

1. HISTORICAL OUTLINE

Romania conducted the first regular agricultural census in 1941 (together with the population census), followed in 1948 by a general agricultural census.¹ The third General Agricultural Census (GAC) was conducted in 2002, after more than 50 years. The present metadata review refers to the fourth GAC, carried out in 2010.

2. LEGAL BASIS AND ORGANIZATION

Legal framework

The agricultural census legislation included:

- Government Decision No. 957/2005 defining the organization and functioning of the National Institute of Statistics (NIS);
- Law No. 226/2009 on the organization and functioning of official statistics in Romania, with further amendments;
- Law No. 153/2008 on carrying out the GAC in Romania;
- Government Decision No. 1370/2009 regarding the organization and carrying out of the GAC 2010 in Romania; and
- the EU legislation relevant for implementing the FSS 2010.

Institutional framework

The NIS is responsible for conducting agricultural censuses every ten years. The GAC 2010 was organized, in technical and methodological terms, by the NIS and was conducted in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administrative Reform, under the overall coordination of the Central Commission for the General Agricultural Census (CCGAC). In addition, the Central Technical Secretariat (CTS) was established under the CCGAC. To prepare, organize and monitor the census activities at the subnational level, census commissions were set up at the level of counties, towns, cities and communes.

Census staff

The staff involved in census data collection amounted to approximately 38 200 persons, of which 30 000 enumerators, 5 000 chief enumerators (supervisors) and 3 200 coordinators.

3. REFERENCE DATE AND PERIOD

Reference day: 1 December 2010, for stock/inventory items, such as livestock, organic farming and animal housing.

Reference periods:

- the agricultural year (from 1 October 2009 to 30 September 2010), for land use, fertilizers, irrigation, animal mowing, machinery and agricultural equipment, ecologic agriculture, labour force, other gainful activities, other information on activities on the holding; and
- the previous three years, for average area actually irrigated in the last three years, landscape features, soil conservation and support for rural development measures.

4. ENUMERATION PERIOD

The GAC was conducted from 2 December 2010 to 31 January 2011.

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

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

The **statistical unit** was the agricultural holding, defined according to Eurostat requirements and FAO recommendations, such 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.²

6. GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

The GAC covered the entire territory of the country, both rural and urban areas.

7. CUT-OFF THRESHOLD AND OTHER EXCLUSIONS

The following units were not covered in the GAC:³ (i) units having only unutilized agricultural area; (ii) units with a UAA comprising only kitchen garden, with a total area of less or equal to 15 acres (0.15 ha); and (iii) units with less than ten head of poultry.

8. METHODOLOGY

Methodological modality for conducting the census

The classical approach was used in the GAC 2010.

¹ Between 1948 and 1989, there were regularly conducted livestock censuses: (i) yearly, between 1951–1954 and 1979–1989; and (ii) every four years (between 1954–1962 and 1973–1977). Two specialized censuses on vineyards and orchards were conducted in 1964 and 1979.

² The agricultural holdings were classified, according to their legal status, as agricultural holdings without legal personality (individual agricultural holding, authorized natural person, individual enterprises, family enterprises) or agricultural holdings with legal personality.

³ These thresholds were applied at the dissemination stage. No threshold was established for census data collection.

Frame

The census frame was established using the Agricultural Administrative Registers (AARs), held in each commune. The AAR is the official register of information on agricultural households (natural persons) and/or legal units that own or use agricultural land and/or keep livestock.

Complete and/or sample enumeration methods

All holdings in scope were enumerated.

Sample design (if sampling was used)

Not applicable.

Data collection methods

The following methods were applied: (i) self-interviewing, under the guidance of a chief enumerator, for the legal units (agricultural holdings with legal personality); and (ii) face-to-face interviewing using paper questionnaires (PAPI method), for all other agricultural holdings.

Questionnaire(s)

A single questionnaire was used for census data collection, comprising also the characteristics on agricultural production methods. The GAC 2012 questionnaire covered all 16 core items recommended in the WCA 2010.

9. USE OF TECHNOLOGY

For production and dissemination of timely preliminary results, scanning technology was used to capture data from the page of the questionnaire centralizing selected items from the filled-in census questionnaire.

The census results were disseminated online through the NIS website.

10. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING

Data capture was done in a decentralized manner, with manual data entry, at the level of each territorial statistical office (42 offices). For this activity, 450 computer operators were temporarily hired.

After data entry and after resolving all the errors identified at the micro (record) level, the data were transferred to the Central Technical Secretariat. The Secretariat reviewed the data at the aggregate level (both at national and county level) to identify possible inconsistencies. Depending on the type of errors found, they were solved by individual correction at local level (the territorial statistical offices), and through automatic corrections, applied at the central level. Imputations to complete the missing data were also used. According to the Law of national archives No. 16/1996 and Government Decision No. 1370/2009, after validation, archiving and publication of the results, the census questionnaires were destroyed.

