

2008 Explanatory Notes
National Agricultural Statistics Service

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

Purpose Statement

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) was established by Secretary's Memorandum No. 1446, Supplement 1, of April 3, 1961, under Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1953 and other authorities. The mission of the agency is to provide timely, accurate, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.

The statistical data provided by NASS are essential to the public and private sectors for making effective policy, production, and marketing decisions on a wide range of agricultural commodities. Every 5 years the Census of Agriculture provides comprehensive national, State, and county data as well as selected data for Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S., Virgin Islands, and Northern Mariana Islands. The USDA published its first crop report in 1863. In 1997, responsibility for conducting the Census of Agriculture was transferred from the Bureau of the Census to NASS. NASS' responsibilities are authorized under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621-1627) and the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997, Public Law 105-113 (7 U.S.C. 2204g).

- **Agricultural Estimates Program** – NASS field offices regularly survey thousands of operators of farms, ranches, and agribusinesses who provide information on a confidential basis. These scientifically-designed surveys provide the basis for developing estimates of production, supply, price, and other aspects of the agricultural economy. Official USDA national, State, and county estimates and reports are issued relating to the number of farms and land in farms; acreage, types, and production of farm crops; number of livestock on farms and of livestock products; stocks of agricultural commodities; value and utilization of farm products; farm labor; prices received and paid by farmers; agricultural chemical use; and on other subjects as needed. The field offices forward the estimates to NASS headquarters where they are combined and released at scheduled times to the press and public through the Agricultural Statistics Board. Annually, NASS publishes approximately 500 national reports and thousands of additional state reports, covering more than 120 crops and 45 livestock items. These basic and unbiased data are necessary to maintain an orderly association between the consumption, supply, marketing, and input sectors of agriculture.
- **Census of Agriculture** – The Census of Agriculture is taken every 5 years and provides comprehensive data on the agricultural economy, including data on the number of farms, land use, production expenses, value of land and buildings, farm size and characteristics of farm operators, market value of agricultural production sold, acreage of major crops, inventory of livestock and poultry, and farm irrigation practices. Results of the 2002 Census of Agriculture provide national, State, and county level detailed data. Data for Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S., the Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands are also available. Preparations for the 2007 Census of Agriculture are underway. Report forms are scheduled to be mailed in December 2007. For the first time, respondents will have an Internet based reporting option.
- **Work Performed for Others** – NASS conducts surveys for and lends technical expertise to other Federal agencies, State governments, and private organizations on a reimbursable basis. NASS provides support and assistance with questionnaire and sample design, data collection and editing, analysis of survey results, and training. NASS also provides technical consultation, support, and assistance for international programs under participating agency service agreements.

The National Agricultural Statistics Service maintains a central office in Washington, D.C., and a network of 46 field offices, serving all 50 States and Puerto Rico, that operate through cooperative agreements with State Departments of Agriculture or universities. As of September 30, 2006, NASS had 1,110 permanent full-time employees, including 408 full-time employees in Washington, D.C., 699 in field offices, 3 in Puerto Rico and an additional 25 part-time employees throughout the U.S.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

Available Funds and Staff Years
2006 Actual and Estimated 2007 and 2008

Item	Actual 2006		Estimated 2007		Estimated 2008	
	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years
National Agricultural Statistics Service.....	\$140,700,000	1,012	\$140,212,000	1,020	\$167,699,000	1,026
Rescission.....	-1,407,000	--	0	--	--	--
Carryover.....	1,849,543	--	1,087,000	--	--	--
Total, Salaries and Expenses.....	141,142,543	1,012	141,299,000	1,020	167,699,000	1,026
Obligations under other USDA appropriations:						
Agricultural Marketing Service for pesticide work, and data on milk prices, export certification, and base month series.....	263,225	1	261,000	3	261,000	3
Agricultural Research Service for assistance on food consumption data, and Nutrient Data Laboratory.....	61,555	0	62,000	0	62,000	0
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for animal health monitoring system.....	583,474	4	1,083,000	8	1,083,000	8
Cooperative State Research Education, and Extension Service for data on small farms.....	20,030	--	20,000	--	20,000	--
Economic Research Service for an agricultural resource management and small farms data.....	7,781,000	48	5,570,000	38	5,500,000	36
Farm Service Agency for data on feed grain county estimates.....	2,600,000	24	2,659,000	23	2,659,000	23
Forest Service for data on grazing fees and a woodland owners survey.....	80,651	--	81,000	1	81,000	1
Natural Resources Conservation Service for NRI survey.....	2,964,638	6	2,000,000	5	0	0
Risk Management Agency for data on county estimates..	910,000	6	975,000	8	910,000	7
World Agricultural Outlook Board for printing and lock-up support and cotton objective yield.....	11,476	--	11,000	--	11,000	--
Total, Other USDA Appropriations.....	15,276,049	89	12,722,000	86	10,587,000	78
Total, USDA Appropriations.....	156,418,592	1,101	154,021,000	1,106	178,286,000	1,104
Other Federal Funds:						
Interior, Department of, for BLM grazing fees survey.....	55,000	--	55,000	--	55,000	--
Foreign Agricultural Service (from AID) for training, technical assistance, equipment and personnel detail....	810,607	8	723,000	9	723,000	11
Florida Department of Citrus for a citrus survey.....	200,000	--	200,000	--	--	--
NIOSH.....	700,000	--	650,000	--	650,000	--
National Science Foundation for data collection.....	70,000	--	70,000	--	70,000	--
Total, Other Federal Funds.....	1,835,607	8	1,698,000	9	1,498,000	11
Non-Federal Funds:						
State Agencies for survey work.....	3,183,683	23	2,833,000	21	2,833,000	21
Miscellaneous Contributed Funds for distribution of agricultural reports and diskettes and for data on almonds, aquaculture, cherries, grapes, hops, horses, malting barley, potatoes, pistachios, walnuts, and wheat and miscellaneous mailings.....	450,614	3	488,000	3	490,000	3
Total, Non-Federal Funds.....	3,634,297	26	3,321,000	24	3,323,000	24
Total, National Agricultural Statistics Service.....	161,888,496	1,135	159,040,000	1,139	183,107,000	1,139

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

Permanent Positions by Grade and Staff Year Summary
2006 Actual and Estimated 2007 and 2008

Grade	2006			2007			2008		
	Wash. DC	Field	Total	Wash. DC	Field	Total	Wash. DC	Field	Total
Senior Executive Service	10	--	10	10	--	10	10	--	10
SL	1	--	1	1	--	1	1	--	1
GS-15	21	16	37	22	16	38	22	16	38
GS-14	61	44	105	60	44	104	60	44	104
GS-13	167	64	231	173	64	237	176	64	240
GS-12	58	153	211	53	144	197	51	135	186
GS-11	28	91	119	30	91	121	30	99	129
GS-10	6	--	6	6	--	6	6	--	6
GS-9	29	55	84	29	65	94	29	55	84
GS-8	24	43	67	24	43	67	24	43	67
GS-7	18	142	160	18	142	160	18	152	170
GS-6	5	63	68	5	63	68	5	63	68
GS-5	3	28	31	3	28	31	3	28	31
GS-4	2	2	4	2	2	4	2	2	4
GS-3	--	1	1	--	1	1	--	1	1
Total Permanent Positions.....	433	702	1,135	436	703	1,139	437	702	1,139
Unfilled Positions end-of-year.....	-25	0	-25	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total, Permanent Full Time Employment, end-of-year.....	408	702	1,110	436	703	1,139	437	702	1,139
Staff-Year Estimate.....	433	702	1,135	436	703	1,139	437	702	1,139

