

1. HISTORICAL OUTLINE

Agricultural censuses in Seychelles were conducted in 1950 and 1961. Agriculture modules were included in the Censuses of Population and Housing (CPH) conducted in 1971, 1977, 1987, 1994, 2002 and 2010. The Census of Agriculture (CA), to which the data and metadata review presented here refer, was conducted in 2011.

2. LEGAL BASIS AND ORGANIZATION

Legal framework

The Statistics Act 2010 established the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), which operates as a semi-autonomous government agency responsible for collecting, compiling, analysing and publishing statistical information.¹

Institutional framework and international collaboration

The authority for undertaking a census rests with the NBS. The 2011 CA was carried out jointly by the NBS and the Seychelles Agricultural Agency (SAA). The CA was conducted with technical assistance provided by FAO.

Census staff

The staff of the SAA acted as coordinators and supervisors for the CA 2011. The census staff consisted of 55 people, including: 31 enumerators, seven supervisors, six data entry clerks, one person providing IT support, four coders and six other staff. The staff of the SAA acted as coordinators and supervisors for the CA 2011.

3. REFERENCE DATE AND PERIOD

Reference day: the day of enumeration, for inventory items, such as on household composition and livestock.

Reference periods:

- the past 12 months (from 1 September 2009 to 31 August 2010), for flow items such as farm inputs.
- the previous month, for labour characteristics.

4. ENUMERATION PERIOD

The enumeration period was from 16 to 31 August 2011.

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

The **census scope** covered mainly the “commercial” sector of the agricultural industry in Seychelles.

The **statistical unit** was the agricultural holding (farm). Two types of holdings were distinguished: (i) agricultural enterprises (holdings in the non-household sector); and (ii) agricultural households (holdings in the household sector), farming mainly for sale.

6. GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

The CA 2011 covered the islands of Mahé, Praslin and La Digue and their immediate satellite islands, where agricultural activities are conducted. Islands with low habitation or that are uninhabited were excluded.

7. CUT-OFF THRESHOLD AND OTHER EXCLUSIONS

Only the agricultural households classified as “producing mainly for sale” in the CPH 2010 were covered in the AC 2011. The households classified as producing crop and/or rearing livestock mainly for own consumption were not included in the CA. These were subject to a sample survey of such households. In addition, all EAs of the 2010 CPH without at least one non-household farm were excluded.²

8. METHODOLOGY

Methodological modality for conducting the census

The classical approach was applied in the 2011 CA.³

Frame

The CPH 2010, which included an agriculture module, was used to establish the frame for the holdings in the household sector. The SAA provided the frame of large farms and registered farmers. To ensure that the large livestock producers would be included, lists of pig breeders and farms with broilers and/or layers were obtained from the livestock department.

¹ The NBS is also responsible for coordinating, monitoring and supervising the National Statistical System (NSS). The NBS replaces the National Statistics Bureau (NSB), which was established in 2005.

² Consequently, 40 percent of all agricultural holdings and 303 EAs (or 57 percent) of the 527 EAs were excluded.

³ The 2011 National Agricultural Survey Programme was conceived as featuring two distinct phases, Phase I was a CA (with a complete enumeration of farmers from both the household and the non-household sector), while Phase II was an Agricultural Survey Programme, with a focus on crop production. An agriculture module for obtaining core agriculture data was included as part of the CPH 2010.

Complete and/or sample enumeration methods

Non-household farms and agricultural households classified as “producing mainly for sale” in the CPH 2010 were covered by complete enumeration. Other farms were subject to sample surveys.

Sample design (if sampling was used)

This was not applied for the enumeration of farms in the CA 2011.

Data collection methods

Data collection was done by means of face-to-face interviews using printed questionnaires (the PAPI method).

Questionnaire(s)

The “household/holding form” was used for CA data collection.

The CA 2011 questionnaire covered 13 of the 16 core items recommended for the WCA 2010 round.⁴

9. USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Aerial photographic EA maps were used to guide the locations of farms. Census results were disseminated and are accessible online.

10. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING

Manual data entry was used to enter census data.

11. CENSUS DATA QUALITY

No details were provided in the census reports available.

12. DATA DISSEMINATION

The census results were released through printed reports, the NBS website, and a dissemination workshop with stakeholders. The census report includes thematic maps illustrating the distribution of farms, the land area under agricultural activities and livestock counts by district.

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/>

National Bureau of Statistics. 2013. *Seychelles Census of Agriculture 2011*. Victoria, Seychelles. (also available at http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/ess/ess_test_folder/World_Census_Agriculture/Country_info_2010/Reports/Reports_4/SEY_REP_ENG_2011.pdf).

14. CONTACTS

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⁴ The following core items were not covered by the CA: (i) “Household size”; (ii) “Presence of aquaculture on the holding”; and (iii) “Presence of forests and other woodland on the holding”.

SEYCHELLES – CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE 2011 – MAIN RESULTS

NUMBER OF HOLDING AND AREA, BY LEGAL STATUS		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	530	466
Individual farms/private farms	498	n.a.
Partnerships	29	n.a.
Institutions	3	n.a.

LAND TENURE		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	530	466
Land owned	n.a.	149
Land leased	n.a.	273
Rented	n.a.	4
Other tenure forms	n.a.	41

LAND FRAGMENTATION		
	Holdings	Number of parcels
Total	530	621
1 parcel	433	434
2 parcels	75	136
3 parcels	18	39
4 parcels	1	5
5 parcels	2	6
6 parcels	1	1

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLDINGS BY LAND SIZE CLASSES		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	530	466
Less than 0,20 ha	83	13
0,20–0,40 ha	61	18
0,40–0,80 ha	166	88
0,80–1,20 ha	86	79
1,20–1,60 ha	49	62
1,60–2,00 ha	37	65
2,00 ha and over	48	141

LAND USE		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total area of holdings	530	466
Agricultural land	n.a.	418
Land under temporary crops	n.a.	75
Land under mixed tree and temporary crops	n.a.	310
Land under permanent crops	n.a.	31
Land temporarily fallow	n.a.	1
Land under preparation for planting	n.a.	1
Not stated	n.a.	4
Non-agricultural use	n.a.	9
Land used for livestock	n.a.	34
Uncultivable land	n.a.	2

MEMBERS OF HOLDER'S HOUSEHOLD, BY SEX		Number
Total		2 039
Male		1 066
Female		973

HOLDINGS		Holdings
Total producing mainly for		530
Home consumption		20
Sale		510

HOLDERS, BY SEX AND AGE		Number
Total		642
Male		522
Female		120
Under 20 years		3
Male		3
Female		0
20–29 years		49
Male		40
Female		9
30–39 years		128
Male		101
Female		27
40–49 years		207
Male		175
Female		32
50–59 years		151
Male		121
Female		30
60 years and over		104
Male		82
Female		22

EMPLOYEES WORKING ON THE HOLDING		Number
Total employees		800
Male		647
Female		153
Paid employees		675
Male		580
Female		95
Unpaid employees		125
Male		67
Female		58

LIVESTOCK		
	Holdings	Head
Total holdings with livestock	n.a.	
Cattle	139	506
Goats	49	802
Pigs	127	9 490
Poultry (1 000 head)	n.a.	n.a.
Chickens	46	299
Ducks	21	0,3
Other animals		n.a.
Rabbits	12	118
Insects		
Bees (hives)	10	117

METHODS OF IRRIGATION		Holdings
Total holdings with irrigated land		n.a.
Surface irrigation (hosepipe)		411
Sprinkler		n.a.
Micro sprinkler		240
Overhead sprinkler		164
Fertigation		29
Watering can		116
Localized irrigation		77