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## PANAMA – Seventh National Agricultural Census 2011- Explanatory Notes

### Historical outline

The first nationwide agricultural census in Panama was conducted in 1950 through complete enumeration; the second one was carried out in 1961 on a sample basis. Other five decennial censuses were conducted, through complete enumeration, in 1971, 1981, 1991, 2001 and 2011 from which data presented here refer.

### Legal basis and organization

The Law No. 10 of January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 modernized the National Statistical System and created the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INEC) as a National Direction ascribed to the General Comptroller of the Republic and substituting the former National Direction of Statistics and Censuses. The Law in its Article 10<sup>th</sup> entrusts the INEC the undertaking of national censuses, including the agricultural census and in its Article 37<sup>th</sup>, establishes that the Census of Agriculture should be undertaken at least once every ten years.

The executive Decree N° 878 of September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010, ruled the Seventh Census of Agriculture 2011. An internal resolution of INEC formed a National Census Committee integrated by representatives of: Ministry of Agricultural Development (MIDA); Agricultural Development Bank (BDA); Head of National revenue Service; Coordinator of Economic Accounts for Agriculture; Representative of the Financial and economic Advisory and Director and sub directors of INEC; Head and second on board of the Agricultural Census in INEC and heads of all divisions involved in the census (dissemination, computing, sampling, human resources, administrative services; transport and printing). The data collection personnel were about 40,000 persons, including enumerators, field supervisors, area supervisors, inspectors, secretaries and drivers.

### Enumeration period

The field work covered the period April 24<sup>th</sup> - May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011

### Reference period/date

Various reference periods:

- Enumeration day for: number of trees, permanent industries, livestock, poultry, beehives, stock of machinery and equipment owned, number of household members.
- The week before to enumeration day for: milk, cheese and eggs production, and the quantity and value sold.
- The previous month for: employment of household members and other agricultural workers.
- The agricultural year May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 to April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011 for: crops, purpose of production of crops, livestock and poultry and other domestic product, use of machinery and equipment, income source and technical assistance.
- The period January 1<sup>st</sup> 2011 to the day of interview for slaughtering of cattle.
- The calendar year 2010 for: land tenure, temporary and permanent crops, irrigation, agricultural practices, and aquaculture.

### Definition of the statistical unit:

Agricultural holding - (Explotación Agropecuaria - EPA) is defined as any tract of land used wholly or partly for agricultural, livestock and forestry, regardless of title, size, or location, by a producer and household members. However, if a household member different from producer works in a separate field, is treated as a separate farming operation unit and may consist of one or more farms. A holding may consist on more than one parcel if all located in the same district. Holdings are classified in: Individual or partnership; Legal enterprise or society; Cooperative; Peasant organization; Government; NGO; Other.

### Geographical coverage

The census covered the whole country. In the cases of Colon City, San Miguelito District, and urban sectors of Ancon, Cristobal and Panama City, only holders detected in the Population Census 2010 were interviewed.

### Statistical coverage

All operators with more than 0.01 hectares of land were covered.

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**Data items coverage**

All items of the core module of the FAO Programme WCA2010 are covered, in addition to crops, end use of diary produce, demography, employment, livestock, use and stock of equipment, credit, irrigation, agricultural practices, agricultural services and aquaculture.

**Frame**

The Population and Housing Census 2010 included a question to identify the households conducting agricultural holdings.

**Methodology**

The census was complete enumeration exercise with direct interview through paper questionnaires.

**Post census techniques to check census quality**

The quality of final census data was assessed by means of control checks against sampling survey data of selected crops (Coffee, Sugar cane, Rice, Maize, Bejuco beans) and livestock.

**Data Dissemination and Use**

Data were disseminated through a Final Report a Summary Report and Methodological Notes. All data are uploaded to the website.

**Special features**

The XI Population Census 2010 was undertaken less than year prior to the Census of Agriculture and a question in the population census questionnaire allowed the identification of households with agricultural activity.

**Data source**

Final report, summary report and methodological notes and questionnaire. Website.

**Mailing address / Census contact Points**

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