

1964 UNITED STATES CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

FARMS
FARM CHARACTERISTICS
LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS
CROPS
FRUITS
VALUES

VOLUME 1 PART 53

VIRGIN ISLANDS



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Reports for the 1964 Census of Agriculture

Preliminary reports

These six page reports, issued for each county and State, contain totals for farms, farm acreage, farm operators, land in farms classified by use, land-use practices, equipment and facilities, expenditures, use of agricultural chemicals, poultry, livestock, poultry and livestock products, and crops harvested, including fruits and nuts, nursery and greenhouse products, and forest products.

VOLUME I. STATE AND COUNTY STATISTICS

A separate part will be issued for each State, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

VOLUME II. GENERAL REPORT

Statistics by subject will be presented, with totals for the U.S. regions, geographic divisions, and States.

VOLUME III. SPECIAL REPORTS

These reports will present data for supplementary surveys for farm workers, hired farm workers, and for the 1965 Sample Survey of Agriculture.

The statistics printed in this report supersede statistics shown in preliminary reports—Series AC64—P1.

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Volume I

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Introduction

AUTHORITY AND AREA COVERED—The census of agriculture is authorized by an Act of Congress, "Title 13, United States Code—Census," codified August 31, 1954, and amended in August 1957, September 1960, June and October 1962, and August 1964. Section 142 paragraph (a) provides for the census of agriculture to be taken in October 1959 and each fifth year thereafter. Section 191 provides that the census data for Guam and the Virgin Islands may be collected by the Governor, or highest ranking Federal official, in accordance with plans prescribed or approved by the Director of the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The 1964 census covers agriculture in each of the States and in Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

HISTORY OF THE CENSUS—The 1964 Census of Agriculture is the sixth United States census of agriculture of the Virgin Islands. The first, taken in 1917, was a special census authorized by the Secretary of Commerce. The next census of agriculture was taken in 1930, in conjunction with the population census. From 1930 to 1960, a census of agriculture was taken in the Virgin Islands every 10 years, at the same time as the population census. The 1964 Census of Agriculture is the first quinquennial (5-year) census to be taken in the Virgin Islands. It was taken in November-December 1964.

ENUMERATION—Enumerators in the Virgin Islands in 1964 followed a procedure similar to that used for the agriculture census in the United States, except that in the Virgin Islands the agriculture questionnaires were not distributed to farm operators prior to the enumeration. The procedure included:

- a. Listing the name of the head of the household on a Special Listing Form,
- b. Asking questions to determine if there were any agricultural operations on the place, and
- c. Filling a questionnaire for each place with agricultural operations.

For enumeration purposes, agricultural operations were considered to be on the place if—

- a. Any field crops or vegetables were harvested or gathered on the place during the 12 months (November 1, 1963, to October 31, 1964), or a combined total of 10 or more fruit or nut trees or plants were on the place.

- b. Any livestock or 10 or more poultry were kept on the place at the time of enumeration.

Each supervisor and enumerator employed for the 1964 Census of Agriculture in the Virgin Islands received special training for his job. Training course consisted of 12 hours of classroom instruction (3 days of 4-hour classes) and approximately 4 hours of field enumeration. All training was presented according to procedures contained in guides and instruction books prepared by the Bureau of the Census. It included study of the census forms and procedures, practice interviewing, practice filling of questionnaires, map reading, and work exercises.

ENUMERATION ASSIGNMENTS AND ENUMERATION DISTRICTS—For purposes of enumeration, the Virgin Islands were divided into eight Enumeration Assignments, or EA's. Each of these assignments comprised an area that one enumerator could reasonably be expected to enumerate within a 3- to 4-week period.

Each EA was made up of one or more Enumeration Districts or ED's. Each of the 22 Quarters (political subdivisions) was a separate ED, as was each of the three cities.

Each enumerator received a record book and a map of the area assigned to him. He listed in the record book each head of the household living in the area who had agricultural operations there. As he listed a place in the record book, the enumerator indicated its location by copying onto his map the number of the line on which it was listed. This procedure indicated the enumerator's route of travel. As he made his listing, the enumerator also asked the questions on the listing form. Answers to these questions determined whether or not an agriculture questionnaire was required.

The enumeration for the census of agriculture began on November 9, 1964. A large part of the enumeration was completed in 3 weeks.

CENSUS DEFINITION OF A FARM—The statistics presented in this report relate to places qualifying as census farms. For the 1964 Census of Agriculture in the Virgin Islands, a farm was defined as any "place" on which any field crops or vegetables were harvested or gathered during the year November 1, 1963, to October 31, 1964; or on which there was a combined total of 10 or more fruit or nut trees or plants, any livestock, or ten or more poultry at the time of enumeration. The word "place" designates all land in the Virgin Islands under the control of one person or partnership. Con-

trol of the land may be through ownership, management, lease, rental, or cropping arrangement.

All places of 3 or more acres were counted as farms if they qualified by having any field crops or vegetables harvested, 10 or more fruit or nut trees or plants, any livestock or 10 or more poultry. Places of less than 3 acres were counted as farms if sales of agricultural products during the last 12 months amounted to at least \$100 or if they could normally be expected to produce agricultural products in sufficient quantity to provide sales amounting to at least \$100.

For the 1950 census, all places, regardless of size, were counted as farms if the total value of agricultural products in 1949, whether for home use or for sale, but exclusive of home garden products, amounted to \$100 or more. Enumerators were instructed to obtain a questionnaire for every place that the operator considered a farm, for every place of 3 or more acres whether or not it was considered a farm, and for every place of less than 3 acres if the agricultural production in 1949 was valued at \$100 or more.

For the 1940 and earlier censuses of agriculture, enumerators were given a definition of a farm and were instructed to obtain questionnaires only for those places that met the requirements of the definition. In 1940, farms included all places of 3 or more acres on which there were any agricultural operations and places of less than 3 acres if the value of agricultural products, whether for home use or for sale, amounted to \$100 or more.

The farm definition for the 1930 census was the same as in 1940, except that places of less than 3 acres with agricultural products valued at less than \$100 were counted as farms provided they required the continuous services of at least one person. For the 1917 census, a

farm was defined as "the land under the personal management of a single individual or firm, though consisting of different tracts, used for producing animals, fowls, and agricultural products, and operated or farmed by his labor, the labor of the members of his household, or by hired employees working under his personal direction."

OFFICE PROCESSING — Each enumerator's work was examined and checked for completeness by the Agriculture Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. All questionnaires were individually edited and coded prior to tabulation of the data. In the editing process, questionnaires that did not represent farms, according to the census definition, were withdrawn from further processing. The remaining questionnaires were then examined for completeness and consistency. Errors in calculations and units of measure, inconsistencies, and misplaced entries were corrected. Incomplete reports were adjusted on the basis of related information on the same questionnaire or on questionnaires for nearby farms of similar size.

In the coding process, numerical codes were entered on all questionnaires to classify farms by size in terms of total area, by tenure and birthplace of operator, and by total value of agricultural products sold. In addition, codes were entered on questionnaires for commercial farms to indicate type of farm.

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS—The following abbreviations and symbols may occur in the tables:

- Zero.
- X Not applicable.
- NA Not available.
- D Data withheld to avoid disclosing figures for an individual farm or farm operations.

VIRGIN ISLANDS

Municipalities, Quarters and Cities

