

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (THE) - Agricultural Census 1998/99

Main Results

Please refer to the Explanatory Notes given at the end of the tables

Number and area of holdings		
	Number of holdings	Area (ha)
Total	668 000	1 047 700

Number and area of holdings by size of holding		
	Number of holdings	Area (ha)
Total	668 000	1 047 700
Without land	20 800	—
< 1 ha	234 800	133 800
1 - 2	235 400	314 800
2 - 3	95 800	222 300
3 >	81 200	376 800

Fragmentation		
	Number of holdings	Number of parcels
Holdings reporting parcels	647 200	—
holdings with:		
1 parcel	257 200	—
2 parcels	198 900	—
3 parcels	110 500	—
4 parcels	48 400	—
5 parcels >	32 200	—
Parcels, total	—	1 365 100

Tenure of land		
	Number of holdings	Area (ha)
Total	—	1 047 800
Owned	—	1 013 200
Rented	—	26 900
Other single forms of tenure	—	7 600

Holders by sex		
	Number of holders	
Total	667 900	—
male	607 300	—
female	60 600	—

Holders by age		
	Number of holders	
Total	667 900	—
< 25 years of age	25 900	—
25 to 44	351 000	—
45 to 64	238 600	—
65 >	52 400	—

Holders and household members engaged mainly in agriculture		
	Number of persons	
Total	2 103 500	—
male	1 020 800	—
female	1 082 700	—

Hired permanent workers		
Total	199 000	—
male	87 900	—
female	111 100	—

Land use		
		Area (ha)
Total land	—	1 047 700
Agricultural land	—	976 200
Cropland	—	958 600
Arable land	—	877 300
under temporary crops	—	765 000
temporarily fallow	—	112 300
Permanent crops	—	81 300
Permanent mead./pastures	—	17 600
Wood or forest land	—	54 000
All other land	—	17 500

Temporary crops		
	Holdings reporting	Area (ha)
Rice	614 000	735 100

Permanent crops (<i>holdings reporting and area</i>)		
	Holdings reporting	Area (ha)
Coffee	23 700	41 200
Cardamon	6 100	5 200
Peaches	6 500	200
Coconut	109 100	900
Oranges	34 400	1 000
Pineapples	25 900	11 500
Bananas	109 000	13 400
Mangoes	152 000	3 800
Tamarind	68 000	1 500
Jackfruit	73 800	600
Longan	23 900	400

Permanent crops (<i>number of trees</i>)		
	total number of trees	of which: in compact plantation
Coffee	62 904 000	62 761 000
Cardamon	9 030 000	9 017 000
Peaches	52 000	24 000
Coconut	738 000	260 000
Oranges	488 000	325 000
Pineapples	5 217 000	4 506 000
Bananas	6 841 000	6 022 000
Mangoes	1 427 000	645 000
Tamarind	1 408 000	1 137 000
Jackfruit	503 000	155 000
Longan	253 000	147 000

Livestock		
	Holdings reporting	Head/units
Cattle	208 100	994 100
Buffaloes	322 100	991 900
Goats	25 600	94 400
Pigs	327 500	1 036 300
Chickens	49 900	9 668 700
Ducks	190 800	1 351 300

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (THE) - Agricultural Census 1998/99

Explanatory Notes

Historical outline: The agricultural census 1998/99 is the first conducted in the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Organization: The census was undertaken under the overall control of the agricultural census Steering Committee, comprising representatives of the State Planning Committee (SPC) and of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF), according to the Prime Minister's Decree No. 21 of 9 September 1997. The Agricultural Census Office, with staff from MAF and the National Statistical Centre (NSC) of SPC was established to implement the census. Technical and financial supports were provided by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and its executing agency, Statistics Sweden. The census was based on the guidelines of FAO World Census of Agriculture 2000. Additional emphasis was given to rice because of its importance in Lao agriculture.

Enumeration period: The enumeration period lasted from 22 February to 19 March 1999.

Reference date: The reference period of most data collected in the census was the 1998/99 agricultural year, covering the 1998 wet season (May - October 1998) and the 1998/99 dry season (November 1998/April 1999). Livestock data refer to the day of enumeration.

Definitions:

Agricultural Holding

An agricultural holding (sometime referred to as a holding or a farm household) is an economic unit of agricultural production under single management, comprising all livestock raised and all agricultural land operated. Usually an agricultural holding is the same as a household, but sometimes it consists of two or more households operating as a partnership.

Minimum size of holding

The Lao Agricultural Census covered only those units that either:

- Operated 0.02 hectares or more of agricultural land in the 1998 wet season or in the 1998/99 dry season, or
- Were raising 2 or more cattle or buffaloes, or 5 or more pigs or goats, or 20 or more poultry at the time of the census.

Coverage: The census covered the whole of Lao PDR, including urban areas in Vientiane and elsewhere. The census only included agricultural activities of private households, carried out on their own or in partnership with others households. Agricultural activities undertaken by government organisations, business, etc. were excluded.

Frame: The census frame was prepared using the list of villages and households collected during the 1995 Population Census.

Methods: The census was conducted in two parts: a complete enumeration of all agricultural holdings, to collect some basic data about agriculture, and a sample survey of agricultural holdings to collect more detailed information. The sample was selected using a two-stage sampling design: a sample of villages was first selected, and then a sample of households was selected in each one of the sampled villages. Agricultural holdings were identified by asking the sampled households about their crop and livestock activity. 2200 enumerators were employed for the complete enumeration and 1200 for the sample component. Data were collected through personal interview and some area measurements were done. A Short Questionnaire was used for the complete enumeration and a Long Questionnaire for the sample survey; an additional form was also used to report area measurement.

Data source: Steering Committee for the Agricultural Census, Agricultural Census Office – Lao Agricultural Census, 1998/99 – Highlights – Vientiane, February 2000.

Mailing address:

Mr. Savanh Hanephom, Director of Statistics Division, Department of Planning, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
Municipality P.O. Box 811
Telephone/Fax: (856-21) 415 359; 415 363
E-Mail: planning.maf@laogov.net