

NEBRASKA STAC MEETING MINUTES

June 13, 2024
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Virtually

[YOUTUBE RECORDING LINK](#)

ATTENDEES - Rob Lawson, Tami Nordman, Fred Stevens, John Mayberger, Conor Ward, Lisa Berkeypile, Carlos Villarreal, Jana Ingwerson-Laws, Julie Breuer, Julee Patzel, Katie Hickle, Trevor Johnson, Kent Zimmerman, Al Juhnke, Nick Streff, Nolan Lemna, Patrick Lechner, Shawn McVey, Roger Yerdon, Burdette Piening, Larry Hudkins, Elbert Traylor, Ritch Nelson; **VIA TEAMS & PHONE:** Andy Bishop, Brad Lubben, Bruce McIntosh, Chandler Schmidt, Ray Chittaranjan, Michael Chodornek, Ricardo Chona, Crystal Powers, Curt Becker, Cydney Calhoun, David Potter, David Schroeter, Debbie, Gabriel DuPree, Dustin Wilcox, Ele Nuggett, Steve Fairbairn, Jennifer Swanson, Jessica Russell, John Hansen, Kalee Olson, Finn Kennison, Kira Cooney, Kole Pederson, Matt Smith, Cathie Mills, Misha Mazurkewycz, Mike, Mary Reece, Daniel Ross, Jami Thoene, Tyler Goeschel, Dustin Wilcox, Elizabeth Gray, Bill Gresham, Rachael Whitehair, Becky Potmesil, Bill Armbrust, Paula Sue Steffen, Roy Stoltenberg, Shelly Trojen.

FUTURE Meetings: 1121 Lincoln Mall – Rm 352

❖ SEPTEMBER 5, 2024

❖ DECEMBER 5, 2024

 **WELCOME & OPENING COMMENTS:** Robert Lawson - NRCS State Conservationist

- Welcome to our new building for those in person.
 - NRCS in NE is working on obligations for EQIP & CSP.
 - Working on our status reviews for the Food Security Act.
 - Pathway students start here soon (20 across the state)
 - Lots of Partner Activities taking place this week.
 - NE NRCS Staffing update:
 - NE NRCS has gained 12 new employees in a year
 - 11 different technical training for our 649 employees happening this year.
-

2022 Census of Agriculture Findings: *Nicholas Streff, Acting Chief – NASS*

○ **See slides. Important highlights listed below.**

- Conducted every 5 years.
- History of the Censes
 - NASS has not always done the Censes, use to be the Census Bureau.
 - Took over after 1997 Census
- Most complete data that NASS has.
 - State by State & see the same tables, the same state & County level data that is out there.
 - Publish data by congressional districts, watersheds, and zip codes.
 - Only place Demographic Data is published.
- 24 pages long
- Many Producers operate across county lines. The Census data is placed in the county with the highest value of sales as reported by the operator.
- Hoping to Test the question for the next census – “What is the speed of your internet?” not just if they have internet.
- **NASS will do special tabulations for you if there is something you would like to see.**

Q: All the metrics is there a Geospacial component that can be downloaded from NASS? Average farm size can we download & have a shape file that can compare with practices?

A: Shape file not 100%, but on the geological side we do create quite a few maps. All data can be downloaded.

- Farm definition is interesting when thinking of \$1,000 in 1974 vs \$1,000 today.

SOIL HEALTH OUTREACH UPDATE: *Carlos Villarreal, State Soil Scientist – NRCS*

○ **See slides. Important highlights listed below.**

- Aaron Hird our State Soil Health Specialist took another position in the Agency.
- New Soil Health Trailer is a rolling billboard to show case USDA NRCS.
 - Reviewed the setup & what all the trailer holds.
- Here to ask if you have a need or would like to showcase this trailer somewhere.

Q: Has the UNL Extension reached out?

A: Yes, we have done a couple of field days with them.

Q: Where is this trailer located? What kind of timeframe do you think to devote to this trailer?

A: Here in Lincoln, but able to go anywhere. 30 minutes to 1.5hrs.



FSA REVIEW: Jana Ingwerson-Laws – Programs Specialist – FSA

- **SEE SLIDES & HANDOUT attached. HIGHLIGHTED Points below.**
 - **Going through the Cost Shared document, that is why the FSA State Committee is also on line.**
- Continuous CRP Signup 61
 - Different right now, because we are near our nation-wide cap & so we are having to do batching periods.
 - **Batching Period Ends July 12**

The following are the FY 2024 continuous CRP deadlines.

Date	Action
July 31, 2024	Deadline for producers to submit an offer for new or re-enrolled land or combination of new or re-enrolled land for continuous CRP signup 61.
August 7, 2024	Deadline for producers to request a conservation plan from NRCS. County Office deadline to enter the status in COLS as "Submit for Plan" for continuous CRP signup 61. Note: FSA must provide offers to NRCS within 5 workdays of receiving the submitted offer from the producer.
September 6, 2024	Deadline for NRCS or TSP to complete the conservation plan, sign, and obtain signatures of all signatories on CRP-1, and return the conservation plan to FSA.
September 30, 2024	Deadline for COC or CED to approve CRP-1's and load CRP-1 approvals in COLS.

- NE Grassland CRP Signup 206
 - Announced June 3rd
 - Signup dates: June 3rd – June 28, 2024
- **Review of FY2024 CRP and CLEAR30 Cost Share Dockets**
 - CRP pays 50%
 - CLEAR30 pays 75%
 - Reviewed CRP Proposed Increased Rates
 - 327/ No-Till Drill – went up to \$28.50
 - 95% of these correlates to something the NRCS uses for EQIP, but the drilling one would be an example of something we could use in the future. Just finding things in NE are different than NRCS regional components that have available.
 - NRCS is going down so that is why we recommended FSA's way.
- ECP in NE
 - Counties approved
 - Lincoln – Valentines Day Fire
 - Custer – Betty's Way Fire 2/26
 - Lincoln – Betty's Way Fire 2/26
 - Logan – Stapleton Fire 2/26
 - Howard – 4/26 Tornado
 - Greeley – 4/26 Tornado
 - Written approval must be granted by FSA prior to restoration work starting.

- There is a 25% advance payment available on all practices upon application approval.

Q: Do we know the timeline for the grasslands CRP internally between NRCS & FSA?

A: Not yet, typically we do. It will be interim conservation plans.

Q: Is there a reason as to why wetland restoration creation enhancement price went up? Is it because there is more demand for it or is it just a higher priority in the plans?

A: If we are doing it in a particular contract, it is driving the price of fuel because we are moving dirt & the cost of equipment. That is what is costing more than it did a couple of years ago.

Q: Out of Money for Water wells? Seward County, been trying to get water wells & water systems on CRP grazing for five years and being told there is no money & keep getting rejected? – Larry Hudkins

A: Grassland CRP? If you do go into Grasslands CRP, you can get cost-share, or if you have acres for things like water developments, water facilities and pipelines, then we do have money for that. We have a lot of requests come in, but you have to be on a contract with CRP Grassland Acres. There is money for cost-share, but NRCS has to go out & determine there is a resource concern, and that cost-share is needed. GRP is not eligible. If it is not FSA & it is NRCS then it is probably through EQIP & that usually does run out of money.

Q: General turn around time for an ECP application.

A: It varies on workload for that office.

Q: Did you have any snow removal applications last fall?

A: Was announced last fall, but it got pulled back & at this time we are not doing it, but waiting on National. Having meetings the program has been hard to implement & a lot of concerns. Continuing to evaluate the policy before they release it again. At this time we are at a pause.



NRCS CONSERVATION PROGRAMS UPDATE: *John Mayberger - NRCS ASTC-Programs, Fred Stevens - NRCS Programs Specialist*

- **SEE SLIDES. HIGHLIGHTED Points below.**
- Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)
 - Reviewed Eligible & approved Practices.
 - Reviewed Final Estimated Allocations.
 - Thresholds
- **FY24 CSP Classic Signup** (See Slides)
 - Rankings are due November 8, 2024
- State Wildlife Initiative
 - **Special initiative to provide funding in areas affected by Wildfires. Currently have approved applications totaling \$1.3M.**
 - Applications were approved in Custer, Lincoln, and Logan Counties
 - **They include funding for:**
 - 340 Cover Crop
 - 528 Prescribed Grazing – Livestock Deferment on Grazing Lands
 - 484 Mulching

- **LOCAL WORK GROUP MEETINGS:**
 - **Dates, times and locations are available at www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/conservation-state/nebraska/technical-committee**
 - **NEXT LWG MEETINGS WILL OCCUR IN 2025**
 - **RCPP PROGRAM UPDATE**
 - **NEW Projects approved for funding for FY24**
-

Q: For IRA, you said there was a big difference in the last year vs this year with estimated allocations. Is this because there is more increase in interest or is there more applications coming in?

A: It was the allocation that we got was the biggest change, because it was an intentional ramp but as it was supposed to increase every year, but it was more drastic than we thought it was going to be.

Q: So in other words, you ran out of funds in IRA & then went to the regular EQIP or how did you determine where the funds go? What was the threshold for IRA?

A: We did this year. We started off trying to obligate our IRA funds. We had \$29 million and that's why we did the act now process, which is to take applications as first come, first serve, but they have to be above certain threshold. If they were above a certain threshold and they qualify for the IRA, meaning they only had IRA type practices, climate smart practices, then we went ahead and funded those. And then once, once we had those nearly obligated and we're like 98-99%, then we went and went into our general fund pools. So, all the applications that did not qualify for IRA but would qualify in our general fund pools, those were ranked and then approved, based on which ranking pool they're in from highest to lowest and the highest ones gets funded first and then the second highest until we run out of money. Threshold ranking was 30.

Q: What can be done to get more money toward livestock watering systems? What percentage of our funds are dedicated to livestock?

A: We can look into several things, but one is a separate fund pool for the livestock water systems. Local Working Groups have a say in what their priorities are. At least 50% of our fund go towards livestock. This could be something that ECP could cover if it is designated as a drought area.

Q: Is the 3405 – Expanding Soil Health Through Carbon Markets in RCPP, ready to go?

A: As of right now it is still pending – the lead partner & NRCS are still working on the program partnership agreement. The funding has been approved but still working on getting the agreement finalized.

Q: AFA – Who is eligible to be the local sponsor for that?

A: Any group who works with, units of government are eligible, Organizations that have effectively dealt with producers, however most of the work will be done through them & not through our Field Offices, so will need to be capable of the capacity.



PRIORITY AREAS FOR USING ACEP-IRA FUNDS:

Shawn McVey, Easement Coordinator & Roger Yerdon, Easement Program Manager - NRCS

- **See slides. Important highlights listed below.**
- *ACEP Review -FY24*
 - *Changed the application cut-off this year to be different from CSP/EQIP.*
 - *Change in the reimbursement this year:*
 - We went to 90% of the appraised value of the easement, so prior to that in Nebraska we had a 90% of the eastern value in the West, 85% in the central region at 80% in the eastern to a 10% reduction or 90% of appraised value across the state this year.
 - *NEW Nebraska 2025 IRA priority Areas*
 - *Ephemeral Wetlands are a national IRA ACEP-WRE priority. Playas are an ephemeral wetland and Nebraska is proposing 4 Playa regions for IRA-ACEP-WRE where our playas are common: Central, Rainwater Basin, SW Playas, and Todd Valley.*
 - We circulated this proposal through the easement subcommittee. **Comments are due by July 12th, 2024.**
 - *Grasslands under high threat of conversion are a national IRA ACEP-ALE priority. Nebraska is proposing 9 Native Grassland Types for IRA-ACEP-ALE/GSS as shown on the map.*
 - We circulated this proposal through the easement subcommittee. **Comments are due by July 12th, 2024.**
 - *ACEP-ALE-GSS*
 - *We received Farm Bill funding for all 5 GSS applications. No IRA funding was received this year. The 2024 GSS parcels are in Dawes, Sheridan, and Thomas counties.*
 - *All ALE/GSS older than 2022 have been closed and recorded.*
 - *EWPP-FPE*
 - *The 2 pending easements are delayed over changes in legal insurable access to the easement, and legal boundary survey work.*



PARTNER UPDATES:

- **Katie Hickel, NDEE**
 - Last fall won TA from EPA for generation of nonpoint source emergency mitigation plans. Plan has yet to be created but our TA should start in July.
 - **Katie Pekarek, has taken a new position. Will be looking to hire a new coordinator.**
 - **New staff Cydney Calhoun will be the new 401 Coordinator.**
- **Crystal Powers, UNL**
 - **5 State Agreement between NRCS & UNL to extend the two programs below across the Ogallala Aquifer Region.**
 - **Testing Ag Performance Solutions (TAPS) Competition**

- Please reach out to Chris Proctor with Department of Agronomy, if you have any questions or want to get involved.
 - Master Iggigator Programs
 - Please reach out to Crystal Powers if you have any questions or want to get involved.
-

WRAP UP

- Personnel updates for NRCS
 - Conor Ward – New position: Assistant State Conservationist for Partnerships
 - Scott Inglsbe – New State Public Affairs Officer

2022 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

THE AG CENSUS COUNTS



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

2022 Census of Agriculture Data Release

February 13, 2024

nass.usda.gov/AgCensus

Agenda

- Preparing for an Ag Census
- Census Data Collection and Processing
- Publishing the Census
- Highlights for Nebraska

History of the Census of Agriculture

- The first Census of Agriculture was conducted in 1840 in 26 states and the District of Columbia.
- 180 years later:
 - The 2022 Census of Agriculture is the 30th in the series, and the 6th conducted by NASS.
 - In 1997, the Census of Agriculture was transferred from the Census Bureau to NASS.
 - The Census of Agriculture encompasses 50 states, Puerto Rico, and outlying areas (Guam, U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands).
- Data are available for:
 - National, state, and county levels
 - Congressional districts, watersheds, and zip codes

Preparing for the Census of Agriculture

- Content Approval
 - What needs to be added, changed or taken out?
 - Content for 2027 is being considered now.
 - New content will be tested in 2025.
- List Building
 - NASS reviews potential farmer lists every year. Several sources including IRS and FSA farm payments lists.
 - Potential farmers and ranchers are sent a criteria questionnaire.
 - NASS completes extra criteria mailouts leading up to the Census.
- Media and Partner Outreach

Census Mail List

- US mail list contained 2,879,343 records
 - 2,079,333 were thought to meet the definition of a farm
 - 800,010 were noted as potential farms
- Nebraska mail list contained just over 60,000
 - Only around 45,000 farms in the state.
 - Additional records are potential farms

Census of Agriculture Data Collection

- Data Collection Options
 - Online – NASS focused on increasing online response for 2022
 - Mail – 2 mailings were completed December 2022 and February 2023
 - Phone – phone follow-up was completed on select groups of records
- Data collection ended in July of 2023
- NASS does focus on specialty and certain large operations for data collection. These records are marked before the Census is mailed.

Census Data Processing

- All respondent data is entered into an edit.
 - Edit flags data that are outside reasonable parameters – high or low yields
 - Edit reviews data relationships – irrigated production but no data for irrigated acres. Crops harvested but no seed expense.

Census Data Summarization and Weighting

- NASS began a series of summarization steps in July of 2023.
- NASS does not achieve 100% response so data is weighted.
- NASS has several weighting factors to consider
 - Non-response adjustment for producers that did not report
 - Coverage adjustment for farms that were not included on the mail list.
 - Each record could receive a weight from 1-6.

Census Data Summarization and Weighting

- Each record could receive a weight from 1-6.
 - Calibration helps NASS determine what records to weight.
 - NASS can utilize administrative data sources to guide the weighting process.
 - USDA FSA shows NE with around 9 million acres of corn. The NASS calibration/weighting process will have this as a parameter.

