



FARM STRUCTURE SURVEY 1999/2000
NATIONAL METHODOLOGICAL REPORT

Member State: GREECE

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SUMMARY

The Agriculture Census is a broad-based periodical statistical application for the collection of objective quantitative information relating to the structure of the farming sector.

The purpose of the Census is to determine the basic structural features of all agricultural and livestock holdings, which form the picture of agriculture in Greece.

The detailed analysis of these features is based on a multitude of objective quantitative data, which are necessary for drawing up farm policy, for making assessments of development programmes relating to agriculture and livestock farming, land reform and regional development and, lastly, for shaping policies in the foodstuffs sector.

The census constitutes a vast and complex statistical operation, which requires excellent organisational planning for each phase of the work. The phases are programmed extremely carefully so as to ensure an uninterrupted work flow and the quality of the work produced.

Successful completion of the preparatory work and of the census itself requires:

- financial resources
- human resources
- support from government bodies.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background, purpose

The first census of agriculture and livestock farming was carried out in 1860, under the supervision of the Special Division for Statistics of the Ministry of the Interior, and its results were published in 1862.

The first systematic census of agriculture and livestock farming was carried out in 1911, by the then newly established Statistical Service of the Ministry of Economic Affairs. There followed the worldwide census of agriculture and livestock farming of 1929 under the aegis and the direction of the International Institute of Agriculture in Rome, in which Greece, as a member of the Institute, participated. In 1939 a census of agriculture and livestock farming was in fact held, but it proved impossible to finish processing the results, as the data were destroyed because of the intervening Second World War.

In 1950 a worldwide agricultural census was organised under the aegis of the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and in accordance with its recommendations; Greece was also a participant in this, with the holding of the first real post-war general census of agriculture and livestock farming. The 1950 census was not aimed simply at gathering data on Greek agriculture and livestock farming but had the broader objective of providing the government with a clear picture of the situation in agriculture and livestock farming in the country, so as to make it possible to draw up guidelines for socio-economic and farm policy, in particular in order to revive Greek agriculture.

Since 1950 five censuses of agriculture and livestock farming have been held, in 1961, 1971, 1981, 1991 and 1999/2000. From 1961 to 1991 censuses were held every ten years, in parallel with the general population and housing census.

The 1999/2000 census of agriculture and livestock farming was the first to be held before the population and housing census, held in 2001, and was organised simultaneously with the other EC Member States under the title "Basic Structural Survey of Agricultural and Livestock Holdings".

The purpose of the census of agriculture and livestock farming is to record accurately all the agricultural and livestock holdings in Greece and their characteristics in order to monitor developments in the structure of these holdings. More particularly, the census aims to collect statistical data relating to:

- the number of agricultural and livestock holdings at national, regional and local levels,
- the characteristics of the holdings with regard to their legal form, type of tenure and structure (types of crops, animals and birds kept, cultivation techniques etc.) and
- the employment of the farming population on these holdings.

The results obtained from the census meet national and Community needs and Greece's other international obligations.

Specifically, the census:

- gathers data that are essential for formulating farm, economic and social policies at national, regional and local levels, while at the same time these data are also needed for guiding the EU's common agricultural policy (CAP);
- makes a significant contribution to the taking of rational decisions in the public and private sectors of the economy;
- constitutes a basic tool for implementing government programmes for economic and social development and regional planning and for academic and other research programmes concerning the farming sector and all the other sectors directly related to it;
- contributes to the dissemination and spreading of statistical information to the public at large, since the statistics it produces are directly or indirectly of interest to every citizen;
- constitutes the basic source of information for compiling and updating the Register of agricultural and livestock holdings, which is the underlying framework for carrying out many other statistical operations.

In particular the census of agriculture and livestock farming contributes to regional development, since it is the only statistical operation that offers the possibility of producing detailed statistical data for small geographical units (municipalities or rural districts), with the result that it constitutes a basic instrument supporting central and regional planning and the formulation of the corresponding policies.

1.2. Legal basis

The legal framework for the census of agriculture and livestock farming is set out in national and Community legislation.

