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## Venezuela – VII Censo Agrícola 2008- Explanatory Notes

### Historical outline

Previous agriculture censuses were undertaken in 1939, 1949 (together with Population Census), 1961 (together with Population Census), 1971 (together with Population Census), 1985 and 1997.

### Legal basis and organization

The Law of the public function of Statistics of November 2001 organizes the Statistical System. The National Statistical Institute (INE) is the rector of the system. Operatively the INE can delegate functions to sectoral offices. In particular the VII Census of Agriculture 2008 was under the responsibility of the Ministry of the Popular Power for Agriculture and Lands according to the Presidential Decree No. 4837 of September 2006 regarding the preparation and conducting of the VII Census of Agriculture. The census had the technical assistance from FAO through the project UTF/VEN/008/VEN.

### Enumeration period

The enumeration took place between April 14<sup>th</sup> and July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

### Reference period/date

For all flow variables the agricultural year: 01.05.2007 - 30.04.2008.

The census day for all stock variables including livestock.

### Definition of the statistical unit:

Agricultural Production Unit is an economic unit of agricultural production with unique address and management, comprising all livestock and all land, fully or partially dedicated to agricultural purpose, regardless of title or legal form. Household producer is formed by a person or a group of two or more persons, with or without family ties, who live in the same house, sharing the same services, maintaining economic dependence through common expenses, especially regarding the food. Communal micro area farms (MAC) are defined as the basic spatial units for statistical purposes, determined by the community on the basis of the sense of belonging to its people and the recognition of others.

Holdings were classified in:

- Natural person;
- Cooperative (base);
- Cooperative (second degree);
- NUDE (Nucleous of Socialist Development)
- Fundo Zamorano;
- Society or Inc company
- Limited liability society
- Mixed enterprise
- Other

### Geographical coverage

The census covered the whole country.

### Statistical coverage

All holdings.

### Data items coverage

All items of the core module of the FAO Programme WCA2010 are covered plus crops, livestock, forestry, employment, agricultural practices, agricultural services and demographic characteristics of household members.

### Frame

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The census frame was conformed during the registry of agricultural production units and it was composed from 3 categories of observation units: 1) agricultural production units; 2) household producers; 3) communal micro area farm (MAC).

### **Methodology**

All areas were canvassed a registry of production units undertook. In a second phase, the identified agricultural holdings were interviewed and the information collected by means of a mobile capture device (CAPI). At the same time all holdings were geo-referenced by a GPS device.

### **Post census techniques to check census quality**

Post Enumeration Survey (PES) based in a multiple frame sampling design was taken to check for coverage.

### **Data Dissemination and Use**

Final results were presented on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Final data are in REDATAM for users processing at <http://censo.mat.gob.ve>

### **Special features**

A Community survey was taken along with the census field work.

### **Data source**

Methodology and questionnaires from the website.

### **Mailing address / Census contact Points**

Ministerio del Poder Popular para la Agricultura y Tierras.

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