Census Special Considerations

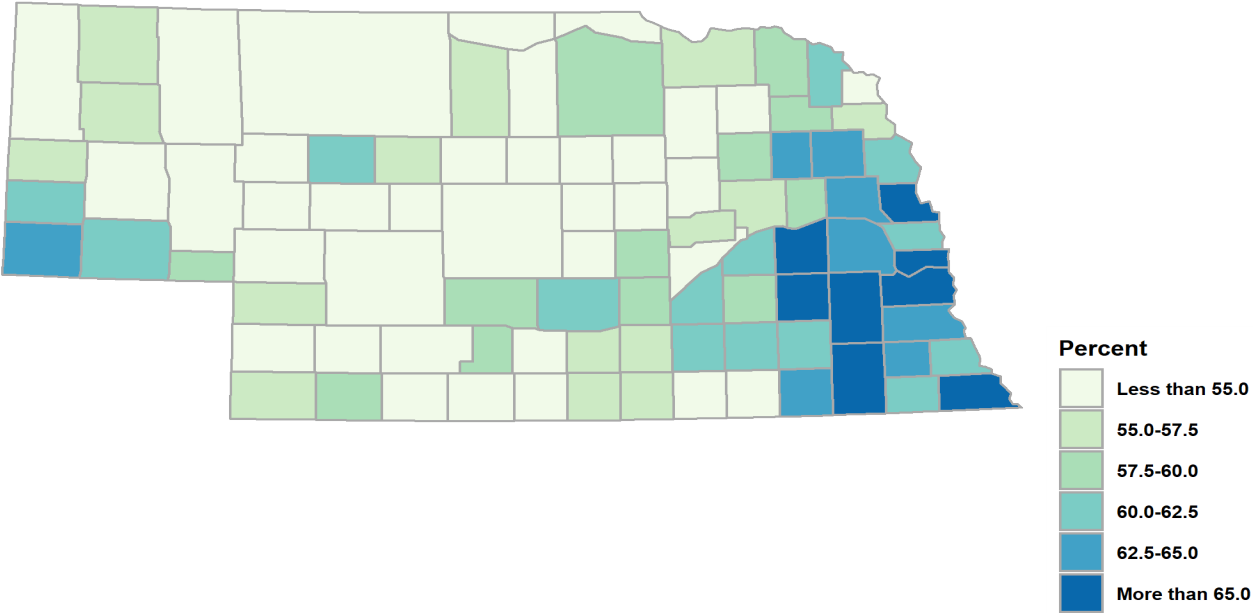
- Many producers operate across county lines. The Census data is placed in the county with the highest value of sales as reported by the operator.
- For large multi-county operations, NASS will create individual county records for that operation to ensure the data is in the right county.
 - Mainly applies to large livestock operations for Nebraska with company owned farms.

Census Data Limitations

- Multi county operations
- Weighted records
 - Demographic data
 - Specialty farms

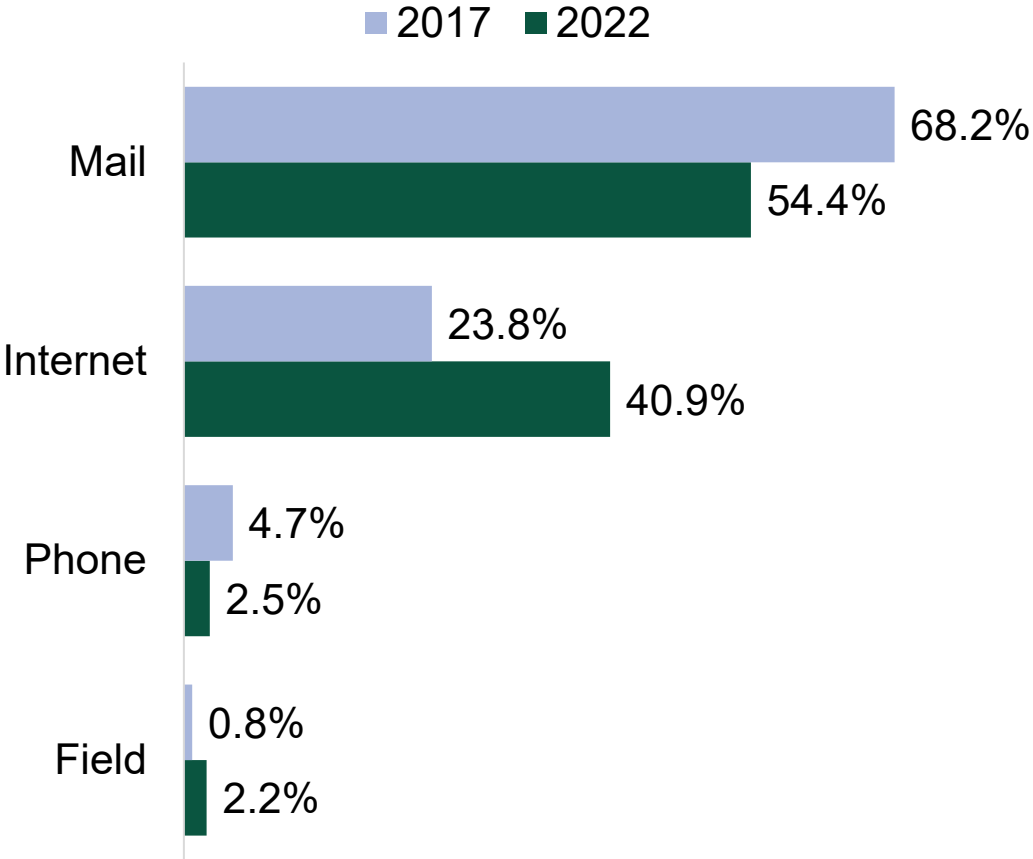
Census Data Collection

Response Rate by County, 2022



U.S. = 61%
Nebraska = 58.6%

U.S. Return Rate by Mode, 2017 and 2022 *(percent of returns)*

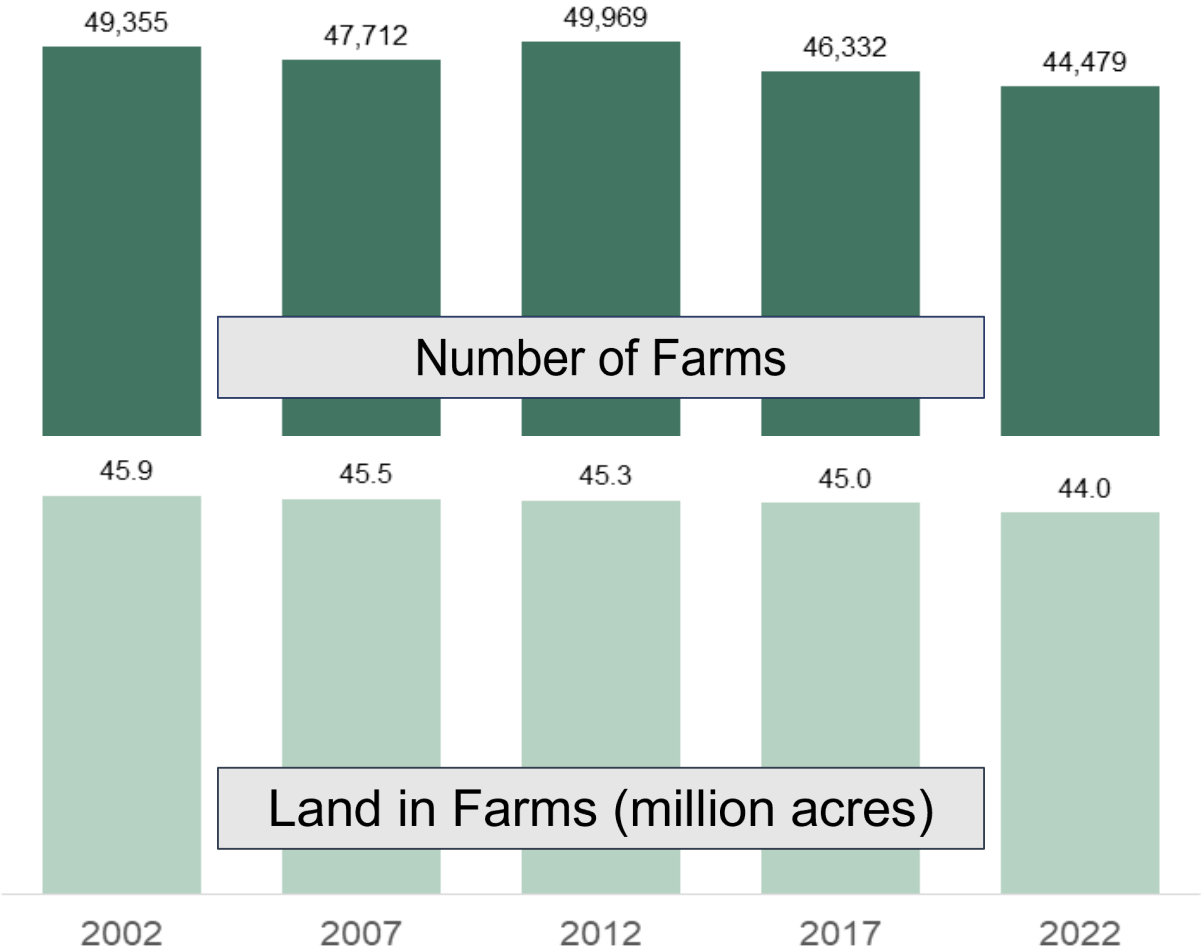


Farms and Land in Farms

Since 1974, the Census of Agriculture has defined a farm as

“any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the census year.”

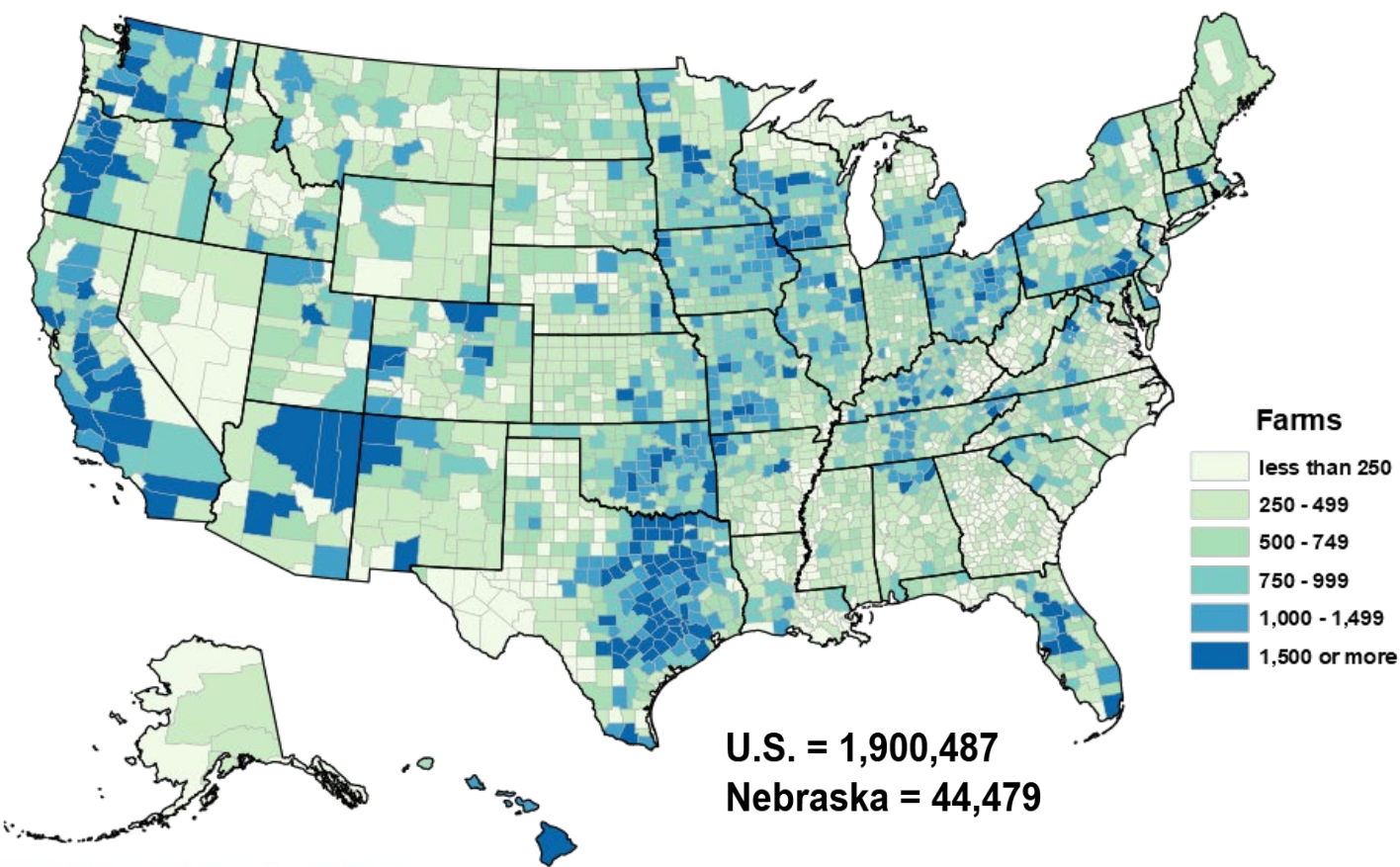
Number of Farms and Land in Farms, 2002 - 2022



Number of Farms		
2017	2022	% Change
46,332	44,479	-4
Land in farms		
2017	2022	% Change
45	44	-2.2
Average Farm Size (Acres)		
2017	2022	% Change
971	989	+1.9

Number of Farms, 2022

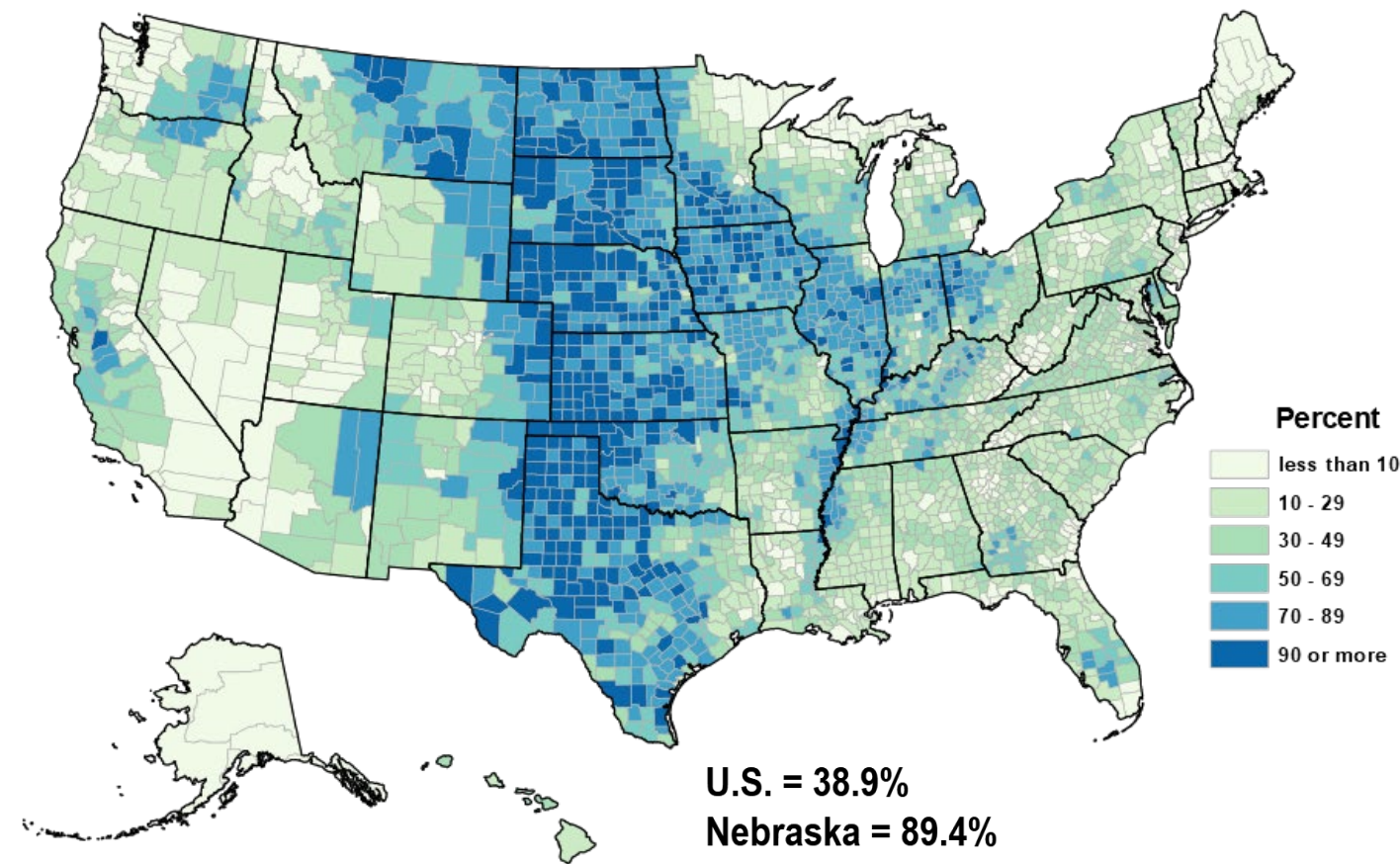
By County



Top Counties or Equivalents	2022
Lancaster	1,771
Holt	1,198
Gage	1,156
Saunders	1,143
Custer	1,083
Buffalo	1,001
Lincoln	995
Seward	986
Knox	950
Platte	902

