




Friday Feedback for March 29, 2019

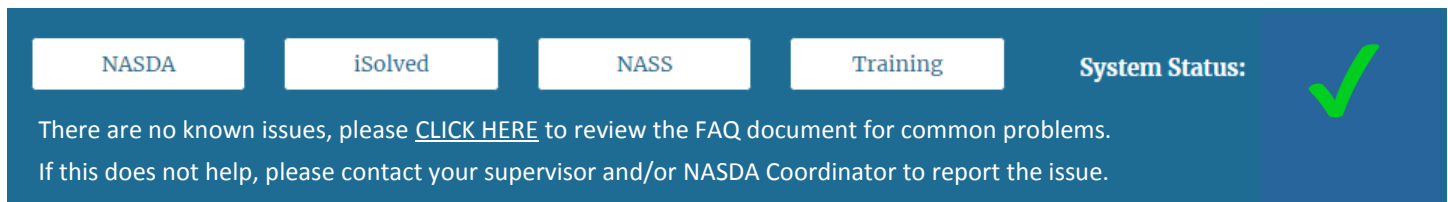
Where are all of the Cash Rents? – Miyares

We have received some questions from the field wondering why the number of Cash Rent samples showing up in the CAPI listings seem small. In order to minimize clutter in the assignment listings, we made the decision to only make Cash Rent listings available for those that are matched with Milk Production at this time. All of the other Cash Rents being handled locally will become available on April 8.

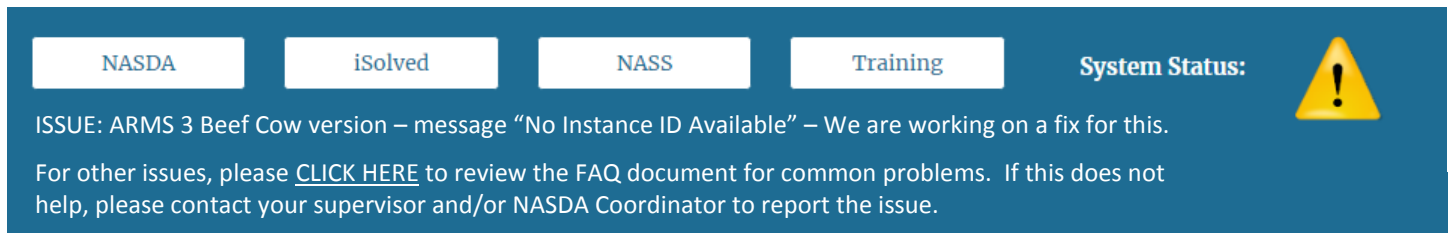
New CAPI Update – Lawson/Laird

Thus far the transition to the new CAPI system has gone fairly smoothly. HQ has responded very quickly to address any issues and post information on the CAPI Dashboard. With data collection on the April 1 surveys starting this week, we may find a few more issues that we previously didn't see during testing. If you notice any problems, please check the dark blue area of the CAPI Dashboard that contains a system status message which displays any current issues in addition to a link to the Frequently Asked Questions page which may also provide helpful information. If you see anything new that isn't listed that doesn't seem right, don't hesitate to contact your supervisor or your NASDA Coordinator.

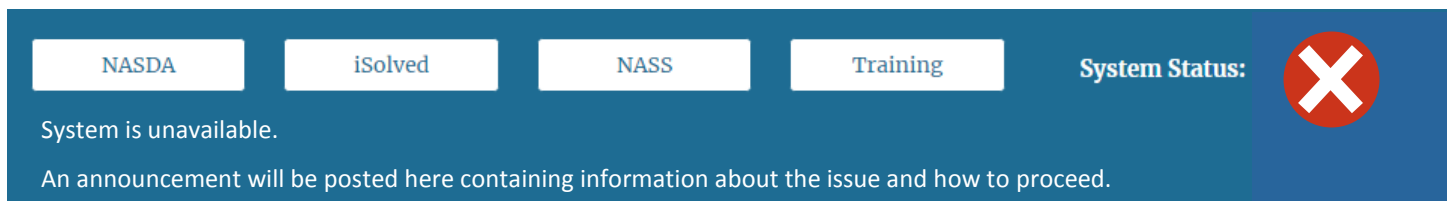
The CAPI Dashboard will display one of these 3 status symbols:   



The screenshot shows a dark blue header with four white buttons labeled "NASDA", "iSolved", "NASS", and "Training". To the right, it says "System Status:" followed by a large green checkmark icon. Below the buttons, the text reads: "There are no known issues, please [CLICK HERE](#) to review the FAQ document for common problems. If this does not help, please contact your supervisor and/or NASDA Coordinator to report the issue."



