categories listed below. In addition, record the number of replacements which will calve during the year in part (a) of each question:

- 1) **Beef Cow Replacement.** Include heifers of all breeds kept primarily to produce calves for



beef production. If they are already bred but have not calved, they should be included in this category.

- a) **Beef Cow Replacement Heifers Expected to Calve (January only).** Record the number of beef heifer replacements which will calve during the year. Record only the beef replacement heifers which are on the operation January 1. Do not include replacements weighing less than 500 pounds which will move into the beef cow herd. These animals are to be included with calves.
- 2) **Milk Cow Replacement.** Include heifers of all breeds kept primarily to produce milk for human consumption, either for home use or for sale. If they are already bred but have not calved, they should be included in this category. Exclude any that will only be kept as nurse cows to raise calves.
  - a) **Milk Cow Replacement Heifers Expected to Calve (January only).** Record the number of milk heifer replacements which will calve during the year. Record only the milk replacement heifers which are on the operation January 1. Do not include replacements weighing less than 500 pounds which will move into the milk cow herd. These animals are to be included with calves.
- 3) **Other Heifers 500 Pounds or More.** Include all heifers which have not calved and were not reported as beef cow or milk cow replacements. This includes heifers on feed for slaughter market, those to be butchered for home use, heifers to be sold as feeders and those that have been spayed or implanted to prevent conception. These heifers are not intended to become beef or milk cow replacements.

### **Steers 500 Pounds or More**

Include steers of all breeds weighing 500 pounds or more. They could be in feedlots or on pasture but must be on the total acres operated. Steer calves weighing less than 500 pounds should be excluded from this item and recorded in calves less than 500 pounds.

### **Calves Under 500 Pounds**

Include calves of all breeds under 500 pounds, regardless of the purpose for which they will be raised.

### **Total Cattle and Calves**

Add the inventory items, being careful not to add in cows milked, milk produced, and replacement heifers expected to calve, and verify the total with the respondent. If necessary, make corrections to arrive at the correct total.

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#### **On Small Grain Pasture (KS, OK, TX Only)**

Record the number of other heifers, steers, and calves which were grazing on winter wheat, oats, barley, or rye on January 1.

Cows/Heifers Expected to Calve (June/July Only)

#### **Include:**

1. Cows and heifers located on the total acres operated that are expected to calve between the survey reference date and the end of the year.
2. Bred cows and heifers to be sold before calving if they are expected to calve before the end of the year.

#### **Exclude:**

1. Cows and heifers bred but will not calve until the next calendar year.

### **12.7 Calves Born**

The July questionnaire obtains information on calves born on the total acres operated from January 1 through June 30 for all operations (for June Area, the period ends on May 31). The January Cattle Survey obtains this information for the entire previous year.

#### **Include:**

1. Calves born on the total acres operated and those owned which were born on grazing land leased from others on a fee-per-head or animal unit month (AUM) basis.

#### **Exclude:**

1. Calves born on someone else's operation.
2. Calves purchased and moved onto the acres operated.
3. Calves born dead.

Record calves born into the following categories:

- On hand on the survey reference date. Be sure these calves are included in the inventory items. For June and July, these calves will generally be in the calves less than 500 pounds item. By January, most will have gained enough weight to be in the steers, heifers, or bulls over 500 pounds groups.
- Sold, moved off total acres operated, or slaughtered by the survey reference date. Include calves born on the total acres operated but moved off this operation or slaughtered (on the farm or at a slaughter plant) before the reference date.

- Died by the reference date. Include all calves born alive on this operation that died from disease, accident, exposure, killed by predators, or were euthanized. Exclude calves born dead (stillborn).

### **Total Calves Born**

Add the categories and verify the total with the respondent. If necessary, make corrections to arrive at the correct total.

### **Calves Born in Previous 6 Months (January Only)**

Of the calves born in the previous year, record only the number born between July 1 and December 31.

## **12.8 Deaths and Losses**

The July Cattle Survey asks deaths and losses from January 1 through June 30; while the January Cattle Survey asks deaths and losses for the entire previous year.

There are two categories – one for calves under 500 pounds and one for cattle over 500 pounds.

### **Include:**

1. Cattle and calves that died on the total acres operated and any owned or managed that died on grazing land leased from others on a fee-per-head or animal unit month (AUM) basis.
2. Animals killed by predators.
3. Animals euthanized, stolen, or lost by other causes.

### **Exclude:**

1. Calves born dead (stillborn).
2. Cattle and calves butchered on the farm or ranch for consumption or sale.
3. Losses occurring during transit to the operation or to market (deaths must occur on the total acres operated to be counted).

Total calf losses must be **greater than or equal to** the calves that died from this year's calf crop recorded in the previous item.

## **12.9 Cattle and Calves on Feed**

Refer to Chapter 12.15, Cattle and Calves on Feed for instructions.

### **12.10 Value per Head (January Only)**

Refer to Chapter 16, Livestock Inventory Values, for instructions on Cattle Inventory Values. Minus ones (-1) are valid.

### **12.11 Slaughter**

#### **On-Farm Slaughter for Consumption by the Operation (January Only)**

Farm slaughter data is needed to estimate the number of cattle and calves slaughtered on farms. This estimate is published in the *Meat Animals PDI* publication in April. Farm slaughter is defined as animals slaughtered on farms **primarily** for home consumption. Farm slaughter would include all animals slaughtered on the operation to be consumed by the operation

**Include:**

1. Mobile slaughtering on the farm for consumption by this operation.

**Exclude:**

1. Custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments.
2. Animals slaughtered on the farm that are not consumed by this operation.

Minus ones (-1) are **not** valid for these questions.

#### **Custom Slaughter for Consumption by the Operation (January Only)**

Custom slaughter data is needed as a component of the value of home consumption and marketings published in the *Meat Animals PDI* publication in April. Custom slaughter is defined as animals slaughtered at commercial establishments **primarily** for home consumption. Custom slaughter would include all animals slaughtered at commercial establishments to be consumed by the operation.

Minus ones (-1) are **not** valid for these questions.

#### **Section Completion Box (498)**

A Section Completion Box (IC 498) is located on the January and July questionnaires. Code this box only when all data in the section are missing because the respondent was inaccessible, refused, or when valid zeros are reported for all items in the section.

Check with your supervisor for proper handling of a **partially** completed section.

Refer to Chapter 8 for additional information on section completion code boxes.

### 12.12 Grazing Fees

**(AZ, CA, CO, ID, KS, MT, NE, NV, NM, ND, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, WA, and WY Only; January Only)**

This information is a component in the grazing fee formula used by the Forest Service (FS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to set grazing fee rates for grazing livestock on public lands.

Grazing fees must represent fees paid for grazing on **privately owned, non-irrigated** grazing land, excluding all local, State, and federally owned or controlled lands. Include privately owned lands leased from individuals, partnerships, or corporations. Include industry owned lands (railroads, utilities, forest product companies) if the land is not administered by a government agency.

The land must be non-irrigated during the current year. River bottom land and other sub-irrigated wetlands should be included. Irrigation facilities may be available but must not be used this year.

#### Grazing Fee Terminology

- **Head Month** is a month's use and occupancy of range by one animal, except for sheep or goats. A full head month's fee is charged for a month of grazing by adult animals if the grazing animal is weaned or 6 months of age or older at the time of entering or will become 12 months of age during the permitted period of use. For fee purposes, five sheep or goats, weaned or adult, are equivalent to one cow, bull, steer, heifer, horse, or mule. **Animal Month** is a term formerly used by the Forest Service and is synonymous with **Head Month**.
- **Animal Unit Month (AUM)** is (a) the amount of feed or forage required by an animal unit for one month, or (b) the tenure of one animal-unit for a period of one month. This is not the same as Animal Month mentioned above.
- An **Animal Unit** is one mature (1000 lb.) cow or equivalent based upon the average daily forage consumption of 26 lbs. dry matter per day.
- **Cow-Calf Pair** is a cow with nursing calf (less than 6 months of age).

#### Grazing Fee Questionnaire Items

**Most Common Method for Fees Charged:** Ask the respondent which of the following **fee methods** is commonly used in this area for grazing on privately owned, non-irrigated land:

1. Per Head per Month

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2. Per AUM
3. Per Cow with Nursing Calf per Month

Make a note if none of these methods are used in this area.

**Average Fee Charged in the Area:** The respondent should provide an average charge for only the most common charging method. If the respondent cannot provide an answer, enter “DK” next to the code box. Show any calculations you make to arrive at the operator's answer on the questionnaire. Do not enter fees paid on a basis other than the three listed in the questionnaire.

**Grazing Fees Paid by This Operation:** This item determines whether this operation will pay a fee to graze cattle on privately owned, non-irrigated land during the year. Only YES and NO options are provided. If, at the time of interview, the respondent does not know if private grazing land will be used, determine whether the operation normally grazes cattle on this type of land, and code the answer accordingly.

#### 12.13 Cattle and Calf Deaths/Losses (January Only, Every 5 Years if Funded)

##### Predator and Non-Predator Causes of Death

Losses by cause are collected in all States every five years (2016, 2021, 2026 etc.), for the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS): Wildlife Services (WS) and Veterinarian Services (VS). If cattle and calf deaths were reported earlier in Section 1, Predator and/or Non-Predator Causes of Death should have entries. Record by cause the number of cattle and calves lost or died. The total in each column must equal Deaths reported earlier in Section 1. Write notes to clarify and explain losses due to “Unknown predators” or “Unknown non-predator causes”.

Minus ones are **not** allowed in these tables. If the respondent is unsure of portions of this page, fill in the known answers and write notes to explain as much information as possible. If no deaths were recorded but cattle were reported for this operation during the previous year, enter a 3 in Completion Box 115 and continue.

##### Section Completion Box (115)

A Section Completion Box (IC115) is located at the beginning of the Death and Losses Section and applies to questions 2-5 regarding death loss. Code this box only when all data, for specific causes of death only, are missing due to the respondent being a refusal or inaccessible, or when valid zeros are reported for all items in the section. A positive entry in any field will be taken as an indication that the table has been completed and Completion Box 115 should be blank.

