

1. HISTORICAL OUTLINE

The 2011/2012 Agricultural Census (AC) was the second comprehensive agricultural census conducted in the Gambia. The first AC was undertaken in 2001/2002.

2. LEGAL BASIS AND ORGANIZATION

Legal framework

The census was conducted under the authority of the Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBoS), as per the Statistics Act 2005.

Institutional framework and international collaboration

The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) was responsible for carrying out the AC 2011/2012. The Planning Services Unit of the Department of Agriculture (DOA) of the MoA conducted the AC, in close collaboration with the GBoS. The GBoS provided the cartography and maps, as well as technical guidance with regard to the planning and carrying out of the AC. The AC Technical Committee was established for the coordination of census activities.

The AC was supported by the Commonwealth Secretariat and various international development agencies, such as FAO, the World Food Programme (WFP), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Census staff

The fieldwork for the AC 2011/2012 involved 83 enumerators and 15 field supervisors.

3. REFERENCE DATE AND PERIOD

Reference day: the day of the interview, for inventory items such as livestock numbers.

Reference period: the crop year (from 1 June 2010 to 30 May 2011), for other items.

4. ENUMERATION PERIOD

The AC data collection was carried out from late July 2011 to March 2012.

5. SCOPE OF THE CENSUS AND DEFINITION OF THE STATISTICAL UNIT

The **census scope** covered agricultural activities (crop and livestock production). Along with holding-level data collection, a community survey was conducted to collect community-level data.

The **statistical unit** was the agricultural holding, defined as a technical or operational unit of agricultural production comprising all land used wholly or partly for agricultural production purposes, under single management exercised by one person alone or with others, without regard to title, legal form, size or location.

Only the holdings in the household sector were covered in the census.

6. GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

Urban areas and certain semi-urban areas (such as Kombo North in the West Coast Region) were not covered by the AC.

7. EXCLUSIONS AND CUT-OFF THRESHOLDS

Holdings in the non-household sector were not covered in the census.

8. METHODOLOGY

Methodological modality for conducting the census

The AC was a sample-based census. A community survey was conducted jointly with the AC (see more details in section 8 below, “Questionnaire(s)”).

Frame

The EAs defined by the GBoS for the 2003 Population Census (PCs) were used for the AC as PSUs.

Complete and/or sample enumeration methods

The 2011/2012 AC was conducted using sample enumeration.

Sample design (if sampling was used)

Two-stage sample design was applied, the PSUs being the EAs. The sample of EAs was selected from each district with PPS (the number of households was used as a measure of size). The SSUs were the agricultural holdings. The SSUs within the EAs were selected using systematic random sampling (SRS). During the first stage, 400 EAs were selected, while 2 000 agricultural holdings were selected during the second stage. The AC covered approximately 15 percent of the EAs and 4 percent of all households enumerated in the 2003 PC.

Data collection method(s)

Census data collection was conducted using printed questionnaires and: (i) face-to-face interviews (the PAPI method), together with (ii) objective measurements of crop areas and yields.

Questionnaire(s)

Detailed census data were collected using seven questionnaire forms:

- Form 1 – Listing questionnaire, used to list all households in a sampled EA, to identify those engaged in agricultural activities (that is, the agricultural holdings);
- Form 2 – Holding questionnaire, used to collect data on the demographic characteristics of household members, as well as some data on the agricultural holding;
- Form 3 – Field questionnaire;
- Form 4 – Yield plot questionnaire, used for recording harvest from yield plots;
- Form 5 – Village questionnaire, designed to collect community-level data;
- Form 6 – Groundnut questionnaire; and
- Form 7 – Mango questionnaire.

The questionnaires covered 11 of the 16 core items recommended by the WCA 2010.¹

9. USE OF TECHNOLOGY

GPS devices were used for the area measurement of holdings' parcels. Census results were disseminated and are accessible online.

10. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING

The main programs for data entry, batch edit/validation and tabulations were developed using CSPro. Error controls were built into every stage of the data processing cycle. Two IBM 120-GB external mass storage devices were used for weekly backups of the census data. STATA was used to calculate standard errors and coefficients of variation for the census estimates. CSPro was used to produce most of the tables according to the tabulation plan designed by the Census Technical Committee. In some cases, Microsoft Excel was used to generate data charts.

11. CENSUS DATA QUALITY

CSPro data verification techniques were used to control the quality of the census data. In this process, data were keyed again and compared with the value currently in the data file. The system would flag errors in case of discrepancies between the item in the file and the keyed item.

