

**METADATA FOR  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS**

---

---

**CHINA**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	<b>Page</b>
<b>List of Acronyms</b>	iii
<b>CHAPTER 1. NATIONAL SYSTEM OF AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS</b>	
1.1 Legal Framework and Statistical Advisory Bodies .....	1
1.2 Structure and Organization of Major Agricultural Statistical Agencies .....	1
1.3 Outputs and Dissemination of Agricultural Statistics.....	3
1.4 Dialogue with Data Users and Cooperation with International Organizations..	5
1.5 Strategic Framework.....	5
<b>CHAPTER 2. MAJOR DOMAINS AND SELECTED INDICATORS OF AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS</b>	
2.1 List of Major Domains and Selected Statistics Indicators .....	7
2.2 Metadata for Each of the Major Domains.....	8
<b>2.2.1 Agricultural Production</b>	
2.2.1.1 Concepts, Definitions and Classifications .....	8
2.2.1.2 Coverage, Availability and Responsible Agencies .....	9
<b>2.2.2 Condition, Service and Investment for Agricultural Production</b>	
2.2.2.1 Concepts, Definitions and Classifications .....	10
2.2.2.2 Coverage, Availability and Responsible Agencies .....	10
<b>2.2.3 Other Indicators</b>	
2.2.3.1 Concepts, Definitions and Classifications .....	10
2.2.3.2 Coverage, Availability and Responsible Agencies .....	11
<b>CHAPTER 3. MAJOR DATA SOURCES FOR AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS</b>	
3.1 List of Major Agricultural Censuses, Surveys and Registers .....	12
3.2 Metadata for Each of the Major Censuses.....	12
<b>3.2.1 Agricultural Census</b>	
3.2.1.1 Overview .....	12
3.2.1.2 Census Design .....	13
3.2.1.3 Conduct, Operations, Data Quality Control .....	14
3.3 Metadata for Each of the Major Surveys	
<b>3.3.1 Rural Household Sample Survey</b>	
3.3.1.1 Overview .....	16
3.3.1.2 Survey Design .....	16
<b>3.3.2 Sown Area and Agricultural Production Sample Survey</b>	
3.3.2.1 Overview .....	16
3.3.2.2 Survey Design .....	16
<b>3.3.3 Breeding Stocks Survey</b>	
3.3.3.1 Overview .....	16
3.3.3.2 Survey Design .....	17

<b>3.3.4 Socio-economic Survey in Rural Areas</b>	
3.3.4.1 Overview .....	17
3.3.4.2 Survey Design .....	17
<b>3.3.5 Survey on Farm, Forestry, Animal Husbandry and Fishery Production</b>	
3.3.5.1 Overview .....	17
3.3.5.2 Survey Design .....	17
<b>3.3.6 Survey on Agricultural Production Value</b>	
3.3.6.1 Overview .....	17
3.3.6.2 Survey Design .....	18
<b>3.3.7 Counties (cities) Survey</b>	
3.3.7.1 Overview .....	18
3.3.7.2 Survey Design .....	18
<b>3.3.8 One-time Surveys</b>	
3.3.8.1 Overview .....	18
<b>3.4 Metadata for Each of the Other Data Collection Methodologies</b>	
<b>3.4.1 Agricultural Statistics Annual Report</b>	
3.4.1.1 Responsible Agency .....	18
3.4.1.2 Description of the Contained Information .....	18
<b>3.4.2 Regular Form for Tracking the Progress of Farming Activities</b>	
3.4.2.1 Responsible Agency .....	19
3.4.2.2 Description of the Contained Information .....	19
<b>3.4.3 Rural Economic Information Card at County Level</b>	
3.4.3.1 Responsible Agency .....	19
3.4.3.2 Description of the Contained Information .....	19
<b>3.4.4 Agricultural Sampling Survey</b>	
3.4.4.1 Responsible Agency .....	19
3.4.4.2 Description of the Contained Information .....	20
3.4.4.3 Data Sources .....	20

## **List of Acronyms**

ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture
NBS	National Bureau of Statistics
PRC	People's Republic of China
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
WTO	World Trade Organization

## **CHAPTER 1. NATIONAL SYSTEM OF AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS**

### **1.1 Legal Framework and Statistical Advisory Bodies**

The "Statistics Law of the People's Republic of China (PRC)" is the legal basis for the agricultural statistics system in the PRC. This law was passed on the third meeting of the Standing Committee of the 16th National Congress of Communist Party of China on December 8, 1983. As the first law for agricultural statistics, the Statistics Law of PRC placed the agricultural statistical system of China into a legal track and laid a legal foundation for the development of agricultural statistics in the country.

