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## DOMINICA - Agricultural Census 1995 - Explanatory Notes

**Historical outline:** A complete agricultural census was conducted in 1960/61. Attempts to update this information were made in 1976/77, but the results were considered inadequate. Data presented here are from the last complete census conducted in 1995.

**Organization:** The 1995 Dominica Agricultural Census (DAC) was carried out under the overall responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), in close cooperation with the Central Statistical Office (CSO) of the Ministry of Finance. Within MOA, the "ad hoc" Agricultural Census Office, organized for this purpose, had the major operational responsibility for the 1995 DAC. The census was financed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and by the Government of Dominica. Technical assistance was provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN.

**Enumeration period:** Data collection started on 20 March 1995 and finished, in most of Dominica, the last week of May 1995.

**Reference date:**

- The enumeration day, for holding and holder characteristics, legal status, land use, permanent crops;
- The agricultural year 1 April 1994 to 31 March 1995, for temporary crops, machinery and equipment, use of fertilizers;
- The six months preceding the census day, for employment;
- The week (Monday to Friday) prior to the enumeration day, for farmer's household population.

**Definition:** The farm (agricultural holding) was defined as an economic unit of agricultural production under single management, comprising all the livestock kept and all land used wholly or partly for agricultural production purposes, without regard to title, legal form or size. Any piece of land to be considered as an agricultural farm should report at least 0.01 acres (40 square meters) with at least one of the following:

- Temporary and permanent crops and forages;
- Fallow one year or less;
- Fallow more than one year, but less than three;
- Improved and unimproved pastures;
- At least one head of cattle or goat, pig, horse, sheep, donkey, rabbit or poultry.

**Coverage:** All farms (reporting units) existing in the rural area of Dominica on the census day, excluding the urban areas of Roseau and Portsmouth, were covered in the census.

**Frame:** The Agricultural Census Frame consisted of the complete list of the 171 Enumeration Districts (EDs) used for the 1991 Population Census located in the rural area of Dominica without considering the 56 EDs of urban areas of Roseau (48 EDs) and Portsmouth (8 EDs).

**Methods:** A combination of complete enumeration with sample census was used. Firstly, complete listing of all farms existing in Dominica was carried out, including landless holdings; then, detailed information was collected by enumerators from all farms having 5 acres and over of total land through direct interview; at the same time, a special exercise to enumerate the "important and specialized farms" defined as farms with 50 acres or more recorded at the lands registry, was also carried out. To the farms 0.01 and under 5 acres of total land, a 20 % sample survey was applied, based on the stratified systematic sample.

**Data source:** Commonwealth of Dominica - Ministry of Agriculture and Central Statistical Office - 1995 Dominica Agricultural Census, Final Results - Roseau, Dominica, November 1995.

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