



United States
Department of
Agriculture



National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

Research and
Development Division
Washington DC 20250

RDD Research Report
Number RDD-11-06

April 2012

Examining Nonresponse Occurring in the National Agricultural Statistics Service's 2009 Agricultural Resource Management Survey Phase III

HoaiNam N. Tran
Michael W. Gerling
Melissa Mitchell
Rich Hopper
Terry O'Connor

This paper was prepared for limited distribution to the research community outside the United States Department of Agriculture. The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the National Agricultural Statistics Service or of the United States Department of Agriculture.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) primary purpose is to provide timely, accurate, and useful statistics on the United States and Puerto Rico agriculture. One of NASS's primary surveys, the Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS), collects data covering chemical use and production practices with a specific focus on the financial well-being of agricultural operations. ARMS is composed of three phases. Phase I is conducted May through July and screens for potential inclusion for Phases II and III. Phase II is conducted October through December and collects data on cropping practices and chemical usage. Phase III occurs February through April of the following year and collects detailed economic information about the agricultural operation and on the operator's household. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) uses ARMS data to evaluate the financial performance of farms and ranches, and other critical issues related to agriculture and the rural economy, which influence agricultural policy decisions. ARMS data also are used by farm organizations, commodity groups, agribusiness, Congress, and state departments of agriculture.

ARMS Phase III (ARMS III) is the only phase with response rates lower than 80 percent. The last ten year's response rates have fluctuated between a low of 62.8 percent in 2003 to a high of 70.5 percent in 2005, with the last three years hovering in the upper 60s. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) requires surveys to have an 80 percent or greater response rate. Surveys falling below this threshold are required to include a nonresponse bias analysis which costs staffing resources to determine and account for any bias. Additionally, monetary and other incentives have been tried but resulted in only a marginal increase in response rates. Hence, NASS's Research and Development Division decided to delve deeper into determining the main drivers of nonresponse in ARMS III.

This study takes a step towards reducing nonresponse by first documenting and beginning to understand some of the reasons behind it. Once these reasons are better understood, one can then focus on those aspects of the data collection process requiring improvement.

The table located on the following page shows the top five reasons for operations being coded as refusals or inaccessibles.

Top Five Reasons for Nonresponse (Refusal & Inaccessible)

Reasons for Refusal
1. Would not take time/too busy.
2. Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.
3. Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.
4. Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.
5. Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.

Reasons for Inaccessible
1. Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.
2. The operator is away on vacation or business.
3. No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.
4. Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.
5. The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continue tracking the reasons for nonresponse every year, until the response rate reaches 80 percent.

Impact: Nonresponse data will enable NASS to statistically determine if particular nonresponse reasons are state specific, regional and/or national. Also, this has the potential to determine those aspects of the data collection process (questionnaire design, survey promotion, data collection) requiring improvement.

2. Update NASS's Survey Processing System, Interactive Data Analysis System, or Blaise Systems to provide each state with a print-out of their state's reasons for nonresponse. This output would be an extension to the enumerator rating and work completion summary.

Impact: Provide field offices the opportunity to track their response rates and provide insight into problems occurring during enumeration.

3. Re-emphasize the importance of collecting nonresponse data to field enumerators during the Agricultural Resource Management Survey workshops. The statistician who manages the survey should do this.

Impact: Improve the recording of reasons for nonresponse.

4. Follow up with the operators of agricultural operations providing reasons for refusing to participate in the ARMS III such as: "*Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.*" and "*Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/State Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.*" Recommend Field Office Directors directly contact (personal visit, telephone and/or mail) these operators to discuss the operator's feelings on these matters and to explain the importance of NASS's estimates and publications.

Impact: Gain future support for NASS surveys from previous refusals.

5. Survey statisticians address field enumerators pertaining to situations recorded as violent/threatening refusals. Also, comments describing these situations need to be documented in the comments section of NASS's List Frame, for future data collection planning.

Impact: Make field enumerators aware of any possible dangerous

situations. Protect the field enumerator from harm.

6. Update and implement the Fire-Up Response training (NASS program for increasing response rates) for states with response rates below 80 percent. Also, measure if the training has any effect on response rates.

7. Combine the reasons for nonresponse research with the research being done to develop predictive non-response models which attempts to predict operations likely to refuse to complete surveys and which contribute the most to nonresponse bias. Field Offices should review reasons for nonresponse for any records flagged in ARMS as influential likely nonrespondents.

Impact: Assist the field offices and field enumerators in determining the most efficient approach to gain cooperation from these particular operations.

**Examining Nonresponse Occurring in the
National Agricultural Statistics Service’s
2009 Agricultural Resource Management Survey Phase III**

HoiNam N. Tran, Michael W. Gerling,
Melissa Mitchell, Terry O’Connor, Rich Hopper¹

Abstract

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) surveys agricultural operations to provide timely, accurate, and useful statistics on the United States and Puerto Rico agriculture. The Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS) program is composed of three phases. Phase I is the screening phase. Phase II focuses on chemical use and production practices on the targeted commodities. Phase III is the most complex and detailed sample survey data collections and pertains to the financial condition of the farm, including income, expenses, assets, and debt. Operator characteristics are also collected. This information is then compiled to obtain an overview of the financial well-being of the agricultural sector. ARMS Phase III (ARMS III) is the only phase with response rates lower than 80 percent and so is the focus of this study.

The 2009 ARMS III sample was comprised of agricultural operations, across 48 states (excluding Alaska and Hawaii). Data collection was a mixture of mail, web, and personal field enumeration. For those operations failing to complete a questionnaire, personal enumeration was attempted. Upon a nonresponse occurrence, field enumerators were instructed to review a supplemental handout listing various nonresponse reasons and record the reason on the questionnaire that best fit the situation using a particular coding process.

The results showed that the top three reasons for operations being coded as refusals are “Would not take time/too busy”, “Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns”, and “Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one”. The top three reasons for operations being coded as inaccessible are “Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.”, “The operator is away on vacation or business.”, and “No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.”

KEY WORDS: Surveys, Data Collection, Nonresponse, Inaccessibles, Refusals

¹ HoiNam N. Tran, Michael W. Gerling, and Melissa Mitchell are Mathematical Statisticians and Terry P. O’Connor is Deputy Chief of the Survey Methodology and Technology Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) - Research & Development Division, located at Room 305, 3251 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030. Rich Hopper is Survey Administrator of the ARMS III Survey for NASS and is located at U.S. Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Ave., S.W. Washington, DC 20250. A special thanks to Don Saboe of NASS’s Census and Survey Division as well as to the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture’s field enumerators for their dedication and commitment in making this study a success. Also, a special note of thanks to Peter Quan of NASS’s Research & Development Division for providing additional technical expertise along the way.

1. INTRODUCTION

The National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) primary purpose is to provide timely, accurate, and useful statistics on United States and Puerto Rico agriculture. NASS has forty six field offices which conduct hundreds of surveys annually for the purpose of making estimates on crops and livestock, exploring production practices, and identifying economic trends.

The Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS) is a multi-purpose national survey conducted each year for varying commodities. ARMS provides information about agriculture's economic status and its impact on the quality of the environment. Overall, ARMS is the primary source of economic data providing a true picture of the financial well being of all U.S. farms.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) uses ARMS data to evaluate the financial performance of farms and ranches, and other critical issues related to agriculture and the rural economy, which influence agricultural policy decisions. ARMS data also are used by farm organizations, commodity groups, agribusiness, Congress, and state departments of agriculture.

Improving response rates to meet or exceed 80 percent has been a constant challenge. To improve response rates, NASS is conducting research to further its understanding of the reasons for survey nonresponse. This will provide the agency with the necessary knowledge for assessing and improving the data collection process.