##### Primary Type of Operation

This item must be collected regardless of the value of Completion Box 115. Select one box that describes the type of operation.

**Calf and Cattle Injuries, Predator Control Methods (January only, every 5 years)**

When the Section for Death Loss causes is asked every five years, an additional page includes questions on the number of injuries caused by predators and various questions on predator control methods. This page should be completed regardless of whether the respondent reported any deaths. This page should be left blank **only** when there are no cattle items reported in Section 1 (Completion Code 498 is positive).

**Were Predator-Related Losses Seen First-Hand**

Simple YES or NO question; indicate if any predator losses were seen firsthand. Follow SKIP instructions.

**Were Non-Predator-Related Losses Confirmed by Lab Testing**

Simple YES or NO question; indicate if any non-predator losses were confirmed by lab testing. Follow SKIP instructions.

**Were Any Disease Related Deaths a Result of Transmission from Wildlife**

Simple YES or NO question; indicate if any disease related losses were from wildlife transmission. Follow SKIP instructions.

**How Many Deaths Were the Result of Transmission from Wildlife**

Enter number of deaths due to disease transmission from wildlife. Minus ones are **not** allowed for this item.

**Concern of Disease Transmitted by Wildlife**

Follow SKIP instructions from previous question. Specify wildlife that is a concern and select a level of concern.

**Injuries, Euthanized, and Born Dead**

This should be asked even if Completion Box 115 is coded as a 3. Blanks indicate a zero or no injuries, euthanizations, or born dead. Minus ones are allowed for this item.

**What Non-Lethal Methods Were Used**

The first question asks if any non-lethal predator control methods were used. If this is answered NO, enter a three (3), and then follow the skip instruction past the specific methods. If answered YES, enter a one (1), then answer each specific control method question. Check the appropriate answers and enter a one (1) in the code box for all those checked YES. Multiple answers may be checked YES. If NO is checked, enter a three (3) in the code box. The questions on non-lethal methods should only be answered YES if the method was in use in the past year.

**Was Money Spent on Non-Lethal Control Measures**

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Follow skip instructions if no money was spent. It is possible for this to be NO even when methods were used. The money could have been spent in a previous year.

#### **How Much Money Was Spent**

Either a dollar amount (whole dollars) or a -1 to indicate that the respondent could not estimate the amount should be entered.

#### **Was Time Spent on Non-Lethal Control Measures**

Follow skip instructions if no time was spent. It is possible for this to be NO even when methods were used. The time could have been in a previous year.

#### **How Much Time Was Spent**

Either an hour amount (whole hours) or a -1 to indicate that the respondent could not estimate the amount should be entered.

#### **Was Money Spent on Lethal Control Measures**

Follow skip instructions if no money was spent.

#### **How Much Money Was Spent**

Either a dollar amount (whole dollars) or a -1 to indicate that the respondent could not estimate the amount should be entered.

#### **Was Time Spent on Lethal Control Measures**

Follow skip instructions if no time was spent. It is possible for this to be NO even when methods were used. The time could have been in a previous year.

#### **How Much Time Was Spent**

Either a hour amount (whole hours) or a -1 to indicate that the respondent could not estimate the amount should be entered.

#### **Wildlife Damage Management Assistance**

Simple YES or NO question; indicate awareness of wildlife damage management specialist from any level of government.

#### **Specialist Assistance**

Simple YES or NO question; indicate assistance of wildlife damage management specialist from any level of government.

#### **The following are some FAQs concerning the predator control method portion of the questionnaire.**

1. Would money spent on food, training, vet bills, etc. for dogs, llamas or donkeys be



included as money spent for predator control?

Maybe. If these animals are used for predator control, include all costs generated by their use. This would generally be non-lethal.

2. Should regular cattle fences be included as a non-lethal control method?

No. Wildlife Services are looking for some additional fence feature done specifically to prevent wildlife caused losses. If a portion of the fence is buried or the fence is modified to keep predators out, then it would be considered Predator Exclusion Fencing.

3. Would the cost of gas used to check fences be included?

Maybe. Generally, if the farmer/rancher is checking fences whose primary function is to keep livestock in, the costs would be excluded. If the respondent is checking Predator Exclusion Fencing (designed to keep predators out) at least a portion if not all of his expenses would be included under non-lethal expenses. It may be necessary to probe to get his estimation of his expenses for predator control.

4. If a rancher puts up a new fence or sheds with extremely high costs, should those costs be amortized in some way over the expected life of the item?

No. Costs will be counted in the year they are incurred.

5. Should the Wyoming Predator Control Fee be considered as a non-lethal or lethal cost?

Lethal costs. This is basically a brand inspection fee based on sales, collected at the county level. The monies are placed in a state fund then refunded to the counties. They are used for bounties or to hire private contractors to eliminate predators - all through lethal methods.

6. Should costs for herders or the herder's food and care be included?

Maybe. Are they considered part of the predator control program of this operation? If the herders were hired primarily for predator control, they would be included. If hired only for herding the livestock, costs would not be included.

7. Should the costs of trappers and ammunition be included?

Yes. These are expenses of predator control, almost always lethal. Cattle and Calves on Feed

#### **12.14 Total Cattle on Feed Inventory**

Total Cattle on Feed inventory is asked in all States as of June 1, July 1, and January 1. Two questions are also asked in January to obtain the feedlot capacity in all States and to obtain the fed cattle marketings during the previous year for feedlots with less than 1,000 head capacity. In

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addition, 16 States (AZ, CA, CO, ID, IL, IA, KS, MN, NE, NM, OK, OR, SD, TX, WA, and WY) conduct surveys monthly to provide information on Cattle on Feed in feedlots with 1,000 head or more capacity.

#### **12.15 Screening Questions (January Only)**

##### **Screening for Cattle and Calves on Feed (January Only)**

A screening question is asked to determine if the operation has any cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market, regardless of ownership, on the total acres operated. A YES response will direct you to continue with the cattle on feed questions.

##### **Screening for operation of a feedlot during the previous year (January only)**

When there are no cattle and calves on hand January 1, determine if a feedlot was in operation during the previous year. If the answer is YES, continue with the feedlot capacity question.

#### **12.16 Questionnaire Items**

##### **Total Cattle on Feed**

###### **Include:**

1. Steers and heifers being fed for the slaughter market, regardless of ownership, if they will be shipped from this operation to the slaughter market. Cattle should be recorded in this section only if the following conditions are met:
  - a. Cattle must be shipped from the operation listed on the label (pens, pasture, or other facilities used to feed cattle) directly to the slaughter market.
  - b. Animals are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. Animals must receive a ration of grain, silage, hay and/or protein supplement or they may be on stalks if they will go from the stalks directly to the slaughter market.

###### **Exclude:**

1. Cows and bulls on feed as they will not grade select or better.
2. Any cattle that will eventually be shipped to another feedlot.
3. Any cattle that will be returned to pasture prior to slaughter.
4. Cattle that are being backgrounded or warmed up if they will be shipped to another feedlot before slaughter.
5. Calves that are raised for veal production.

6. Cattle being fed for home use.

If the feedlot operator or manager is not sure at the time of the interview if cattle and calves in the feedlot will go directly to the slaughter market or somewhere else, exclude these animals in the number on feed. Write a note explaining how many head are involved.

The total cattle on feed must be equal to or less than the total cattle inventory.

**Feedlot Capacity (January Only)**

Feedlot capacity is asked in January to obtain the feeding capacity of the feedlot.

**Cattle on Feed Marketings (January Only)**

This item is asked only if the capacity of the respondent's feedlot is less than 1,000 head, to determine the number of cattle on feed that were shipped directly to the slaughter market during the previous year.

**Monthly Cattle on Feed Surveys (AZ, CA, CO, ID, IL, IA, KS, MN, NE, NM, OK, OR, SD, TX, WA, and WY Only)**

States in the Cattle on Feed 1,000 plus capacity estimating program conduct surveys monthly to collect Cattle on Feed inventory, placement, and disposition information. Cattle on Feed data are obtained on a separate questionnaire. The following items apply only to these 16 States.

**Cattle on Feed Classes**

Total Cattle on Feed is broken down into 1) Steers, 2) Heifers. Add these items and verify the total with the respondent. The sum of these items must equal total Cattle on Feed.

**Placements**

Placements are cattle put into a feedlot, fed a ration to produce a carcass to grade select or better, and are intended for the slaughter market.

**Marketings**

Cattle shipped out of feedlots to the slaughter market. Cattle should be counted as marketed when they physically leave the feedlot for slaughter.

**Other Disappearance**

Other disappearance includes:

1. Death losses
2. Movement from feedlots to pastures
3. Shipments to other feedlots for further feeding

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#### 12.17 Using Historic Data for Cattle on Feed Surveys

For use on the Cattle on Feed Survey, historic data are defined as inventory data previously reported by the operator or another reliable source.

Historic data are used as an editing tool on the Cattle on Feed Survey to balance the current month's reported inventory. The previous monthly survey's inventory will appear on the questionnaire label or in the CATI instrument if the data were reported by the operator or another knowledgeable respondent. Previous inventory data which were estimated or revised will not appear on the label or in CATI.

<b>Cattle Available:</b>		
	<u>Previous Survey Reported Inventory (on label)</u>	
3a.	<u>Placed on Feed</u>	<u>+</u>
		<b>Total Cattle Available: =</b>
<b>Disposition:</b>		
3b.	<u>Marketed during period</u>	<u>-</u>
4a.	<u>Shipped to Other Feedlots</u>	<u>-</u>
4b.	<u>Returned to Grazing</u>	<u>-</u>
4c.	<u>Died</u>	<u>-</u>
		<b>Total Disappearance from Feedlot: -</b>
		<b>Calculated Current Inventory: =</b>
2.	<b>Current Survey Reported Inventory:</b>	<b>=</b>

**Figure 13.1** Balance Sheet Calculations for Using Historical Data on Cattle on Feed Surveys

When historic data are available, either on the label or in the CATI instrument, you will ask the operator the total number of cattle on feed first, and then obtain placement, marketing, and other disposition items. After collecting the placement, marketing, and disposition information, compare the calculated inventory with the inventory reported by the operator, using the procedure shown above.

