
REUNION - Recensement Agricole RA-2010 – Explanatory notes

1. Historical Outline

Started in September 2010, the data collection of the Agricultural Census (RA 2010) was completed in April 2011. Previous censuses were held in 2000, 1988, 1979 and 1970. The Census of Agriculture is part of the national decennial Census of Agriculture that includes all farms located in France, its territories and the overseas communities of Saint-Martin and Saint Barthelemy.

The Census of Agriculture is one of the most important statistical operations of the Ministry of Agriculture, Agrifood and Forestry (Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Agroalimentaire et de la Forêt). The Census of Agriculture is carried out under the framework of the statistical regulations of the European Union, and according to the recommendations of the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization, World Agricultural Census Program 2010 FAO.

2. Legal Basis and Organization

The regulatory framework of the 2010 Census of Agriculture is the National legislation, Prime Ministerial Decree n° 2009-529 of a General Census for Agriculture from 1 September 2010 to 30 April 2011.

The Census of Agriculture is the responsibility of the Directorate of Food, Agriculture and Forestry of Reunion (Direction de l'Alimentation, de l'Agriculture et de la Forêt de la Réunion) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Agrifood and Forestry.

3. Reference Period or Date

The Census reference date was 1st November 2010 for all characteristics for livestock and other variables where it is meaningful to assign a specific day. The reference period for land, crops and labour was the crop year 1st November 2009 to the 31st October 2010.

4. Enumeration Period

The data collection of the Agricultural Census was conducted between September 2010 and April 2011.

5. Definition of the Statistical Unit

An *agricultural holding* is an economic unit involved in agricultural production and that meets certain criteria: - It is an agricultural activity producing or maintaining land in good agricultural and environmental conditions. - It reaches a certain size, or 1 Ha of utilized agricultural area, 20 Ares of specialty crops, an output greater than a threshold: 10 Ares of a specialty crop (sugar cane, banana, protected crops ...) or greater than 1 cow, 200 chickens ... - Its current management is independent of any other unit.

6. Geographic Coverage

The agricultural census was covered all agricultural holdings over the whole territory of Reunion.

7. Exclusions and Cut-Off Thresholds

None noted other than those stated as the minimum threshold of agricultural activity in the EU definition of an agricultural holding (EU Regulation, No 1200/2009).

8. Methodology

FAO Modular Approach

The modular approach has not been used.

Frame

The frame is all farms and agricultural holdings on the Business Register that meet the EU minimum agricultural activity requirements.

Complete or sample enumeration methods

It was not a sample but a complete enumeration. All agricultural households and farms were enumerated in the Reunion.

Sample Design

Complete enumeration of all agricultural households and farming operations. There was no sampling.

Collection Method

Enumerators were recruited and trained specifically for the operation, visited farmers and entered the data directly on a laptop computer at the time of the interview. To reduce response burden, whenever it was available, administrative data was used and replaced data that would otherwise have to be obtained during the interview with the farmer.

Data were collected for some 700 variables such as land use, crop area, livestock inventories and animal products, cropping practices and methods of crop protection, farm equipment, farm inputs, agro-tourism, the marketing of products, direct sales to consumers, labour, wages and salaries, paid and unpaid family labour, and the level of training of the operator or management. The Census of Agriculture did not collect financial or agricultural production data.

Questionnaire(s)

There was a single twenty-four-page questionnaire programmed into laptop computers. The interviewers entered the data at the time of the interview with the respondent.

The questionnaires request information on holding location, legal form, land use and crop production, ownership and tenancy, leased areas and rents (total individual plots of land leased), irrigation, livestock, organic farming, renewable energy installations, other gainful activities, socio-economic circumstances (full and part-time farming), labour force, farm succession, agricultural vocational training, determination of profit and turnover, taxation, receipt of subsidies promoting rural development, newly leased areas in the past two years and areas with rent changes, soil tillage methods, crop rotation, and erosion protection, keeping places and keeping methods, animal grazing, mineral fertilizer storage facilities, maintenance and installation of landscape features.

Controls to Minimize Non-Sampling Errors

No information available.

Innovative Methodologies

The Agricultural Census in 2010 was innovative in addressing new topics, such as production of renewable energies, diversifying the activity or marketing modes. The respondent answers to the questionnaire were entered directly into a laptop computer at the time of the interview with the respondent. The agricultural data of each farm and agricultural household was all geo-coded.

9. Data Entry, Edits, Imputation and Tabulation

The interviewers completed data entry on laptop computers at the time of the interview with the respondent. Range and consistency edits were part of the data entry program. There is little documentation currently available regarding the details of edits, imputations and tabulation.

10. Data Dissemination and Use

Census of Agriculture data are available free of charge, in terms of publications and statistical tables, on the Ministry of Agriculture, Agrifood and Forestry website. The Census of Agriculture provides an instant and detailed portrait of Agriculture with a focus on the structure of the industry, particularly that of the smaller farms. It also enables comparisons and analysis of small geographic areas, crops not widely grown and animals that are few in number, the adoption of new agricultural practices and new crops down to the county level.

11. Census Data Quality.

The Census of Agriculture estimates are compared against the data from the annual agriculture statistics program as well as the estimates of previous Censuses prior to their publication.

12. Data Sources

FAO ESS World Census of Agriculture 2010, Country Documents

www.fao.org/economic/ess/ess-wca/wca-2010/countryinfo/en/

Réunion, Recensement agricole 2010, Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Agroalimentaire et de la Forêt, Direction de l'Alimentation, de l'Agriculture et de la Forêt de la Réunion, Agreste
<http://agreste.agriculture.gouv.fr/en-region/reunion/>

13. Contact

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<http://www.daf974.agriculture.gouv.fr/>

<http://www.agreste.agriculture.gouv.fr/en-region/reunion/>

www.insee.fr/fr/regions/reunion/