

LP4 Finding Land Resource List

2017 Census of Agriculture, USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2019

<https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/>

The Census of Agriculture provides a comprehensive summary of agricultural activity nationwide. It is the only source of uniform, comprehensive data about U.S. farms and ranches at the state and county level, including information about land tenure and farmland ownership. The census is conducted every five years by the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Agricultural Conservation Easements, American Farmland Trust, 2016

<http://www.farmlandinfo.org/agricultural-conservation-easements>

This fact sheet describes what agricultural conservation easements are and how landowners can use them to keep agricultural land available for farming and ranching.

Beginning Farmers' Guide to Conservation Easements, American Farmland Trust, 2015

<https://farmlandinfo.org/publications/beginning-farmers-guide-to-conservation-easements/>

This fact sheet provides key information about conservation easement for beginning farmers and ranchers.

Cash Rent Survey Web Page, National Agricultural Statistics Service

[https://www.nass.usda.gov/Surveys/Guide to NASS Surveys/Cash Rents by County/](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Surveys/Guide%20to%20NASS%20Surveys/Cash%20Rents%20by%20County/)

This site provides data about cash rents by county. The Cash Rents Survey provides the basis for county estimates of the cash rent paid for irrigated cropland, non-irrigated cropland, and pasture. NASS conducts the county-level Cash Rents survey every other year in all states except Alaska. U.S. and state estimates are released in August every year using the June Area Survey.

Climate Data Web Page, National Resources Conservation Service

<https://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/climate/>

This Web page provides information about climate patterns, water and soil moisture conditions.

Cooperative Extension System

<https://nifa.usda.gov/land-grant-colleges-and-universities-partner-website-directory>

The Cooperative Extension System is a nationwide, non-credit educational network. Each U.S. state and territory has a state office at its land-grant university and a network of local or regional offices with experts who provide useful, practical and research-based information to agricultural producers and small business owners. In some areas, extension produces regional reports on rental rates.

Finding, Assessing, and Securing Farmland: A Plain Language Guide, New Entry Sustainable Farming Project, 2012

<https://nesfp.org/resources/plain-language-guide-finding-assessing-and-securing-farmland-ma>

This guide is written for beginning farmers who are looking for land to start a farm business and helps them understand the process of locating and securing farmland.

Finding Farmland: A Farmers Guide to Working with Land Trusts, National Young Farmer Coalition, 2015

<http://www.youngfarmers.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/NYFC-Finding-Affordable-Farmland.pdf>

This guide describes how beginning farmers and ranchers can work with a land trust to gain access to land.

Finding Land to Farm: 6 Ways to Secure Farmland, ATTRA—National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service, 2009

<https://attra.ncat.org/product/finding-land-to-farm-six-ways-to-secure-farmland/>

Written in a cartoon style, this publication highlights common ways to lease or own land and outlines important considerations about each of the leasing options and paths to ownership.

Land Values 2019 Summary, USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2019

https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/Todays_Reports/reports/land0819.pdf

This report summarizes information from the annual June Area Survey, which collects data on crop acreage, land use, grain stocks, farms, rents, and the value of land and sales. NASS estimates national and state agricultural land values and rental rates paid by producers (cash rents) from that survey. Information about land values in chart and map format is posted at:

https://www.nass.usda.gov/Charts_and_Maps/Land_Values/.

Plant Hardiness Zone Map, USDA Agricultural Research Service

This site provides information about plant hardiness zones nationwide. The interactive maps enable users to find their own plant hardiness zone.

<https://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/>

Population Web Page, United States Census Bureau

<https://www.census.gov/topics/population.html>

The U.S. Census Bureau is the leading source of statistical information about the nation's population. Statistics come from the decennial censuses, which count the entire U.S. population every ten years, along with several other surveys. This page includes links to population estimates and projections for different geographies.

Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement Programs, American Farmland Trust, 2016.

<http://www.farmlandinfo.org/purchase-agricultural-conservation-easements>

This fact sheet describes what purchase of agricultural conservation easements programs are, how they protect agricultural land and where they are available.

Web Soil Survey, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

<https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm>

The Web Soil Survey (WSS) provides soil data and information produced by the National Cooperative Soil Survey. NRCS provides soil maps and data online for more than 95 percent of the nation's counties. Soil surveys can be used for general farm, local, and wider area planning. Onsite investigation is needed in some cases, such as soil quality assessments and certain conservation and engineering applications.