

Historical outline

An agricultural census was conducted in Malaysia (formerly called Federation of Malaya) in 1950. Subsequently, two other agricultural censuses were conducted in 1960 and 1977. Then the agriculture sector was investigated through the 2005 Agriculture Census, to which information presented here below refer.

Organization

The national office responsible for the 2005 Agricultural Census was the Department of Statistics, under the Department of Prime Minister. Other Offices involved in the organization and management of the agricultural census were the Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry (MOA) and the Ministry of Plantations and Commodity Industry (MOPIC). Over 10 000 enumerators and 1 300 supervisors were involved in census operations.

Enumeration period

The Census day was fixed as at 1 March 2005. The period when bulk of data collection (enumeration) took place was from March to April 2005.

Reference date/period

Reference period for crops was from 1 March 2004 to 28 February 2005.

Definition

- **Agricultural holder:** An individual who is involved in agricultural activities (crops, livestock, fisheries) as his/her main occupation and aged 15 years old and above. Part-time operators and establishments were excluded.
- **Crop operator:** An individual, aged more than 15 years, involved in crop planting activities as main occupation.

Coverage

The census covered the entire country. Information collected refers only to Crop Operators. Therefore, information on employment in agriculture, total area of holdings, legal status, land use etc. was not collected during the census. Part-time Crop Operators, Estates and Establishments like Federal Land Development Authority (FELDA), Federal Land Consolidation and Rehabilitation Authority (FELCRA) or Rubber Industry Smallholders Development Authority (RISDA) were excluded from the Census.

Frame

The frame for the Agricultural Census 2005 was provided by the Population and Housing Census 2000.

Method

The Census was conducted by complete enumeration through personal (face-to-face) interview. Based on the Population and Housing Census 2000, a number of Enumeration Blocks (EBs), reporting households involved in agriculture as main occupation, were covered. Seven enumeration blocks were assigned to each enumerator.

Two different questionnaires were used:

- In "Document-1", the enumerators listed all living quarters within each enumeration block, in order to identify agricultural households;
- While "Document 1A-1E" was used to collect detailed information on agricultural activities.

Data source

Agriculture Census 2005, December 2006. Department of Statistics Malaysia.

Contact

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