

Friday Feedback for Friday, May 3, 2024

Ag Yield – Collom

The data collection period for Ag Yield is very short. May 1 Ag Yield enumeration ends on Sunday at midnight. Response rates to date are very low. Please make every effort to contact your assignments today and, for those not responding, at least one more time this weekend. This survey is used to set the first wheat yield forecast of the 2024 season and is closely watched by market participants.

CAPI Mobile Application Update Auto Push – Morris

NASS will be scheduling a CAPI mobile application auto-push during the overnight hours of Thursday, May 9, 2024, beginning at 8:00pm EST. This mobile application auto-push will update both the CAPI Call Pooler and regular CAPI applications with the latest code. We will provide full details and post enumerator instructions via the Great Lakes Region Enumerator Website and CAPI Dashboard early next week.

Verify that your work iPad is at iPadOS 17.4.1 – Morris

The current iPad OS (17.4.1) should have already been installed on all iPad devices. All enumerators please verify that your iPad has this version by Friday, May 10, 2024 (COB). Go to Settings/General/About or Settings/General/Software Update

If it's NOT INSTALLED - please ONLY INSTALL if it says version 17.4.1 is available (do not install 17.4.2):

A good cellular connection and/or WIFI is needed for a speedier install. Also, enumerators need to have their iPad fully charged before attempting to install this iPadOS. Expect the install to take ample time to complete.

Lastly, please make sure the "Download iPad OS updates" is turned off. To disable this feature, go to "Settings" → "General" → "Software Update" → "Automatic Updates." Once there, ensure the slider next to "Download iPad OS Updates" is disabled by tapping the slider from green to gray. If you are unable to download the update, please contact Brooke Morris immediately.

Upcoming Due Date Reminders

Please be mindful of the following due dates:

- Ag Yield Survey: April 30 – May 5
- Agricultural Labor Survey: April 23 (delayed start)– May 7
- Irrigation and Water Management Survey:
 - Non-Matches: January 29 – May 15
- Maple Syrup Inquiry: May 3 – May 17
- Cash Rents and Leases:
 - Matches: Follow matched survey dates
 - Non-Matches: April 15 – June 21
- Winter Wheat Objective Yield - OH
 - June: May 25 – June 1
 - July: June 24 – June 29
 - August: July 25 – July 31

Please enter your time and mileage into iSolved every day.

Friday Feedback for Friday, May 10, 2024

Area Training Packets Shipped – Laird, Goings

We are happy to report that the Area ag tract assignments and training materials were shipped 5/9. The packages should arrive as early as today and early next week. Please review the contents of your packet, as well as the Purdue site, and reach out to your supervisor if you have any questions. Happy training!

Cash Rent Project Code Budget Exhausted – Laird, Weber

The budget for local enumeration of cash rents has been depleted. From now on, please use the project code of the matched survey to collect data for cash rents. Any stand-alone cash rent records must not be contacted. We are no longer able to use the cash rent project code (921) in iSolved for charging time or mileage.

Upcoming Due Date Reminders

Please be mindful of the following due dates:

- Cash Rents and Leases:
 - Matches: Follow matched survey dates
- Irrigation and Water Management Survey:
 - Non-Matches: January 29 – May 15
- Maple Syrup Inquiry: May 3 – May 17
- Winter Wheat Objective Yield - OH
 - June: May 25 – June 1
 - July: June 24 – June 29
 - August: July 25 – July 31
- Cherry Production Inquiry: May 30 – June 5
- June Area Survey: May 20 - June 7
- Potato Stocks Inquiry: May 30 – June 10

Please enter your time and mileage into iSolved every day.

Friday Feedback for Friday, May 17, 2024

Passing of Alan Erickson's Wife

The Great Lakes Region is sad to announce the passing of Statistician Alan Erickson's wife, Susan Pearl Erickson, age 65. Susan passed away on Sunday afternoon, May 12, 2024, at home after a courageous battle with lung cancer. Her family was by her side as she peacefully passed. A gathering will be held on Saturday, May 18 to honor Susan. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Alan and his family and friends.

Irrigation Data Collection Concluded - Bradley-Trietsch

Thank you for your hard work on the Irrigation survey over the long data collection timeline. Currently, our region has the second-highest response rate at 70.36%. If you have not returned your questionnaires, please send them via UPS to the Great Lakes Regional Field Office no later than Monday, May 20.

June 1 UPS - Collom

UPS packages containing information for the June 1 surveys (Agricultural Production Survey, Hogs, Cash Rents, Potato Stocks (MI only) and Cherries (MI only)) were sent on Tuesday, May 14. If you were expecting work, you should have received your package by now. If you have not, please contact the office.

June Ag Yield - Collom

Enumeration for the June Ag Yield survey begins on Thursday, May 30 and continues through Wednesday, June 5. Like last year, we did not include blank questionnaires for this survey with your normal UPS package. A copy of the June Ag Yield questionnaire is on the NASDA/Purdue website. The only questions asked this month pertain to projected winter wheat yields.

Cherries (MI only) - Collom

Cherry enumeration begins Thursday, May 30 and continues through Wednesday, June 5. Please note that this year, sweet cherry information will also be collected. Sample sizes are slightly larger to account for the additional commodity.