If the calculated total does not equal the reported total, review the responses to each question with the operator. After reviewing the current survey items with the respondent, verify the previous survey total inventory. Make corrections where necessary. Changes to the previous

survey inventory should be made by crossing through the number on the label and writing the updated number next to it. Write comments to explain the change.

The operator may not be able to provide the current inventory and may ask you to provide the previous survey inventory. You should verify the previous inventory number first, and then ask the operator to answer the placement, marketing, and other disappearance items. Derive the current inventory using the table procedure illustrated above. Be sure to verify the calculated inventory number with the respondent. If necessary, re-ask all items and make corrections to arrive at the correct inventory.

If you are using CATI, after verifying the previous inventory with the operator, enter zero for current inventory and ask the placement, marketing, and other disappearance items. Your computer will calculate the current inventory and take you to an error screen. Verify the calculated number with the operator, then update current inventory with the verified number. Be sure to verify the calculated inventory number with the respondent before updating current inventory.

**Important:** The previous inventory should not be provided to the operator unless he/she specifically requests it, or unless you are verifying the number as discussed in this section.

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**NOTES:**

## 13 Sheep and Lambs

### 13.1 General Guidelines and Definitions

Questions for sheep and lambs are asked in January and on the June Area Survey, to provide information on inventory, lamb crop, death loss, and wool production. Sheep Inventory estimates for each State by class as well as lamb crop, death loss, on farm slaughter and wool production for the previous year are published in the *Sheep and Goat* release in January.

#### Definitions

- **Ram:** Male sheep usually kept for breeding.
- **Ewe:** Female sheep usually kept for breeding.
- **Lamb:** Young sheep, less than 1 year old.
- **Wether:** Castrated male sheep.
- **Sheep & Lambs for Breeding:** Ewes and rams one year and older used for breeding; ewe and ram lambs under one year old kept for breeding replacement.
- **Sheep & Lambs for Market:** Sheep and lambs being raised for slaughter market.
- **Ewe Age When First Bred:** Usually during the first breeding season after they are one year old; but can be as young as 9 months.
- **Breeding Time:** Natural breeding time is late summer and fall.
- **Ewes per Ram:** Normally 1 ram per 25-50 ewes.
- **Gestation:** 142-154 days (approximately 5 months).
- **Lambing:** Ewes giving birth
- **Lambs Docked:** Lambs with tails removed.
- **Death Rate:** Sheep: 1-10 percent of total adult sheep. Lambs: 2-15 percent of lamb crop.
- **Sheep Shorn:** Number of sheep from which wool (fleece) was shorn (clipped/cut).
- **Fleece Weight:** Adult sheep average pounds of wool shorn per clip are 7-12 pounds. Lamb average pounds of wool shorn per clip are 3-6 pounds.
- **Tags (crutches):** Wool clipped from face and crotch area.

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### **Sheep and Lambs**

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#### **13.2 Sheep Traits**

##### **Lambing Practices**

Ewes generally lamb between October and May. Lambing seasons begin earlier in the Southwestern States. Lambing in Midwestern and Eastern States commonly occurs in January and February.

Lambs born in the spring are often referred to as spring lambs or late lambs.

Lambs are generally docked (the practice of removing a lamb's tail) and castrated between 2 and 4 weeks of age.

Lambs are generally weaned between 50 and 90 days of age.

##### **Breeding Sheep and Lambs**

Breeding sheep are primarily kept for breeding and wool production. Breeds commonly used for breeding and wool production are Merino, Rambouillet, Debouillet, Columbia, Corriedale, Panama, Targhee, Montadale, Suffolk, Hampshire, Shropshire, Dorset, Oxford, Southdown, Cheviot, Finn, Polypay, Lincoln, Cotswold, Leicester, and Romney.

##### **Market Sheep and Lambs**

Weaned lambs may be finished for slaughter market on pasture or in dry lots or kept for breeding flock replacements. Lambs intended for slaughter may be grazed through the summer months and sold for slaughter as "grass-fat" lambs in the fall or be finished in dry lots after grazing on fall pastures. Lambs finished in dry lots generally gain weight faster than those finished on pastures.

Lambs generally weigh between 50 and 80 pounds when placed on feed. Lambs fed for slaughter generally weigh between 100 and 120 pounds when slaughtered.

##### **Sheep and Lamb Deaths**

The most common causes of sheep and lamb deaths are abnormalities and deformities, disease, dystocia (lambing difficulty), inclement weather, injury, predators, starvation, and stillbirth. The extent of loss due to a given cause varies between range sheep operations and farm flocks. Predator losses and inclement weather are more severe in range operations.

Deaths of sheep kept for breeding (stock sheep) in farm flocks usually fall between 1 and 4 percent of the breeding sheep inventory per year. Death rates for all lambs in farm flocks are normally between 5 and 10 percent of the lamb crop per year.

Normal death rates for breeding sheep (stock sheep) in range flocks range between 4 and 10



percent of the breeding sheep inventory per year. Death rates for all lambs in range flocks are normally between 10 and 15 percent of the lamb crop.

Normal death rates for feedlot sheep and lambs range between 1 and 2 percent per year.

Death rates exceeding these normal ranges should be noted on the questionnaire.

### **13.3 Reporting Rules**

**All States Except AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, ND, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA, and WY:** Questions for sheep and lambs pertain to animals on the total acres operated, regardless of ownership, including any owned or managed on grazing land leased from others on a fee-per-head or Animal Unit Month (AUM) basis. Therefore, sheep on AUM land (Public or Private) or on land leased on a fee-per-head basis should be reported by the owner of the sheep. The owner of the AUM land does not report these sheep even if he/she is considered the operator.

**AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, ND, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA, and WY only:**

1. Questions for sheep and lambs pertain to animals owned by the operation, regardless of location.
2. Sheep and Lambs Located In another State
  - a. Sheep and lambs must be associated with the State where they are located.
  - b. Sheep kept for breeding (stock sheep) may be owned by an operation in one State but be grazing in a neighboring State.
  - c. Fed lambs may be sent to another State for finishing.

When necessary, use blank areas of the questionnaire to record special information about the sheep and lamb location.

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#### 13.4 Questionnaire Items

##### **Screening Questions (All States except AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, ND, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA, and WY)**

*Note: These listed Western States should proceed to the next page for their screening questions.*

##### **Sheep, Lambs, Goats, or Kids on Hand:**

A screening question is asked first to determine if the operation has any sheep or goats on hand in the specified period, regardless of ownership, on the total acres operated. A YES answer routes to the Sheep and Lambs section.

##### **Intentions to have Sheep or Goats:**

If no sheep or goats were on hand now or in the past year, determine if any will be on hand this year. These operations will be contacted as necessary on the next survey.

##### **Operating a Farm or Ranch:**

If no sheep or goats were on hand, determine if the operator is still in business. This will determine which sections to complete at the end of the questionnaire.

##### **Sheep and Lambs on Hand (Section 1, page 3):**

If sheep or goats were on hand, a screening question in section 1 is asked regarding sheep or lambs only. Determine if the operation had any sheep or lambs on hand on the survey reference date, regardless of ownership, on the total acres operated. Include those owned or managed on grazing land leased from others on a fee-per-head or animal unit month (AUM) basis. A YES answer requires all questions in the Sheep and Lambs section be asked.

##### **Sheep and Lambs Previously On Hand (Section 1, page 3):**

When there are no sheep or lambs on the total acres operated on January 1, determine if any were on hand at any time in the past year. A YES answer requires questions about lambs born, death loss, on farm and custom slaughter, and wool production be asked. A NO will route to the Goat and Kids section.

##### **Screening Questions (AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, ND, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA, and WY Only)** *Note: All other States should proceed to the inventory items.*

**Sheep and Lambs Owned or Custom Fed:**

A screening question is asked first to determine if the operation owned or custom fed sheep or lambs, regardless of location, on the survey reference date or at any time in the specified period. A YES answer will route to the Sheep section.

**Intentions to Own or Custom Feed Sheep:**

If no sheep were owned or custom fed, determine if any will be owned or custom fed this year. These operations will be contacted as necessary on the next survey.

**Goats or Kids on Hand:**

If no sheep were owned or custom fed, determine if the operation owned any goats or kids on the survey reference date or at any time in the specified period. A YES answer requires continuation of the questionnaire, resulting in the Goats and Kids section being completed.

**Operating a Farm or Ranch:**

If no sheep or goats were on hand, determine if the operator is still in business. This will determine which sections to complete at the end of the questionnaire.

**Sheep and Lambs Owned or Custom Fed (Section 1, page 3):**

If sheep or goats were on hand, a screening question is asked first to determine if the operation owned or custom fed sheep or lambs, regardless of location, on the survey reference date. A YES answer requires all questions in the Sheep and Lambs section be asked.

**Sheep and Lambs Owned or Custom Fed Previously (Section 1, page 3):**

When there are no sheep or lambs owned or custom fed by the operation on January 1, determine if any were owned or custom fed at any time in the past year. A YES answer requires questions about lamb crop, death loss, and wool production be asked. A NO will route to the Goats and Kids section.

**Inventory Items**

Questionnaire items in all States refer to all kinds and ages of sheep and lambs. In Eastern States, information is collected on an acre operated basis, regardless of ownership. In most Western States (AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, ND, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA, and WY), data are collected on an ownership basis, regardless of location. *Minus ones (-1) will not be accepted by the RFO computer edits except on the questions noted in this manual.*

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#### **Sheep and Lambs for Breeding**

##### **Ewes 1 Year Old and Older:**

###### **Include:**

1. All ewes one year old and older in breeding flocks.

###### **Exclude:**

1. Ewes being fed or on pasture for slaughter market. These are to be counted as market sheep.

##### **Rams 1 Year Old and Older:**

###### **Include:**

1. All rams one year old and overused for breeding purposes.

###### **Exclude:**

1. Rams and wethers one year old and over being fed or on pasture for slaughter market. These are to be counted as market sheep.

##### **Replacement Lambs Less Than 1 Year Old:**

###### **Include:**

1. Ewe and ram lambs under one year intended for replacements in the breeding flock.
2. Lambs not yet weaned intended to be placed in the breeding flock.

