

DJIBOUTI - Agricultural Census 1995 - Explanatory Notes

Historical outline: The Republic of Djibouti made its first attempt to develop agricultural statistics in 1988, with a statistical study regarding horticulture and the restructuring of irrigated agriculture called "Techniplan". As a result of this exercise, 84 agricultural sites reporting 1200 holdings with an area of 750 Ha were enumerated. On the basis of these experiences and information collected during Techniplan, the Government of Djibouti decided to launch the first census of agriculture of the country in 1995. Nomadic livestock which is an important sector of agriculture was excluded from this census, but will be the subject of a special enquiry.

Organization: The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development created, inside its Agriculture and Forests Service, the Agricultural Statistics Division, responsible for the collection, analysis and dissemination of all information concerning the rural sector, including the organization and implementation of the 1995 census of agriculture. Technical and financial support was provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, through the Project "Appui aux Statistiques Agricoles".

Enumeration period: The census was carried out in 1995, and the enumeration period lasted for about 3 months.

Reference date: Reference date for all census items was the enumeration day.

Definitions:

- **Site:** is a place, generally characterized by the presence of a source of water, reporting a concentration of agricultural holdings.
- **Agricultural holding:** the definition of agricultural holding corresponds to that reported by the FAO 1990 World Census of Agriculture Programme. Holdings reporting only nomadic livestock were excluded from this census.

Coverage: The census covered the economic districts of Djibouti, Ali Sabieh, Dikhil and Tadjourah, but in the district of Obock it was not possible to carry out the field work because of migratory movements of the population created by social and political pressures.

Frame: One of the goals of the 1995 agricultural census was to update the lists of sites, and of the agricultural holdings in the sites, prepared during the study Techniplan in 1988.

Methods: The Site was considered as enumeration area, while the Agricultural Holding was considered the unit of enumeration. A team of about ten enumerators, working under the supervision of the project leader, carried out the complete enumeration of all holdings; the exhaustive enumeration was carried out district by district and, inside each district, site by site. Data were collected through direct interview; objective measurement techniques were applied together with the estimation of crop areas.

Data source: République de Djibouti - Résultats du Recensement Agricole en République de Djibouti - Dénombrement des sites et exploitations agricoles - Djibouti, Décembre 1995.

Mailing address: République de Djibouti - Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Hydraulique - B. P. 453 Djibouti, Djibouti - Tél. 00253 351297; Fax 00253 353178.