1.1. ARMS Program

The ARMS is composed of three phases. Phase I, conducted May through July, is the screening phase which determines whether the operation is in business, its type of operating arrangement, and whether the operation has those commodities targeted for the survey. For the 2009 ARMS Program, wheat, organic wheat, and hogs were the targeted commodities. Phase II, conducted October through December, focuses on chemical use and production practices on the targeted commodities. Phase III, the most complex and detailed sample survey data collections, conducted February through April of the following year, pertains to the financial condition of the farm, including income, expenses, assets, and debt. Operator characteristics are also collected. Phase III is the only phase of the ARMS with response rates lower than 80 percent. Thus, Phase III of the 2009 ARMS is the focus of the research project and this report.

1.2. Problem: Response Rates Remain at the 65 Percent Range for the ARMS III

For the last five years (2004 to 2008), ARMS III response rates have remained around the mid to upper 60's percent. The use of monetary and non-monetary incentives has resulted in only a marginal increase in response rates.

There are three types of survey nonresponse: 1) refusals, 2) inaccessibles, and 3) incompletes. Refusals are operators who were not willing to respond or participate in the survey.

Inaccessibles occur when field enumerators are unable to contact or reach the operators for data collection. A questionnaire is considered incomplete if a substantial number of questions are left unanswered.

Overall, survey nonresponse negatively impacts data estimates, increases survey cost and data collection time, and significantly complicates the data editing and summarization processes. Nonresponse also increases the potential to bias the estimates. One of the ways that NASS reduces nonresponse bias is by using calibration (Earp, McCarthy, Schauer, Kott, 2008). However, calibration is another complicated layer of the survey analysis process requiring staffing resources. Therefore, reducing nonresponse is vital in using the collected data to determine accurate agricultural estimates.

2. PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH

This study includes all states participating in the 2009 ARMS III.

The goals of the study are to:

- 1.) Document and categorize the most common reasons for nonresponse occurring in the 2009 ARMS III.
- 2.) Compare the reasons for nonresponse with past ARMS III studies conducted by NASS in 1990 and 1991 and document any similarities or differences.

2.1. Definitions

Additional terms used throughout the report are defined below:

Usable: Reports with complete data.

Out of Business: Operation was not operating during the survey reference period.

Out of Scope: Operations are typically institutional farms which includes Indian reservations, prison farms, private or university research farms, not-for-profit farms operated by religious organizations, FFA farms, and other farms that do not have the same expense and/or income patterns as traditional farms.

Office Hold: Questionnaire was held in the office and not enumerated.

Non-Farm: Operation failed to meet USDA's definition of a farm.

3. METHODS

The 2009 ARMS III sample was comprised of agricultural operations, across 48 states. Alaska and Hawaii were excluded from the 2009 ARMS III. Mail and self-administered web were the primary data collection methods used. Personal field enumeration was utilized as a follow-up contact for those operations failing to complete the mailed or web form.

3.1. Enumerator Training

Field enumerators were instructed on the collection procedures for the ARMS III at their respective field offices' annual workshop conducted in January.

For this study, the field enumerators were provided the following instructions:

- 1.) In the event of a refusal, the field enumerator was to ask and record the operator's primary reason for not participating in the survey.
- 2.) For inaccessibles, the field enumerator was to document why the operator could not be contacted.
- 3.) For incompletes, the field enumerator would record why the operator did not answer specific questions.

In all three cases, field enumerators were instructed to review a supplemental handout listing various nonresponse reasons, each of which had a corresponding code number. The field enumerator would record this code in the *Office Use Box* of the questionnaire. See Appendix A for a copy of the supplemental handout.

The additional nonresponse training administered for this study lasted approximately 15 minutes per field office.

3.2. Project Costs

This study involved no additional field enumerator training costs since the additional training was absorbed into the field offices' ARMS III workshops. Also, no additional burden fell on the field enumerators since recording the reasons for the nonresponse is encouraged for all NASS surveys.

4. RESULTS

The compiled findings in this report reflect the results after the primary and post survey data collections and edits, unless otherwise noted.

4.1. Overall Response Rates

Tables 1 and 2 show the response rates at the state and U.S. level. Hawaii and Alaska are excluded since they do not participate in ARMS III. The tables were provided by the “*2009 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS) Phase III - Survey Administration Analysis (Preliminary Yellow Book)*”.

West Virginia’s response rate of 87.1 percent was the highest response rate and also the only state that exceeded OMB’s 80 percent response rate requirement. Colorado had the lowest response rate at 39.1 percent.

**Table 1: 2009 ARMS Phase III Response Counts by State,
All Questionnaire Versions**

<u>State</u>	<u>Sample Size</u>	<u>Positive Usable</u>	<u>Out of Business</u>	<u>Out of Scope</u>	<u>Refusal</u>	<u>Inaccessible</u>	<u>Office Hold</u>	<u>Non -Farm</u>
U.S.	33,348	21,050	1,463	87	8,445	1,573	577	153
Alabama	221	163	22	0	27	3	4	2
Arizona	133	85	8	8	27	6	0	1
Arkansas	1,454	997	96	1	292	46	22	0
California	2,238	1,356	68	3	540	244	19	8
Colorado	488	192	19	0	194	69	13	1
Connecticut	33	14	3	0	13	2	1	0
Delaware	75	44	5	0	20	5	0	0
Florida	1,319	905	81	0	290	36	0	7
Georgia	1,333	798	99	0	309	7	113	7
Idaho	373	233	4	6	97	18	15	0
Illinois	1,722	1,049	93	0	520	35	17	8
Indiana	1,508	971	51	8	452	23	0	3
Iowa	1,886	1,109	65	8	570	106	9	19
Kansas	1,616	839	86	3	609	73	6	0
Kentucky	345	221	23	0	61	26	13	1
Louisiana	270	163	34	0	47	23	0	3
Maine	72	51	2	0	15	0	3	1
Maryland	129	75	7	4	24	18	1	0
Massachusetts	40	28	2	0	8	1	1	0
Michigan	567	300	11	1	216	26	9	4
Minnesota	1,695	1,143	53	3	373	78	27	18
Mississippi	228	176	19	0	26	7	0	0
Missouri	1,638	1,025	70	0	375	140	21	7
Montana	543	386	3	0	119	29	4	2
Nebraska	1,782	983	83	1	629	65	14	7
Nevada	88	45	5	1	26	11	0	0
New Hampshire	42	30	5	0	5	1	1	0
New Jersey	85	56	2	1	22	3	1	0
New Mexico	162	100	13	1	36	11	0	1
New York	300	166	22	0	77	22	13	0
North Carolina	1,605	1,262	68	0	189	47	29	10
North Dakota	556	331	13	0	152	58	0	2
Ohio	588	363	8	1	196	20	0	0
Oklahoma	638	410	26	8	112	12	70	0
Oregon	404	270	15	2	103	8	6	0
Pennsylvania	410	247	16	9	110	14	13	1
Rhode Island	46	21	2	0	22	1	0	0
South Carolina	205	154	9	1	35	2	1	1
South Dakota	619	264	15	0	289	40	11	0
Tennessee	274	174	31	0	45	8	12	4
Texas	1,950	1,447	67	0	309	62	48	17
Utah	94	69	4	2	14	4	1	0
Vermont	53	36	2	0	11	2	2	0
Virginia	329	203	7	3	75	29	7	5
Washington	1,552	1,011	71	2	394	44	21	9
West Virginia	85	74	9	0	2	0	0	0
Wisconsin	1,435	947	38	2	338	79	29	2
Wyoming	120	64	10	7	30	9	0	0

