1. HISTORICAL OUTLINE

2. LEGAL BASIS AND ORGANIZATION
   Legal framework
   The legal basis of the AC 2009/2010 included:
   - the Lesotho Bureau of Statistics Act, Act No. 8 of 2001; Article 15 stipulates the mandate of the Minister of Development Planning which, on the recommendation of the Council, establishes the timing and data content of the AC; and
   - the Proclamation of the Minister of Development Planning, which specified the AC reference period (the agricultural year that covered the period from 1 August 2009 to 31 July 2010).

   Institutional framework and international collaboration
   The responsibility for conducting the AC is vested on the Minister of Development Planning. The Director of the Bureau of Statistics (BoS) is the census commissioner. The former provides policy guidelines, mobilizes all necessary resources, and is responsible for the proper execution of the AC plan with the assistance of the census committees and teams.\(^1\) Funds for the AC 2009/2010 were mainly provided by the Government of Lesotho. FAO provided technical support for the analysis of census data.

   Census staff
   The number of staff involved in the census operation was 177, including 45 supervisors, 120 enumerators and 12 data processing personnel.

3. REFERENCE DATE AND PERIOD
   Reference day: the day of the interview, for inventory items such as livestock numbers.

   Reference periods:
   - the past six months (preceding the day of interview), for milk production, stock changes for livestock, etc,
   - the past twelve months (preceding the day of interview), for the economic activity of household members, etc.

4. ENUMERATION PERIOD
Field data collection was conducted in several phases: (i) households listing: from 15 April to 3 June 2009; (ii) crop items: winter production – from August 2009 to February 2010; summer production – from February to July 2010; (iii) livestock items: number of livestock – in August 2009; stock change – February 2010; closing stock – July 2010; (iv) a community survey, conducted from 1 June to 28 June 2009.

5. SCOPE OF THE CENSUS AND DEFINITION OF THE STATISTICAL UNIT
   The census scope covered agricultural activities (crop and livestock production). A community survey was conducted in conjunction with the AC 2009/2010. A community survey was conducted to collect community-level data.

   The statistical unit was the agricultural holding, defined as “an economic unit of agricultural production under single management comprising all livestock kept and all land used wholly or partly for own account agricultural production purposes, without regard to title, legal form, or size”. The AC covered the holdings in the household sector (“agricultural households”) only.

6. GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE
The AC 2010 covered the entire country (rural and urban areas).

7. CUT-OFF THRESHOLD AND OTHER EXCLUSIONS
The holdings in the non-household sector were not covered in the AC 2009/2010.\(^2\)

8. METHODOLOGY
   Methodological modality for conducting the census
   The AC 2009/2010 was a sample-based census. A community survey was conducted along with the census.

   Frame
   The main source of frame for the EAs was the Population Census (PC) 2006. The listing of households at EA level provided an updated sampling frame.

---
\(^1\) The census committees and teams included a technical committee, a logistics team, a data processing team, an analysis team and others.
\(^2\) The data on holdings in the non-household sector were collected in the AC (in the sampled EAs); however, they were neither analysed nor included in the census results.
Complete and/or sample enumeration methods
The AC 2009/2010 was conducted using sample enumeration.

Sample design (if sampling was used)
The AC used a stratified two-stage sample design. In the first stage, for rural areas, the 120 EAs were selected as the PSUs, and for urban areas, 40 PSUs were selected with probability proportional to size (PPS) from the EAs of the PC 2006. The measure of size was the number of agricultural households. A total sample size of 2,924 agricultural households were selected as SSUs in rural areas and 600 agricultural households were selected in urban areas.

Data collection method(s)
Face-to-face interviewing was applied to collect information from holders, using the traditional PAPI method.

Questionnaire(s)
Two types of questionnaire were used for the AC 2009/2010, for holdings in the household sector in (i) rural areas and (ii) urban areas. The questionnaires for rural areas included eleven forms, and those for urban areas contained six forms. These included one form for listing the agricultural holders in the selected PSUs. In addition, a community questionnaire was designed for the community survey.

The AC questionnaires covered 13 of the 16 core items recommended for the WCA 2010.

9. USE OF TECHNOLOGY
Census results were disseminated and are accessible online.

10. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING
Manual data entry was used for the AC data on the Access screen. Tabulation and analysis were done with SPSS and Microsoft Excel. Editing (such as range and consistency edits) was done manually. The estimation of standard errors (SE), the coefficient of variation (CV), the confidence interval (CI) and the design effect (DEFF) was performed using WesVar.

11. CENSUS DATA QUALITY
To minimize non-sampling errors, intensive training of enumerators and sensitization of respondents was undertaken.