### **1.2 Structure and Organization of the Major Statistical Agencies**

The Statistics Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and National Bureau of Statistics of China are the major agricultural statistical agencies in China.

The Ministry of Agriculture of China is a department of China State Council and is in charge of the development of agriculture and rural economy. The statistical department of the Ministry of Agriculture of China is responsible for the following:

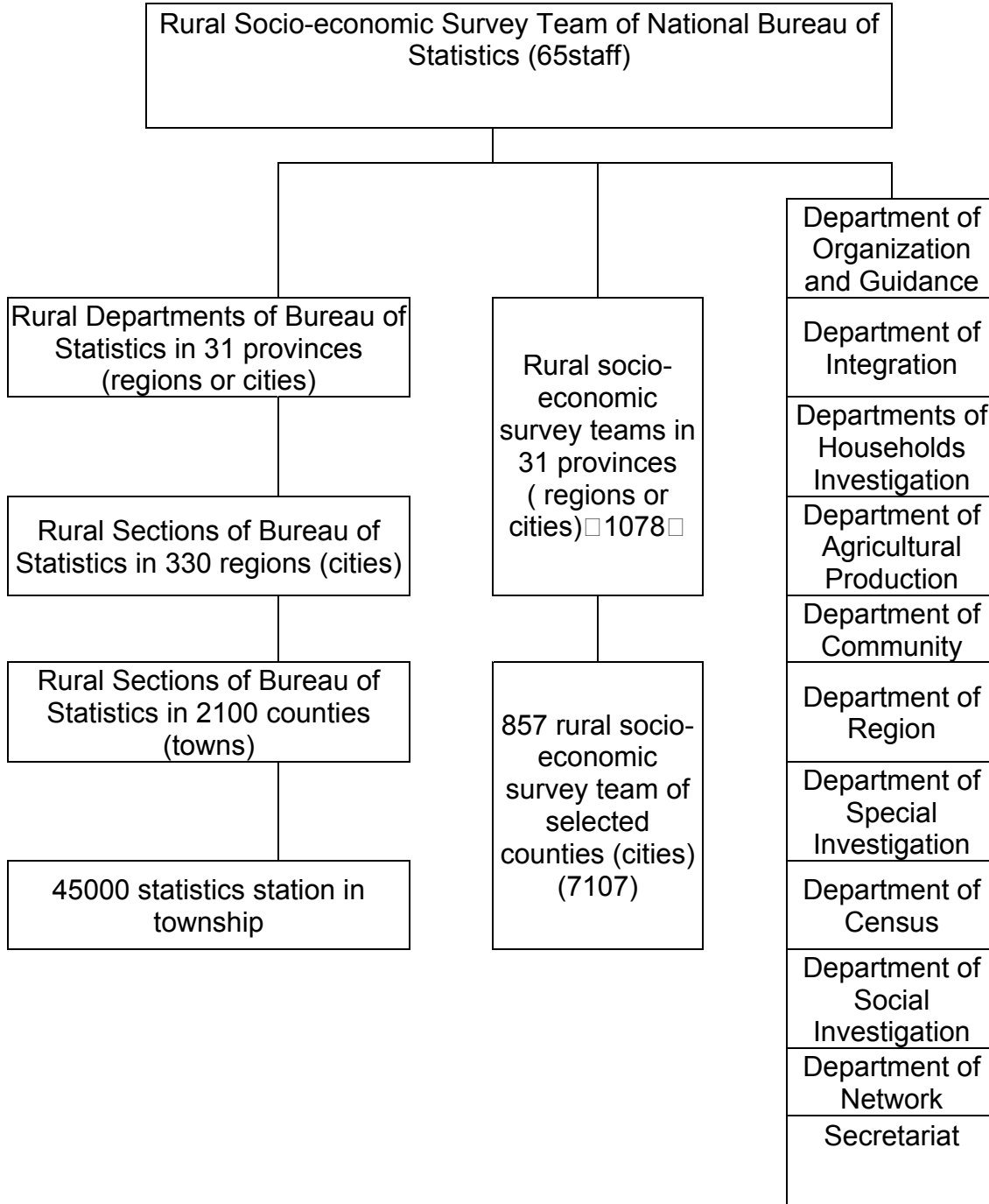
1. Study and development of agricultural survey system and survey program;
2. Organization and implementation of the survey;
3. Coordination and guidance of agricultural statistics in departments at provincial, regional or county level;
4. Management of projects on agricultural statistics;
5. Collection, collation and consolidation of statistical information;
6. Construction of databases;
7. Conducting predictive analysis of statistics; and
8. Dissemination of statistical information.