**Table 2: 2009 ARMS Phase III Response Rates by State,
All Questionnaire Versions**

<u>State</u>	<u>Sample Size</u>	<u>Positive Usable</u>	<u>Out Of Business</u>	<u>Out of Scope</u>	<u>Office Refusal</u>	<u>Inaccessible</u>	<u>Office Hold</u>	<u>Non-Farm</u>
U.S.	33,348	63.1	4.4	0.3	25.3	4.7	1.7	0.5
Alabama	221	73.8	9.9	0.0	12.2	1.4	1.8	0.9
Arizona	133	63.9	4.6	6.0	20.3	4.5	0.0	0.8
Arkansas	1,454	68.6	6.6	0.1	20.1	3.2	1.5	0.0
California	2,238	60.6	3.0	0.1	24.1	10.9	0.8	0.4
Colorado	488	39.3	3.9	0.0	39.8	14.1	2.7	0.2
Connecticut	33	42.7	9.1	0.0	39.4	6.1	3.0	0.0
Delaware	75	58.7	6.6	1.3	26.7	6.7	0.0	0.0
Florida	1,319	68.6	6.1	0.0	22.0	2.7	0.0	0.5
Georgia	1,333	59.9	7.4	0.0	23.2	0.5	8.5	0.5
Idaho	373	62.5	1.1	1.6	26.0	4.8	4.0	0.0
Illinois	1,722	60.9	5.4	0.0	30.2	2.0	1.0	0.5
Indiana	1,508	64.4	3.4	0.5	30.0	1.5	0.0	0.2
Iowa	1,886	58.8	3.4	0.4	30.2	5.6	0.5	1.0
Kansas	1,616	51.9	5.4	0.2	37.7	4.5	0.4	0.0
Kentucky	345	64.1	6.6	0.0	17.7	7.5	3.8	0.3
Louisiana	270	60.4	12.6	0.0	17.4	8.5	0.0	1.1
Maine	72	70.8	2.8	0.0	20.8	0.0	4.2	1.4
Maryland	129	58.1	5.4	3.1	18.6	14.0	0.8	0.0
Massachusetts	40	70.0	5.0	0.0	20.0	2.5	2.5	0.0
Michigan	567	52.9	1.9	0.2	38.1	4.6	1.6	0.7
Minnesota	1,695	67.4	3.1	0.2	22.0	4.6	1.6	1.1
Mississippi	228	77.2	8.3	0.0	11.4	3.1	0.0	0.0
Missouri	1,638	62.6	4.2	0.0	22.9	8.5	1.3	0.4
Montana	543	71.1	0.6	0.0	21.9	5.3	0.7	0.4
Nebraska	1,782	55.2	4.7	0.1	35.3	3.6	0.8	0.4
Nevada	88	51.1	5.7	1.1	29.5	12.5	0.0	0.0
New Hampshire	42	71.4	11.9	0.0	11.9	2.4	0.0	0.0
New Jersey	85	65.9	2.4	1.2	25.9	3.5	1.2	0.0
New Mexico	162	61.7	8.0	0.6	22.2	6.8	0.0	0.6
New York	300	55.3	7.3	0.0	25.7	7.3	4.3	0.0
North Carolina	1,605	78.6	4.2	0.0	11.8	2.9	1.8	0.6
North Dakota	556	59.5	2.3	0.0	27.3	10.4	0.0	0.4
Ohio	588	61.7	1.4	0.2	33.3	3.4	0.0	0.0
Oklahoma	638	64.3	4.1	1.3	17.6	1.9	11.0	0.0
Oregon	404	66.8	3.7	0.5	25.5	2.0	1.5	0.0
Pennsylvania	410	60.2	3.9	2.2	26.8	3.4	3.2	0.2
Rhode Island	46	45.7	4.3	0.0	47.8	2.2	0.0	0.0
South Carolina	205	75.1	4.4	0.5	17.1	1.0	0.5	1.5
South Dakota	619	42.6	2.5	0.0	46.7	6.5	1.8	0.0
Tennessee	274	63.5	11.3	0.0	16.4	2.9	4.4	1.5
Texas	1,950	74.2	3.4	0.0	15.8	3.2	2.5	0.9
Utah	94	73.4	4.3	2.1	14.9	4.3	1.1	0.0
Vermont	53	67.9	3.8	0.0	20.8	3.8	3.8	0.0
Virginia	329	61.7	2.1	0.9	22.8	8.8	2.1	1.5
Washington	1,552	65.1	4.6	0.1	25.4	2.8	1.4	0.6
West Virginia	85	87.1	10.6	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wisconsin	1,435	66.0	2.7	0.1	23.6	5.5	2.0	0.1
Wyoming	120	53.3	8.3	5.8	25.0	7.5	0.0	0.0

5. REASONS FOR REFUSALS

A refusal occurs when an operator declines to participate in the survey. In this case, the field enumerator records the reason for the refusal, determines which nonresponse reason best matches the situation from the supplemental handout, and finally codes the questionnaire appropriately.

Table 3 displays the reasons for refusing to participate in ARMS III.

“Refused but no reason given” was recorded 1,622 times (20 percent of the total refusals). There was one report for which the code was not recognizable and no written reason to determine a correct code and was left out of the analysis.

Excluding those questionnaires recorded as *“Known refusal, no contact attempted”* and *“Refused but no reason given.”* The top three reasons for refusal were:

- 1.) *“Would not take time/too busy.”*
- 2.) *“Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.”*
- 3.) *“Respondent refuses on all surveys and refused on this one.”*

Four percent (323 reports) of the total refusals were recorded as *“Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers”*. There were also an additional 240 reports which *“Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/State Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.”* The authors propose that State Directors address the operators of these agricultural operations through personal contact, telephone and/or mail to better understand the operator’s feelings on these matters, provide guidance on obtaining a peaceful resolution, and to explain the importance of NASS’s estimates and publications. Appendices B and C contain individual state specific nonresponse tables.

Table 3: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (US level)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	2296	27.7
Refused but no reason given.	1622	19.5
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	720	8.7
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	375	4.5
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	354	4.3
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	325	3.9
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	324	3.9
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	323	3.9
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	320	3.9
Feels survey items are too complex/difficult - too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	289	3.5
“My farm is too small to count/not a farm.”	289	3.5
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	272	3.3
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/State Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	240	2.9
Quitting farming, or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	149	1.8
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	124	1.5
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	55	0.7
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	46	0.6
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	44	0.5
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	33	0.4
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	31	0.4
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	30	0.4
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	17	0.2
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	13	0.2
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	5	0.1
Not aware of NASS.	2	0.0
Total Number and Percent^{1/ 2/}	8298	100.3

^{1/} One report was missing and was excluded from the analyses.

^{2/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

6. REASONS FOR INACCESSIBLES

A questionnaire is recorded as inaccessible if the field enumerator was unable to contact the operator. For inaccessible, the field enumerators were instructed to code the reasons for the nonresponse on the questionnaires.

Table 4 shows the reasons for questionnaires being coded inaccessible.

There were 256 reports that cited *“Inaccessible but no reason given.”* This reason may be valid for refusals but not for inaccessible. For these instances, the field enumerators failed to record the reason why they could not contact the operator. The authors suggest that the statisticians overseeing the survey re-emphasize the importance of collecting and recording the reasons for questionnaires being recorded as inaccessible.

