

# LEBANON - Agricultural Census 1998/99 - Explanatory Notes

## Historical outline

Prior to 1998 Census of Agriculture, to which data presented here refer, agricultural censuses were conducted in Lebanon in 1961/62 and in 1970; a livestock census was conducted in 1980.

## Organization

The census was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture, 'Direction des Etudes et de Coordination'. The census project, financed by the World Bank, was technically supervised by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, in agreement with the 'Conseil de Développement et de Reconstruction' (CDR). A National Inter-Ministerial Committee, headed by the Director Central Statistics, was formed to follow-up the various phases of the project. Members of the Committee were advisors from the Ministry of Agriculture, from the CDR, from the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture and from various Universities of the country. About 60 inspectors, 300 enumerators and 12 supervisors were involved in the field work.

## Enumeration period

The enumeration period was 1 November 1998 to 30 July 1999.

## Reference date/period

Time reference for items referring to the occupation of land is the agricultural year 1 October 1997 to 30 September 1998; for all other items is the day of enumeration.

## Definition

The agricultural holding is considered an economic unit of agricultural production satisfying at least one of the following minimum specifications:

- 500 square meters of non irrigated arable land (Superficie Agricole Utile, SAU);
- 250 square meters of irrigated arable land;
- 100 square meters of land under protective cover;
- 0,5 units of large livestock and a valuable number of poultry and rabbits for breeding.

## Coverage

The census covered the entire country.

## Frame

Among the census preparatory works, a complete set of topographic maps was prepared and, in 1997, an exhaustive village survey was conducted. On this basis, lists of holders were then prepared.

## Method

A pilot survey was conducted, and then complete enumeration of all holdings was carried out.

## Data source

Résultats Globaux du Recensement Agricole – FAO, Project UTF/LEB/016 "Assistance au Recensement Agricole", Juin 2000. Ministère de l'Agriculture, Direction des Etudes et de Coordination, République Libanaise.

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[http://www.agriculture.gov.lb/english\\_file/index\\_e.htm](http://www.agriculture.gov.lb/english_file/index_e.htm)