

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics Releases the Result of the Agricultural Holdings Listing in the Palestinian Territory 2004

Total Agricultural Holdings in the Palestinian Territory- amount to 108,654

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) published a press release concerning the result of the agricultural holdings in the Palestinian Territory, conducted through PCBS, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Labour during the fourth quarter of the year 2004.

The main objective of the listing of the agricultural holding is to build up an agricultural holding frame in the Palestinian Territory, which will be used to draw scientific samples for the future agricultural survey. This will enable PCBS to produce agricultural statistics on the basis of agricultural holdings as statistical units according to the international recommendations of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO).

This activity is one of a series for the Structural Agricultural Survey 2004/2005 which will be conducted in the coming May, the agricultural holding listing depends on the conducting of a comprehensive listing in the rural areas in the Palestinian Territory which total (601) localities that are actually visited. A sample was drawn from the Enumeration Areas (EA) from the main cities and camps, which reached (264) EA that constitute about (20.2%) from the total EA of this localities. Also, a comprehensive listing (survey) was conducted for the main agricultural cities, which are Jericho, Qalqiliya, Salfit and Tubas. The number of Palestinian households that were visited reached (317,130) households, the number of holding households reached (106,796) with (107,220) holders distributed according to sex to (95.3) males and (4.7%) females; (98.6%) from the household has one holding.

The agricultural holding frame covers (91.7%) from the total agricultural holdings in the Palestinian Territory. The number of agricultural holdings in the Palestinian Territory reached (108,654), distributed as (88.4%) in the West Bank and (11.6%) in the Gaza Strip. The distribution of agricultural holdings according to holding type shows that the cultivated holdings constitute (70.6%) from the total holdings in the Palestinian Territory, while livestock and mixed holdings constitute (10.7%) and (18.7%) from the total holdings in the Palestinian Territory, respectively. The number of agricultural holdings at the governorate level indicate that the highest percentage of cultivation, livestock and mixed holdings is concentrated in Hebron Governorate (19.4%), (20.3%) and (28.3%) respectively.

Also, the results indicate that the percentage of cultivated areas from the total area reached (79.4%), while the percentage of the non-cultivated area reached (20.6%). The area occupied by fruit trees was about (68.3%) from the total cultivated area, followed by field crops (23.0%) and vegetables (8.7%) from the total cultivated area in the Palestinian Territory.

The highest percentage of the total area in the Palestinian Territory cultivated with fruit trees is located in Jenin Governorate (19.2%), while the highest percentage of field crops in the Palestinian Territory is in Hebron Governorate (29.5%), of the total area cultivated with field crops in the Palestinian Territory. Also, the highest percentage of the total area cultivated with vegetables in the Palestinian Territory is in Jericho Governorate (22.1%).

The results indicate that (10.3%) of the livestock and mixed holdings have cows, (69.4%) have sheep, and (36.4%) have goats in the holding. Also (31.7%) of the livestock and mixed holdings have poultry and (4.8%) have beehives.