

Historical outline

The country participated in the 1960 round of World Census of Agriculture by undertaking an agricultural census in 1961/62. The following census of agriculture was carried out during 1984/85. Data here presented refer to the 2004/05 Agricultural Census.

Organization

The Census of Agriculture 2004/05 was organized by Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries. Financial support for the Census was provided by the World Bank and European Commission. The technical support was provided by FAO.

Enumeration period

The enumeration took place from October 2004 to mid January 2005.

Reference date/period

Agricultural year: July 2004 to June 2005.

Definition

- **Agricultural holding** An economic unit of agricultural production under single management, comprising all livestock kept and all land used wholly or partly for agricultural production purposes, regardless to title, legal form or size. It includes the owned land, leased land or the land which is utilized under any other type of agreement. The parcels of land leased out to others would not form a part of the holding. For purpose of agriculture census a broader definition of agriculture was used. The agricultural activities would cover growing of crops, rearing of livestock and **traditional fishing**. The single direction could be exercised by a private individual, by a household, jointly by two or several private individuals or households, by a clan or a tribe, a legal entity such as company, religious, cooperative institution or organization of State.
- **Rural Population** comprises all individuals who reside in rural area. A *fokontany* where the proportion of the population working in the agricultural activities (agriculture, breeding, and fishing) exceeded 50% was defined as **rural area**.
- **Agricultural household** is the one in which one or more active members of the household carry on one or more agricultural activities as primary or secondary occupation.
- **Farming population** comprises all the individuals belonging to the agricultural households.

Coverage

The Census of Agriculture 2004/05 covered the whole of the national territory. The census covered crop, livestock and traditional fishing sectors.

Method

The Census of Agriculture 2004/05 was a sample survey with two stages of sampling with an overall sampling rate of 2.1 percent. The rate was 30 percent at first stage and 7 percent at the second stage. The primary sampling units were fokontany and the secondary sampling units were the farms (holdings). The first and second stage sampling was carried out independently with probability proportional to size with a view to getting representative results at the district level. Objective measurement of areas of parcels was carried out using the compasses for measuring topographic slope and triple decametres. For estimation of outputs, sampling of harvest was carried out.

Data source

The compact disc entitled "Recensement Général de l'Agriculture 2004/05" published by the Government of Madagascar.

Contact

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Website

<http://www.rga2005mag.info>;
http://harvestchoice.org/maps-etc/Madagascar_2005_Vol%201.pdf