

Historical outline

During the first independent period of Latvia, six agricultural censuses were conducted. The results of the 1939 census were not compiled in full, as war interrupted the work. During the post-war period, such large scale projects were not usually implemented. This practice was restarted with the funding allotted by the Government and methodological support of international experts.

Organization

The Central Statistics Bureau (CSB) and employees of the regional statistics offices carried out methodological guidance and organized work of the agricultural census. Taking into account the requirements of the World Agricultural Census Programme 2000, the requirements of EUROSTAT, the working group headed by the CSB with participation of experts from the Ministries of Agriculture, Economy, Environmental Protection and Regional Development, State Land Service and the Latvian Institute of Agrarian Economics developed a working programme and a questionnaire. In addition to the regular personnel of CSB and regional statistical offices, 2 742 persons were involved: 26 assistant managers, 533 supervisors and 2 183 enumerators.

Enumeration period

The census was carried out between 1 June and 5 July.

Reference date/period

Data on each agricultural farm for land use, livestock, buildings, machinery and other equipment was compiled as of June 2001. The sown areas included areas sown both as of 1 June and after 1 June for the harvest of 2001. The persons employed involved all those who were employed over the last twelve months before the census.

Definition

The agricultural holdings surveyed in the census were:

- who own or use agricultural land in the area of 1 ha or more;
- who during the last calendar year have produced for sale agricultural products worth Last (Ls) LVL 1 000 and over of, if the area land is less than 1 ha.

Coverage

The census was a countrywide activity.

Frame

A register of agricultural farms was developed by the CSB in 1997. The register compiled information on the composition of households on the basis of household cards of parishes and cities with rural territories. These data were supplemented with information from the State Land Service on land areas listed in the Land Register as properties and on land areas given for use. As a result, the information of all landowners and users as well as rented lands was compiled in the register.

Method

The census was based on a complete enumeration through interviews.

Data source

Results of the 2001 Agricultural Census in Latvia. Central Statistics Bureau of Latvia.

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