

Historical outline

The Agricultural Census, to which data presented here refer, was conducted in 2000/01.

Organization

The Department of Agriculture and Water Research of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Agriculture of the State of Qatar were entrusted with the organization and implementation of the 2001/2002 Census of Agriculture. For this purpose an Advisory Committee, chaired by the Director of Agriculture and Water Research Department, was established.

Enumeration period

Data were collected in two times: the first visit to the agricultural holdings took place in January to February 2000 where all data were gathered except the information related to summer crops as well as date palm and fruit trees. The second visit was conducted in May/June 2001: during this visit the data related to summer crops and permanent trees such as date palm trees and other trees fruits trees has been collected.

Reference date/period

General time reference for the census was the agricultural year September 2000 to August 2001.

Definition

Agricultural holding is an economic unit of agricultural production under single management, including all animals and all land used wholly or partially for agricultural production regardless to title, legal form, size or location. The holder could be one person, or more persons or families, or a legal person, or a cooperative or a tribe. The holding may consist of one parcel or more than one parcel, in which case the production means such as workers, buildings or machinery should be common to all parcels.

- Statistically, the census covered all holdings practicing agriculture, plus livestock holdings reporting at least, as minimum size:
 - One cow or one camel;
 - Five head of sheep or goats;
 - Fifty head of poultry.

Coverage

Geographically, the census covered the entire country. Hunting and game breeding farms, forestry and fishery farms, agricultural services, livestock trading establishments and walled fields around water wells, were excluded from the agricultural census.

Frame

The frame was designed during the preparatory stage of the census, lasting from April to December 2001. Availability of digital information on land is ensured by the Qatar's Centre for Geographic Information Systems (CGIS, Doha).

Method

During the preparatory stage a pilot census was carried out, aimed to finalize and make tests on census questionnaires, supervisor and enumerator manuals, staff training booklets, time schedule, transportation means, etc. Complete enumeration of holdings was then conducted. Data were collected through direct interview of the farm holders. Objective measurements techniques were applied to determine the areas of different crops and the number of permanent trees.

Data source

Agricultural Census 2000/01 Doha, Qatar, February 2002. Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Agriculture, Department of Agriculture and Water Research, State of Qatar.

Contact

Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Agriculture, Department of Agriculture and Water Research, P.O. Box 1967, Doha, Qatar. Tel.: (+974) 449 2777; Fax: (+974) 441 0526.

Website

<http://www.mmaa.gov.qa>