

NASS Survey Training

ARMS II/VCUS

General Survey Information



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Great Lakes Region



Survey Information

	ARMS II	VCUS
Project Code	906	136
Info Packet Mailed to Supervisors	9/19/2024	9/19/2024
Postcard Mailed to Operator	September 16	September 18
Data Collection Dates	Oct. 1– Nov. 30	Nov. 1 – Dec. 31
Mini-Schools	Sept. 26 – Oct. 17	Sept. 26 – Oct. 17
Sample Size	OH = 150 MI = 100	MI = 331 OH = 213 IN = 121

Benchmark Due Dates

	ARMS II	VCUS
Complete One Report	October 11	November 5
100% of interviews set up, refusal conversions discussed with supervisor	October 25	November 15
50 percent of good, complete interviews mailed to the NOD	November 8	December 9
100 percent of interviews complete; all good, completed forms mailed to the NOD.	November 30	December 31

Survey Procedures

- Supervisors will review at least one completed questionnaire from each enumerator.
- Supervisors will decide if more than one form requires review.
- Each supervisor will be doing at least one quality control contact per enumerator, either as a follow-up call, or shadowing an interview.
- The office will monitor survey progress daily.

Data Collection Process: ARMS 2 and VCUS

Operations that are complete, good responses

- Collect data on paper form
- Send to NOD for keying after quality control check.
- MI only – send bubble sheets back to East Lansing

Data Collection Process: ARMS 2 and VCUS

Operations that are Refusal, Inaccessible, or Out of Business:

- Refusals, inaccessible, and OOBs should be submitted through CAPI along with a comment.
- Do NOT send these to the NOD for keying.
- Send Regional Out of Business form back to East Lansing.
- Labelled questionnaires can be destroyed when data collection ends (as long as data/comments have been entered in CAPI!).

Training Plan: ARMS 2 & VCUS

- 4 Hours Approved Home Study for ARMS II
 - Watch Video Content, Review Interviewer's Manuals, Write Down Questions, Take Enumerator Quiz, Verify Assignments
- 6 Hours Approved Home Study for VCUS
 - A lot of overlap between the two surveys
 - Practice exercise, Enumerator Quiz, and PowerPoint presentations on Purdue Site

What Will Enumerators Get?

- Blank Questionnaires and Respondent Booklets
- ARMS Supplements
- VCUS Pesticide Supplement
- ARMS and VCUS Interviewer Manual
- Quizzes
- Michigan Only: Extra bubble sheets, letter with Seminar Codes

Resources Available – Purdue Site

- Enumerator Sites
 - Memos
 - Questionnaires & Letters
 - Supplements
 - Manuals
 - ARMS Training Videos
 - Paper Quizzes
 - Practice Exercises
 - Chemical Listings
 - Seminar Codes (MI)

No Kit Envelopes this Year

- Everything is in Order, but not Separated.
 - Labeled Questionnaire
 - Including any matched surveys
 - Screening Survey Information Form/Acreage Inserts
 - Data from ARMS Phase 1 or ELMO
 - Comment Sheet
 - Screening Form
 - If out of business, didn't grow the target crop, is an "abnormal" farm, or changes partners
 - Respondent Booklet
 - Consent Form
 - RUP Credit Application (Bubble Sheet – MI Only)

Mind the Labels!

- ARMS 2: Significant number of operations never contacted for ARMS 1 (95%), but had their crop acres estimated from previously reported data such as Crops/Stocks, FSA, etc.
- Operations that did not complete an ARMS 1 form may need to be rescreened to see if they ever had the target crop.
- **“ARMS1: Complete”** means a good response, **“Inaccessible”** means a survey went out, but we never received data, while **“PRD Used”** means previously reported data was used and operation was not contacted.
- Label Also Shows Field Direction and Survey Matches.

Mind the Labels!

