

1. HISTORICAL OUTLINE

The 2007 Census of Agriculture (CA) was the third agricultural census carried out in Antigua and Barbuda. Previous agricultural censuses were conducted in 1961 and 1984.

2. LEGAL BASIS AND ORGANIZATION

Legal framework

The General Statistics Act No. 13/1975 of 15 August 1975 provides the overall legal basis for the conduct of CAs in the country. Under this Act, the public and institutions have the obligation to cooperate with the census organization. In addition, all individual data are strictly confidential and should be used for statistical purposes only.

Institutional framework and international collaboration

The CA 2007 was a collaborative exercise between the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Marine Resources and Agro-Industry (MALMRA) and the National Statistics Office (NSO). The Director of Agriculture and the Chief Statistician were in charge, overall, of the CA. The day-to-day activities were directed by the Senior Statistician, Censuses and Surveys and the Extension Officer appointed by the MALMRA. The Agricultural Census Office was located in the NSO.

Census staff

The fieldwork for the CA 2007 involved 160 enumerators and 40 field supervisors.

3. REFERENCE DATE AND PERIOD

Reference day: the day of the interview for inventory items, such as identification of holding and holder, number of parcels and land use, land tenure, permanent crops and livestock numbers.

Reference period: calendar year 2007, for temporary crops, machinery and equipment used on holding, agricultural practices and labour force working on the holding, etc.

4. ENUMERATION PERIOD

The enumeration period covered one month: November 2007.

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

The **census scope** covered only agricultural (crop and livestock production) activities.

The **statistical unit** was the agricultural holding, defined as an economic unit of agricultural production under single management comprising all livestock kept and land used wholly or partly for agricultural production purposes, without regard to title, legal form or size. When two or more persons jointly operated a holding on an equal basis, all such persons were considered as holders and their information was recorded on the holding form. In this case, the required information on the holder's household was to be collected for each household of the joint holders, using a single holding questionnaire.

6. GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

The CA covered the entire country, except for the commercial district of Saint John and the expatriate enclave of Holly Harbour and Mill Reef.

7. CUT-OFF THRESHOLDS AND OTHER EXCLUSIONS

The following thresholds were established for the collection of detailed census items (using a long questionnaire):

- at least two head of cattle and/or breeding cattle (at least one calf born in 2007);
- at least five sheep or goats or pigs and/or breeding such animals (at least one birth in 2007);
- a combination of at least five sheep, goats and pigs;
- at least 25 poultry and/or annual sales of eggs from these poultry of at least EC\$¹ 1 000 and/or annual sales of poultry meat from these poultry of at least EC\$ 1 000;
- at least 20 bearing fruit trees and/or annual sales of fruit from these trees of at least EC\$ 1 000;
- at least ten banana/finger rose mats and/or annual sales of fruit from these plants of at least EC\$ 1 000;
- at least ten plantain mats and/or annual sales of plantains from these plants of at least EC\$ 1 000;
- at least one eighth of an acre (0.12 acres or 5 445 square feet) of any garden crop and/or annual sales of garden crops of this land of at least EC\$ 1 000 (garden crops include vegetables, ground provisions, food crops, pineapple, papaya, herbs or any other crop not elsewhere included).

The holdings with an activity exceeding at least one of the abovementioned minimum size limits were enumerated by means of a long questionnaire. The rest of the holdings (those below all cut-off limits) were enumerated during the screening process through a short questionnaire.

¹ East Caribbean dollar.

8. METHODOLOGY

Methodological modality for conducting the census

The classical approach was used in the CA 2007 (see details below).

Frame

For holdings operated by households, the frame was constructed by canvassing the country and filling in the household questionnaire. A list of non-household holdings was provided by MALMRA.

Complete and/or sample enumeration method

All holdings in scope were covered using complete enumeration.

Data collection method(s)

The information was collected by means of face-to-face interviews, using the Paper and Pen Interviewing (PAPI) method.

For census-taking purposes the country was divided into 288 enumeration districts (EDs), each containing approximately 100 households. Each ED was entrusted to one enumerator, who was required to canvass the assigned ED identifying all households within it and applying a household questionnaire (a short form). The household questionnaire was designed as a screening form to identify holdings above the thresholds, as well as a means to collect information from small holdings below the thresholds. Each household identified as having a holding completed a holding form. The second questionnaire, the “holding questionnaire” (a long form), was applied to all holdings above the threshold. Non-household holdings were separately enumerated, using the holding questionnaire.

Questionnaire(s)

Two questionnaires were applied: (i) a household questionnaire (short), to collect information for small holdings below the threshold; and (ii) a holding questionnaire (long), to collect information for all holdings above the threshold. The presence of fishing activities in the households was reported in the short questionnaire.

The long questionnaire covered all 16 items recommended by the WCA 2010.

9. USE OF TECHNOLOGY

No information is available.

10. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING

Data were manually edited, coded and keypunched.

11. CENSUS DATA QUALITY

Field supervision was applied to ensure quality during the field operations.

12. DATA DISSEMINATION

No census results were disseminated at the time this publication was produced.²

13. DATA SOURCES

FAO. 2017. *Regional Roundtable on the Programme for the Census of Agriculture 2020 (WCA 2020)*, 22–26 May 2017, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. In: *World Programme for the Census of Agriculture*: [online]. Rome. [Cited 30 August 2019]. <http://www.fao.org/world-census-agriculture/events/wca2020caribbean/en/>

Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Marine Resources and Agro-Industry (MALMRA). 2013. *Antigua & Barbuda presentation to the Workshop for the Caribbean FAO/UNFPA Guidelines for integrating agricultural and population censuses*. Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 10–12 June 2013. (also available at http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/ess/documents/meetings_and_workshops/IICA_2013/Linkages_TT_10-12June2013/Presentations/Antigua_and_Barbuda.pdf).

14. CONTACTS

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² Therefore, this publication does not include the tables with census results for the CA 2007.