

Volume 1

Area Data

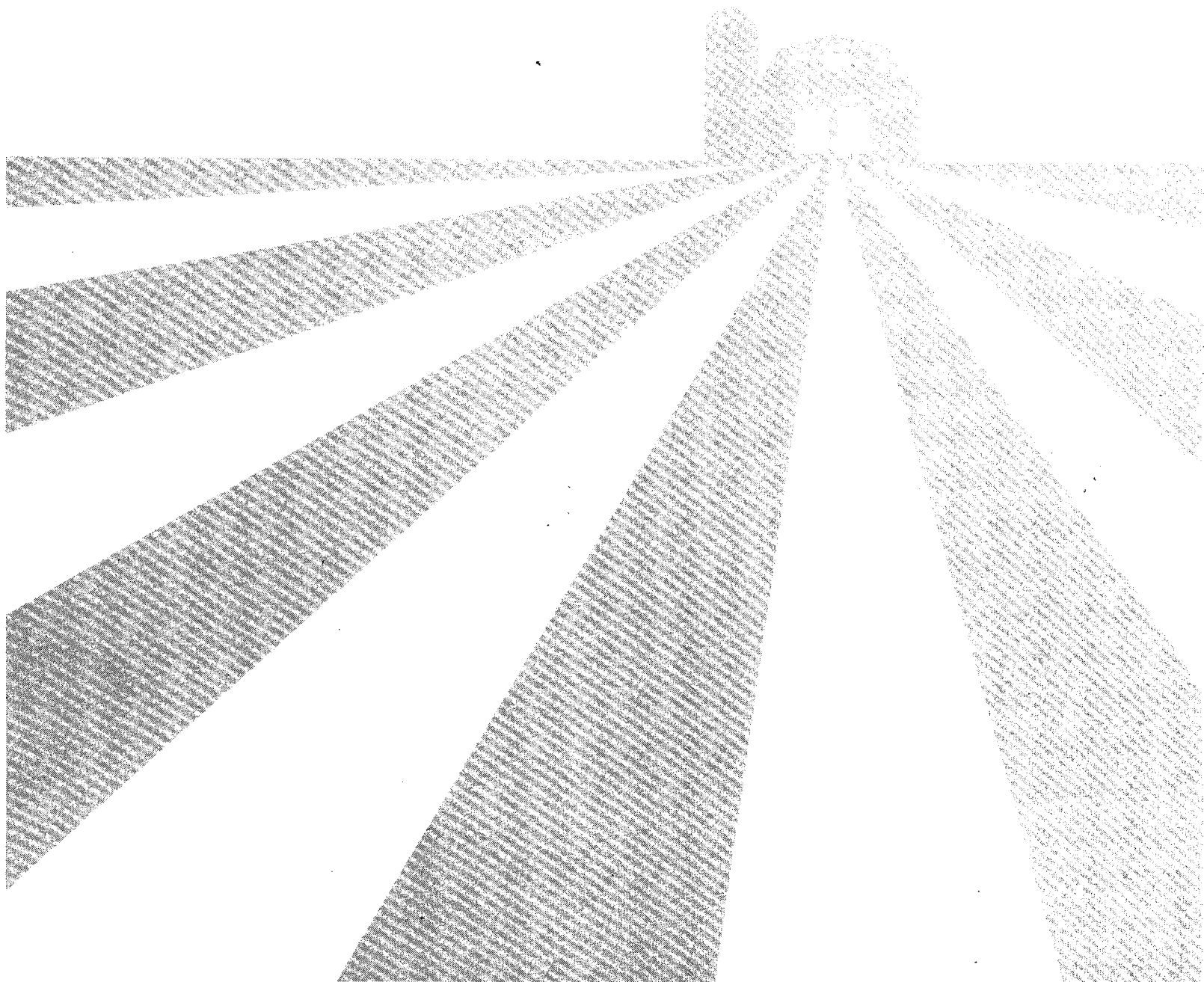
Part 56

**Northern
Mariana
Islands**

AC78-A-56

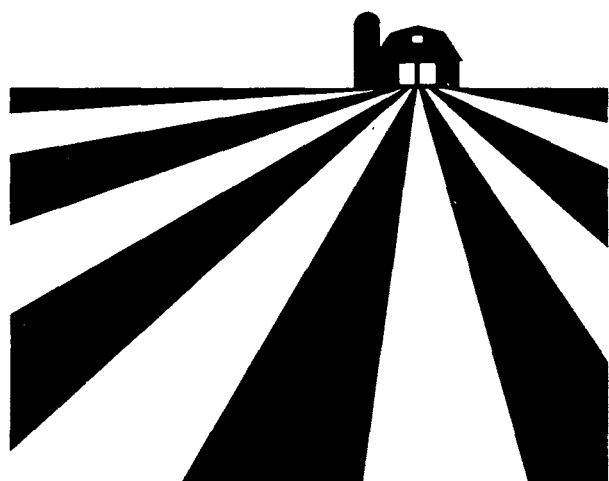
1978
CENSUS OF
AGRICULTURE

U.S. Department of Commerce
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS



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U.S. Department of Commerce
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CONTENTS

	Page
Islands Map	IV
Introduction	V

TABLES

ISLANDS DATA

1. Farms and Land in Farms by Land Use: 1980 and 1970	1
2. Farms and Land in Farms by Size of Farm: 1980	1
3. Operators—Tenure and Characteristics: 1980 and 1970	1
4. Farm Characteristics: 1980 and 1970	2
5. Vegetables and Field Crops: 1979 and 1969	2
6. Fruits, Nuts, and Tree Crops: 1980 and 1970	3
7. Livestock, Poultry, and Fish: 1980 and 1970	3

MUNICIPALITY DATA

8. Land Area, Farms, and Land in Farms, by Municipalities: 1980 and 1970	3
9. Farms and Land in Farms by Land Use and Municipalities: 1980 and 1970	3
10. Farms and Land in Farms by Size of Farm and Municipalities: 1980	4
11. Farms and Land in Farms by Tenure of Operator and Municipalities: 1980 and 1970	4
12. Selected Vegetables and Field Crops by Municipalities: 1979 and 1969	4
13. Selected Fruits, Nuts, and Tree Crops, by Municipalities: 1980 and 1970	5
14. Selected Livestock, Poultry, and Fish, by Municipalities: 1980 and 1970	6
15. Operators Reporting Off-Farm Work by Municipalities: 1979 and 1969	6
16. Farms With Tracts or Pieces of Land on Place by Municipalities: 1980 and 1970	6
17. Operator Characteristics by Municipalities: 1980 and 1970	7
18. Farms by Source of Financing by Municipalities: 1980	7
19. Farms by Type of Holding by Municipalities: 1980 and 1970	8
20. Selected Equipment and Facilities by Municipalities: 1980	8

