

PILOT PROJECT: FARM REGISTER
IN LATVIA

FINAL REPORT

RIGA, 1998

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1. INTRODUCTION

During The meeting of 3 Baltic and 3 Nordic countries in September 1997 it was found that in Latvia it does not exist any Farm Register as basis for organising agriculture surveys and for production of agriculture statistics. In final conclusions of that meeting it was recommended to consider the possibility to start a joint project of the Central Statistic Bureau in Latvia (CSB) and the Joint Council for Economic Studies in the Food Sector of Sweden (Joint Council) in building up the Farm Register in Latvia. This is why the pre-study and the Pilot-study were carried out to see what the register ought to contain and how it can be constructed in practice.

A pre-study to a Farm Register in Latvia was carried out in the spring 1998. The work was a joint project of CSB and Joint Council, where Sweden contributed with a consult in three month.

One of the results of the pre-study was a project plan for a Pilot-study to be carried out in April - December 1998. The pilot-study started in the middle of April. Merging different registers, creating questionnaires, interviews of the farmers (fieldwork) and data entry of questionnaires was finished in August.

During the whole Pilot project the CSB team closely co-operate with the Joint Council for Economic Studies in the Food Sector of Sweden. The CSB team consists of Janis Lapins (responsible person of the project from the CSB side), Ilzite Gramberga, Ligita Argale, Valija Grundane, and Uldis Ainars. From the Joint Council Per Eklund (responsible person of the project from the Joint Council side), Per Persson, and Rolf Relander participated in carrying out the Pilot project. Weekly telephone and Email contacts with Mr. Per Eklund, the consultant of Joint Council for Pilot-study, were of great importance for successful realisation of Pilot study. In the description of the main project "Farm Register in Latvia" (Annex 1) we have closely followed the general scheme and recommendations developed by Mr. Per Eklund during Pilot study. The CSB of Latvia would like to express deep gratitude to the Swedish partners for a fruitful co-operation during the Pilot-study.

2. METHODOLOGY USED IN PILOT PROJECT

During the Pilot project two different approaches of building the Farm Register were tested.

2.1. Approach based on the Household Register

The first approach was considered as the main approach and it was used in 6 pagasts. This approach was based on usage of the Land Cadaster Register and Household Register. At first the household register was computerised in two districts (Balvi district and Talsi district where the Pilot study took place). For the Pilot project it was extremely important to have person codes for all members in the household register. Therefore just before the computerisation of the Household Register the pagast administration was asked to add person code for all persons living in the pagast who had not it in the Household Register. Simultaneously other information of the Household Register was updated, too. Using the person code as a key variable the

Household Register was merged with the Land Cadaster Register of corresponding pagasts. Thus the new data base was created containing all households having at least one land property/usage in the Land Cadaster Register. Using this data base in questionnaires “A” the information on all household members of age 16 years and over as well as all information on land properties and usage of household members were pre-printed. All land properties and usage of any household member situated outside the pagast he/she is living in were pre-printed, too.

To those persons having land property/usage within at least one of 6 pagasts and living outside these pagasts the questionnaire “B” was send. The person name, person code and information about land properties and usage of such person were pre-printed.

Respondents were asked to check and adjust all the pre-printed information, to add information on all cases of renting and/or renting out a land, to estimate the value of the agricultural production (excluding forest) of the farm/household during the last 12 months, and to select what type of agricultural farm it is (crop production at least 67%, or animal production at least 67%, or garden production at least 67%, or mixed production, or other production). Respondents of questionnaires “B” were asked to give the information on all members of their household of age 16 years and over (names and person codes).

2.2. Approach based on the Land Cadaster Register only

The second approach was applied in 2 pagasts (one pagast in Balvi district and one pagast in Talsi district). This approach was based on usage of the Land Cadaster Register only. It was important to test this approach because it does not require Household Register at all. Thus it can be successfully used in pagasts where for some reason Household Register does not exist or is of pure quality.

According to the second approach to all persons having land property/usage within a pagast the questionnaire “B” was sent. The person name, person code and information about land properties and usage of such person were pre-printed in the questionnaire.