###### **Exclude:**

1. Ewe, ram, and wether lambs intended for slaughter market and not to be placed in the breeding flock. These are to be counted as market lambs.

##### **Sheep and Lambs Being Custom Fed by Others (AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, ND, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA and WY Only)**

This question prevents data duplication when a sheep owner reports sheep located on a custom feeding operation. If the operation owns sheep or lambs being custom fed on someone else's operation, obtain the number of head and the name of the custom feeder. The RFO will ensure the sheep are not duplicated with the custom feeder's report.

### **Sheep and Lambs for Market**

#### **Include:**

1. (All States Except AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, ND, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA, and WY) Sheep and lambs on feed or pasture for slaughter market on the total acres operated, regardless of ownership.
2. (AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, ND, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA and WY) Sheep and lambs for slaughter market owned by this operation.
3. Sheep and lambs intended for the slaughter market are fed grains or other concentrates and expected to produce a carcass that will grade well or better.
4. Sheep and lambs intended for slaughter market being grazed on succulent pasture and expected to produce a carcass that will grade good or better.
5. Unweaned lambs to be fattened for slaughter market but not necessarily by this operation.

#### **Exclude:**

1. (All States) Sheep and lambs owned by this operation being fed on another operation. These sheep will be accounted for on the other operation.
2. Sheep and lambs on feed or pasture for any purpose other than for slaughter market (breeding replacement, wool production, etc.).

#### **Lambs for Market:**

Lambs for market must be less than one year old and be intended for slaughter market. These should be recorded in the proper weight group. Weight groups help data users determine when lambs will be marketed.

#### **Sheep for Market:**

Sheep for slaughter market must be one year old and older.

#### **Total Sheep and Lambs**

Add the inventory categories and verify the total. If the respondent does not agree with the total, repeat the individual entries to arrive at the correct total.

#### **Sheep and Lambs Located In another State (AK, AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, ND, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA and WY Only)**

Frequently, sheep and lambs are trucked from a northern State (such as Idaho) to a southern State (Arizona) for the winter months. Both market and breeding sheep and lambs may be moved to another State. Fed lambs may be sent from one State to another State for finishing. Sheep and lambs should be associated with the State where they are located. When necessary,

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### Sheep and Lambs

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use blank areas of the questionnaire to explain unusual or complicated situations.

#### Lamb Crop

This question is used to determine the total lambs born alive on the operation.

Because of differences in terminology and practices in different parts of the country, the lamb crop question is asked in the following two ways:

1. (All States except AK, AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, and WY): How many LAMBS were **BORN** on this operation (Include only live born)?
2. (AK, AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, and WY): "How many LAMBS dropped were or will be **MARKED, DOCKED, or BRANDED?**"

#### Include:

1. All lambs born alive during the specified time period. They do not have to be in the flock at the present time.
2. In Western States, if an operation has lambing other than on the range or pasture and they do not mark, dock, or brand the lambs. Record these animals in the total lambs born on the operation.

#### Exclude:

1. Lambs born dead (stillborn). In select Western States, exclude lambs lost before being marked, docked, or branded.

#### Deaths and Other Losses

In select Western States, lamb deaths that occur before marking, docking, or branding should be recorded separately from those that occur after marking, docking, or branding.

#### Include:

1. Deaths and losses from all causes.

#### Exclude:

1. Stillborn lambs.
2. Death loss occurring during transit to the operation or to market.
3. Animals killed on a research facility.
4. Custom Slaughter for on-farm consumption.

#### Wool Production

Head shorn and wool production for breeding flocks and market flocks should be recorded together.

Sheep and lambs shorn both in the spring and fall should be counted only once, however, wool shorn should be the total from all clippings for the entire year.

Include the weight of tags shorn in pounds of wool shorn. A “tag” is the wool clipped from a sheep’s face and crotch area. For the pounds items, minus ones are valid.

**Wool Price**

Wool prices should range between \$0.30 and \$1.70 per pound. Minus ones (-1) are valid. Please make note of higher values from sales of specialty wool.

**Value per Head**

Refer to Chapter 17 of this manual for instructions on Sheep and Lamb Inventory Values. Minus ones (-1) are valid.

**On-Farm Slaughter for Consumption by the Operation (January Only)**

Farm slaughter data is needed to estimate the number of sheep and lambs slaughtered on farms. Farm slaughter is defined as animals slaughtered on farms *primarily* for home consumption. Farm slaughter would include all animals slaughtered on the operation to be consumed by the operation.

**Include:**

1. Mobile slaughtering on the farm for consumption by this operation.

**Exclude:**

1. Custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments.
2. Animals slaughtered on the farm that are not consumed by this operation.

Minus ones (-1) are **not** valid for these questions.

**Custom Slaughter for Consumption by the Operation**

Custom slaughter data is needed as part of disposition. Custom slaughter is defined as animals slaughtered at commercial establishments primarily for home consumption, which would include all animals slaughtered at commercial establishments to be consumed by the operation.

Minus ones (-1) are **not** valid for these questions.

**Section 1 Completion Code Box (291)**

A Section Completion Box (IC 291) is located at the end of the Sheep and Lambs Section. Code this box only when all data in the section are missing because the respondent was inaccessible or a refusal, or when valid zeros are reported for all items in the section. Check with your supervisor

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for proper handling of a **partially** completed section.

Refer to Chapter 8 for additional information on section completion code boxes.

### Sheep and Lamb Deaths and Losses (Every 5 years, except ID, MT, UT, WY)

#### Predator and Non-Predator Causes of Death:

Losses by cause are collected in all States every five years (2025, 2030, 2035, etc.), for the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS): Wildlife Services (WS) and Veterinarian Services (VS). Selected States also collect this data each year when funds are available. If sheep or lamb deaths were reported earlier in Section 1, Predator and/or Non-Predator Causes of Death should have entries. If no deaths were reported but sheep were reported for this operation during the previous year, enter a 3 in completion box (IC115) and continue. Record by cause the number of sheep and lambs lost or died. The total in each column must equal Deaths reported earlier in Section 1. Write notes to clarify and explain losses due to “Unknown predators” or “Unknown non-predator causes”. Minus ones are **not** allowed in these tables. If the respondent is unsure about portions of this page, fill in the known answers and write notes to explain as much information as possible.

#### Section Completion Box (115)

A Section Completion Box (IC115) is located at the end of the Death and Losses Section. Code this box only when all data, for specific causes of death only, are missing due to the respondent being a refusal or inaccessible, or when valid zeros are reported for all items in the section. A positive entry in any field will be taken as an indication that the table has been completed and Completion Box (IC115) should be blank.

#### Lamb and Sheep Injuries, Predator Control Methods (Every 5 years)

When the Section for Death Loss causes are asked every five years, an additional page is included containing questions on the number of injuries caused by predators and various other questions concerning predator control methods. This page should be completed regardless of whether the respondent reported any deaths. This page should be left blank **only** when there are no sheep items reported in the first two pages of Section 1 (Completion Box IC291 is positive).

#### Injuries:

Blanks indicate a zero or no injuries. Minus ones (-1) are **not** allowed.

#### What Non-Lethal Methods Were Used:

The first question asks if any non-lethal predator control methods were used. If this is answered NO, enter a three (3), and then follow the skip instruction past the specific methods. If answered YES, enter a one (1), then answer each specific control method question. Check the appropriate answers and enter a one (1) in the code box for all those checked YES. Multiple answers may be



checked YES. If NO is checked, enter a three (3) in the code box. The questions on non-lethal methods should only be answered YES if the method was in use in the past year.

**Was Money Spent on Non-Lethal Control Measures:**

Follow skip instructions if no money was spent. It is possible for this to be NO even when methods were used. The money could have been spent in a previous year.

**How Much Money Was Spent:**

Either a dollar amount (whole dollars) or a (-1) to indicate that the respondent could not estimate the amount should be entered.

**Was Money Spent on Lethal Control Measures:**

Follow skip instructions if no money was spent.

**How Much Money Was Spent:**

Either a dollar amount (whole dollars) or a (-1) to indicate that the respondent could not estimate the amount should be entered.

**Trapper Assistance:**

Simple YES or NO question; include any trapper from any level of government.

**Reason for Quitting:**

Multiple selections are **not** possible. Enumerators should keep probing until the respondent selects the primary reason for quitting.

**The following are some FAQs concerning the predator control method portion of the questionnaire:**

1. Would money spent on food, training, vet bills, etc. for dogs, llamas or donkeys be included as money spent for predator control?

Maybe. If these animals are used for predator control, include all costs generated by their use. This would generally be non-lethal.

2. Should regular sheep fences be included as a non-lethal control method?

No. Wildlife Services are looking for some additional fence feature done specifically to prevent wildlife caused losses. If a portion of the fence is buried or an addition is put on top of an already in-place fence it would be considered Predator Exclusion Fencing.

3. Would the cost of gas used to check fences be included?

Maybe. Generally, if the farmer/rancher is checking fences whose primary function is to keep livestock in, the costs would be excluded. If the respondent is checking Predator

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### Sheep and Lambs

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Exclusion Fencing (designed to keep predators out) at least a portion if not all his expenses would be included under non-lethal expenses. It may be necessary to probe to get his estimation of his expenses for predator control.

4. If a rancher puts up a new fence or sheds with extremely high costs, should those costs be amortized in some way over the expected life of the item?

No. Costs will be counted in the year they are incurred.

5. Should the Wyoming Predator Control Fee be considered as a non-lethal or lethal cost?

Lethal costs. This is basically a brand inspection fee based on sales, collected at the county level. The monies are placed in a State fund then refunded to the counties. They are used for bounties or to hire private contractors to eliminate predators - all through lethal methods.

6. Should dues paid to the Wool Growers Association be included?

No. Little of these dues are used for predator control.

7. Should costs for herders or the herder's food and care be included?

Maybe. Are they considered part of the predator control program of this operation? If the herders were hired primarily for predator control, they would be included. If hired only for herding the livestock, costs would not be included.

8. Should the costs of trappers and ammunition be included?

Yes. These are expenses of predator control, almost always lethal.