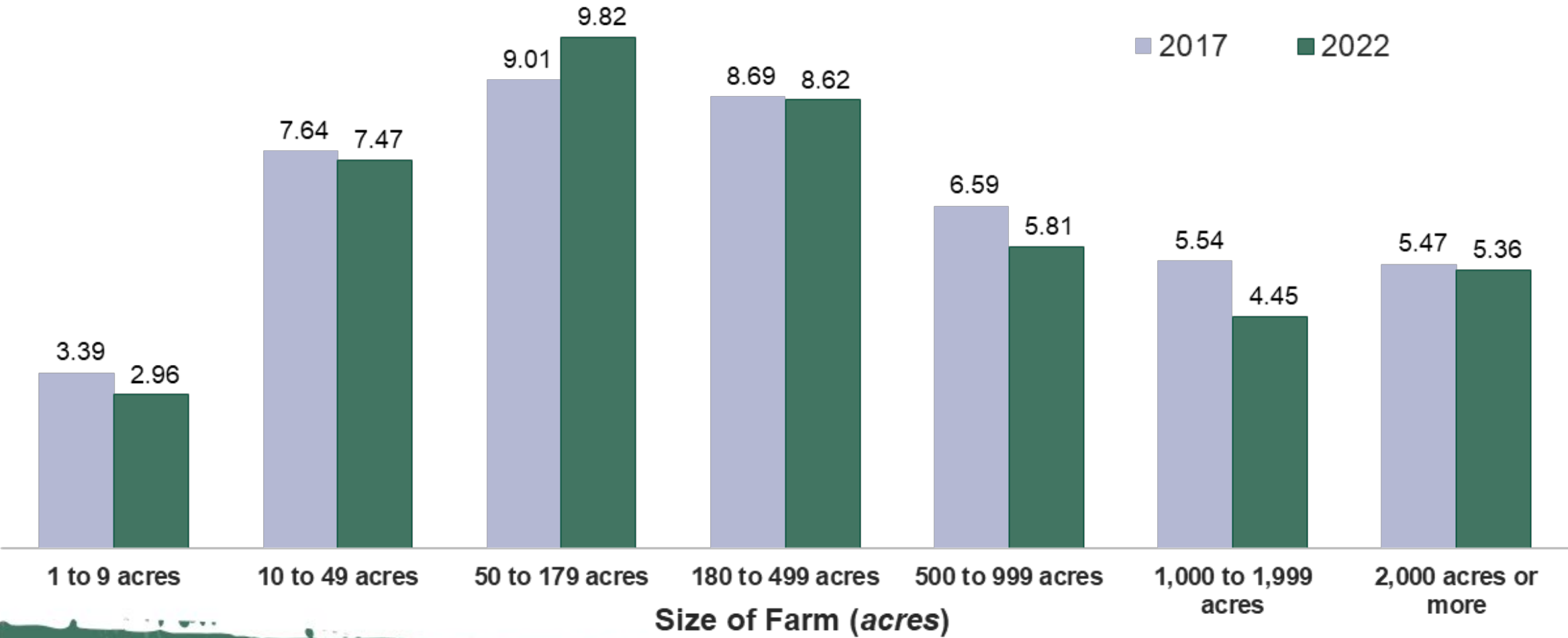
Land in Farms, 2022

As a Percent of Total, by County



Type of Use	Acres (Millions)
Total	44.0
Permanent Pasture	21.5
Cropland	21.2
<i>Harvested Cropland</i>	18.0
Woodland	0.3
Other	0.9

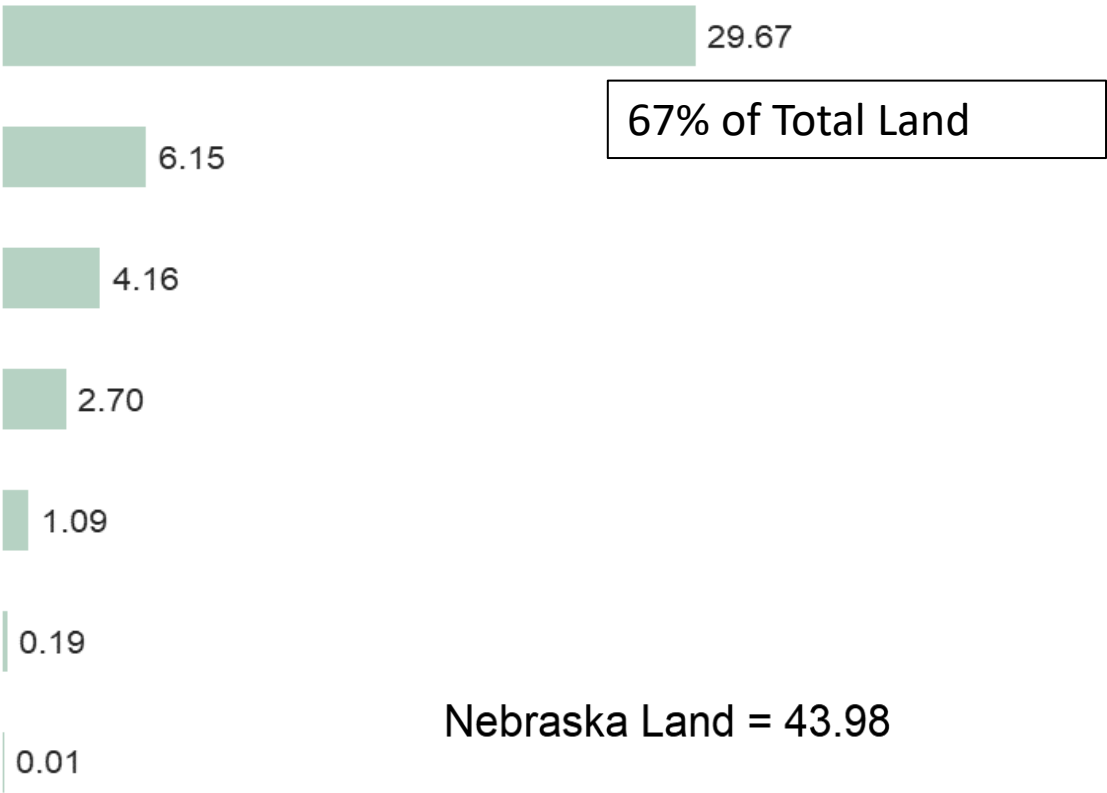
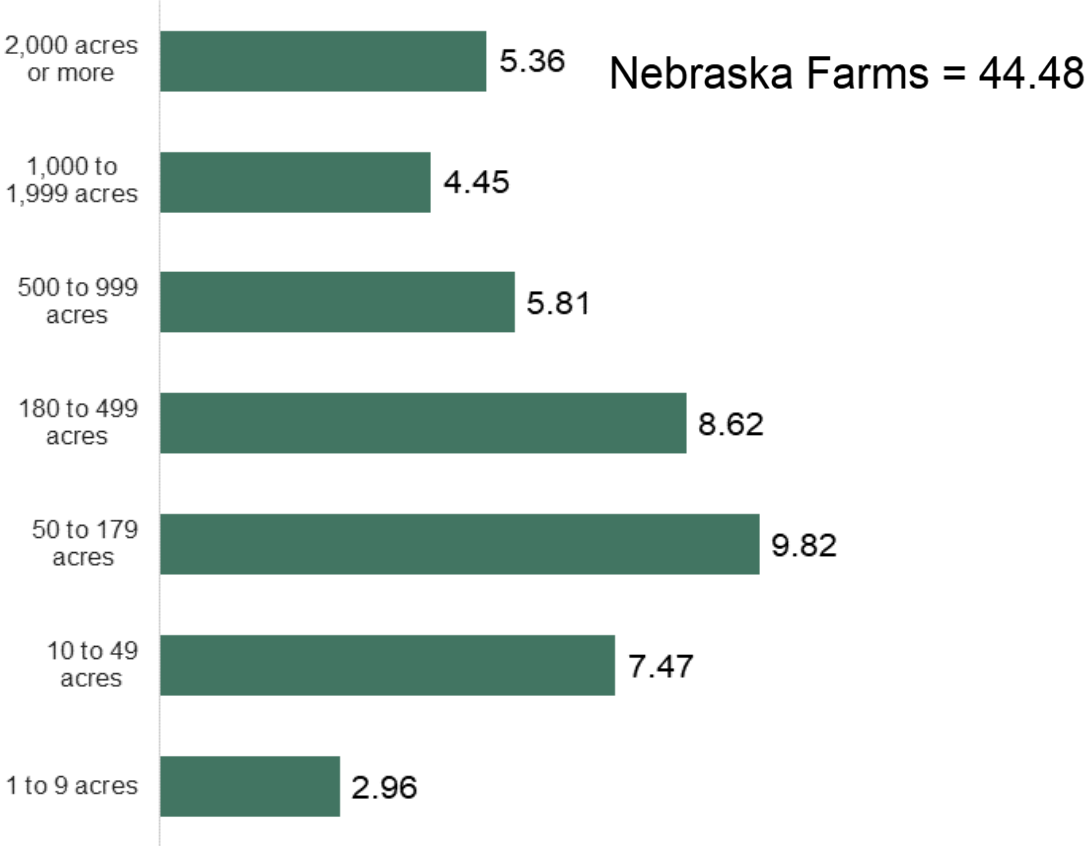
Number of Farms, by Size Class, 2017 and 2022 *(thousands)*



Farms and Land in Farms, by Size Class, 2022

Number of Farms (thousands)

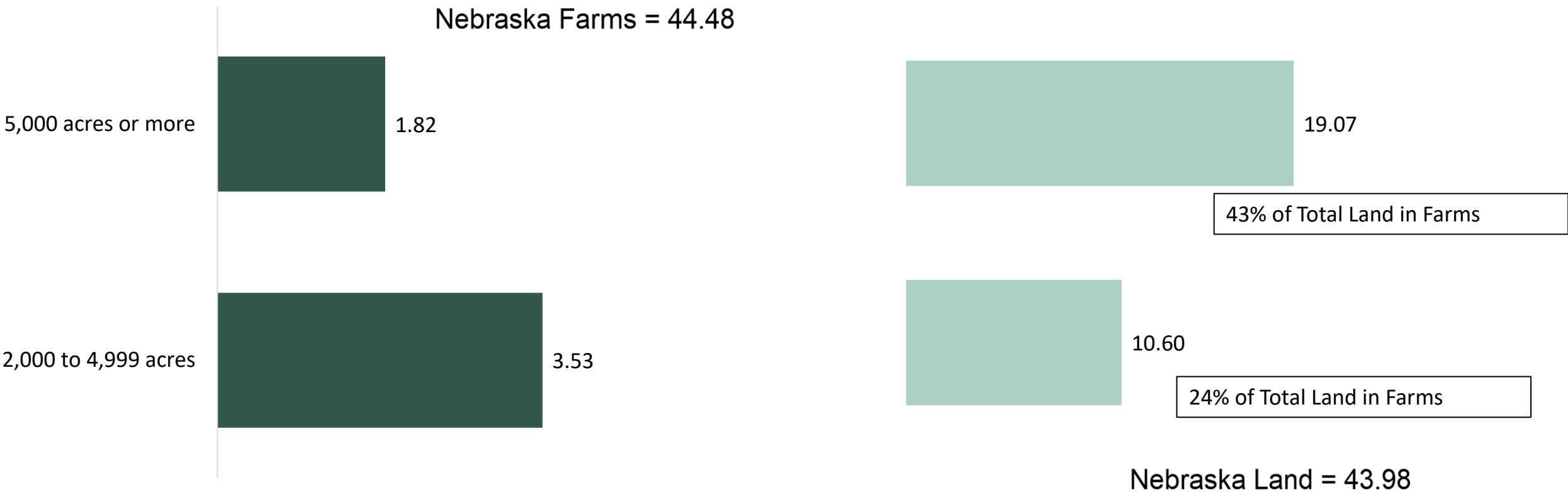
Land in Farms (million acres)



Farms and Land in Farms, by Size Class, 2022

Number of Farms (thousands)

Land in Farms (million acres)



Economics

- Total Value of Agricultural Production
- Crop and Livestock Sales
- Farm Income

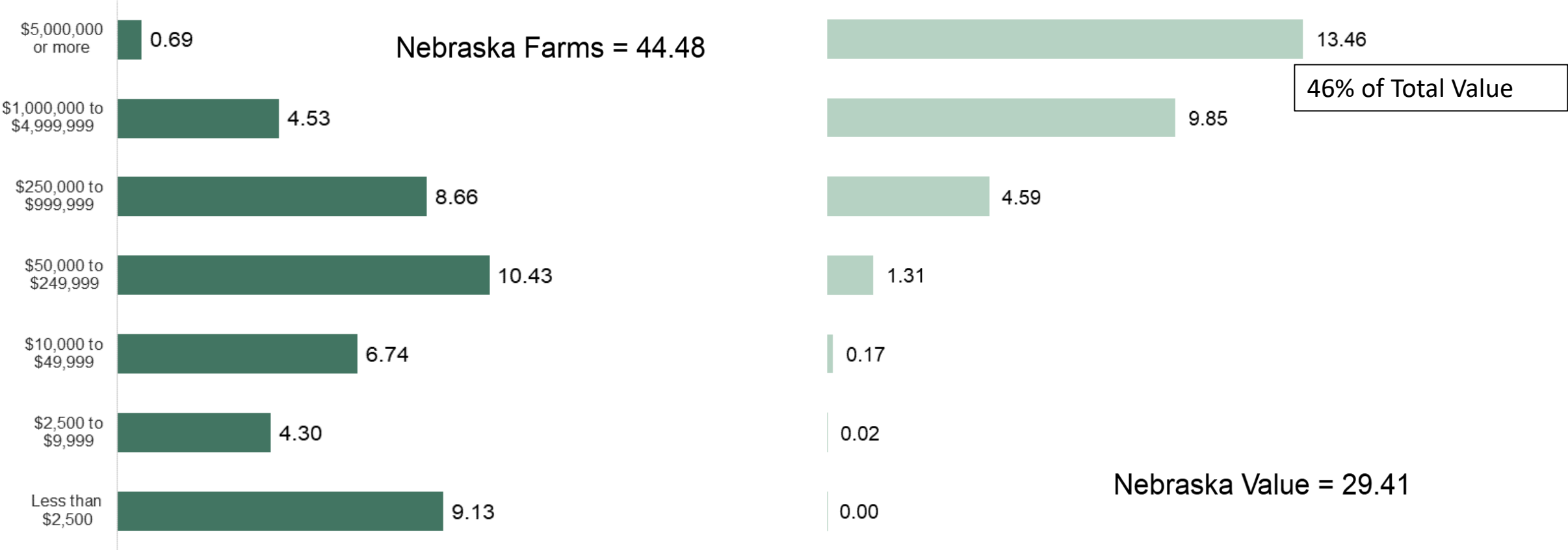
Number of Farms, by Sales Class, 2017 and 2022 *(thousands)*



Farms and Value of Production, by Sales Class, 2022

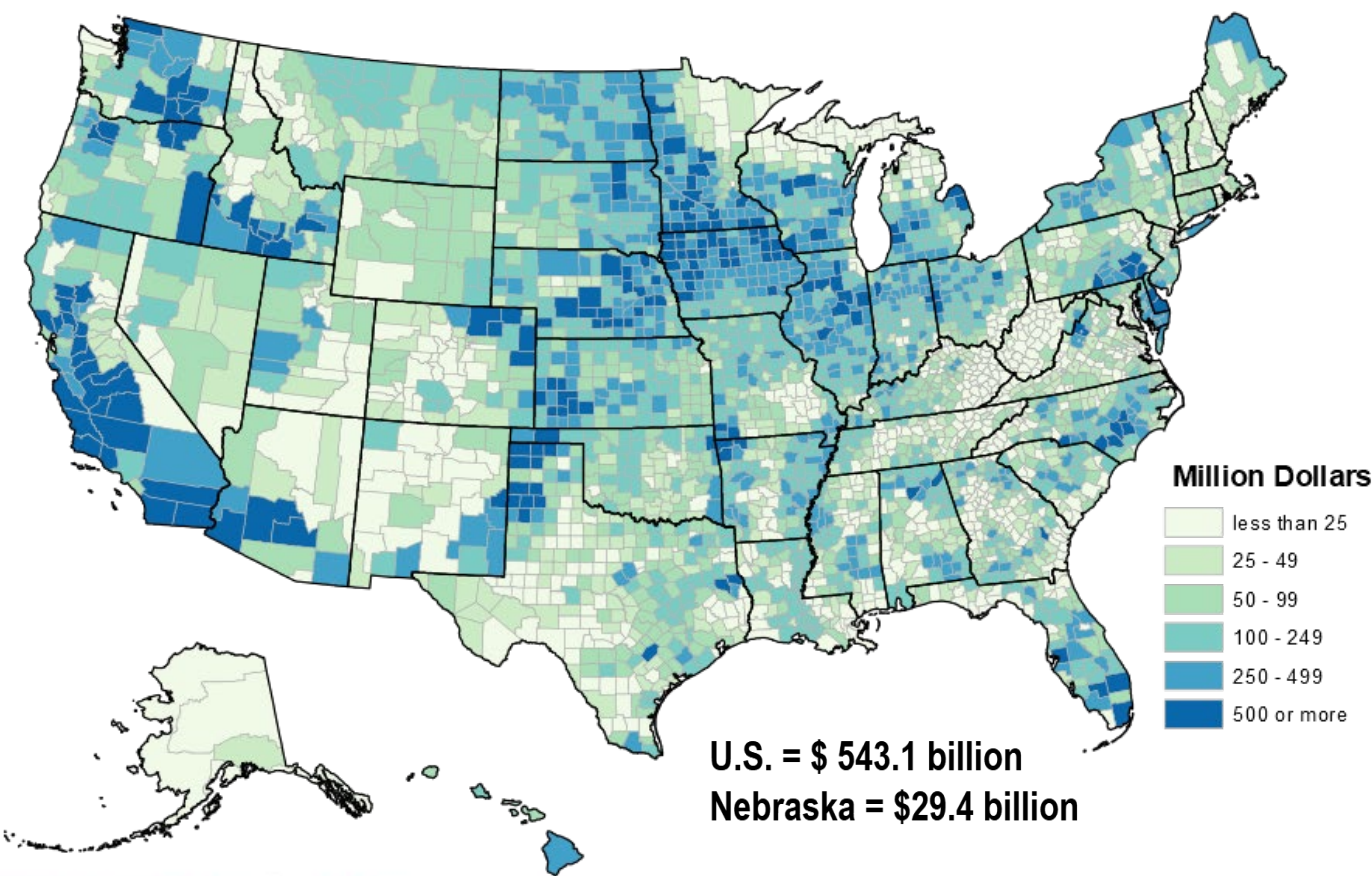
Number of Farms (thousands)