11. CENSUS DATA QUALITY

A PES was carried out in February 2011 to check the quality and coverage of information collected in the GAC 2010.

12. DATA DISSEMINATION

The census results were disseminated through printed publications, CD-ROMs and the NIS website. Preliminary estimates with information on 20 characteristics were released on December 2011 (in a printed publication and CD-ROM). Final results were released in July 2012 (printed publication, CD-ROM and through the NIS website).

13. DATA SOURCES

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

National Institute of Statistics. 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/RO_NMR_FSS_2010.pdf/fd24fb92-c80d-46fb-92bd-3ec98b8bb69a).

National Institute of Statistics. 2013. Recensământul general agricol. In: *National Institute of Statistics* [online] Bucharest, Romania [Cited 27 August 2019]. <http://www.insse.ro/cms/files/RGA2010/index.html>

14. CONTACT

National Institute of Statistics

General Direction of Agricultural and Environmental Statistics

Address: No.16 Libertatii Bvd., District 5, Bucharest, Romania

Telephone: (+4021) 3181824; (+4021) 3181842

E-mail: romstat@insse.ro

Website: <http://www.insse.ro/cms/en>

ROMANIA – AGRICULTURAL CENSUS 2010 – MAIN RESULTS¹

NUMBER OF HOLDINGS AND AREA, BY LEGAL STATUS		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	3 859 040	15 695 030
Civil persons	3 828 350	8 307 450
An individual (sole holder holdings) ²	3 828 350	8 307 450
Juridical persons (legal entities)	30 700	7 387 580

LAND TENURE		
	Holdings	UAA (ha)
Total	3 859 040	13 306 130
Legal ownership and owner-like possession (owned land)	3 576 870	8 033 580
Rented from others (land rented)	69 380	3 642 000
Other form of tenure (shared farming or other modes)	323 640	1 630 540

DISTRIBUTION OF UAA, BY LAND SIZE CLASSES		
	Holdings	UAA (ha)
Total	3 859 040	13 306 130
Holdings without UAA	134 710	
Holdings with UAA	3 724 330	13 306 130
Less than 2 ha	2 731 730	1 718 360
2–4.99 ha	727 390	2 229 930
5–9.99 ha	182 440	1 210 510
10–19.99 ha	43 610	571 390
20–29.99 ha	9 730	233 850
30–49.99 ha	8 210	315 400
50–99.99 ha	7 480	518 300
100 ha and over	13 730	6 508 390

LAND USE		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	3 859 040	15 695 030
UAA	3 724 330	13 306 130
Arable land	2 756 910	8 306 420
Land temporarily fallow	444 980	952 520
Land under permanent crops	1 124 110	311 430
Permanent meadows and pastures	1 511 260	4 506 250
Kitchen garden	2 483 560	182 030
Other land	3 400 880	2 388 900
Wooded area	333 390	1 493 820
Unutilised agricultural land and other areas	3 378 480	895 080

MANAGERS BY SEX ³		
	Number	UAA operated (ha)
Total	3 859 040	13 306 130
Male	2 610 460	10 890 730
Female	1 248 580	2 415 400

MEMBERS OF HOLDER'S HOUSEHOLD, BY SEX ⁴	
	Number
Total engaged in agricultural activities on the holding	3 222 950
Male	1 132 220
Female	2 090 730

LABOUR FORCE OF THE HOLDING	
	Number
Total	7 156 930
Male	3 798 050
Female	3 358 880
Family labour force	7 051 300
Male	3 712 240
Female	3 339 060
Regular non-family labour force	105 630
Male	85 820
Female	19 820

MANAGERS BY SEX AND AGE ³	
	Number
Total	3 859 040
Male	2 610 460
Female	1 248 580
Less than 35 years	280 440
Male	220 840
Female	59 600
35–44 years	609 610
Male	495 420
Female	114 190
45–54 years	636 370
Male	484 520
Female	151 850
55–64 years	868 910
Male	594 190
Female	274 720
65 years and over	1 463 720
Male	815 490
Female	648 230

LIVESTOCK		
	Holdings	Head
Total holdings with livestock	2 836 640	
Cattle	728 020	1 989 790
Sheep	272 280	8 412 170
Goats	176 270	1 240 860
Pigs/swine	1 655 580	5 345 050
Equines (Equidae)	489 500	592 520
Poultry (1 000 head)	n.a.	n.a.
Broilers	1 532 540	34 260
Laying hens	2 286 440	39 070
Others	598 150	5 860
Other animals	n.a.	
Rabbits (breeding females)	48 310	132 610
Other	710	
Insects		
Bees (hives)	42 860	1 300 540

METHODS OF IRRIGATION		
	Holdings	Irrigable area (ha)
Total holdings with irrigable area	36 480	418 720
Holdings with irrigated area⁵	17 330	133 460
Surface	7 840	n.a.
Sprinkler	8 430	n.a.
Localized irrigation (drop irrigation)	3 660	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.