3. PREPARING OF DATA FOR PRE-PRINTING QUESTIONNAIRES AND PRE-PRINTING

3.1. Computerisation of the Household Register

The household register of all households living within one pagast is available at administration of pagast. As a rule this register is in a paper version - a separate sheet for each household. Unfortunately this register does not always contain for each person his/her identification code. Therefore before starting the computerisation of household register administration of pagasts were asked to complete household register. In some pagasts household register was already computerised. Nevertheless its structure usually does not correspond to the demands of Pilot project. For example, sometimes pagast has simply register of persons living in pagast without any identification variable of household allowing identify persons belonging to the same household. In one pagast household register was made as a Word document.

In all cases when it was possible to adapt the computerised version of household register corresponding work was done.

For those pagasts where household register existed only in paper version a special data entry program was prepared. The data entry program of the Household Register was made in Data Base Management System MS ACCESS. The database consists of several tables. There are two main tables - the Household Table and the Person Table.

The structure of the Household Table is as follows:

- ID (a unique identification code of a household)
- ATK (a code of pagast)
- ADDRESS (address of a household)
- GROUP (category of a household/farm)

The structure of the Person Table is:

- ID (a unique identification code of a household)
- NAME (name of person)
- SURNAME (surname of person)
- PCODE (a unique person identification code)
- RELAT (relations to the head of household)
- SEX (sex of a person)
- BDATE (a birth date of person)

Relations between two main tables are established using the key variable ID.

There were two other tables made - the Territory Table and the Table of Relationship to the head of household. The Territory Table contains information on pagast or town code and the name of this administrative territory. The Relationship Table contains the code of a relationship of person to the head of household and the description of this relationship.

This structure allows to fix a snapshot of situation in pagast but does not allow to trace changes. The data entry program performed the following checks during the data entry process:

- wrong person identification code entered in order to reduce the number of typing errors;
- wrong relationship to the head of household (two wives/husbands, two mothers, etc.).

The data entry program performed also the following user activated checks:

- wrong person identification code (if the person identification code is wrong in the household sheet it is necessary to contact such person);
- there is no person identification code in the household sheet;
- duplicates of person identification codes (two persons have the same person identification code, the same person is registered in two different pagasts, etc.).

It was find out from the pilot study that on a country level more appropriate is to use the variables ID and ATK as a primary key of the Household data table. It is planned

that relations between two main tables will be established using key variables ID and ATK.

At the moment the further improvement of the Household data management program is continued in order to have possibility to trace the changes (births, death, movements, etc.) in household situation.

During the Pilot study the data entry of household register was done in the regional offices of the CSB. The same approach is planned to use during the main project.

3.2. Land Cadaster Register

For carrying out the Pilot project specialists from the Land Cadaster prepared the data files for two districts (Balvi and Talsi district). Since the Land Cadaster is using the DBMS ORACLE data files were received as MS EXCEL files containing all necessary data (see Annex 4). A serious drawback of the received files was the presence of many empty cells for several variables. In most of cases it was necessary to use a value of a previous record for empty cell of a field. Nevertheless, it was not so for all fields. This was the reason why some additional land properties were wrongly pre-printed in questionnaires of some households during the Pilot project. In some cases the area of land was not given in hectares but in square meters, too. The database of the Land Cadaster did not always contain addresses of owners/users.

3.3. Creation of data base for pre-printing

Using the Household register and the Land Cadaster data base a new data base was created for pre-printing of questionnaires. Using the person code in the Person Table of the Household register and person code of the Land Cadaster data base these two data bases were merged and a new data base was obtained. The obtained database together with the Household Table of the Household register was used for pre-printing of questionnaires "A".

There were cases when the person having a land within one of the six pagasts was not living in the corresponding pagast or was not found in the Household Register. The addresses of such persons as well as all persons having land properties within two pagasts where the second approach was applied were received from the Population Register. The fixed ASCII file containing the information on person name, surname, person identification code, and dummy variable was given to the Population Register. A @ delimited text file containing the initial information as well as the postal address of each person, his/her status (alive, dead, emigrated, etc.), and telephone. A postal address of a person was received also in the case if person is living abroad.