Value of Production (\$ billions)



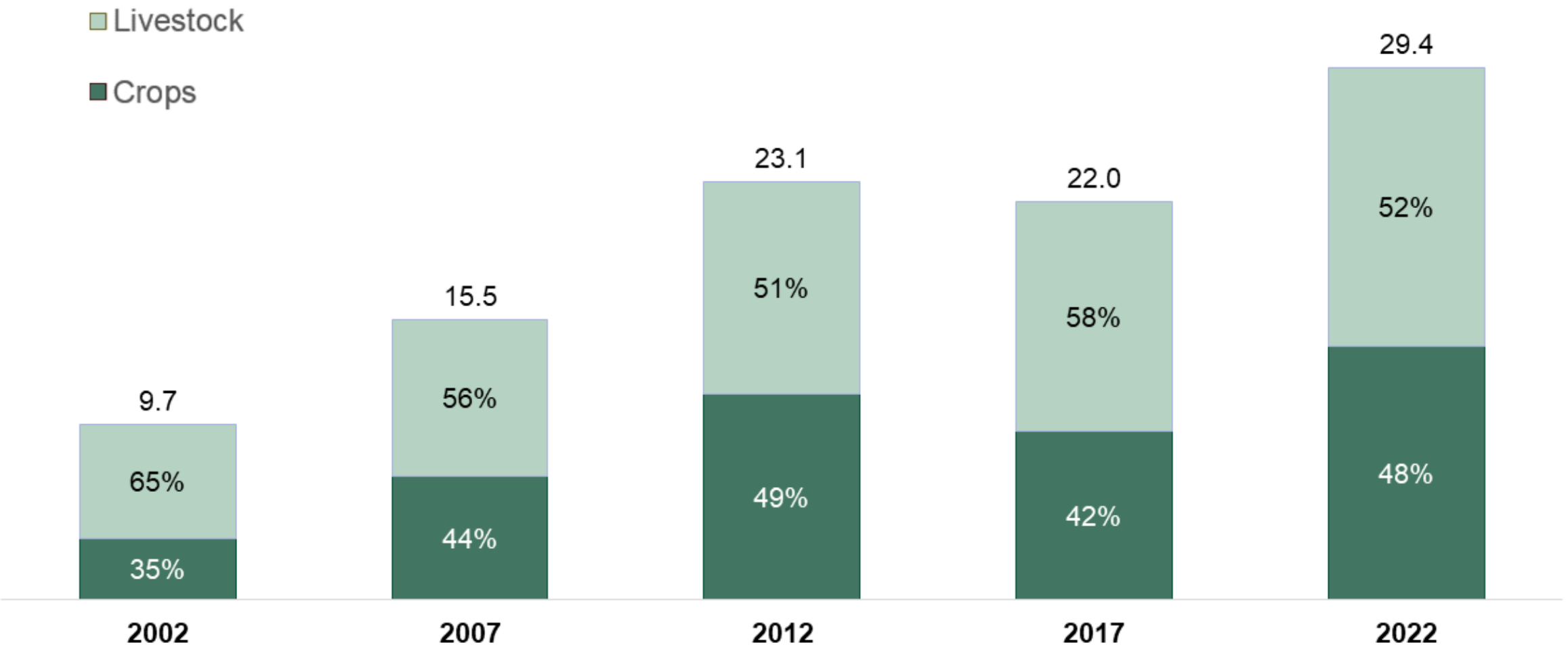
Total Value of Agricultural Production, 2022

By County



Top Counties or Equivalents	TVP (\$ millions)
Cuming	1,584
Platte	1,042
Lincoln	1,012
Dawson	1,006
Custer	994
Phelps	851
Antelope	773
Boone	675
Holt	648
Butler	635

Value of Production, Crops and Livestock, 2002 - 2022 (\$ billions)

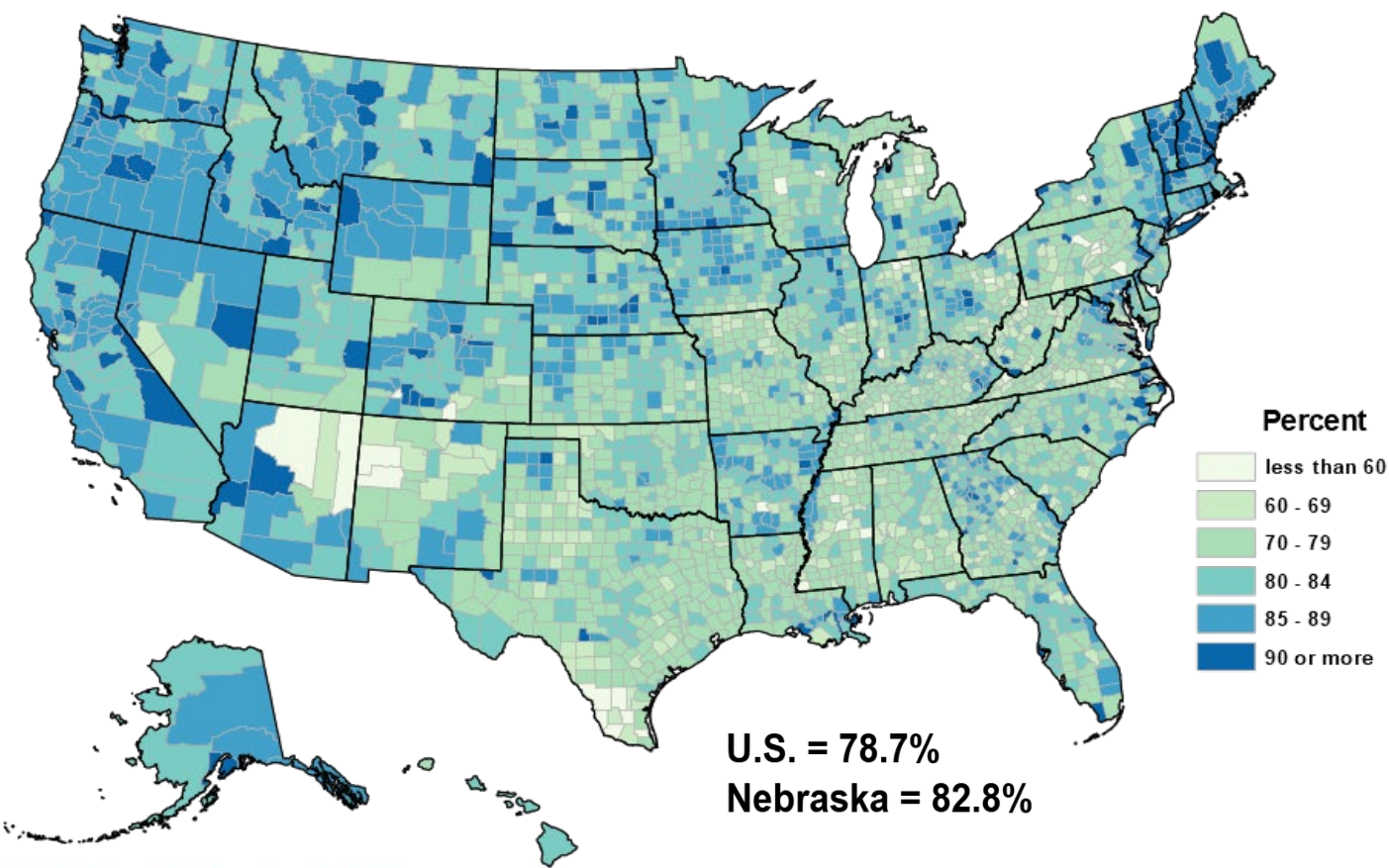


Farm Income and Expenses, 2017 and 2022 *(\$ millions)*

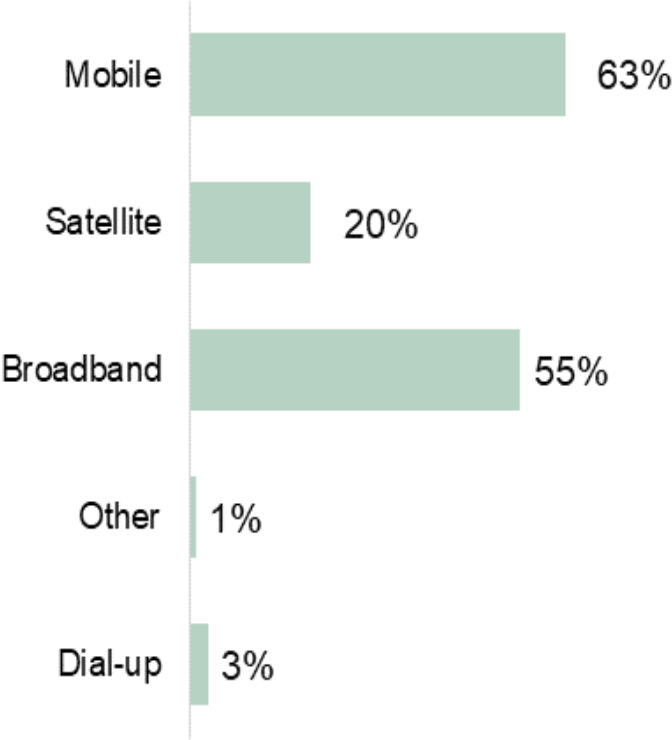
	2017	2022	% Change
Value of ag products sold	21,983	29,413	+34
Government payments	640	422	-34
Farm-related income	817	1,289	+58
Production expenses	19,371	23,444	+21
Net income	4,069	7,680	+89
Per farm average net income (dollars)	\$87,824	\$172,677	+97

Farms with Internet Access

As a Percent of Total, by County, 2022



By Type, 2022 (*percent*)



Demographics of Farm Producers

- Average Age of Producers
- Young Producers
- New and Beginning Producers
- Farm and Producer Characteristics by Sex/Race/Ethnicity
- Producers with Military Service

Farm Structure, 2017 and 2022

Farms by Number of Producers (thousands)

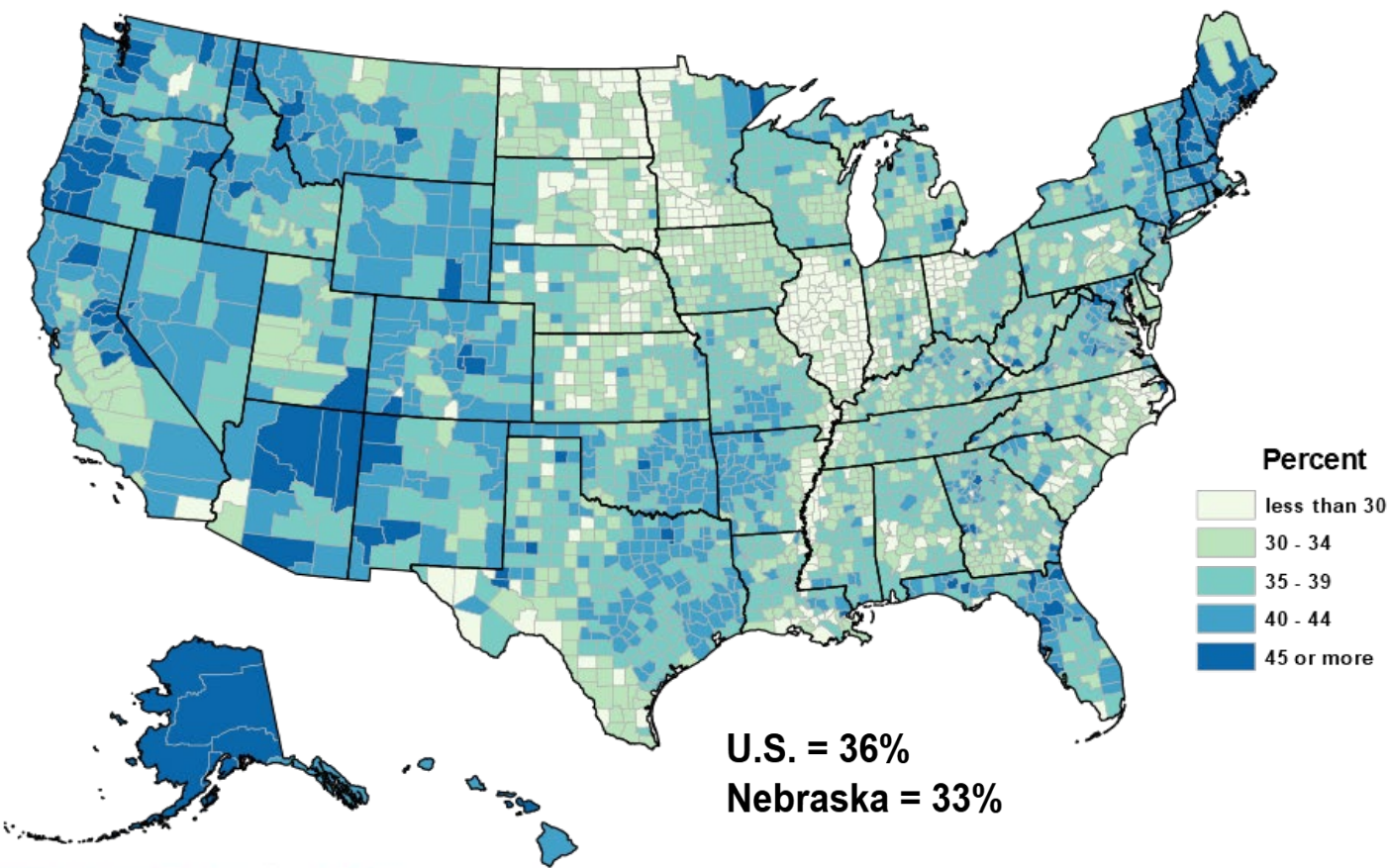


Producers by Sex

	2017	2022	% change
All producers	77,097	80,283	+4.1
Male producers	52,367	53,919	+3
Female producers	24,730	26,364	+6.6

