

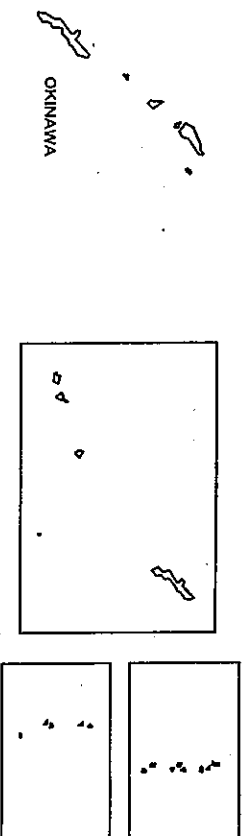
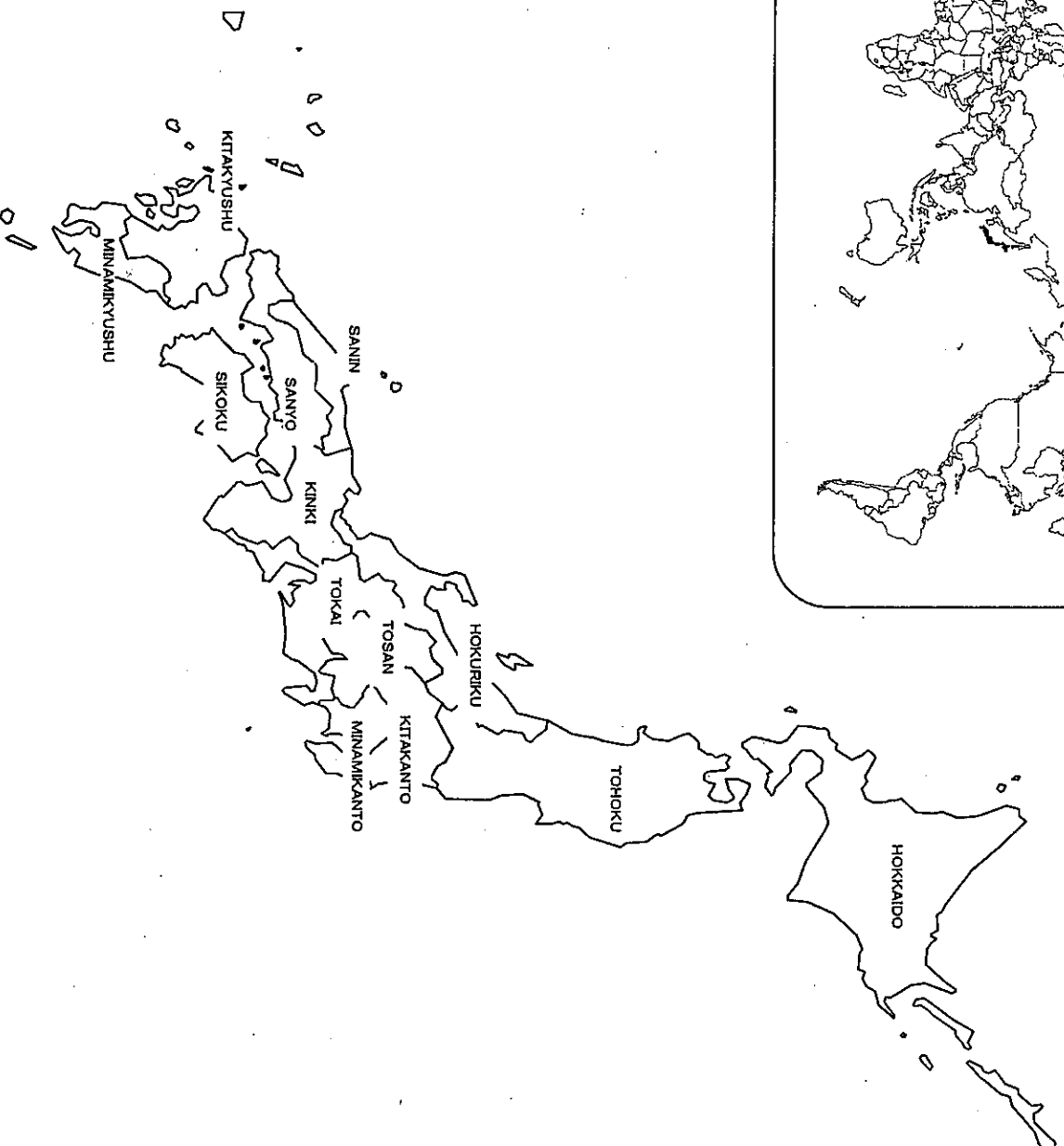
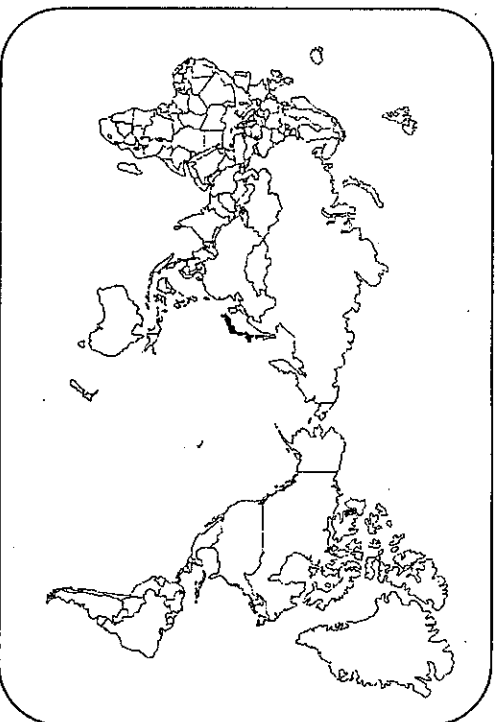
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REPORT ON RESULTS OF 2000 WORLD CENSUS  
OF  
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY IN JAPAN

