

What is the USDA Minority Farm Register?

The Register is a voluntary list of minority farm operators and/or owners. The Register is being created in an effort to address the decline of minority-owned farms. Minority farmers and their advocates called for the creation of a register during USDA Civil Rights Action Team public forums in early 1997, because of the decline in the amount of farmland owned by minorities, especially African-Americans. (Register) participants will receive information on targeted programs to sustain or increase present ownership levels. The Register will be made available to community-based organizations, educational institutions, and government agencies that provide outreach on USDA programs and land retention initiatives.

The Register will consist primarily of minority farmland owners who voluntarily grant permission to be included. However, minority farm operators who currently do not own any land are also encouraged to participate so they may also receive

information on targeted programs to include possible land ownership.

If you are a minority farmland operator and/or owner and wish to be included on the Register, you should provide your name, address, farm location, and race/ethnicity on the Minority Farm Register permission form. This will verify that you are an owner or operator in the designated States and counties and want those records included on the Register.

If your farmland has not been listed with the Farm Service Agency, you will need to contact your local agency to establish the farm records.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Section 2501 of Public Law 101-624 authorizes collection of this information. The primary use of this information is for assistance in special minority farmland outreach and assistance efforts. Additional disclosures of the information may be: To a court if the records are relevant and necessary to litigation, to appropriate agencies in the case of a possible violation of law, to a member of Congress in response to a request from a Register participant, to records management inspectors, and to individuals responsible for maintenance of the Register files.

Minority Farm Register Fact Sheet

1. How will the Register be used?

The Office of Outreach will use the Register to provide detailed individual information or summary information about all participants to Government agencies, minority-serving educational institutions, and community-based organizations engaged in farmland outreach and assistance efforts.

2. How will the Register be created?

Most U.S. farmland is already defined by geographic location, be owner(s), and by operator(s) in records maintained by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). The Register is created when you sign the form granting permission to be included on the Register and FSA identifies its records as such.

3. How do I know if my farmland is not a part of the FSA records?

If you have never received FSA mailings such as the FSA County Committee election ballot, it is most likely that FSA does not have your farmland listed or that FSA may not have complete information such as a current mailing address.

4. What should I do if my farmland is not listed with FSA and I want to be included on the Register?

You will need to provide the local FSA office with only information requested by this form. You do not have to visit your local FSA office. However, you may choose to do so and list your land for possible FSA benefits.

5. Does every minority farmland owner have to participate?

The Register is a truly voluntary effort. To establish a meaningful baseline, the Register needs to include all minority farmland. Therefore, all owners and operators are encouraged to participate.

6. Do all joint owners have to sign up?

For Minority Farm Register purposes, a parcel of land will be considered to be included if any of the legal owners grant permission.

Return the Minority Farm Register form to your local USDA Service Center or to the address provided on the back of this document. If you need more information, please call 1-800-880-4183 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. eastern standard time.

Minority Farm Register

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According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no person has to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0508-0004. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 5 minutes per response.

1. Farm Location

State _____ County _____
State _____ County _____
State _____ County _____
State _____ County _____

2. Race/Ethnicity

Fill in the circle(s) for the race/ethnic code(s) which describe(s) you.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> American Indian or Alaska Native | <input type="radio"/> White |
| <input type="radio"/> Asian | <input type="radio"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander |
| <input type="radio"/> Black or African American | <input type="radio"/> Other |
| <input type="radio"/> Hispanic or Latino | |

3. Name (Please circle status and print or type full name)

Mr. Mrs. Ms. _____

4. Address _____

5. City _____ 6. State _____ 7. Zip _____

8. Telephone Number _____ 9. Social Security Number _____

10. Certification

I certify that I am voluntarily granting permission to be listed on the USDA Minority Farm Register. I fully understand and agree that my name and other related information about my farming interests in the counties listed above may be released to organizations other than USDA.

Signature _____ Date _____

In order to participate in the Minority Farm Register, complete the back of this form and return it to your local USDA Service Center:

USDA Minority Farm Register

or mail to:

Minority Farm Register, USDA
STOP 6201
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250-6201

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APPROVED
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Design Center

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