

1. HISTORICAL OUTLINE

The 2015 Agricultural Census (AC) was the second comprehensive agricultural census to be conducted in Azerbaijan. The first AC was carried out in 1921. Between these two comprehensive ACs, only specialized agricultural censuses were conducted, such as livestock censuses or censuses of sown areas of crops, orchards and vineyards.¹

2. LEGAL BASIS AND ORGANIZATION

Legal framework

The legal basis for conducting the AC 2015 in Azerbaijan consisted of:

- the Law on Official Statistics, of 18 February 1994, No. 789, with further amendments;²
- Presidential Decree No. 2621 of 21 December 2012 on the approval of the State Programme on Development of Official Statistics in the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2013–2017;
- Resolution No. 357 of the Cabinet of Ministers dated 28 December 2013, specifying the conduct of the AC in 2015.

Institutional framework and international collaboration

The AC 2015 was conducted by the State Statistical Committee (SSC), which, together with its regional offices, was responsible for all activities related to preparation and implementation of the census, data processing and publication of census results. The Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, the Ministry of Finance, the State Committee on Property Issues, the Azerbaijan State Agrarian University, the Institute of Economy of National Sciences Academy and the Scientific-Research Institute on Agriculture Economy were involved in the elaboration of the census program.

Census staff

The census staff included 13 349 persons, of which 1 209 were supervisors, 11 751 were enumerators and 389 were operators, recruited to enter the census data into the electronic information system.

3. REFERENCE DATE AND PERIOD

Reference day: 1 June 2015, for inventory items such as livestock numbers, land property and sown area.

Reference periods:

- agricultural year 2014/2015 for use of fertilizers and pesticides, etc.;
- the 12 preceding months, for receipt of credit.

4. ENUMERATION PERIOD

Data collection for the census was done from 1 June to 30 June 2015.

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

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

The **statistical unit** was the agricultural holding, defined as an economic entity engaged in the production of crop and livestock products. The AC covered both holdings in the household sector and in the non-household sector.

6. GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

The AC 2015 covered rural and urban areas, excluding the territory outside the control of Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

7. CUT-OFF THRESHOLD AND OTHER EXCLUSIONS

No threshold was applied in the AC 2015.

8. METHODOLOGY

Methodological modality for conducting the census

The classical approach was used in the AC 2015.

Frame

Statistical registers and administrative records were used to build the frame.

Complete and/or sample enumeration methods

The AC 2015 was conducted by complete enumeration of agricultural holdings.

¹ These were: (i) livestock censuses, conducted every year on 1 January; (ii) censuses of sown areas of crops, as well as of orchards and berry beds, conducted in 1945, 1952, 1970 and 1984; and (iii) vineyards censuses, conducted in 1940, 1947, 1953, 1970, 1980 and 1984.

² Additions and amendments: 1, 2, 22 November 2002, № 382-II QD 3, 3 December 2002, № 386-II QD 4, 30 December 2003, № 568-II QD 5, 9 March 2004, № 603-II QD 6, 18 May 2004, № 652-II QD 7, 23 December 2005, № 31-III QD 8, 20 October 2006, № 167-III QD 9, 17 April 2007, № 316-III QD 10, 1 February 2008, № 543-III QD 11, 27 October 2009, № 902-III QD 12, 15 November, 2011, №246-IVQD

Sample design (if sampling was used)

Not applicable.

Data collection method(s)

Data collection from the agricultural holdings in the household sector was undertaken using the face-to-face interviewing method and a printed questionnaire (the PAPI method). Self-interviewing using paper questionnaires was applied to collect census data from holdings in the non-household sector.

Questionnaire(s)

Two questionnaires were used in the AC 2015: one for holdings in the non-household sector (Form 1) and one for those in the household sector (Form 2).

The 16 core items recommended by FAO to be collected in the WCA 2010 were covered.

9. USE OF TECHNOLOGY

No information on the use of new technology was provided in the census reports available.

10. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING

The data from census questionnaires were entered into the AC database manually by operators in regional offices of the SSC, using the MySQL program.

11. CENSUS DATA QUALITY

A mechanism for the monitoring and supervision of census fieldwork was established. It included supervision of fieldwork by supervisors, daily checks of the quality of the census questionnaires filled by enumerators and, if necessary, repeated visits to farms the data relating to which were in doubt. In addition, a PES was conducted to assess the AC's results.

