

Historical outline

In Thailand the first Agricultural Census was conducted in 1950, the second in 1963, the third in 1978, the fourth in 1993 and the fifth in 2003.

Organization

The 2003 Agriculture Census was organized by the National Statistical Office of the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology. To carry over the field work, about 25 000 enumerators were selected from village volunteers, while 5 000 supervisors were recruited among the Local Officers of the Department of Agricultural Extension.

Enumeration period

The enumeration period lasted from 13 May to 10 June 2003.

Reference date/period

The Census Day was 1 May 2003, and the majority of data refer to this date, while some items (e.g. crops, employment) refer to the 12-month period preceding the census.

Definition

- **Agricultural Holding:** is an economic unit of agricultural production (cultivating crops, rearing livestock and culturing fresh water) under single management, comprising all livestock kept and all land used wholly or partly for agricultural production purposes, without regard to title or legal form. The holding may consist of one or more parcels, located in one or more separate areas of the same province.
- **Holder:** refer to a civil or juridical person who exercises management control and takes major decisions over the agricultural holding operations. The holder has technical and economic responsibility for the holding and may undertake all responsibilities directly or through a hired manager.

Coverage

The census covered the whole country: all holdings cultivating crops, rearing livestock and culturing fresh waters, were covered.

Frame

This report presents data for some major characteristics of agricultural holdings, based on a one percent sample of all holdings. In order to perform this task, a Stratified Two-Stage Sampling Design was adopted. The groups of Provinces in each one of the four Regions (Central, Northern, North-eastern and Southern) were the strata. The primary sampling unit was the enumeration district and the secondary sampling unit was the agricultural holding.

Method

For 2003 Agriculture Census, data were collected using the direct interview method: enumerators were sent out to interview all heads of household, using listing forms to identify agricultural holders. Approximately 5.8 million agricultural holders were interviewed using the enumeration form to gather detailed information.

Data source

Agricultural Census 2003, Advanced Report. National Statistical Office (the Website), Thailand.

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