

1. HISTORICAL OUTLINE

The first agricultural census (AC) in Spain was carried out in 1962 and, since then, ACs were conducted in 1972, 1982, 1989, 1999 and 2009. The AC 2009, to which the metadata review and data presented here refer, was conducted together with the SAPM.

2. LEGAL BASIS AND ORGANIZATION

Legal framework

The agricultural census legislation consisted of:

- Laws No. 4/1990 and 13/1996, according to which statistics forming part of the National Statistical Plan (NSP) are mandatory;
- the NSP 2009–2012, adopted by Royal Decree (RD) 1663/2008, which includes mandatory operations of the AC 2009 and the SAPM.
- the EU legislation relevant for implementing the FSS 2010.

Institutional framework and international collaboration

The AC 2009 and the SAPM were both planned, supervised and coordinated by the National Statistics Institute (INE). The INE signed a partnership agreement with the Basque Autonomous Community, whereby its statistics institute (EUSTAT) conducted the fieldwork and completed all of the questionnaires in its area. For certain tasks,¹ the INE received the assistance of external companies engaged officially through the relevant public competition.

Census staff

An editing team was hired to edit data centrally through the INE Agricultural Unit.

3. REFERENCE DATE AND PERIOD

Reference day: 30 September 2009, for inventory items, such as livestock numbers.

Reference periods:

- the agricultural year 2009 (from 1 October 2008 to 30 September 2009), for characteristics relating to land and labour force, etc.
- the past three years (from 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2009), for rural development support and landscape characteristics.

4. ENUMERATION PERIOD

Enumeration took place from October 2009 to April 2010 in three phases (see section 8, “Data collection methods”).

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

The **census scope** covered agricultural activities (crop and livestock production).²

The **statistical unit** was the agricultural holding, defined 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 AC 2009 covered the entire country.

7. CUT-OFF THRESHOLD AND OTHER EXCLUSIONS

The following thresholds for agricultural holdings were applied in the AC 2009 (at least): (i) 1 ha of UAA; (ii) 0.2 ha of UAA used for fresh vegetables, melons and strawberries, flowers and ornamental plants (outdoors or under low protective cover), irrigated fruit and berry plantations and citrus plantations, nurseries, or under glass crops; (iii) 0.1 ha of UAA used for under-glass fresh vegetables, melons and strawberries, under-glass flowers and ornamental plants; (iv) 0.5 ha of UAA used for tobacco, hops or cotton; or (v) one LSU and a total SO equal to or above 0.75 economic size of holdings (ES).

8. METHODOLOGY

Methodological modality for conducting the census.

The classical approach was used. Some census data were collected directly from administrative registers.

¹ Specifically, the following activities were outsourced: agricultural census advertising campaign; help in preparing training tools (manuals, educational video for interviewers and other training elements); publishing and posting of questionnaires and reminder letters to farm holders for phase 1; tasks relating to the collection, technological and telephone support for phases 1 and 2; processes of scanning and recording the questionnaires; support for transporting census equipment; designing an application to centralize data editing of the census; designing a data warehouse system to disseminate the AC results.

² Purely forestry enterprises were excluded from the census, if they did not meet the above conditions.

Frame

The frame was obtained from the INE List Register or Census Directory. The Register lists all the reporting units considered to be potential agricultural holdings, including their relevant contact information. The Register was based on the use and integration of data from three key sources: (i) the Integrated Administrative Control System Register; the (ii) Spanish Agency for Tax Administration (AEAT); and (iii) other INE statistical sources.

Complete and/or sample enumeration methods

The AC 2009 was conducted using the complete enumeration. The SAPM was carried out as a sample survey.

Sample design (if sampling was used)

The SAPM 2009 was carried out using stratified random sampling.

Data collection methods. Data from the AC 2009 were collected and entered in three specific phases over a seven-month period:

- Postal phase – from October to December 2009. Questionnaires were mailed for self-completion to all farm holders.
- CATI phase – from January to March 2010. Data collection was done through telephone calls (CATI) to holders who had yet to send the completed questionnaire as required in phase 1; And
- PAPI phase – from January to April 2010, to follow up with holders that had not yet responded and to collect data for the SAPM.

Questionnaire(s)

Three questionnaires were used for data collection: (i) for the AC (CA-09); (ii) for the SAPM and OGA (MP-09); and (iii) for supplementary information on farm labour (MO-09). The AC 2010 covered 15 out of 16 items recommended in the WCA 2010.³

9. USE OF TECHNOLOGY

New technology was used in the AC 2009 for the following purposes: (i) to collect some census data directly from administrative registers, to reduce the response burden; (ii) for data capture using CAWI and CATI; and (iii) for the online dissemination of census results.

10. DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING

The census data collected using the PAPI method and new technology (CATI and CASI/CAWI) were consolidated into a combined database. Following the manual correction of errors and prior to obtaining the data sets with the final data, all questionnaires underwent a process of automatic data imputation (AIP). The AIP consists of edits to identify the characteristics failing an edit and requiring imputation, as well as the imputations themselves.