The screenshot shows the same four buttons as above. To the right, it says "System Status:" followed by a large yellow warning triangle icon with a black exclamation mark. Below the buttons, the text reads: "ISSUE: ARMS 3 Beef Cow version – message “No Instance ID Available” – We are working on a fix for this. For other issues, please [CLICK HERE](#) to review the FAQ document for common problems. If this does not help, please contact your supervisor and/or NASDA Coordinator to report the issue."



The screenshot shows the same four buttons as above. To the right, it says "System Status:" followed by a large red circle with a white 'X' icon. Below the buttons, the text reads: "System is unavailable. An announcement will be posted here containing information about the issue and how to proceed."

Mailing Address/Physical Address – Kimball

Items we ship from the office to field enumerators almost always go via UPS which must be shipped to a physical address. If your US mail is delivered to a different address or to a Post Office Box, please let us know.

National Walk to Work Day

U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy G. Thompson declared the first National Walk to Work Day as April 2, 2004. With obesity and sedentary lifestyles growing at an alarming rate, National Walk to Work Day, the first Friday in April, was initiated to draw attention to the need to get out and exercise.

On this day, Americans are encouraged to walk to work. If you can't walk to work, take a walk during lunch time, or another time of the day. The goal is to walk 30 minutes a day. Health officials are hoping this will encourage people to add a 30 minute walk to their daily lives. Health officials, medical agencies, and medical organizations around the country state that a 30 minute walk will significantly improve your health.

Friday Feedback for March 22, 2019

New CAPI System Update – Lawson/Laird

As a final reminder, the MOST system is being retired this weekend and all enumerators will be using the new CAPI system starting on Monday morning. Enumerators working over the weekend who may need to review assignment listings or review driving directions should do so before MOST shuts down, which should take place before noon on Saturday, March 23. The new CAPI TRAINING app will also be unavailable over the weekend during the transition.

Before attempting to log into the Live Data Production App for the new CAPI system on Monday morning, please check the alert area of the GLR Purdue website for a notice as to how to proceed. An updated message will be posted there by 9:00 a.m. on Monday. There will be the new Live Data Production App to download and install as well as additional documentation to review that won't be available until Monday morning.

As another reminder, all iPads need to be running iOS 12.1.4 before Monday morning, as the new CAPI system does not function correctly in the older versions of iOS. The iPad iOS can be verified by going to Settings/General/Software Update. Enumerators should see the message, "iOS 12.1.4 - Your software is up to date". If it isn't running iOS 12.1.4, then the update should be downloaded and installed. If you are using an older iPad that will not allow for updating the iOS past iOS 10, please contact your supervisor so we can discuss how to swap that iPad for a newer one.

When verifying the iOS, be sure the "Automatic Updates" feature is OFF. This will ensure that new updates from Apple are not automatically installed before HQ has had the opportunity to test it.

Michigan Fruit Inventory Update – Saffell

For those working on the Michigan Fruit Inventory survey, please remember to ask for the training system on apples for both previously reported data and new information.

Do you have a new address?

If you have a new address it is vital that you notify the office immediately. Case in point, we shipped something to a field enumerator yesterday and got an address change today from their supervisor. Unlike the Post Office, UPS does not forward mail.

2018 NASDA Field Enumerator of the Year

The 2019 NASS Awards for Excellence Ceremony will be held on April 17th. Congratulations to Ohio field enumerator, Mark Fannin, one of only four nationwide to win this award.

National Spinach Day

National Spinach Day, always March 26, celebrates, healthy and nutritious spinach greens. Popeye the Sailor touted the value of spinach. Nutritionists agree, that Popeye is 100% correct! Gardeners know that spinach is easy to grow. And, it's hardy. You can plant it as soon as the ground can be worked in the spring.



