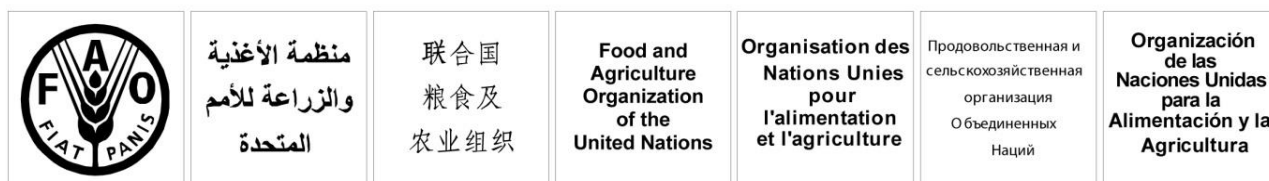


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**Changes in 2015 Census of Agriculture and Forestry
in Japan**

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Outline of the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture and Forestry 2010 in Japan

I Basic Roles of the Census of Agriculture and Forestry

The Census of Agriculture and Forestry in Japan was first conducted in 1950 in keeping with the World Programme for Census of Agriculture 1950, advocated by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The Forestry Census has been conducted since 1960. Thereafter, Japan has conducted the World Census of Agriculture and Forestry every ten years based on international convention focused on economic statistics. Japan has also conducted the Agricultural Census in the interim years between each World Census keeping in mind its original national perspective. From the 2005 Census of Agriculture and Forestry, the Forestry Census has been conducted every five years to ensure a unified and timely grasp of agriculture and forestry management. The 2010 Census of Agriculture and Forestry is the thirteenth report for agriculture and the seventh report for forestry.

The Census of Agriculture and Forestry has the following basic roles.

1 Identify the basic structures of agriculture, forestry and farming/mountain villages and their changes

Clarify the current basic structures of agriculture and forestry and farming/mountain villages and their changes, in areas such as the production and employment structures of agriculture and forestry and land resources in the rural areas, and produce and provide basic data for agricultural and forestry policy planning and promotion.

2 Prepare sub-regional statistics on agriculture and forestry, and promote the use of the data in each region

Prepare and provide statistical data on sub-regions such as municipalities and farming communities, in addition to data on farming regions and prefectures, to help promote agricultural and forestry policy and other measures of the national, prefectural and municipal governments.

3 Accumulate information on the population necessary to efficiently conduct statistical sample survey

Accumulate and provide information on the population necessary to efficiently conduct statistical sample survey for agricultural/forestry policy promotion.

4 Prepare statistics for international comparison

Prepare and provide statistics in line with the FAO guidelines for the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture and Forestry to enable international comparison of agriculture and forestry data. (See ANNEX 1 “Roles and Position of the Census of Agriculture and Forestry.”)

II Legal Standing

The Census of Agriculture and Forestry is designated as “fundamental statistics” as designated by the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications, because the census falls under one or more of the following categories, under **the Statistics Act (Act No. 53 of 2007)**, which is aimed at promoting systematic and efficient development of official statistics and at ensuring the usefulness of the statistics through specifying basic matters concerning the production and provision of official statistics, and thereby contributing to the sound development of the national economy and enhancement of the living standards of the citizens.

- (i) Statistics those are particularly important for planning national policies and implementing them.
- (ii) Statistics that are expected to be widely utilized for decision-making or research activities in the private sector.
- (iii) Statistics that are required to be produced by international conventions or plans established by international organizations or that are particularly important in view of international comparability.

III Survey System for the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture and Forestry 2010 (See ANNEX 2 “Survey System for the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture and Forestry 2010.”)

1 Types and Subjects of the Survey

(1) Survey types

The survey is classified into one on management entities of agriculture and forestry and one on rural (farming/mountainous) areas. The rural area survey consists of one on municipalities and one on farming communities.

(2) Targets of the survey

- (i) Survey on management entities of agriculture and forestry

Survey is conducted on agricultural and forestal management entities throughout the country.

What is an agricultural/forestal management entity?

- 1 A farming operation with 30 ares or more of cultivated land area under management
- 2 A farming operation operating on a certain scale (see Table 1 “Physical Standards” below) or more in terms of area planted with crops or crop growing area, the number of livestock raised or shipped, or other parameters
- 3 An operation who is commissioned to perform farm work
- 4 An operation who owns 3 hectares or more of forest area and has continuously engaged in forestal work (growing or cutting trees) over the 5 survey years
- 5 An operation who owns 3 hectares or more of forest and has prepared a “forestal operation plan” that includes the survey year in the plan period
- 6 An operation who is commissioned to grow trees
- 7 An operation who is commissioned to produce logs and who produced 200? or more of logs during the past year
- 8 An operation who purchases standing trees to produce logs and who produced 200? or more of logs during the past year

