

Tonga - Agricultural Census 2001

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry - Government of Tonga
Statistics Department - Government of Tonga

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Overview

Identification

ID NUMBER
TON_2001_AgC_v01_M

Overview

ABSTRACT

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) was entrusted with the responsibility to lead the implementation of the agricultural census project with the assistance of the Statistics Department (SD). The Census was conducted under the National Statistics Act 1978 which provides for obligation of the citizens to provide information, confidentiality of information provided and the duties of the census staff. A National Agriculture Census Committee was constituted to guide and supervise the entire census exercise. Technical and financial assistance for undertaking the census was provided by the FAO of the UN.

The undertaking of the AC 2001 was envisioned to:

1. provide benchmark or basic data on the structure of agricultural holdings and their main characteristics;
2. use this information to develop a regular system of agricultural statistics;
3. build up some important village and regional level statistics;
4. establish a technical and organizational foundation on which to build up a comprehensive and integrated system of food and agricultural statistics; and
5. provide a frame from which samples can be drawn to study certain aspects of agricultural activities in greater depth.

KIND OF DATA

Census/enumeration data [cen]

UNITS OF ANALYSIS

- Household
- Agricultural Holding

Scope

NOTES

The 2001 Agricultural Census covered the following items:

HOUSEHOLD

1. Level of Agricultural Activity
 - Non-agricultural
 - Minor agricultural
 - Subsistence only
 - Subsistence with occasional selling
 - Commercial crop producer

2. Ownership of Tax Allotment ('Api Tukupau)

- Name of Owner(s)
- Area
- Present Status
- Land Location

3. Agricultural Holdings and Method of Operation

- Name of Operator(s)
- Method of Operation
- Holding Area
- Number of Separate Parcels
- Location of Holding

4. Crops and Trees Grown by Minor Agricultural Household Only

- Crops/Trees Currently Growing/Still Growing
- Name of Crops/Trees
- Area
- Number of Plants
- Crops/Trees Planted and Harvested During the Last 12 Months
- Name of Crops/Trees
- Area
- Number of Plants

5. Household Membership and Economic Characteristics

- Name
- Sex
- Age
- Main Activity
- Employment Status
- Occupation
- Industry

6. Livestock Including Dogs

- Number Kept as of the day of visit to the household
- Number Disposed during the past twelve months prior to census enumeration

7. Fisheries

- Main Purpose of Fishing Activity
- Type of Fishing Method
- Number of Trips during the past week
- Number of Persons Engaged
- Use of Boats whether Owned/Hired/Borrowed
- Number of Boats Owned
- Proportion of Fish/Other Sea Products Sold
- Means of Disposal/Selling Fish/Other Sea Products

HOLDING

1. Parcel Details

- Location of Parcel
- Total Parcel Area
- Land Tenure
- Main Land Use
- Length of Use/Fallow

2. Agricultural Income and Loan

- Proportion of Household Income Derived from Agricultural Activities
- Availment of Loan for Agricultural Activities
- Main Source of Loan(s)

3. Labour Inputs

- Membership Status
- Sex
- Age
- Type of Labor
- Hours Worked in the Holding last week
- Wages per Month if paid worker
- Other Benefits Received if paid worker
- Industry for Other Occupation
- Status of Other Occupation
- Number and Sex of Hired Laborers

- Average Number of Days Worked of Hired Laborers (male and female)
- Average Hours Worked/Day of Hired Laborers (male and female)

4. Use of Fertilizers and Agricultural Chemicals

- Use of inorganic fertilizers
- Use of organic fertilizers
- Use of agricultural chemicals

- Name of Crop

- Chemical Used

5. Equipment Used

- Type of Equipment used
- Number Owned
- Whether Hired/Borrowed

6. Agro-Forestry on the Holding

- Name of Trees/Shrubs
- Uses of Trees/Shrubs

7. Handicraft Making

- Household Members Engaged
- Proportion of Raw Materials Taken from the Holding
- Proportion of Raw Materials Bought
- Proportion of Raw Materials Sold

PARCEL

1. Number of Separate Parcels

2. Plot Details

- Area of Plot
- Crops Grown
- Method of Sowing
- Proportion of Mixed Crops
- Number of Plants in Scattered Planting

3. Scattered/Boundary Crops/Trees Growing on this Parcel

- Name of Scattered Crops/Trees
- Number of Crops/Trees

- Name of Boundary Crops/Trees
 - Number of Crops/Trees
4. Crops Planted and Already Harvested on this Parcel
- Name of Crops/Trees Planted and Already Harvested
 - Area Harvested
 - Number of Plants if no area
 - Proportion Sold

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National

UNIVERSE

The Agricultural Census 2001 was conducted at the household level and a complete enumeration of all households residing in Tonga during the period of the census enumeration. However, households that left for abroad and came back after the period of the census taking and those that were permanently living in other countries were no longer included.