Upcoming Due Date Reminders

Please be mindful of the following due dates:

- Cash Rents and Leases:
 - Matches: Follow matched survey dates
- Maple Syrup Inquiry: May 3 – May 17
- Winter Wheat Objective Yield - OH
 - June: May 25 – June 1
 - July: June 24 – June 29
 - August: July 25 – July 31
- Cherry Production Inquiry: May 30 – June 5
- Ag Yield Survey – June: May 30 – June 5
- June Area Survey: May 20 - June 7
- Potato Stocks Inquiry: May 30 – June 10
- Agricultural Survey – June: May 30 – June 14
- Hog Report – June: May 30 – June 14
- Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP):
 - CEAP Phase I: August 1, 2024 – September 25, 2024
 - CEAP Phase II: October 1, 2024 – February 1, 2025

Please enter your time and mileage into iSolved every day.

Friday Feedback for Friday, May 24, 2024

June Area - Goings & Laird

There is an error on the Michigan area tract questionnaire. On the bottom of page four it should say “Rye Planted” instead of “Oats Planted.”

7. Winter Wheat (INCLUDE cover crop)	Acres planted for all purposes Acres to be harvested for grain or seed Other uses of winter wheat planted (Abandoned, silage, green chop, etc)
8. Barley (INCLUDE cover crop)	Acres planted and to be planted for all purposes Acres left to be planted for all purposes Acres harvested and to be harvested for grain or seed Other uses of barley planted (Abandoned, silage, green chop, etc)
9. Oats (INCLUDE cover crop)	Acres planted and to be planted for all purposes Acres left to be planted for all purposes Acres harvested and to be harvested for grain or seed Other uses of oats planted (Abandoned, silage, green chop, etc)
Rye (INCLUDE cover crop, EXCLUDE ryegrass)	Acres planted and to be planted for all purposes Acres planted and to be harvested for grain or seed Other uses of rye planted (Abandoned, silage, green chop, etc)

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ERROR

Wheat Objective Yield (OH) - Morris

Thank you for working and submitting Form As on CAPI for WOY. Data collection for Form Bs starts tomorrow, Saturday May 25th. A few reminders on Form B: make sure you have row measurements filled out this month and don't walk out of the field without a clipping sample to send to the NOC lab in St. Louis (if Maturity Stage is 3 or higher).

June Area – Adding New Tracts – Laird, Goings

We have received a few phone calls asking when new tract letters are required for June Area – for both ag and non-ag tracts. Basically, any time the operator's name changes on the label a new tract letter is needed. The only exceptions to this rule are 1) very minor name misspellings (like a misspelling from Wislon to Wilson) 2) if there are 99 tracts on the segment already or 3) a managed operation is already identified as a managed operation from a prior year segment and a new manager takes over. Here are a couple of common examples that require a new tract letter (99% of the time a new tract letter is needed!). Example 1) James Dean was the operator on the label, but his partner, Marlon Brando, has now taken over the operation. A new tract letter will need to be assigned for Marlon. Another example – Marilyn Madison was the operator on the label, but she has recently divorced. She has legally changed her name back to her maiden name, Marilyn Monroe. This name change would require a new tract letter as well as it is not a misspelling, but a full name change. If you have any questions, reach out to your supervisor or Brooke, Paul, or Mike. Thanks, and good luck getting data!

Upcoming Due Date Reminders

Please be mindful of the following due dates:

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 - July: June 24 – June 29
 - August: July 25 – July 31

- Cherry Production Inquiry: May 30 – June 5
- Ag Yield Survey – June: May 30 – June 5
- June Area Survey: May 20 - June 7
- Potato Stocks Inquiry: May 30 – June 10
- Agricultural Survey – June: May 30 – June 14
- Hog Report – June: May 30 – June 14
- Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP):
 - CEAP Phase I: August 1, 2024 – September 25, 2024
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Friday Feedback for Friday, May 31, 2024

End of an Era

We are both sad and excited to announce the retirement of Denise Bowman. After 25 years of service to USDA NASS, Denise has decided to open a new chapter in her life after she logs off for the last time today. Her dedication and perseverance set the bar for the rest of us, and Denise will surely be missed by her colleagues in the office and in the field. Her willingness to go the extra mile to ensure the region had all the survey materials needed to conduct our business, fulfill supply requests from field enumerators, ensure our publications were released on schedule, and always provided extraordinary customer service. She always kept a positive attitude and always provided a warm welcome to new staff and visitors in the region. We are thankful for the time Denise gave to NASS and wish her the best in her retirement!

Ag Yield and Cherry Due Dates - Collom

Just a reminder that both Ag Yield and Cherry (MI only) enumeration began on Thursday and will end this coming Wednesday, June 5. The enumeration period is very short for these surveys. We realize that there are many other surveys that are running concurrently but please keep an eye on due dates and prioritize those surveys with survey end dates that are coming up soon. Thank you for all of your hard work.

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 - June: May 25 – June 1
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 - August: July 25 – July 31
- Cherry Production Inquiry: May 30 – June 5
- Ag Yield Survey – June: May 30 – June 5
- June Area Survey: May 20 - June 7
- Potato Stocks Inquiry: May 30 – June 10

- Agricultural Survey – June: May 30 – June 14
- Hog Report – June: May 30 – June 14
- Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP):
 - CEAP Phase I: August 1, 2024 – September 25, 2024
 - CEAP Phase II: October 1, 2024 – February 1, 2025

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