
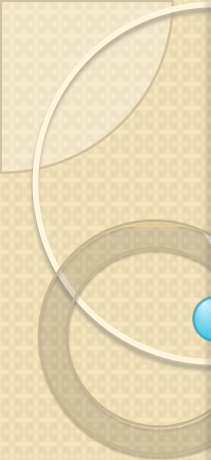





AVAILABILITY AND DATA GAP IN AGRICULTURE, ASSAM

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- The agricultural statistics system is very comprehensive and provides data on a wide range of topics such as crop area and production, land use, irrigation, land holdings, agricultural prices, market intelligence, livestock, fisheries, forestry etc.
 - **Crop and land use statistics:** Crop and land use statistics is the backbone of agricultural statistics system. Reliable and timely information on crop area, crop production and land use is of great importance to the country/state for taking vital decisions on different agricultural related issues viz. procurement, storage and public distribution , import, export etc.



- **Crop Estimation Survey:** It is one of the vital works relating to Agricultural Statistics done by Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam. This Directorate collects, compiles, analysis of 9(nine) principal food and non-food crops at Circle/Sub-division/District/State level and publishes its production and average yield rate (kg/hect.) in each agricultural season of every year on regular basis.

Area/Av. Yield/Production of 38 crops of the State is available at State DES since 1951-52 to 2015-16.



Crop forecasts: Government needs advance estimates of production for various decisions related to agriculture. Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India has been releasing advance estimate of crop production and area through periodical forecasts of principal food and non-food crops on the basis of information provided by the SASA. In the state, the State Committee on Agricultural Statistics is the ultimate committee for finalized area of 38 crops at state level.

Timely Reporting Scheme: In order to reduce the time lag between the sowing and availability of estimate of area and harvesting of crops and availability of estimates of production, the TRS scheme was launched by Central Govt. in 1968-70 and it was implemented in the State in 1973-74.

Improvement of Crop Statistics (ICS)

The ICS is central sector scheme and it is implemented in the State in 1974-75. The main objective of the scheme is to locate the deficiencies in area enumeration and crop cutting experiments in the state.

ICS (Sample check of area enumeration) is available up to 2014-15.

Land Utilization Statistics: Land utilization statistics is the most important function for planning and programme for better management of agriculture sector. The some important parameters like area, crop production, yield rate are used in land utilization statistics. Land use statistics are compiled from the village land records maintained by village Patwari (Lot Mandal). The information for each survey number by its use under 12 folds classification are recorded and aggregated at successive administrative levels.

Land utilization statistics of the State is available at State DES up to 2014-15.

- **Land Holding Statistics**

- For planning and implementation of land reforms, comprehensive information relating to the characteristics of different size classes of holdings is essential. This is also necessary to identify and formulate the policies and programmes for the welfare of the marginal and small farmers specially. Land holdings statistics is collected and compiled by NSSO through the decennial Land Holding Surveys and by MOSPI through quinquennial Agricultural Census with the help of State DESs/SASAs).

- **Agricultural Input Statistics**

- For a comprehensive appraisal of the agricultural economy, information on inputs such as fertilizer, pesticides, agricultural credit, multiple cropping, inventory of agricultural machinery etc are most essential in case of data on production . The input surveys conducted as par of Agricultural Census are an important source for such data.


Agricultural Price Statistics

The Directorate of Economics and Statistics is responsible for the collection, compilation and dissemination of the price data of agricultural commodities. The price data are collected in terms of (i) weekly and daily wholesale prices, (ii) retail prices of essential commodities and (iii) Farm harvest prices

Horticulture Statistics and ACFV

There are two major sources that generate horticulture related statistics. The first source of horticulture statistics is Directorate of Horticulture which collects, compiles area estimate, production of all important fruits and vegetables in the state. The second source is Directorate of Economics and Statistics to collect, compile and publishes area estimate through Crop estimation Survey on Fruits and vegetables in two seasons of every year.


Area/Av. Yield/Production of Arcanut and Coconut of the State is available at State DES up to 2014-15.




Apart these , Livestock Statistics, Allied Agriculture Service Activities, Cost of cultivation statistics, Fisheries Statistics and Forest statistics are also vital agricultural statistics.

Gap in Agriculture

➤ Due to change of climatic condition in the state over the years, the area of some notified crops are decreasing year by year. These are Gram, Castor , Cotton and Tobacco . The 9th HLCC meeting agreed to drop out these crops from the forecast list. The area of some important crops/fruits viz. Assam Lemon, Water melon, Tomato, Cabbage are increasing day by day . The meeting agreed that to incorporate these in existing forecast list.

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- There are non-availability of production data of some important crops/fruits of the State. These are Maize, Masur, Vegetable crops, chilly, Banana and pineapple. The 9th HLCC meeting agreed to incorporate these in CES list for reflecting their share in estimation of GDP pertaining to agriculture sector.
 - There are still gaps in the collection of primary data. Our country/ state has been following a traditional statistical method for collection of primary data through Crop Estimation Survey.

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- The state of Assam had not been entirely surveyed. There still prevail non cadestrial areas even plain districts of Assam. The hill districts and hilly terrain areas of the state are not yet been surveyed by the land agencies. Further communication system also not at all feasible to locate the remote villages of the state.
 - The Village Land Record Register (Chitha) had not been updated by Mandals on regular basis due to their multifarious works. Data provided by Mandals are not much authentic. This is a major problem for us.
 - The remote sensing activities in collection of agricultural statistics have not yet been fully introduced in Assam for collection of crop wise area statistics.