12. DATA DISSEMINATION AND USE

The census results are available from printed reports and upon request, as well as online, on the Ministry of Agriculture's website.

13. DATA SOURCES

FAO. 2017. Regional Roundtable on the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture 2020 (WCA 2020). 18-22 September 2017, Nairobi, Kenya. In: *World Programme for the Census of Agriculture*: [online]. Rome, Italy. [Cited 30 August 2019]. <http://www.fao.org/world-census-agriculture/events/wca2020kenya/en/>

Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, Planning Services Unit. 2012. *Report of the Agricultural Census of The Gambia 2011/2012*. Banjul, The Gambia. (also available at http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/ess/ess_test_folder/World_Census_Agriculture/Country_info_2010/Reports/Reports_6/GAM_REP_ENG_2011_2012.pdf).

Ministry of Agriculture (MoA). MoA [online]. Banjul, The Gambia. [Cited 10 September 2019]. <http://www.moa.gov.gm/ps>

14. CONTACT

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Website: CountrySTAT-Gambia – <http://www.countrystat.org/home.aspx?c=GMB&li=1>

¹ The following core items were not covered by the CA: (i) "Legal status of agricultural holder"; (ii) "Land tenure types on the holding"; (iii) "Presence of irrigation on the holding"; (iv) "Presence of aquaculture on the holding"; and (v) "Presence of forests and other woodland on the holding".

THE GAMBIA – AGRICULTURAL CENSUS 2011/2012 – MAIN RESULTS

NUMBER OF HOLDINGS AND AREA		
	Holdings	Cultivated area (ha)
Total	82 027	343 949

LAND TENURE		
	Fields	Cultivated area (ha)
Total	491 202	343 949
Community	37 823	n.a.
Family	241 671	n.a.
Individual	147 361	n.a.
Leased	491	n.a.
Rented	2 456	n.a.
Borrowed	58 453	n.a.
Other form of tenure	2 947	n.a.

HOLDERS, BY SEX AND AGE		
	Number	
Total	82 027	
Male	74 633	
Female	7 394	
Under 25 years	2 277	
Male	2 010	
Female	267	
25–45 years	21 562	
Male	19 689	
Female	1 873	
45–65 years	37 407	
Male	34 205	
Female	3 202	
65 years and over	20 781	
Male	18 729	
Female	2 052	

MEMBERS OF HOLDER'S HOUSEHOLD, BY SEX		
	Number	
Total	861 739	
Male	436 100	
Female	425 639	

LIVESTOCK		
	Holdings	Head
Total holdings with livestock	n.a.	
Cattle	30 925	398 472
Sheep	29 998	143 992
Goats	50 923	320 990
Pigs/swine	733	6 383
Horses	9 202	16 903
Asses (donkeys)	32 658	57 580
Poultry (1 000 head)	33 403	1 870
Chickens	n.a.	1 853
Ducks	n.a.	7
Other	n.a.	11

HOLDINGS IN THE HOUSEHOLD SECTOR BY MAIN PURPOSE OF PRODUCTION	
	Holdings
Total producing for	82 027
Home consumption only	40 029
Sale only	3 117
Home consumption and sale	38 881

TEMPORARY CROPS HARVESTED		
	Holdings	Cultivated Area (ha)
Total	n.a.	n.a.
Cereals	n.a.	n.a.
Maize	n.a.	26 513
Millet	n.a.	110 962
Sorghum	n.a.	30 064
Rice	n.a.	34 050
Vegetables and melons	n.a.	n.a.
Cabbages	18 292	n.a.
Tomatoes	43 228	n.a.
Onions	24 690	n.a.
Okra	51 759	n.a.
Bitter tomatoes	36 502	n.a.
Local onions	16 734	n.a.
Carrots	2 543	n.a.
Cucumbers	2 625	n.a.
Pumpkin	20 015	n.a.
Root/tuber crops	n.a.	n.a.
Sweet potatoes	18 374	n.a.
Irish potato	1 312	n.a.
Oilseed crops	n.a.	n.a.
Sesame	n.a.	8 607
Groundnuts	n.a.	120 403
Other temporary crops	n.a.	n.a.
Ornamental plants	2 051	n.a.

PERMANENT CROPS	
	Holdings
Total	n.a.
Tropical and subtropical fruits	n.a.
Avocados	2 206
Papayas	15 799
Mangoes	56 623
Bananas	19 758
Guavas	12 857
Citrus fruits	n.a.
Oranges	22 931
Limes	8 882
Grapefruit	4 060
Oilseed crops	
Coconuts	2 170
Cashew nuts	25 081