Producers and Sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Government of Tonga
Statistics Department	Government of Tonga

OTHER PRODUCER(S)

Name	Affiliation	Role
Food and Agriculture Organization	United Nations	Technical support

FUNDING

Name	Abbreviation	Role
Government of Tonga	GovTON	Funding the study
Food and Agriculture Organization	FAO	Financial support

Metadata Production

METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Development Data Group	DECDG	The World Bank	Metadata preparation

DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION

2014-04-25

DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

Version 01 (April 2014)

DDI DOCUMENT ID
DDI_TON_2001_AgC_v01_M_WB

Sampling

No content available

Questionnaires

Overview

Considerable time was spent in designing the census questionnaires. The census questionnaires were in three forms, namely, AC Form 1 - Household Questionnaire, AC Form 2 - Holding Questionnaire and AC Form 3 - Parcel Questionnaire.

The draft questionnaires were presented first to the Working Committee then to the User-Producer Consultation Meeting which was held on September 24, 2001. Afterwards these were tested in the field from August 27-31, 2001. From the results of the field test, the census questionnaires were finalized for printing.

Data Collection

Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
2001-10-03	2001-12-15	N/A

Data Collection Mode

Face-to-face [f2f]

Data Collection Notes

The enumeration was carried out during 3 October to 15 December 2001 concurrently in all the islands.

Training

Training was an important element in the census programme. The training programme for the AC 2001 was done in two levels. The first level was conducted on September 18-20, 2001, attended by the census supervisors, with the National Project Coordinator and the TCDC Expert acting as the main lecturers. The second level was undertaken solely for the census enumerators from September 21, 2001 to October 2, 2001. Selected census supervisors were tapped to be the main lecturers for the second level training. In both levels of training, classroom lectures and actual visit to the holding, parcel and plot were done.

Post Enumeration Survey

One of the most important elements of the census project was the post enumeration survey. The Post Enumeration Survey (PES) is a common practice of evaluating the accuracy of the data collected in a census. The PES of AC 2001 was done on sample basis and conducted just right after the census undertaking.

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Data Processing

No content available

Data Appraisal

Other forms of Data Appraisal

Data Limitation

The AC 2001, as stated in one of its objectives, provides basic information on the structure of agricultural holdings in the Kingdom and its characteristics that do not change over a certain period of time. Like any other census and surveys, it has limitations which are enumerated in the following:

1. No data on crop production was included in this census since this information would be better asked in a follow up survey specifically designed for major crops.
2. The level of agricultural activity of a household was determined only through its involvement in the cultivation/growing of crops and size of its agricultural land which should be more than 1/8 of an acre. A household having only livestock or poultry was not considered to have an agricultural holding for this census.
3. The size of the agricultural holding, to be considered as an agricultural holder, was more than 1/8 of an acre.
4. The economic characteristics of the household members were asked for member 15 years old and over as recommended and being done internationally and in other local surveys.
5. Apart from Livestock animals, only information on dogs was included in the Livestock Section of this census. Other domesticated animals such as cats and birds like parrots were excluded.
6. Fisheries Section was asked for only few data items such as main purpose of fishing, type of fishing method engaged in, use of fishing boats and proportion of fish/other sea products sold.
7. The holding and parcels included only those agricultural lands cultivated by the holder whether owned or leased from other households. On the other hand, all lands owned by the holder but rented out to other households whether for a fee or for free were excluded in the Holding Questionnaire and Parcel Questionnaire.
8. Sections on Agricultural Income and Loan, Agro-Forestry on the Holding and Handicraft Making were asked only for agriculturally active households. The nonagricultural and minor agricultural households did not have such information.
9. Questions on the use of fertilizers were answerable only by "Yes" or "No" and questions on agricultural chemicals were the name of chemical and crops it was used on. Quantities on these agricultural inputs were not taken for it is best to include these items in a follow-up survey.
10. Small implements such as knife, spade and other gardening tools were not included in this census since it is assumed that almost all agriculturally active households owned and used such small tools.
11. The section on Agro-forestry was limited to the name of the trees/shrubs and its uses, not on the number of trees for this would create problems on data processing. Hence, a follow-up survey using this information as a frame can be done to get additional information on agro-forestry.
12. The section on Crops Planted and Already Harvested of the Parcel Questionnaire was supposed to be answered by all agricultural holders who answered the section on Parcel Details of the Holding Questionnaire. However, due to memory recall of the respondents, information on this section might have been under reported.
13. The quality of the data collected can be affected by many factors. For example, the complete enumeration and coverage limits the completeness of data, the concepts and interpretation of questionnaires may not be fully understood by enumerators, inadequate supervision and others.