Using the person code in the Population register data file and person code of the Land Cadaster data base these two data bases were merged and a new data base was obtained. The obtained database was used for pre-printing of questionnaires "B".

3.4. Pre-printing

The special program for pre-printing in MS ACCESS was made for each type of questionnaires ("A" and "B").

In questionnaires “A” the pre-printed information consisted of

- name of the head of household and the postal address of a household;
- for each household member of age 16 years and over:
 - (i) the person code,
 - (ii) surname and name;
- for each land property/usage of some household member:
 - (iii) status of a parcel (property, joint property, usage),
 - (iv) name and address of land property,
 - (v) total area of land property (all areas in hectares),
 - (vi) area of arable land and garden,
 - (vii) area of pasture and meadow;

In questionnaires “B” the pre-printed information consisted of

- name of the owner/user of land parcel and his/her postal address;
- in the table containing information about household members:
 - (i) the person code of owner/user of land parcel,
 - (ii) his/her surname and name;
- in the table containing information about land properties/usage of household members for each property/usage of the addressee:
 - (iii) status of a parcel (property, joint property, usage),
 - (iv) name and address of land property,
 - (v) total area of land property (all areas in hectares),
 - (vi) area of arable land and garden,
 - (vii) area of pasture and meadow;

The pre-printing was made on HP LASER JET 4V. Two identical copies of each questionnaire were pre-printed. The theoretical speed of a printer is 16 pages per minute. In practice the speed was approximately equal to 10 pages per minute (including paper loading, paper jams, etc.). The total number of pre-printed questionnaires was 6162 in the first wave of Pilot study. It took approximately 3 person days. Such approach was good enough for a Pilot study but for the main project it is necessary to use a more appropriate printing device.

The printing of questionnaires for the Pilot study was made in two series therefore some deviations appeared. Thus small correction was necessary to make in the pre-printing program.

4. ORGANISATION OF THE FIELD WORK

Agricultural and environmental statistics section of the CSB managed the pilot project on building the Farm Register and organised training on this matter.

CSB pre-printed information in the questionnaires “A” and “B” (see Section 3) and printed addresses (of corresponding district statistical office) on small envelopes to get back filled in questionnaires. Questionnaires “A” were pre-printed for all households (living in 6 pagasts) where at least one of household members has a land property. Addresses were taken from household register of corresponding pagast computerised before it. Questionnaires “B” were pre-printed for all other persons having land property/usage within one of 8 pagasts where Pilot-study took place. Addresses were taken from the Population Register.

Two copies of questionnaire “A”, a letter signed by the President of the CSB, instructions to fill-in this questionnaire and an empty envelope were put in the envelopes with windows divided among interviewers. Two copies of questionnaire “B”, a letter signed by the President of the CSB, instructions to fill-in this questionnaire and an envelope with a stamp and with the address of the district’s statistical office were put in the envelopes with windows sent by post (from CSB). Exception was those questionnaires “B”, what addressee belongs to one of 8 pagasts or two district centers. These questionnaires were divided among interviewers, too. The design of questionnaire “A” and “B” and pre-printing of address was made in such a way that only address was possible to see in the window of envelope.

Interviews were taken in 8 pagasts and 2 district centers.

Pilot-study by post was realised:

- for people who live out of pagasts and district centers;
- for people who live abroad.

Questionnaires were sent exactly by the CSB.

Interviews were realised by 10 interviewers. District statistical offices had to choose proper employee and to organise instruction how to realise this fieldwork. District statistical offices of the CSB involved in this work employees from local administration, employees from Land Cadastre centers or organisations from the Agriculture Ministry who knew local circumstances and who had been got faithfulness of local people.

Employees of District statistical offices entered labour contracts with persons involved in this fieldwork. There were entered labour contracts regarding interviews, data checking and recommitment to employees of District statistical offices. In case of need explanation work was done for people how to fill-in these questionnaires.

