

1. HISTORICAL OUTLINE

The first census of agriculture (CA) was carried out in Norway in conjunction with the census of population (CP) in 1835. Separate censuses devoted exclusively to agriculture were conducted in 1907, 1918, 1929, 1939, 1949, 1959, 1969, 1979, 1989, 1999 and the latest in 2010. The metadata review and data presented here refer to the data from this census. The CA 2010 was carried out together with the SAPM.

2. LEGAL BASIS AND ORGANIZATION

Legal framework

Statistics Norway (SN), which has overall responsibility for official statistics in Norway, is governed by the Statistics Act of 16 June 1989 No. 54. There is no specific national legislation concerning the CA.

The CA 2010 was implemented in line with the EU legislation related to the FSS, with EEA relevance.

Institutional framework and international collaboration

The CA 2010 and SAPM were carried out by the SN, Division for Primary Industry Statistics. Within the Division, the CA 2010 was organized as a separate project, with its own budget. A project leader for its implementation was engaged as from autumn 2008. Within the SN, a steering committee and a reference group were appointed for the project.

Census staff

Two persons were recruited to the CA project, and five persons were engaged in the data editing process. No staff was directly involved in field data collection as the census data were collected by self-interview.

3. REFERENCE DATE AND PERIOD

Reference days:

- 31 July 2010, for UAA by crop, number of livestock (excluding sheep), other gainful activities of the holding, equipment used for renewable energy production, etc.; and
- 1 June 2010 (or the start of the grazing season), for sheep number.

Reference periods:

- the 12 months preceding the day of the survey (31 July 2010), for labour input, manure application, irrigation of agricultural area at least once, etc.;
- the year 2010, for age (renewing) of temporary grasses and grazing areas, grazing season by livestock category and area category, irrigation methods, source of irrigation water, type of animal housing and number of places, type of manure storage and capacity, etc.;
- autumn 2009/spring 2010, for tillage methods;
- winter 2009–2010, for soil conservation;
- the previous three years, for crop rotation; and
- the previous five years, for UAA (owned or rented) being drained during the last five years.

4. ENUMERATION PERIOD

Enumeration was a four-month operation, carried out from August to December 2010. The SAPM was conducted from 20 April to 20 June 2011.

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

The **census scope** covered agricultural activities (crop and livestock production). The census included “agricultural and forestry property”, irrespective of active farming.

The **statistical unit** was the agricultural holding, defined as a single unit, both technically and economically, which has a single management and which undertakes agricultural activities listed in annex I to the European Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) No. 1166/2008 within the economic territory of the EU, as either its primary or secondary activity.

6. GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

The CA covered the entire country.

7. CUT-OFF THRESHOLD AND OTHER EXCLUSIONS

The agricultural holdings meeting at least one of the following criteria were covered in the CA and SAPM: (i) 0.5 ha of UAA: arable land, permanent grass land, permanent crops; (ii) 0.1 ha of permanent outdoor crops included strawberries; (iii) 0.2 ha of fresh vegetables, which are outdoors; (iv) 0.03 ha of fresh vegetables or flowers and ornamental plants under glass or other accessible protective cover; (v) 0.1 ha of nurseries (except nurseries for forest trees); or (vi) ten bovines or 20 sheep over one year old or ten goats over one year old or five breeding sows or 50 other pigs or 1 000 poultry or 25 beehives.

8. METHODOLOGY

Methodological modality for conducting the census

The classical approach was used in the CA 2010. Some census data were collected directly from administrative registers.

Frame

The frame was the list of agricultural holdings which is annually updated by the SN on the basis of several administrative and statistical sources.

Complete and/or sample enumeration methods

The 2010 CA was conducted by complete enumeration of all known agricultural holdings. The SAPM was conducted using sampling.

Sample design (if sampling was used)

The frame for the SAPM was the population of agricultural holdings from the CA 2010. Stratification and PPS techniques were used for sampling.

Data collection methods

Data were provided partly from administrative sources¹ and partly from field data collection based on questionnaires. Self-interviewing, namely the mail-out/mail-back method was used for field data collection. The questionnaires were mailed from the SN to respondents in mid-July 2010. An electronic version of the CA questionnaire was also available on the Internet. The CAWI method was used by 24 percent of respondents.

Questionnaire(s)

Four questionnaires were used for the CA. The census covered all 16 core items recommended in the WCA 2010.

9. USE OF TECHNOLOGY

New technology was applied for: (i) the data collection using electronic questionnaires; (ii) the use of administrative registers as a source of census data; (iii) the use of OCR for data entry of paper questionnaires; and (iv) online dissemination of the CA 2010 results.

10. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING

The division for data processing retrieved the data by means of OCR, using the Eyes and Hands Software. Data were then loaded in an Oracle database. For data processing, DYNAREV was used. Due to missing or incorrect data items, follow-up contacts to the respondents by phone or e-mail were necessary.

11. CENSUS DATA QUALITY

Final checks were done on aggregated results. Aggregates of various characteristics were compared with results from previous surveys. Conformity checks at holding level between the census and the applications for governmental production subsidies were important. The items focused upon were type of holder (natural person – group holding – legal person) and the size of the UAA.

