

Historical outline

This was the sixth Agricultural Census in Venezuela. Previous censuses were organized in 1937, 1949, 1961, 1971 and 1985.

Organization

The census was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAC) and for this purpose a Central Office was established. Many other institutions and organizations cooperated in the census organization (BCV, OCEI, COODIPLAN, FAO, Universities and others). An experimental census was organized in Yaracuy, with the scope to test the frame, the questionnaires and all other operational aspects. The staff employed in the field work included 449 Supervisors and 3 000 Enumerators. In addition, MAC was using 358 professionals for work on quality control, consisting of 18 National Supervisors, 23 State Coordinators, 71 Zone Supervisors and 246 Field Supervisors.

Enumeration period

The bulk of enumeration took place in the period July 1997 to January 1998.

Reference date/period

Inventory items refer to the day of enumeration. Other data refer to the agricultural year 1 April 1996 to 31 March 1997.

Definition

Agricultural holding was defined as an economic unit of agricultural production under single management, comprising all livestock kept and all land used wholly or partly for agricultural production purposes, without regard to title and legal form.

Places with less than the minimum size, abandoned holdings and those used only for recreation, were not considered as agricultural holdings.

Coverage

The census covered the entire national territory and all sectors of agriculture.

Frame

The frame was based on municipal and parochial maps available from the XII Census of Population and Housing. Based on these maps, 5 422 Enumeration Areas were delineated for the Census of Agriculture. The list of agricultural holdings was finalized at the time of data collection.

Method

The census was organized on a complete enumeration basis through a direct interview of holders. Two questionnaires were used:

- F1 was used at the listing stage to define the list of agricultural holdings to be enumerated.
- F2 was used for the enumeration of listed agricultural holdings.

Data source

VI Censo Agrícola, Boletín Informativo de Resultados Preliminares.

Contact

Ministerio de Agricultura y Cría, D.G.S. de Planificación y Políticas, Estadística, VI Censo Agrícola, Torre Este Parque Central, Caracas, 1010 Venezuela. Tel.: (+509) 03 576 758;

E-mail: estagric@mav.gov.ve.