11. CENSUS DATA QUALITY

More than 170 controls were incorporated into the data entry and processing applications. The microdata and macrodata were analysed thoroughly, and compared to the available agricultural statistics.

12. DATA DISSEMINATION

The first final AC results were published on the INE website in July 2011. In October 2011, the AC Data Warehouse system became available. The system provides information processing power, greater flexibility and faster access to information (including custom queries). The SAPM data were published on the INE website in January 2012.

13. DATA SOURCES

Eurostat. 2019a. Archive: Agricultural census in Spain. In: *European Commission: Eurostat* [online]. Luxembourg. [Cited 28 August 2019]. https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Archive:Agricultural_census_in_Spain

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

National Statistical institute (INE). 2012. *Farm Structure Survey 2009/2010 and Survey on agricultural production methods 2009/2010*. National Methodological Report (also available at http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/749240/749313/ES_NMR_FSS_2010.pdf/be028011-2d76-4216-b50b-bc01513458ea).

14. CONTACT

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³ Data on "Main purpose of production of the holding" (item 06) were not collected in the AC 2009.

SPAIN – AGRICULTURAL CENSUS 2009 – MAIN RESULTS¹

NUMBER OF HOLDINGS AND AREA, BY LEGAL STATUS		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	989 800	30 614 170
Civil persons	929 690	19 511 240
An individual (sole holder holdings) ²	929 690	19 511 240
Juridical persons (legal entities)	60 100	11 102 930

LAND TENURE		
	Holdings	UAA (ha)
Total	989 800	23 752 690
Legal ownership and owner-like possession (owned land)	855 890	14 486 910
Rented from others (land rented)	210 110	7 545 110
Other form of tenure (shared farming or other modes)	92 540	1 720 670

DISTRIBUTION OF UAA, BY LAND SIZE CLASSES		
	Holdings	UAA (ha)
Total	989 800	23 752 690
Holdings without UAA	22 500	
Holdings with UAA	967 290	23 752 690
Less than 2 ha	270 280	297 220
2–4,99 ha	232 800	736 800
5–9,99 ha	141 850	995 440
10–19,99 ha	110 960	1 558 920
20–29,99 ha	53 010	1 289 320
30–49,99 ha	54 730	2 101 770
50–99,99 ha	52 470	3 683 770
100 ha and over	51 190	13 089 450

LAND USE		
	Holdings	Area (ha)
Total	989 800	30 614 170
UAA	967 290	23 752 690
Arable land	463 420	11 286 010
Land temporarily fallow	203 610	2 663 960
Land under permanent crops	620 200	4 086 240
Permanent meadows and pastures	264 180	8 377 390
Kitchen garden	138 580	3 050
Other land	315 310	6 861 480
Wooded area	181 280	4 643 410
Unutilised agricultural land and other areas	202 650	2 218 070

MANAGERS BY SEX ³		
	Number	UAA operated (ha)
Total	989 800	23 752 690
Male	775 420	20 330 510
Female	214 380	3 422 180

MEMBERS OF HOLDER'S HOUSEHOLD, BY SEX ⁴	
	Number
Total engaged in agricultural activities on the holding	1 089 900
Male	615 180
Female	474 720

LABOUR FORCE OF THE HOLDING	
	Number
Total	2 227 020
Male	1 464 040
Female	762 980
Family labour force	1 951 760
Male	1 236 630
Female	715 130
Regular non-family labour force	275 260
Male	227 410
Female	47 850

MANAGERS BY SEX AND AGE ³	
	Number
Total	989 800
Male	775 420
Female	214 380
Less than 35 years	52 790
Male	43 170
Female	9 620
35–44 years	152 440
Male	121 920
Female	30 520
45–54 years	237 040
Male	186 280
Female	50 760
55–64 years	253 180
Male	197 800
Female	55 380
65 years and over	294 350
Male	226 250
Female	68 100

LIVESTOCK		
	Holdings	Head
Total holdings with livestock	245 160	
Cattle	111 840	5 840 800
Sheep	68 980	16 574 220
Goats	29 860	2 363 520
Pigs/swine	69 770	24 712 060
Equines (Equidae)	51 030	317 870
Poultry (1 000 head)	n.a.	n.a.
Broilers	36 570	118 850
Laying hens	90 880	59 480
Others	10 040	22 580
Other animals	n.a.	
Rabbits (breeding females)	24 950	1 088 720
Other	2 930	
Insects		
Bees (hives)	8 100	631 480

METHODS OF IRRIGATION		
	Holdings	Irrigable area (ha)
Total holdings with irrigable area	414 850	3 587 770
Holdings with irrigated area⁵	386 440	3 044 710
Surface	161 890	n.a.
Sprinkler	64 320	n.a.
Localized irrigation (drop irrigation)	800	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.