Excluding *“Inaccessible, but no reason given,”* the number one reason for questionnaires being coded as inaccessible was, *“Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.”*

There were 6 instances (0.4 percent of all inaccessible) coded as inaccessible because the field enumerator’s heavy workload prevented contacting these operators. Authors suggest improving communication between field office staff and supervisory field enumerators to ensure work is distributed and completed in a timely manner.

Table 4: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (US Level)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	786	55.2
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	256	18.0
The operator is away on vacation or business.	212	14.9
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	84	5.9
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	44	3.1
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	16	1.1
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	12	0.9
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	6	0.4
Operator died or went out of business in 2009/ early 2010, but was in business part of 2009.	6	0.4
Operator is ill or in hospital.	2	0.1
Total	1424	100.0

7. INCOMPLETES

A report is coded as incomplete if the respondent provided partial information, but would not or could not provide enough information to make the questionnaire complete. Table 6 shows that incompletes are rare. California, however, lead the way with 78 incompletes which accounted for 10 percent of the state's nonresponse.

Table 5: 2009 ARMS III: Incompletes by State (State Level: Sorted by Number of Incompletes)

Incompletes by State	Number	Percent of State's Nonresponse
California	78	9.9
Minnesota	33	7.3
Missouri	28	5.4
Iowa	23	3.4
Wisconsin	12	2.9
Illinois	12	2.2
Texas	10	2.7
Virginia	8	7.7
North Carolina	8	3.4
Kentucky	7	8.0
Nebraska	7	8.0
Pennsylvania	7	5.6
Arkansas	7	2.1
Washington	7	1.6
Maryland	6	14.3
Michigan	6	2.5
Indiana	6	1.3
Kansas	6	0.9
Oregon	4	3.6
New York	3	3.0
North Dakota	3	1.4
Tennessee	2	3.8
Montana	2	1.4
South Dakota	2	0.6

Table 5 (Continued): 2009 ARMS III: Incompletes by State. (State Level: Sorted by Number)

Incompletes by State	Number	Percent of State's Nonresponse
Florida	2	0.6
Rhode Island	1	4.3
New Jersey	1	4.0
Alabama	1	3.3
Mississippi	1	3.0
Nevada	1	2.7
Idaho	1	0.9
Oklahoma	1	0.8
Ohio	1	0.5
Colorado	1	0.3
Arizona, West Virginia, Connecticut, Delaware, New Mexico, Georgia, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Utah, South Carolina, Vermont, Wyoming	0	0
U.S.	298	NA

8. COMPARISON OF PAST STUDIES

The next step was to compare results with past reasons for nonresponse studies. In 1990 and 1991, NASS examined reasons for nonresponse occurring in the predecessor to ARMS III which was called Farm Costs and Returns Survey, (O'Connor 1991 & 1992). In 1996, Farm Costs and Returns Survey (FCRS) was renamed Agricultural Resource Management Survey Phase III. A comparison of reasons for refusals and inaccessibles across studies was conducted. Reasons for nonresponse categories used in 2009 were collapsed to mirror those used in 1990 and 1991 for the comparison.

Table 6 displays the 2009 ARMS III's top five refusal reasons in rank order and the corresponding rank from the past FCRS studies.

Comparing reasons for nonresponse reported in the 2009 ARMS III versus those from the 1990

and 1991 FCRS studies show similar ranking for the top three reasons. However, it appears that respondents are becoming less cooperative to complete financial questionnaires

In 2008 and in 2009, NASS also examined reasons for nonresponse occurring on the June Area Survey, (Gerling, Tran, O’Connor, 2010) and (Gerling, Tran, Mitchell, O’Connor, 2011). The June Area Survey focuses on collecting agricultural information for certain areas of land across the United States. Although the ARMS III and JAS surveys differ in several ways (questionnaire, focus, and sampling scheme), a comparison of reasons for refusals and inaccessibles across all reasons for nonresponse studies was conducted.

Table 6 displays the 2009 ARMS III’s top five refusal reasons in rank order, as compared to those of the 2008 and 2009 June Area Survey studies.

Overall, there is similar ranking of the top three refusal reasons across studies. The reason “*Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys*” is ranked low on the June Area Survey since the survey’s focus is not on the financial aspect of the agricultural operation.

Table 6: Comparison Ranking of the Reasons for Refusal on the 2009 ARMS III Study with the 1990 & 1991 FCRS Studies and the 2008 & 2009 June Area Survey Studies.

2009 ARMS III Study Ranking	2009 June Area Survey Study Ranking	2008 June Area Survey Study Ranking	1991 FCRS Study Ranking	1990 FCRS Study Ranking	Reason for Refusal ^{1/}
1	1	1	1	1	Would not take the time/too busy.
2	6	4 ^{t/}	3	3	Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.
3	2	2	2	2	Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.
4	19	30 ^{t/}	10	17 ^{t/}	Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.
5	10	9 ^{t/}	9	8	Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.

1/ Excludes “Refused but no reason given.” and “Known refusal, no contact attempted”.

t/ Represents a tie.

Table 7 compares the 2009 ARMS III study's top five reasons for recording a questionnaire as an inaccessible with those from past NASS nonresponse studies. The data show that the rankings of reasons for being inaccessible are consistent with those from previous studies.

Table 7: Comparison Ranking of the Reasons for being Inaccessible on the 2009 ARMS III Study with the 2008 & 2009 June Area Survey Studies and the 1990 & 1991 FCRS Studies.

2009 ARMS III Study Ranking	2009 June Area Survey Study Ranking	2008 June Area Survey Study Ranking	1991 FCRS Study Ranking	1990 FCRS Study Ranking	Reasons for Inaccessible^{1/}
1	1	1	1	3	Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.
2	2	2	2	1	The operator is away on vacation or business.
3	3	3	3	2	No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.
4	4	4	5	4	Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.
5	7	9	4	7 ^{t/}	The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.

1/ Excludes "Inaccessible, but no reason given."

t/ Represents a tie.

9. FIRE UP RESPONSE

Fire Up Response is a training course developed by NASS for instructing field enumerators on how to handle potential nonresponse situations. A substantial part of the training involves role playing the various nonresponse situations and demonstrating the best techniques to obtain cooperation. Therefore, the authors recommend updating, formalizing, and implementing the Fire Up Response training in those states with low response rates and measure whether the training has any effect on response rates. This updated version would include the most popular reasons for nonresponse and the techniques used by field enumerators to gain cooperation by the agricultural operator.

10. PROVIDING REASONS FOR NONRESPONSE TO FIELD OFFICES AND INTERVIEWERS

The reasons for nonresponse data tables could be provided to the field offices before data collection begins. NASS's Survey Processing System, Blaise System or the Interactive Data Analysis System could produce output for each state to view their own reasons for nonresponse counts with information being stored in ELMO for each operation so that the field enumerators would be aware of potential difficult interviews.

11. CONCLUSION

Implementation of the recommendations will not resolve the nonresponse issue; however, it is a step in the right direction. The recommendations proposed are also not limited to the ARMS III but can also be implemented on NASS's 400 other surveys where practical. In the future, the Research and Development Division will continue to work with field offices and NASS's Program Administration Branch in studying nonresponse to effectively increase future response rates.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continue tracking the reasons for nonresponse every year, until the response rate reaches 80 percent.

Impact: Nonresponse data will enable NASS to statistically determine if particular nonresponse reasons are state specific, regional and/or national. Also, this has the potential to determine those aspects of the data collection process (questionnaire design, survey promotion, data collection) requiring improvement.

2. Update NASS's Survey Processing System, Interactive Data Analysis System, or Blaise Systems to provide each state with a print-out of their state's reasons for nonresponse. This output would be an extension to the enumerator rating and work completion summary.