#### **Other Information:**

Mowers is a term sometimes used to refer to animals kept primarily to keep brush down around the operator's residence. These should be handled like pets. If the operation has enough other agricultural activity that would qualify it as a farm, we would count these animals.

Even though these animals may never be slaughtered, we would include them as market inventory as the potential to be slaughtered is there and it is unlikely, they are using them for breeding animals. If there is no other agricultural activity, then this operation would not qualify as a farm, and we would not want them in our samples.

#### **Hunting and Gaming:**

Sheep and goats for hunting and gaming would be counted as inventory if the sheep/goats are held in captivity, and/or breed, and/or fed, and/or treated for their health. This would mean they were being actively raised.

#### **NOTES:**

## 14 Goats and Kids

### 14.1 General

Questions on goat and kid inventory, kid crop, values, mohair production and price are asked on the January 1 Sheep and Goat Survey. Inventory estimates and values will be published in the Sheep and Goats report in January along with goats clipped, mohair production, and mohair price.

### 14.2 Terms and Definitions

- **Doe:** Female goat
- **Buck:** Male goat
- **Mutton or Wether:** Castrated male goat
- **Kid:** A young goat less than a year old.
- **Gestation Period:** Around 5 months
- **Angora Goat:** Breed of domestic goat raised for production of its long silky hair, called mohair.
- **MilkGoat:** Straight-haired type of goat selected and raised for milk production.
  - Popular U.S. breeds include Saanen, Toggenburg, and Alpine.
  - Less popular breeds include LaMancha, Nubian, Oberhasli, and Pygmy.
- **Meat/Other Goat:** Straight-haired type of goat raised for meat production.
  - The most popular U.S. breed is Spanish, but Angora and all Milkbreeds are sometimes used for meat production.
  - Goats raised for Cashmere fiber. These goats are not for milk or meat but are considered “other”.

### **14.3 Reporting Rules**

(All States Except AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, ND, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA, and WY): Questions for goats and kids pertain to animals on the total acres operated, regardless of ownership, including any owned or managed on grazing land leased from others on a fee-per-head or Animal Unit Month (AUM) basis. Therefore, goats on AUM land (Public or Private) or on land leased on a fee-per-head basis should be reported by the owner of the goats. The owner of the AUM land does not report these goats even if he/she is considered the operator.

(AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, ND, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA, and WY only): Questions for goats and kids pertain to animals owned by the operation, regardless of location.

### **14.4 Questionnaire Items**

#### **Screening Questions**

Screening questions on the face page of the January 1 Sheep and Goat Report will determine which operators will answer the Goats and Kids section. Refer to Chapter 14 of the Interviewer's Manual to review these items. When the reporter has reached Section 2 (Goats and Kids) of the questionnaire, screening questions regarding only goats and kids will determine routing of the questions.

**(All States except AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, ND, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA, and WY)**

*Note: These listed Western States should proceed to the next page for their screening questions.*

#### **Goats or Kids on Hand:**

Determine if the operation had any goats or kids on hand on the survey reference date, regardless of ownership, on the total acres operated. A YES answer requires all questions in the Goats and Kids section be asked.

#### **Goats and Kids Previously On Hand:**

When there are no goats or kids on the total acres operated on January 1, determine if any were on hand at any time during the past year. A YES answer requires that questions regarding kids born, death loss, and mohair production be asked.

**Screening Questions (AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, ND, NV, OR, SD, UT, WA, and WY**

**Only)** *Note: All other States should proceed to the goat classifications and inventory items.*

#### **Goats or Kids on Hand:**

Determine if the operation owned any goats or kids on the survey reference date, regardless of location. A YES answer requires all questions in the Goats and Kids section be asked.

**Goats and Kids Previously On Hand:**

When there are no goats or kids owned on January 1, determine if any were owned at any time during the past year. A YES answer requires that questions regarding kids born, death loss, on farm and custom slaughter and mohair production be asked.

**Goat Classifications (All States):**

Much of the Goats and Kids portion of the questionnaire is divided into 3 types of breeds or utilization: Angora, Milk, and Meat & Other. Angora is a specific breed, mostly used for mohair production. Milk goats comprise several different breeds, as do Meat goats. Each breed or type can be used for different purposes. ***Inventory and Inventory Values should be reported based on utilization, not the breed.*** For instance, Angora does that are bred to Angora bucks to produce kids for mohair production would all be classified as Angora. Angora does that are bred to a meat breed buck (likely Spanish) would produce kids used for meat production. In this case, all would be classified as meat.

The offspring of Milk does, if the does are being used for milk production, should be recorded under 'Milk' even if they will be sold for meat. Generally, the does and their offspring should be recorded in the same category.

**Minus ones (-1) are not allowed in the Goats and Kids section except where noted.**

**Inventory**

**Goats and Kids for Breeding:**

**Does 1 Year Old and Older**

**Include:**

1. All does one year old and older in breeding herds.

**Exclude:**

1. Does being fed or on pasture for slaughter market. These are to be counted as market goats.

**Bucks 1 Year Old and Older**

**Include:**

1. Bucks one year old and over, used for breeding purposes.

**Exclude:**

1. Bucks and mutton/wethers one year old and over being fed or on pasture for

## Chapter 14

### Goats and Kids

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slaughter market. These are to be counted as market goats.

#### **Replacement Kids Less Than 1 Year Old**

##### **Include:**

1. Doe and buck kids under one year intended for replacements in the breeding herd.
2. Kids not yet weaned intended to be placed in the breeding herd.

##### **Exclude:**

1. Doe, buck, and wether/mutton kids intended for slaughter market and not to be placed in the breeding herd. These are to be counted as market kids.

#### **Goats and Kids for Market:**

##### **Include:**

1. Goats and kids on feed or pasture for slaughter market on the total acres operated, regardless of ownership.
2. Unweaned kids to be fattened for slaughter market but not necessarily by this operation.

##### **Exclude:**

1. Goats and kids on feed or pasture for any purpose other than for slaughter market (breeding replacement, mohair production, etc.)

**Kids for Market:** Kids for market must be less than one year old and intended for slaughter.

**Goats for Market:** Goats for market must be one year old and older and intended for slaughter.

#### **Total Goats and Kids:**

Add the inventory categories and verify the totals. The totals of the inventory classes for each utilization must equal the sum of the number of goats and kids reported. If the respondent does not agree with the total, repeat the individual entries to arrive at the correct total.

#### **Kids Born**

This question is used to determine the total kids born alive. Does are generally seasonal breeders, and kid once a year. They can be bred back since their gestation period is 5 months. Does have twins often; so, the number of kids born in a year should be between 100 and 250 percent of the total doe inventory. In June, this ratio should include kids born plus the does expected to kid.

### **Kids and Goats Died**

Total kid and goat losses should be within a range of 0 to 10 percent of the inventory. Losses exceeding 10 percent of inventory should be verified with the operator. Exclude kids born dead, lost during transit either to market or to the farm or ranch, and custom slaughter for on-farm consumption.

### **Value per Head**

Refer to Chapter 17 of this manual for instructions on Goats and Kids Inventory Values. Minus ones (-1) are valid.

### **On-Farm Slaughter for Consumption by the Operation (January Only)**

Farm slaughter data for goats is utilized in the U.S. balance sheet when setting inventory estimates in January. Farm slaughter is defined as animals slaughtered on farms *primarily* for home consumption. Farm slaughter would include all animals slaughtered on the operation to be consumed by the operation.

#### **Include:**

1. Mobile slaughtering on the farm for consumption by this operation.

#### **Exclude:**

1. Custom slaughter for farmers at commercial establishments.
2. Animals slaughtered on the farm that are not consumed by this operation.

Minus ones (-1) are **not** valid for these questions.

### **Custom Slaughter for Consumption by the Operation**

Custom slaughter data is needed as a part of disposition. Custom slaughter is defined as animals slaughtered at commercial establishments *primarily* for home consumption. Custom slaughter would include all animals slaughtered at commercial establishments to be consumed by the operation.

Minus ones (-1) are **not** valid for these questions.

### **Mohair Production**

Record the number of Angora goats and kids clipped during the year. Pounds of mohair produced should be recorded either as weight per fleece or total pounds produced. Report goats and kids only once, even if they were clipped in both the spring and fall. Report all mohair produced during the year, including tags. Reports of head clipped outside a range of 50 to 200 percent of inventory should be verified with the operator. Average fleece weight per head clipped will generally range from 1.5 to 10 pounds. Minus one (-1) is valid for the pounds items.

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### Goats and Kids

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#### Mohair Price

Record the value in dollars and cents. Mohair price should generally be between \$1.25 and \$3.75. Minus one (-1) is valid.

#### Section Completion Box (1112)

A Section Completion Box (IC1112) is located at the end of the Goats and Kids section. Code this box only when all goat items are missing because the respondent was inaccessible or a refusal, or when valid zeros are reported for all items. Check with your supervisor for proper handling of a **partially** completed section.

Refer to Chapter 8 for additional information on section completion code boxes.

Attempt to get valid answers for all questions. If this page is partially completed, editing problems are created in the FO. If the respondent is unsure of the kid questions, try to write notes with the best estimate or any helpful information.

#### Other Information

Mowers is a term sometimes used to refer to animals kept primarily to keep brush down around the operator's residence. These should be handled like pets. If the operation has enough other agricultural activity that would qualify it as a farm, we would count these animals. If they report goats, they would be recorded as meat and other goats.

Even though these animals may never be slaughtered, we would include them as market inventory as the potential to be slaughtered is there, and it is unlikely they are using them for breeding animals. If there is no other agricultural activity, then this operation would not qualify as a farm, and we would not want them in our samples.

#### Hunting and Gaming:

Sheep and goats for hunting and gaming would be counted as inventory if the sheep/goats are held in captivity, and/or breed, and/or fed, and/or treated for their health. This would mean they were being actively raised.