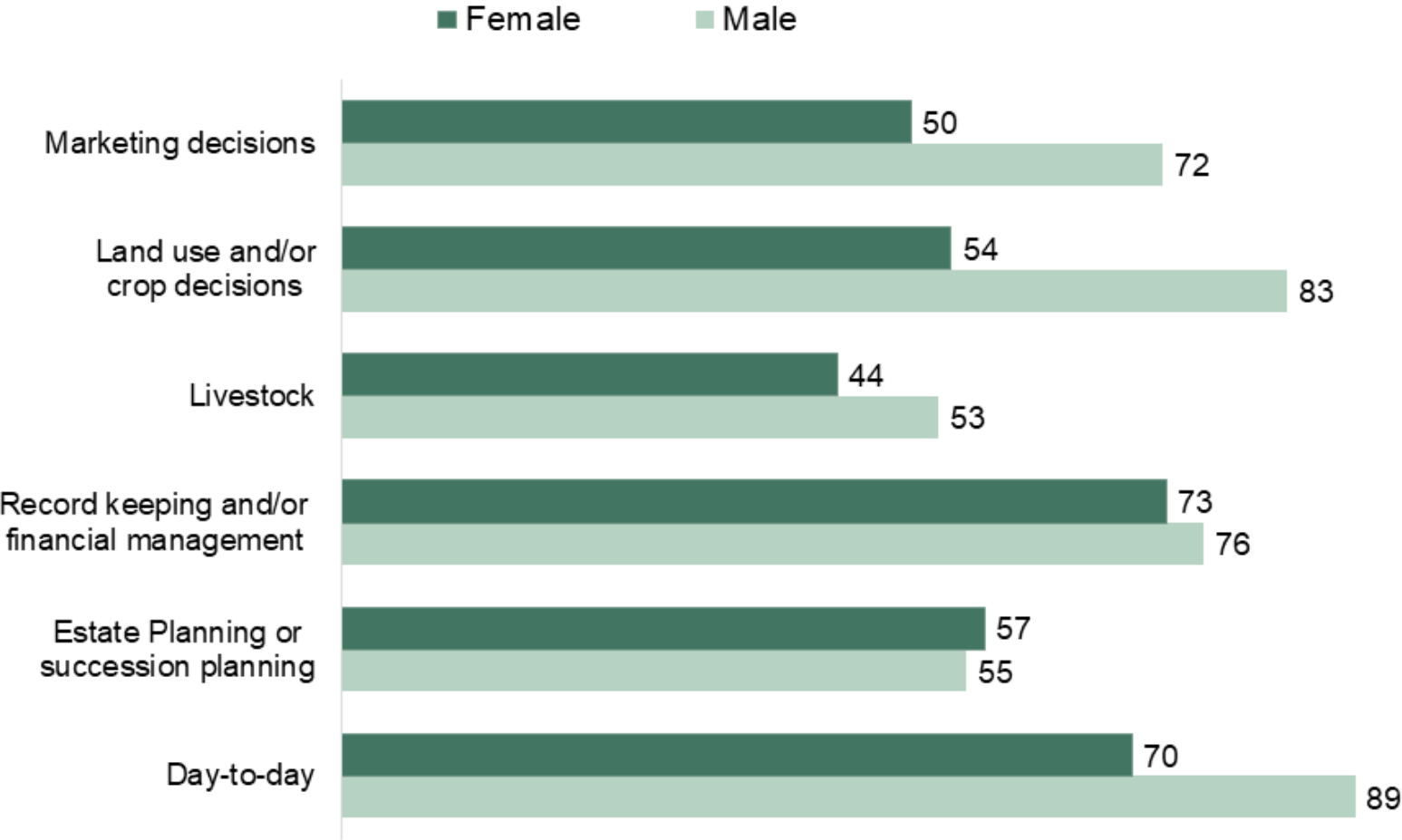
Producers by Sex, 2022

Female Producers by Percent of All Producers, by County



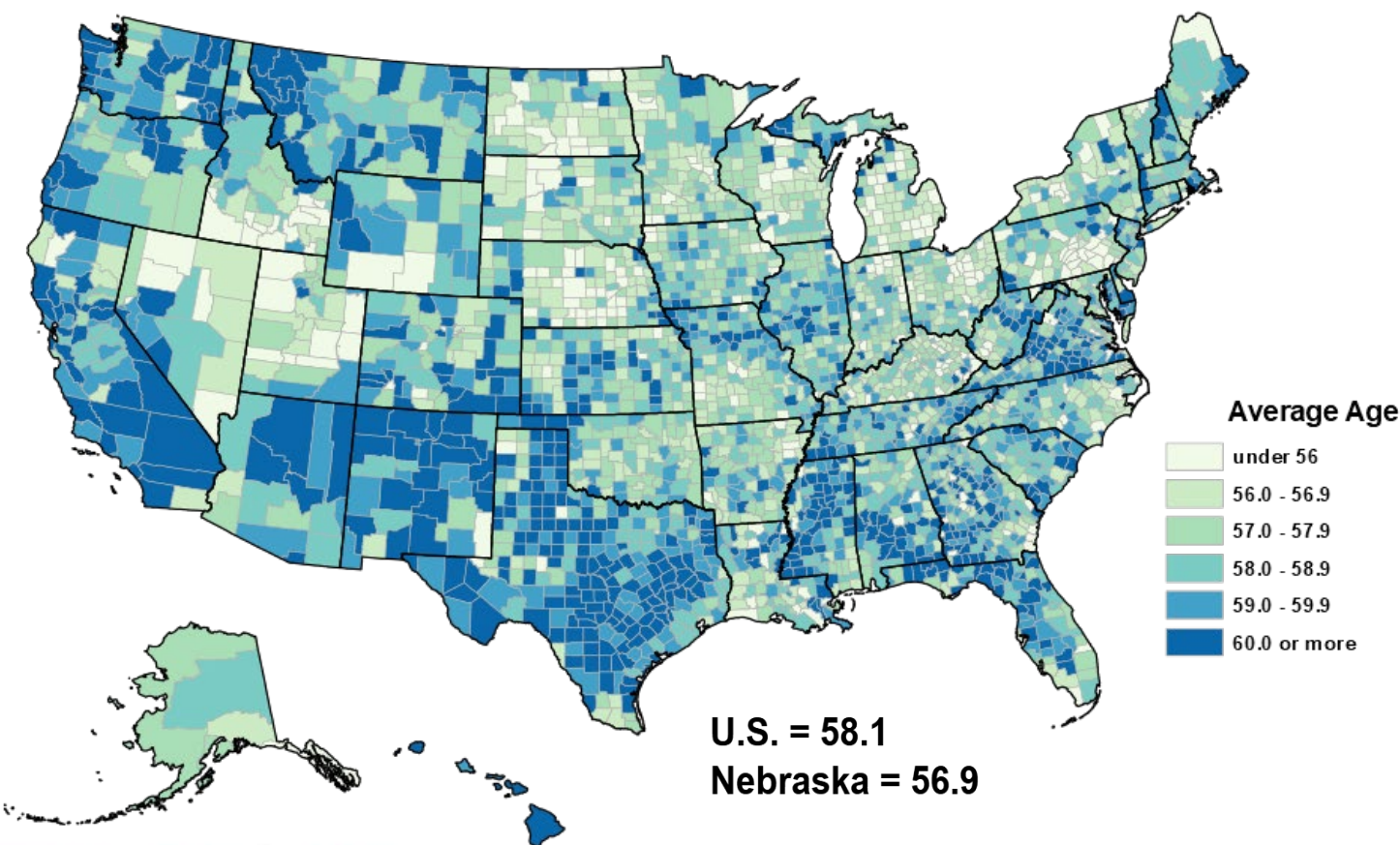
Producers		
	Female	Male
Number	26,364	53,919
Average Age	57.5	56.6
Farms		
Number	23,480	42,287
Average Farm Size (Acres)	890	1,015
Average Total Value of Production	\$449,261	\$688,589

Producer Decision Making by Sex, 2022 *(percent)*



Average Age of Producers

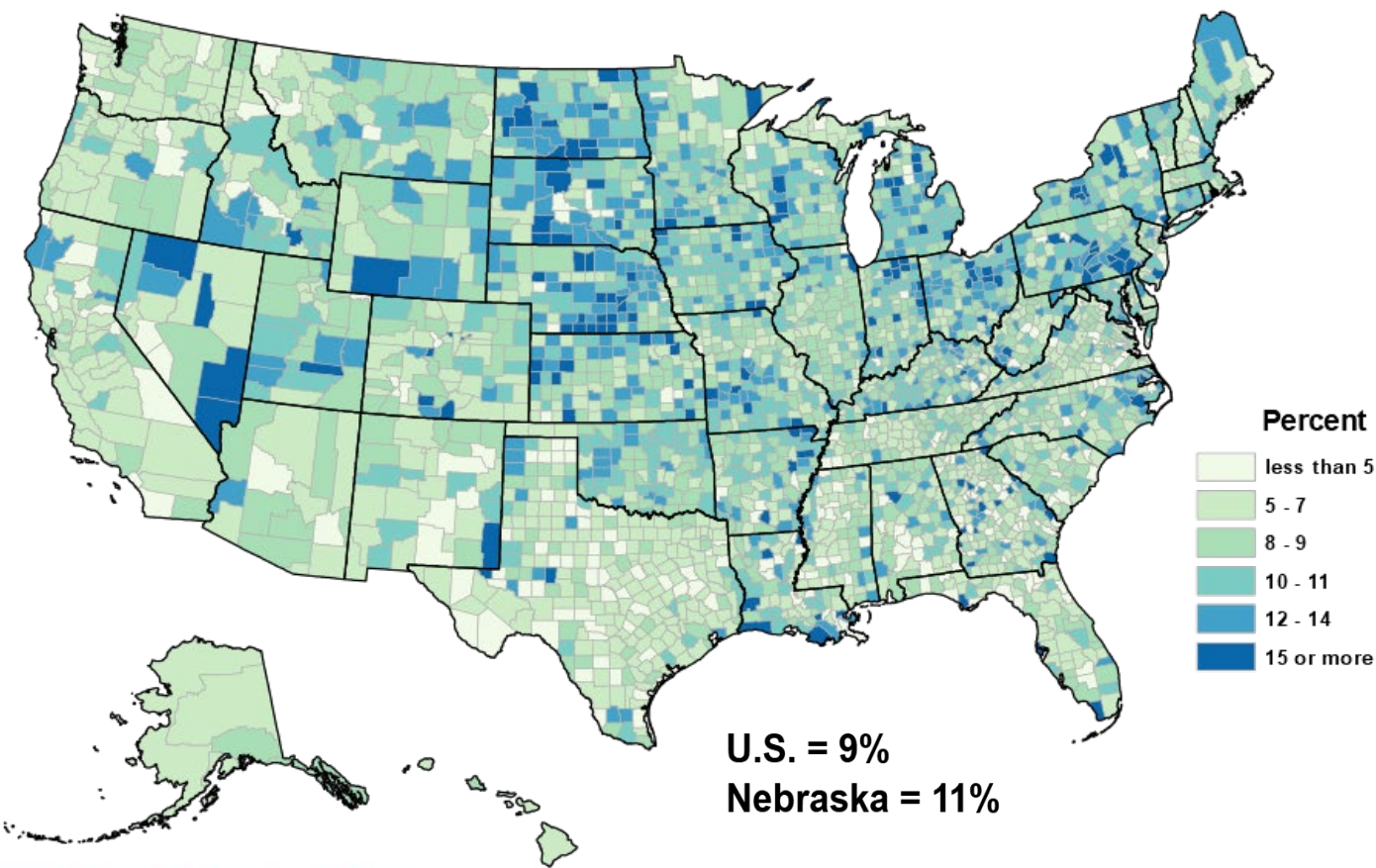
By County, 2022



All Producers, 2012 - 2022	
2012	54.3
2017	56.4
2022	56.9

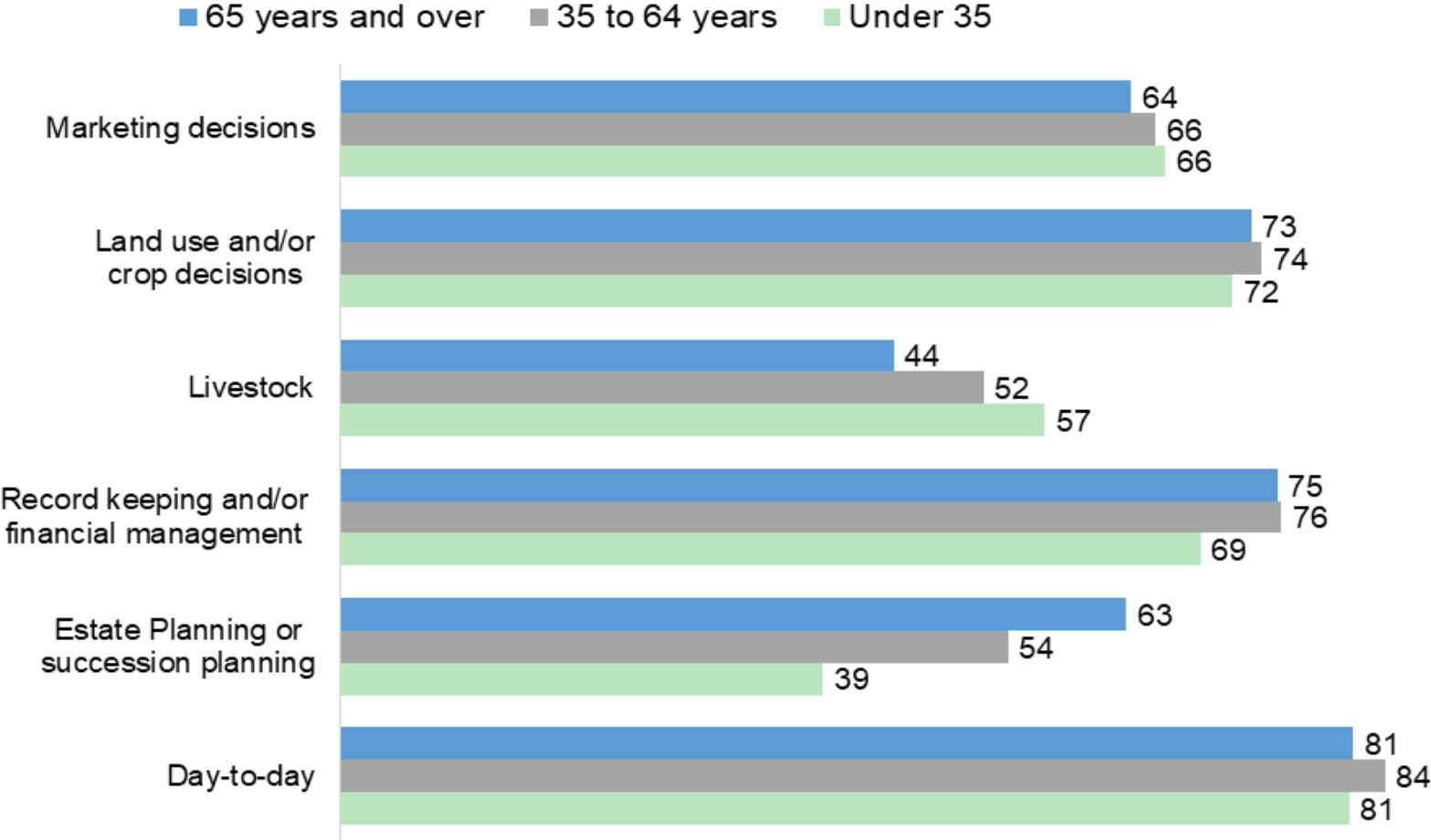
Young Producers (Under 35 years), 2022

As a Percent of All Producers, by County



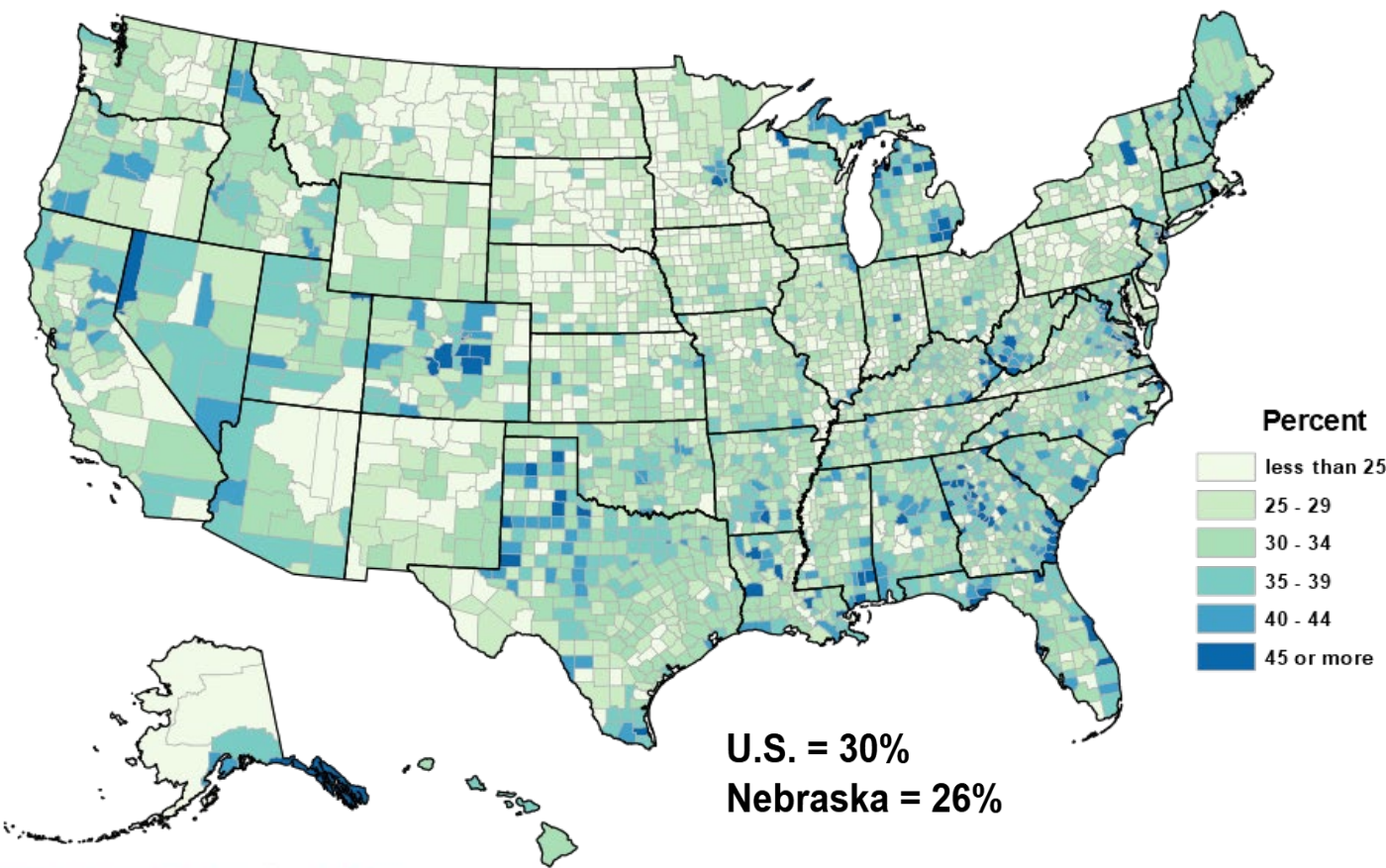
Producers		
	Young	All
Number	9,031	80,283
Average Age	29	56.9
Farms		
Number	6,810	44,479
Average Farm Size (Acres)	972	989
Average Total Value of Production	\$690,649	\$661,287

