

## BENIN - Agricultural Census 1992 - Explanatory Notes

**Historical outline:** The 1992-93 Agricultural Survey in Benin was the first undertaken at national level since 1976. Although the Survey was not a general census of agriculture, publication of recent data on agricultural holdings and farm population was considered useful. Thus data on the above-mentioned subjects were collected in addition to those on crop areas and yields, which were the main subjects of the Survey.

**Organization:** The survey was organized by the Analysis, Forecasting and Synthesis Direction of the Ministry of Rural Development (DAPS/MDR), in collaboration with the Rural Development Regional Centres (CARDER), and with the technical and financial assistance of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), through the project "Macro-economic planning at sectorial and regional level." The staff consisted of 7 technical directors at the headquarters, assisted by UNDP consultants, 12 coordinators and supervisors at departmental level, and 23 supervisors and 82 enumerators in the field.

**Enumeration period:** The census was carried out from May 1992 to February 1993.

**Reference date:** Data refer to the agricultural year 1992-93. (Two agricultural seasons in Southern and Central departments, one season in Northern departments, were considered).

**Coverage:** The Survey covered the Traditional Sector holdings only, (Modern Sector having been excluded), and all territories with agriculture as main activity; consequently, excluded from the survey were: (a) the towns of Cotonou, Porto-Novo, Bohicon, Abomey and Parakou; (b) the urban districts of Ouidah and Grand-Popo; (c) the Lake Territories in the sub-prefectures of So-Ava, Grand-Popo and Aguegues.

**Frame:** A complete list of villages and relative population updated to 1984 was used as primary sampling unit frame. Exhaustive enumeration of holdings in each sampled village was done, and the complete list was used as secondary sampling unit frame.

**Methods:** A two-stage sampling design was used; the primary sampling units, the villages, were drawn with unequal probabilities and repetitions permitted (each village was drawn with probability proportional to its population). In weighing the available resources with the required degree of precision, a sampling size of 10% was considered adequate; consequently, the number of villages sampled was 319 out of a total of 3191. A fixed number of five secondary sampling units, the traditional sector holdings, were randomly selected with equal probability and without repetitions from all sampled villages. All villages drawn twice had 10 holdings drawn or, better, all villages drawn  $n$  times, had  $5n$  holdings drawn. The total number of holdings sampled in the country was 1595. This sample design was independently applied to the six departments of the country; in each department, the sub-prefectures were considered as strata. The number of villages selected in each sub-prefecture was proportional to the population of the same sub-prefecture.

**Data source:** Rapport de l'Enquête Statistique Agricole 1992-93. (ESA-92) Volumes 1, 2. June 1993.

**Mailing address:** République du Bénin - Ministère du Développement Rural - Direction de l'Analyse, de la Prévision et de la Synthèse - Service de la Statistique - B. P. 03-2900 Cotonou, Bénin - Tél.00229 300496-301955; Fax 00229 300326.