



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Objective Yield

Initial Interview / Form A



2024 Form-A Topics

2024 OY Sampling

Pre-survey materials received by operators

Form-A interview timeline and mode

Field Selection

Rounding expectations



The Objective Yield Sample

- 2024: Sampled tract from *June Area*
 - Would have had the target crop recorded in Section D
 - May come from complete reports
 - May come from observed/estimated reports
 - Review comments and experiences from June Area



Pre-Survey Letter and Phone Interview

- Operators will receive a **pre-survey letter** late-July:
 - Letter mailed July 18, 2024
 - The letter provides a brief description of the Objective Yield Survey.
 - An aerial photo and county section map were also sent to the operators.



Form-A Interview

- Form-A data collection may begin after training has been completed
- The first contact should generally be by phone.
- If unable to complete by phone or if the operator has a history of being uncooperative over the phone, one ***face-to-face appointment can be made.***
- Subsequent attempts to reach inaccessible sampled operators are approved at a frequency of ***once per month***



New for 2024: Early Sample Setup

- Enumerators with greater than ten samples are approved to set up samples as soon as the Form-A is complete
- Inexperienced enumerators with a large number of samples, but not meeting the ten-sample threshold, may set up samples early (with Supervisor approval)
- Form-A field interviews should be followed by immediate sample setup



Form A – Selecting the Correct Field

- Will need to work with operator to determine which field to use:
 - If only one field and one sample, it's easy
 - If only one field but two samples, use a different starting corner.
 - If two fields and three samples, will need to use field 1 again
 - If two fields could potentially qualify as the sample field, (i.e., two “northernmost” fields), rotate clockwise (use the northeastern most).
 - Refer to Interviewer’s Manual for More Information



Form A – Selecting the Correct Field

- The 'C' (closest) and 'F' (farthest) field selection criteria is not being used in 2024
- If there is more than one sample in the same tract with the same cardinal direction, move clockwise. If no other field exists, the same field can be used, but a different starting corner must be used.

Now, I need to identify one (or more) of your corn field(s) in the tract and get their acreage.

Notes:

- For the Sample Field(s) in the tract, complete Table A for the corn field(s) based off the cardinal directions indicated on the label (e.g., northern most field)
- Select corn field regardless if the field is intended to be harvested for grain/seed or other use.

Table A

SAMPLE NUMBER and DIRECTION	TOTAL ACRES IN FIELD	ACRES in USE or CROPS OTHER THAN CORN to be HARVESTED for GRAIN or SEED <i>(For example: silage, ditches, fence rows, waterways, roads, other crops, etc.)</i>		LOCATION DESCRIPTION/ INTERSECTION OF FIELD <i>(E.g., landmarks, features, street intersections)</i>
		USE	ACRES	
1	2	3	4	5
8 N	80.7	Road & Ditch	5.7	2 Miles North of house on the corner of Main and Rt. 30

All questions below apply to this SAMPLE.

3. For the Sample Field, subtract Column 4 from Column 2 for the total acres of corn to be harvested for grain or seed. Report these acres here:.....

ACRES ¹⁰³ **75.0**



Form A – Rounding Expectations

Acreage recorded on the Form-A must be recorded to the nearest tenth of an acre when a decimal is pre-printed.

For example:

Reported	Enter	
25	25.0	
25.12	25.1	
25.68	25.7	
25.25	25.3	When rounding a 5, always round up
25.75	25.8	When rounding a 5, always round up
None	(leave blank)	Leave completely blank



Form A – Planter Row Width

4. What was the row width (planter setting) for the soybeans in the sample field?.....

INCHES

¹¹⁰ 7.5

4. What was the planter row width setting? Inches

¹⁰⁷ 30

1. NOTE: Soybeans = inches and tenths (ex: 7.5)
2. NOTE: Corn is WHOLE inches (ex: 30, not 30.0)



Form A – Accounting for All Samples

- ALL Form A's must be 'accounted for'
 - Complete as many as possible by 9/1
- **Form-A's are in CAPI!**
 - **Submit Completes, Refusals, Lost Samples**
- Inaccessible on 9/1?
 - DO NOT submit the Form A, DO Submit the Form B
- Please see the Interviewer's Manual for more information.
- Keep your Supervisor informed.