There are staff responsible for agricultural statistics in departments at provincial, regional, county or township levels. There are 150 statisticians in the Ministry of Agriculture of China and there are nearly 40, 000 staff at the provincial, regional and county levels. Nearly 300, 000 personnel are working at the township levels and these include personnel in rural business management stations, technology extension stations, animal husbandry and veterinary stations, agricultural machinery stations and township enterprises.

The National Bureau of Statistics of China is the agency responsible for National Statistics and Accounts under China State Council. The Rural Department of National Bureau of Statistics is the functional department for agricultural statistics. It is responsible for the organization and coordination of statistical survey and agricultural census. Specifically, it implements sample surveys on agricultural production, rural development and income of rural residents. The Rural Department

conducts agricultural statistical survey through the agencies and personnel at provincial, regional, county and township levels.

Organizational Structure of the Statistical System in Rural Areas



### 1.3 Outputs and Dissemination of Agricultural Statistics

Data transmission for agricultural statistical surveys has been modernized. The data above the county level is mainly transmitted through the internet.

The main dissemination media for the statistical information in the Ministry of Agriculture of China are China Agricultural Information Network, CCTV7, Farmers Daily, China Rural Magazine, Agricultural Market Weekly, China Rural Distance Education Network, and other similar media. In order to regulate the dissemination, the Ministry of Agriculture of China issued the Dissemination Calendar for Economic Information of the Ministry of Agriculture, which made the contents and time of data dissemination transparent since 2003. The statistical information of the local agricultural department has been disseminated timely through the local media.

#### Major Publications Released by the Ministry of Agriculture

Title of Publication	Domains/Contents	Medium	Format	Frequency
China's Agricultural Statistics Report	Data on rural economy and agriculture, animal husbandry, fishery, township enterprises, farming, agricultural machinery, rural energy, agricultural disasters and agricultural technology.	Chinese	Book	Annually
Concise Handbook Rural Economic Statistics	Import and export, price of agricultural products, income of rural residents	Chinese	Book	Annually
Agricultural Information Warning Report (including grain, cotton, oil, sugar, livestock and other major varieties)	Production, import and export, internal and external price	Chinese	Newspaper magazine or online report	Monthly/ Quarterly/ Annually

The Division of Information and Statistics under the Department of Market and Economic Information in the Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for the work related to agricultural statistics. The contact details of this agency are as follows:

Telephone no.:(86) 010 64193102  
 Fax no.:(86) 010 64193145  
 E-mail address: [scsxxc@agri.gov.cn](mailto:scsxxc@agri.gov.cn)  
 Website: [www.agri.gov.cn](http://www.agri.gov.cn)  
[www.ngx.net.cn](http://www.ngx.net.cn)

The National Bureau of Statistics of China has set the timetable for dissemination of statistical information.

### Major Publications Released by the National Bureau of Statistics

Title of Publication	Domains/ Contents	Format	Frequency
China statistical yearbook	Data on rural economy	Book	Annually
China rural statistics yearbook		Book	Annually
Yearbook of China rural household survey		Book	Annually
Statistical summary of China rural towns		Book	Annually
Socio-economic statistics summary for Chinese counties (cities)		Book	Annually
Comprehensive outline of first agricultural census of China	Major situation of first agriculture census	Report	

Website: [www.stats.gov.cn](http://www.stats.gov.cn)  
 Contact: Telephone no.:(86) 010 68782868  
 Fax no.:(86) 010 68782843  
 E-mail address: [hour@stats.gov.cn](mailto:hour@stats.gov.cn)

## **1.4 Dialogue with Data Users and Cooperation with International Organizations**

The Ministry of Agriculture holds a conference about the situation on agricultural and rural economy twice a year, in the middle of May and September. Among the invited agencies are the following:

1. National Development and Reform Commission;
2. Ministry of Finance;
3. Ministry of Commerce;
4. State Grain Administration;
5. National Bureau of Statistics;
6. China Meteorological Administration;
7. Federations of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives;
8. Office of the State Flood Control and Drought Relief Headquarters;
9. Chinese Academy of Sciences; and
10. China Cotton Association.