Producer Decision Making by Age, 2022 *(percent)*



New and Beginning Producers (10 years or less on any farm), 2022

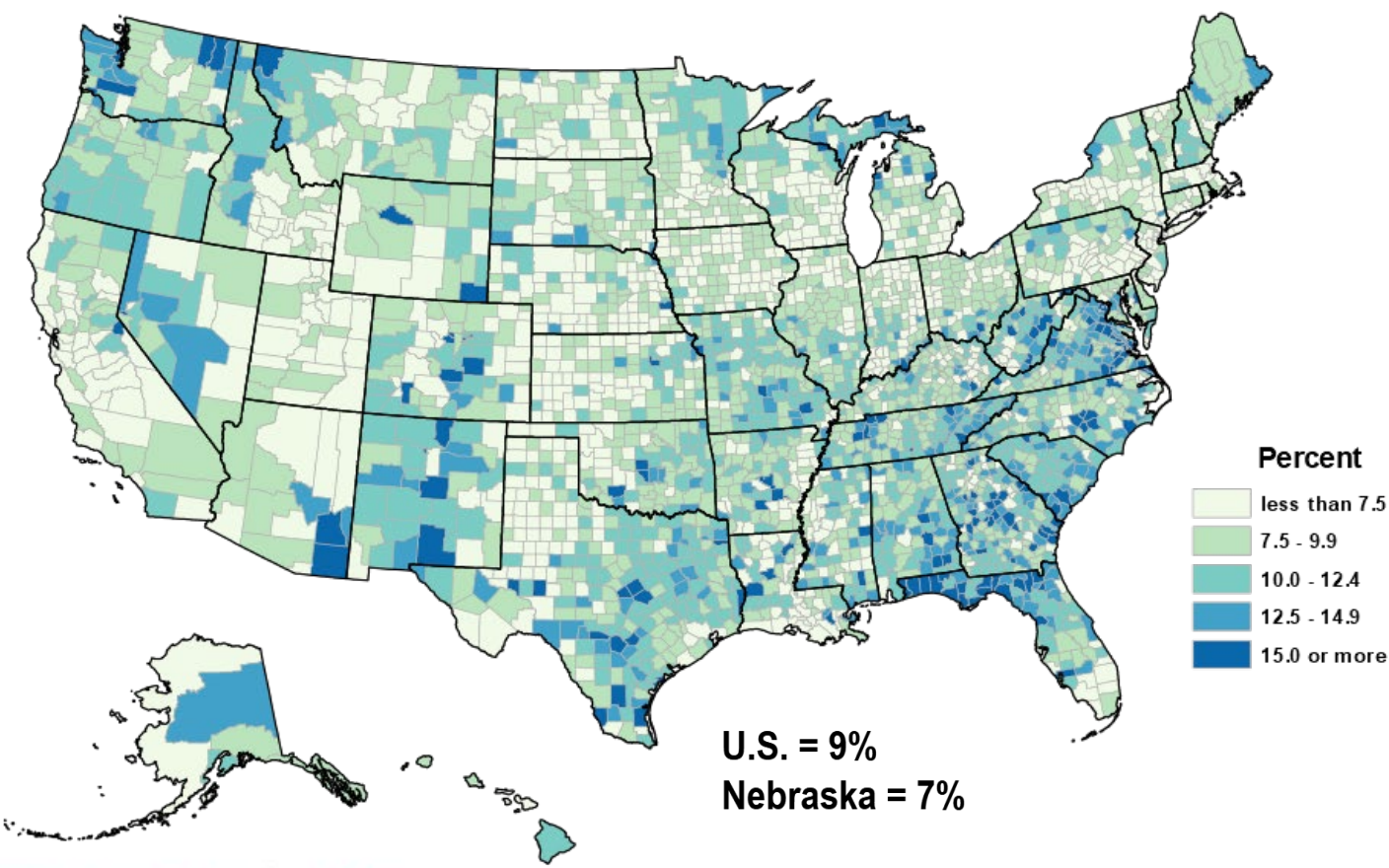
As a Percent of All Producers, by County



Producers		
	New and Beginning	All
Number	20,926	80,283
Average Age	43.7	56.9
Farms		
Number	13,544	44,479
Average Farm Size (Acres)	681	989
Average Total Value of Production	\$377,048	\$661,287

Producers with Military Service, 2022

As a Percent of All Producers, by County



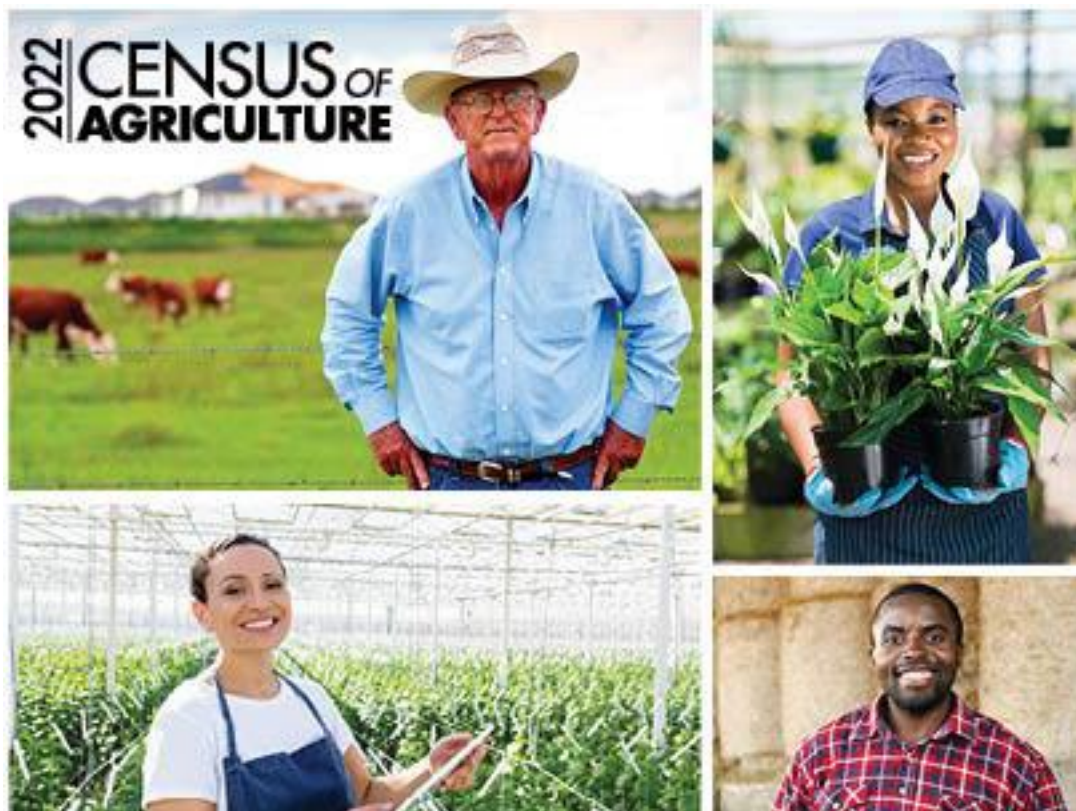
Producers		
	With Military Service	All
Number	5,837	80,283
Average Age	69.1	56.9
Farms		
Number	5,493	44,479
Average Farm Size (Acres)	963	989
Average Total Value of Production	\$784,287	\$661,287

Other Data Available

- Popcorn Production
 - Nebraska is now #2 in popcorn production. Indiana is #1.
- Organic Agriculture
 - Organic sales were \$153 million in 2022, up 125% from 2017.
- Renewable Energy
 - Farms with solar panels increased from 1,778 in 2017 to 2,397 in 2022.
- Family Owned
 - 93% of all Nebraska farms and ranches are family owned.

Upcoming Census Releases in 2024

Release Date	Release Title
March 27	Market Value of Ag Products Sold Rankings
March 27	State & County Profiles
May 15	Congressional District Profiles and Rankings
June 28	Race, Ethnicity & Gender Profiles
July 18	Puerto Rico
July 24	Watersheds
August 29	American Indian Reservations
October 17	Specialty Crops
November 7	Zip Code Tabulations
November 14	2023 Irrigation and Water Management Survey
December 16	2023 Census of Aquaculture



All Reports Available at
www.nass.usda.gov

For Questions
402-437-5541
Nicholas.Streff@usda.gov



Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

USDA-NRCS Soil Health Education Center and Rainfall Simulator



FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center

Nebraska Outreach and Education for Soil Health

GOALS

- Educate producers on the Principles of Soil Health
- Discuss Soil Health Conservation Practices utilized to manage for soil health
- Train employees on how to discuss and advocate for SH conservation



Challenges with SH Demonstrations

- Dependency on outside water supply and electric outlet
- Intimidation Factors
- Forgotten equipment
- Venue unknowns
- **THE LIST GOES ON**



USDA-NRCS Soil Health Education Center and Rainfall Simulator

- Water Tank and Pump
- Solar power supply
- TV Screen and computer hookup
- Microphone and speaker system
- Storage for ALL equipment
 - Tabletop Demos
 - Rainfall simulator
 - Wind Erosion Simulator



USDA-NRCS Soil Health Education Center and Rainfall Simulator



USDA-NRCS Soil Health Education Center and Rainfall Simulator



USDA-NRCS Soil Health Education Center and Rainfall Simulator





USDA-NRCS Soil Health Education Center and Rainfall Simulator



- We want to wear the tires off... to request, contact Carlos Villarreal, carlos.villarreal@usda.gov





Farm Service Agency
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



FSA Updates June 2024 State Tech Meeting

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center

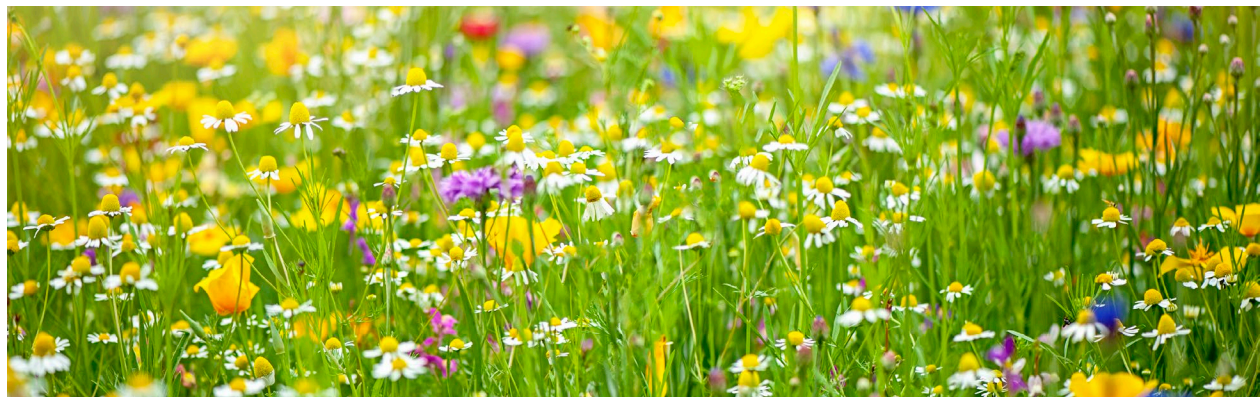
Price Support and Conservation Division

- Jana Ingwerson-Laws – FSA Conservation Program Specialist
 - 402-437-5883
 - jana.ingwersonlaws@usda.gov
- Julee Patzel – FSA Conservation Program Specialist
 - 402-437-5050
 - julee.patzel@usda.gov
- Patrick Lechner – FSA Price Support/Conservation Program Chief
 - 402-437-5586
 - patrick.lechner@usda.gov



Farm Service Agency
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Recent CRP Signup Results



FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center

General CRP Signup 62

- Signup conducted March 4 – March 29, 2024
- Nebraska Numbers:
 - Total Offers = 177
 - Accepted Offers = 147 (7597.92 acres)
 - Rejected Offers = 30 (770.41 acres)
 - 91% Accepted Rate

Practice	Acres
CP1 (Introduced Grasses)	895.85
CP2 (Native Grasses)	5712.39
CP4D (Wildlife Habitat)	42.82
CP25 (Rare and Declining Habitat)	891.35
CP42 (Pollinator Habitat)	55.83

Continuous CRP Signup 61

- **Batching to not exceed 27 million acreage National cap**
- **Batching period 1 and 2 in Nebraska = 607 offers accepted totaling 16,014 acres**
- **Batching period 3 ended June 7**
- **Batching period 4 ends July 12**

Continuous CRP Signup 61 Deadlines

The following are the FY 2024 continuous CRP deadlines.

Date	Action
July 31, 2024	Deadline for producers to submit an offer for new or re-enrolled land or combination of new or re-enrolled land for continuous CRP signup 61.
August 7, 2024	Deadline for producers to request a conservation plan from NRCS. County Office deadline to enter the status in COLS as “Submit for Plan” for continuous CRP signup 61. Note: FSA must provide offers to NRCS within 5 workdays of receiving the submitted offer from the producer.
September 6, 2024	Deadline for NRCS or TSP to complete the conservation plan, sign, and obtain signatures of all signatories on CRP-1, and return the conservation plan to FSA.
September 30, 2024	Deadline for COC or CED to approve CRP-1’s and load CRP-1 approvals in COLS.

Grassland CRP Signup 206

- Announced June 3rd
- Signup dates: June 3rd – June 28, 2024



Farm Service Agency
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Review of FY2024 CRP and CLEAR30 Cost Share Dockets



FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center

CRP Cost Docket Review

- CRP policy requires State Committees to develop cost share policy following guidelines in 2-CRP(Rev.&), in consultation with the State Technical Committee
- Nebraska rates are established at the State level, along with NRCS cooperation.
- Cost Share for Seed will not exceed 50% of actual seed costs

CRP Cost Docket Review

- 2-CRP policy does allow local County Committees to increase or decrease extents or cost share approved on a case-by-case basis if State rates are not in line with current county average rates

CRP Cost Docket Review

- All components are reviewed and consistent with NRCS EQIP rates whenever possible

CLEAR30 Maintenance Payment Rates

- CLEAR30 offers cost share assistance for performing maintenance activities through the 30-year contract period.
- Participants paid at 75% STC established rate to complete maintenance activities.
- Rates established by STC in consultation with State Tech Committee

CLEAR30 Maintenance Payment Rates

Following is minimum list of maintenance activities that require rates to be established:

- site prep
- seeding/inter-seeding – management activity
- control weeds/noxious weeds
- mowing of brush/herbaceous weeds
- prescribed burning, including reimbursement of burn permit/plan
- maintenance of conservation structures, such as grass waterways
- re-establishment of conservation practices damaged or destroyed at no fault of CRP participants, such as grass waterways
- maintenance of installed structures, such as fence/livestock crossing/water developments and facilities.

