

PUERTO RICO - Agricultural Census 2002 - Explanatory Notes

Historical outline

The first Census of Agriculture was conducted in Puerto Rico in 1910. The 2002 Census of Agriculture, to which data here refer, is the 15th conducted in the country.

Organization

The 2002 Census of Agriculture of Puerto Rico was conducted in accordance with a Cooperation Agreement signed between the NASS, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture and the University of Puerto Rico Extension Service. The NASS is the National Agricultural Statistics Service of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to which, through the 1997 Appropriations Act, the responsibility for organizing the Agricultural Censuses was transferred from the US Bureau of the Census.

Enumeration period

The enumeration took place during 1 January to 31 December 2002.

Reference date/period

The 2002 Census of Agriculture is the first census conducted with the same reference period of the United States: the reference date for inventory items is 31 December 2002; while for other data is the calendar year 1 January to 31 December 2002.

Definition

Farm operator is the person who operates the farm, either doing the work or making day-to-day decisions about planting, harvesting, feeding, marketing and other similar activities. This person might be the owner, a member of owner's household, a hired manager or a tenant.

Coverage

- Geographically, the agricultural census covered the entire country.
- Statistically, the combined information extracted from the Census Mail List (CML) and the Area Sample Survey, which was conducted to identify the farms not listed on the CML, resulted on a complete coverage of all farms.

Frame

The List Frame, reporting all known operational farms, was compiled in a pre-census stage using the list of active farms extracted from the 1998 Census of Agriculture, together with lists of farmers provided by the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture and, in addition, names and addresses of operational farms identified through a screening of the Area Frame. After the identification of duplicate records (i.e. those reported in more than one list), a final list of active operational farms was developed.

Method

The census was conducted using a multiple frame approach, consisting of a List Frame and an Area Frame. To every address, excluding some special records, a Census Report Form was mailed and, in case of no response, a second Report Form was subsequently mailed. Those farms which did not respond by mail were visited by enumerators from the Department of Agriculture.

Data source

Census of Agriculture 2002 (Vol. I), Geographic Area Series, Part 52. Puerto Rico.

Contact

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