



# Stakeholder Announcement

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## USDA Releases 2018 Census of Agriculture Data for U.S. Virgin Islands

**WASHINGTON -- July 21, 2020** – Today the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released 2018 Census of Agriculture data for the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI). This is the first update to agricultural data for the area in over 10 years.

“The Census of Agriculture is the only source of comprehensive and impartial agricultural statistics about the U.S. Virgin Islands,” said NASS Administrator Hubert Hamer. “Conducted in close cooperation with local agencies, governments, and community stakeholders, the 2018 Census of Agriculture data provide locally-collected information on the area’s unique agriculture industry.”

Highlights from the 2018 Census of Agriculture for the U.S. Virgin Islands include:

- There were 565 farms, up 346 farms from the last census. Land in farms totaled 9,324 acres, with an average farm size of 16.5 acres.
- The total value of sales was \$3.3 million, with an average value of \$5,902 per farm.
- Vegetables represented the largest category of production, with sales of \$1.1 million.

“Statistics from the Census of Agriculture allow stakeholders and lawmakers to more accurately develop and improve farm programs, study historical trends, assess current conditions, and plan for the future,” said Hamer. “At the local level, agencies such as the local departments of agriculture use census data to develop policies and programs and as a benchmark to estimate losses and damages caused by natural disasters such as hurricanes, flooding, and severe droughts.”

The Census of Agriculture is a complete count of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. To access the entire set of data products from the Census of Agriculture program, visit [www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus](http://www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus).

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