• National legislation

In accordance with Article 21(1) of the Law establishing the NSSG (Decree-Law 3627/56 "on the organisation of the National Statistical Service of Greece") and Article 9 of Law 2392/96, the census of agriculture and livestock farming is set in motion by a Presidential Decree adopted on a proposal from the Minister for Economic Affairs and the co-responsible Ministers.

Matters relating to the proclamation and completion of the census, together with details of implementation and processing, are decided on by joint decision of the Ministers for Economic Affairs and Finance and the co-responsible Ministers.

The census of agriculture and livestock farming in the form of the "1999/2000 Basic Structural Survey" was held on the basis of Presidential Decree No 212 in Government Gazette 182^A/13-9-1999.

The proclamation and completion of the census, together with details of implementation and processing, were decided on by joint decision No. 11492/Γ-440/17-8-99 of the Ministers for Economic Affairs and Finance and the co-responsible Ministers.

• **Community legislation**

The census of agriculture and livestock farming was held simultaneously in all the Member States of the European Union in accordance with the international recommendations of the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations), with standardised forms and methods, under Council Regulation (EEC) No 571/88, as amended by Council Regulation (EC) No 2467/96.

In accordance with the above Regulation, the Community has drawn up a special programme of structural surveys that involves holding sample structural surveys every two years and a basic survey every ten years in the form of a census of all holdings in order to gather statistics on their structure for the purpose of monitoring the development of agricultural holdings.

2. CONTENT OF THE CENSUS

2.1. Census variables

The 1999/2000 census aimed to record with precision all the agricultural and livestock holdings in Greece with their characteristics, in order to monitor developments in the structure of holdings. More specifically, the census collected data relating to:

- the number of agriculture and livestock holdings in the country as a whole and at the levels of regions (NUTS II), prefectures (NUTS III), municipalities/rural districts (NUTS IV) and subdivisions of municipalities/rural districts (NUTS V),
- the geographical position of the holding,
- the legal form and management of the holding,
- the agricultural training of the occupier or manager of the holding,
- the keeping of accounts,
- the utilised agricultural area (arable crops, multiannual crops, permanent pasture and grazing land),
- other areas in the holding (woodland, unused barren grazing land, areas not cultivated for various reasons etc.),
- the form of tenure of the utilised land in the holding (owned, rented, jointly owned etc.),
- the number of parcels making up the holding's utilised land,
- the successive secondary crops, combined crops etc.,
- livestock rearing,

- the holding's agro-mechanical equipment, facilities and electrical appliances,
- the holding's labour force,
- information of agro-environmental interest and
- information on the holding's multifunctional role.

2.2. Questionnaire

The questionnaire for the Agriculture Census was drawn up to meet both the national and the Community requirements for statistical information.

It covered all the variables listed in Council [*sic*] Decision 98/377/EC of 18 May 1999 [*sic*], which constitute basic variables that have to be analysed in order to formulate Greece's farm policy and make assessments of development programmes. In addition data were collected on characteristics of purely national interest.

The questionnaire was designed and drawn up following consultations with the main users, such as the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of the Environment, Regional Planning and Public Works, the cotton and tobacco organisations, the Agricultural Bank of Greece and the National Cadaster, together with the co-responsible departments of the NSSG, such as the Directorates for Methodology and Organisation, Information Technology, Statistical Information and Publications and National Accounts.

The main factors taken into account in designing the questionnaire so that it met the requirements for statistical information, while also being a functional means of collecting reliable data, were:

- the requirements arising from national and Community regulations and other national needs,
- the need to ensure comparability with previous censuses and structural surveys,
- the special features of Greek agriculture and of the holdings,
- the census methodology and its organisation,
- the ability of the survey population to respond and to give objective and reliable replies,
- the tabulation programme,
- cost.

Since the statistics from the census form the basis for planning statistical surveys in agriculture for the coming decade, special attention was given to the structure and the content of the questionnaire, so as to ensure the collection of reliable data.

A particular effort was made to make the questionnaire easy for enumerators to use.

The questions were framed in simple language so that they would be familiar to the respondents and would have some coherence and logical sequence.

Brief instructions were included in the questionnaire for difficult questions or those that required particular attention.

In order to avoid mistakes in filling in the questionnaires, special attention was given to their design. To make for easier processing, the questionnaires were pre-coded.

