



# DIÍSTAQUE

24 . October . 2019



## AGRICULTURAL CENSUS 2019

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### **25 October: First day of data collection of the 2nd largest statistical operation in Portugal**

The Agricultural Census (RA 2019) covers the entire national territory and aims to answer such important questions as: How many farms are there, what areas and how many parcels do they have? Who works in agriculture? How are crops and livestock distributed? How is it produced and how mechanized is agriculture? Where and how the irrigating farming is performed? What agricultural production methods are used and what is the dissemination of pioneering crops? In this regard, it is recalled that in the previous census, carried out ten years ago, 305 thousand farms were surveyed with a total area that represented 51% of the country's geographical area. The family labour force corresponded to 793 thousand people. In permanent crops, olive groves and vines accounted for almost 3/4 of the total permanent crops.

This operation required a long period of preparation, with data collection in the field starting on 25 October and running until May 2020. It will mobilize around 1,650 people, including INE interviewers, fixed-term contracts and permanent staff and will have a decentralized infrastructure distributed across 42 analysis centres at national level.

The results will be reported to the European Commission in accordance with the applicable European Union regulation. RA 2019 was the subject of a specific resolution of the Council of Ministers (RCM 40/2018).

The success of this operation relies on the collaboration of all farmers, to whom INE thanks

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## 6 QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

### What is RA 2019?

It's an exhaustive statistical survey, carried out every 10 years and obligatory under Community law. (Regulation (EU) 2018/1091).

### How data are collected?

By face-to-face interview through a duly accredited interviewer.

### When does the data collection take place?

It begins in October 2019 and is expected to be completed in May 2020. Each farmer will be contacted by the interviewer to schedule and / or conduct the interview.

### Who does it?

Statistics Portugal (SP) is the entity responsible for the design, data collection, analysis and dissemination.

### Who is it for?

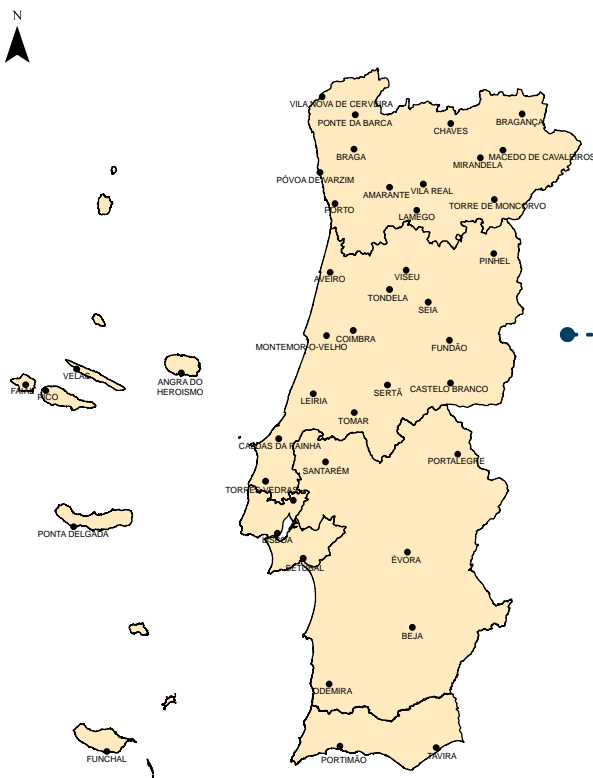
To all existing farms in the national territory.

### What is it for?

Support decision-making in agricultural, rural, regional and territorial development policies;

Create a national agricultural data infrastructure, which is essential to monitor developments in interim periods to measure changes in the agricultural reality.

## ORGANIZATION AND MEANS



### 42 analysis centres strategically located throughout the national territory

- |                   |                      |                 |                       |
|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Amarante          | Faial                | Pico            | Sertã                 |
| Angra do Heroísmo | Funchal              | Pinhel          | Tavira                |
| Aveiro            | Fundão               | Ponte Delgada   | Tomar                 |
| Beja              | Lamego               | Ponte da Barca  | Tondela               |
| Braga             | Leiria               | Portalegre      | Torre de Moncorvo     |
| Bragança          | Lisboa               | Portimão        | Torres-Vedras         |
| Caldas da Rainha  | Macedo de Cavaleiros | Porto           | Vila Nova de Cerveira |
| Castelo Branco    | Mirandela            | Póvoa de Varzim | Velas                 |
| Chaves            | Montemor-o-Velho     | Santarém        | Vila Real             |
| Coimbra           | Odemira              | Seja            | Viseu                 |
| Évora             |                      | Setúbal         |                       |

## WHAT RESULTS TO EXPECT?

- > How many farms are there and what surface occupies?
- > Who works in agriculture?
- > How are crops and livestock distributed?
- > What is the mechanization level of agriculture?
- > Irrigation: where and how?
- > What is the importance of organic farming?

