

The Cropland Data Layer (CDL) Program from the US Department of Agriculture (USDA)/National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) has produced an annual US conterminous agricultural specific medium resolution land cover product six years running. The CDL is a supervised land cover classification, derived using USDA provided agricultural specific ground truth and non-agricultural ground truth provided from the US Geological Survey's National Land Cover Dataset (NLCD). The CDL also uses medium resolution satellites such as Landsat 8 and the Disaster Monitoring Constellation Deimos-1 and UK2 for area monitor purposes, collected during the North American growing season. The CDL produces independent acreage assessments throughout the growing season for NASS to use to reduce statistical survey error. The CDL is released to the public upon completion of the growing season and publication of county estimates. The 2013 CDL product was released end of January 2014.

The CDL not only supports NASS statistical needs, but also provides farm or field level data dissemination via the CropScape web service application to outside stakeholders. Crop-specific cultivation practices, crop intensification, and crops type are available to deliver geospatially explicit content for field level analytics and modeling. All historical CDL products are hosted on CropScape in addition to a cultivated land cover mask that contains the latest five years of agricultural cultivation practices. The cultivated layer is updated each year with the latest five year moving window of data providing a means to mask crop specific land cover. CropScape's URL is <http://nassgeodata.gmu.edu/CropScape> and provides a visualization, queryable, and quantifiable user experience, navigating the nations farms in an interactive realm.