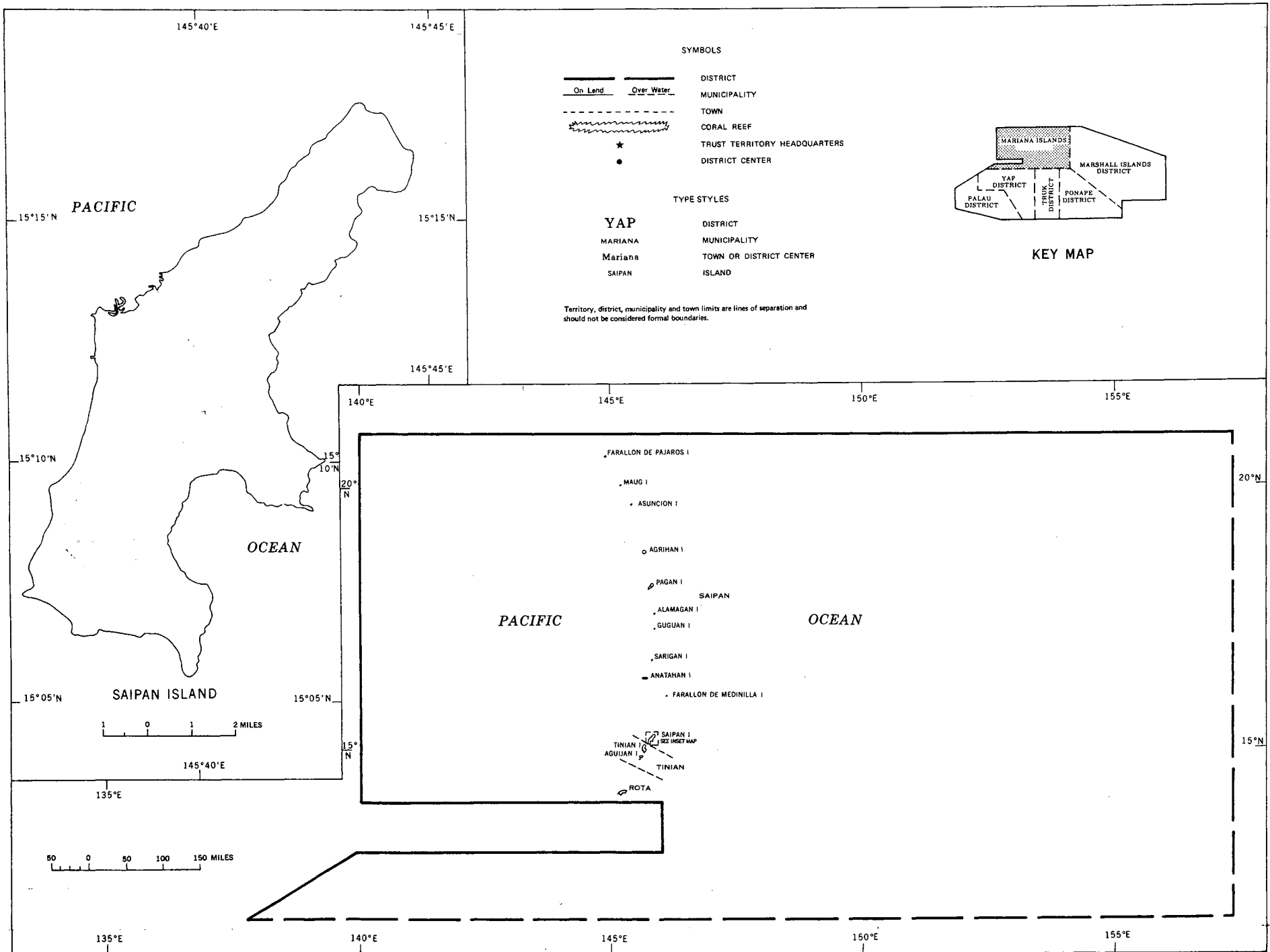
SUMMARY DATA

21. Summary by Size of Farm: 1980	9
22. Summary by Tenure of Operator: 1980	12
23. Summary by Age of Operator: 1980	14

APPENDIXES

A. General Explanation	A-1
B. Questionnaire	B-1

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS



INTRODUCTION

HISTORY OF THE CENSUS	v
AUTHORITY AND AREA COVERED	v
QUESTIONNAIRE	v
TRAINING PROGRAM FOR ENUMERATORS	v
ENUMERATION	v
FARM DEFINITION	vi
OFFICE PROCESSING	vi
TABULAR PRESENTATION	vi
ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS	vi

ENUMERATION

The statistics in this report represent totals of data collected from farm operators on April 1, 1980, or as near to that date as possible. For the enumeration, each area was divided into a number of Enumeration Districts (ED's), usually designed to include the number of housing units that can be interviewed by one enumerator in the time period allowed for the census. Usually one ED constituted the assignment of one enumerator. In some areas, two small ED's were assigned to one enumerator. The questionnaire which enumerators used for taking the 1980 Census of Population and Housing contained a section where the enumerator determined if an agriculture questionnaire should be completed. A "Yes" answer to any one of the five questions in this section meant an agriculture questionnaire must be filled out. The five questions were:

1. Does anyone living in this house operate a farm?
2. Does this place have 15 or more poultry (chickens, ducks, guineas, etc.)?
3. Does this place have five or more livestock (cattle, hogs, goats, etc.)?
4. Is there a combined total of 10 or more fruit, nut, or tree crops on this place?
5. Does this place have 100 square meters or more on which root or field crops or vegetables were harvested for sale during 1979?

If "No" was the answer to all of the above questions, the enumerator would end the interview. The enumerator was also instructed to ask enough questions about tracts of land on which no one lived to determine whether an agricultural questionnaire was required for the person in charge of the land. This instruction was designed to ensure enumeration of all land used for agriculture.

