

# Mauritius - Agricultural Census, 2014

**Statistics Mauritius (SM)**

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# Overview

## Identification

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### ID NUMBER

MRT\_2014\_AC\_v01\_EN\_M\_v01\_A\_OCS

## Overview

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### ABSTRACT

A census of agriculture consists of the statistical operations for collecting, processing and disseminating data on the structure of agriculture. Usually the whole country is covered, however, under certain circumstances only a significant part of it may be covered. The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations recommends that every country should conduct Agricultural Censuses every 10 years. In this context, the present Agricultural Census was carried out in Mauritius in 2014 by Statistics Mauritius with the collaboration of FAO and the Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security. The World Programme for the Census of Agriculture 2010 guidelines published by the FAO was followed. Several important aspects related to agriculture were covered including number of farmers, characteristics of households, farm activities, land use, land tenure, type of crops grown, livestock reared and marketing aspects. The purpose of this report is to present the results and analysis of data collected in relation to the land use section of the Census.

### KIND OF DATA

Census/enumeration data [cen]

### UNITS OF ANALYSIS

Households

## Scope

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### NOTES

The scope of the study covered the following areas:

- Identification of farmers
- Characteristics of household
- Agricultural activities on farm
- Main purpose of production
- Number of paid employees
- Land use and tenure for agricultural production
- Temporary and permanent crop production
- Livestock
- Agricultural practices
- Marketing practices
- Agricultural loans
- Agricultural associations/affiliations

## TOPICS

Topic	Vocabulary	URI
Agriculture & Rural Development	FAO	
Food (production, crisis)	FAO	
Land (policy, resource management)	FAO	
Livestock	FAO	
Trade	FAO	
Access to Finance	FAO	

## KEYWORDS

Crop production, Livestock production, Forestry, Aquaculture, Fisheries

## Coverage

## GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National coverage

## UNIVERSE

The statistical unit was the agricultural holding, defined as "an economic unit of agricultural production under single management, comprising all livestock kept and all land used for agricultural production purposes without regard to title, legal form or size". The AC covered both the holdings:

- (i) in the household sector, or "agricultural businesses" (namely corporations, NGOs, government institutions etc.);
- (ii) most commonly, those in the non-household sector. In the household sector, a distinction was made between "household farms" and "private households"

## Producers and Sponsors

## PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
Statistics Mauritius (SM)	

## OTHER PRODUCER(S)

Name	Affiliation	Role
Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute		Technical assistance
Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security		Technical assistance
Food and Agriculture Organization		Technical assistance

## FUNDING

Name	Abbreviation	Role
Ministry of Finance and Economic Development		Funding

## Metadata Production

## METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
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Office of Chief Statistician	OCS	Food and Agriculture Organization	Adoption of metadata for FAM
Census team, Statistics Division	ESS	Food and Agriculture Organization	Metadata producer

## DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

MRT\_2014\_AC\_v01\_EN\_M\_v01\_A\_OCS\_v01

## DDI DOCUMENT ID

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# Sampling

## Sampling Procedure

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### i Methodological modality for conducting the census

The AC 2014 was conducted in three phases, depending on the type of the holding: (i) for agricultural businesses, from July to December 2014; (ii) for "household farms", from July to September 2014 (using a long form); and (iii) for "private households", from October to November 2014 (using a short form).

### ii. Frame

The frame for the holdings in the non-household sector consisted of a list of agricultural establishments obtained from the MAIFS, the FARE! and other administrative sources. The sampling frame for the holdings in the household sector was built based on administrative data sources and the information collected in the 2011 Housing and Population Census.

### iii. Complete and/or sample enumeration methods

For the AC 2014, a complete enumeration was carried out for the holdings in the non-household sector. Sample enumeration was undertaken for those in the household sector.

### iv. Sample design

The sample design for "household farms" was a stratified random sampling. The sample comprised 10 339 farms, representing 38 percent of the estimated number of "household farms".

The sample design for "private households" was a stratified cluster sampling. A sample of 32 clusters (25 for Mauritius and 7 for Rodrigues) was drawn and each "private household" in the selected cluster was interviewed. A total sample of 8 778 private households was drawn. This represented approximately 2 percent of households in the Island of Mauritius and approximately 13 percent in the Island of Rodrigues.

# Questionnaires

## Overview

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Three types of questionnaires were used in the AC 2014:

- (i) a business questionnaire (CA1) - for holdings in the non-household sector;
- (ii) a farm questionnaire (CA3) - for "household farms" (using a long form);
- (ii) a household questionnaire (CA4) - for "private households" (using a short form).

All 16 core items recommended by FAO were covered in the AC 2014. The core items covered were:

- 0001 Identification and location of agricultural holding
- 0002+ Legal status of agricultural holder
- 0003 Sex of agricultural holder
- 0004 Age of agricultural holder
- 0005 Household size
- 0006 Main purpose of production of the holding
- 0007 Area of holding according to land use types
- 0008 Total area of holding
- 0009 Land tenure types on the holding
- 0010 Presence of irrigation on the holding
- 0011 Types of temporary crops on the holding
- 0012 Types of permanent crops on the holding and whether in compact plantation
- 0013 Number of animals on the holding for each livestock type
- 0014 Presence of aquaculture on the holding
- 0015+ Presence of forest and other wooded land on the holding
- 0016 Other economic production activities of the holding's enterprise

## Data Collection

### Data Collection Dates

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Start	End	Cycle
2014-07	2014-08	Data collection: Agricultural businesses
2014-10	2014-11	Data collection: Private households

### Data Collection Mode

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Face-to-face [f2f]

### Questionnaires

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# Data Processing

## Data Editing

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### 1. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING

The entire data processing exercise (except for data capture, which was contracted out) was done in-house using the CSPro software. The coded questionnaires were sent in batches to the service provider, which ran validation and consistency checks. Validation reports were then submitted to SM after the data capture. Data files in text and Microsoft Excel formats were made available to SM after working on the validation reports. The tables with census results were compiled in-house using the CSPro software.

### 2. CENSUS DATA QUALITY

During the data collection stage, possible sources of errors were reduced by: (a) intensive training of field staff, which was provided with a detailed instruction manual; (b) well-designed questionnaires; (c) close supervision of the fieldwork; (d) re-interviews being conducted to clear queries and ensure corrections of the data collected; and (e) intensive editing and consistency checks carried out in the office, during which outliers were flagged and reported to supervisory staff for call-backs if necessary.

# Data Appraisal

No content available