Friday Feedback for March 15, 2019

For those working on MI Fruit Inventory – Saffell

If a grower is primarily a grape grower with a few acres of a tree fruit, pick up only labor used for tree fruit. If the operator cannot split out that information, please put a note to that effect on the questionnaire. If no labor is used for the tree fruit, exclude the labor used for grapes.

Last Day to UPS Floriculture is March 18 (MI and OH) – Collom/Laird

This is just a reminder to finish up all Commercial Floriculture Survey data collection for Michigan and Ohio. The last day to UPS all Floriculture forms is Monday, March 18. Any Irrigation and Water Management Survey (IWMS) forms matched with the Commercial Floriculture Survey should also be shipped at the same time. Thank you for all of your hard work collecting data!

Other Due Date Reminders – Miyares

Don't forget that the last day to submit records for the March Hog Report and March Agricultural Survey in MOST is Saturday night, March 16 at 11:59 p.m.

New CAPI System Updates – Lawson/Laird

Training for the new CAPI system for non-supervisory enumerators is now available. Please contact your supervisor if you have any questions about how the training will work or if you haven't received any information about how to get started in the new system. As a reminder, all CAPI systems are expected to be unavailable during the weekend of March 23-24, including survey listings, CAPI training, and mapping features. The new system will go into full production on Monday, March 25. Training opportunities will continue to be available after March 25.

A few lessons learned in the last week with supervisors and office staff testing the new system:

- All iPads need to be running at least iOS version 12. To check the current version, go to: Settings-General-About. Touch [HERE](#) for additional information on how to update the iOS.
- The new blue CAPI Dashboard Icon typically shows up on the iPad's 2nd home screen. If you don't see this icon, turn off your iPad, wait two minutes, and turn it back on, then swipe the home screen from right to left.



The "CAPI Dashboard", a website containing training videos and other documentation for the new CAPI System, can also be accessed from your home computer at the following link:

<https://sites.google.com/view/capidashboard>

- Quick links to the CAPI Dashboard and CAPI Training system are also provided on the main GLR Purdue Website to the far right of the Friday Feedback. Touch on "iPad Information" located under "Current Office Information".
- Follow the steps in the "Day 1 CAPI Training Experience" document (provided by your supervisor) including watching the training videos in order. Use the "Applications Cheat Sheet" (also provided by your supervisor) while watching the videos to help with the explanations.

At the top of page 8 of this Day 1 Training document it instructs you to clear the Safari history before you log-in. This ONLY needs to be done the VERY FIRST time you login. Please note that clearing the Safari history will require you to re-enter a verification code for iSolved.

- There is an additional video that demonstrates how to save the various training documents including the complete 37 page manual into iBooks. This video can be found at the "[Click Here](#)" at the top of the training documents page of the Dashboard or by simply touching [HERE](#).

ARMS III Update – Miyares/Erickson

We've had a great start so far with the ARMS III data collection! The computer edit was just turned on and we're starting to get a closer look at reported data. Please stay tuned for more information and updates as we see how things are getting recorded on the questionnaires.

If in your MOST listing, you see an indication that the respondent mailed in their ARMS III questionnaire, please hold on to the blank forms until all data collection ends. Just because someone mailed in their form doesn't mean they actually completed the survey, and there is a chance that the operator needs to be re-contacted by an enumerator to clarify some reported information. In those cases, the blanks may be handy to hold on to. If at the end of the survey period, we have no further need for those forms, then the first page (with the contact information on the front) can be shredded/destroyed and the remainder of the questionnaire can be recycled. **Blank questionnaires should not be returned to the Regional Field Office or shipped to Jeffersonville.**

We've had a couple of questions come in about Market Facilitation Payments. A fact sheet put out by Farm Service Agency (FSA) can be found at this [LINK](#). A copy of this document will also be posted to the ARMS III Pages on the Purdue site.

Thanks to everyone for their continued hard work on this very important project.

Saint Patrick's Day

Saint Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland. He was a Christian missionary credited with converting Ireland to Christianity in the AD 400s. St Patrick was not actually Irish. While his exact birthplace is not known, it is believed he was born around 375 AD in Scotland. Saint Patrick's Day, or the Feast of Saint Patrick, is a cultural and religious celebration held on March 17, the traditional death date of Saint Patrick, the foremost patron saint of Ireland.



