

## **Friday Feedback for Friday, November 19, 2021**

### **New Version of CAPI Available – Lawson/Laird**

HQ pushed out a new CAPI and CAPI Training instrument on 11/17. If your iPad was powered on over the evening of 11/17, the new version should have installed automatically.

#### **Before attempting to log into CAPI on the iPad:**

- Double press the home button and swipe up to close all running Apps.
- Touch "Clear Preferences" on the CAPI Production login screen, then OK.
- Do the same for CAPI Training.

There is no need to update the URL or download CAPI again if using a **home computer**, however we recommend that you close all browser tabs and then click on "Clear Preferences" at the CAPI login screen before logging in for the first time.

All enumerators should login to both CAPI and CAPI Training to **verify that the correct version of (v21.11.10)** appears on top right of the CAPI screen. If the version is not correct or if you are having any issues on either the iPad or home computer; please follow the steps provided [HERE](#) before calling for assistance.

### **December 1 Survey Packages On their Way - Courser**

UPS packages containing December 1 Survey Information were sent to enumerators this week. If you were assigned work for December Crops APS, December Hogs, Row Crop CAPS, Mint, Popcorn, Dry Beans, Potato Stocks, or Hemp, please be on the lookout for your materials. If they do not arrive by Tuesday 11/23, please contact your supervisor.

### **Delayed Phoning for Select Respondents – Mivares/Weber**

The December Crops APS sample has approximately 850 records where the CAPI Start Date has been delayed to December 7. These operators have a very strong history of completing forms by mail or online and we would like to give them some extra time to complete the forms themselves through their preferred method before we begin calling. These forms will appear in your CAPI listings with the POIDs grayed out. Please be sure to review your CAPI listings carefully to identify these records marked for delayed calling before starting enumeration on this survey. If one of those operators does not complete the form by mail or online by December 7, the record will become eligible for calling. Thank you for your understanding.

### **ARMS II Extension – Mivares/Weber**

The final date for ARMS II records to be submitted in CAPI is being extended to December 6 at 11:59 p.m. This change is being made to accommodate farmers who have indicated that they would be willing to cooperate with us on the survey once harvest is complete. However, in extending the deadline, please note:

- December 6 is the absolute last date that enumerators can submit ARMS II records in CAPI.
- All ARMS II records not completed must be submitted in CAPI as "inaccessible" or "refusal" by December 6. Unlike many of our smaller surveys, we have no way to simply batch code the incomplete records as inaccessible.
- If you do not believe that continuing data collection efforts for ARMS II will result in additional complete reports in your area, you may still submit your inaccessible and refusal reports by November 30. Data collected after November 30 should focus on operators who you have a reasonable belief will be willing to complete the survey with you.
- Keep in mind that there are other surveys that begin data collection on November 29. Please don't lose track of this other work if you will be continuing to call on ARMS II into the first week of December.

As a reminder, please be sure to hold on to all completed paper copies of ARMS II until February 1. We have run into some records where data was lost in translation between CAPI and the office and we may need to contact you to clarify what was intended to be entered into CAPI. Instructions will be provided regarding the disposition of those paper ARMS II forms as we get closer to February 1.

## **Fruit Chemical Use Survey Odds and Ends**

In the Section D Pesticide Application Table of the FCUS questionnaire, the question in column 9 asks “What percent of rows were covered with an airblast application?” Please ignore the word “airblast” in this question. We want the percentage of rows covered by the application, regardless of the type of sprayer used. A response of 100 means every row was sprayed while a response of 50 implies every other row was sprayed. Other percentages can be entered if another spray pattern was used. Under no circumstances should data in this column be left blank.

As has been noted in earlier communications, Michigan Fruit Chemical Use Survey (FCUS) forms where a respondent had more than 50 chemical applications (more than one supplement page) may be sent to the National Operations Division (NOD) in St. Louis, MO instead of being submitted in CAPI. For those taking advantage of this option, please remember the following:

- Please only include questionnaires and pesticide supplements in the packages sent to St. Louis. Do not include comment sheets, respondent booklets, bubble sheets or other survey materials. Any handwritten notes that office stats may need to review should be written on one of the two blank pages inside the questionnaire (page 14 or 15).
- Be sure that the POID for the sampled operation is printed on the supplements. You may need to write in the FIPS code (26) in the margins.
- Do not enter partial data into CAPI for any record being sent to St. Louis to be keyed. You can leave a note in the attempted contact log as to what day the questionnaire(s) were shipped, but that’s it. When the forms arrive in St. Louis, they should be marked in your CAPI listings as being checked in and will be no longer available to enter into CAPI.
- Please hold on to the supplemental material for the operations in case a question arises later that an office stat may need to answer.
- Any MDARD Recertification Seminar Records (i.e., Bubble Sheets) will still need to be sent to East Lansing at the end of the survey period. As a reminder, we no longer require bubble sheets to be signed by respondents, but we do need to have the rest of the form completed with the name as it appears on the applicator license, the applicator license number, and the type of credits requested.
- Where possible, please maximize the number of questionnaires to be shipped in a single package. Consider holding on to forms until you have a large enough number worth sending, perhaps doing only one shipment per week up until the end of the survey period (December 30).
- If you do not have UPS labels to send work to the NOD in St.Louis, your supervisor should. Please communicate with your supervisor regarding coordinated shipments.

Please reach out to your supervisor or to Paul Goings if you have any questions.

## **New Arrival**

The Great Lakes Regional Office is excited to announce the arrival of Adeline May Magen, daughter of statistician Ben Magen and his wife Elise Magen. Adeline was born the morning of November 8 measuring 20 inches and weighing 7 pounds, 12 ounces. Everyone is doing well.

