

HONDURAS - Agricultural Census 1993 - Explanatory Notes

Historical outline: The first census of agriculture in Honduras was undertaken in 1952, the second in 1965-66, and the third in 1974. Two Multi-Purpose National Agricultural Sample Surveys (EAN) were carried out respectively in 1984 and in 1989. The Fourth National Agriculture and Livestock Census was conducted in 1993. Processing of data from 1993 Agricultural Census on holding, holder, tenure and land use is still in progress, although data on crops and livestock are already available. However, to provide users with recent information on structural aspects of holdings, some data on number, area of holdings and land use, abstracted from the 1989 Multi-Purpose National Agricultural Sample Survey (EAN), are shown as temporary source, until 1993 census data are fully available.

Organization: The Ministry of Plans, Coordination and Budget (SECPLAN), in accordance with the Ministry of Natural Resources, was entrusted with the census by the Government of Honduras. An Executing Unit was successively created, assigned to plan and carry out all census operations under the direct control of the SECPLAN. Technical and financial assistance were provided by the UN Development Program, by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), by the US Bureau of the Census, and by the National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics of Mexico (INEGI). A Census Committee, with advisory functions, was also formed. Census offices were created in the capital city of Tegucigalpa, in the 18 department-capitals, and in the 291 municipalities of the country. The field work was carried out by 945 supervisors and 2967 enumerators, under the guidance of a census coordinator for each of the 18 departments and 291 municipalities of the country.

Enumeration period: The Fourth National Agriculture and Livestock Census was conducted 26 April - 15 May 1993.

Reference date: Data on temporary and permanent crops refer to the period 1 May 1992 - 30 April 1993. Data on livestock numbers refer to 25 April 1993.

Definition: The statistical unit adopted was the Agricultural Holding, defined as all land of at least 0.2 Ha (0.3 manzanas), totally or partially used for agriculture or livestock rearing, made up of one or more parcels laying in the same municipality, kept under a single management, without regard to title or legal form.

Coverage: The Census covered the entire country.

Frame: An adequate cartography work, to clearly define census segments, was carried out in the pre-censal phase.

Methods: The country consists administratively of 7 regions, subdivided into 18 departments, including 291 municipalities which were in turn subdivided, for census purposes, into census segments to be investigated by enumerators. Complete enumeration of all holdings was carried out; data were collected by enumerators through direct interview; as a result, a total of 317,199 questionnaires were filled in.

Data source: República de Honduras - Secretaría de Planificación, Coordinación y Presupuesto (SECPLAN) - IV Censo Nacional Agropecuario 1993 - Tomo II, III, IV, V - Agosto 1993.

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