Rates CRP and CLEAR30

- FY2024 – Rates were increased or decreased on same components for both CRP and CLEAR30

CRP Cost Docket Proposed Changes

■ Proposed Increased Rates:

Component	
314	Brush Management
315	Herbaceous Weed Control
327, 332, 342, 386, 390, 393, 420, 550, 589	Conservation Cover, High Diversity Contour Buffer, Critical Area Planting, Riparian Herbaceous Cover, Filter Strip, Wildlife Planting, Range Planting, Cross Wind Trap Strips – seed mixes
327	No-Till Drill
340	Cover Crop
356	Wetland Dike
378	Pond
380	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment

CRP Cost Docket Proposed Changes

- Proposed Increased Rates (continued):

Component	
382	Barbed Wire Fence
390	Riparian Forest Buffer
394	Vegetative Firebreak
410	Grade Stabilization Structure
441	Micro Irrigation
472	Pollinator Boundary Designation
484	Hay Mulch
490	Tree and Shrub Site Prep

CRP Cost Docket Proposed Changes

- Proposed Increased Rates (continued):

Component	
516	Pipeline
533	Pumping Plants
561	Heavy Use Protection Area
574	Spring Development
578	Stream Crossing
587	Structure for Water Control
612	Tree and Shrub Establishment
614	Watering Facility

CRP Cost Docket Proposed Changes

■ Proposed Increased Rates (continued):

Component	
642	Water Well – Steel or Copper 100ft or Deeper
645	Upland Wildlife Management – Brush Piles
657	Wetland Restoration
658	Wetland Creation
659	Wetland Enhancement

CRP Cost Docket Proposed Changes

- Proposed Decreased Rates:

Component	
All practices	Site Prep Chemical and Mechanical, Combination Complex
332	Contour Buffer Seed
382	Electric Fence
412	Grassed Waterway
482	Trees and Shrubs – Roll Mulch and Square Mulch
512	Forage and Biomass Planting
642	Water Well - PVC



Farm Service Agency
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ECP in Nebraska



FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center

Counties Approved for ECP

- Lincoln – Valentines Day Fire
- Custer – Betty's Way Fire 2/26
- Lincoln – Betty's Way Fire 2/26
- Logan – Stapleton Fire 2/26
- Howard – 4/26 Tornado
- Greeley – 4/26 Tornado

Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

- Common ECP practices for wildfires and/or tornadoes:
 - EC1 – debris removal of damaged fence
 - EC3 – replacing or restoring permanent fences
 - EC5 – emergency wind erosion control measures, such as cover crops, chiseling, contour or cross slope chiseling, deep plowing

Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

- Important participant documents damage (photos, maps etc.)
- Cost Share:
 - Up to 75% of allowable cost to implement approved restoration practices
 - Up to 90% of allowable cost to implement approved restoration practices for limited resource, socially disadvantaged, or beginning farmers/ranchers
 - 25% advance payment available on all practices upon application approval
- Written approval must be granted by FSA prior to restoration work starting

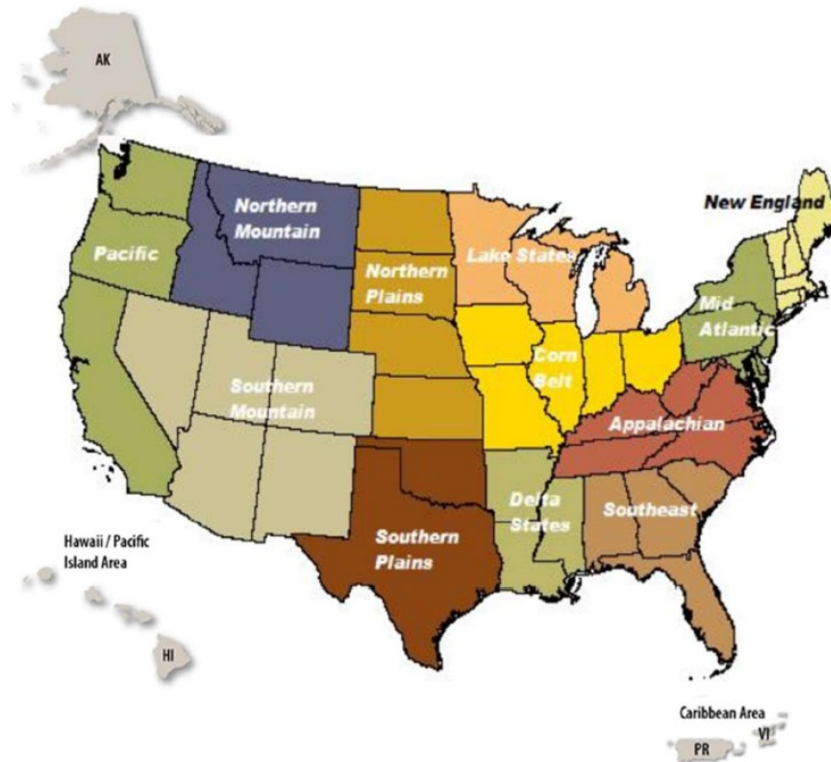
FY2024 ECP Payment Scenarios

- Since August 2021, ECP began utilizing payment scenarios
 - Streamlines program implementation
 - Improved timeline for payment processing
 - Utilizes NRCS technical practices

FY2024 ECP Payment Scenarios

B ECP Payment Scenario Methodology (Continued)

Note: The following map provides payment scenario regions.



FY2024 ECP Payment Scenarios

- Typical practice installation under conditions typical of ECP
- Important to note that components are what is typically needed to meet the minimum requirements of the practice standard, accomplish practice installation, and represents least-costly alternative.



Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



FY2024 Programs Update

Nebraska State Technical Committee – June 13, 2024

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center



FY24 EQIP and CSP IRA Implementation

An aerial photograph showing a wide river on the left, a dense forest in the center, and various agricultural fields in shades of green and yellow on the right. A small pond is visible within the forested area.

Inflation Reduction Act



FY24 EQIP and CSP IRA Implementation

Application and Ranking Deadlines

- EQIP and CSP General Application Cut-off for current funding consideration was November 17, 2023
- EQIP and CSP IRA ACT NOW Application Cut-off was March 1, 2024

EQIP IRA Obligations (98% complete)

- 647 Contracts
- 242,700 acres

ACT NOW

Expedited process to approve producer applications for Conservation Programs. It was used in 2024 to help facilitate utilizing IRA funds with EQIP and CSP.

FY24 EQIP and CSP IRA Implementation

- Key Points
 - One or more core practices or activities on the 2024 CSAF list must be planned in a contract.
 - Facilitating practices and activities can receive payment but must directly support a core practice addressing climate change in the contract.
 - IRA and non-IRA funds cannot be combined in a contract.
 - Practices and activities must be implemented, and payments completed prior to September 30, 2031. Look at shorter EQIP contract lengths.
 - Payments will count toward program-specific payment limitations for participants (the combined general and IRA funding cannot exceed the statutory cap).



FY24 EQIP and CSP IRA Implementation

FY2024 Climate Smart Core Practices and Facilitating Practices Eligible for Inflation Reduction Act Funding

Practice Code	Conservation Practice Name	Approved Facilitating Practices
311	Alley Cropping	490 Tree/Shrub Site Preparation
313	Waste Storage Facility – used to implement bedded-pack.	None
314	Brush Management – used to remove woody invasive material and the removed material will be left onsite.	595 Pest Management – scenario 194 to address woody seedlings
315	Herbaceous Weed Control – used to release desired deep rooted perennial species	None
317	Composting Facility	None
327	Conservation Cover	382 Fence, 472 Access Control 645 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management
328	Conservation Crop Rotation	449 Irrigation Water Management, 595 Pest Management
329	Residue Mgt – <u>Notill</u>	None
332	Contour Buffer Strips	330 Contour Farming
336	Soil Carbon Amendment	None
338	Prescribed Burning	394 Firebreak, 528 Prescribed Grazing scenarios 8 or 39 – livestock deferment to build fine fuel; 810 Annual Forages

FY24 EQIP and CSP IRA Implementation

340	Cover Crops	None
342	Critical Area Planting	382 Fence, 472 Access Control
345	Residue Mgt – Reduced Till	None
366	Anaerobic Digester	634 Waste Transfer, 313 Waste Storage Facility
367	Roofs and Covers – used to cover a waste mgt facility to capture biogas.	None
372	Combustion System Improvement – used for stationary or mobile engine replacement or repower to electric motor	533 Pumping Plant
374	Energy Efficient Agricultural Operation	None
380	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation	490 Tree/Shrub Site Preparation, 382 Fence, 472 Access Control
383	Fuel Break	None
384	Woody Residue Treatment	None
386	Field Border	330 Contour Farming
390	Riparian Herbaceous Cover	382 Fence, 472 Access Control

FY24 EQIP and CSP IRA Implementation

391	Riparian Forest Buffer	490 Tree/Shrub Site Preparation, 382 Fence, 472 Access Control
393	Filter Strips	382 Fence, 472 Access Control
412	Grassed Waterway	410 Grade Stabilization Structure, 606 Subsurface Drain
420	Wildlife Planting	382 Fence, 472 Access Control 645 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management
422	Hedgerow Planting	490 Tree/Shrub Site Preparation, 382 Fence, 472 Access Control
430	Irrigation Pipeline – used to reduce energy use.	None
441	Irrigation System – Microirrigation – used to reduce energy use	430 Irrigation Pipeline, 436 Irrigation Reservoir 449 Irrigation Water Mgt, 533 Pumping Plant, 587 Structure for Water Control – flow meter
442	Sprinkler System – used to reduce energy use	430 Irrigation Pipeline, 436 Irrigation Reservoir 449 Irrigation Water Mgt, 533 Pumping Plant, 587 Structure for Water Control – flow meter
484	Mulching	None
512	Pasture and Hay Planting	382 Fence, 472 Access Control
528	Prescribed Grazing	382 Fence, 516 Livestock Pipeline, 533 Pumping Plant, 561 Heavy Use Area Protection, 576 Livestock Shelter Structure, 578 Stream Crossing, 595 Pest Management – scenario 194 to address woody seedlings, 614 Watering Facility, 642 Water Well

FY24 EQIP and CSP IRA Implementation

533	Pumping Plant – used to reduce energy use.	None
550	Range Planting	382 Fence, 472 Access Control
585	Stripcropping	None
590	Nutrient Mgt	449 Irrigation Water Mgt - if applicant uses fertigation
592	Feed Management – used to reduce enteric methane emissions	None
601	Vegetative Barriers	None
603	Herbaceous Wind Barriers	None
612	Tree/Shrub Establishment	490 Tree/Shrub Site Preparation, 382 Fence, 472 Access Control, 645 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management
632	Waste Separation Facility	634 Waste Transfer, 313 Waste Storage Facility
643	Restoration of Rare and Declining Communities – used to restore floodplain hydrology	None
657	Wetland Restoration	356 Dike, 382 Fence, 460 Land Clearing, 472 Access Control, 587 Structure for Water Control, 644 Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management
666	Forest Stand Improvement	None
670	Energy Efficient Lighting System	None
672	Energy Efficient Building Envelope	None



FY24 EQIP IRA Final Estimated Allocations

FA Final Allocation Estimates	
Initial Allocation	\$ 29,027,000.00
Urban & Small-Scale Ag	\$ 1,000.00
Wildlife Initiative	\$ 865,000.00
Great Plains Grassland Initiative	\$ 1,378,000.00
Northern Bobwhite	\$ 163,200.00
Historically Underserved (10%)	\$ 2,359,000.00
Organic	\$ 110,000.00
Tribal	\$ 267,000.00
Sandhills WLFW	\$ 205,000.00
Source Water Protection (10%)	\$ 3,135,000.00
Total State Pools	\$ 8,483,200.00
Local Pools	\$ 20,466,000.00
Current Obligations	\$ 28,949,200.00

FY24 EQIP General Allocation

FA Initial Allocation Estimate	20,460,969
Urban & Small-Scale Ag (High Tunnels) \$	500,000.00
Wildlife Initiative (10%) \$	423,048.00
Great Plains Grassland Initiative \$	1,023,048.00
Reserve \$	600,000.00
Conservation Activities (CPA's, DIA's, CEMA's) \$	200,000.00
Historically Underserved (10%) \$	2,474,398.00
AFOs \$	1,000,000.00
Organic \$	100,000.00
Tribal \$	100,000.00
Sandhills WLFW \$	100,000.00
Disaster \$	1,500,000.00
Source Water Protection (10%) \$	2,046,097.00
EQIP CIC (5%) \$	1,023,048.00
Inefficient Energy \$	25,000.00
NWQI \$	1,678,222.00
Northern Bobwhite \$	219,771.00
WaterSMART (URNRD) \$	219,771.00
Total above fund pools	\$ 13,232,403
Balance after above funds pools	\$ 7,228,566
Additional Funds to Distribute	Estimate
Northern Bobwhite \$	219,771.00
Joint Chiefs \$	-
NWQI \$	1,678,222.00
Water Smart \$	219,771.00
Total to Distribute	\$ 9,346,330.00

2024 General EQIP

- **EQIP General Ranking Deadline was April 5, 2024**
- **EQIP General Obligations**
 - 75% of funds are in approved applications
 - 50% of funds have been obligated.

State Wildfire Initiative

Special initiative to provide funding in areas affected by Wildfires. Currently have approved applications totaling \$1.3M.

- Applications were approved in Custer, Lincoln, and Logan Counties

They include funding for:

- 340 Cover Crop
- 528 Prescribed Grazing – Livestock Deferment on Grazing Lands
- 484 Mulching



FY24 CSP Renewals

- Renewal obligation of \$4,799,737
 - 70 contracts obligated
 - Avg \$68,500. (Lower than typical due to remaining under the 2018 Farm Bill)

Nebraska CSP Allocation

- General - \$22,445,000
 - IRA - \$14,787,000
 - **Total - \$37,232,000**
-
- Funds are distributed between CSP Renewal and Classic signups.
 - IRA funds are 97% obligated

FY24 CSP IRA Signup

- Application deadline was March 1, 2023
 - First come first served
 - Must meet minimum threshold score
 - Applications received and processed until IRA funds depleted.
 - 232 applications received
 - 116 Contracts approved.
 - Avg \$110,000
 - 98% Approved and 93 % obligated

FY24 CSP Classic Signup

- Application deadline was November 17, 2023
 - 436 applications received.
- CSP General Ranking Deadline May 3, 2024
 - 154 contracts pre-approved
 - Avg \$120,900
 - 29% approved and 14% obligated.

FY25 CSP Renewals

- Application letters were being send out March 29, 2024
- Renewal application deadline was May 3, 2024
 - 86 applications received
- Rankings are due November 8, 2024



Local Work Group Meetings

**Local Work Group meetings are held
across the state every spring**

**Dates, times and locations are available at
www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/conservation-state/nebraska/technical-committee**

Next LWG Meetings will occur in 2025

Local Work Group Meetings

- Open to all partners and the public
- Items on the agenda may include:
 - Resource Concern Priorities
 - Input on Prioritization tools and Ranking Pool questions
 - Review Practice Payment Schedule
 - Preferred Application and ranking cut-off dates



RCPP Program Update.

New Projects approved for Funding for FY 2023

AFA Projects

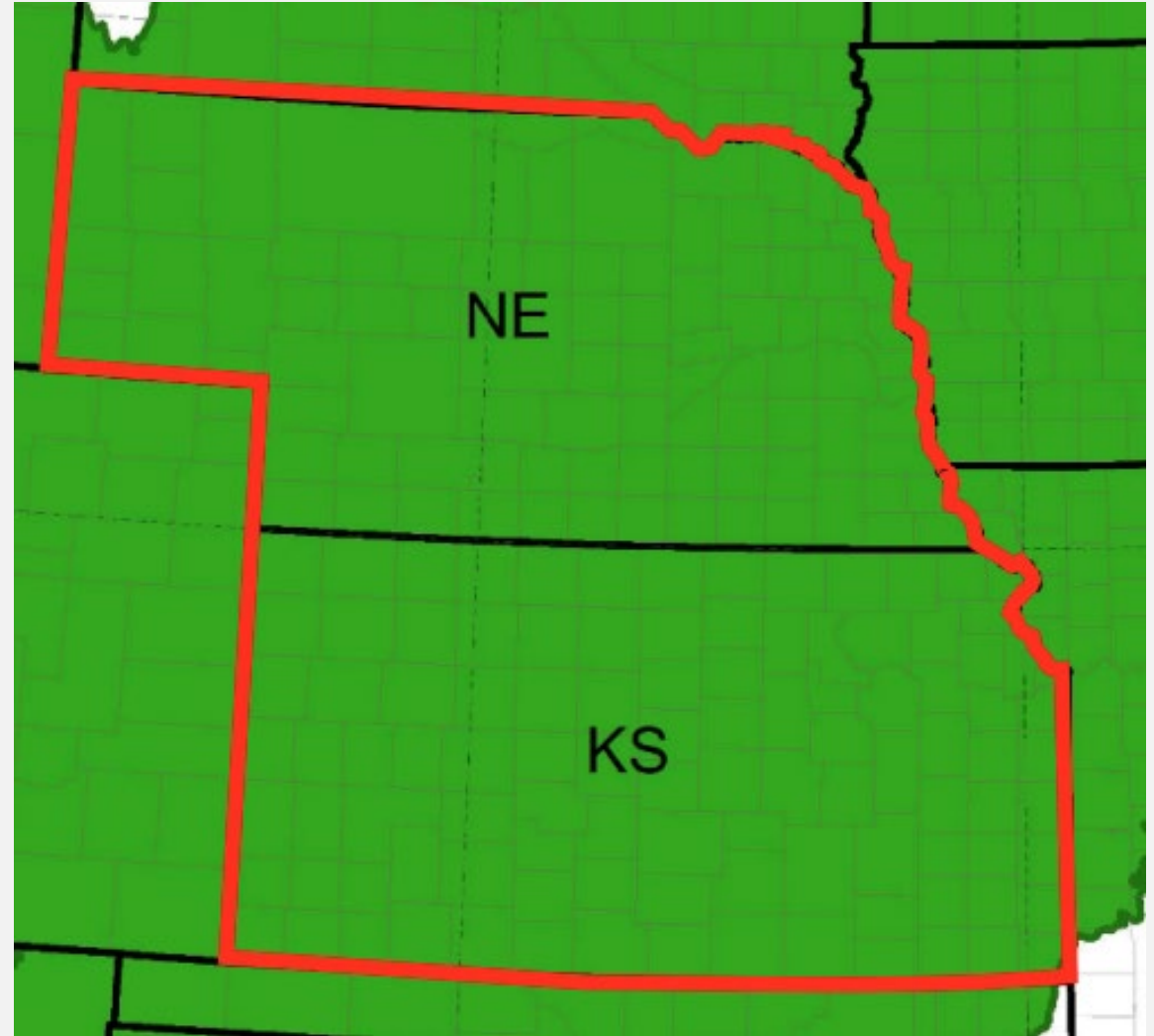
- Kansas Nebraska Wetland Initiative
- Agropur Dairy Producers Best Mgt Practices Project.
- Expanding Soil Health Through Carbon Markets

Classic Projects

- Improving Grassland Health and Connecting Resilient Lands.