Supervision and managing in districts was organised by employees of District statistical offices who were responsible for process of interviews in pagasts. Employees of District statistical offices received filled in questionnaires by post. CSB received weekly information on the process of building the Farm Register. Data analysis and sending of reminding letters was done by the CSB for the first time on 17 July but for the second time on 31 July. New printed questionnaire, a letter and an

envelope with address of District statistical office were put in these reminding letters. New questionnaires for those who did not respond to the both reminding letters were printed out on 20 August and given to pagasts to receive information on land.

Data input for the Farm Register was done in District statistical offices of the CSB and than data was sent to the CSB. CSB realised logical control to confirm rented land area with land area leased.

During the next step questionnaires were sent to the local administration in pagasts and to legal persons who has agricultural land in disposition. CSB received answers and at present information is in the stage of processing.

5. DATA VERIFICATION AND DATA ENTRY

Data entry program of household register is described in section 3.1.

Data entry program of questionnaires “A” and “B” contained some data checks:

- if the sum of area of arable land, garden, pasture and meadow does not exceed the total area of land
- if the rented out total area of arable land and garden does not exceed the total area of arable land and garden
- if the rented out total area of pasture and meadow does not exceed the total area of pasture and meadow
- if the entered person identification code is correct one.

Data entry program ensures correct moves from field to field according to the values of entered variables. Data entry program was searching the code of administrative territory when the name of territory was partially entered. The data entry program for two questionnaires “A” and “B” were similar. The only difference was that two extra fields (“village” and “postal code”) were used for questionnaire “B”.

6. STRUCTURE OF FARM REGISTER IN PILOT PROJECT

During the Pilot project the farm register was represented by the following tables (“**bold**” variables are used as a key variable):

1. Holding (household) table

- **ATK** - code of the administrative territory
- **NR** - identification code of holding within whole administrative district
- **ADR** - address of holding
- **MGR** - group of holding
- **VERT** - group of economic value of production
- **VEIDS** - type of production
- **KDAT** - the date of last updating

In order to prepare pre-printing of “B” questionnaires two extra variables were used:

- **CIEMS** - village

- PIND - postal code
2. Person table
 - **NR** - identification code of holding within whole administrative district
 - VARDS - name of person
 - UZV - surname of person
 - PKODS - a unique person identification code
 3. Table of land parcels (properties/usage's)
 - **NR** - identification code of holding within whole administrative district
 - ATK - code of the administrative territory that land parcel belongs to
 - IKL - ownership status of land parcel (property/joint property/usage)
 - KOP - total size of land parcel
 - AR - area of arable land and garden
 - PG - area of pasture and meadow
 - ADR - address of land parcel
 - IPKODS - person identification code of owner/user
 - FJN - status of renter (physical/juridical person)
 - NAR - size of rented arable land and garden (here and below for each renter)
 - NPG - size of rented pasture and meadow
 - JKODS - registration code of juridical renter
 - JNOS - name of juridical renter
 - FPKODS - person identification code of physical renter
 - FVARDS - name of physical renter
 - FUZV - surname of physical renter
 - FATK - code of the administrative territory of renter
 - NADR - address of renter
 4. Table of land parcels rented from others
 - **NR** - identification code of holding within whole administrative district
 - NATK - code of the pagast that rented land parcel belongs to
 - NNOS - name of rented land parcel
 - NPLAT - total size of rented land
 - NARD - area of rented arable land and garden
 - NPG - area of rented pasture and meadow
 - IFJ - a status of owner (physical/juridical person)
 - ADR - address of rented land parcel
 - IJURN - registration code of juridical owner
 - IJNOS - name of juridical owner
 - IPKODS - person identification code of owner
 - IVARDS - name of physical owner
 - IUZV - surname of physical owner
 - IATK - code of the administrative territory of owner
 - IADR - address of owner

7. DATA ANALYSIS

The information on total number of questionnaires “A” and “B” as well as total number of remainders distributed among interviewers and sent via post is given in the Table 1.