To avoid enumeration of the same place by two or more enumerators, the Census Bureau established rules whereby each enumerator could determine whether or not he/she was responsible for obtaining the questionnaire, regardless of where the person in charge of the operations lived. If a place was partly in one ED and partly in another, the enumerator for the ED in which the person in charge lived was responsible for obtaining the questionnaire. In such cases, he/she was to report on the questionnaire all the land that the person in charge operated, including the land outside his/her ED.

At the end of each interview for which the enumerator completed an agriculture questionnaire another screening question was asked. The question was, "Besides you does any other person living in this household produce or sell any crops,

HISTORY OF THE CENSUS

The 1980 Census of Agriculture for the Northern Mariana Islands is the second census to be taken by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The first was taken in 1970 as part of the Census of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

The 1980 Census of Agriculture was enumerated in conjunction with the 1980 Population Census for the Northern Mariana Islands.

AUTHORITY AND AREA COVERED

The 1980 Census of Agriculture was taken in accordance with the provisions of title 13, United States Code—Census, codified August 31, 1954, as amended. Section 191 provides that the census data for the Northern Mariana Islands may be collected by the High Commissioner, or the highest ranking Federal official, in accordance with plans prescribed or approved by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

QUESTIONNAIRE

The questionnaire for the 1980 Census of Agriculture was prepared by the U.S. Bureau of the Census staff, in cooperation with the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands. It contained a total of 64 inquiries, most of which consisted of several parts. Selection and wording of the inquiries were based on current needs for agricultural information as well as on experience gained in earlier censuses.

Definitions and explanations for selected items are shown in appendix A and the 1980 questionnaire is shown in appendix B.

TRAINING PROGRAM FOR ENUMERATORS

Supervisors, assistant supervisors, and enumerators employed for the 1980 Censuses of Population and Housing and Agriculture in the Northern Mariana Islands received special training for the job. The training included practice interviewing, practice filling of questionnaires, and detailed discussion of the written instructions given to enumerators.

livestock, or poultry?" This question was asked because two or more operators might live in the same household. A "Yes" answer to this question resulted in the enumerator asking the five screening questions again of all possible operators. If any of the five screening questions were answered "Yes" an additional questionnaire was filled for that particular operation.

FARM DEFINITION

The statistics presented in this report relate to places qualifying as census farms. For the 1980 Census of Agriculture in the Northern Mariana Islands, a farm was defined as "any place that has 15 or more poultry (chickens, ducks, guineas, etc.); 5 or more livestock (cattle, hogs, goats, etc.); a combined total of 10 or more fruit or nut trees or plants; or any place of 100 square meters or more on which roots or field crops or vegetables were harvested for sale during 1979."

OFFICE PROCESSING

Each enumerator's work was examined and checked for completeness by the Outlying Areas Statistics Branch of the Agriculture Division, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. All questionnaires were individually edited prior to manual tabulation of the data. In the editing process, questionnaires for places that did not qualify as census farms were voided. The remaining questionnaires were then examined for accuracy, consistency, and completeness. 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 type and size.

In the coding process, numeral codes were entered on all questionnaires to classify farms by size in terms of total area, by tenure of operator, and by age of operator.

After the questionnaires had been edited and coded, the information on them was manually transferred to tabulation sheets. Subject matter specialists of the Outlying Areas Statistics Branch examined the tabulations for reasonableness and consistency. As necessary, corrections were made on the basis of a further reappraisal of the original reports prior to publication.

TABULAR PRESENTATION

The three major groups of tables presented in this report are:

Area—Tables 1 through 7 present data for major items of all farms in the Northern Mariana Islands. Some data in these tables are accompanied by historical data.

Municipality—Tables 8 through 20 present more detailed data for major items of all farms by municipalities. Totals are given for each municipality and for the Northern Mariana Islands as a whole.

Summary—Tables 21 through 23 show more detailed information for all farms. Data in these tables are classified by size of farm, and age and tenure of operator.

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

The following abbreviations and symbols are used throughout the tables:

- Zero.
- (D) Data withheld to avoid disclosing figures for individual farms or farm operations.
- (X) Not applicable.
- (Z) Less than half of the unit reported.
- (NA) Not available.