The conference discusses the current situation of agriculture and rural economy. The ministry makes a summary of the current situation and forecasts on agricultural production.

The Department and Ministries involved in the agriculture of China promote international cooperation and exchanges.

The Ministry of Agriculture of China has close cooperation and exchanges with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The Ministry of Agriculture of China had cooperation regarding multi-target sample survey with the United States Department of Agriculture. It conducts training for the ASEAN, and has completed three (3) Statistical Information Network training sessions already.

## **1.5 Strategic Framework**

With the improvements in the socialist market economy of China and the rapid changes in the country's social life, the statistical system is facing many problems and challenges in this complicated economic situation. On one hand, the statistical system has to deal with concerns like flexibility, diversity and transparency. On the other hand, statistical infrastructure is still weak and statistical fund is not adequate. Although the survey methodology has improved over time, it still fails to fully subscribe to international classification systems and it is difficult to guarantee the quality of the statistical data.

In view of the above, there are plans to further strengthen the statistical system in several aspects.

First, China intends to take 3-5 years to build the agricultural economic accounting system.

Second, the country wants to study the statistical reporting and indicator system to meet the need of World Trade Organization (WTO) for reports on the situation in the rural areas. It is necessary to readjust the structure of the existing indicators to produce details of the major varieties of agricultural products and to enhance quality of price indicators. The country intends to fully subscribe to harmonize with international standards for indicators system.

Third, there are plans to continuously improve the sampling methods used in the agricultural statistical system.

Fourth, the country also intends to accelerate the integration of reports and build the statistical indicator system scientifically and include features of the rural areas.

Fifth, the country's statistical system intends to strengthen rural construction in the standardized survey.

Sixth, the statistical system plans to actively explore new ways to enhance statistics-related job and look at the possibility of using different survey methods so as to reduce the costs of generating statistics. Efforts should be taken to strengthen statistical foundation and build-up capacity of statisticians.

Seventh, the country's statistical system recognizes the need to vigorously explore new mechanisms for information sharing of rural statistics so as to accelerate the inter-agency information sharing among departments of State Council.

Eighth, there is the need to actively explore new mechanisms for rural statistics reform and development which is an objective requirement to improve socialist market economic system.

Finally, the country intends to invest on the modernization of agricultural statistical system.

## Chapter 2. MAJOR DOMAINS AND SELECTED INDICATORS OF AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

### 2.1 List of Major Domains and Selected Statistics and Indicators

Domain	Statistics/Indicators
Agricultural production	<p>Acreage and output indicators of grain, cotton, edible oil, sugar, hemp, vegetables and other major crops;</p> <p>Harvested area and yield of rubber, coffee, coconut, cashews and other tropical and subtropical crops;</p> <p>Harvested area and products of tea fruits and other non-yield farmland products;</p> <p>Harvest indices of forest area, bamboo harvesting, walnut and chestnut and other major forest products;</p> <p>Production, Stock and Slaughter of pigs, cows, sheep, poultry and other main livestock and meat, eggs, milk and other major products;</p> <p>Production of fish, various shellfish, and other aquatic products</p>
Condition, Service and Investment for agricultural production	<p>Size and structure of cultivated area</p> <p>Number and structure of the personnel working on agriculture</p> <p>Situation on agricultural technology service units and personnel</p> <p>Agricultural machineries including tractor, irrigation, cropper, agricultural vehicles and so on</p> <p>Water and electricity facilities and consumption by agriculture</p> <p>Intermediate inputs to the application including fertilizers, pesticides, diesel, plastic sheeting and so on.</p>