#### Goat Deaths and Losses (Every 5 years)

##### Predator and Non-Predator Causes of Death:

Losses by cause are collected in all States every five years (2021, 2026, 2031, etc.), for the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS): Wildlife Services (WS) and Veterinarian Services (VS). Selected States also collect this data each year when funds are available. If goat deaths were reported earlier in Section 2, Predator and/or Non-Predator Causes of Death should have entries. If no deaths were reported but goat were reported for this operation during the previous year, enter a 3 in Completion Box (IC116) and continue. Record by cause the number of goats lost or died. The total in each column must equal Deaths reported earlier in Section 2. Write notes to



clarify and explain losses due to “Unknown predators” or “Unknown non-predator causes”. Minus ones are **not** allowed in these tables. If the respondent is unsure about portions of this page, fill in the known answers and write notes to explain as much information as possible.

### **Section Completion Box (116)**

A Section Completion Box (IC116) is located at the end of the Death and Losses Section. Code this box only when all data, for specific causes of death only, are missing due to the respondent being a refusal or inaccessible, or when valid zeros are reported for all items in the section. A positive entry in any field will be taken as an indication that the table has been completed and Completion Box (IC116) should be blank.

### **Goat Injuries, Predator Control Methods (Every 5 years)**

When the Section for Death Loss causes are asked every five years, an additional page is included containing questions on the number of injuries caused by predators and various other questions concerning predator control methods. This page should be completed regardless of whether the respondent reported any deaths. This page should be left blank **only** when there are no goat items reported in the first two pages of Section 2 (Completion Box IC1112 is positive).

#### **Injuries:**

Blanks indicate a zero or no injuries. Minus ones (-1) are **not** allowed.

#### **What Non-Lethal Methods Were Used:**

The first question asks if any non-lethal predator control methods were used. If this is answered NO, enter a three (3), and then follow the skip instruction past the specific methods. If answered YES, enter a one (1), then answer each specific control method question. Check the appropriate answers and enter a one (1) in the code box for all those checked YES. Multiple answers may be checked YES. If NO is checked, enter a three (3) in the code box. The questions on non-lethal methods should only be answered YES if the method was in use in the past year.

#### **Was Money Spent on Non-Lethal Control Measures:**

Follow skip instructions if no money was spent. It is possible for this to be NO even when methods were used. The money could have been spent in a previous year.

#### **How Much Money Was Spent:**

Either a dollar amount (whole dollars) or a (-1) to indicate that the respondent could not estimate the amount should be entered.

#### **Was Money Spent on Lethal Control Measures:**

Follow skip instructions if no money was spent.

## Chapter 14

### Goats and Kids

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#### How Much Money Was Spent:

Either a dollar amount (whole dollars) or a (-1) to indicate that the respondent could not estimate the amount should be entered.

#### Trapper Assistance:

Simple YES or NO question; include any trapper from any level of government.

#### Official Id or Ear Tag:

Include goats and kids that left the operation for other reasons than going to slaughter or being fed for slaughter. Examples include for breeding, show animals or pets.

#### The following are some FAQs concerning the predator control method portion of the questionnaire:

1. Would money spent on food, training, vet bills, etc. for dogs, llamas or donkeys be included as money spent for predator control?

Maybe. If these animals are used for predator control, include all costs generated by their use. This would generally be non-lethal.

2. Should regular goat fences be included as a non-lethal control method?

No. Wildlife Services are looking for some additional fence feature done specifically to prevent wildlife caused losses. If a portion of the fence is buried or an addition is put on top of an already in-place fence it would be considered Predator Exclusion Fencing.

3. Would the cost of gas used to check fences be included?

Maybe. Generally, if the farmer/rancher is checking fences whose primary function is to keep livestock in, the costs would be excluded. If the respondent is checking Predator Exclusion Fencing (designed to keep predators out) at least a portion if not all his expenses would be included under non-lethal expenses. It may be necessary to probe to get his estimation of his expenses for predator control.

4. If a rancher puts up a new fence or sheds with extremely high costs, should those costs be amortized in some way over the expected life of the item?

No. Costs will be counted in the year they are incurred.

5. Should the Wyoming Predator Control Fee be considered as a non-lethal or lethal cost?

Lethal costs. This is basically a brand inspection fee based on sales, collected at the county level. The monies are placed in a state fund then refunded to the counties. They are used for bounties or to hire private contractors to eliminate predators - all through lethal methods.

6. Should costs for herders or the herder's food and care be included?

Maybe. Are they considered part of the predator control program of this operation? If the herders were hired primarily for predator control, they would be included. If hired only for herding the livestock, costs would not be included.

7. Should the costs of trappers and ammunition be included?

Yes. These are expenses of predator control, almost always lethal.

## **Chapter 14**

### **Goats and Kids**

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**NOTES:**

## 15 Chicken and Eggs

### 15.1 General

In 2006, chicken and egg questions were removed from the December Crops APS Survey and data were collected in a new survey, independent of the Crops APS program.

As of the 2010 December survey period, the non-EO (short form) questionnaire was eliminated because the sample was re-stratified. One December chicken questionnaire is utilized for the EO group that includes all the existing monthly EO operations (table egg operations with 30,000 and more layers, any size hatchery type flock, or pullet only operations with over 500 birds) plus all contractors and independent growers who own flocks of table egg layers between 20,000 and 30,000 birds.

Table Eggs are infertile eggs for human consumption. The end use may be cartons (like what is purchased in a supermarket) or breakers (for liquid eggs or egg products.) NASS does not ask end use of table (also called market) eggs. NASS asks for inventory, moltings, production and a couple other items having to do with the disposition of the layers at end of life.

Hatchery Supply Eggs are fertile eggs. These come in two varieties: broiler-type and egg-type. Depending on the survey program, additional criteria maybe applied in order to determine if they are counted. For the C&E program, the fact they are produced is enough. We count any layer that is producing fertile eggs no matter what is going to happen to it. The hatchery supply program, the egg needs to be set into setter/hatcher with the intention of hatching.

All chickens owned by the target name operator or operation, regardless of location, should be reported on the December Chickens and Eggs questionnaire. Reporters are requested to break data out by state. For example, if an operation is in Arkansas but has contractees housing the birds in Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri, then a separate survey form should be completed with inventory, production, disposition, and value responses specific to each state. If complete breakdown by state is refused, obtain an inventory percentage by state, and make a note.

**NOTE:** The EO December Chicken & Egg questionnaire replaces the typical monthly chickens and eggs questionnaire used January-November. The December annual questionnaire asks the same inventory, production, and disposition questions plus additional questions for values and rooster inventory. Chicken inventory and value estimates are published in the annual Chickens and Eggs Summary in February.

In November 2011, two questions were added to the monthly and annual questionnaires. Question 4 asks for replacements (new layers) added to the laying flock over the previous month.

## **Chapter 15**

### **Chicken and Eggs**

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This question is especially important for those operations which do not report or have pullets. Ask the respondent where they get their replacements (firm name and state) and put the info in a note if they are willing to disclose. Do not jeopardize cooperation on the rest of the form for this question. Question 7b asks for pullets older than 3 days added to the pullet flock. Firms that consistently report pullets (question 6) but never report pullets added 3 days or less (question 7a) should be able to answer this question. It is possible to have values in both 7a and 7b. If 7b is positive, try to get a response for 7b, the supplier. Again, do not jeopardize cooperation on the rest of the form for questions 7a and 7b.

## 16 Livestock Inventory Values

### 16.1 General

Inventory values prepared by NASS are used to measure the increase or decrease in livestock inventory values from year to year. Changes in inventory values are used in the calculation of net farm income. This provides a measure of agriculture's contribution to total U.S. output. This also provides farm organizations and others a measure of change in the financial condition of the agricultural economy. Livestock and poultry inventory values are published along with their respective inventory numbers.

Inventory values are needed for all reported inventory classes. However, do not estimate for missing values. Inventory values may be left blank if the operator does not know livestock values or is a refusal or inaccessible. Values should be based on commercial types of livestock and poultry. However, registered and purebred livestock should be included. In some cases, it may be necessary to derive a value based on the price per pound and the average weight of the livestock. Since weight and price can vary considerably, this method should be used only as a last resort.

### 16.2 Reporting Values

Reported inventory values must correspond to reported inventory numbers by class. Values for all the reported inventories are **NOT** required for a value to be usable. Probe to get as many values as possible.

Report values as of the survey reference date. Values are needed in whole dollars for cattle, hogs, sheep, and goats, and in dollars and cents for poultry.

In some cases, the respondent may not be able to report a value per head directly. You may be able to calculate an average value per head by obtaining an average value per pound, and an average weight for the livestock class.

**Example:** When asked for the average value per head, the respondent may reply, "I don't know. Feeder pigs are worth 50 cents a pound, and my feeder pigs average about 140 pounds."

You can derive an average value per head by multiplying the average price per pound by the average weight per head:

$$\text{\$0.50 per pound} \times 140 \text{ pounds} = \text{\$70.00 per head}$$

## Chapter 16

### Livestock Inventory Values

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Caution should be used with this calculation method since weight and price vary considerably. Remind respondents to think about all weights and values of animals within a species. Verify the calculated value with the respondent.

Another option, which may make it easier for the respondent to report values, is to probe for the average value of each inventory class making up the species. For instance, if the respondent has difficulty reporting the value of sows and gilts, probe to find the value of the sows and young gilts. Record the reported price for each class in the margin of the questionnaire. The Regional Field Office can then weight the values for the individual classes by the inventory numbers to determine the value of all breeding hogs.

Show all calculations that are used if the average inventory values are derived.

#### 16.3 Hog Inventory Values

Hog inventory values are asked only in December. Edit out values reported if that class was not reported in inventory owned. Minus ones (-1s) are valid. The inventory value may be left blank if the respondent is a refusal or inaccessible.

##### Sows and Gilts

Be sure to include the value of young gilts **not yet of breeding age** which will be used for breeding purposes in the future.

Accept values as reported but make notes to explain extremely high or low entries.

States will ask for replacement values. Values will vary considerably depending on age of the animals and the type of herd (commercial vs. purebred).

##### Boars

Be sure to include the value of young boars **not yet of breeding age** which will be used for breeding purposes in the future.

Accept values as reported but make notes to explain extremely high or low entries.