Friday Feedback for March 8, 2019

Aquaculture (CoAq) and Irrigation (IWMS) Surveys – Samson

Enumeration is progressing well on both the Census of Aquaculture survey and the Irrigation and Water Management survey. Updated enumeration letters, with revised data collection dates, have been posted to the Purdue Site. Please take some time to familiarize yourself with the new timelines:

<https://ag.purdue.edu/usda/GL/Documents/iwms/memo.pdf>

<https://ag.purdue.edu/usda/GL/Documents/aqua/memo.pdf>

As a reminder, both the Census of Aquaculture and the Irrigation and Water Management surveys are to be collected on paper and returned to the regional office in East Lansing. The information in MOST is for assignment management *only*. Also, **all refusals and inaccessibles need to be completed on paper and sent back to the office in East Lansing, as well. Do not send them to Jeffersonville.** If you have previously submitted a refusal or inaccessible in MOST, please send the paper questionnaire to the East Lansing office, with a note. Thank you for all your continued hard work on these important Census follow on surveys.

Michigan Fruit Inventory – Saffell

If the farmer being interviewed signs a contract directly with a farm labor contractor, the contract workers would be attributed to his or her farm. If the labor is being provided, however, by the purchaser of the fruit, (usually blueberries) as part of a marketing agreement, and there is no separate contract with a farm labor contractor, then those workers would not be considered workers hired by that farmer.

Cross Regional ARMS III Forms – Erickson/Spisak

If you see an ARMS III Record in your MOST listings that appears to be with a POID from outside of our region (the first 2 digits are something other than 18, 26 or 39) and you have not received a paper questionnaire for that record, please contact the Regional Field Office right away so that we can hunt down the form.

CAPI Upgrade Update – Lawson/Laird

As reported in the February 22 edition of the Friday Feedback, the MOST system is being replaced by an upgraded data collection tool. The last day that the MOST system will be available will be March 22, and all enumerators will be working in the new system starting Monday March 25. All CAPI systems are expected to be unavailable during the weekend of March 23-24, including Survey Listings, CAPI Training, and Mapping features.

Supervisors will be receiving printed documentation via UPS on how to use the new system by Monday March 11. By March 18, non-supervisory enumerators should receive copies of some of this documentation from their supervisors, which will include instructions for downloading and installing the new application onto the iPad and accessing the training materials. Up to two hours of home study will be authorized beginning the week of March 18 for non-supervisory enumerators to familiarize themselves with the new system, including watching training videos prepared by NASS HQ, completing a training exercise, and reviewing other documentation.

In preparation for the transition to the new CAPI system, please make sure your current MOST login and password information are working and your iPad's iOS is up-to-date. All iPads need to be running at least iOS version 12. Documentation for updating the iOS on your iPad is available on the GLR Home Page.

Please note that some new icons may appear on your iPad's home screen that are associated with this new system. Enumerators should refrain from doing anything with these new icons until after you receive the documentation from your supervisor.

Sad News

Jerri Ruggles, wife of Michigan Field Supervisor, Paul "Wes" Ruggles passed away on February 27. For those wishing to send expressions of sympathy his address is 189 Central St, Traverse City, MI 49684.

Daylight Savings Time Begins

Daylight savings time or daylight time, also summer time, is the practice of advancing clocks during summer months so that evening daylight lasts longer, while sacrificing normal sunrise times. Remember to “spring” ahead 1 hour on March 10th.



Friday Feedback for March 1, 2019

Michigan Fruit Inventory Survey – Saffell

Enumerator packets for the Fruit Inventory were sent via UPS on Wednesday, February 27. The revised data collection dates are:

February 28—April 30. The final day to send back questionnaires to the regional office is May 1.

ARMS III Updates - Miyares/Erickson

Thanks to everyone for your hard work and patience as we kick off this year’s ARMS III Survey. The five-week shutdown posed a number of interesting challenges with training and survey administration, and we’re still working through some unexpected kinks. As we learn more, we will be posting information in the Friday Feedback and in the “Updates and Lessons Learned” document on the GLR Website. Please be sure to monitor these documents for regular updates.