Domain	Statistics/Indicators
Prices of major farm products, intermediate consumption and agricultural output	Producer and market prices of grain, cotton, edible oil, sugar, troublesome, vegetables and meat, aquatic products and other major products  Gross output value of farming
Income and consumption of the rural residents	Family status, population and employment  Total revenue and total expenditure, cash income and cash expenditures, net income and disposable income  Major products sold
Other Indicators	Number and structure of agricultural and rural production units;  Number of rural workers, the quality and status of employment;  Quantity, quality and structure of major agricultural machinery and equipment  Size and structure of farmland  Environmental conditions and infrastructure in rural communities  Construction of small town

## 2.2 Metadata for Each of the Major Domains

### 2.2.1 Agricultural Production

#### 2.2.1.1 Concepts, Definitions and Classifications

**Gross Output Value of Farming, Forestry, Animal Husbandry and Fishery** refers to the total value of products of farming, forestry, animal husbandry and fishery, and total value of services rendered to support farming, forestry, animal husbandry and fishery activities.

**Grain Output** refers to the total output in the whole country including grains produced by state farms, collective units, rural households, as well as by farms affiliated to industrial and mining enterprises and other production units.

**Cotton Output** refers to the cotton production in the whole country including cotton sown in spring and in autumn. Output is measured as the weight of ginned cotton. Ceiba is not included.

**Output of Oil-bearing Crops** refers to the total production of oil-bearing crops of various kinds, including peanuts, (dry, in shell) rapeseeds, sesame, sunflower seeds, flax seeds, and other oil-bearing crops. Soybeans, oil-bearing woody plants, and wild oil-bearing crops are not included.

**Output of Aquatic Products** refers to catches of both artificially cultured and naturally grown aquatic products, including fish, shrimps, crabs and shellfish in sea and inland water as well as seaweed. Freshwater plants are not included.

**Output of Pork, Beef, and Mutton** refers to the meat of slaughtered hogs, cattle, sheep and goats with head, feet, and offal taken away. Data refers to the production of the whole country.

**Number of Livestock or Poultry in Stock at Beginning (or End)** refers to the total number of large animals, pigs, sheep, fowls, etc. raised by rural cooperative organizations, state farms, rural individuals, government agencies, schools, industrial and mining enterprises, army, and urban residents at the beginning (or end) of the reference period.

### 2.2.1.2 Coverage, Availability and Responsible Agencies

Statistics/Indicators	Coverage	Availability	Responsible Agencies
Cross Output Value of Farming, Forestry, Animal Husbandry and Fishery	National	1996-2005	MOA&NBS
Grain Output	National	1996-2005	MOA&NBS
Cotton Output	National	1996-2005	MOA&NBS
Output of Oil-bearing Crops	National	1996-2005	MOA&NBS
Output of Aquatic Products	National	1996-2005	NBS

## 2.2.2 Condition, Service and Investment for Agricultural Production

### 2.2.2.1 Concepts, Definitions and Classifications

**Sown Area of Crops** refers to area of land sown or transplanted with crops regardless of being in cultivated area or non-cultivated area. Area of land re-sown due to natural disasters is also included.

**Consumption of Chemical Fertilizers in Agriculture** refers to the quantity of chemical fertilizers applied in agriculture in the year, including nitrogenous fertilizer, phosphate fertilizer, potash fertilizer, and compound fertilizer.

**Total Power of Farm Machinery** refers to total mechanical power of machinery used in farming, forestry, animal husbandry, and fishery, including plough, irrigation and drainage, harvesting, transport, plant protection, stock breeding, forestry and fishery.

### 2.2.2.2 Coverage, Availability and Responsible Agencies

Statistics/Indicators	Coverage	Availability	Responsible Agencies
Sown Area of Crops	National	1996-2005	MOA&NBS
Consumption of Chemical Fertilizers in Agriculture	National	1996-2005	NBS
Total Power of Farm Machinery	National	1996-2005	MOA&NBS

### 2.2.3 Other Indicators

#### 2.2.3.1 Concepts, Definitions and Classifications

**Rural Employed Persons** refer to rural labor forces aged over 16 years old who are engaged in real production and management activities and receive payment in kind or wages, including those covered within the age frame and regularly participating in production activities, and those who are out of the range of age frame and also participating in production activities regularly.