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

SIZE, COMPOSITION AND COST OF AGENCY MOTOR VEHICLE FLEET

The 2008 budget estimate proposes no replacement or purchase of any passenger motor vehicles for this year. The passenger motor vehicles of the National Agricultural Statistics Service are used for necessary field travel in carrying out the mission of the agency and ensuring accurate data are being reported and collected. All motor vehicles are located at various field offices. While all 46 NASS field offices require the use of motor vehicles, it is often cost-effective to acquire vehicles through existing cooperative agreements with the State Departments of Agriculture, through leases from State motor pools, or via rental agreements. Therefore, NASS only owns a fleet of 38 motor vehicles.

Replacement of passenger motor vehicles. Replacement of no new vehicles now in operation is proposed for 2008. These vehicles are located in the field locations and are necessary to meet the transportation requirements necessary to carrying out the agency's program. There have been no significant changes in the size or cost of the NASS vehicle fleet since the beginning of the current administration and there are no identified impediments to managing the motor vehicle fleet in the most cost-effective manner.

Size, composition and cost of motor vehicle fleet as of September 30, 2006, are as follows:

Size, Composition and Annual Cost (In thousands of dollars) Number of Vehicles by Type									
Fiscal Year	Sedans and Station Wagons	Light Trucks		Medium Trucks	Heavy Trucks	Ambulances	Buses	Total Vehicles	Annual Operating Costs (\$ in thous)
		4X2	4X4						
FY 2005	18	6	14	0	0	0	0	38	\$344
Change	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$7
FY 2006	18	6	14	0	0	0	0	38	\$351
Change	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$7
FY 2007	18	6	14	0	0	0	0	38	\$358
Change	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$7
FY 2008	18	6	14	0	0	0	0	38	\$365

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

The estimates include appropriation language for this item as follows:

Salaries and Expenses:

For necessary expenses of the National Agricultural Statistics Service in conducting statistical reporting and service work, \$167,699,000 of which up to \$54,325,000 shall be available until expended for the Census of Agriculture.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENTSalaries and Expenses

Estimate, 2007.....	\$140,212,000
Budget Estimate, 2008.....	<u>167,699,000</u>
Increase in Appropriation.....	+ <u>27,487,000</u>

SUMMARY OF INCREASES AND DECREASES

(On basis of appropriation)

<u>Item of Change</u>	2007 <u>Estimated</u>		<u>Pay Costs</u>		Program <u>Changes</u>	2008 <u>Estimated</u>
Agricultural Estimates.....	\$111,198,000	+	\$2,176,000	+	0	\$113,374,000
Census of Agriculture.....	29,014,000	+	568,000	+	\$24,743,000	54,325,000
Total Available.....	140,212,000	+	2,744,000	+	24,743,000	167,699,000

PROJECT STATEMENT
(On basis of appropriation)

Project	2006 Actual		2007 Estimated		Increase or Decrease	2008 Estimated	
	Amount	Staff- Years	Amount	Staff- Years		Amount	Staff- Years
1. Agricultural Estimates:	\$110,289,195	871	\$111,198,000	871	+	\$2,176,000	\$113,374,000 : 871
2. Census of Agriculture..:	28,823,850	264	29,014,000	268	+	25,311,000	54,325,000 : 268
Unobligated balance....:	179,955	--	0	--	--	--	-- : --
Total, Available or estim:	139,293,000	1,135	140,212,000	1,139	+	27,487,000	167,699,000 : 1,139
Rescission.....:	1,407,000	--	0	--	--	--	-- : --
Total, Appropriation....:	140,700,000	1,135	140,212,000	1,139			

PROJECT STATEMENT
(On basis of availability)

Project	2006 Actual		2007 Estimated		Increase or Decrease	2008 Estimated	
	Amount	Staff- Years	Amount	Staff- Years		Amount	Staff- Years
1. Agricultural Estimates:	\$110,289,195	871	\$111,198,000	871	+	\$2,176,000	\$113,374,000 : 871
2. Census of Agriculture..:	29,586,375	264	30,101,000	268	+	24,224,000	54,325,000 : 268
Unobligated balance la:	179,955	--	--	--	--	--	-- : --
Unobligated balance forward to next year...:	1,087,018	--	--	--	--	--	-- : --
Total available or estimate.....:	141,142,543	1,135	141,299,000	1,139	+	26,400,000	167,699,000 : 1,139
Unobligated balance forward from prior year:	-1,849,543	--	-1,087,000	--	--	--	-- : --
Rescission.....:	1,407,000	--	--	--	--	--	-- : --
Total, appropriation.....:	140,700,000	1,135	140,212,000	1,139			

Justification of Increases and Decreases

- (1) An increase of \$2,176,000 for agricultural estimates (\$111,197,000 available in 2007) consisting of:

- (a) An increase of \$2,176,000 for pay costs.

Approximately 70 percent of NASS' budget supports personnel compensation. This increase is critically important to NASS to enable the agency to perform its mission and meet the growing need for agricultural statistics. It will also ensure adequate coverage for the current statistical program and maintain most statistical program components.

- (2) A net increase of \$25,311,000 for the Census of Agriculture (\$29,014,000 available in 2007) consisting of:

- (a) An increase of \$24,743,000 (\$29,014,000 available in 2007) for the Census of Agriculture.

This increase is needed to support the activity level associated with the data collection year of the 5-year Census of Agriculture program and supports Goal 3 of the USDA Strategic Plan – Support Increased Economic Opportunities and Improved Quality of Life in Rural America. Data collection for the FY 2007 Census of Agriculture starts with the mailing of questionnaires to the Nation's farmers and ranchers in December 2007. Without the necessary funding for data collection and data capture, the overall investment for the 2007 Census of Agriculture would be jeopardized, resulting in reduced quality and timeliness of the published results.

Funding will be used for many significant data collection and processing activities to occur in 2008. The primary share of the funding will be used for the postage and outsourcing of functions associated with mailing out questionnaire packages, logging returned questionnaires, scanning completed questionnaires, capturing data in electronic form, and telephone and personal follow-up to non-respondents. Additionally, NASS staff will be bolstered through the use of creative hiring techniques, such as rehired annuitants and the use of student internships, to help with data editing and analysis. Finally, funds will be available for data collection in Puerto Rico and start-up activities for the Census of Agriculture in American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Marianas Island.

- (b) An increase of \$568,000 for pay costs.

