

For: County Offices

NASS – Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP)

Approved by: State Executive Director



1 Overview

A Purpose

This notice provides authorization for counties to assist NASS field enumerators to collect CRP information and the environmental benefits and effects of conservation programs associated with the 2002 Farm Bill.

2 County Office Action

A NASS CEAP Survey

The Exhibit 1 DAFO memorandum authorizes county offices to assist NASS field enumerators collect CRP information. Field enumerators will be contacting county offices from mid-June through mid-July.

County offices shall assist in the CEAP project by providing available information to the NASS field enumerators. The information NASS is requesting includes operator name, address, telephone numbers, SSN, Tract ID number, Farm ID number, and if the field is enrolled in CRP, the CRP signup number and contract number.

Disposal Date:
September 1, 2003

Distribution:
County Offices

TO: State Executive Directors
(For distribution to County Offices)

FROM: Douglas W. Frago
Deputy Administrator for Field Operations

SUBJECT: County Office Assistance - NASS CEAP Survey

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), in partnership with NRCS, will be conducting an assessment of the environmental benefits and effects of the conservation programs associated with the 2002 Farm Bill. This project is the Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP).

During the Fall of 2003, NASS will conduct farmer surveys to gather information and practice data regarding field level land management on cropland relative to selected NRCS National Resource Inventory (NRI) points. 11,000 points will be sampled across the United States.

County offices shall assist in the project by providing available information to the NASS field enumerators. From mid-June through mid-July, the enumerators will be contacting county offices to obtain information pertaining to the NRI points selected for the CEAP survey.

The information that NASS is requesting includes operator name, address, telephone numbers, SSN, Tract ID number, Farm ID number, and, if the field is enrolled in CRP, the CRP sign-up number and contract number. (A copy of the CEAP name/address information sheet is enclosed).

NASS field enumerators will have a county roadmap with Primary Sampling Units (PSU) highlighted and aerial photography that shows the selected field location.

Please distribute this information to county offices.

Enclosures (2):

- NASS Employee Confidentiality Requirements
- CEAP Name/Address Information Sheet

This informs State and County offices of Title 7, Section 2276, which specifies the confidentiality requirements regarding public release of NASS data.

NASS Employee Confidentiality Requirements

UNITED STATES CODE Title 7, Section 2276

Confidentiality of information.

- (a) In the case of information furnished under a provision of law . . . , neither the Secretary of Agriculture, any other officer or employee of the Department of Agriculture or agency thereof, nor any other person may:
- (1) use such information for a purpose other than the development or reporting of aggregate data in a manner such that the identity of the person who supplied such information is not discernible and is not material to the intended use of such information; or
 - (2) disclose such information to the public, unless such information has been transformed into a statistical or aggregate form that does not allow the identification of the person who supplied particular information.

- (b) In carrying out a provision of law . . . , no department, agency, officer, or employee of the Federal Government, other than the Secretary of Agriculture, shall require a person to furnish a copy of statistical information provided to the Department of Agriculture.

- (2) A copy of such information:
- (A) shall be immune from mandatory disclosure of any type, including legal process; and
 - (B) shall not, without the consent of such person be admitted as evidence or used for any purpose in any action, suit, or other judicial or administrative proceeding.

- (c) Any person who shall publish, cause to be published, or otherwise publicly release information collected pursuant to a provision of law . . . , in any manner or for any purpose prohibited in section (a), shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both.

Conservation Effects Assessment Project
Name/Address Information Sheet

STATE: _____

CRP FIELD INDICATOR: _____

COUNTY: _____

STATE/COUNTY FIPS: _____

PSU ID: _____

POINT NUMBER: _____ - _____

LAT/LONG POINT: _____

PREVIOUS YEAR CROP: _____

To assist us in obtaining the correct operator for this field location, we need to collect the following information.

*If the field associated with this point is determined to be enrolled in the CRP or CREP program as part of a "General" or "Continuous" CRP sign-up, then CRP sign-up number and CRP Contract number must be entered.

CURRENT OPERATOR INFORMATION:

UNKNOWN OPERATOR
(Farm Operator for selected field not in FSA records)
(Enter "1" if FSA office could not locate in their records)

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (____) _____ - _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (____) _____ - _____

FSA FARM ID NUMBER: _____

SSN: _____

FSA TRACT ID NUMBER: _____

EIN: _____ - _____

OPERATION NAME: _____

CRP SIGN UP NUMBER*: _____

OPERATOR NAME: _____

CRP CONTRACT NUMBER*: _____

ADDRESS: _____

NOT IN CRP PROGRAM
(Farm Operator has no acreage signed up in CRP programs)

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIPCODE: _____

