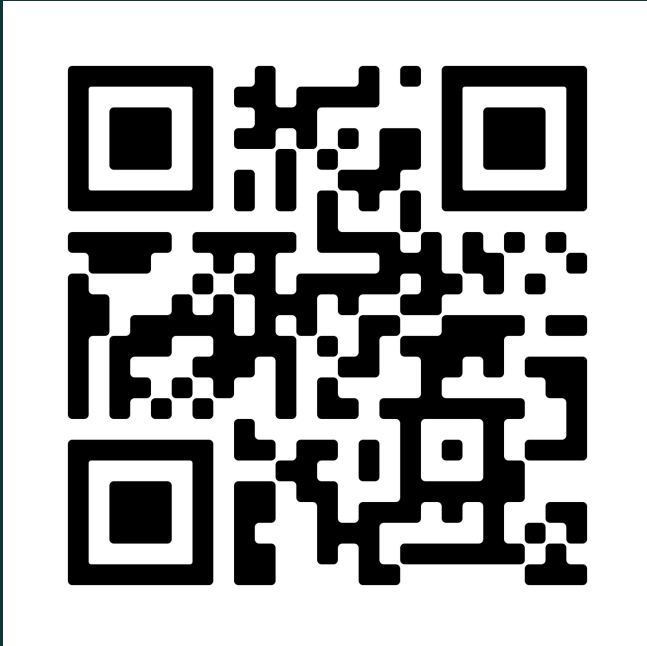


Comprehensive Economic Impacts of Wild Pigs on Producers of Six Crops in the South-Eastern U.S. and California

McKee, S.C.; Mayer, J.J.; Shwiff, S.A. Comprehensive Economic Impacts of Wild Pigs on Producers of Six Crops in the South-Eastern US and California. Agriculture 2024, 14, 153.



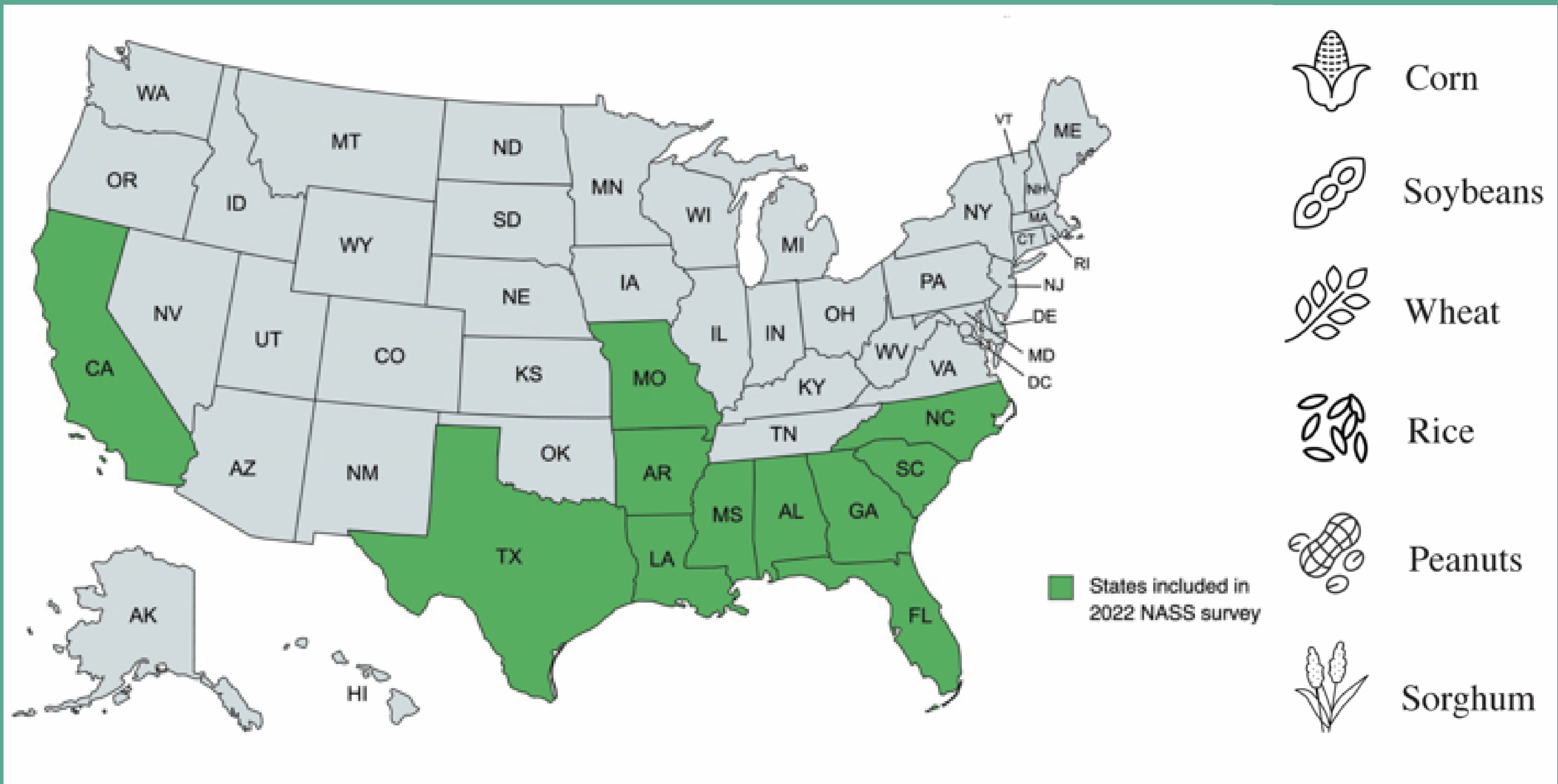
Wild pigs (*Sus scrofa*) cause significant damage to agricultural crops in their native and introduced ranges, particularly in the US states of Alabama, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Texas. A survey conducted by the USDA in summer 2022 assessed the impact on producers of six crops—corn, soybeans, wheat, rice, peanuts, and sorghum—across these states. The results indicate that the economic burden of wild pigs is substantial, encompassing more than just direct crop damage.

Value of Lost Production

Producers Report

- Corn: \$92 million
 - Soybeans: 23 million
 - Wheat: 18 million
 - Rice : 22.5 million
 - Sorghum: 9 million
 - Peanuts: 39 million
- 32% wild pig presence on fields
 - 9% replanted crops due to damage
 - 15% incurred higher harvest costs
 - 23% reported crop damage from wild pigs
 - 33% modified planting decisions due to wild pigs

States and Crops included in 2022 Survey



11,495 surveys in 11 states were mailed by NASS in the summer of 2022. Final response rate: 52.2%, for a total of 6,002 responses including 1,468 refusals. Effective response rate of 39.4%.

Conclusion

Findings show that wild pigs impose significant annual damage on producers of six crops, totaling approximately USD 678.8 million. This damage includes direct crop loss (USD 203.1 million), opportunity costs (USD 121.8 million), replanting (USD 17.5 million), harvest costs (USD 25.9 million), property damage (USD 103 million), and control costs (USD 207.5 million). Despite spending over USD 200 million to control wild pigs, producers still incur losses exceeding USD 470 million. Opportunity costs arise when producers opt for less profitable crops. The study contributes to understanding the ongoing economic impacts of wild pigs and enables comparisons of their management over time.

2021 Wild Pig Damage Breakdown

