

Historical outline

The 2000 Agricultural Survey is the first survey in South Africa covering both Large Scale and Small Scale and Emerging Farms sectors. Agricultural surveys were undertaken in the past by the Central Statistical Service in 1994, 1995 and 1996 but covering the commercial farms sector only.

Organization

The National Agricultural Survey was conducted by Statistics South Africa specifically for the National Department of Agriculture (NDA).

Enumeration period

For the actual survey, data were collected from 14 August to 18 September 2000.

Definition

- **Farming Operation** consists of one or more separate farms, holding or portions of land, whether contiguous or not, operated as single units irrespective of the number of districts into which they may fall, so that farms or portions of land situated in different districts can be regarded as a single farming operation.
- **Former RSA** means Republic of South Africa excluding all the former Homelands.
- **Former Homelands** refers to the apartheid-based areas assigned to Africans either as "independent states" or as "self-governing territories".

Coverage

Geographically, the survey covered all provinces in South Africa. Statistically, small-scale market gardens in peri-urban areas were not covered by the survey.

Frame

The frame for the survey was prepared by the National Department of Agriculture (NDA). But being incomplete at the time of the survey, some farms were sampled directly from maps, by listing each farm that appeared on the map.

Method

A master sample was created based on enumeration areas (EAs) from 1996 Population Census and the National Department of Agriculture (NDA) sampling frame. Approximately 1 500 Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) were selected from former RSA and the former Homelands.

For Former RSA: A two staged sampling design was used to draw a probability sample of farms in the Former RSA: At the first stage, 602 EAs were systematically selected from a total of 5 564. At the second stage, 15% of the farms in each EA were systematically selected.

For Former Homelands: At the first stage, in these areas, 887 EAs were selected from a total of 24 540 Rural EAs using the same procedure used for the former RSA. If the EAs were small, containing less than 100 households, they were combined with adjacent EAs to form the primary sampling units. At the second stage, a listing of all households within a specific PSU or EA was undertaken, then, during the listing, the following two criteria were applied to identify a household as a farming unit.

Criterion (1): A household was defined as a farming operation if it met at least one of the following specifications: (a): it had access to land for farming purposes; (b): it had livestock; (c): it grew crops; and in addition, (d): The respondent considered the household or a member of the household to be a farming operation.

Criterion (2): If a household met with any of (a) or (b) or (c) but not with (d), it was considered to be a farming operation as well, if meeting with at least one of the following specifications: (1) It had sold crops, livestock or any other agricultural product produced in the 12 months prior to the survey; (2) It had access to 0.5 ha or more of cropland; (3) It produced enough crops and livestock products to feed household members for six months or more; (4) It had five or more head of cattle or sheep or goats or pigs or mules or asses; (5) It had 25 or more chickens

Data source

Report on the Survey of Large and Small Scale Agriculture, Stats SA 2002. Statistics South Africa.

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<http://www.statssa.gov.za>

http://harvestchoice.org/maps-etc/RSA_2000_Survey%20Large-Small-Scale.pdf