12. DATA DISSEMINATION

The presentation of preliminary results started on Internet in December 2010, while the first final results were presented in July 2011. The Internet is the main dissemination medium of statistics produced by the SN and tables and publications are all available free of charge on the SN website.

13. DATA SOURCES

Eurostat. 2019a. Archive: Agricultural census in Norway. In: *European Commission: Eurostat* [online]. Luxembourg. [Cited 26 August 2019]. https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Archive:Agricultural_census_in_Norway

Eurostat. 2019b. Database, Agriculture, forestry and fisheries. In: *European Commission: Eurostat* [online]. Luxembourg. [Cited 26 August 2019]. <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database>

Statistics Norway. 2012. *Farm Structure Survey 2009/2010 and Survey on agricultural production methods 2009/2010*. National Methodological Report. Eurostat. (also available at http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/749240/749313/NO_NMR_FSS_2010.pdf/d1f6742a-0cbd-4611-9c07-067f0fd98676).

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¹ The most important administrative data source used was the Applications for Governmental Production Subsidies as per 31 July 2010. This source provided detailed information about agricultural area by crop and number of different livestock. Information on whether or not a holding is practising organic farming, or is converting to this practice, was also provided from this system. Other administrative data sources directly used were: the National Cadastre System, the Farm Register, the Register on Bovine Animals, the Organic Farming Register and the Education Register.

NORWAY – CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE 2010 – MAIN RESULTS¹

NUMBER OF HOLDINGS AND AREA, BY LEGAL STATUS		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	46 620	4 015 620
Civil persons	46 150	3 985 260
An individual (sole holder holdings) ²	43 770	3 825 420
Two or more individuals (group holdings)	2 380	159 840
Juridical persons (legal entities)	480	30 360

LAND TENURE		
	Holdings	UAA (ha)
Total	46 620	1 005 940
Legal ownership and owner-like possession (owned land)	41 070	587 520
Rented from others (land rented)	30 480	418 430

DISTRIBUTION OF UAA, BY LAND SIZE CLASSES		
	Holdings	UAA (ha)
Total	46 620	1 005 940
Holdings without UAA	1 790	
Holdings with UAA	44 830	1 005 940
Less than 2 ha	1 050	1 000
2–4,99 ha	3 410	12 390
5–9,99 ha	8 110	60 470
10–19,99 ha	13 440	197 200
20–29,99 ha	8 440	206 320
30–49,99 ha	6 860	259 100
50–99,99 ha	3 020	199 800
100 ha and over	500	69 660

LAND USE		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	46 620	4 015 620
UAA	44 830	1 005 940
Arable land	44 200	827 050
Land temporarily fallow	960	2 310
Land under permanent crops	1 590	3 050
Permanent meadows and pastures	27 720	175 840
Other land	40 030	3 009 680
Wooded area	37 020	1 951 760
Unutilised agricultural land and other areas	33 220	1 057 920

MANAGERS BY SEX ³		
	Number	UAA operated (ha)
Total	46 620	1 005 940
Male	40 060	892 020
Female	6 560	113 920

MEMBERS OF HOLDER'S HOUSEHOLD, BY SEX ⁴	
	Number
Total engaged in agricultural activities on the holding	61 760
Male	30 520
Female	31 240

LABOUR FORCE OF THE HOLDING	
	Number
Total	125 270
Male	83 570
Female	41 710
Family labour force	107 900
Male	70 090
Female	37 810
Regular non-family labour force	17 370
Male	13 480
Female	3 890

MANAGERS BY SEX AND AGE ³	
	Number
Total	46 620
Male	40 060
Female	6 560
Less than 35 years	4 290
Male	3 470
Female	820
35–44 years	11 200
Male	9 170
Female	2 030
45–54 years	14 610
Male	12 740
Female	1 860
55–64 years	12 090
Male	10 850
Female	1 250
65 years and over	4 430
Male	3 830
Female	600

LIVESTOCK		
	Holdings	Head
Total holdings with livestock	32 640	
Cattle	16 900	874 530
Sheep	14 900	2 308 290
Goats	1 360	67 490
Pigs/swine	2 470	850 380
Equines (Equidae)	6 730	36 710
Poultry (1 000 head)	n.a	n.a
Broilers	430	11 850
Laying hens	1 890	4 920
Others	280	410
Other animals		
Rabbits (breeding females)	430	1 660
Insects		
Bees (hives)	620	35 250

METHODS OF IRRIGATION		
	Holdings	Irrigable area (ha)
Total holdings with irrigable area	6 570	93 250
Holdings with irrigated area⁵	3 920	40 370
Sprinkler	3 720	n.a
Localized irrigation (drop irrigation)	330	n.a

¹ Data source – Eurostat database, available at:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/agriculture/data/database>

² The categories in brackets are presented as indicated in the Eurostat database (if different from the WCA 2010).

³ According to Eurostat, managers include holders that manage the holding themselves, and managers that are not holders, including of legal units

⁴ Data are presented without holders,

⁵ Excluding kitchen garden and area under glass.