

Historical outline

The 1996/97 Annual Agricultural Survey is the first in the series of annual surveys based on the 1994/95 Agricultural Census, the first agricultural census of independent Namibia.

Organization

The Central Statistical Bureau of the National Planning Commission and the Department of Planning of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development, were responsible for the Survey. Technical assistance was provided by the British Department for International Development (DFID), formerly Overseas Development Administration (ODA), under the executing agency of Food and Agriculture International Limited (FAI). The 1996/97 Annual Agricultural Survey has been entirely supported by the Namibian Government, under a capital budget arrangement. All staff concerned with data collection, both supervisors and enumerators, were trained intensively in the survey procedures. The field operations were under the overall control of the Survey/Field section of the CBS. Teams of four enumerators and one supervisor were formed to accomplish the data collection.

Enumeration period

Data were collected during the agricultural year 1996/97.

Reference date/period

Basic data on area planted, yield and production of pearl millet (mahangu), sorghum, maize and some data on livestock, were collected during the 1996/97 agricultural year.

Definition

- **Agricultural holding:** is an economic unit of agricultural production under a single management comprising all livestock kept and all arable land used wholly or partly for agricultural production purposes, without regard to title, legal form, or size. Single management may be exercised by an individual or a household, jointly by two or more individuals or households, by a clan or tribe, or by a juridical person such as corporation, cooperative or government agency. The holding may consist of one or more parcels of land and livestock, located in one or more separate areas or in one or more territorial or administrative division, provided that the parcels share the same production means utilized by the holding such as labour, farm buildings, and machinery or draught animals. All holdings which planted any one of the specified cereal crops viz. pearl millet (mahangu), sorghum or maize, were covered.
- **Communal agriculture** refers to agricultural activities on farms operated by family units on communal lands i.e. land belonging to the community and to which they have user rights but no title.

Coverage

The survey covered six regions of the country (out of thirteen) making up the Northern Communal Areas of Namibia, namely: Ohangwena, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto, Kavango and Caprivi.

Frame

The Master Sample Frame of the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), developed on the occasion of the 1995 Census of Agriculture, was used.

Method

Two-stage sampling method was applied. A sample of Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) was selected at the first stage from the Master Sample Frame of the CBS. At the second stage, a sample of agricultural holdings was then selected within each of the sampled PSU. The sample size for the six regions was of 118 PSUs and 1 423 holdings.

Data source

Annual Agricultural Survey 1996/97, Basic Analysis of Communal Agriculture January 1998. Republic of Namibia.

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