12. DATA DISSEMINATION

Preliminary census results were published in 2016. The final results were disseminated in 13 volumes in 2016. The census results were disseminated at the national and subnational level.

13. DATA SOURCES

FAO. 2017. Regional Roundtable on the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture 2020 (WCA 2020). 3–7 April 2017, Budapest, Hungary. In: *World Programme for the Census of Agriculture* [online]. Rome, Italy. [Cited 4 September 2019]. <http://www.fao.org/world-census-agriculture/events/wca2020budapest/en/>

14. CONTACT

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AZERBAIJAN – AGRICULTURAL CENSUS 2015 – MAIN RESULTS

NUMBER OF HOLDINGS AND AREA, BY LEGAL STATUS		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	1 352 121	2 362 024
Civil persons	1 350 736	2 047 569
Juridical persons	1 385	314 455

LAND TENURE		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	1 352 121	2 362 024
Legal ownership and owner-like possession	n.a.	1 707 429
Non-legal ownership or owner-like possession	n.a.	62 971
Rented from others	n.a.	574 755
Other form of tenure	n.a.	16 869

LAND FRAGMENTATION		
	Holdings	Agricultural area (ha)
Total	1 352 121	2 288 120
Holdings without agricultural land	31 970	
Holdings with agricultural land	1 320 151	2 288 120
1 parcel	596 464	457 623
2–3 parcels	675 407	1 533 100
4 parcels and over	52 765	297 397

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLDINGS BY LAND SIZE CLASSES		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	1 352 121	2 362 024
Less than 1 ha	880 114	247 704
1–1.99 ha	227 796	321 005
2–4.99 ha	189 018	565 225
5–9.99 ha	37 553	249 258
10–19.99 ha	9 857	124 116
20–49.99 ha	4 426	126 497
50–99 ha	1 716	108 179
100–199 ha	891	114 877
200–499 ha	556	157 611
500–999 ha	114	71 215
1 000 ha and over	80	276 338

LAND USE		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	1 352 121	2 362 024
Agricultural land	1 320 151	2 288 120
Arable land	n.a.	1 653 530
Land under temporary crops	n.a.	1 531 526
Land under temporary meadows	n.a.	6 252
Land temporarily fallow	n.a.	115 752
Land under permanent crops	n.a.	153 297
Permanent meadows and pastures	n.a.	481 293
Forest and other wooded land	n.a.	20 219
Other land	n.a.	53 685

EMPLOYEES WORKING ON THE HOLDING, BY SEX	
	Number
Total	71 266
Male	54 565
Female	16 701
Individuals	30 756
Male	22 756
Female	8 000
Juridical persons	40 510
Male	31 809
Female	8 701

HOLDERS IN THE HOUSEHOLD SECTOR, BY SEX AND AGE	
	Number
Total	1 350 736
Male	1 013 067
Female	337 669
Under 25 years	8 960
Male	7 640
Female	1 320
25–34 years	118 158
Male	103 200
Female	14 958
35–44 years	259 839
Male	216 190
Female	43 649
45–54 years	435 874
Male	344 164
Female	91 710
55–64 years	328 683
Male	237 496
Female	91 187
65 years and over	199 222
Male	104 377
Female	94 845

MEMBERS OF HOLDER'S HOUSEHOLD, BY SEX AND AGE	
	Number
Total	5 450 434
Male	2 758 234
Female	2 692 200
Engaged in agricultural activities on the holding	3 498 448
Male	1 794 273
Female	1 704 175
Aged 15 years and over	3 376 352
Male	1 728 175
Female	1 648 177
Aged under 14 years	122 096
Male	66 098
Female	55 998

LIVESTOCK		
	Holdings	Head
Total holdings with livestock	n.a.	
Cattle	442 434	2 452 275
Buffaloes	41 704	224 197
Sheep	184 394	7 768 413
Goats	43 878	633 515
Pigs/swine	934	6 207
Equines	n.a.	98 110
Horses	n.a.	68 124
Asses	n.a.	29 899
Mules and hinnies	n.a.	87
Camels	n.a.	247
Poultry (1 000 head)	n.a.	39 778
Chickens	750 389	36 944
Ducks	n.a.	702
Geese	n.a.	994
Turkeys	n.a.	1 118
Other	n.a.	20
Insects		
Bees (hives)	16 719	215 815