Table 1 Physical Standards

Area of vegetables planted outdoors	15 ares
Area of vegetables grown indoors	350 m ²
Fruit trees growing area	10 ares
Area of flowers and ornamental plants grown outdoors	10 ares
Area of flowers and ornamental plants grown indoors	250 m ²
Head of milking cows raised	1
Head of fattening cattle raised	1
Number of pigs raised	15
Number of layers raised	150
Annual shipment of broilers	1,000
Other	Operation size equivalent to \500,000 in total sale of agricultural products over one year up to and including the previous day of survey

(ii) Survey on rural areas

(a) Survey on municipalities

Survey is conducted on municipalities throughout the country.

(b) Survey on farming communities

Survey is conducted on those people well-versed in farming communities (excluding those communities, the entire area of which is in an urbanization promotion area).

2 Survey Structure

- (1) Survey on management entities of agriculture and forestry
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) – Prefectures – Municipalities – Supervisors – Enumerators – Targets (Management entities)
- (2) Survey on rural areas
 - (a) MAFF – Regional Agricultural Administration Offices – District Agriculture Offices – Statistics and Information Centers – Targets (Municipalities)
 - (b) MAFF – Regional Agricultural Administration Offices – District Agriculture Offices – Statistics and Information Centers – Enumerators – Targets (Those well-versed in farming communities)

3 Date of the Survey

The survey is conducted on facts and figures as of February 1, 2010.

4 Implementation of the Survey

- (1) Survey on management entities of agriculture and forestry

Survey slips are distributed by enumerators to targets who then make self-reporting survey.
- (2) Survey on rural areas
 - (a) Survey on municipalities
Survey slips are sent by reply-paid mail from Statistics and Information Centers to municipalities, or survey is conducted online.
 - (b) Survey on farming communities
Survey slips are distributed by enumerators to those well-versed in farming communities who then make self-reporting.

5 Main Survey Items

- (1) Survey on management entities of agriculture and forestry

Number of (agricultural/forestal) management entities, number of workers, cultivated land area under management, area of owned forest, production and sale of agricultural/forestal products, number of livestock raised, area of commissioned work, agricultural/forestal management activities (incorporation, environmentally-friendly farming, agricultural production-related businesses), etc.

(2) Survey on rural areas

(a) Survey on municipalities

Total land area, area of forest, number of direct outlets for farm products, etc.

(b) Survey on farming communities

Total number of households in farming communities, total land area, area of cultivated land, community activities (community meetings, conservation of community resources), etc.

IV Annual Plan for the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture and Forestry 2010

The Census of Agriculture and Forestry is conducted based on a 5-year plan.

The flow of main annual events for the implementation of the 2010 world programme, from review to survey preparations and survey to publication of results, is summarized in Table 3 “Annual Plan for the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture and Forestry 2010.”

1 FY2007 – FY2008 (Review on the implementation of survey)

Study meetings on the Census were held (summoned by the Director-General of the Statistics Department of MAFF and attended by academic experts, local government staff, etc.) to review for the implementation of the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture and Forestry 2010. Trial surveys were conducted to finalize survey methods and items, and the findings were reflected on the final survey design.

The Statistics Commission of the Cabinet Office was consulted for opinions on the planning for the world census programme as stipulated by the Statistics Act (Act No. 53 of 2007) and subsequently, the commission provided a report.

2 FY2009 (Survey year)

Actions including the following were taken in preparation for the survey: 1) preparation of survey documents, 2) orientation sessions for prefectural and municipal government staff, supervisors and enumerators, 3) PR and promotion. Survey was implemented on facts and figures as of February 1, 2010.

3 FY2010 – FY2011 (Compilation of entries and publication of results)

Entries valid as of February 1, 2010, was examined/reviewed, then publicized on the MAFF web site and other media in the following manner.

(1) 1st report (preliminary figures)

The 1st report aims to promptly release national survey results on some of the most fundamental (important) items based on the compilations by the prefectures, such as the number of agricultural/forestal management entities, the number of commercial farm households, and the area of cultivated land under management.

(2) 2nd report (approximate figures)

In addition to the results released in the 1st report, by-prefecture results are released based on the entries on the survey slips and other data reported from the prefectures, such as the total number of farm households; the cultivated areas of paddy fields, upland fields and land under permanent crops under management; and employed agricultural labor force.

(3) Final report (finalized figures)

In addition to the results released in the 2nd report, by-prefecture results are released, such as in-depth structural data by the size of cultivated land area under management and by the type of management organization

(4) Final reports

Japanese and English versions of final reports, featuring both detailed and sampled compilations on agricultural and forestry management entities, rural areas and each prefecture, are printed and published.