RCPP 3256 -Kansas Nebraska Wetland Initiative.

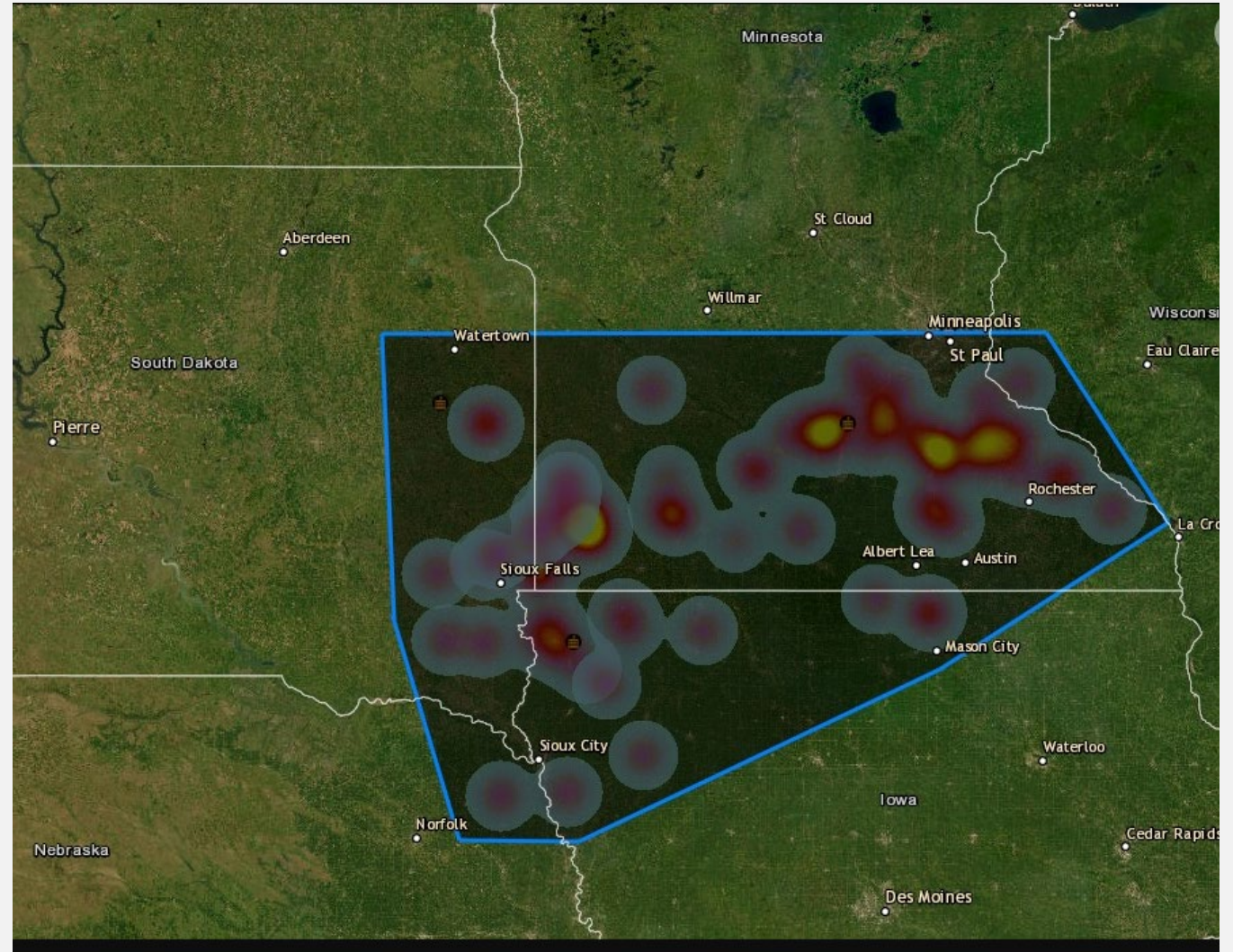
- Project type- AFA
- Status of project- Active PPA.
- Lead State - Kansas
- Lead Partner- Ducks Unlimited
- Total Financial Assistance- \$7,500,000.00
- Practices-
- Project Goal- Ducks Unlimited goal is to create a new, flexible, and cost-effective wetland and riparian restoration, management, and protection program filling a huge niche for producers willing to invest in their land in Nebraska and Kansas.



RCPP 3290-

Agropur Dairy Producers Best Management Practices Project.

- Project type- AFA
- Status of project- Pending PPA.
- Lead State – South Dakota
- Lead Partner- Agropur
- Total Financial Assistance- \$7,447,211.00
- Practices- Nitrogen Reduction, Cover Crops, Reduced Tillage, Energy use from Irrigation & Manure Mgt.
- Project Goal- Agropur and Nestlé have set ambitious targets to reduce GHG emissions across our supply chains. Agropur, lead applicant of this proposal, announced a commitment earlier this year to reduce emissions by 24%/kg of milk across our value chain by 2031. Together, our companies will combine resources to invest in GHG reductions and environmental improvements at US dairy farms that produce milk used in our products.



RCPP 3405- Expanding Soil Health Through Carbon Markets RCPP

Project type- AFA

Status of project- Pending PPA.

Lead State – South Dakota

Lead Partner- American Coalition for Ethanol

Total Financial Assistance- \$18,750,000.00

Practices- Cover Crops, no/reduced-till & Nutrient Mgt.

Project Goal- This project will expand the scope of the “Expanding Soil Health by Accessing Carbon Markets”. It will significantly advance Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and USDA directives to expand farmer climate-smart practice adoption and the collection of related GHG data needed to secure farmers a fair return in climate markets and via tax credits

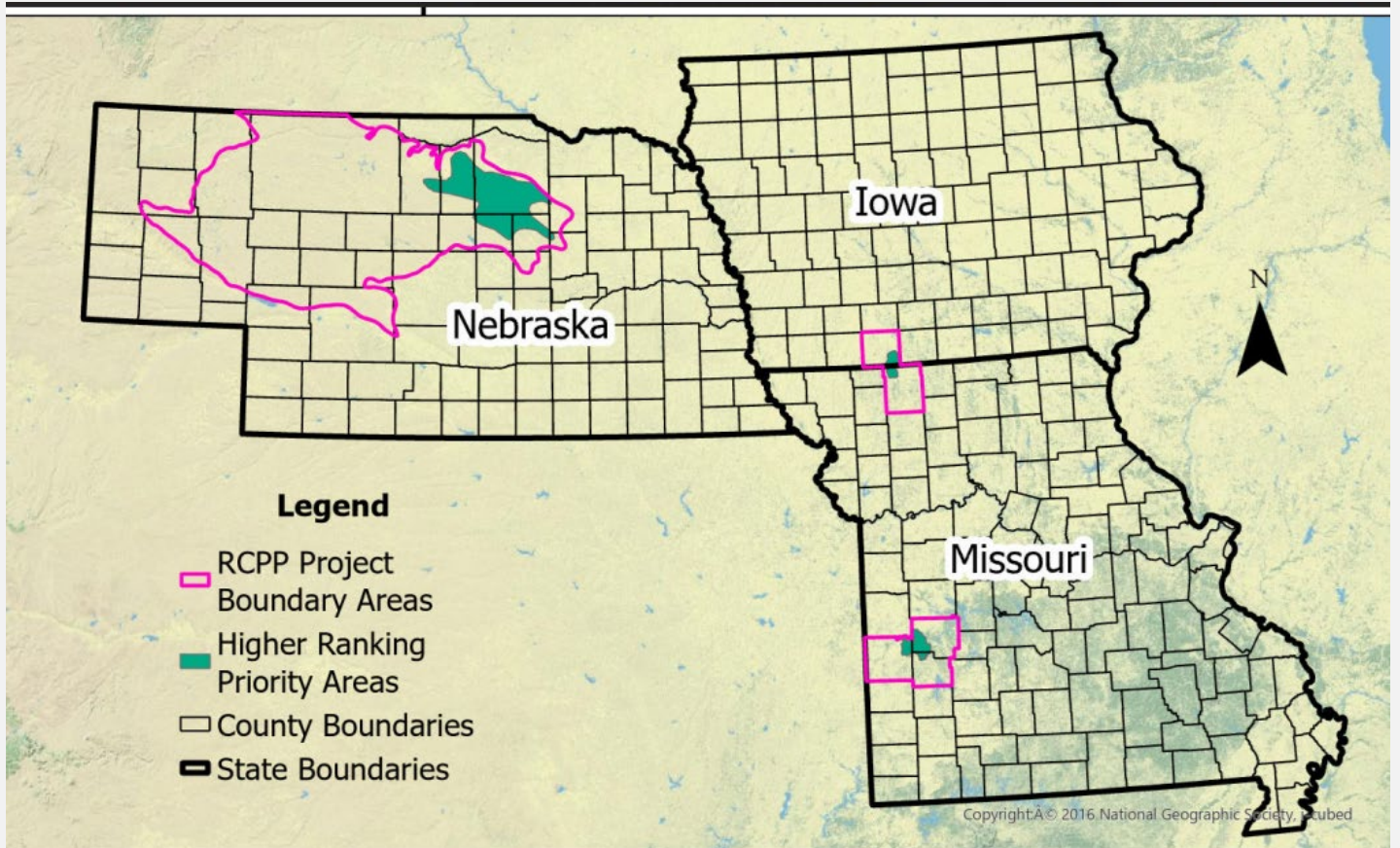


Nebraska Counties:

*Adams, Antelope, Boyd, Buffalo, Burt, Cedar, Clay, Cuming, Dakota, Dixon, Fillmore, Franklin, Hall, Hamilton, Harlan, Holt, Kearney, Knox, Madison, Merrick, Nuckolls, Pierce, Stanton, Thayer, Thurston, Wayne, Webster, Wheeler, York,

RCPP 3374- Improving Grassland Health and Connecting Resilient Lands

- Project type- Classic
- Status of project-PPA Active .
- Lead State – Nebraska
- Lead Partner- The Nature Conservancy
- Total Financial Assistance- \$3,240,960.00
- Practices- Grazing practices.
- Project Goal- TNC will engage with private landowners to encourage protection and enhancement of native grasslands through adoption of private land incentive-based management practices designed to improve the ecological, economic, and social health of the land and its caretakers. The priority areas our project is the NE Sandhills, the Grand River Grasslands and Osage Plains within MO and parts of IA.



RCPP Proposals for 2024

- NRCS Nebraska State Office has met with several partners to learn about their new RCPP proposals.
- The proposals have been for easements, grassland projects, and soil health projects.
- Authorization is \$1.5 billion for RCPP projects across the nation through this announcement.
- Deadline to submit proposal is July 2, 2024



QUESTIONS?



Non-discrimination Statement

- In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English. To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at **How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint** and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



FY2024 Easements Update

Nebraska State Technical Committee – June 13, 2024

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center

FY2024 ACEP - Nebraska

- Applications taken year-round.
- FY24 application cut-off November 13, 2023.
 - This was for WRE, WRE-WREP, ALE and ALE-GSS.
- Will use appraisals again in FY2024 to determine acquisition costs for WRE.
 - 90% GARC, NTE rate of \$12,970/ac irrigated cropland, NTE \$9,320/ac all other land

FY2024 ACEP - Nebraska

Fiscal Year Allocation of Funds

- ACEP-WRE - \$2,014,067
- ACEP-WRE-WREP - \$826,290
- ACEP-ALE - \$2,821,563 with January Funds Assessment
- ACEP-WRE/WRP Stewardship Funds - \$554,631
 - These funds are for maintenance and repair of existing easements.



FY2024 ACEP - Nebraska

- Agreements Offered
 - WRE RGR Applications = 2 on 57 Acres
 - ALE GSS Applications = 5 on 10,343 Acres

FY2024 ACEP-WRE - Nebraska

Moving forward on:

- July Funds Assessment
 - Return unused Acquisition Funding
 - Request additional Stewardship Funding
- 2 WRE offers from 2024
- 3 WRE from 2023
- 1 WRE from 2022
- NE IRA Priority Areas
 - 4 Playa Basins
- WREP Proposals Due 8/16
- 2025 Compensation Package



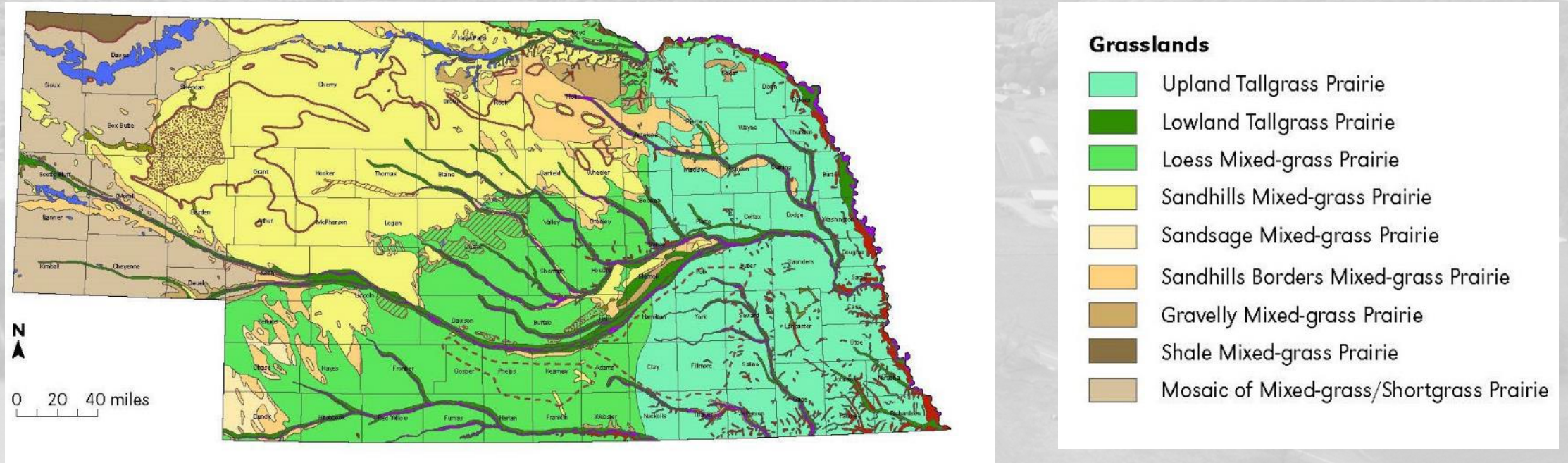
FY2024 ACEP-WRE - Nebraska

NE 2025 IRA Priority Areas



FY2024 ACEP-ALE - Nebraska

NE 2025 IRA Priority Areas





FY2024 ACEP-ALE/GSS - Nebraska

Agricultural Land Easement (ALE)

Grasslands of Special Environmental Significance (GSS)

- Parcel Agreements on 5 GSS applications
- July/August Closing IRA-ACEP-ALE
- Deed Reviews on 3 ALE/GSS from 2022-2023



FY2024 EWPP-FPE - Nebraska

Emergency Watershed Protection Program – Floodplain Easements (EWPP-FPE)

- 2 easements pending on 439 acres



QUESTIONS?



Non-discrimination Statement

- In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English. To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at **How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint** and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.