

## Historical outline

Five Decennial Censuses of Agriculture were conducted in Nepal: the first in 1962, then in 1972, 1982, 1992 and the most recent, to which data here refer, in 2002.

## Organization

The 2001/02 National Sample Census of Agriculture (NCA) was organized and conducted under the responsibility of the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), of the National Planning Commission Secretariat of His Majesty's Government. An Agricultural Census Technical Committee, chaired by the Director General of the CBS was formed, to advise on the various technical aspects of the census. Asian Development Bank (ADB) supported the census.

## Enumeration period

The field work was undertaken in two phases, the first from January to June 2002 in 46 Districts, while the remaining 29 Districts were enumerated during the period April to June 2002.

## Reference date/period

Data on crop cultivation and other holding characteristics, except livestock, refer to the calendar year 2001. Data on livestock inventory refer to the time of enumeration.

## Definition

The main statistical unit of the agricultural census is the agricultural holding, which is defined as an economic unit of agricultural production reporting at least one of the following: (1) An area under crops of 0.012 ha in hill/mountain districts, and of 0.014 ha in lowland districts; (2) 2 cattle or buffaloes; (3) 5 sheep or goats; (3) 20 poultry; or (4) A combination of livestock equivalent to 2 cattle/buffaloes.

## Coverage

Geographically, the census covered the whole country including urban areas. Statistically, only agricultural holdings operated by households were considered: agricultural activities undertaken by government organizations, corporations and other juridical persons were not covered by NCA.

## Frame

Some 5 100 Enumeration Areas (EAs), including at least 30 holdings, were firstly selected. Lists of all agricultural holdings in each EA, used as the basis for the selection of the Probability Proportional to Size (PPS) sample, were obtained from the 2001 Population Census. The holdings were identified on the basis of the place of residence of the holder.

## Method

The census methodology was a combination of complete enumeration and sampling. Consequently, the census was implemented in two phases. *In the first phase*, the complete enumeration of all holdings, their area and the number of livestock and poultry raised by all households in the country was performed, as an additional activity in the listing operation of the 2001 Population Census. Some questions on agricultural activities were asked to identify the agricultural holdings. *In the second phase*, the basic sampling methodology used was a two-stage sampling, applied as follows:

- **First stage:** a stratified sample of EAs with probability proportional to the expected number of holdings (stratified PPS), was selected. To select the sample of EAs, the districts were divided into four groups according to the importance of their agricultural production.
- **Second stage:** within the selected EAs, a sample of 20 to 30 agricultural holdings was drawn using a stratified (on the basis of size) systematic random sampling.

The final sample at country level was of about 123 000 holdings (3.7 percent of the total). The District of Manang was completely enumerated because of its small number of holdings.

## Data source

National Sample Census of Agriculture 2001/02 Kathmandu, Nepal 2003. Government of Nepal, National Planning Commission Secretariat (NPC), Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS).

## Contact

Government of Nepal, National Planning Commission Secretariat, Central Bureau of Statistics, Thapathali, Kathmandu, Nepal. Tel.: (+977) 1 424 5947, (+977) 1 422 9406; Fax: (+977) 1 422 7720; E-mail: env@stat.wlink.com.np, info@cbs.goc.np.

## Website

<http://www.cbs.gov.np>