

production and marketing practices. Participants should respond by April 4.

Farmers and ranchers can return their questionnaires by mail or complete them online at accounts.usda.gov using the new Respondent Portal. On the portal, producers can complete their surveys, see previously reported data, access data visualizations and reports of interest, link to other USDA agencies, get a local weather update and more.

“We continue to receive requests for updated data on organic farms, especially to measure growth in the production sector of the organic industry,” said Donald Buysse, chief of the Census Planning Branch at NASS. “According to the 2019 survey, U.S. certified organic producers sold a total of \$9.93 billion in products, up 31% over 2016. That is a significant increase, and this upcoming survey will help determine if that type of growth has been sustained.”

Agricultural statistics are used by many, including business and policy decision makers, but in this case, farmers and ranchers stand to reap the most benefits.

The 2021 Organic Survey will provide data for USDA’s Risk Management Agency to evaluate crop insurance coverage to help provide adequate pricing for organic farmers. The report, to be released on the NASS website Dec. 15, 2022, will also assist farmers, suppliers and others in the private sector in planning the production and marketing of new products to help sustain industry growth.

“I encourage producers to participate in this survey so we can continue to improve Federal crop insurance for organic producers,” said Marcia Bunger, administrator for USDA’s Risk Management Agency. “We now offer an organic price for 84 crops, which is up from just four in 2011, due in part to the information received from this survey. Producers’ participation in this survey will aid USDA efforts to meet the needs of our nation’s ever-expanding organic market.”

As is the case with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is kept confidential and will not be published in identifiable form, as required by federal law. For more information about the 2021 Certified Organic Survey, visit nass.usda.gov/organics.

USDA report shows a decade of conservation trends

A new U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) report shows use of no-till, crop rotations, more efficient irrigation methods and advanced technologies have climbed in recent years.

The report from USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) demonstrates progress made through voluntary conservation

over a 10-year period. Findings from the report will inform future conservation strategies, including USDA’s efforts to tackle the climate crisis.

The “Conservation Practices on Cultivated Cropland: A Comparison of CEAP I and CEAP II Survey Data and Modeling” was developed by USDA’s Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP). It found significant gains for soil health and soil carbon storage, while also identifying areas where additional and targeted nutrient management strategies are needed.

“This latest CEAP report shows that farmers have done an outstanding job over the years in using innovative conservation strategies that help mitigate climate change,” said NRCS Chief Terry Cosby, “But we have more work to do. Reports like this one help us better understand conservation approaches and make improvements to increase positive impacts. This report will help steer our conservation efforts well into the future to help us adapt to changing trends in production, climate and technology.”

Key findings include:

Farmers increasingly adopted advanced technology, including enhanced-efficiency fertilizers and variable rate fertilization to improve efficiency, assist agricultural economies and benefit the environment.

More efficient conservation tillage systems, particularly no-till, became the dominant form of tillage, improving soil health and reducing fuel use.

(Continued on next page)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Brief Explanatory Statements of Proposed Constitutional Amendments Special Election, May 7, 2022

Proposition Number 1 (SJR 2)

SJR 2 proposes a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for the reduction of the amount of a limitation on the total amount of property taxes that may be imposed for general elementary and secondary public school purposes on the residence homestead of a person who is elderly or disabled in order to reflect any statutory reduction in the maximum compressed rate of the maintenance and operations taxes imposed for those purposes on the person’s homestead from the preceding tax year.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **“The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for the reduction of the amount of a limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for general elementary and secondary public school purposes on the residence homestead of a person who is elderly or disabled to reflect any statutory reduction from the preceding tax year in the maximum compressed rate of the maintenance and operations taxes imposed for those purposes on the homestead.”**

Proposition Number 2 (SJR 2)

SJR 2 proposes a constitutional amendment increasing the amount of the residence homestead exemption from property taxes for public school purposes from \$25,000 to \$40,000.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **“The constitutional amendment increasing the amount of the residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation for public school purposes from \$25,000 to \$40,000.”**

Published by The Office of the Texas Secretary of State, www.sos.texas.gov, 1/800-252-VOTE (8683).

IVEY MOTORS

2020 Ford F-250 Lariat <i>White w/Tan Leather! Navigation, Bed Liner, & Gooseneck Package! 39K Miles! Sharp Looking Truck!</i>	\$71,500 #X569M	2019 Ford F-150 Lariat 4WD <i>Silver Spruce w/Tan Leather! Navigation, Bed Liner, & Tow Package! Beautiful Truck! 59K Miles!</i>	\$43,900 #Y563A
2020 Ford Expedition Max Platinum <i>Rapid Red w/Tan Leather! Navigation, Sunroof, & Rear Entertainment System! Only 26K Miles!</i>	\$66,900 #X626A	2013 Ford F-250 King Ranch 4WD <i>Kodiak Brown w/Tan Accent & KR Leather! 6.7L Diesel! Navigation, Heated/Cooled Seats, & FX4 Offroad Package! Beautiful Truck! 150K Miles!</i>	\$38,900 #X564A
2020 Ford Expedition Max Limited <i>White w/Tan Leather! Navigation, Sunroof, & Rear Entertainment System! Only 26K Miles! Beautiful Family Ride!</i>	\$63,900 #X569C	2019 Toyota Tundra SR5 <i>Black w/Black Cloth Seats! Double Cab! 4x2! Bed Liner & Tow Package! 37K Miles!</i>	\$34,900 #5671A
2019 Ford Expedition Max XLT 4WD <i>White w/Tan Leather! Adaptive Cruise, Navigation, & Tow Package! 49K Miles! Great Family Ride!</i>	\$50,500 #X611A	2018 Honda CR-V Touring AWD <i>White w/Leather! Navigation, Adaptive Cruise, & Power Lift Gate! 33K Miles!</i>	\$32,750 #7286M
2020 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 RST 4WD <i>White w/Black Cloth! Z71 Offroad Package! Only 32K Miles! In Great Shape!</i>	\$48,500 #X497A	2018 Ford Edge Titanium <i>White w/Tan Leather! Heated/Cooled Seats, Sunroof, & Navigation! 26K Miles! Excellent Shape!</i>	\$32,300 #X615A
2018 Ford Expedition XLT <i>Silver w/Black Leather! New Body Style! Excellent Family Vehicle! 37K Miles!</i>	\$44,900 #X545A	2017 Ford Explorer XLT <i>Smoked Quartz w/Tan Leather! Navigation, Rear Bucket Seats & Power Liftgate! 90K Miles! Very Nice SUV!</i>	\$25,500 X501A
2017 Ford F-150 King Ranch 4WD <i>Blue w/Brown Accent & KR Leather! Navigation, Powered Running Boards, & Bed Liner! 60K Miles! Sharp Looking Truck!</i>	\$46,900 #7298B		
2017 GMC Sierra 1500 SLT 4WD <i>White w/Tan Leather! Navigation, Heated/Cooled Seats, & Z71 Offroad Package! Only 33K Miles! Good Looking Truck!</i>	\$42,900 #X599A		

453-4561

Ask For:

Cole Flanagan • Buddy Wallace • Kagan Maxcey