<p>ARMS2 - OATS POID: 26-300009680 Supervisor: RUGGLES, PAUL W Enumerator: Chastain, Priscilla Ann ARMS1: Inaccessible Field: 1-NORTH</p>	<p>ARMS2 - OATS POID: 26-300018060 Supervisor: CLARK, DIANE Enumerator: LANGDON, TONYA R ARMS1: PRD Used Field: 3-EAST</p>
<p>ARMS2 - OATS POID: 26-300023030 Supervisor: RUGGLES, PAUL W Enumerator: ARMS1: Complete Field: 6-SOUTHEAST</p>	<p>ARMS2 - OATS POID: 26-300023110 Supervisor: Snell, Peter Enumerator: Snell, Peter ARMS1: Inaccessible Field: 2-SOUTH</p>
<p>ARMS2 - OATS POID: 26-300025200 Supervisor: RUGGLES, PAUL W Enumerator: Heldt, Patricia ARMS1: PRD Used Field: 1-NORTH</p>	<p>ARMS2 - OATS MILK POID: 26-300029510 Supervisor: Vanover, Roy Enumerator: FREDENDALL, DORIS(SAM) ARMS1: PRD Used Field: 4-WEST</p>

Mind the Inserts!

- Have operation ID's and operator/partner contact information on top left.
- Also have field assignments and matches on top right.
- Acreages of target crop located middle-left.
- Comments at bottom.
 - Sometimes have additional partner information.

10/01/23 OATS PRODUCTION PRACTICES AND COSTS REPORT

Label 1 - 5 & Other Field

SEQ: 26 [REDACTED] 1 AS=0 OD=0

IMA FARMER (999)999-9999
123 FARM LN (888)888-8888 c

SUPER: 26117 3
ENUM: 26041 EAST
DCMS: 760 TRACT-PMC MATCH1=
MAIL/CAPI MATCH2= LABOR
MATCH3=

EAST LANSING, MI 48823

MFARMTYP: Cattle
ARMS1 RESPONSE CODES ACRES OPERATED

PARTNERS:

IMA PARTNER (777)777-7777

Reporting Unit: 1
Response: Complete
Respondent: Operator/Manager
Mode: Mail
Total Land: 164
Total Cropland: 87
Begin data collection in CAPI: 10/01/23
End data collection in CAPI: 11/30/23

CROP VALUE

Oats Planted: 8

Soybeans Planted: 0

-----ENUMERATOR NOTES-----

PERSONCOMMENTS

Partner1=p1, p1 name: [REDACTED] p1 phone:
[REDACTED] p1 phone other: [REDACTED], p1 op phone:
[REDACTED] p1 email: [REDACTED]

OPERCOMMENTS

201 Cattle & call: [REDACTED] is partners with [REDACTED];
[REDACTED] s also partners with wife, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] s
sister], 26-3 [REDACTED]



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MFARMTYP: Cattle

ARMS1 RESPONSE CODES

ACRES OPERATED

Reporting Unit: 1

Response: PRD Used

Respondent:

Mode:

Total Land: Unknown

Total Cropland: Unknown

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Partner1=p1, p1 name: [REDACTED] p1 phone: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] p1 phone other: [REDACTED], p1 op phone: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] p1 email: [REDACTED]

OPPERCOMMENTS

201 Cattle & call: [REDACTED] is partners with [REDACTED];
[REDACTED] s also partners with wife, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] s
sister], 26-3 [REDACTED]



Review Your Work

After Completing the Questionnaire:

- Does the questionnaire make sense?
- Were unusual situations explained in comments?
- Were “Other – Please Specify” situations explained in comments?
- Were all skip instructions followed?
- Were all address and phone updates noted?
- Were all other comments noted?

MDARD Recertification Record – MI Only

Procedures for 2024:

- Ask operators if they want or need the credits
- Complete Bubble Sheet
- Signatures Not Required
- Send Completed Bubble Sheets to **East Lansing**
 - ARMS II - Last day to send November 30
 - VCUS - Last day to send December 31
 - We will fill out a spreadsheet to send to MDARD

A supply of bubble sheets will be provided for you

MDARD Recertification Record – MI Only

- Items provided by Operator:
 - Name as it appears on applicator license
 - Applicator Number
 - Type of Certification
 - Standard Credits
- Seminar Code & Seminar Date
 - Review information provided by the Regional Field Office
- Location: Lansing, MI
- Seminar Credit(s):
 - ARMS: 1A, Commercial Core, Private Core
 - VCUS: 1B, Commercial Core, Private Core
- Category Credit = 2

Contact Information

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Purdue Site

[Great Lakes Region Website \(purdue.edu\)](#)

<https://ag.purdue.edu/usda/gl/index.html>