

ST. KITTS and NEVIS - Agricultural Census 1987 - Explanatory Notes

Historical outline: In 1930 and 1950, information on agricultural aspects of St. Kitts and Nevis, then part of the Windward Islands, was collected through special estimates. Other agricultural censuses were undertaken in 1975 and in 1987. Data here presented refer to the 1987 Agricultural Census.

Organization: The Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Housing and Development was the government agency responsible for the agricultural census project. The Central Planning Unit, advised on the overall management of the census by the Census Committee, was the office responsible for census operations. Census Officer was appointed the Chief Statistician of the Statistical Division, Planning Unit. The field work was directed by a General Census Coordinator selected from the Central Planning Unit staff, and was conducted by 20 supervisors and 90 enumerators. The Government of St. Kitts and Nevis received, upon request, technical assistance from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN. Required assistance for conducting the census was also provided by the UN Development Programme.

Enumeration period: The National Cabinet approved 14 July 1987 as the starting date for the Census of Agriculture.

Reference date: Data on crops and employment refer to the agricultural year August 1986 - July 1987, while data on land use, livestock, farm population and all other census items refer to the enumeration day.

Definition:

The agricultural holding is considered an economic unit of agricultural production satisfying, at the day of enumeration, at least one of the following minimum specifications:

- one head of cattle, donkey or horse;
- two head of pigs, sheep, goats (or one head of any two);
- twelve head of poultry of any types;
- ten crop trees of productive age;
- 0.04 Ha of land under any crops.

Coverage: The census covered the entire country.

Frame: The 9 Parishes (administrative subdivisions) of St. Kitts Island, and the 5 Parishes of Nevis Island, were divided into 90 Agricultural Census Enumeration Areas (ACEAs), each one assigned to an enumerator. A "Households List" reporting all households, agricultural or nonagricultural, in every ACEA, was completed and/or updated during the enumeration.

Methods: Complete enumeration of all holdings was carried out through an island-wide house-to-house visitations operation; data were collected by enumerators through direct interview: enumerators canvassed every house or settlement inside the assigned ACEA, and collected information to identify those households satisfying the above mentioned definition of agricultural holding. Information on Fishing Activities was collected during the same interviews and reported on a separate questionnaire.

Data source: TCP/STK/6652 - Report by H. Sobers, Consultant, UNDP - Sample tables resulting from the agricultural census - April 1988

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