March 2003

STATISTICS AND INFORMATION DEPARTMENT  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

Map of Classification of Agricultural Regions



- Notes: 1. Prefectures mean all areas of Japan, excluding Hokkaido.  
 2. All areas of Japan (administrative unit) are divided into 14 agricultural regions based on similarities in agricultural management.

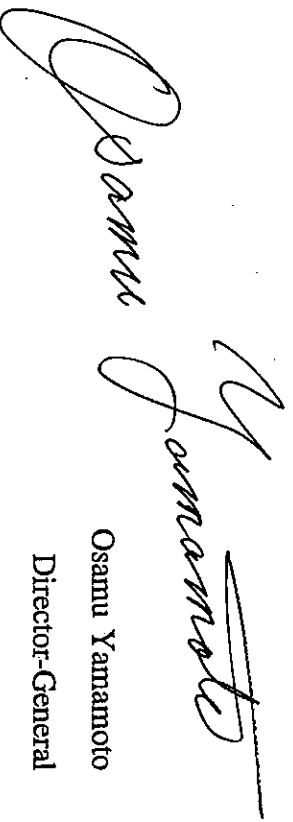
## Preface

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (the MAFF) in Japan participates in the World Census of Agriculture and Forestry as advocated by the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) for its member nations every ten years. The MAFF conducts a Japanese Census of Agriculture in order to measure actual agricultural conditions in Japan. The findings of the census are submitted to the FAO and member countries of the FAO.

This report primarily represents the findings of the Census of Agriculture conducted in 2000, an outline of implementation process of the 2000 Census and the farm household survey results.

I appreciate that this report will become a useful source of information for the development of agriculture and the Census of Agriculture for each country.

March 2003



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## 1 Purpose of the World Census 2000

### (1) Roles of Agriculture and Forestry Census

The census on agriculture and forestry in our country began in 1950 (30<sup>th</sup> year of the Era of Showa) in accordance with the 1950 world agricultural census scheme (census on forestry commenced in 1960) advanced by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Since that time, we have conducted the agricultural and forestry census as a part of the World Census of Agriculture and Forestry on each decade as stipulated by the International Treaty on Economic Statistics, and on the basis of Japan's own initiative on the interim 5<sup>th</sup> years. The World Census of Agriculture and Forestry conducted on the year 2000 (heretofore referred to as the World Census 2000) was the 11<sup>th</sup> agricultural census and the 5<sup>th</sup> of the forestry census.