An effort was made to ensure that the questionnaire was fully consistent with the questions in previous censuses and structural surveys of agricultural and livestock holdings, in order to maintain the time sequence of the agricultural statistics produced.

Before the questionnaire was finalised, it was tested by local experts and experienced investigators who take part in agricultural surveys.

3. METHODOLOGY OF THE CENSUS

3.1. Organisation

The Division for Structural Statistics on Agricultural and Livestock Holdings in the Directorate for Primary-Sector Statistics is responsible for carrying out structural surveys and the Census of Agriculture and Livestock Farming.

In particular, the Division is responsible for the overall planning of surveys, the organisation, supervision and conduct of surveys and the processing and publication of the results, in conjunction with the co-responsible departments of the NSSG, such as the Directorates for Methodology and Organisation, Information Technology, Statistical Information and Publications, Administrative Support and Financial Administration.

The conduct and processing of the census is decentralised and is in the hands of the Statistical Services of Greece's 51 prefectures.

For conducting the census the following were used:

- working group and sub-group at the Secretariat-General of the NSSG,
- working groups in the prefectures,
- working groups in the municipalities and rural districts,
- senior supervisors,
- supervisors,
- assistant supervisors,
- enumerators and accompanying interpreters.

The composition and the responsibilities of the bodies involved in the census were defined as follows:

- **Working Group and Sub-group:**

In connection with the organisation, conduct and processing of the Census of Agriculture and Livestock Farming, a working group and a sub-group were set

up and operated in the Central Service of the NSSG Secretariat-General. These consisted of the relevant officials responsible and representatives of other ministries, in particular the Ministry of Agriculture, and departments that use the statistics obtained from the census and of the ministries and departments whose assistance is required for the census to be conducted successfully (Ministries of the Interior, Public Administration and Decentralisation, of Public Order, of Finance, of the Environment, Regional Planning and Public Works etc.).

The task of the *Working Group* was the effective planning and coordination of all the work relating to the organisation and conduct of the census and the processing of its results.

The task of the *Working Sub-group* was to study the instructions, models and auxiliary documents and the structure of the questionnaires to be used, to investigate the introduction of new technologies for processing them, to design the tables for presenting the census results and to study the technical specifications for recording the basic land-use categories using modern technology. The sub-group submitted its proposals on these matters to the Working Group for its opinion.

- **Working Groups in the prefectures:**

Prefectural Working Groups (PWGs) were set up and operated in each *nomós*. The PWGs consisted of the local officials responsible in ministries and departments, together with officials from the NSSG Secretariat-General.

The PWGs dealt with matters relating to the preparation, organisation and conduct of the census within the territory of each *nomós*. These matters were presented to the PWG by the census supervisor for the *nomós*.

In addition it was their duty to propose the appointment of enumerators and accompanying interpreters and to make proposals to the prefect for all measures that, within the framework of the general and specific instructions from the NSSG Secretariat-General, would ensure the smooth and perfect conduct of all work for the census.

- **Working groups in the municipalities and rural districts:**

The working groups in the municipalities and rural districts were set up and operated for the purposes of organising and conducting the Census of Agriculture and Livestock Farming.

The groups consisted of the secretaries of the municipalities and rural districts, representatives of farming associations and cooperatives, agronomists from the Agricultural Development Offices in the area and the Statistical Office of the Ministry of Agriculture, rural policemen and other persons familiar with local conditions.

Their task was to assist the census work, in particular to help the census staff in locating the occupiers of holdings, through the procedure for updating the Register of Agricultural and Livestock Holdings (Phase 1), and also in completing the questionnaires (Phase 2). Lastly, they were to check the completed questionnaires for the completeness and accuracy of the replies.

- **Senior supervisors:**

The senior supervisors were senior officials in the Central Service of the NSSG Secretariat-General, in particular in the Directorate for Primary-Sector Statistics (Director and Heads of Division).

Their task was to train the supervisors, to supervise and coordinate their work, to monitor the organisation and conduct of the census in the *nomí* in Greece, and to solve the problems of all kinds that arose.

- **Supervisors:**

The supervisors were mainly the heads of the Statistical Services of the *nomí*.

