
URUGUAY – Censo General Agropecuario 2011- Explanatory Notes

Historical outline

In the period 1852-2000, 18 censuses were conducted - 14 general and 4 livestock censuses. The last one, the 19th, was carried out in 2011.

Legal basis and organization

The Law No.16616 of October 1994 organizes the National Statistical System (SEN) as decentralized system in the operation and normatively centralized in the National Statistical Institute (Art 3). The decentralization of statistical operations imply that the sectoral office of agricultural statistics at the Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries (DIEA) is the responsible institution for taking the Census of Agriculture. The Decree No. 387/009 of August 18th 2009 declared of national interest the undertaking of the General Agriculture Census 2010 and designed the National Census Committee with representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Interior, the Congress of Departmental mayors and three representatives from different farmers associations. The census employed 340 enumerators, 92 field supervisors and 208 supporting staff. All field enumerators were members of the armed forces.

Enumeration period

The General Census of Agriculture was undertaken between August 15th, 2011 and January 15th, 2012. After that, a “special task team” was put in charge of (a) the enumeration of those farms that couldn't be enumerated during the normal phase of the field work because of temporary absence of a qualified respondent and (b) the enumeration of those farmers that are not found in their farms because they live in urban centers.

Reference period/date

Main Census data refer to the period 1st July 2010 to 30th June 2011, 30th June 2011 for total area, number of trees, livestock.

Definition of the statistical unit:

Agricultural exploitation (farm) is an economic production unit whose total area is 1 hectare or more, with single management, comprising the land devoted to agricultural purposes, livestock and/or forestry, regardless of tenure and legal form. Holdings were classified in: Individual; De facto society; Legal society; Government; Other.

Geographical coverage

The census covered the whole country.

Statistical coverage

All agricultural exploitations (farms) that have an area of at least one hectare and have had any agricultural production during the reference period, whether or not for sale purpose were covered. Holdings with less than 1 ha were counted, and holdings with 1 ha or more of total area with no agricultural activities during the reference period were also counted, and their areas were recorded. However, those data are reported separately. Their information is not included in the census tabulations, because they don't meet the criteria to be technically considered agricultural exploitation (farms).

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 aspects of members of holders' households.

Frame

The list of farmers and lands from the 2000 Agricultural Census along with administrative registers served as census frame.

Methodology

The country was divided in 637 enumeration districts belonging to 103 supervision areas. Enumeration Districts were canvassed and personal interviews by means of paper questionnaires performed. All questionnaires were scanned.

Post census techniques to check census quality

The quality of final census data was assessed by means of control checks against sampling survey data of the continuous agricultural surveys and other external sources.

Data Dissemination and Use

Preliminary data, final data, printed report, CD Roms, a friendly user interactive system (SICA) to be updated in the website for 2011 census is yet to be developed.

Special features

The Population Census 2011 and the agricultural census used the same cartographic basis.

Data source

Manuals, questionnaires, advanced data, public presentations, presentations of the Census Committee and Methodology from the website.

Mailing address / Census contact Points

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