The basic functions of the agricultural and forestry census are as follows:

(A) Clarification of the structure of our Country's agricultural and forestry communities and the changing circumstances surrounding them.

In addition to gain understanding of our Country's agricultural and forestry community structures, pursued statistics on available land and labor resources to secure basic data for use in planning and implementation of agricultural and forestry policies.

(B) Enabling wide utilization of statistical summaries by collation of district statistics on agriculture and forestry industry.

In addition to total resources statistics on the Agricultural Regions and Prefectures, collated such statistics for Municipalities and individual communities in order to facilitate policy planning and implementation by the national, prefectural and municipal governments.

(C) Establishment of population parameters to facilitate efficiency in various statistical survey projects.

To facilitate trial surveys to determine the possible approach in agricultural and forestry policies, and compile population statistics for public access.

(D) Mustering internationally comparable statistics on agriculture and forestry.

Develop internationally compatible agricultural and forestry statistics and to provide them as requested by the FAO.

## (2) Objectives of the World Census 2000

In the World Census 2000, to meet the objectives of the agricultural and forestry census delineated in (1), conducted the following surveys:

### (A) Agriculture

#### (a) Describe changes in agricultural methods owing to aging of agricultural workers

Investigated the effects of retirement of aging principal agricultural workers of our Country born in the 1930's, circumstances behind changing scale of agricultural operations, problems in securing appropriate agricultural labor including farm successors and changes in land resources, status of fallows, structure of agricultural production and other issues.

#### (b) Status of successor placement and the effect of land-ownership liquidation

In view of mounting necessity of fostering motivated successors in agriculture and promoting concentration of cultivated land in successor hands, clarified the status of successor placement and movements of cultivated land including transfers to the successors and investigation into the ownership status of fallows.

#### (c) Clarification of the influence of overseas farm produce importation and domestic, regional competition on agricultural products

Depicted the influence of increased volume of imported overseas farm produce and competition among agricultural regions on farm scale or work patterns of local farming practices in various farm specialties.

In addition, focused attention on changes in rice distribution practices on the farm scale and work patterns in various rice growing regions.

#### (d) Delineation of living conditions of farm communities and multiple functions of farm communities

Clarified the changes in farm production structures in disadvantaged agricultural regions such as in mountainous regions from which residents are leaving farms and communities. These changes will be observed as economic and physical problem from the standpoint of the quality of living environment.

We intended furthermore to focus on the roles of forests in land rejuvenation, water resource maintenance, environmental maintenance, scenic properties, succession of cultural legacies and others factors, and defined the extent of allocation of natural

resources to a wider segment of general public.

## **(B) Forestry**

### **(a) Status of out-sourcing in forest production process in various river basins**

Forest product production process is steadily leaving local hands as a function of the aging of the forestry workers, and ownership of forestland is increasingly shifting to non-local investors. It was deemed necessary to grasp the status of forestry service-providing enterprises (forestation and lumber contractors), and was therefore included in the World Census 2000.

### **(b) Status of forest and lumber industries according to river basins**

In order to secure stable supply of lumber, local efforts to revitalize forest and forest product industry in many river basin districts, the status of forest industry in major river basin districts were surveyed.

### **(c) Delineation of functions of forests in public interest including land and environmental maintenance and its protective role from natural disasters**

Described the status of land rejuvenation, water resource maintenance, environmental maintenance, scenic properties, succession of cultural legacies and other publicly beneficial functions of the forest.