Impact: Provide field offices the opportunity to track their response rates and provide insight into problems occurring during enumeration.

3. Re-emphasize the importance of collecting nonresponse data to field enumerators during the Agricultural Resource Management Survey workshops. The statistician who manages the survey should do this.

Impact: Improve the recording of reasons for nonresponse.

4. Follow up with the operators of agricultural operations providing reasons for refusing to participate in the ARMS III such as: "*Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.*" and "*Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/State Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.*" Recommend Field Office Directors directly contact (personal visit, telephone and/or mail) these operators to discuss the operator's feelings on these matters and to explain the importance of NASS's estimates and publications.

Impact: Gain future support for NASS surveys from previous refusals.

5. Survey statisticians address field enumerators pertaining to situations recorded as violent/threatening refusals. Also, comments describing these situations need to be documented in the comments section of NASS's List Frame, for future data collection planning.

Impact: Make field enumerators aware of any possible dangerous situations. Protect the field enumerator from harm.

6. Update and implement the Fire-Up Response training (NASS program for increasing response rates) for states with response rates below 80 percent. Also, measure if the training has any effect on response rates.
7. Combine the reasons for nonresponse research with the research being done to develop predictive non-response models which attempts to predict operations likely to refuse to complete surveys and which contribute the most to nonresponse bias. Field Offices should review reasons for nonresponse for any records flagged in ARMS as influential likely nonrespondents.

Impact: Assist the field offices and field enumerators in determining the most efficient approach to gain cooperation from these particular operations.

13. REFERENCES

Beckler, D., J. McCarthy, K. Ott. (2006) *The Effect of Incentives on Response in 2005 ARMS Phase 3 Interviews*, Research and Development Division Report RDD-06-06, United States Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Beckler, D., P. Horvath, K. Ott. (2005) *Indirect Monetary Incentives for the 2004 ARMS Phase 3 Core*, Research and Development Division Report RDD-05-05, United States Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Earp, M., McCarthy, J., Schauer, N., Kott, P. (2008) *Assessing the Effect of Calibration on Nonresponse Bias in the 2006 ARMS Phase III Sample Using Census 2002 Data*, Research and Development Division Report RDD-08-01, United States Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Gerling, M., H. Tran, M. Earp. (2008) *Nonresponse in Phase III of the Agricultural Resource Management Survey in Louisiana*, Research and Development Division Report RDD-08-07, United States Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Gerling, M., H. Tran, M. Earp. (2008) *Categorizing Nonresponse Occurring in the 2007 June area Survey (California, Kansas, New York, Virginia and Washington)*, Research and Development Division Report RDD-08-09, United States Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

O'Connor, T., (1991) *Identifying And Classifying Reasons For Non-Response On The 1990 Farm Costs And Returns Survey*, Research and Development Division Report SRB-91-11, United States Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

O'Connor, T., (1992) *Identifying And Classifying Reasons For Non-response On The 1991 Farm Costs And Returns Survey*, Research and Development Division Report SRB-92-10, United States Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Ott, L., (1988) *An Introduction To Statistical Methods And Data Analysis Third Edition*, Boston, Massachusetts: PWS-Kent Publishing Company.

**Appendix A
Reasons for Refusals**

Code	Reasons for Refusals
1	Known refusal, no contact attempted.
200	Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.
3	Refused, but no reason given.
4	Would not take the time/too busy.
201	Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.
202	Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt farmers more than help. No benefit to farmers.
203	Contacted too often and refused on this one.
12	Respondent only does compulsory surveys.
204	Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/State Government, state cooperator, FO or NASS.
205	"My farm is too small to count/not a farm."
206	Feels the survey items are too complex/difficult/confusing -- too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.
207	Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)
208	Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.
209	Would not keep appointments, or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.
22	Spouse/secretary/etc. will not let the enumerator see the operator.
23	Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.
24	Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.
26	Does not want to report due to legal/financial problems.
210	Quitting farming, or out of business now, or will not answer for the previous year.
29	Figures for the previous year were not typical.
34	Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.
52	Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.
365	The operator called the office after receiving the pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.
401	Not aware of NASS.
403	Currently has or recently had disease problem with herd/crops.

Appendix B
Reasons for Inaccessibles

Code	Reasons for Inaccessibles
301	No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists. No structure exists.
300	The operator is away on vacation or business.
82	The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.
83	Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.
87	Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.
92	Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.
94	Inaccessible, but no reason given.
116	Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.
150	INCOMPLETE -- Respondent provided partial information, but would not or could not provide enough information to make the questionnaire complete.

Appendix C
Reasons for Refusing by State

Table C1: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Alabama)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	7	26
Refused but no reason given.	4	15
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	4	15
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	3	11
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	2	7
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	2	7
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	1	4
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	1	4
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	1	4
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	1	4
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	1	4
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	-	-
Questionnaire not enumerated to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
"My farm is too small to count/not a farm."	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Quitting farming, or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	-	-
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	-	-
Feels survey items are too complex/difficult - too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	27	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C2: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Arizona)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	5	19
Would not take time/too busy.	5	19
Refused but no reason given.	3	11
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	3	11
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	2	7
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	2	7
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	2	7
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	2	7
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	1	4
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	1	4
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	1	4
Feels survey items are too complex/difficult - too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
“My farm is too small to count/ not a farm.”	-	-
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	27	100

Table C3: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Arkansas)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Refused but no reason given.	93	33
Would not take time/too busy.	60	21
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	22	8
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	18	6
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	14	5
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	13	5
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	13	5
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	10	4
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	9	3
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	7	2
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	6	2
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	5	2
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	3	1
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	3	1
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	2	1
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	2	1
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	2	1
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	1	<0.5
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	1	<0.5
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	1	<0.5
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Feels the survey items are too complex - too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	285	101.5

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C4: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (California)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Refused but no reason given.	116	24
Would not take time/too busy.	110	23
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	39	8
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	31	6
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	27	6
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	23	5
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	18	4
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	18	4
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	17	4
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	14	3
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	13	3
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	11	2
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	10	2
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	10	2
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	7	1
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	6	1
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	5	1
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	3	<1
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	3	<1
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	1	<0.5
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	1	<0.5
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Total Number and Percent¹	483	99

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C5: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Colorado)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	41	21
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	27	14
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	24	12
Refused but no reason given.	22	11
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	13	7
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	10	5
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	9	5
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	8	4
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	7	4
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	6	3
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	6	3
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	6	3
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	5	3
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	5	3
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	2	1
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	1	<1
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	1	<1
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	1	<1
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	194	102

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C6: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Connecticut)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	6	46
Refused but no reason given.	3	23
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	2	15
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	1	8
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	1	8
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	-	-
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	-	-
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	-	-
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	-	-
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	13	100

Table C7: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Delaware)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	4	20
Would not take time/too busy.	3	15
Refused but no reason given.	2	10
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	2	10
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	2	10
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes	2	10
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	1	5
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	1	5
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	1	5
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	1	5
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	1	5
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	-	-
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	20	100

Table C8: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Florida)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	159	55
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	33	11
Refused but no reason given.	22	8
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	14	5
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	10	3
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	9	3
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	7	2
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	7	2
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	6	2
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	4	1
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	3	1
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	3	1
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	3	1
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	3	1
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	3	1
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	2	1
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	1	<1
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	1	<1
Not aware of NASS.	1	<1
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	290	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C9: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Georgia)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	117	38
Would not take time/too busy.	78	25
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	17	6
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	13	4
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	13	4
“My farm is too small to count/ not a farm.”	10	3
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	10	3
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	8	3
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	8	3
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	8	3
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	5	2
Refused but no reason given.	5	2
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	4	1
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	4	1
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	3	1
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	2	1
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	2	1
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	2	1
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	309	102

