

Appendix D. Data Sources

To ensure the integrity of the use-value estimates, the SLEAC estimates use published, secondary data sources whenever possible. These secondary data have generally been collected in accordance with procedures uniformly applicable throughout Virginia. In a few instances, when published data are not available, the opinions of agricultural or horticultural professionals are solicited. The following data sources are consulted in the development of use-value estimates.

2017 Census of Agriculture

- Total number of farms in each jurisdiction.
- Total number of acres devoted to the various crop enterprises in each jurisdiction.

AgFirst

- Long-term interest rates used for the interest rate component of the capitalization rate.
- Short-term interest rates used for calculating interest on production capital.

Conservation Technology Information Center

- Percentage of land in conventional and reduced till for each crop in each jurisdiction.

Farm Service Agency

- Federal payments made in each jurisdiction.

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

- Insurance premiums, subsidies, and indemnities made in each jurisdiction to each crop.

Market News

- Regional prices received for barley, corn, wheat, and soybeans.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

- Total acreage of each land class in each jurisdiction.

Virginia Agricultural Statistics

- Average farm wages.
- Prices received for crop enterprises.

Virginia Cooperative Extension Service

- Recommended amounts of fertilizer and seed for each crop.
- Recommended number of custom applications.
- Seed, fertilizer, and chemical prices.
- Machinery costs.

Virginia Crop Reporting Service

- Crop yields.

Virginia Department of Taxation

- Property tax component of the capitalization rate.