Their task was to organise and complete within the prescribed time limits the work for preparing and conducting the census in the area of their responsibility (the *nomós*). More particularly, they were responsible for:

- a. informing all local-government bodies, public services, organisations and the public about the census,
- b. setting up Prefectural Working Groups,
- c. setting up working groups in municipalities and rural districts,
- d. allocating all the municipalities and rural districts in the *nomós* to assistant supervisors,
- e. selecting, on the basis of merit, the enumerators and communicating their details to the PWG to be approved and forwarded to the NSSG Secretariat-General so that they could be appointed by the Secretary-General,
- f. training assistant supervisors and enumerators,
- g. updating the nominative lists of occupiers of agricultural and livestock holdings in the Register,
- h. assigning work to the enumerators,
- i. monitoring and coordinating the work of the assistant supervisors and enumerators throughout the conduct of the census and providing them with instructions and every possible assistance, and
- j. supervising and taking responsibility for the successful conduct of the census, together with the collection, checking and processing of the questionnaires for their *nomí*.

- **Assistant supervisors:**

The assistant supervisors were mainly officials in the Statistical Services of the *nomí*. They were responsible for assisting in the work of the supervisors in organising, conducting and processing the census, as described above, and for updating the nominative lists of occupiers of agricultural and livestock holdings in the Register (Phase 1).

- **Enumerators:**

The enumerators were private individuals, mainly secretaries or other officials of the municipalities and rural districts, officials of farmers' cooperatives, self-employed persons and students.

The task of the enumerators was to pre-enumerate the agricultural and livestock holdings in localities with more than 2 000 inhabitants for the purpose of updating the Register, to complete the questionnaires and to check them in conjunction with the working groups in the municipalities and rural districts.

- **Accompanying interpreters:**

The accompanying interpreters were government and local-government officials etc. and also private individuals.

Their task was to assist in the work of the enumerators for completing the questionnaires in areas where there were language problems.

3.2. Conduct of the census

- **Census timetable and reference period:**

The 1999/2000 Census of Agriculture and Livestock Farming was conducted in the period from 1 September 1999 to 28 February 2000 inclusive. The processing of the data was carried out in the period *from 1 March 2000 to 31 December 2001*.

The **reference period** for the census data in respect of **crops** was the cultivation period *from 1 October 1998 to 30 September 1999*. The reference date for the census data in respect of **livestock** was *1 November 1999* and that for **farm-owned machinery** was *30 September 1999*.

The multiple operations for the General Census of Agriculture and Livestock Farming, more particularly the preparatory work, the actual census-taking and the post-census work, were carried out in four phases, as detailed below:

Phase 1 (September 1999 - November 1999): the following administrative measures and operations were carried out:

1. appointment of senior supervisors, supervisors and assistant supervisors,
2. training of the above, in training centres assigned for the supervisors by the relevant Directorate of the Central Service of the NSSG Secretariat- General and for the assistant supervisors by the supervisors,
3. receipt by the supervisors of the cartographic material and other auxiliary documents and instructions; installation of the supervisors and assistant supervisors in their posts,
4. contacts between the supervisors and the respective prefects and familiarisation of the prefectures and all public services in the *nomí* with the purpose of the census and the manner of conducting it,

5. taking of decisions on the composition of the working groups at prefecture, municipality and rural-district levels, on proposals from the supervisors,
6. division of each supervision area into zones of responsibility for the supervisors and their assistants,
7. cartographic work,
8. selection, appointment and training of the enumerators for the pre-enumeration of agricultural and livestock holdings in localities with a population of more than 2 000,
9. updating the lists in the Register (nominative lists of the occupiers of agricultural and livestock holdings) for each census sector and section, door-to-door,
10. selection, appointment and training of the enumerators for the conduct of the census,
11. selection and appointment of accompanying interpreters to assist in the work of the enumerators for completing the questionnaires in areas where there were language problems.