Approximately 70 percent of NASS' budget supports personnel compensation. This increase is critically important to NASS to enable the agency to perform its mission and meet the growing need for agricultural statistics. It will also ensure adequate coverage for the current statistical program and maintain most statistical program components.

Geographic Breakdown of Obligations and Staff Years
2006 and Estimated 2007 and 2008

	2006		2007		2008	
	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years
Alabama.....	\$1,303,041	14	\$1,303,000	14	\$1,519,000	14
Alaska.....	165,315	2	168,000	2	195,000	2
Arizona.....	903,079	11	903,000	11	1,043,000	11
Arkansas.....	1,250,669	17	1,251,000	17	1,806,000	17
California.....	3,145,906	31	3,149,000	31	4,148,000	31
Colorado.....	1,700,766	17	1,702,000	17	2,081,000	17
Delaware.....	196,416	1	196,000	1	232,000	1
District of Columbia.....	76,097,726	439	76,181,000	443	86,302,000	437
Florida.....	1,665,135	17	1,665,000	17	1,699,000	17
Georgia.....	1,632,442	17	1,634,000	17	1,662,000	18
Hawaii.....	808,566	10	810,000	10	927,000	11
Idaho.....	1,460,337	16	1,461,000	16	1,776,000	17
Illinois.....	1,696,739	20	1,702,000	20	1,966,000	21
Indiana.....	1,645,603	18	1,648,000	18	1,917,000	18
Iowa.....	1,725,640	21	1,726,000	21	1,953,000	21
Kansas.....	1,459,932	19	1,460,000	19	2,270,000	19
Kentucky.....	1,363,539	17	1,365,000	17	1,884,000	17
Louisiana.....	1,208,312	14	1,205,000	14	1,734,000	14
Maryland.....	947,788	11	949,000	11	1,213,000	11
Michigan.....	1,688,692	20	1,690,000	20	1,943,000	20
Minnesota.....	1,764,365	19	1,765,000	19	2,044,000	19
Mississippi.....	1,751,771	18	1,752,000	18	2,235,000	18
Missouri.....	2,015,751	17	2,017,000	17	2,962,000	17
Montana.....	1,556,823	15	1,558,000	15	1,898,000	15
Nebraska.....	1,615,003	18	1,616,000	18	2,455,000	18
Nevada.....	402,929	4	405,000	4	493,000	4
New Hampshire.....	1,262,489	16	1,264,000	16	1,655,000	16
New Jersey.....	1,078,464	11	1,080,000	11	1,416,000	11
New Mexico.....	800,420	10	802,000	10	917,000	10
New York.....	1,353,451	19	1,355,000	19	1,556,000	19
North Carolina.....	2,132,534	19	2,134,000	19	2,427,000	19
North Dakota.....	1,116,768	14	1,117,000	14	1,842,000	14
Ohio.....	1,724,285	17	1,727,000	17	2,478,000	17
Oklahoma.....	1,707,897	15	1,709,000	15	2,284,000	15
Oregon.....	1,697,275	15	1,701,000	15	2,020,000	15
Pennsylvania.....	1,375,892	18	1,375,000	18	1,799,000	18
South Carolina.....	1,045,903	12	1,047,000	12	1,591,000	12
South Dakota.....	1,775,493	18	1,780,000	18	2,270,000	18
Tennessee.....	1,375,902	16	1,377,000	16	1,810,000	16
Texas.....	2,888,836	28	2,892,000	28	3,376,000	28
Utah.....	728,441	10	732,000	10	875,000	10
Virginia.....	1,293,603	15	1,297,000	15	1,597,000	16
Washington.....	1,907,230	18	1,912,000	18	2,488,000	19
West Virginia.....	588,002	8	594,000	8	780,000	8
Wisconsin.....	1,731,667	19	1,732,000	19	2,282,000	19
Wyoming.....	1,101,253	11	1,103,000	11	1,647,000	11
U.S. Territories.....	197,435	3	201,000	3	232,000	3
Subtotal, Available or Estimate.....	140,055,525	1,135	140,212,000	1,139	167,699,000	1,139
Unobligated balance.....	1,087,018	--	--	--	--	--
Total, Available or Estimate.....	141,142,543	1,135	140,212,000	1,139	167,699,000	1,139

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

CLASSIFICATION BY OBJECTS2006 Actual and Estimated 2007 and 2008

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Personnel Compensation:			
Washington, D. C.....	\$32,154,857	\$33,064,000	\$34,087,000
Field.....	40,847,685	43,191,000	45,191,000
11 Total personnel compensation.....	73,002,542	76,556,000	79,278,000
12 Personnel Benefits.....	18,084,764	18,443,000	20,447,000
13 Benefits for former personnel.....	32,070	56,000	17,000
Total pers. comp. & benefits.....	91,119,376	95,055,000	99,742,000
Other Objects:			
21 Travel and transportation of persons...	2,499,019	1,571,000	2,067,000
22 Transportation of things.....	1,254,630	793,000	549,000
23.2 Rental payments of others.....	58,172	58,000	68,000
23.3 Communications, utilities, and misc. charges.....	4,448,821	5,119,000	8,771,000
24 Printing and reproduction.....	220,695	452,000	281,000
25.1 Contractual Services by Fed Agencies	8,516,032	7,184,000	13,799,000
25.2 Related Expenditures	590,017	990,000	1,015,000
25.3 Repair, Alteration or Maint of Equip	2,535,016	735,000	932,000
25.4 Contractual Services - Other	19,772,887	19,507,000	29,846,000
25.5 Research & Development Contracts	435,216	435,000	499,000
25.7 Miscellaneous Services	2,439,784	1,410,000	3,500,000
26 Supplies and materials.....	1,594,760	1,913,000	1,509,000
31 Equipment.....	4,557,003	4,990,000	5,121,000
42 Insurance claims and indemnities.....	9,522	-1,000	-1,000
43 Interest and dividends.....	4,575	1,000	1,000
Total other objects.....	48,936,149	45,157,000	67,957,000
Total direct obligations.....	140,055,525	140,212,000	167,699,000
Position Data:			
Average Salary, ES positions.....	\$159,636	\$159,636	\$159,636
Average Salary, GS positions.....	\$68,012	\$70,064	\$72,180
Average Grade, GS positions.....	11.9	11.9	11.9

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

STATUS OF PROGRAM

The National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) mission is to provide timely, accurate, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. To achieve this, NASS administers USDA's program of collecting and publishing current national, State, and county agricultural statistics. The Census of Agriculture, conducted every 5 years, provides comprehensive, local level data about agricultural communities across America. The statistical data provided by NASS are essential to both the public and private sectors for making effective policy, production, and marketing decisions on a wide range of agricultural commodities.

NASS programs are organized into the following three major areas: (1) agricultural estimates, (2) Census of Agriculture, and (3) work performed for others.

