

Non-substantive Change Request

0535-0249 –Organic Survey

The Certified Organic Survey is an annual survey of producers of all types of agricultural commodities. Based on results of last year's survey and information obtained through cognitive testing, NASS would like to do 39 quality control checks on poultry contractors. The current OMB approval already allows for up to 500 quality control checks to be conducted annually. A modified questionnaire has been attached to this submission with a few questions that are directed at poultry contractors.

These quality control checks are needed to insure that the respondents (poultry contractors) did not misreport data for organic poultry produced. Testing indicated that some contractors may omit data because they do not want to report data that their contractees may be reporting. NASS designed the original survey in a way that allowed for the data that is reported by both the contractor and the contractee. However, we did not allow for data that the contractor may omit in an effort to reduce double counting of birds.

The 39 contractors that are in the current sample are identified by control data that is stored in the NASS List Frame.