## **Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule**

All NASS offices will be closed on Thursday, November 25 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. Additionally, there will be no edition of the Friday Feedback published on Friday, November 26. On behalf of the entire regional office staff, we would like to wish you and yours a Happy Thanksgiving!



## Friday Feedback for Friday, November 12, 2021

### **Commercial Floriculture Survey Expands - Collom**

The NASS Commercial Floriculture Survey (CFS) will be expanding to all fifty States this year. This will be the first time in over a decade that the CFS will be conducted in Indiana.

The CFS collects quantities sold and values of sales for a wide variety of commercially produced floriculture products, including cut flowers, potted flowering plants, herbaceous perennials, annual bedding/garden plants, foliage plants, cut cultivated greens, and propagative floriculture material. Sales are broken out between retail and wholesale sales. Area of production, gross value of sales, and peak number of hired workers are also collected. The sample consists of all known commercial floriculture producers with at least \$10,000 in annual sales. Garden centers and florists not growing their own products are excluded from the sample.

Questionnaires will be mailed to respondents in late December with follow-up enumeration to take place in January and February. Call Center support will be utilized to assist with data collection for smaller operations, while operations with at least \$100,000 in annual sales will be enumerated locally.

For more information about the CFS, click or tap [HERE](#).

### **The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier: 1921 - 2021**

For 100 years, the Tomb of the Unknown soldier at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia has served as a sacred memorial site and the grave of three unknown American service members. Since November 11, 1921, the Tomb has provided a final resting place for one of America's unidentified World War I service members. Unknowns from later wars were added in 1958 and 1984.

The tomb, which stands atop a hill overlooking Washington, has come to symbolize the sacrifices of all U.S. service members. Its white marble sarcophagus, which stands above the grave of the Unknown Soldier of World War I, depicts three carved Greek figures representing peace, victory and valor. Inscribed on the back of the tomb are the words, "Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God." Since July 2, 1937, the Army has maintained a 24-hour guard over the tomb. According to Allison Finkelstein, Arlington Cemetery's senior historian, the ultimate goal at the time was to "help the American people mourn, to provide a single grave that's representative of all of the unidentified...so that a family...can go to the tomb and consider that grave their own."



## **Friday Feedback for Friday, November 5, 2021**

### **Farm Producer Study**

In response to the White House Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity and Support of Underserved Communities through the Federal Government and from requests to the Federal Register Notice associated with this information, NASS is considering adding disability and sexual orientation and gender identity questions on the 2027 Census of Agriculture. As a first step in this process, NASS will conduct the 2021 Farm Producer Study to assess the potential effect of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity and Disability Questions for the Census of Agriculture on response rates and measurement error. The results of the study may lead to a more robust demographic data product and assist regulatory agencies, producers, state governments, processors, and other USDA agencies in administering and monitoring program effectiveness.

The National Operations Division (NOD) will handle the mailing and processing of the 2021 Farm Producer Study, scheduled to begin in December 2021. Given that the primary mode of data collection is intended to be either through mail returns or online responses, there will be no local phone or field enumeration for this survey. Phone follow-up, if deemed necessary, will be handled by Data Collection Center (DCC) staff.

In order to reduce respondent burden, operators selected to participate in the Farm Producer Study who were also selected to participate in other December 1 Surveys (Crops/Stocks, CAPS, Hogs, etc.) will have their Farm Producer Study record coded as "Mail Only". If December survey respondents indicate to you that they received this survey and want to know what to do with it, please encourage them to mail it back in the postage-paid envelope provided or to complete the form online. We will be posting information about the Farm Producer Study on the Purdue GLR Website within the next few weeks so that enumerators can see the questions being asked.

A report will be created using the data collected and it will be used internally within USDA to better understand these topics in order to determine equitable program opportunities for these populations. No official estimates will be published from this experimental study.

### **Chem Use Survey Odds and Ends – Miyares/Weber/Goings**

Although it has taken a while, we believe the problem that was reported regarding text values not "sticking" in the Field Operations table in the ARMS II CAPI Instrument has been resolved. Thank you for your patience as this took longer to fix than expected. Please continue to let us know if problems with the CAPI instrument occur. Remember that now there is a link on the Purdue GLR Home Page where one can report issues with CAPI.

The "New Chemical Codes" has been updated with a few items that have shown up on the Fruit Chemical Use Survey. As a reminder, if you discover a chemical that keeps popping up that you can't find a code for, please reach out to either John, Ben, or Paul and we can research it for you and try to get a code added to the system. When reporting information for new chemicals, please provide as much information as you can about the product, including the EPA number, whether it is liquid or dry, the type of product it is (fungicide, insecticide, herbicide, other), the crop it is being applied to (corn, apples, peaches, tart cherries, blueberries), the rate of application, and the POID in which the product was reported.

As a reminder on the Fruit Chem survey, if you run into an operation that applied more than 50 chemicals to fruit crops, which would require the use of more than one pesticide supplement, enumerators are allowed to ship those records to the National Operations Division (NOD) in St. Louis MO to be keyed rather than spend several hours entering the chemical data. Your supervisors were each provided some UPS labels to send work to the NOD if needed. Please coordinate with them if this becomes an issue.

### **NASDA Coordinator Vacancy in Indiana**

As was announced in last week's edition of the Friday Feedback, Jamie Price, Indiana NASDA Coordinator, retired from Federal Service effective Friday October 29. For the time being, Brooke Morris will be acting as the NASDA Coordinator for Indiana in addition to keeping her responsibilities as the Ohio NASDA Coordinator. For the most part, enumerators should still direct questions or concerns to their supervisors, and supervisors will work with Brooke to resolve anything that requires more direct intervention from the office. We will keep you notified as the search to fill this position moves forward.