AGRICULTURAL ESTIMATES

Current Activities:

The NASS agricultural statistics program is conducted through 45 field offices serving all 50 States, and a Puerto Rico field office. Scientifically designed surveys of farmers, ranchers, agribusinesses, and others provide the basis for developing estimates of production, supply, price, and many other aspects of the agricultural economy. These surveys are supplemented by field observations, objective yield counts and measurements, and other data to provide reliable information. Administrative data available from other USDA agencies and State Departments of Agriculture are also used to produce statistical reports, including monthly livestock and poultry slaughter, egg production, and dairy products reports.

Official USDA national and State reports are issued relating to the number of farms and land in farms; acreage, yield, production, and stocks of grains; production of hay, oilseeds, cotton, potatoes, tobacco, fruits, vegetables, floriculture, nursery, and selected specialty crops; inventories and production of hogs, cattle, sheep and wool, goats and mohair, mink, catfish, trout, poultry, eggs, and dairy products; prices received by farmers for products, prices paid for commodities and services, and related indexes; cold storage inventories; agricultural chemical use; and other related items that affect the agricultural economy. The NASS field offices forward the estimates to the Headquarters office in Washington, D.C., where they are combined, analyzed, and released at scheduled times to the media and public through free published reports on the NASS Web site, <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>. Annually, NASS publishes more than 500 national reports, covering over 120 crop and 45 livestock items, complemented by more than 8,000 additional State reports. These basic and unbiased data are critical to maintain an orderly association between the consumption, supply, marketing, and input sectors of agriculture.

NASS provides timely and accurate agricultural statistics that are used throughout the agricultural sector to evaluate supplies and determine competitive prices for world marketing of U.S. commodities. These statistics promote a level playing field in production agriculture with impartial information available to everyone at a predetermined and publicized date and time.

Statistical data are also provided on chemical use and biotechnology for use in monitoring and evaluating risk assessment to both food safety and food security. Data on agricultural practices, farm and ranch irrigation practice trends, and the geographic information system cropland data layer provide meaningful information on the Nation's resource base and environment.

NASS continues to keep abreast of information needs through a variety of means, including data user meetings, advisory committees, attending industry meetings, and sponsoring outreach activities. Even though most NASS reports consist of specific data series, improvements to reports and databases are constantly being made in terms of additional data breakouts, improved coverage, and improved timeliness. Special reports or additional categories within existing reports are added to best summarize the constantly changing character of agriculture. The following examples represent FY 2006 accomplishments.

Selected Examples of Recent Progress:

New and Expanded Agricultural Statistics published by NASS

- The annual *Mushroom* report now includes statistics for Chester County, Pennsylvania. This addition was requested by the industry.
- Wisconsin was added to the dry bean program and data were published in the *Prospective Plantings, Acreage, and Crop Production* reports.
- Mississippi has been added to the blueberry program and Missouri has been added to the pecan program. Data for both States will be published in the *Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts Preliminary Summary* report.
- The *June Acreage* report included individual State estimates for the percentage of corn acreage planted to biotechnology varieties in North Dakota and Texas. In addition, individual State estimates for Alabama, Missouri, and Tennessee were also included as part of the cotton biotechnology statistics. Previously, data for these States were combined as part of the Other States total.
- A new weekly report, *Peanut Prices*, was issued. This report includes the weekly price received by farmers for each type of farmer stock peanut (Runners, Spanish, Valencia, and Virginia) along with the quantity marketed. Data for the prior 4 weeks are also included.
- Beginning with the January 12, 2006, release of the *Rice Stocks* report, stocks data for rough rice and milled rice stored off the farm were consolidated into a total Off-Farm stocks estimate. This standardizes the publication of rice stocks with other commodities and reduces the chance of data being withheld due to disclosing individual operations. Prior to this change, off-farm stocks were broken down into three categories based on where the stocks were stored ("In Mills and Attached Warehouses," "In Warehouses not Attached to Mills," and "In Ports or In Transit").
- Mississippi was added to the peanut estimation program and data were published in the *Crop Production 2005 Summary* report. Oklahoma was added to the canola estimation program and was published as part of the combined Other States total.
- A special report, *Cattle Death Loss*, was issued in May 2006. This report presented U.S. and State level data on the inventory and value of losses for cattle, and calves from predators and non-predators.
- A special report, *Non-Ambulatory Sheep and Goats*, was issued in May 2006. This report is the result of a cooperative effort between NASS and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services, and included non-ambulatory sheep and lamb totals by region, weight category, and type of operation.

- A special report, *U.S. Cattle Supplies*, was issued in March 2006. This report covered cattle supplies in the United States. Historical data on the cattle cycle, cattle on feed, and the movement of cattle were presented in the report.
- U.S. level kid crop estimates for angora, milk, and meat and other goats were added to the *Sheep and Goats* report released in January 2006. Goats were added to 2006 *Sheep* report in July 2006. This was the first publication of July 1 estimates of total goat inventory and kid crop for the United States. The report name was modified to *Sheep and Goats* to reflect this change. Milk, angora, meat and all other goats, and U.S. totals were published.
- The monthly *Dairy Products* report released in October 2005, contained a new data series for whey protein concentrates and isolates (25.0-49.9 percent, 50.0-89.9 percent, and 90.0 percent or greater). Historical data from 2003 to present were also included. The series continued in subsequent *Dairy Products* releases.
- The annual *Dairy Products 2005 Summary* released in April 2006, contained a new data series called skim milk powders (SMP). SMP's are essentially nonfat dry milk, which does not conform to the applicable provisions of 21 CFR part 131 "Milk and Cream" as issued by the Food and Drug Administration, due to mixing with lactose permeate to standardize the protein percent to a desired level for the world market. The series continued in subsequent monthly *Dairy Products* releases. In addition, a new State level table for sour cream production by month, State, and United States was added to this release.
- A special report, *U.S. Hog Breeding Structures*, was issued in September 2006. This report provides information on the changes in the composition of the breeding herd by size of operation and efficiency of the breeding herd.
- A new monthly release, *Catfish Feed Deliveries*, was started in January 2006. This report tracks the monthly feed deliveries made to catfish farms by feed mills in the United States. It is summarized by feed delivered for foodsize fish and feed delivered for fingerlings and broodfish. It is published for Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and 'Other States' east and west of the Mississippi River.
- A change was made to the monthly, *Catfish Processing*. Starting in September 2006, a new import and export table was added to the release to give growers and processors more information about international trade regarding farm raised catfish.
- NASS continues to consult with the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, and the private sector to provide better descriptive data about ranching operations with the goal of complementing the existing land data series with new data about the contribution of land utilized on an Animal Unit Month basis.

Chemical Use

- In March 2006, NASS released its annual *Agricultural Chemical Usage Postharvest Applications* report featuring peanuts as the target crop. The next Postharvest report will feature oats and fall potatoes.