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C10: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Idaho)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	26	27
Refused but no reason given.	14	14
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	10	10
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	8	8
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	7	7
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	6	6
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	5	5
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	4	4
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	4	4
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	3	3
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	2	2
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	2	2
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	2	2
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	2	2
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	1	1
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	1	1
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	97	98

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C11: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Illinois)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Refused but no reason given.	128	25
Would not take time/too busy.	110	22
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	56	11
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys	44	8
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	33	6
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	22	4
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	20	4
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding	18	4
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	17	3
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	15	3
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period	13	3
My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	11	2
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	9	2
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes	3	1
Violent/threatening refusals	3	1
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems	3	1
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year	2	<1
Figures for the previous year were not typical	1	<1
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator	1	<1
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort	1	<1
Never heard of NASS	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	510	100

Table C12: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Indiana)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	221	52
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	48	11
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	22	5
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	20	5
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	19	4
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	15	4
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	14	3
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	13	3
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	12	3
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	11	3
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	9	2
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	7	2
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	3	1
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	3	1
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	2	<0.5
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	2	<0.5
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	2	<0.5
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	1	<0.5
Not aware of NASS.	1	<0.5
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	1	<0.5
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Refused but no reason given.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	426	99

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C13: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Iowa)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Refused but no reason given.	189	33
Would not take time/too busy.	162	28
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	47	8
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	29	5
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	28	5
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	26	5
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	20	4
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	11	2
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	10	2
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	8	1
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	7	1
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	7	1
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	6	1
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	5	1
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	4	1
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	3	1
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	3	1
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	2	<0.5
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	1	<0.5
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	1	<0.5
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	1	<0.5
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.		
Total Number and Percent	570	100

Table C14: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Kansas)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	150	25
Refused but no reason given.	145	24
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	58	10
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	41	7
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	29	5
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	25	5
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	25	5
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	23	4
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	22	4
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	15	3
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	13	2
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	12	2
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	11	2
“My farm is too small to count/ not a farm.”	11	2
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	9	1
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	5	1
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	3	<0.5
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	3	<0.5
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	3	<0.5
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	2	<0.5
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	1	<0.5
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	606	102

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C15: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Kentucky)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	17	28
Refused but no reason given.	10	16
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	10	16
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	7	11
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	4	7
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	3	5
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	2	3
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	2	3
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	1	2
“My farm is too small to count/ not a farm.”	1	2
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	1	2
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	1	2
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	1	2
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	1	2
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	-	-
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	61	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C16: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Louisiana)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	19	41
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	4	9
Refused but no reason given.	3	6
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	2	4
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	2	4
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	2	4
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	2	4
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	2	4
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	2	4
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	2	4
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	1	2
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	1	2
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	1	2
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	1	2
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	1	2
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	1	2
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	1	2
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	47	98

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C17: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Maine)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	6	38
Refused but no reason given.	3	19
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	2	13
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	1	6
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	1	6
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	1	6
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	1	6
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	1	6
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	-	-
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	-	-
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	-	-
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	-	-
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	15	100

Table C18: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Maryland)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	5	21
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperators, FO, or NASS.	4	17
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	2	8
Refused but no reason given.	2	8
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	2	8
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	2	8
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	2	8
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	2	8
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	1	4
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	1	4
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	1	4
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	-	-
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	24	98

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C19: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Massachusetts)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	2	25
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	2	25
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	1	13
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	1	13
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	1	13
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	1	13
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	-	-
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	-	-
“My farm is too small to count/ not a farm.”	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	-	-
Refused but no reason given.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	100	102

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C20: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Michigan)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	56	26
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	27	13
Refused but no reason given.	25	12
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	13	6
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	11	5
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	10	5
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	10	5
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	10	5
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	9	4
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	9	4
Feels the survey items are too complex - too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	7	3
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	7	3
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	5	2
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	5	2
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	2	1
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	2	1
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	1	<0.5
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	1	<0.5
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	1	<0.5
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	211	98

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C21: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Minnesota)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	120	34
Refused but no reason given.	38	11
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	37	11
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	24	7
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	15	4
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	14	4
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	14	4
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	13	4
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	10	3
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperators, FO, or NASS.	9	3
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	8	2
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	7	2
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	7	2
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	7	2
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	6	2
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	6	2
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	4	1
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	3	1
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	3	1
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	2	1
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	2	1
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	1	<0.5
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	1	<0.5
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	351	102

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C22: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Mississippi)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	8	31
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	4	15
Refused but no reason given.	3	12
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	2	8
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	2	8
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	1	4
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	1	4
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	1	4
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	1	4
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	1	4
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	1	4
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	1	4
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	-	-
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	26	102

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C23: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Missouri)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Refused but no reason given.	72	19
Would not take time/too busy.	71	19
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	28	8
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	27	7
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	24	6
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	24	6
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	21	6
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	17	5
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	16	4
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	15	4
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	10	3
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	10	3
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperators, FO, or NASS.	7	2
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	5	1
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	5	1
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	4	1
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	4	1
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	4	1
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	2	1
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	2	1
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	2	1
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	1	<0.5
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	371	100

Table C24: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Montana)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	23	19
Would not take time/too busy.	20	17
Refused but no reason given.	16	13
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	9	8
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	8	7
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	8	7
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	8	7
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	7	6
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	3	3
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	3	3
“My farm is too small to count/ not a farm.”	3	3
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	2	2
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	2	2
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	2	2
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	2	2
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	1	1
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	1	1
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	118	103

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C25: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Nebraska)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Refused but no reason given.	220	35
Would not take time/too busy.	173	28
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	52	8
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	37	6
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	27	4
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	19	3
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	18	3
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	15	2
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	13	2
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	8	1
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	7	1
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	7	1
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	7	1
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	6	1
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	5	1
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	4	1
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	4	1
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	2	<0.5
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	2	<0.5
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	1	<0.5
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	1	<0.5
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	1	<0.5
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	629	99

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C26: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Nevada)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Refused but no reason given.	5	19
Would not take time/too busy.	5	19
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	3	12
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	2	8
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	2	8
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	2	8
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	1	4
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	1	4
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	1	4
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	1	4
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	1	4
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	1	4
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	1	4
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	26	102

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C27: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (New Hampshire)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	1	20
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	1	20
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	1	20
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	1	20
Respondent only does compulsory surveys	1	20
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	-	-
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted	-	-
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	-	-
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	-	-
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	-	-
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Refused but no reason given.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical	-	-
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	5	100

Table C28: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (New Jersey)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	8	36
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	3	14
Refused but no reason given.	2	9
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	2	9
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	2	9
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	1	5
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	1	5
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	1	5
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	1	5
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	1	5
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	-	-
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	22	102

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C29: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (New Mexico)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	22	61
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	4	11
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	3	8
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	3	8
Refused but no reason given.	1	3
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	1	3
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	1	3
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	1	3
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	-	-
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	-	-
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	36	100

Table C30: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (New York)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Refused but no reason given.	18	23
Would not take time/too busy.	17	22
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	11	15
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	6	8
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	4	5
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	4	5
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	3	4
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	3	4
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	3	4
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	2	3
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	2	3
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	2	3
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	1	1
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	1	1
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	77	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C31: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (North Carolina)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Refused but no reason given.	65	34
Would not take time/too busy.	44	23
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	12	6
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	10	5
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	9	5
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	9	5
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	8	4
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	7	4
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	6	3
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	4	2
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	4	2
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	3	2
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	2	1
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	2	1
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	1	1
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	1	1
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	1	1
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	1	1
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	189	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C32: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (North Dakota)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	39	26
Refused but no reason given.	32	21
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	15	10
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	10	7
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	8	5
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	7	5
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding	6	4
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	6	4
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	5	3
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	5	3
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	5	3
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	4	3
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	3	2
“My farm is too small to count/ not a farm.”	3	2
Quit farming or out of business now, will not answer for previous year.	1	1
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	1	1
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	1	1
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	151	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C33: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Ohio)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	51	26
Refused but no reason given.	49	25
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	18	9
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	10	5
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	9	5
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	8	4
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	7	4
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	6	3
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	6	3
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	6	3
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	5	3
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	5	3
“My farm is too small to count/ not a farm.”	5	3
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	3	2
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	3	2
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	1	1
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	1	1
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/2/}	194	99

1/ One report missing a nonresponse code and was left out of the analyses.