## **(3) Technical Modifications in the World Census 2000**

The World Census 2000 includes some technical modifications in an effort to better describe changes in forest industry and legal status as well as in efforts to reduce burden on enumerator staff and the surveyees. The changes include:

### **(A) Inclusion of new items in forestry service enterprise survey**

Because of progressive aging of forestry workers and increase in non-residential forest owners, causing increases in out-sourcing of forestry work processes and product processing, a thorough survey on the forestry service industry was effected.

### **(B) Adoption of self-reporting system**

In order to promote efficiency in the census process by reducing time restraints of Enumerators and surveyees, self-reporting forms (where the surveyees fill the form and its contents confirmed by the Enumerator), except those for the agricultural and forestry community surveys.

**(C) Changes in definition of the forestry enterprise and survey target**

The definitions of the forestry entities were modified to reflect the present status of the industry and as an effort to reduce burden on the Enumerators, the minimum land ownership for the survey of such entities was raised.

**<Definition Changes & Minimum Qualificationin>**

• Definition ...	Forestry enterprise:	over 10 a → <u>over 1 ha</u>
• Minimum ...	Farming forestry household:	over 10 a → <u>over 3 ha</u>
	Devoted forestry househ old:	over 1 ha → <u>over 3 ha</u>
	Processing forestry household:	over 1 ha → <u>over 10 ha</u>

In an effort to reduce the work burden on Municipalities, the minimum area in qualification of an independent forestland was also increased from "over 10 a" to "over 30 a" in the case of forestland owned by non-residents in the non-resident listing form.

**(D) Changes in the organizational structure of the World Census 2000**

In the past census, all data collection on forestry service enterprises except those of cooperative ventures have traditionally been assigned to Coordinators and that on the remainder of the population to Enumerators. The change in the definition of the forestry entity and lowering of the minimum qualifier, however, greatly reduced the number of subject entities. For this reason survey on all non-forestry household have been reassigned to Coordinators.

**(E) Revisions in questionnaire items**

Number of survey items for subsistence farm households were limited to those pertaining to the status of family members and the land area in cultivation. This large-scale reduction has resulted in reduction in marginal farming population. On the basis of similar consideration for the surveyees as well as for the field staff, a substantial number of items were deleted from survey questionnaire for the mainstream farming and forestry surveyees. Items in the questionnaire were held to those pertaining to agricultural and forestry production, job structures and to those stipulated in the World Census 2000.

**(F) Modifications in the questionnaire**

(a) In the agricultural survey, a single form was used for all farming households. Because the number of questionnaire items has been substantially reduced for the subsistence-farming level households, questionnaire for the agricultural survey was divided into the detailed questionnaire (for commercial farm households) and the abbreviated questionnaire (for subsistence farm households).

(b) The farm community survey manifested of nationally applicable items in

considerations relative to rural development policy and labor conditions, and a portion pertaining solely to those in urbanized farm communities.

(c) With respect to the forestry survey, the non-farming forestry household in the past surveys was asked to respond on the forestry section of the questionnaire, but because of drastic reduction in the target population, all the survey sections were consolidated to include both the farming forestry and non-farming forestry households.

(d) Three separate questionnaires were used for forestry enterprises other than forestry households in the past surveys depending on the type of their enterprise, but in the interest of efficiency, they have been consolidated into one form.

(e) All sector questionnaires were bound as a single booklet.

#### (G) Tabulation of verification forms

Tabulation of the verification forms (list of surveyees) to reduce workload in computation of data in them. The verification forms for "agricultural entities other than farm households" and "forestry service enterprises" were issued in addition to the "(farming and forestry) household" verification form.

To promote efficiency in future census, information provided in the "agricultural entities other than farm households" and verification form for the "forestry service enterprises" in the present Census was electromagnetically recorded.

#### (H) Reorganization in the data-collection structure

Prefectures have conducted the survey on the forestry entities other than forestry households in the past; however, substantial reduction in the surveyee units enabled the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery (MAFF) to conduct the World Census 2000 on a consolidated basis.

## 2 Legal Bases

The World Census 2000 was conducted under the provisions of the "Statistical Law (enacted in 1947)", "Cabinet Order for Enforcement of Statistical Law (enacted in 1949)" and the "Regulations of the Census of Agriculture and Forestry (enacted in 1969)".