- In May 2006, NASS released its annual *Agricultural Chemical Usage 2005 Field Crops Summary* report featuring the following target crops: corn, fall potatoes, upland cotton and soybeans. Rate Distribution Tables for Percent of Acres Treated, Number of Applications, Rate per Application, and Rate per Crop Year were provided for the first time in this publication as a more detailed display of the chemical usage data. These tables include the 10th and 90th percentile, median, and average of the chemical usage data.
- Soybeans were not a target commodity for the chemical usage program in 2005, but soybean chemical usage data were summarized from the Conservation Effect Assessment Project (CEAP) for inclusion in the *Agricultural Chemical Usage 2005 Field Crops Summary*. Chemical usage, especially fungicides, on soybeans was of interest in response to Asian soybean rust.
- The biennial *Agricultural Chemical Usage 2005 Fruit Summary* was released in July 2006. This report targeted 24 crops in 13 States. It is the ninth report in this series. Rate Distribution Tables for Percent of Acres Treated, Number of Applications, Rate per Application, and Rate per Crop Year were provided for the first time in this publication as a more detailed display of the chemical usage data. These tables include the 10th and 90th percentile, median, and average of the chemical usage data.
- The annual *Agricultural Chemical Usage - Restricted Use Summary* report was released October 2005 providing a summary of pesticides applied to surveyed commodities classified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as requiring certified applicators.

Security and Contingency Planning

- The importance of sound security continues to be emphasized throughout NASS through training for all employees on security and privacy issues, specialized training for computer security specialists, and special briefings at national training workshops.
- NASS significantly improved the security for remote access by employees by implementing a virtual private network with encryption, two-factor user authentication to access the network, personal firewalls, and anti-virus protection.
- NASS implemented, tested, and improved its Headquarters Continuity of Operations Plan.
- NASS implemented wireless detection capability in the Agricultural Statistics Board Lock-Up area to strengthen security against new threats brought about by wireless technologies.
- NASS deployed an automated security patch management system throughout the agency to provide timely patching of security vulnerabilities.
- NASS implemented a new network security risk management tool that provides an entire network assessment and virtual penetration capability to ensure the network is configured optimally to be secure.
- NASS is in the process of migrating to a new operating system for its network that will improve security throughout NASS.

Data Users Meeting

- Data user meetings were held in Atlanta in March and in Chicago in September to update data users on program changes and to solicit input on new data needs. The meetings were hosted by NASS, the Economic Research Service (ERS), the Agricultural Marketing Service, the Foreign Agricultural Service, the World Agricultural Outlook Board, and the Foreign Trade Division of the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics

- In February 2006, a meeting was held in Arlington, VA, to advise NASS on the follow-on surveys for the 2007 Census of Agriculture; discuss small and minority farm coverage, electronic data reporting, improving respondent relations, and reducing respondent burden; and offer suggestions on the NASS on-going survey program. In addition, the committee discussed the new NASS Web site, a subcommittee report on pesticide use, and established three new subcommittees the animal unit month subcommittee, energy subcommittee, and equine subcommittee.

Agency Recognition

- NASS was presented a Telly Award for Outstanding Documentary of its 8-minute film, *Safeguarding America's Agricultural Statistics*, documenting the history of NASS. The Telly Awards honor outstanding local, regional, and cable television commercial and programs, as well as the finest video and film productions.

eGovernment

- NASS made significant progress leveraging the Question Repository System to develop a Computer Assisted Telephone Interview (QRS- CATI) instrument and system. NASS successfully piloted the QRS-CATI collecting data for the 10-State Weekly Prices Received by Farmers for Peanut Survey and for the Non-Federal Inspected Slaughter Survey in Virginia.
- Enterprise architecture efforts during FY 2006 focused on advancing the NASS enterprise data architecture. The focus was on redesigning the NASS Publicly-Available Agricultural Statistics Database to provide more flexible access to agricultural statistics by data users and timely loading of agricultural statistics to the database.
- NASS made significant progress improving the performance of critical systems to be used to efficiently and effectively process the 2007 Census of Agriculture.
- NASS continued to expand the use of electronic data reporting (EDR) during FY 2006. EDR allows respondents to report data via the Internet. EDR was made available for the following commodities/surveys during FY 2006. Plans are to complete the system with the electronic availability of the 2007 Census of Agriculture.

2005 Census of Agriculture Test	Agricultural Resource Management Study – Core Version
Census of Aquaculture	Sheep and Goats Survey
Cattle Survey	Prices Received by Farmers for Oilseed Survey
Burley Tobacco Inquiry	Blueberry Processor Inquiry

Blueberry Handler Inquiry	Hay Production and Sales Survey
On-Farm Rice Stocks Survey	Special Oilseed Survey
Onion Production and Disposition Survey	Tart Cherry Inquiry
Cherry Processing Survey	Cherry Production and Disposition Survey
Sweet Cherry Inquiry	Sweet and Tart Cherry Production and Disposition Inquiry
Green Peas Growers Survey	Pecan Shellers & Processors Survey
Pecan Production and Disposition Survey	Pecan Buyers Survey
Grape Production and Disposition Survey	Grape Processing Inquiry

CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Current Activities:

The Census of Agriculture is taken every 5 years and provides comprehensive data at the national, State, and county level on the agricultural economy, including the number of farms, characteristics of farm operators, land use, production expenses, value of land and buildings, farm size, market value of agricultural production sold, acreage of major crops, inventory of livestock and poultry, and farm irrigation practices. FY 2006 represents the second year into the 5-year cycle of the 2007 Census of Agriculture. Activities conducted in FY 2006 were primarily focused on list building, content, and systems development work needed to support a mail out to all of the Nation's farm and ranch operators in December 2007. In addition, the 2005 Census of Aquaculture was collected, processed, and disseminated. Results from this follow-on program are available at http://www.nass.usda.gov/Census_of_Agriculture/2002/Aquaculture/index.asp

Information from the Census of Agriculture provides comprehensive and detailed data at the county level which facilitates locality-based policy and business decisions affecting the agricultural industry and rural residents. The following examples represent accomplishments during FY 2006.

Selected Examples of Recent Progress:

2007 Census of Agriculture

- The content test, designed to gather data about a farm operators ability to understand and respond to specific census questions, concluded in May. The survey was designed to test both wording and formatting of questions. Approximately, 16,000 responses were used to evaluate mail and electronic reporting modes. The results were used to finalize census content, improve data collection, and reduce respondent burden.
- In August, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) authorized data collection and statistical methodology procedures for conducting the agriculture census. Plans were formulated and supported by testing activities throughout the fiscal year.
- List building activity continued with an emphasis on improved coverage of minority and small farms. Three Agricultural Identification Surveys (AIS) were conducted -- November 2005, March 2006, and June 2006. The AIS is designed to screen potential farms and ranches prior to adding them to the census mail list. These survey collections resulted in over 200,000 updates to the list frame.