Phase 2 (*December 1999 – March 2000*) comprised the main work for conducting the census; in the course of this phase the following operations were carried out:

1. installation of the enumerators in their sectors, distribution to them of the relevant sketch maps, updated lists from the Register of Agricultural and Livestock Holdings and other necessary documents,
2. taking of the census (collection of statistical data), and monitoring and supervision of the operation from beginning to end by the assistant supervisors and supervisors,
3. familiarisation of the working groups in the municipalities and rural districts, by the supervisors and assistant supervisors, with the manner of checking the census questionnaires,
4. checking of the questionnaires and preparation by the enumerators of a centralised list of the questionnaires completed in each census sector and section,
5. delivery by the enumerators, with a written record, of the questionnaires to the working groups in the municipalities and rural districts.

Phase 3 (*April – November 2000*): the following operations were carried out:

1. checking of the census forms by the working groups in the municipalities and rural districts (in conjunction with the census staff),
2. collection by the supervisors of the questionnaires that had been checked by the working groups in the municipalities and rural districts,

3. processing of the questionnaires (logical checks and quality checks), input of the data on PCs, and computerised checks by the officials of the Statistical Services of the *nomí*,
4. quality check on the results at *nomós* level,
5. transmission of the processed census data on magnetic medium (diskettes) from the Statistical Services of the *nomí* to the Central Service.

Phase 4 (November 2000 – July 2001):

6. validation in the Central Service of the data from the *nomí*,
7. creation of a database with the census data,
8. preparation of a publication with the provisional results,
9. quality check on the census data,
10. processing of the data in accordance with the Eurofarm programme:- typology of holdings and creation of the Eurofarm archive of individual data with the related check tables,
11. updating of the Register of Agricultural and Livestock Holdings using the census results.

Phase 5 (August 2001 – December 2002):

1. qualitative analysis and documentation of the results,
2. production of national tables with the final results,
3. preparation of a publication with the final results.

3.3. Preparatory work for the census

3.3.1. Scope of the census

The census was conducted in all the municipalities and rural districts in Greece and covered all agricultural, livestock and mixed holdings. It was based on the Register of Agricultural and Livestock Holdings as it stood following the special updating survey conducted in 1996.

The purpose of updating the Register was to identify the registered holdings which were still in operation and those which had ceased operating or had been transferred (sold, passed on etc.), together with the new holdings created since the last overall update resulting from the 1996 special survey.

The survey unit was an **agricultural, livestock or mixed holding**, the occupier of which made use of:

- a) at least one (1) *stremma* (0.1 ha) of utilised land or at least half a *stremma* (0.05 ha) of greenhouses, regardless of the type of crop, the ownership of the land or the location,
- b) the holding's own animals, namely:
one (1) or more cows or two (2) or more other "large animals" of any

type and age (oxen, horses, donkeys, mules), or
five (5) or more "small animals" (sheep, goats, pigs) of any age and
type, or
fifty (50) or more poultry birds, or
twenty (20) or more hives of "domestic" or "European" bees.

Similarly, any mixed agricultural/livestock holding is also a survey unit.

For updating the Register, special nominative lists (document M-1) for each "census section" were used. These lists included all the holdings in the section concerned, as they appeared in the Register. In the pre-enumeration process they were updated in respect of changes (deaths, births of holdings or transfers etc.).

The pre-enumeration of agricultural and livestock holdings in order to update the Register was carried out separately in each census section determined for the 1991 census. It was carried out without exception in all the grid squares in the area encompassed by the section, separately for each square, starting with visits to the dwellings situated within the built-up area and finishing with those situated outside.

During this phase, on visits to holdings to update the nominative lists a special information leaflet was handed out to tell the occupiers of holdings about the purpose of the census and explain that a special enumerator would be visiting them in a month's time to complete the census questionnaire.

DOCUMENTS

The documents used for updating the Register were as follows:

1. nominative list of the occupiers of agricultural and livestock holdings (document M-1),
2. list of changes in holdings in the Register for each census sector and section (document KM-2),
3. centralised list for each census section of agricultural and livestock holdings found to be in operation in the updating of the Register (document KM-3),
4. centralised list of pre-enumerated dwellings for each census sector and section (document KM-4),
5. auxiliary documents:
 - a) outline maps
 - b) document K-1 or document O-1.

