

NASS TO RELEASE FINAL CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE DATA

Newsrelease forwarded by Gordon Groover, Extension Economist Farm Management Dept. AAEC, VA Tech

WASHINGTON, June 1, 2004 - The U. S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will release final data from the 2002 Census of Agriculture for every county and state in the Nation on June 3 at 11:00 a.m. In addition to releasing all data on the Internet, NASS will hold a media briefing.

2002 Census of Agriculture final data provide consistent and detailed production, economic, demographic and environmental data including facts on number and type of farms, land use, value of sales and government payments, production expenses, hired labor, computer and Internet use, livestock and poultry inventory and sales, aquaculture, irrigation, crop acreage and production, gender and race of operator, production contracts, number of people in farm households, tenure of operator, chemical use, value of land and buildings, production contracts, organic acreage and a myriad of other topics.

Examples of the Volume 1 tables to be released on June 3 are currently available online at www.usda.gov/nass/ by clicking on "Census of Agriculture." Published tables will be available as .PDF, .CSV, and .TXT files.

For general information about the census or other NASS surveys, visit www.usda.gov/nass/ or call the Ag Statistics Hotline at 1-800-727-9540.

Media Note: A media briefing about the 2002 Census of Agriculture results will be held at 9:30 a.m. on June 3rd. Media must hold NASS lockup press passes or register in advance to attend. Media attending the briefing will not be permitted to leave, make phone calls or have access via any medium outside NASS lockup facilities until 11:00 a.m. when the data are officially released to the public. Call Sierra Fleming at 202.720.7017 by 10:00 a.m. on June 2nd to register for the briefing.

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