



NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
PACIFIC REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE
650 Capitol Mall 6-100, Sacramento, CA 95814-4712
www.nass.usda.gov/ca

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Contact: Curt Stock
Curt.Stock@usda.gov
916-738-6600

USDA Mails 2019 Organic Survey to California Producers this week

Online survey available at www.agcounts.usda.gov

SACRAMENTO, California – December 17, 2019 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will mail the 2019 Organic Survey this week to more than 3,800 producers involved in organic farming across California. Each producer who self-reported organic farming in the 2017 Census of Agriculture will receive a unique survey code to respond online or by mail.

"The 2017 Census of Agriculture data show continued growth in organic sectors of agriculture for California and the nation," said Gary R. Keough, Director, USDA NASS Pacific Region. "NASS produces accurate and unbiased data for U.S. agriculture. For organic programs and services for farmers and ranchers here in The Golden State and everywhere, quality data is vital. I encourage everyone who receives the survey to fill it out either online or by mail."

The 2019 Organic Survey results will expand on the 2017 Census of Agriculture data by looking at several aspects of organic agriculture during the 2019 calendar year, including production, marketing practices, income, expenses and more. Producers who receive the 2019 Organic Survey are required to respond by federal law (Title 7 USC 2204(g) Public Law 105-113), as this survey is part of the Census of Agriculture Program. The same federal law that requires response also requires NASS to keep all individual information confidential.

Farmers and ranchers are asked to complete their surveys online via NASS' secure website. The online questionnaire is user friendly, accessible on most electronic devices, and saves producers valuable time by calculating totals and automatically skipping questions not applicable to their operations. Additionally, responding online improves data quality and saves resources.

The deadline for response is January 10, 2020. Results will be available October 2020. For more information about the Organic Survey, visit www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus.

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NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.