There have been several reports of enumerators visiting operators to schedule an appointment for an ARMS Interview only to find that the respondent claims to have mailed the form in already, but the form is still showing as not yet completed in MOST. This is partly a function of the delayed mailing that took place this year and partly due to communications issues between NPC in Jeffersonville and our HQ in Washington. We are recommending that enumerators wait a few days after the operator tells you the form was mailed in to see if the form gets checked into MOST. If it still hasn’t been checked in after a week, contact someone on the ARMS III Team at the GLR Office who can try to do some research to see if that form may have arrived in Jeffersonville, but just not taken out of MOST yet. The team members include:

Alan Erickson: Survey Lead

Ben Magen: Survey Backup

John Miyares: Survey Group Leader

Lynn Spisak: Survey Support Staff

Jamie Price: NASDA Coordinator, Indiana

Chad Cloos: NASDA Coordinator, Michigan

Brooke Morris: NASDA Coordinator, Ohio

The 9 x 12 brown envelopes that each questionnaire is stuffed in does not need to be shipped to Jeffersonville along with the questionnaires. Those envelopes are used primarily to protect the individual questionnaires and supplemental documents (comment sheets and other inserts) as well as provide a label that will show match codes and other information that may not be available on the pre-printed labels on the actual questionnaire. Since those envelopes do have PII on them and since the mailing address referenced on them is no longer valid (should have been scribbled out with a magic marker), those envelopes can be shredded, burned, or otherwise destroyed once they are no longer needed. As a reminder, they **cannot** be used to mail survey work back to the Regional Office.

As far as other supplemental documents that might be attached to an ARMS III record,

- Out-of-business forms and NACS forms must be sent to the Regional Field Office for processing. Never send those to Jeffersonville or anywhere else.
- If you write notes on an inserted comment sheet with new information about how to contact the operator, new phone numbers, or anything that an enumerator should know for the next time we contact the operation, those comment sheets should also be sent to the Regional Field Office.
- If you take written notes explaining why a respondent answered a question the way they did, be sure those are written on the questionnaires that are shipped to Jeffersonville rather than putting those notes on the inserted comment sheets.
- If you did not write any notes on inserted comment sheets, those comment sheets do not need to be sent to Jeffersonville. They should, however, be destroyed.

If a record appears in your MOST listings where the state “fips” code is not 18 (IN), 26 (MI), or 39 (OH), then that record is coming from a different region. Every year, we receive a number of requests from other regions who ask us to enumerate a form for them based on the residence of the target operator. We’ve been known to do this ourselves with operators who farm in the GLR, but spend their winters somewhere warmer. In a normal year, you would have received those forms with your assignments by the time the state school took place, but because of delays, those cross-regional forms are still slowly trickling in to the Regional Office. We are relaying them to the field as we receive them, but please note that because those records are coming from outside of our region, we cannot control when or if those listings show up in MOST, how long it takes to get those records to you, what kind of comments and office notes those records will contain, or even who those records should be assigned to.

If you see one of these cross-regional records in your MOST listing and do not have a paper form to match it, please be patient as we expect all of the cross-regional records that are going to be sent to our region will arrive and be shipped to the field within the next two weeks. If upon review of the record, you have other concerns with it, perhaps because of something unexpected in the comments or something said in the initial interview, please contact your supervisor or someone on the ARMS III Team at the GLR Office and we will do some digging on your behalf.

If You See Something, Say Something – Miyares

While the five-week partial government shutdown caused delays in data collection activities for January and February surveys, it also accelerated the timetable for preparation of March 1 surveys. This meant that the sample and comment review process, which normally takes a few weeks, was completed in just a few short days. As a consequence, we’ve seen a few situations where an operator may have been sent a questionnaire on a survey that perhaps didn’t need to be sent out. For example, we received a call from a Christmas tree grower in Ohio that wondered why he was receiving the March Crops survey.

Our enumerators are the people with the last opportunity to do a quality control check before a contact is made with an operator. If you see a comment in MOST or on a printed insert which suggests that an operator should not be contacted, or if you see something which makes you question whether you should make the contact, don’t hesitate to call your supervisor or NASDA Coordinator to confirm that a contact should be made. With the rush to review the samples this cycle, there may be more that slipped through the cracks and made it out to the field than normal.

Mardi Gras - Fat Tuesday

Fat Tuesday, also known as Shrove Tuesday or Mardi Gras, is March 5, the day before Ash Wednesday. Mardi Gras is the culmination of Carnival celebrations across the world, and it is a day when people traditionally indulge as the following day is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten season leading up to Easter, when Christians traditionally fasted and gave up something special that they enjoyed.

