

BAHAMAS - Agricultural Census 1994 - Explanatory Notes

Historical outline: The Commonwealth of Bahamas first participated in the World Census of Agriculture Programme with the 1977-78 Agricultural Census. Data presented here are from the second Census of Agriculture in Bahamas, which was conducted in 1994.

Organization: The 1994 Census of Agriculture was conducted by the Department of Agriculture of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, in co-operation with the Department of Statistics. Technical assistance was provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, and by the US Bureau of the Census.

Enumeration period: Data were collected during the period 1 February to 31 March 1994.

Reference date:

- The agricultural year 1 February 1993 to 31 January 1994 was the reference period for:
 - Use of Fertilizers / Pesticides;
 - Crop area and production;
 - Occupation of holder;
 - Number of hired permanent workers and use of hired occasional workers;
 - Type of holding;
 - Land Tenure;
 - Use of machinery;
 - Irrigation facilities;
 - Livestock production.
- The week of interview was the reference period for:
 - General information on holder;
 - Land utilization and total area of holding;
 - Demographic characteristics of holders' household members;
 - Livestock number and type.

Definition: The selected unit of enumeration was the agricultural holding, defined as an economic unit of agricultural production of crops, livestock or poultry under one management irrespective of size or tenure. For the purpose of the census a holding must satisfy one or more of the following criteria:

- At least 1/4 acre (1 acre = 0.40469 Ha) of any crop;
- At least 2 head of cattle, or 5 head of goats or sheep, or 3 sows or 3 mature pigs (of which 2 sows), or 50 poultry;
- At least 20 fruit trees of productive age.

Coverage: The census covered the entire country.

Frame: The census universe was divided into Census Districts (CDs), with carefully defined boundaries; each CD was, in turn, subdivided into a certain number of Enumeration Areas.

Methods: Complete enumeration of holdings was carried out. All holdings were visited by the enumerators who collected information through direct interview.

Data source: Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Department of Agriculture / Department of Statistics - Second Census of Agriculture 1994, Final Results - Nassau, Bahamas.

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