CARTOGRAPHIC MATERIAL

To improve the organisation and conduct of the census, the census staff, particularly the supervisors and assistant supervisors, used the following cartographic material:

1. maps at a scale of 1 : 200 000,
2. maps at a scale of 1 : 50 000,

3. outline maps at a scale of 1 : 5 000 for localities in Greece with a population of 1 000 – 2 000,
4. sketch maps for localities in Greece with a population of less than 1 000.

RECORDING BASIC LAND-USE CATEGORIES

During the preparatory work for the General Census of Agriculture and Livestock Farming, data were collected relating to the primary breakdown of areas in the municipalities and rural districts in Greece into the basic land-use categories.

The purpose of this was the recording of the basic land-use categories. Specifically, data were collected relating to the following categories:

- **Non-natural areas**
 - Areas occupied by residential buildings (urban development)
 - Areas with industrial or business activities and communications networks
 - Areas occupied by quarries, landfill sites and building sites
 - Areas with non-natural, non-agricultural vegetation
- **Agricultural areas**
 - Areas under arable crops
 - Areas under permanent crops
 - Areas under grass or pasture
 - Mixed-use areas (miscellaneous agricultural areas)
- **Forests and semi-natural areas**
 - Forest areas
 - Areas with mixed bushy and/or herbaceous vegetation
 - Areas with little or no vegetation
- **Areas under water**
 - Inland wetlands
 - Shore areas
 - Inland waters
 - Maritime waters

3.3.2. Method of collecting statistical data

Once the updating of the Register of Agricultural and Livestock Holdings had been completed, on the basis of the updated lists from the Register for each census section the statistical data were collected by filling in printed questionnaires (document E-Δ1, Annex I).

The questionnaires were completed following interviews with the occupiers of agricultural holdings. For this work specially trained enumerators were used (10 000 persons).

3.3.3. Sample survey

In 1996 an intermediate census was conducted under the title of “Special Survey for Updating the Register of Agricultural and Livestock Holdings”.

With this intermediate census all the parameters of the Census of Agriculture and Livestock Farming were investigated, such as its organisation, the processing method, costs etc. For this reason there was no need to carry out a pilot survey before the 1999/2000 census.

3.3.4. Training of census staff

To ensure the efficient collection and processing of the statistical data, a special training programme was drawn up:

a) Conduct of the census

1. Training of supervisors

This was carried out by the senior supervisors. Two training sessions were held, one in Athens and one in Thessaloniki. These were attended by all the census supervisors, of whom there were 55, and gave training in how to organise and conduct the census in the supervisor’s *nomós* and how to complete the questionnaire.

2. Training of assistant supervisors

One training session was held in each *nomós*. The training was provided by the census supervisors and was attended by 350 assistant supervisors.

3. Training of enumerators

330 training sessions were held throughout the country. The training was provided by the supervisors and assistant supervisors and was attended by 10 000 enumerators.

4. Briefing the working groups in the prefectures and the municipalities and rural districts (groups in 51 prefectures and 1033 municipalities and rural districts).

Briefings were given by the supervisors and assistant supervisors.

All the above training was given under the supervision of the senior supervisors.

b) Processing the data

For the processing of the statistical data the following training was arranged and held:

1. Training of supervisors

One training session was held in the Central Service on the processing method (checking of questionnaires and automated processing).

2. Training of the assistant supervisors who were responsible for providing technical support for the processing of data in the Statistical Services in the *nomí*.

Six training sessions were held in the Central Service, at which the assistant supervisors were given detailed training in the automatic processing of the questionnaires and in special topics relating to technical support for the application in the *nomí*.

3. Training of the assistant supervisors who were responsible for the processing of the data in the Statistical Services in the *nomí*
51 training sessions were held in the Statistical Services in the *nomí*.

3.3.5. Publicity

Public awareness of the holding of the Census of Agriculture and Livestock Farming was achieved through the use of television advertisements, radio announcements and advertisements in local newspapers, together with posters, information leaflets and circulars.