### **2.2.3.2 Coverage, Availability and Responsible Agencies**

<b>Statistics/Indicators</b>	<b>Coverage</b>	<b>Availability</b>	<b>Responsible Agency</b>
Rural Employed Persons	National	1996-2005	NBS

## **Chapter 3. MAJOR DATA SOURCES FOR AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS**

### **3.1 List of Major Agricultural Censuses, Surveys and Registers**

#### **Census**

1. Agricultural Census

#### **Surveys**

1. Rural Household Sample Survey
2. Sown Area and Agricultural Production Sample Survey
3. Breeding Stocks Survey
4. Socio-economic Survey in Rural Areas
5. Survey on Farm, Forestry, Animal Husbandry and Fishery Production
6. Survey on Agricultural Production Value
7. Counties (cities) Survey
8. One-time Surveys

#### **Registers**

1. Agricultural Statistics Annual Report
2. Regular Form for Tracking the Progress of Farming Activities
3. Rural Economic Information Card at County Level
4. Agricultural Sampling Survey

### **3.2 Metadata for Each of the Major Censuses**

#### **3.2.1 Agricultural Census**

##### **3.2.1.1 Overview**

Agricultural census is conducted once every 10 years. It is responsible for registration of the units of agricultural production and service, rural households, non-agricultural rural households, agricultural production and management, villages and towns according to fixed time, a standardized survey and unified reporting.

The goal of the second national agricultural census is to have a complete overview of agriculture, country, farmers, offering policy-makers the data for scientific and systematic decision-making for the social and economic development of the agriculture sector.

### 3.2.1.2 Census Design

The second national agricultural census has set up leading groups and offices at the levels of state council, provinces (autonomous regions, municipalities), prefectures (cities, states, unions), counties (cities, districts). Towns, townships, streets were identified in the census of farms (forestry, animal husbandry and fishery). The coverage of urban regions where there are agricultural production activities is still being pursued by local agricultural census office.

The time reference for point items is at 24pm, December 31, 2006. All data are standard with the time reference for point items' data, such as: "area of agricultural land at the end of 2006", "owned houses at the end of 2006".

The time reference for period items is from January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006. These data for the year include: household's engagement in agricultural activities and area of cultivated land.

The second agricultural census covers crop planting, forestry, animal husbandry, fishery and services for these sectors.

The objects or units of enumeration of the second national agricultural census are the holdings and people within PRC and they include the following:

1. Rural households are households in those rural areas which are engaged in crop planting, forestry, animal husbandry, fishery and services for these sectors in rural area.
2. Urban households are those households in the urban areas which are engaged in agriculture.
3. Agricultural holdings refer to households, corporations and other production units which are engaged in crop planting, forestry, animal husbandry, fishery and services for these sectors.

The agricultural production proprietor should also have one or more of the criteria listed below:

1. Manage and/or cultivate land, garden plot, and area of fishery more than 0.1 Ares at the end of the year.
2. Manage forestry land, grass land more than 1 Ares at the end of the year.
3. Raise small-scale livestock (more than 20) at the end of the year (e.g., rabbit, etc.
4. Generate income from agricultural production of more than 500 Yuan in the whole year

5. Generate income of more than 500 Yuan from managing crop farms, forestry, livestock farms and fisheries for other households.

The rural region in the second national agricultural census is defined as area dominated by villager committee and excludes commercial residential areas where non-local villagers dwell. It covers resident committees possessing agricultural land and areas used by local residents as their permanent residence and with agriculture character and those areas where residents are excluded from urban society-security. The rural region also includes farms (forestry, animal husbandry and, fishery) performing administrative government function.

### **3.2.1.3 Conduct, Operations, Data Quality Control**

In implementing the design of the agricultural census, census sections are set-up. The census section is plotted by the unit of precinct dominated by villager committee. There is at least one supervising interviewer in one census section. Under each census section is the basic census section which is plotted by villager's group. If there is no village group or if the village group's scale is too large or its boundary is out of focus or the village committee's households dwell separately in more than five places, then, the basic census section is plotted through the geographical indicator.

The scale of basic census section and number of interviewers were decided based on the target of finishing the interviews in 10 to 15 days. On the average, there are 50 to 100 households in one basic census section. If population density is low or traffic is poor, the basic census section may also involve 20 to 50 households. There is at least one interviewer in one basic census section.