The "Statistical Law" stipulates that all significant surveys conducted by the government, including the agricultural and forestry census, obtain approval of Minister of Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications as designated statistical surveys. The Statistical Law imposes the subjected population (surveyees) the reporting duty and requires them not to divulge the contents of the survey to any third parties.

### 3 The Structure of the World Census 2000

The organization of the World Census 2000 was as follows:

Survey	Date	Organizations	Method	Survey Areas
Agricultural Operations	Feb. 1, 2000 (Dec. 1, 1999 for okinawa)	MAFF - Prefectures - Municipalities - Coordinators - Enumerators	Self-reporting	- Family member status for farm households; for others for business contents. - Farm labor - Area - Livestock - Machinery & facility - Produce
Other agricultural entities		MAFF - Prefectures - Municipalities - Coordinators		- Contents of operation - Labor - Machinery & facility used - Work load
Agricultural service entities		MAFF -Regional Agricultural Administration Offices -Statistical Information Offices -Statistical Information Branch Offices	Hearing of prominent residents by local office staff	- Geophysical & social circumstance - Composition & uniqueness - Status of agricultural infrastructure - Land
Rural community				
Forestry Operations	Aug. 1, 2000	MAFF - Prefectures - Municipalities - Coordinators - Enumerators	Self-reporting	- Operational contents - Forestry labor - Forest (includes owned land in addition to land rented for forestation and lumbering - Reforestation and lumbering - Product
Forestry household		MAFF - Prefectures - Municipalities - Coordinators		- Operational contents - Labor - Machinery - Forest-tending & products
Other forestry entities				
Forestry service entities			MAFF -Regional Agricultural Administration Offices -Statistical Information Offices -Statistical Information Branch Offices	Prefectural reports, hearing by local office staff and Forestry Agency records
Forestry community				

#### (1) The scope of the World Census 2000

##### (A) Agricultural Entity Survey

An "agricultural enterprise" is defined as an entity having cultivation area of over 10 a or one that has total agricultural product sales of 150,000 yen in one year prior to the

census date regardless of whether the operation is performed by a family unit or by other entities. A "farm household" is an agricultural entity consisting solely of a family unit. Of "farm households", those having cultivation area of over 30 a or one that has total agricultural product sales of over 500,000 yen in one year prior to the census date are regarded as the "commercial farm", and were required to complete a detailed questionnaire.

Those having cultivation area of less than 30 a and total agricultural product sales of less than 500,000 yen in one year prior to the census date were called the "subsistence farm households" and were required to complete the abbreviated forms.

**(B) Agricultural service enterprise survey**

An "agricultural service enterprise" is an entity that undertakes agricultural work under contract (including those involved in seedling nursery and sales).

**(C) Agricultural community survey**

An "agricultural community" is local agricultural society within any Municipality.

**(D) Forestry enterprise survey**

"Forestry enterprise" is a collective noun that includes households, for-profit enterprises, not-for-profit enterprises and the national government. All of above are involved in forestation or lumbering (not including lumbering of trees purchased as they stand) on land owned or in rightful possession for the purposes on bases other than ownership (heretofore collectively referred to as the "forestland in possession"). Of these, a forestry household" is a forestry entity consisting solely of a family unit.

Survey covered those "forestry households" operating on forestland in possession of over 3 ha and "non-household forestry enterprises" operating on "forestland in possession" exceeding 10 ha.

**(E) Forestry service enterprise survey**

"Forest service enterprises" are those forest enterprises that undertake forestation or lumber production under contract or that harvest purchased standing timber.

**(F) Forestry district survey**

"Forestry district" is where work on forestry is recognized to be undertaken under common natural and economic circumstances within a given municipality incorporated as of July 1, 2000.

**(2) Responsibilities of Government Organizations in the World Census 2000**

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Two separate routs were involved in the data collection process of the World Census 2000.

One rout was MAF - Prefectures - Municipalities - Coordinators - Enumerators. The other