- The supplemental area frame samples to improve estimation of undercoverage for the 2007 Census of Agriculture were allocated to the States. Work on the materials associated with the samples is on schedule. The allocation was drawn with the expectation of providing more precise estimates of undercoverage by demographic group at the national level. An area frame was built for Hawaii in order to use area frame samples for the first time to measure undercoverage in that State. Preliminary results from testing in Hawaii were promising. In addition, results of testing supplemental area frame segments in reservations in Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah showed improved indications for farm operators on reservations.
- Regional focus groups were conducted to collect information and discuss ways of increasing public awareness. The census promotion campaign is being shaped using recommendations from this research.
- All content and forms design work was completed. Questionnaires were designed for 7 regions of the country with varying types of agriculture. Also, a new short form was designed to make reporting easier for small farms and operators raising only a few commodities.
- A new Spanish language questionnaire was designed to accommodate the growing Hispanic population. This is not a primary collection instrument, but will enhance our capability to deal with language barriers and understanding of information the census collects.
- Key from image data capture programs were developed to improve the speed and efficiency of processing data. Development focused on defining capture zones, skip patterns, modifying look-up tables, and developing quality assurance procedures.
- Editing and analysis programs were developed and tested. All of the edit logic was documented and converted into computer programs which automatically identify reporting errors or omissions. Programs are designed to use various imputation strategies for correcting errors and minimizing human intervention.
- A user-friendly electronic data reporting instrument was design and used for the first time with the content test survey. Follow-up interviews with respondents provided recommendations for improvements which were then implemented and re-tested.
- Forms design and list building activities for the Puerto Rico Census of Agriculture were completed. The Puerto Rico Planning Board established an interagency committee which reviewed and finalized the census content. The NASS field office in Puerto Rico has been working with the Puerto Rico Office of Statistics and Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture to update mail lists and develop census collection and processing plans.
- Efforts were made to develop partnerships with community based organizations and groups representing American Indian operators on reservations. Many meetings were held throughout the country to develop relationships focusing on improved coverage and data quality.
- New coverage adjustment methodology was planned, tested, and is being implemented. New programs were written and tested using historic data. The results were reviewed extensively by field offices and recommended actions were subsequently implemented for further testing.

2005 Census of Aquaculture

The 2005 Census of Aquaculture was released in October 2006. The census follow-on program expanded the aquaculture data collected by the 2002 Census of Agriculture and provided a comprehensive picture of aquaculture activity at State and national levels. In addition, the aquaculture census provided a small scale opportunity to test many data processing and query systems planned for the 2007 Census of Agriculture.

WORK PERFORMED FOR OTHERS

Current Activities:

NASS conducts surveys for and lends technical expertise to other Federal agencies, State governments, and private organizations on a reimbursable basis. NASS provides support and assistance in the areas of questionnaire and sample design, data collection and editing, analysis of survey results, and training. NASS also provides technical consultation, support, and assistance to foreign countries desiring to enhance their statistical programs.

NASS performs services and statistical consultation for other Federal and State agencies and private commodity organizations on a reimbursable basis. Statistics generated meet special needs not covered by the National Agricultural Statistics Program. In addition, statistical consultation by NASS staff members contributes to improvements in the overall quality and consistency of statistical information produced for the needs of other organizations. The following examples represent accomplishments during FY 2006.

Selected Examples of Recent Progress:

Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS)

- The ARMS is conducted in cooperation with the USDA's ERS. The survey provides data to enable NASS to publish chemical use statistics and to provide ERS the ability to estimate farm income, conduct economic analysis relating to field crop chemical usage, estimate costs associated with producing agricultural commodities, and compile farm business and household financial data. Data collected support both agencies' estimation programs for farm production expenditures. Use of respondent incentives became a part of the operational program in 2006 with the continued use of debit cards for respondents in the core ARMS sample. Agricultural commodities included in the cost of production and chemical use studies in fiscal year 2006 included wheat, rice, soybeans, and organic soybeans.
- *Farm Production Expenditures 2005 Summary* was released August 2006. This is the first product from the 2005 ARMS, and helped document the effects of rising energy costs, hurricane Katrina, and other adverse conditions.

Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP)

- NASS continued data collection for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Farm Service Agency, by conducting the CEAP in the fall of 2006. This was the last full year of data collection for the 5-year project. The principle focus of the CEAP is to produce a national assessment of environmental benefits of conservation programs to support policy decisions and program

implementation under the 2002 Farm Security and Rural Investment Act. NRCS plans to publish research findings beginning in 2007.

Special Surveys Conducted in FY 2006 by Field Offices, by Survey Type:

Survey Type	Number of Surveys
Seeds, Field Crops, Vegetables	38
Fruits and Nuts	19
County Estimates	16
Cropping Practices, Pesticide Use	17
Livestock, Poultry	17
Safety, Health, Disability	3
Nursery and Floriculture	5
Farm Finance, Land Values	27
Miscellaneous	109
TOTAL	251

National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS)

- NASS, in cooperation with APHIS, conducted the second phase of data collection for non-ambulatory sheep and goats on U.S. farms. This survey is a continuation of a series of surveys. NASS provided statistical services such as questionnaire development, data collection, data keying, data editing, and summarization. In May 2006, NASS published non-ambulatory sheep and goats in the United States, by region, based on data collected in January 2005 and 2006.
- NASS conducted a survey under contract for NAHMS to study health management practices of swine on farms in 17 States. This survey is a continuation of a series of surveys. NASS provided statistical services including questionnaire development, data collection, data keying, data editing, and summarization.

Woodland Owners Survey

- NASS conducted a Woodland Owners Survey, under contract with USDA's Forest Service, of about 50,000 owners of woodland asking questions targeted to management and potential future uses. NASS services included sample selection, questionnaire development, data collection – mail and telephone follow-up, data keying, and editing. Survey results will be summarized and analyzed by the survey sponsor.

Childhood Injury and Adult Occupational Health Survey

- NASS conducted a nationwide survey of approximately 25,000 farm operators that focused on the physical and environmental factors on farms that are associated with work-related injuries and illnesses. This Occupational Injury and Illness Survey is a continuation of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) studies conducted by NASS and sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The studies focus on the occupational health of farm operators and their families. NASS provided statistical services such as sample selection, questionnaire and computer-assisted telephone instrument development, data collection, data keying, and data editing. NASS will publish a press release highlighting some of the study's findings and a final detailed report will be published by NIOSH in 2007.

Distillers Grains Survey

- NASS began collaboration with the Nebraska Corn Development, Utilization, and Marketing Board to conduct a survey on the potential uses of distiller's grains. A large-scale survey of livestock producers in 12 Midwestern States will begin in February 2007 targeted at identifying barriers or concerns that prevent producers from using distiller's grains and identify feed characteristics for the 2006 reference year. In fiscal year 2006, NASS developed final survey specifications, conducted field testing of survey instruments, determined sample design, established a survey schedule of events, and gained data collection approval from OMB.

California Department of Food and Agriculture

- NASS continued their cooperation and collaboration in the re-engineering of the Dairy Accounting System for the California Department of Food and Agriculture. The Dairy Accounting System redistributes raw milk sales revenue generated by processing plants among the market milk producers in the State. This new system will allow for more timely processing and greater data analysis.

United Soybean Board Soybean Research

- NASS has been collaborating with the United Soybean Board (USB) for 3 years by supplying the Board with soybean samples from 11 States involved in our annual Soybean Objective Yield Survey. Compositional analysis of the random samples is made to determine such variables as oil and protein content. These analyses help determine the quality of soybeans produced in the U.S. and how they compare with those grown in other countries and help USB establish priorities for research and education efforts.