2/ Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C34: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Oklahoma)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	37	33
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	13	12
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	11	10
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	11	10
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	10	9
Refused but no reason given.	6	5
“My farm is too small to count/ not a farm.”	6	5
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	4	4
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	2	2
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	2	2
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	2	2
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	1	1
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	1	1
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	1	1
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	1	1
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	1	1
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	1	1
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	1	1
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	111	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C35: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Oregon)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	33	33
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	8	8
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	7	7
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	7	7
Refused but no reason given.	6	6
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	6	6
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	5	5
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	4	4
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	4	4
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	4	4
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	3	3
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	3	3
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	2	2
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	2	2
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	2	2
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	1	1
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys	1	1
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	1	1
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	1	1
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	100	99

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C36: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Pennsylvania)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	35	34
Refused but no reason given.	14	14
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	12	12
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	8	8
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	8	8
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	7	7
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	6	6
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	4	4
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	3	3
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	2	2
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	1	1
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	1	1
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	1	1
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	1	1
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	103	100

Table C37: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Rhode Island)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	6	29
Refused but no reason given.	4	19
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	2	10
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	2	10
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	2	10
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	1	5
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	1	5
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	1	5
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	1	5
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	1	5
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	-	-
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	-	-
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	-	-
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	-	-
Never heard of NASS.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	21	103

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100 due to rounding.

Table C38: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (South Carolina)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Refused but no reason given.	15	43
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	6	17
Would not take time/too busy.	4	11
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperators, FO, or NASS.	3	9
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	3	9
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	1	3
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	1	3
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	1	3
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	1	3
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	-	-
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	35	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C39: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (South Dakota)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	90	31
Information too personal, not confidential	39	14
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	27	10
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	26	9
Refused but no reason given.	26	9
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	19	7
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	11	4
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	10	3
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	8	3
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	7	2
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	6	2
“My farm is too small to count/ not a farm.”	6	2
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	6	2
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	3	1
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	2	1
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	1	1
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	1	1
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	288	103

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C40: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Tennessee)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	8	18
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	6	14
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	6	14
Refused but no reason given.	5	11
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	5	11
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	3	7
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	2	5
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	2	5
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	2	5
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	2	5
Known refusal, no contact attempted	1	2
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	1	2
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	1	2
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	-	-
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	44	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C41: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Texas)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Refused but no reason given.	96	31
Would not take time/too busy.	46	15
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	27	9
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	26	8
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	20	6
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperators, FO, or NASS.	15	5
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	13	4
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	10	3
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	8	3
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	7	2
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	7	2
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	7	2
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	6	2
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	6	2
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	5	2
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	5	2
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	2	1
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	1	<1
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	1	<1
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	1	<1
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	309	100

Table C42: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Utah)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Refused but no reason given.	3	20
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	3	20
Would not take time/too busy.	2	13
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	2	13
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	2	13
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	1	7
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	1	7
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	1	7
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	-	-
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	-	-
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	-	-
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	-	-
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.).	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	15	100

Table C43: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Vermont)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	4	36
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	2	18
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	2	18
Refused but no reason given.	1	9
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	1	9
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	1	9
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	-	-
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	-	-
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year	-	-
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	11	99

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C44: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Virginia)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	12	16
Refused but no reason given.	9	12
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	8	11
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperators, FO, or NASS.	8	11
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	7	9
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	6	8
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	5	7
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	4	5
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	3	4
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	2	3
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	2	3
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	2	3
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	2	3
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	2	3
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	2	3
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	1	1
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	75	102

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C45: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Washington)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	117	30
Refused but no reason given	40	10
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	37	10
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	30	8
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	24	6
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	22	6
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	19	5
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	19	5
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	17	4
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	11	3
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	9	2
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	9	2
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	9	2
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	7	2
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	6	2
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort	3	1
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	3	1
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	1	<0.5
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	1	<0.5
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	1	<0.5
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	1	<0.5
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	1	<0.5
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	387	99

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C46: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (West Virginia)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	1	50
Would not take time/too busy.	1	50
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	-	-
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	-	-
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	-	-
Refused but no reason given.	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	-	-
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	-	-
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	-	-
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	2	100

Table C47: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Wisconsin)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	70	21
Refused but no reason given.	62	18
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	34	10
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	26	8
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	25	7
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	15	4
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	14	4
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	14	4
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	13	4
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	12	4
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	11	3
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	9	3
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	7	2
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	6	2
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	6	2
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	5	1
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	3	1
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	2	1
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	1	<0.5
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	1	<0.5
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	1	<0.5
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	337	99

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table C48: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Refusals (Wyoming)

Reasons for Refusal	Number	Percent
Would not take time/too busy.	9	30
Refused but no reason given.	6	20
Would not keep appointments or postponed the interview beyond the end of the survey period.	4	13
Respondent refuses on all surveys, and refused on this one.	4	13
Information too personal/intrusive, confidentiality concerns.	2	7
Contacted too often and refused on this one.	1	3
Will do other surveys, but not financial surveys.	1	3
Illness/death in the family prevents the operator from responding.	1	3
Mentions a specific grievance with the Federal/state Government, state cooperator, FO, or NASS.	1	3
Quit farming or out of business now, or will not answer for previous year.	1	3
Respondent feels that surveys and reports hurt the farmer more than help. No benefit to farmers.	-	-
"My farm is too small to count/ not a farm."	-	-
Known refusal, no contact attempted.	-	-
Spouse/Secretary etc. would not let the enumerator see the operator.	-	-
Questionnaire was not sent to the field to avoid jeopardizing cooperation on other surveys.	-	-
Violent/threatening/hostile refusals.	-	-
Does not want to report to legal/financial problems.	-	-
Wants to be paid for interview time and effort.	-	-
Feels the survey items are too complex – too much recollection is involved. Records are inadequate.	-	-
Farm records are not available until after the survey period closes. (Includes technical problems in retrieving electronically stored data.)	-	-
The operator called the office after receiving pre-survey letter, and asked not to be contacted further.	-	-
Technical problems – data stored electronically and are currently not accessible.	-	-
Respondent only does compulsory surveys.	-	-
Figures for the previous year were not typical.	-	-
Not aware of NASS.	-	-
Currently has or recently had disease problems with herd/crops.	-	-
Total Number and Percent^{1/}	30	98

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Appendix D

Reasons for Being Inaccessible by State

Table D1: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Alabama)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	2	100
Tried several times; but could not reach anyone for an appointment.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent: interpreter not available.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
The operator is away on vacation or business.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	2	100

Table D2: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Arizona)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
The operator is away on vacation or business.	5	83
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	1	17
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	-	-
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	6	100

