

Portugal - Census of Agriculture, 2009

Statistics Portugal (INE)

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Overview

Identification

ID NUMBER

PRT_2009_CA_v01_EN_M_v01_A_OCS

Overview

ABSTRACT

The publication of the Agricultural Census 2009 gives users a comprehensive picture of information, which summarizes the main trends in the structure of farms and agriculture production systems in the last decade. We believe that its reading might contribute to the promotion of the debate and reflection on the state of Portuguese agriculture, in particular in the negotiation of the CAP after 2013 and of the problems of selfsufficiency, reflection of the dependence on imports, volatility of commodity agricultural prices and the continued increase in prices of inputs. Some of the most important findings for year 2009

comparing with 1999 are:

- One of every four farms had ceased its activity but the surface of farms still occupies half of the country;
- The small-sized farms continue to prevail but 2/3 of the Utilized Agricultural Area is now managed by farms larger than 50 hectares of utilized agricultural area;
- Increase of Utilized Agricultural Area in more than 2.5 hectares, from an average of 9.3 hectares to about 12 hectares, as a result of the absorption of the surfaces of small farms by the larger ones;
- The number of holdings as a legal entity (agricultural enterprises) grew 23% and 27% of the Utilized Agricultural Area are managed by them;
- Change of the agricultural landscape for more extensive agricultural production systems, with permanent pasture occupying almost half of the Utilized Agricultural Area;
- Enhanced surface reduction of grain cereals, in about 244 thousand hectares;
- Decrease of 23% in irrigated surface;
- Doubling the average size of cattle and pigs herds;
- Increase of 10% in the number of tractors;
- Agricultural family population loses 443 thousand persons but still represents 7% of the resident population;
- Women account for one third of farmers and increased their importance in 8 pp.;
- The average age of farmers increased by 4 years.

KIND OF DATA

Census/enumeration data [cen]

UNITS OF ANALYSIS

Households

Scope

NOTES

The census scope covered agricultural activities (crop and animal production).

TOPICS

Topic	Vocabulary	URI
Agriculture & Rural Development	FAO	
Forests & Forestry	FAO	
Food (production, crisis)	FAO	
Land (policy, resource management)	FAO	
Livestock	FAO	

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National coverage

UNIVERSE

The statistical unit was the agricultural holding defined as a techno-economic unit where there is common use of inputs (labour, machinery, buildings, lands, etc.) and that cumulatively: (i) produces agricultural products or maintains in good agricultural and environmental conditions land which is no longer used for production purposes (as set forth in Regulation EC No. 1782/2003); (ii) reaches or exceeds a specific size (minimum limit); (iii) it is in a specific identifiable location, even when its area covers more than one commune or even more than one municipality; and (iv) is operated under single management of an agricultural holder, who assumes substantive decision-making.

Producers and Sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
Statistics Portugal (INE)	

OTHER PRODUCER(S)

Name	Affiliation	Role
Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries		Technical assistance

Metadata Production

METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
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

PRT_2009_CA_v01_EN_M_v01_A_OCS_v01

DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI_PRT_2009_CA_v01_EN_M_v01_A_OCS_FAO

Sampling

Sampling Procedure

(a) Frame

The frame consisted of all the agricultural holdings in Portugal. The frame was a list of producers prepared by Statistics Portugal based on its extensive statistical and administrative data files and sources.

Questionnaires

Overview

Three different questionnaires were designed, one for the Mainland and one for each Autonomous Region (Azores and Madeira). The census covered all 16 core items recommended in the WCA 2010. The publication "2009 Agricultural Census - analysis of the main results" - is organised in nine chapters dealing with the following topics:

1. the structure of agricultural holdings
2. Land use
3. Irrigation
4. Herds of animals
5. Agricultural machinery
6. Agricultural population and labour force
7. Agricultural practices
8. Portuguese agriculture in the European context
9. Methodology and organization and means

Data Collection

Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
2009-11	2010-10	N/A

Data Collection Mode

Face-to-face [f2f]

Data Collection Notes

The census was conducted through face-to-face interviews, using the PAPI method. Most interviewers (86.3 percent) were also responsible for the recording of data on the laptops they were given.

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Data Processing

Data Editing

a. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING

Most interviewers used laptops to enter data after collection with a paper questionnaire. The data recording process was characterized as "heads up", given that the tailor-made software application to support the agricultural survey system of Statistics Portugal (SAGR) supplied instantaneous feedback to the staff member using a laptop. Manual data entry was done for the paper questionnaires. The data entry software programme included a series of range and consistency edits that allowed for an initial check of the data, enabling the interviewer to confirm or correct entries in the field.

b. CENSUS DATA QUALITY

Information was analysed through the SAGR software application, by using features specifically developed for the purpose: totalizers, selections of holdings, and comparison with external sources (micro data and aggregate data). There was also extensive use of the available administrative data for the validation of census data.

Data Appraisal

Other forms of Data Appraisal

Statistics Portugal published the preliminary results in December 2010. The final results were released in May 2011. The information is available online on the Statistics Portugal website as a database or as a publication. The available information includes methodology and other metadata of value to data users. To address the needs of the academic community, Statistics Portugal established a protocol to facilitate micro data access for research purposes.