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Representatives of the Government of Guam made significant recommendations which helped establish data content and provided valuable advice during the planning stages of the census.

Special tribute is paid to the many farm and ranch operators who furnished the information requested. Only through their cooperation was it possible to collect and publish the data in this report.

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(301) 763-8509 Outlying Areas Branch
(301) 763-1113 General Information
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1987 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

CONTENTS III
INTRODUCTION

HISTORY

The 1987 census is the 11th census of agriculture of Guam. The first agriculture census was taken in 1920 as part of the decennial census, a practice that continued every 10 years through 1960. The 1964 Census of Agriculture was the first quinquennial (5-year) census to be taken in Guam. In 1976, Congress authorized the census of agriculture to be taken for 1978 and 1982 to adjust the data reference year to coincide with the 1982 Economic Censuses. After 1982, the agriculture census reverted to a 5-year cycle and is taken covering years ending in "2" and "7."

USES OF THE CENSUS

The census of agriculture is the recognized source of statistics about Guam's agricultural production and the only source of consistent, comparable data at the district level. Census statistics are used to measure agricultural production and to identify trends in an ever changing agricultural sector. Many local programs use census data as a benchmark for designing and evaluating surveys. Private industry uses census statistics to provide a more effective production and distribution system for the agricultural community.

AUTHORITY AND AREA COVERED

The 1987 Census of Agriculture was taken in accordance with the provisions of Title 13, United States Code. Sections 142(a) and 191 provide for a census of agriculture every 5 years in each State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands of the United States. The census data for Guam may be collected by the Governor or a representative from his/her staff to act as census supervisor in accordance with a Memorandum of Agreement prescribed or approved by the Director of the Bureau of the Census.

FARM DEFINITION

The data presented in this report relate to places qualifying as farms for census purposes. For the 1987 Census of Agriculture in Guam, a farm was defined as any place from which $100 or more of agricultural products were sold or normally would have been sold during the census year. This is a definitional change from 1982. For 1982, a farm was defined as a place on which any crop, vegetable, or fruit was harvested or gathered during 1982, or on which there was any livestock, or 15 poultry or more at the time of enumeration.

COMPARABILITY OF DATA

Data comparability has been maintained by revising the historical data to conform to the new farm definition. Appendix B of this publication also has 1987 data presented using both the old and new definitions for major items requested in the 1987 Census of Agriculture.

TABULAR PRESENTATION

Island data—Tables 1 through 9 show detailed island level data accompanied by historical data from the previous census. Tables 23 through 26 provide 1987 island data cross tabulated by tenure of operator, age of operator, size of farm, and value of agricultural products sold.

Election district data—Selected data items are presented by election districts in tables 10 through 22, which includes general data for all districts.

CENSUS DISCLOSURE RULES

In keeping with the provisions of Title 13, United States Code, no data are published that would disclose the operations of an individual farm. However, the number of farms in a given size category or other classification is not considered a disclosure, so this information may be given even though other information is withheld.
DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Definitions and a general explanation of terms used are shown in appendix A. Appendix B displays a bridge table of selected items with the 1987 data by the current definition and the same data by the previous farm definition. The 1987 report form is shown in appendix C.

DOLLAR VALUES

All dollar values presented in this report are expressed in current dollars, i.e., 1987 data are expressed in 1987 dollars and 1982 data in 1982 dollars. The dollar values have not been adjusted for changes in price levels between census years.

INVENTORIES, PRODUCTION, AND SALES DATA

Inventories of livestock and poultry are as of the day of enumeration. Crop and livestock production, sales, and expense data are for the calendar year.

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

The following abbreviations and symbols are used throughout the tables:

- Represents zero.
(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual farms.
(X) Not applicable.
(Z) Less than half of the unit shown.
(NA) Not available.