
BARBADOS - Agricultural Census 1989 - Explanatory Notes

Historical outline: Two censuses of agriculture were carried out in Barbados, in 1950 and in 1961. In 1969, a new Statistical Programme was drawn up for Barbados, calling for an agricultural census in years ending in the number 1. The 1971 Agricultural Census was the first conducted under the new programme, and resource constraints precluded taking a census in 1981. The last census of agriculture in Barbados, to which these data relate, was carried out in 1989.

Organization: The census was conducted following the guidelines of the 1990 World Census of Agriculture Programme, coordinated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN. Technical assistance was provided, in the initial stages of planning, by the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA). The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries had major responsibility for the execution of the census. A Census Office, with supporting staff, was established as a subunit of the Agricultural Planning Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries. The Director of the Statistical Service Department was appointed as Census Officer. The Statistical Service Department, and the Data Processing Department, were fully involved in census operations. The Government Printing Department provided support by printing Visitation Record Forms, Questionnaires and Instruction Manuals.

Enumeration period: The census was carried out in 1989.

Reference date: Data on livestock, machinery and other inventory items refer to the enumeration day; data on employment and crop production refer to the agricultural year 1988-89.

Definition: The agricultural holding is considered to be an economic unit of agricultural production associated, during the twelve months preceding the census day, with any one of the following minimum specifications:

- one head of cattle;
- two head of pigs, sheep, goats (or one head of any two);
- at least twelve head of poultry of any type;
- at least ten crop trees of productive age;
- at least 0.05 Ha of land under sugar cane, cotton, vegetables, food or cash crops, tree crops, or fodder grasses;
- at least 0.05 Ha (or 100 potted) of ornamental plants and/or flowers produced mainly for sale;
- an agricultural production of a minimum value of US \$1000 in the past 12 months;
- ten rabbits;
- one beehive;
- a plant or grass nursery.

Coverage: The census covered the entire country.

Methods: Complete enumeration of all holdings was carried out. Data were collected by enumerators through direct interview.

Data source: Barbados - 1989 Agricultural Census - July 1992.

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