

Historical outline

The very first census of agriculture in Spain was carried out in 1962, in observance of the 1957 General Census Law prescribing a nationwide agricultural census to be taken every ten years; data included in the Report on the 1930 World Census of Agriculture were extracted from current statistics. The second and the third General Censuses of Agriculture were undertaken in 1972 and 1982 respectively, while the fourth was conducted in 1989 instead of 1992, to meet the European Union regulations concerning agricultural surveys. Data here presented refer to the latest nationwide full census, the 1999 Census of Agriculture.

Organization

The National Institute of Statistics (INE) is in charge for the organization and implementation of the Agricultural Census.

Enumeration period

The "Census Day" was 30 September 1999.

Reference date/period

Data on livestock and machinery owned by the holder refer to the day of interview, while all other data refer to the agricultural year 1999, i.e. the period between 1 October 1998 and 30 September 1999.

Definition

Agricultural holding:

Is a techno-economic unit for agricultural production under single management, characterized by the utilization of the same production means (workers, machinery, etc.)

There are two types of agricultural holdings: with land or without land.

- *Holdings with* land are those reporting a total area of at least 0.1 ha.
- *Holdings without* land are those with less than 0.1 ha of total area, whether located in rural or urban areas, but having at least one of the following:
 - 1 head of cattle;
 - 2 horses, asses, mules or pigs;
 - 6 sheep or goats;
 - 50 chickens or other poultry;
 - 30 female rabbits;
 - 10 beehives.

Coverage

Geographically, the census covered the entire country, i.e. the 50 mainland provinces, the insular provinces of Canary and Balearic Islands, and the towns of Ceuta and Melilla. Statistically, the census covered all agricultural holdings, either managed by physical or juridical persons, without regard to the destination of agricultural production.

Frame

Among the main objectives of the census there was the updating of the lists of agricultural holdings, kept in each municipality, used as the census frame.

Method

The 1999 census mainly followed the methodology used for the 1989 census. A complete enumeration of all holdings was carried out. The data were collected through direct interview.

Data source

Censo Agrario 1999, Principales Resultados. Instituto Nacional de Estadística.

Contact

Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Paseo de la Castellana, 183 - 28071 Madrid, Spain. Tel.: (+34) 915 839 100; Fax: (+37) 915 839 158; E-mail: info@ine.es.

Website

<http://www.ine.es>, <http://www.marm.es>