Table D3: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Arkansas)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	21	46
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	10	22
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	6	13
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	4	9
The operator is away on vacation or business.	3	7
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	2	4
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	46	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D4: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (California)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	174	78
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	15	7
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	14	6
The operator is away on vacation or business.	9	4
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	5	2
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	4	2
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	2	1
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	223	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D5: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Colorado)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	35	51
Tried several times; but could not reach anyone for an appointment.	25	37
The operator is away on vacation or business.	3	4
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	3	4
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	1	1
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	1	1
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent: interpreter not available.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	68	98

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D6: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Connecticut)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	2	100
The operator is away on vacation or business.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	2	100

Table D7: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Delaware)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	3	60
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment. Just an extremely busy person.	2	40
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
The operator is away on vacation or business	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	5	100

Table D8: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Florida)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; but could not reach anyone for an appointment.	14	41
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	8	24
The operator is away on vacation or business.	7	21
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	3	9
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	1	3
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	1	3
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	34	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D9: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Georgia)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	5	71
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	2	29
The operator is away on vacation or business.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	7	100

Table D10: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Idaho)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; but could not reach anyone for an appointment.	10	59
The operator is away on vacation or business.	6	35
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	1	6
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	17	100

Table D11: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Illinois)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	19	59
The operator is away on vacation or business.	5	16
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	4	13
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	3	9
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	1	3
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	32	100

Table D12: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Indiana)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; but could not reach anyone for an appointment.	14	61
The operator is away on vacation or business.	6	26
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	1	4
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	1	4
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	1	4
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	23	99

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D13: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Iowa)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
The operator is away on vacation or business.	36	43
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	35	42
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	10	12
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	2	2
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	83	99

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D14: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Kansas)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	32	46
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	24	34
The operator is away on vacation or business.	7	10
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	3	4
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	2	3
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	2	3
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	70	100

Table D15: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Kentucky)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	10	53
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	5	26
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	2	11
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	1	5
The operator is away on vacation//business.	1	5
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	19	100

Table D16: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Louisiana)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	18	78
The operator is away on vacation or business.	3	13
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	1	4
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	1	4
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	23	99

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D17: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Maine)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	-	-
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
The operator is away on vacation or business.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Incomplete – Respondent provided partial information but would not or could not provide enough information to make the questionnaire complete.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	0	100

Table D18: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Maryland)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	8	67
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	2	17
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	2	17
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
The operator is away on vacation or business.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	12	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D19: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Massachusetts)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	1	100
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	-	-
The operator is away on vacation or business.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	1	100

Table D20: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Michigan)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	15	60
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	5	20
The operator is away on vacation or business.	4	16
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	1	4
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	25	100

Table D21: 2009 ARMS- Reasons for Inaccessibles (Minnesota)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; but could not reach anyone for an appointment.	29	43
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	20	30
The operator is away on vacation or business.	12	18
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	3	4
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	1	1
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	1	1
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	1	1
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	67	98

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D22: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Mississippi)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	6	100
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
The operator is away on vacation or business.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	6	100

Table D23: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Missouri)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	65	62
The operator is away on vacation or business.	13	12
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	11	10
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	9	9
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	4	4
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	2	2
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	1	1
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	105	100

Table D24: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Montana)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	14	50
The operator is away on vacation or business.	13	46
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	1	4
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	28	100

Table D25: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Nebraska)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	44	70
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	13	21
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	5	8
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	1	2
The operator is away on vacation or business.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	63	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D26: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Nevada)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	6	60
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	2	20
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	2	20
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
The operator is away on vacation or business.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	10	100

Table D27: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (New Hampshire)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	1	100
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
The operator is away on vacation or business.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	1	100

Table D28: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (New Jersey)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	1	50
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	1	50
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
The operator is away on vacation or business.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	2	100

Table D29: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (New Mexico)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	7	64
Tried several times; but could not reach anyone for an appointment.	2	18
The operator is away on vacation or business.	1	9
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	1	9
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	11	100

Table D30: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (New York)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	15	79
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	3	16
The operator is away on vacation or business.	1	5
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	19	100

Table D31: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (North Carolina)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	35	90
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	2	5
The operator is away on vacation or business.	1	3
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	1	3
Non-English speaking respondent: interpreter not available.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	39	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D32: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (North Dakota)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	28	50
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	16	29
The operator is away on vacation or business.	10	18
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	1	2
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	1	2
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	56	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D33: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Ohio)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	9	45
The operator is away on vacation or business.	7	35
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	2	10
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	2	10
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	20	100

Table D34: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Oklahoma)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	6	50
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	3	25
The operator is away on vacation or business.	2	16
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	1	8
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	12	99

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D35: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Oregon)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	4	50
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	3	38
Operator is ill or in hospital.	1	13
The operator is away on vacation or business.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	8	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D36: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Pennsylvania)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; but could not reach anyone for an appointment.	8	57
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	4	29
The operator is away on vacation or business.	1	7
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	1	7
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	14	100

Table D37: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Rhode Island)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	1	100
The operator is away on vacation or business.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	1	100

Table D38: 2009 June Area Survey - Reasons for Inaccessibles (South Carolina)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	1	50
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	1	50
The operator is away on vacation or business.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Incomplete – Respondent provided partial information but would not or could not provide enough information to make the questionnaire complete.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	2	100

Table D39: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (South Dakota)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
The operator is away on vacation or business.	17	44
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	12	30
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	5	13
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	3	8
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	1	3
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	1	3
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	39	101

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D40: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Tennessee)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	4	57
The operator is away on vacation or business.	1	14
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	1	14
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	1	14
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	7	99

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D41: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Texas)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; but could not reach anyone for an appointment.	21	36
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	11	19
The operator is away on vacation or business.	8	14
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	6	10
Operator died or sent out of business in 2009/early 2010, but was in business for part of 2009.	6	10
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	4	7
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	1	2
Operator is ill or in hospital.	1	2
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	1	2
Non-English speaking respondent: interpreter not available.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	59	102

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D42: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Utah)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	1	33
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	1	33
The operator is away on vacation or business.	1	33
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	3	100

Table D43: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Vermont)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
The operator is away on vacation or business.	2	100
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	-	-
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	2	100

Table D44: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Virginia)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	13	62
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	5	24
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	3	14
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
The operator is away on vacation or business.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	21	100

Table D45: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Washington)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	27	63
The operator is away on vacation or business.	9	21
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	7	16
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	43	100

Table D46: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (West Virginia)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
The operator is away on vacation or business.	-	-
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	-	-
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	-	-
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Incomplete – Respondent provided partial information but would not or could not provide enough information to make the questionnaire complete.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	0	100

Table D47: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Wisconsin)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	44	65
The operator is away on vacation or business.	15	22
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	4	6
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	3	4
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	1	1
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	1	1
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
Total Number and Percent ^{1/}	68	99

^{1/} Total Percent may be less than or greater than 100% due to rounding.

Table D48: 2009 ARMS III - Reasons for Inaccessibles (Wyoming)

Reasons for Inaccessible/Incomplete	Number	Percent
Inaccessible, but no reason given.	7	78
Tried several times; could not reach anyone for an appointment.	1	11
The operator is away on vacation or business.	1	11
Access to the address on the label was denied by a gate/guard/etc.	-	-
Enumerator workload prevented this operation from being contacted during the survey period.	-	-
The address on the label is seasonal housing or operation is vacant.	-	-
Non-English speaking respondent; interpreter not available.	-	-
No operation or respondent, as listed on the label, could be found. No structure exists.	-	-
Total Number and Percent	9	100