There are five (5) sets of questionnaires used in the second national agricultural census. They are as follows:

1. Household questionnaires are used to register rural households, town and township households engaged in agricultural production activities. These households are to be interviewed in the principle of "once there is a household, there is an interview" in the rural census section. Town and township households engaged in agricultural production activities are to be interviewed in the principle of "find household by land (establishment)" in urban census section.

Population and employment data are recorded for each household. All the agricultural activities are recorded and accounted for concerned members of the household. These are recorded in their census section in case of household members engaged in agricultural activities in different census sections. The interviewers are encouraged to use registered permanent residence record, land contract and other administrative records before interviewing. It is noted that all work must be done where the household is located.

2. Unit Questionnaires are used to register agricultural holdings and other units related to the agricultural activities and other non-registered units. The principle used in the census and in this questionnaire is find agricultural holdings by means of query, section check and interview on the spot.

The coverage is limited by town and township. Corporations are responsible for filling in the questionnaires and reporting to the town agricultural census office if the corporation and production activities unit are at the same town. The units engaged in production activities unit are responsible for filling in questionnaires and reporting to local town agricultural census office if the corporation is not in the local area. Town agricultural census office is responsible for verifying the unit's character and coding.

Agricultural production and operation activities are recorded using the principle of "who manage, who fill in". Agricultural holdings are characterized according to ownership (owned or leased), machinery and equipment used, employees engaged in agriculture, practices in agricultural production and operation. Agricultural production activities contracted to households and other units need not be included. The machinery, equipment, agricultural production land which are leased or contracted to others need to be registered in principle of "who manage, who fill in". The leaseholder or contractor is responsible for filling in the questionnaires.

Data are collected by means of "Supersede filling after interviewing", "fill in by themselves". The interviewer or supervisor helps in filling in the questionnaires, large enterprises may fill in by themselves on the basis of having mastered the method of filling after training.

3. Administrative Village Questionnaires are used to register administrative villages and other administrative units equivalent to an administrative village. The basic census section is responsible for the collection of information and reporting.

4. Town and Township Questionnaires are used to register town and township and other administrative units equal to town and township; Town and township agricultural census office is responsible to collecting related message and reporting.

5. Agricultural Land Questionnaires are filled in on the basis of data updated by the Ministry of Land and Resources. The national agricultural census office is responsible in verifying the agricultural land data and conducting quality spot-check in cooperation with the Ministry of Land and Resources.

### **3.3 Metadata for Each of the Major Surveys**

#### **3.3.1 Rural Household Sample Survey**

##### **3.3.1.1 Overview**

The survey intends to generate data on a) total revenue and total expenditure of rural residents, b) cash income and cash expenditures, c) per capita net income of rural residents, d) disposable income of rural residents, e) living expenses in cash, f) food consumption spending, g) sales of major products of rural residents, h) the rural population and employment.

##### **3.3.1.2 Survey Design**

The nationwide sample survey covers 68,000 farmers. Samples are distributed in 857 counties under 31 provinces (autonomous regions and municipalities). These samples have high level of representation in the income of rural residents at country or province level but cannot meet the requirement below region level.

Data collection is a one-time survey with the combination of accounting or records of farmers.

#### **3.3.2 Sown Area and Agricultural Production Sample Survey**

##### **3.3.2.1 Overview**

The survey generates data on production and acreage of rice, corn, wheat and other cereals and cotton.

##### **3.3.2.2 Survey Design**

Crop Yield Survey is conducted by sending investigators to work together with local farmers. Data on yield are obtained by checking grains, visual estimation and weighing. The data of sown area can be obtained from measuring by investigators together with local farmers.

#### **3.3.3 Breeding Stocks Survey**

##### **3.3.3.1 Overview**

The survey generates data on stocks and slaughter of pigs, cows, sheep and poultry.

### **3.3.3.2 Survey Design**

The National Bureau of Statistics of China selects 14,000 villages, more than 20 million households in 857 counties nationwide. Data collectors visit the sample areas and interview local farmers. The sample survey also generates data on prices of livestock.

### **3.3.4 Socio-economic Survey in Rural Areas**

#### **3.3.4.1 Overview**

The survey generates data describing the basic situation of main towns, villages and other communities. It also determines the migration, movement or transfer of rural labor force and investment in fixed assets in the rural areas.