12. DATA DISSEMINATION
The data were disseminated through printed reports, electronic means (CD-ROMs), workshops and institutional websites. The census results were presented in five volumes: (i) Rural households and crops statistics; (ii) Rural livestock statistics; (iii) Urban crops and livestock statistics; (iv) Community profile; and (v) Technical report.

13. DATA SOURCES


14. CONTACT
Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
Bureau of Statistics
Address: P.O. Box 455, Maseru 100, Lesotho
Telephone: (+266) 22323652 / 22326393
E-mail: agric@bos.gov.ls
Website: http://www.bos.gov.ls

---

3 Prior to the selection of the ultimate units (agricultural holdings), a list frame consisting of all holdings in the selected PSUs were stratified as follows: (i) those with land and livestock; (ii) those with land only; (iii) those with livestock only; and (iv) those without land and livestock.

4 The AC 2009/2010 questionnaires used for rural households were: Form AC-1 "Rural household listing", Form AC-2 "Rural household members", Form AC-3 "Area measurement", Form AC-4 "Field listing by crop", Form AC-5 "Operation and costs", Form AC-6 "Crop failure and pre-harvest losses", Form AC-7 "Crop cutting"; Form AC-8 "Farmer's yield estimate", Form AC-9 "Availability and utilization of cereals in the household", Form AC-10 "Livestock inventory" and Form AC-11 "Structural information".

5 The following core items were not covered by the AC: (i) "Land tenure types on the holding"; (ii) "Presence of aquaculture on the holding"; and (iii) "Other economic production activities of the holding's enterprise".

29
### NUMBER OF HOLDINGS AND AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holdings</th>
<th>Area (ha)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total agricultural production households</td>
<td>381 731 520 423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural households</td>
<td>225 435 514 606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban households</td>
<td>156 206 5 817</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LAND FRAGMENTATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holdings with agricultural land</th>
<th>Area (ha)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>217 748 514 606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 parcel</td>
<td>45 608 107 786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-3 parcels</td>
<td>106 634 252 099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-6 parcels</td>
<td>41 927 99 086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-7 parcels</td>
<td>8 379 19 602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-9 parcels</td>
<td>5 719 13 516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 parcels and over</td>
<td>9 481 22 407</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### DISTRIBUTION OF HOLDINGS BY LAND SIZE CLASSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holdings with agricultural land</th>
<th>Area (ha)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>217 748 514 606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 0.49 ha</td>
<td>47 981 330 083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.50-0.99 ha</td>
<td>51 358 124 159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.00-1.49 ha</td>
<td>42 128 43 716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.50-1.99 ha</td>
<td>27 193 10 382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.00-2.49 ha</td>
<td>16 888 4 289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.50-2.99 ha</td>
<td>10 245 1 685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.00 ha and over</td>
<td>22 575 292</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SOURCES OF IRRIGATION WATER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holdings</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dam</td>
<td>2 189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pond</td>
<td>1 768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River</td>
<td>6 656</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic tank</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stone tank</td>
<td>10 979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groundwater</td>
<td>2 923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private pipe</td>
<td>7 915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community pipe</td>
<td>44 540</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LIVESTOCK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holdings</th>
<th>Total holdings with livestock</th>
<th>Head</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cattle</td>
<td>126 599 626 343</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep</td>
<td>62 797 1 228 668</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goats</td>
<td>58 611 875 164</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pigs/owes</td>
<td>75 768 85 976</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horses</td>
<td>40 992 69 843</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mules</td>
<td>92 076 2 368</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asses (donkeys)</td>
<td>1 874 138 355</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry (1 000 head)</td>
<td>53 294 502</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT USED ON THE HOLDING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Total tractors of all kinds</th>
<th>18 724</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disk</td>
<td>42 611</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planter</td>
<td>70 734</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultivator</td>
<td>51 577</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sprayer</td>
<td>7 035</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvesting Machines</td>
<td>2 353</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truck &amp; Van</td>
<td>1 981</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TEMPORARY CROPS HARVESTED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area (ha)</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cereals</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>141 340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>13 693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>33 146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barley</td>
<td>2 064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oats</td>
<td>304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetables and melons</td>
<td>239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potatoes</td>
<td>808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leguminous crops</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beans</td>
<td>26 887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peas</td>
<td>2 107</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PERMANENT CROPS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of trees/plants</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peach</td>
<td>1 601 256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apples</td>
<td>52 840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plums</td>
<td>15 269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apricots</td>
<td>3 766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pears</td>
<td>3 471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quince</td>
<td>421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raspberry</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grapes</td>
<td>30 403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>21 611</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Data are provided only for holdings in rural areas.