

Instructions for filling in the Estate Schedule

I. Introduction

The Census of Agriculture which is being held in July 1982 is an undertaking of national importance. It provides basic data on the structure of agricultural holdings, agricultural operators, land utilization, livestock numbers, agricultural machinery and implements so essential for agricultural planning.

The Census is being carried out under the Census Ordinance Chapter 143 of the legislative enactment and it is obligatory for you to furnish the required data. The information given by you will be kept strictly confidential and will not be passed on to anybody. The Government will only utilize the aggregate information and not individual information, for development planning. Please therefore furnish accurate data in respect of the items covered in the schedule and post this to the Government Agent of the District in which the Estate is located, on or before 31st of July 1982.

II. Method of Collecting Data

Agriculture in Sri Lanka mainly consists of two sectors. The small holding sector and the estate sector. In respect of the small holding sector the information is being collected through interview method i.e. an enumerator will approach each agricultural operator operating a small holding and collects the relevant data in prescribed questionnaires. In case of estate sector the method of mailed questionnaire is followed.

III. Definition of an Estate

An agricultural holding of 20 acres in extent or more and under the same operational status will be considered as an estate. (For operational status please see section 2.6 of the schedule).

These could be instances where different parcels of the holding may add up to 20 acres or more. This is not to be considered as an estate. An estate should have at least one parcel whose extent is 20 acres and above. Holdings of Paddy lands and Chena lands of 20 acres and over which are not normally in the nature of estates are to be excluded.

Instructions for Filling in the Various Sections of the Schedule1. Location of Estate.

All the details except Electorate are already filled up. If any mistakes in the particulars given, please correct them. Please also indicate the Electorate.

2. Operator

Section 2 relates to the operator. Under 2.2 please give resident district of the operator. In some cases the location of the estate and the residence of the operator may be different. What is required under 2.2 is the resident district of the operator.

Age of the operator be given in completed years in 2.4. 2.5 (2) Should have acquired technical qualification in Agriculture or livestock disciplines and should have a certificate or diploma. Mere experience is not considered as technical qualification.

3. Area

Total area of the estate is to be given. The records of the estate may be in acres or hectares. Please give the area either in acres or hectares but don't forget to indicate the unit.

Area rented out or leased to some body on a temporary basis be excluded from the total area of the estate.

All the information to be given should relate to the total area as given in 3.

4. Tenure and Land Utilization of the Estate

The information is to be given in respect of each parcel.

A parcel of the holding is any piece of land entirely surrounded by land, water, road forest etc. not belonging to the same holding. It may consist of one or more fields adjacent to each other but should be under the same tenureship. By definition two parcels of the same holding are noncontiguous.

Usually in the estate there are private or public roads. In such cases the two portions of lands separated by roads should not be taken as two parcels. The boundary of the estate is relevant here. If a portion of land belonging to the estate is situated far apart then only it should be considered as a separate parcel.

In estate generally there is one parcel. There could be some cases where there is more than one parcel. In section 8 the total area of the parcel i.e. (its physical area) should be given and the manner in which this area is utilized during the agricultural year 1981-82 (1.7. 81 - 30.6.82) should be given in appropriate columns.

Nine different categories of land use have been provided for. There are mutually exclusive categories so that once an extent of land has been shown under one category, the same extent should not be shown under any other category, you should ascertain which of these uses is primary and classify the land accordingly. For example no paddy but temporary crops may have been cultivated on plot of asveddumized paddy land during the agricultural year 1981-82 yet as this plot of land is meant primarily for the cultivation of paddy, it should be classified under asveddumized paddy. To take another example pineapple may be inter planted with coconut but coconut is a major plantation crop and for this season the land in question will be classified under major plantation crops.

5. Section 5 is a check list of crops grown and/or livestock kept. Tick mark the appropriate boxes.

6. Area under Principal Crops

The area to be given in the gross area. Gross area concept can be understood from the following examples.

If for example Rubber and Cocoa is planted in a 10 acres plot wholly and it contains the recommended number of trees per acre for both the crops. You should not divide the extent of the parcel by two but enter 10 acres under Rubber and 10 acres under Cocoa. In such cases the total area under the crops in the parcel will be more than the physical area and this is permissible under the gross area concept.

In some cases many crops might have been grown in a parcel and some of them might not be grown according to recommended standards. In such cases use your common judgement and give the extent of area

under each crop. The important point to note is that in section 6 the emphasis is on the gross area under each crop.

7. Livestock and Poultry

Please take proper count of all heads of livestock and poultry owned by the estate and also those owned by households i.e. the estate, livestock temporarily away from the estate should be included as belonging to the estate. Similarly livestock temporarily at the estate should be excluded.

8. Use of Fertilizer

The information on the area fertilized and the quantity in the estate for different crops during the agricultural year from July 1981 to June 1982 is to be given. In regard to use of insecticides, weedicides and fungicides encircle the relevant code.

9. Irrigation Facilities

Give extent of area irrigated from different schemes during the agricultural year 1981-82. If the lift irrigation is available the number of units is to be given in respect of each category mentioned. It is the net area irrigated that should be reported here i.e. the physical area of the land irrigated irrespective of the number of crops grown on it in the given season.

10. Population and Employment

(i) The resident population of the estate according to the age groups is to be given.

(ii) Resident and non-resident workers who are on regular pay roll of the estate during the month of June 1982 is to be given according to the age groups and sex. Contract labour is to be excluded.

11. Agricultural Machinery and Implements Owned by the Estate

Agricultural Machinery and Implements owned by the Estate, as at July 1st 1982 is to be given in section 11. Besides the implements and machinery listed which are generally used in the small holdings there would be number of other implements and machinery owned by the estate, depending upon the type of crops grown. Please specify them and give their number.