#### **3.3.4.2 Survey Design**

A sample survey is conducted and the results are combined with reports to produce data.

### **3.3.5 Survey on Farm, Forestry, Animal Husbandry and Fishery Production**

#### **3.3.5.1 Overview**

The survey generates data on the conditions of agricultural production, tea and fruit production, crop production, forestry, stockbreeding and fishery production.

#### **3.3.5.2 Survey Design**

The survey is conducted level by level.

### **3.3.6 Survey on Agricultural Production Value**

#### **3.3.6.1 Overview**

The survey generates data on prices of grains, vegetables, fruits and other agricultural products, livestock products, aquatic products and forest products.

### **3.3.6.2 Survey Design**

A sample survey is conducted and results are combined with reports to produce data.

### **3.3.7 Counties (cities) Survey**

#### **3.3.7.1 Overview**

The survey of counties (cities) of the National Bureau of Statistics generates data describing the situation of rural communities in terms of population, labor and employment, natural resources, education, science, culture, health, finance and the people's living conditions. The survey also covers data on agricultural production and area.

#### **3.3.7.2 Survey Design**

The survey is conducted level by level.

### **3.3.8 One-time Surveys**

#### **3.3.8.1 Overview**

Depending on the information needs of users and the society, the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Bureau of Statistics organize surveys to generate data on rural poverty, agricultural development and the main problems in the industry, rural tourism, the development of small towns and TV ratings.

## **3.4 Metadata for Each of the Other Data Collection Methodologies**

### **3.4.1 Agricultural Statistics Annual Report**

#### **3.4.1.1 Responsible Agency**

The Agricultural Statistics Annual Report is issued by the Ministry of Agriculture to each province in November for submission in mid-February the following year.

#### **3.4.1.2 Description of the Contained Information**

Generally, Agricultural Statistics Annual Report include indicators of rural situation, planting, animal husbandry, fishery, township enterprises, agricultural machinery,

rural energy, natural disasters and so on. The results of the annual report are the basis for compiling the annual publication, titled "Chinese Agricultural Statistics".

### **3.4.2 Regular Form for Tracking the Progress of Farming Activities**

#### **3.4.2.1 Responsible Agency**

The Ministry of Agriculture arranges surveys every November and requires the units in the sub-national areas to submit the regular forms.

#### **3.4.2.2 Description of the Contained Information**

Statistics include the sown areas of four seasons, grain and oil production of summer, spring wheat production, early rice production, annual sown areas of crop and annual crop yield. Each reporting is conducted two times, one is for the estimated data and the other is for forecast data.

### **3.4.3 Rural Economic Information Card at County Level**

#### **3.4.3.1 Responsible Agency**

Rural Economic Information Card at county level is annually issued by the Ministry of Agriculture to the counties (including over 2,400 agricultural counties) in November and will be submitted in July the following year.

#### **3.4.3.2 Description of the Contained Information**

The indicators covered by the report are population, labor force, cultivated area, conditions of agricultural production, rural income, output value, township enterprises, agricultural machinery, main agricultural products, planting, livestock, fishery, etc.

### **3.4.4 Agricultural Sampling Survey**

#### **3.4.4.1 Responsible Agency**

The Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for the conduct of the nationwide sampling survey. Under this scheme, the province selects counties, the county selects villages and the village selects plots or farm households. The sample counties account for 20% in one province and for the small province no less than 7 counties must be selected. The sample villages account for 3-5% in one county. The sample households account for 20%. It generally selects 7-10 sample plots in the north and 15 plots in the south.

#### **3.4.4.2 Description of the Contained Information**

The surveys involve sown area of crop and production. Equidistant sampling survey and typical sampling survey are generally used. Equidistant sampling can be used in the regions, where natural conditions and average yield are not very different respectively. Otherwise, typical sampling survey can be used. Compared with the data from the comprehensive survey and the sampling survey, it will be a representative sampling spot if the margin is within 2%. Otherwise, it should add or select the sampling plots again.

#### **3.4.4.3 Data Sources**

Each sample village selects a knowledgeable farmer as an enumerator. The enumerators are relatively stable. If replaced, the new enumerator should be trained in advance to avoid errors. Each sample county submits the data to the agricultural departments at provincial (municipal and regional) levels via internet, fax or telephone.