States will ask for replacement values. Values will vary considerably depending on age of the animals and the type of herd (commercial vs. purebred). The value of boars and young males for breeding should be considerably higher than the value for sows and gilts for breeding.

##### Market Hogs

The value of market hogs is recorded by each weight group. Report the average value in the corresponding weight group.



## **16.4 Cattle Inventory Values**

Cattle inventory values are asked only in January in all States. Questions include values for beef cows, bulls, beef replacement heifers, milk cows, milk replacement heifers, other heifers, steers, and calves. Edit out values reported for a class not in the inventory. Minus ones (-1s) are valid. Inventory values may be left blank if the respondent is a refusal or inaccessible.

### **Beef Cows**

The value of beef cows should be the average value of all beef cows, including heifers that have calved. Values of beef cows vary widely but should fall somewhere between replacement and salvage value. Replacement value represents the current cost to replace a cow in the breeding herd. Replacement value for registered beef cows may be considerably higher than the replacement value for beef cows in a commercial beef herd. The salvage value of a cow should represent the current market prices if sold at auction or to a packer as a "canner" or "cutter."

### **Bulls**

The value of bulls should include values of young bulls over 500 pounds not yet in service. Values may vary depending on the quality of breeding bulls, particularly if the bulls are registered. Replacement values for registered herd bulls may be considerably higher than for commercial herd bulls.

### **Beef Replacement Heifers**

Do not include heifers that have calved. Replacement values for registered beef herds may be considerably higher than commercial beef herds. Normally, beef heifer replacement values are lower than values for milk replacement heifers.

### **Milk Cows**

The value of milk cows should be the average value of all milk cows, including heifers that have calved. Values of milk cows vary widely but should fall somewhere between replacement and salvage value. Replacement value represents the current cost to replace a cow in the breeding herd. Replacement value for registered milk cows may be considerably higher than the replacement value for milk cows in a commercial milk herd. The salvage value of a cow should represent the current market prices if sold at auction or to a packer as a "canner" or "cutter."

### **Milk Replacement Heifers**

Do not include heifers that have calved. Replacement values for registered milk herds may be considerably higher than commercial milk herds. Normally, milk heifer replacement values are higher than values for beef replacement heifers.

## **Chapter 16**

### **Livestock Inventory Values**

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#### **16.5 Sheep Inventory Values**

Sheep inventory value questions include values for market and replacement lambs, ewes, rams, and market sheep. Edit out values reported for a class not in the inventory. Minus ones (-1s) are valid. Inventory values may be left blank if the respondent is a refusal or inaccessible.

##### **Lambs Under 1 Year Old**

Include ewe lambs, wethers, and ram lambs. Values may vary considerably for breeding replacement lambs and market lambs.

##### **Ewes 1 Year and Older**

Include ewes for breeding and those being fed for slaughter market. Values may vary considerably.

##### **Rams 1 Year and Older**

Prices may vary widely due to quality. Include wethers one year and older.

#### **16.6 Goat Inventory Values**

##### **Goats and Kids**

Inventory values are to be completed only for those classes reported in the inventory. Edit out values reported for a type or class not in the inventory. Minus ones (-1s) are valid. Inventory values may be left blank if the respondent is a refusal or inaccessible.

Values should be reasonable when compared to current market conditions. Values are entered to the nearest whole dollar. Values may vary widely by type (angora, milk, and meat). Generally, angora goats will range from \$15 per head for kids to \$200 per head for bucks. Currently only angora values for 4 States (AZ, CA, NM, & TX) are published. Other goat types will usually range from \$10 to \$150 per head. Higher than normal values should be verified as breeding stock, which can be significantly higher than values for kids or market goats.

##### **Does, Bucks, Muttons, and Kids**

Values should be reasonable compared to current market conditions. Generally, goats will range from \$15 per head for kids to \$200 per head for does and bucks. Angora and milk does and bucks for breeding will generally have higher values than market goats and kids.

#### **16.7 Chicken Inventory Values**

Inventory values for chickens are asked in December only. Questions include values for layers, laying marketable eggs, pullets which have not laid marketable eggs, and roosters and male chickens in breeding flocks only. Data is collected on a combined survey instrument with the normal monthly data. Respondents should only be contacted once during the December survey

period using the annual instrument (no monthly survey instrument is provided by HQ.) Blaise and the subsequent summary systems breaks out the data required for two different surveys.

### **Layers**

Values may vary depending on the ages of the layers. For example, a young layer should normally have a higher value than an older layer about ready to be removed from the flock. Some producers tend to report values for cull birds (pennies per pound).

Table egg layers will normally have a range of one to five dollars, although at the extremes can be as low as 30 cents to as high as \$10 for specialty operations. Broiler-type hatchery supply flock layers are in a more valuable range of one to fifteen dollars. Significantly higher values have been reported (up to \$25).

### **Pullets**

Do not include values for pullets moved to the laying flock once they are laying marketable eggs. These would be included in the previous value for layers. Values can be anywhere from one to fifteen dollars, with those for broiler-type hatchery supply replacements being on the higher end. Exclude the value of pullets raised as commercial broilers.

### **Roosters**

Values center in the four- to eleven-dollar range, with extremes as low as \$1 and as high as \$20. Commercial broilers are excluded.

**NOTES:**

## 17 Enumerator Procedures for Follow-on Surveys

### 17.1 General

NASS uses the June Area and Crops APS surveys as the basis for its Agricultural Survey program. Follow-on surveys use these base surveys for sampling purposes and as a reference period.

Examples of follow-on surveys include the following:

- January and July Cattle Survey
- January Sheep and Goats Survey
- August Rice Stocks Survey
- Quarterly Crops APS Survey
- Agricultural Yield Surveys
- Cattle on Feed Surveys
- Objective Yield Surveys

This chapter provides an overview of follow-on surveys. While most surveys use the same procedures for inventory items, the procedures for screening and identification are slightly different.

Most follow-on survey procedures are the same as the June Base Survey. They mainly differ in how changes occurring after June 1 are handled.

**Note:** The rules listed in this section do not apply to the Quarterly Hogs Survey. Refer to Chapter 11 for Quarterly Hog Survey Enumerator Procedures.

## **17.2 Using Previously Reported Data (Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews Only)**

Computer Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI) instruments are designed to skip questions for some of the information collected during a previous interview. By skipping these questions, you will reduce interview time and respondent burden. Items that can be skipped include operation screening and partnership operation questions.

Three conditions must be met before the CATI instrument will skip questions:

1. The target name or spouse provided the information during a previous interview in the current survey cycle,
2. The operating arrangement is the same as on June 1, and
3. No changes were made to the name(s) pre-printed on the label.

**Important:** You should not skip any of these questions on paper questionnaires.

## **17.3 Screening Questions**

Several screening questions are located on the face page of each follow-on survey questionnaire. Screening questions serve three purposes.

1. Screening items are included to determine the status of the selected operation. The screening questions determine if crops will be grown, grains stored, or livestock present on the operation during the current year. If any screening question is checked YES, the operation is considered actively involved in agricultural production and a questionnaire must be completed.
2. These items screen for valid farms. Institutions such as Indian reservations, religious groups, university farms, and prison farms are considered valid farms for Agricultural Surveys.
3. Screening questions also provide information about the commodities located on the farm to help us collect quality data.

Some enumerators are reluctant to ask screening questions. This may be because they feel the questions waste the respondents' time or do not relate directly to the survey content. You must ask these questions exactly as worded. This is our only guarantee that the survey is administered uniformly to the entire sample and the survey expansions are statistically reliable.

The questions "warm up" the respondents for survey items by getting them thinking about their entire farming operation. Also, some respondents with only a few head of livestock or crop acres may not consider themselves farmers even though they qualify by our definition.

Others may consider themselves retired, even though they still make day-to-day decisions for their farm.

Asking the screening questions will provide the complete coverage necessary to make reliable estimates for the entire farm population.

#### 17.4 Operation Description

This question determines the type of operating arrangement and helps detect possible duplication on the List Frame. Write notes and supply additional information when unusual situations occur. Check only one category as follows:

**Individual:** One individual makes all day-to-day decisions. This person may be the landowner or a person renting or leasing land from someone else.

**Partners:** Two or more persons share in the day-to-day decisions. Each person must make some of the day-to-day decisions to qualify as a partnership.

Sometimes a situation arises where one person in a partnership oversees the livestock and another partner makes all the decisions about the crops. This is still considered a partnership since the livestock and crops are part of the total land operated by the two partners.

**Exclude** as partnerships:

1. Arrangements involving livestock only and no joint operation of land.
2. Landlord-tenant, cash rent, or share crop arrangements.
3. Silent partnerships where only one person makes the decisions.

**Hired Manager:** Day-to-day decisions are made by one or more persons hired by the employer to make the decisions. The employer may be an individual landowner, a corporation, institution, or cooperative. Careful probing is required to determine if a ranch foreman or farm manager actually has managerial authority to make all day-to-day decisions in place of the owner.

#### Incorporated Operations

Often a farmer or rancher will incorporate the farming or ranching operation for estate and tax purposes. The corporation's officers and shareholders may include the spouse, sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, etc., making it a family-owned corporation. These operations will always have an operation name, such as SMITH FARMS INCORPORATED. **The key to determining what category to check for the operation description is: Who makes the day-to-day decisions?**

If one of the corporate members makes all the decisions, then "Individual Operator" should be checked. Check "Partners" if corporate members share in decision making. When the corporation pays a person outside the corporation (non-shareholder) to make the day-to-day decisions, then "Hired Manager" should be checked. If this person is a shareholder, then one individual or partners should be checked.

### **17.5 Change in Operator**

This section will only be completed if all screening questions on the front of the questionnaire are answered NO.

