

LUXEMBOURG - Agricultural Census 1990 - Explanatory Notes

Historical outline: The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg participated in the World Census of Agriculture Programme in the years 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980 and 1990. Although statistical information on agricultural land and livestock numbers has been collected since the first half of the nineteenth century, data on structural aspects of agricultural holdings were collected for the first time on the occasion of the 1907 General Census of Activities. Since 1953, the agricultural census, undertaken annually on 15 May, has followed almost the same criteria and definitions.

Organization: The Central Service of Statistics and Economic Studies (STATEC), of the Ministry of National Economy, is the organism responsible for collecting statistical information of general interest concerning the structure and the activity of the country. As regards Agriculture, STATEC undertakes the following censuses/surveys:

- Annual agricultural census (15 May);
- Triennial census of livestock (1 December);
- Survey of pigs every four months;
- Survey of cattle every six months;
- Survey of permanent employment in agriculture.

The country consists of three administrative districts which are subdivided into twelve cantons. The latter are broken down into 120 communes. The census is taken by commune using holding questionnaires. The communal administrations are responsible for all census operations in their commune, including the appointment of census agents.

Enumeration period: The census was taken on 15 May 1990.

Reference date: Data mainly refer to the day of enumeration.

Definition: Agricultural holdings are considered those reporting:

- a cropland area of at least 1 Ha;
- a cropland area of less than 1 Ha, but reporting horticultural cultivations or market-gardens or orchards for sale;
- at least 0.1 Ha of vineyards;
- raising livestock and poultry for sale.

Coverage: The annual census covers the agricultural activity of all persons residing in the country but excludes agricultural activity in Luxembourg of persons residing abroad.

Frame: The municipal administrations were provided with lists of addresses of agricultural holdings, compiled on the basis of the agricultural census conducted the preceding year (i.e. on 15 May 1989).

Methods: Complete enumeration of holdings was carried out. Information was collected through direct interview and questionnaires were completed directly by enumerators.

Data source: Service Central de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques - Luxembourg - Le Recensement de l'Agriculture au 15 Mai 1990 - Bulletin du STATEC n. 2, 1991, pages 45 to 63.

Mailing address: STATEC, Luxembourg - 19-21, bd Royal, B.P. 304, L-2013 Luxembourg; Tél: 478-1, Telex: 3464 ECOLU, Fax: 464289.