Workshop on World Programme for the Census of Agriculture 2020
Amman, Jordan
16-19 May 2016

Theme 8: Demographic and social characteristics
Technical Session 12

Adriana Neciu
Agricultural Census and Survey Team
FAO Statistics Division
Contents

• Background
• Importance of the theme
• Items
• Concepts and definitions
• Country experiences
Background

- **Theme 8** refers to information about the household members. Therefore, it applies only to holdings belonging to the household sector.

- **Main items** of the WCA Programme 2010 are retained and **adds a new item**: “Agricultural training/education of the holder”.

- **One “complementary” item** of the previous Programme was **omitted** in the WCA 2020: “Whether holding is part of an agricultural household”

- **Another complementary item** “National/ethnic group of household head or agricultural holder” that was **moved** to **Theme 1**.
Importance of the theme

• The **WCA 2020 re-emphasizes** the relationship between the agricultural census and the population census. Demographic and social data are essentially covered by the population census. However, specific information about demographic and social characteristics of households operating holdings are crucial to understand farm management, agricultural decision processes, structure of holders’ families by sex and age, etc.

• Researchers, decision-makers and planners benefit from such understanding of the demography behind the operation of holdings in the household sector in the country.
Theme 8 Demographic and social characteristics, comprises 7 items:

For the holding (2):

0801 Household size by sex and age groups; *(essential item)*
0807 Agricultural training/education of holder *(new item)*

For each household member (5):

0802 Sex;
0803 Age
0804 Relationship to household head or other reference person;
0805 Marital status;
0806 Educational attainment;
Item 0801: Household size by sex and age groups

Type: Essential item

Reference period: This item relates to the persons who, at the time of the census, are usually resident in the household.

Concept: Household size - the number of members of the holder’s household, classified by sex and age groups.

Notes:

- It is recommended to take this information only for households with a single holding (to avoid duplications)
- The age groups could be determined according to national circumstances. However they should allow the distinction between children, adults of working age and older persons.
- It is suggested to use the “residence approach”: persons who are usually resident in the household.
**Item 0802: Sex** (for each household member);
**Item 0803: Age** (for each household member)

**Type:** Additional items

**Reference period:** Census reference day

**Concept:** For each household member, the sex (male; female) and age in completed years at the moment of the census should be recorded.

**Notes:** In some countries there may be difficulties to collect data about age or date of birth: sometimes because an alternative calendar such as a lunar calendar is used or people can only identify their data of birth in relation to major events or may only know the season not the date. There are various data collection tools available to help overcome these problems.
Item 0804: Relationship to household head or other reference person (for each household member)

**Type:** Additional item

**Reference period:** Census reference day

**Concept:** In the agricultural census, relationship data are only collected to determine household and family composition. Therefore, it doesn’t matter who the reference person is or, if it is the household head, whether that title reflects the person’s role.
Item 0804: Relationship to household head or other reference person (for each household member) contd.

Relationship categories*:

- Head
- Spouse
- Partner in consensual union (cohabiting partner)
- Child
- Spouse of child
- Grandchild or great grandchild
- Parent or parent of spouse
- Other relative
- Other unrelated person

* Principles and recommendations for population and houses censuses, rev 3. UN 2015
Item 0804: Relationship to household head or other reference person (for each household member) contd.

Household composition types*:

- **One-person household**

- **Nuclear household**
  - Married couple family with child(ren)
  - Married couple family without child(ren)
  - Partner in consensual union (cohabiting partner) with child(ren)
  - Partner in consensual union (cohabiting partner) without child(ren)
  - Father with children
  - Mother with children

- **Extended household**

- **Composite household**

---

* Principles and recommendations for population and houses censuses, rev 3. UN 2015
**Item 0805: Marital status** (for each household member)

**Type:** Additional item

**Reference period:** Census reference day

**Concept:** Marital status refers to the status of the household member in relation to the marriage laws or customs of the country.

**Recommended groups***:

- Never married
- Married
- Married but separated
- Partner in consensual union (cohabiting partner), where applicable
- Widowed and not remarried
- Divorced and not remarried

---

* Principles and recommendations for population and houses censuses, rev 3. UN 2015
Item 0806: Educational attainment
(for each household member)

**Type:** Additional item

**Reference period:** Census reference day

**Concept:** Educational attainment - the highest grade of formal education completed or attended by a person. In the agricultural census, educational attainment data should include both the agricultural holder and the agricultural holder’s spouse, if present, as the educational levels of both can be important factors in agricultural and household activities.

**Note:** For international comparison purposes, educational attainment should be classified into at least three levels of education: **primary**, **secondary**, and **post-secondary**. Each level may be further subdivided to meet national needs.
Item 0807: Agricultural training/education of holder

**Type:** Additional item.

**Reference period:** Census reference day

**Concept:** This item relates to the training or education received by the holder for a specific field or task in agriculture

**Suggested categories:**

- **Informal learning in agriculture** – practical agricultural training/education, i.e. experience acquired through practical work (field tours, etc);

- **Secondary education in agriculture** – any education in agriculture completed at the secondary education level;

- **Non-formal education in agriculture** – short-term, ad hoc courses in agriculture, completed at or provided by a gov. institution, int’l organization or any specialized institution in agriculture;

- **Tertiary education in agriculture** – high level education training, acquired at the tertiary education level.
Holdings operated by multiple households were also considered and the first column of the table designed to collect the information reflected such situation.

Each household member was numbered and the following information was reported:

a) Included in Theme 8:
   - Gender (male, female);
   - Aged at 01.06.2007;
   - Relationship with the owner (8 options);
   - Education (11 options)

b) Other information corresponding to Theme 9 (Work on the holding) was reported in the same question:
The questionnaire collected information about the characteristics of members of the agricultural household:

- **Names**;
- **Relationship to head of household** (head, wife/husband; son/daughter; parent; brother/sister; other relative; not related);
- **Sex** (male/female);
- **Age** in completed years;
- **Marital status** (for persons aged 12 and over) (single, married, common law, widowed, divorced, separated);
- **Literacy** (can’t read nor write; can read only; can read and write);
- **Education level** (persons aged 6 and more) (never been at school, primary incomplete; primary completed; post-primary vocational; secondary incomplete; secondary complete; higher education incomplete; higher education)
MANY THANKS