Atlantic Coast Cropland Data Layer

- NASS released a 10-State Mid-Atlantic Geographic Information System Cropland Data Layer (CDL) in cooperation with Towson University. In addition, a CDL for Idaho, created in cooperation with Utah State graduate student, was released in 2006. An enhanced Wisconsin CDL performed under contract with the Wisconsin State, Bureau of Environmental & Occupational Health and Department of Health and Family Services was also created and released in 2006.

Florida Citrus Project

- NASS partnered with the Florida Department of Citrus and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to develop a Geographic Information System (GIS) of Florida citrus groves. The goals were to increase program efficiency and lower costs in the long run and to develop analytical tools and enhanced cartographic capabilities to make the Citrus GIS more flexible and responsive than the traditional manual cartographic system. The project began in the spring of 2005, with a pilot project of Indian River County, Florida where a sophisticated and robust Citrus GIS database model of the Florida citrus infrastructure was developed. Once the model was developed, it was scaled up to encompass the entire citrus growing region of approximately 800,000 acres, where refinements to the system and knowledge transfer of the technologies occurred between offices, as both offices began building the citrus GIS together by county in a coordinated systematic effort. The project was completed in the spring of 2006 and is now operational in Florida.

International Technical Assistance Provided

- NASS provided technical assistance and training to improve agricultural statistics programs in 11 countries. Short-term assignments supported work in Armenia, Brazil, China, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Georgia, Mexico, Mongolia, Pakistan, Russia, and Ukraine. The technical assistance ranged from basic survey concepts and procedures to complete national Census of Agriculture support. In addition, NASS coordinated and/or conducted training programs in the U.S. for 172 visitors representing 19 countries. These assistance and training activities promote better quality data and improved access to data from other countries, which allows U.S. analysts to better understand the world supply and demand situation. Improved analysis supports trade and more efficient marketing of U.S. agricultural products.

PART Assessment: The NASS program, including the agricultural estimates and the Census of Agriculture, underwent an assessment by the OMB's Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART) during the FY 2006 budget process and received an overall program rating of "Moderately Effective." The findings gave NASS a perfect score for "program purpose & design," "program management," and "strategic planning." The lack of a recent independent, external evaluation of the NASS program was cited. NASS is currently having two external reviews conducted. The National Academy on Science is reviewing the ARMS and the Council on Food, Agricultural, and Resource Economics is reviewing the quinquennial Census of Agriculture. The "program results" section of the PART indicated the need for improved demonstration of NASS achieving its long-term and annual performance goals. The American Customer Satisfaction Index will be conducted periodically and used to demonstrate progress in these areas.

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 NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
 Summary of Budget and Performance
 Statement of Goals and Objectives

The NASS strategic goals are aligned with the Department's strategic goals. The agency has four strategic goals and five strategic objectives that contribute to four of the Department's Strategic Goals and five of the Department's Strategic Objectives.

USDA Strategic Goal/Objective	Agency Strategic Goal	Agency Objectives	Programs that Contribute	Key Outcome
<p>USDA Strategic Goal 2: Enhance the Competitiveness and Sustainability of Rural and Farm Economies</p> <p>USDA Strategic Objective 2.2: Increase the Efficiency of Domestic Agricultural Production and Marketing Systems</p> <p>USDA Strategic Objective 2.3: Provide Risk Management and Financial Tools to Farmers and Ranchers</p>	<p>Agency Goal 2: Enhance the Competitiveness and Sustainability of Rural and Farm Economies</p>	<p><u>Objective 2.2:</u> Statistical data promotes efficient domestic agricultural production and marketing systems.</p> <p><u>Objective 2.3:</u> Statistical data are available for risk management and financial tools to farmers and ranchers.</p>	<p>Agricultural Estimates</p> <p>Census of Agriculture</p>	<p><u>Key Outcome 1:</u> Ensure high quality statistics for stakeholders.</p> <p><u>Key Outcome 2:</u> Ensure data are relevant and useful to stakeholders.</p> <p><u>Key Outcome 3:</u> Ensure timely release of data.</p>
<p>USDA Strategic Goal 3: Support Increased Economic Opportunities and Improved Quality of Life in Rural America</p> <p>USDA Strategic Objective 3.1: Expand Economic Opportunities by using USDA Financial Resources to Leverage Private Sector Resources and Create Opportunities for Growth</p>	<p>Agency Goal 3 : Support Increased Economic Opportunities and Improved Quality of Life in Rural America</p>	<p><u>Objective 3.1:</u> Provide statistically sound information for expanding economic opportunities by conducting the Census of Agriculture to help create opportunities for Growth.</p>	<p>Census of Agriculture</p>	

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

Summary of Budget and Performance
Statement of Goals and Objectives

USDA Strategic Goal/Objective	Agency Strategic Goal	Agency Objectives	Programs that Contribute	Key Outcome
<p>USDA Strategic Goal 4: Enhance Protection and Safety of the Nation's Agriculture and Food Supply</p> <p>USDA Strategic Objective 4.2: Reduce the Number and Severity of Agricultural Pest and Disease Outbreaks</p>	<p>Agency Goal 4: Enhance Protection and Safety of the Nation's Agriculture and Food Supply</p>	<p><u>Objective 4.2:</u> Provide chemical usage statistics to enable informed decisions using sound science risk analysis.</p>	<p>Agricultural Estimates</p>	<p><u>Key Outcome 1:</u> Ensure high quality statistics for stakeholders.</p> <p><u>Key Outcome 2:</u> Ensure data are relevant and useful to stakeholders.</p>
<p>USDA Strategic Goal 6: Protect and Enhance the Nation's Natural Resource Base and Environment</p> <p>USDA Strategic Objective 6.2: Enhance Soil quality to Maintain Productive Working Cropland</p>	<p>Agency Goal 6: Protect and Enhance the Nation's Natural Resource Base and Environment</p>	<p><u>Objective 6.2:</u> Provide statistical data to support management of productive working cropland</p>	<p>Agricultural Estimates</p> <p>Census of Agriculture</p>	<p><u>Key Outcome 3:</u> Ensure timely release of data.</p>

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

Strategic Objective and Funding Matrix
(On basis of appropriation)

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2.2: Increase the Efficiency of Domestic Agricultural Production and Marketing Systems

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2.3: Provide Risk Management and Financial Tools to Farmers and Ranchers

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3.1: Expand Economic Opportunities by Using USDA Financial Resources To Leverage Private Sector Resources and Create Opportunities for Growth

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4.2: Reduce the Number and Severity of Agricultural Pest and Disease Outbreaks

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 6.2: Enhance Soil Quality to Maintain Productive Working Cropland