- Item 1:** Determine why the operation named on the label is not actively farming or ranching. This question applies to the entire operation. If only a portion of the operation was rented, sold, or turned over to someone else, you will need to determine the status of the portion the named operator still controls.
- Check YES if the entire farming operation represented by the name on the label has been sold, rented out, or turned over to someone else.
  - Check NO, if the entire farming operation has not been sold, rented out, or turned over to someone else. You should determine if the land will be used for agricultural purposes during the next year. Probe the respondent to determine the future status of the land and record your findings clearly in the indicated space in Item 1A.
- Item 2:** Determine if the operator named on the label was operating a farm or ranch on June 1. The response to this question is used to determine if the new operation can substitute for the old operation.
- Item 3:** Record the name and address of the new operator. Remember to include the operation name, if one exists. If the new operating arrangement is a partnership, record all partners' names and addresses.
- Item 4:** Determine if the new operation was in business before June 1.
- If the new operation was in business before the last June base survey date, check YES and skip to the conclusion section. The new operation will not substitute for the old one.
  - If NO, continue with Item 5.
- Item 5:** Determine if the new operation is operated by a hired manager.
- If the new operation is operated by a hired manager, check YES and skip to



the conclusion section. You will need to complete another questionnaire for the new operation.

- If the new operation is not operated by a hired manager, check NO and ask Item 6.

**Item 6:** Determine if the new operator or partners operated land individually in this State on or before June 1.

- If any persons involved in the new operation operated a farm or ranch on or before the base survey reference date, check YES and skip to the Conclusion Section. No substitution will occur.
- If none of the individuals involved in the new operation were operating individually on June 1, check NO. You must complete an additional questionnaire for the new operator(s) identified in Item 3. This additional questionnaire will substitute for the out-of-business operation since it did not exist on the base survey date.

## **17.6 Conclusion**

Agency wide, paper copies will no longer be sent to respondents. A link to publications is now given and the email release question was added to all survey instruments (paper, CAWI, CAPI and CATI) beginning August 1, 2018. This enhancement allows NASS to move away from mailing hard copies of results while meeting the needs of our customers through electronic media.

## **17.7 Other Operating Arrangements**

Complete a questionnaire for every operation the target name makes the day-to-day decisions for. Exclude landlord-tenant, cash rent, and share crop arrangements. Record the name of the other operations and determine if the other operations were in business before the June 1 base survey date. Complete an additional questionnaire regardless of when the new operation started.

**Important:** Verify that operators no longer operating individually are NOT involved in other operating arrangements. A farmer or rancher may stop operating as an individual but remain a partner in another farm or ranch. In this case, an additional questionnaire would be needed for the active operation.

### **17.8 Substitution**

If the operation shown on the label is no longer involved in agriculture, you may need to "substitute" a new operation. Earlier, you were introduced to the basic principles of follow-on surveys. Samples for follow-on surveys are drawn from a List Frame, and supplemental names from an Area Frame. Both frames are "frozen" as of June 1, when the base survey is conducted. If an operator begins farming after June 1, he would not be a member of either frame, and would not be represented by the follow-on sample. Therefore, substitution is allowed on follow-on surveys for operations that go out-of-business before the follow-on survey.

**NOTE: This substitution rule does not apply to the Quarterly Hog Survey.**

The only reason to consider substitution is if there has been a change since June 1. You will not consider substituting a questionnaire for a new operating arrangement if the change occurs on or before June 1.

During follow-on surveys, you must determine if a new operator had a chance to be in the June Area Survey. If the new operator(s) operated individually on June 1, then the operator(s) could have been in an Area Frame segment, even if he was not on the List Frame.

If the new operator(s) did not have a chance to be in the June Area Survey, data for the new operator(s) will substitute for the old operator. The following situations are the only ones where substitution is allowed:

1. If the new operation is an individual: Substitute if the individual was not operating individually on June 1.
2. If the new operation is a partnership: Substitute if the partnership was not operating on June 1 and if individuals in the partnership were not operating individually on June 1.

**Important:** If the original questionnaire was an area tract operated individually, then you must pick up any partnership reported, even if the partners were operating individually on June 1.

3. If the new operation is managed land: Substitute if the managed operation was not operating on June 1.

**Important:** Operators who were operating individually on June 1 should also report for all other operations they are involved with.

The following examples apply to follow-on surveys. When a new questionnaire is required, use the same ID as the original.

**Example 1:** Target Name reports he is Out-of-Business. The new operator was not operating land in this State on June 1.

Target Name: Bill Smith  
Current Name: Harry Smith  
Action: Code the original questionnaire for Bill Smith Out-Of-Business.  
Complete a new questionnaire for Harry Smith.

**Example 2:** Target Name reports he is Out-of-Business. The new operator was operating land in this State on June 1.

Target Name: Joe Davis  
Current Name: Harry Smith  
Action: Obtain address and phone number for Harry Smith. Code the original questionnaire for Joe Davis Out-Of-Business. Do not complete a questionnaire for Harry Smith, because he was operating land on June 1, and had a chance to be in the Area Frame survey.

**Example 3:** The Operator died (before or after June 1). The new operator was operating land in this State on June 1.

Target Name: William Burns  
Current Name: Tim Smith  
Action: Obtain the address and phone number for Tim Smith. Code the original questionnaire for William Burns Out-Of-Business. Do not complete a questionnaire for Tim Smith, because he was operating on June 1 and could have been in the Area Frame survey.

**Example 4:** The Operator died (before or after June 1). The spouse takes over the operation but was not operating land in this State on June 1.

Target Name: William Burns  
Current Name: Sally Burns  
Action: Code the original questionnaire for William Burns Out-of Business.  
Complete a new questionnaire for Sally Burns, because she could not have been in the Area Frame survey on June 1.

**Example 5:** An individual operation adds a partner (before or after June 1).

## Chapter 17

### Enumerator Procedures for Follow-on Surveys

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Target Name: Bob Hale

Current Name: Bob & Bill Hale

Action: Complete the original questionnaire for Bob Hale for the partnership. No additional questionnaires are needed because the target name is still involved in this operation. Be sure to record Bill's name and address in the partner section.

**Example 6:** A partnership dissolved after June 1. Bill Hale does not operate land in any arrangement in this State. Bob now operates the land as an individual.

Label Name: Bob & Bill Hale

Target Name: Bob Hale

Current Name: Bob Hale

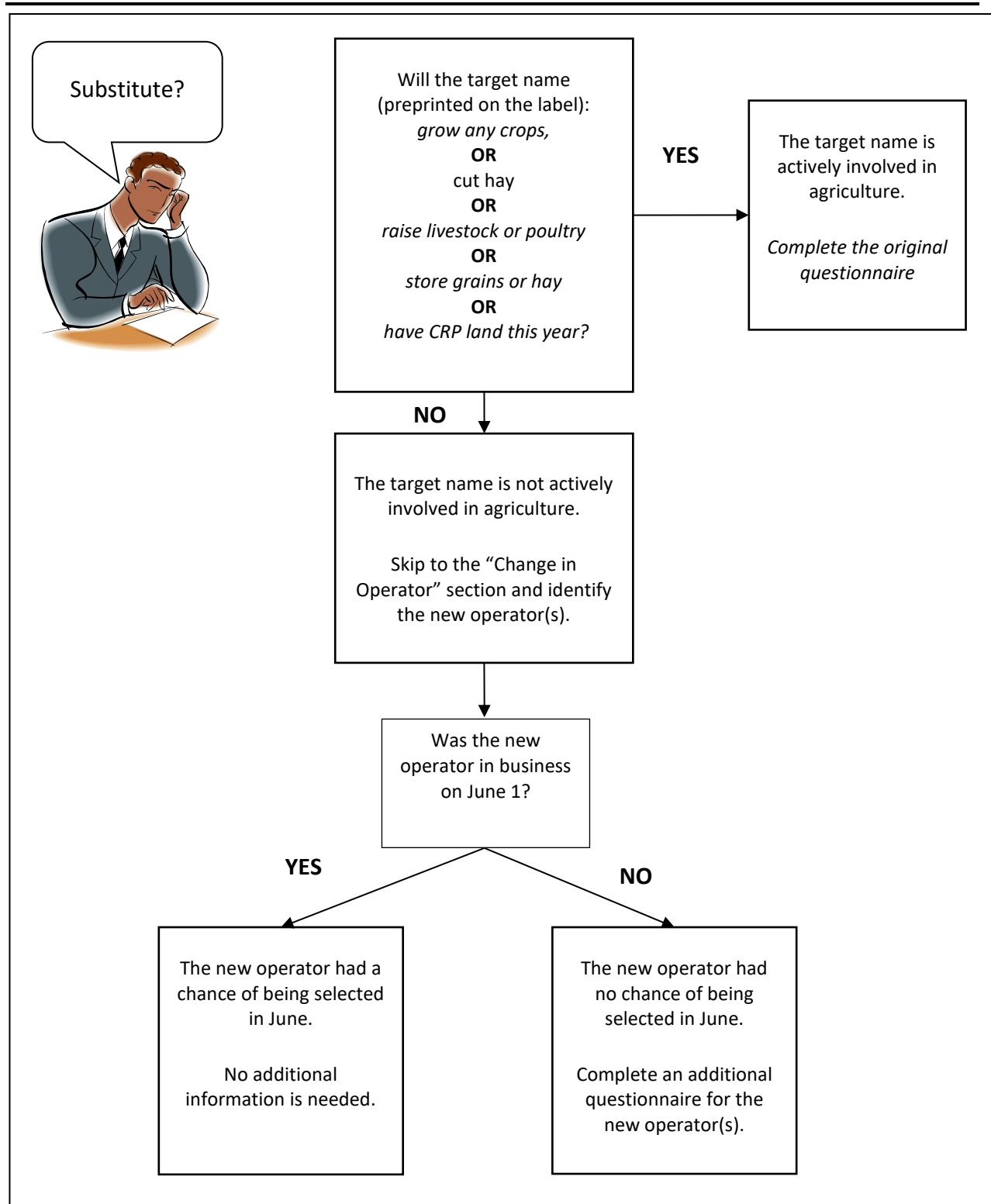
Action: Complete the original questionnaire, correcting the label to delete Bill's name, because the target name (Bob Hale) is still operating a farm or ranch.

**Example 7:** Hired Manager Changed for an Operation Name Target (OD = 99)

Target Name: Orchard Farms; Tom Hicks, Manager

Current Name: Orchard Farms; Joe Hill, Manager

Action: Correct the manager's name and complete the original questionnaire. The target name has not changed.



**Figure 17.1:** Decision Diagram for Substitution Situations