

# GUAM - Agricultural Census 2002 - Explanatory Notes

## Historical outline

For more than 150 years the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, was in charge of conducting the Census of Agriculture in the United States and, consequently, in the Outlying Areas (*i.e. The Virgin Islands of the U.S., Guam, American Samoa and Northern Mariana Islands*). This responsibility was transferred in 1997 to the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The first agricultural census of Guam was taken by the US Secretary of Commerce in 1920. The second was taken in 1930 in conjunction with the decennial census, a practice that continued every 10 years through 1960. In 1964 the first Census of Agriculture in the series of quinquennial (*five-year*) censuses in Guam was carried out. Next censuses were conducted in 1978 and 1982 in order to adjust the data-reference year to coincide with other economic censuses. After 1982, the agriculture census reverted to a 5-year cycle for the years ending in 2 and 7. The 2002 census of agriculture, to which data here refer, is the 14th taken in Guam and the second conducted by NASS in Guam.

## Organization

Census data were collected in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding approved by the Administrator of NASS, and by the Commissioner of Agriculture of Guam. It was conducted with the cooperation and assistance of Guam Department of Agriculture.

## Enumeration period

Data were collected during the spring season of 2003.

## Reference date/period

Inventories of livestock, poultry, machinery and equipment were the numbers on hand at the time of enumeration. Crop production, crop and livestock sales and expense data were those belonging to the 12- months period between 1 January and 31 December 2002.

## Definition

"Farms and Operations" were the agricultural holdings from which \$ 1 000 and more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the reference year.

## Coverage

The census covered the entire island of Guam.

## Frame

Enumeration was based on a list of farm operators compiled by the Guam Department of Agriculture.

## Method

Complete enumeration of all holdings qualifying as farms according to the census definition was carried out. Direct interview of farm operators were conducted. If the person listed in the frame was no more operating his/her farm, the enumerator recorded whether the land had been sold or rented to someone else, and if it was still being used for agriculture. If the land was sold or rented out, the enumerator got the name of the new operator and contacted that person in order to ensure that he/she was included in the census.

## Data source

Census of Agriculture 2002, Vol.1, Geographic Area Series, Part 53 September 2004. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Guam.

## Contact

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## Website

[http:// www.nass.usda.gov/census](http://www.nass.usda.gov/census)