3.4. Collection of data

The process of collecting data involved the following operations:

1. installation of the enumerators in their sections, distribution to them of the relevant sketch maps, the updated nominative lists (document M-1) of the occupiers of agricultural and livestock holdings and all other necessary documents for the collection of data (questionnaires, instructions for filling them in etc),
2. collection of the data by having the questionnaires filled in by the enumerators following **face-to-face interviews** with the occupiers of holdings,
3. checking the questionnaires and drawing up by the enumerators of centralised lists of the completed questionnaires for each census sector and section,
4. delivery by the enumerators, with a written record, of the questionnaires to the working groups in the corresponding municipalities and rural districts.

DOCUMENTS USED IN THE CENSUS

The documents used in the Census of Agriculture and Livestock Farming were as follows:

1. nominative list of the occupiers of agricultural and livestock holdings (document M-1),
2. questionnaire for the 1999/2000 Basic Structural Survey of Agricultural and Livestock Holdings (document E- Δ1),
3. list of changes in holdings in the Register for each census sector and section (document KM-2).
4. centralised list for each census sector and section of agricultural and livestock holdings found to be in operation in the updating of the Register (document KM-3).

5. Centralised list of pre-enumerated dwellings for each census sector and section (document KM-4),
6. maps of land use/vegetation cover,
7. questionnaire on basic categories of land use/vegetation cover (document E-Δ2),
8. census certificate (document E-Δ3),
9. centralised list of completed questionnaires for each census sector and section (document E-Δ4),
10. Record of the transmission/delivery of the census questionnaires (document E-Δ5).

3.5. Processing of the data

The system for processing the census data was decentralised in the Statistical Services in the *nomí*. The processing and checking of the data was carried out in two phases as follows:

3.5.1. Phase 1

The first phase involved the processing of the questionnaires by officials of the Statistical Services in the *nomí* and consisted of the following operations:

1. logical checks and checks on the completeness of the questionnaires,
2. inputting the data into PCs,
3. automatic quality checks on the statistical data.

Quality check on the data (all characteristics) at the levels of census section, locality, municipality/rural district and *nomós*.

3.5.2. Phase 2

The census material was transmitted by the Statistical Services of the *nomí*, on electronic medium (diskettes), to the Central Service, where it was further processed. The processing at central level involved:

1. validation of the data by *nomós*,
2. consolidation of the data and creation of a single database,
3. detection of double or multiple entries in the database,
4. quality checking of the data,
5. calculation of the trend over time in the statistics produced in the structural surveys of agricultural and livestock holdings.

3.6. Accuracy of the statistics produced

The 1999/2000 Structural Survey of Agricultural and Livestock Holdings was carried out as a census, and that being so the accuracy of the statistics produced can be assessed by recording only the non-sampling errors.

- **Coverage errors**

In the processing phase, the software used to check the reliability of the data in the single database, which was based on a comparison of the data from the census with the corresponding data from other statistical sources, provided an estimate of the number of holdings that escaped the census, which constitute the survey's coverage error. This error amounts to 2.5% of the total number of agricultural and livestock holdings surveyed (813 995 holdings).

- **Measurement errors**

The careful work carried out after the census was taken, together with the statistical checks made using suitable software for detecting and correcting measurement errors during the processing of the data, had the result that the statistics produced contain no measurement errors and are reliable.

- **Processing errors**

The results of the census do not present any processing errors, since appropriate statistical checks were made using software for detecting and correcting possible errors during the processing phase.

3.6.1. Errors due to unmatched units

After all the operations and checks following the taking of the census had been carried out, it was found that all the holdings in the lists for each census section had been surveyed, and that being so the census data are free any errors due to unmatched units.

4. PUBLICATION OF THE RESULTS

1. The provisional results of the census were published by the NSSG's Secretariat-General in a special printed information bulletin **six months after the completion of data collection**.
2. Using the data in the database built up from the Census of Agriculture and Livestock Farming, the **Eurofarm** archive was compiled, with individual data for each holding. This archive was sent to Eurostat on **15 July 2001**, within the deadline laid down in the relevant Community legislation. The archive will be used by Eurostat to present the data in the form of tables in the New Cronos database at the beginning of 2003.
3. The final results of the census at national level will appear in the **second half of 2002** in the form of:
 - a) detailed tables (national series of tables),
 - b) a publication in electronic form and on paper containing statistics and related analyses, together with maps showing the geographical distribution of the various census characteristics.