	<u>2006 Actual</u>		<u>2007 Estimated</u>		<u>Increase or Decrease</u>	<u>2008 Estimated</u>	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff Years</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff Years</u>		<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff Years</u>
Strategic Objective 2.2:							
Agricultural Estimates Program	\$97,316,150	747	\$97,844,917	741	+\$2,116,000	\$99,960,917	741
Census of Agriculture	500,000	2	200,000	1	-30,000	170,000	1
Strategic Objective 2.3:							
Agricultural Estimates Program	6,615,000	67	6,615,000	67	0	6,615,000	67
Strategic Objective 3.1:							
Census of Agriculture	28,323,850	262	28,814,083	267	+25,341,000	54,155,083	267
Strategic Objective 4.2:							
Agricultural Estimates Program	2,670,000	25	2,670,000	25	0	2,670,000	25
Strategic Objective 6.2:							
Agricultural Estimates Program	3,868,000	32	4,068,000	38	+60,000	4,128,000	38
Total Available	139,293,000	1,135	140,212,000	1,139	27,487,000	167,699,000	1,139

Selected Accomplishments Expected at the FY 2008 Proposed Resource Level:

- Data collection and analysis will occur for the 2007 Census of Agriculture. The primary share of the funding will be used for postage; outsourcing functions associated with mailing our questionnaire packages; capturing reported data; and telephone and personal follow-up to non-respondents.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
Summary of Budget and Performance
Key Performance Outcomes and Measures

NASS has developed performance measures based on the R&D Investment Criteria in the President's Management Agenda and the NASS mission to provide timely, accurate, and useful agricultural statistics. Each goal of the USDA Strategic Plan to which NASS contributes and receives appropriated funding has a measure for each of the Investment Criteria: Usefulness (relevance), accuracy (quality), and timeliness (performance). The NASS key outcomes and long term performance measures are consistent across all goals and are stated here only once for efficiency.

Goal 2: Enhance the Competitiveness and Sustainability of Rural and Farm Economies.

Goal 3: Support Increased Economic Opportunities and Improved Quality of Life in Rural America.

Goal 4: Enhance Protection and Safety of the Nation's Agriculture and Food Supply.

Goal 6: Protect and Enhance the Nation's Natural Resource Base and Environment.

Key Outcome 1: Ensure high quality statistics for stakeholders.

Longterm Performance Measure: Percent of key survey estimators meeting predefined levels of precision.

Key Outcome 2: Ensure data are relevant and useful to stakeholders.

Longterm Performance Measure: Alignment of commodity inclusion and coverage with stakeholders needs.

Key Outcome 3: Ensure timely release of data.

Longterm Performance Measure: Percent of time official reports are released on the date and time prespecified to data users.

Key Performance Targets:

Performance Measure	2003 Actual	2004 Actual	2005 Actual	2006 Target	2007 Target	2008 Target
Usefulness – The accuracy and usefulness of the report content of NASS products and services as measured by ACSI ^{1/}						
a. Units(Percent)	81	n/a	n/a	n/a	88	n/a
Timeliness-Percent of time official reports are released on the date and time pre-specified to data users						
a. Units(Percent)	99.8	99.4	99.8	100.0	100.0	100.0

^{1/}The American Customer Satisfaction Index is only measured every 3 years. However, the usefulness of NASS reports is monitored annually and efforts are continuously made to ensure USDA is meeting the growing data needs of its constituents.

**Summary of Budget and Performance
Full Cost by Strategic Objective**

Strategic Objective 2.2: Increase the Efficiency of Domestic Agricultural Production and Marketing Systems

PROGRAM	PROGRAM ITEMS	AMOUNT (\$000)		
Agricultural Estimates				
		FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
	Salary expenses	\$62,510	\$63,510	\$63,919
	Contracts	23,687	23,416	24,956
	Travel	1,704	1,704	1,705
	Printing	128	128	137
	Hardware/software	4,893	4,393	4,446
	Postage/Shipping/Contingencies	3,292	3,292	3,292
	Indirect	<u>1,602</u>	<u>1,602</u>	<u>1,676</u>
	Total Costs	\$97,816	\$98,045	\$100,131
	FTEs	749	742	742

Performance measure: Percent of time official reports are released on the date and time pre-specified to data users

Units	99.8	100	100
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Strategic Objective 2.3: Provide Risk Management and Financial Tools to Farmers and Ranchers

PROGRAM	PROGRAM ITEMS	AMOUNT (\$000)		
Agricultural Estimates				
		FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
	Salary expenses	\$3,587	\$3,587	\$3,637
	Data collection	893	893	893
	Contracts	1,872	1,872	1,822
	Printing	33	33	33
	Hardware/Software	61	61	61
	Postage/Shipping/Contingencies	34	34	34
	Indirect	<u>135</u>	<u>135</u>	<u>135</u>
	Total Costs	\$6,615	\$6,615	\$6,615
	FTEs	67	67	67

Total for Strategic Goal 2

<i>Total Cost (program, direct, indirect)</i>	\$104,431	\$104,660	\$106,746
<i>FTEs</i>	816	809	809

Strategic Objective 3.1: Expand Economic Opportunities By Using USDA Financial Resources to Leverage Private Sector Resources and Create Opportunities for Growth

PROGRAM	PROGRAM ITEMS	AMOUNT (\$000)		
Census of Agriculture				
		FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
	Salary expenses	\$21,275	\$21,500	\$22,873
	Data processing	2,618	2,218	10,683
	Printing	1,211	2,211	1,312
	Hardware/Software	2,386	2,051	2,703
	Travel/transportation	765	765	1,515
	Data Collection	<u>69</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>15,069</u>
	Total Costs	\$28,324	\$28,814	\$54,155
	FTEs	262	267	267
Total for Strategic Goal 3				
	<i>Total Cost (program, direct, indirect)</i>	\$28,324	\$28,814	\$54,155
	<i>FTEs</i>	262	267	267

Strategic Objective 4.2: Reduce the Number and Severity of Agricultural Pest and Disease Outbreaks

PROGRAM	PROGRAM ITEMS	AMOUNT (\$000)		
Agricultural Estimates				
		FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
	Salary expenses	\$1,424	\$1,500	\$1,532
	Contracts	875	799	783
	Travel	13	13	12
	Hardware/software	27	27	25
	Postage/Shipping/Contingencies	250	250	240
	Indirect	<u>81</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>78</u>
	Total Costs	\$2,670	\$2,670	\$2,670
	FTEs	25	25	25
Total for Strategic Goal 4				
	<i>Total Cost (program, direct, indirect)</i>	\$2,670	\$2,670	\$2,670
	<i>FTEs</i>	25	25	25

Strategic Objective 6.2: Enhance Soil Quality to Maintain Productive Working Cropland

PROGRAM	PROGRAM ITEMS	AMOUNT (\$000)		
Agricultural Estimates				
		FY 2006	FY 2007	FY2008
	Salary expenses	\$1,912	\$1,912	\$1,991
	Contracts	1,662	1,662	1,662
	Travel	18	18	16
	Hardware/software	92	92	72
	Postage/shipping/Contingencies	99	299	329
	Indirect	<u>85</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>58</u>
	Total Costs	3,868	4,068	4,128
	FTEs	32	38	38
Total for Strategic Goal 6				
	<i>Total Cost (program, direct, indirect)</i>	3,868	4,068	4,128
	<i>FTEs</i>	32	38	38