**The answer to this  
and other questions  
in late 2020**

SP counts with participation of all, in particular with the active and committed collaboration of farmers.



### Remember here some of the 2009 results

In 2009, 305,000 farms were surveyed using a utilized agricultural area (UAA) of 3.6 million hectares and a total area of 3.7 million (51% of the country's land area). The results achieved throughout the various census operations point to a land restructuring based on the reduction of holdings and increase in the average size.

The agricultural family population involved 793 thousand people, about 7% of the resident population, showing a decreasing trajectory over successive census operations, resulting from the disappearance of farms and the reduction in the average family size.

In 2009, the holder's profile was male, with an average age of 63 years and with qualifications at the 1st cycle of basic education. They had exclusively practical agricultural training and worked an average of 22 hours per week on the farm's agricultural activities. Their household consisted of 2.7 individuals and the income came mostly from pensions.

Land cover reflected, vis-a-vis previous census operations, a decrease in arable land and an increase in absolute and relative terms permanent grassland.

Temporary crops prevailed in land uses related to animal feed: temporary meadows and green fodder (47% of total arable land), followed by grain cereals for the production of grain which accounted for 41% of the total.

In permanent crops, olive groves and vines accounted for almost 3/4 of the total permanent crops.

In what concerns livestock there was an increase in the average size of cattle and pigs per holding, with a strong increase in the cattle for meat in Alentejo and a reinforcement of the pig activity concentration where a small number of pigs represented 80% of the total.

In 2009, 48 out of 100 farms had their own tractor. On the mainland, more than 3/4 of the surface of temporary crops was conventionally mobilized, so that only 20% of the rotational agricultural area was subjected to minimum tillage techniques and 4% direct seeding.

Ten years ago, more than half of farms had irrigation infrastructure, equivalent to a potentially irrigable area of 541,000 hectares, about 15% of UAA.

In 2009, organic production accounted for 3% of national UAA and 0.4% of the holdings.

RA 2019 has a website on the official statistics portal ([www.ra2019.ine.pt](http://www.ra2019.ine.pt)) which contains information on this statistical operation, including technical documentation, interviews, news and events related to the operation, as well as a description of the objectives and purposes for which it is intended

## METHODOLOGICAL NOTES:

The Agricultural Census (RA 2019) is a 10-year statistical operation for all farms, which is binding on the European Union and Council Regulation 2018/1091, which seeks to meet national and international statistical needs, in particular:

### OBJECTIVES



- > Acquaintance with agricultural production systems;
- > Set out the main agricultural practices;
- > Description of family labour population and farm labour force;
- > Data collection related to rural development and other non-farm gainful activities;
- > Provide information on the origin of the producer's income;
- > Report on the agricultural farm succession;
- > Establish the Agricultural Sampling Base for the agricultural surveys of the next decade.

### GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE



It is held on the Mainland and in the Autonomous Regions of the Azores and Madeira..

### DATA COLLECTION METHOD



It is a survey conducted by direct interview, with a paper support. Interviewers collect record and validate data in a computer application.

### DATA COLLECTION TIMETABLE



Data collection begins in October 2019 and ends in May 2020..



## REFERENCE PERIODS

There are several reference periods depending on the variables surveyed, namely:

- > For crops and labour force, the reference period is the crop year 2018/2019, beginning on 1 November 2018 and ending on 31 October 2019;
- > For livestock, the reference period is September 1, 2019;
- > For animal housing, manure and slurry management and fertilizer application / use, the reference period is 12 months before the day of the interview;
- > For rural development, the reference period refers to the last 3 years (2017, 2018 and 2019).



## HOLDING

It is a technical-economic unit that uses common production factors (labour force, machinery, buildings, land, etc.) and which satisfies the following four conditions:

1. Produce agricultural products or maintain in good agricultural and environmental condition land that is no longer used for productive purposes;
2. Reach or exceed a certain size (area, number of animals);
3. Being located in a well-determined and identifiable place;
4. Be subject to a single management.

If these conditions are not met, the holding is non-existent or without conditions to be surveyed.