TABLE 1
DISTRIBUTION OF QUESTIONNAIRES AND REMAINDERS

Name of administrative territory	Quest. “A”	Quest. “B”	Total	First remainder (sent 17.07)	Second remainder (sent 31.07)
BALVI DISTRICT					
Baltinava pagast	0	451	451		
Balvi pagast	243	13	256		
Krisjanu pagast	174	5	179		
Susaju pagast	322	27	349		
Balvi Town	0	194	194		
Via mail					
Riga	0	119	119	103	59
others	0	337	337	259	125
Total	739	1146	1885	362	184
TALSI DISTRICT					
Balgale pagast	0	230	230		
Libagi pagast	310	21	331		
Lube pagast	143	2	145		
Strazde pagast	117	7	124		
Talsi Town	0	121	121		
Via mail					
Riga	0	64	64	49	27
others	0	181	181	137	54
Total	570	626	1196	186	81

An additional study was made for those cases where Questionnaires “B” were not received back at 15 of August. These questionnaires were pre-printed again and sent to the administration of corresponding pagast. Altogether 110 such Questionnaires “B” were send to pagast administration in Balvi district and 47 Questionnaires “B” were send to pagast administration in Talsi district. As a result in Balvi district the information on questions about owner/user of land included in questionnaires “B” was received back in a written form from pagast administration in 100% cases. In Talsi district only in 4 cases pagast administration could not give the information on the owner/user of land.

The dynamic of responses during the Pilot-study is shown in the Table 2.

TABLE 2
DYNAMIC OF RESPONSES DURING THE PILOT-STUDY

	Number of questionnaires received								
BALVI DISTRICT									
	-29.06	29.06-6.07	6.07-13.07	13.07-20.07	20.07-24.07	24.07-03.08	03.08-10.08	10.08-17.08	-17.08
Baltinava pagasts ¹⁾	56	128	84	40	143	0	0	0	451
Balvi pagasts ¹⁾	54	108	42	40	13	0	0	0	257
Krisjanu pagasts ¹⁾	36	33	59	50	0	0	0	0	178
Susaju pagasts ¹⁾	42	99	70	135	3	0	0	0	349
Balvi (town) ¹⁾	2	28	23	57	36	5	22	6	179
Via post ²⁾	12	42	12	17	147	30	34	28	322
Total	202	438	290	339	342	35	56	34	1736
TALSI DISTRICT									
	-29.06	29.06-6.07	6.07-13.07	13.07-20.07	20.07-27.07	27.07-03.08	03.08-10.08	10.08-17.08	-17.08
Balgale pagasts ¹⁾	95	95	20	12	0	0	0	0	222
Libagu pagasts ¹⁾	132	106	73	16	2	0	0	0	329
Lube pagasts ¹⁾	30	46	68	0	0	0	0	0	144
Strazde pagasts ¹⁾	19	13	92	0	0	0	0	0	124
Talsi (town) ¹⁾	53	35	9	10	7	3	0	0	117
Via post ²⁾	5	15	14	10	91	16	32	18	201
Total	334	310	276	48	100	19	32	18	1137

1) Questionnaires collected by interviewer

2) Questionnaires received via post

The different types of errors as well as their frequencies discovered during the Pilot-study in the Household Register, Population Register and Land Cadaster Register are summarised in the Tables 3-5.

TABLE 3
PERSON DATA ERROR IN HOUSEHOLD REGISTER, number of cases
(ONLY FOR PERSONS OF AGE 16 YEARS AND OVER
PRE-PRINTED IN QUESTIONNAIRES "A")

Name of Pagast	Number of persons	Wrong name	Wrong surname	Wrong address	Wrong person ID	Person died	Person left pagast	New person arrived
BALVI DISTRICT								
Baltinava pagast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balvi pagast	510	3	1	0	0	4	2	3
Krisjanu pagast	359	1	0	0	0	2	0	0
Susaju pagast	677	0	3	0	0	3	4	2
Total	1546	4	4	0	0	9	6	5
TALSI DISTRICT								
Balgale pagast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Libagi pagast	772	3	13	13	1	2	10	27
Lube pagast	354	3	4	3	0	9	5	1
Strazde pagast	285	6	8	0	0	1	1	1
Total	1411	12	25	16	1	12	16	29

TABLE 4

PERSON DATA ERROR IN POPULATION REGISTER, number of cases
(ONLY FOR PERSONS OF AGE 16 YEARS AND OVER
PRE-PRINTED IN QUESTIONNAIRES “B”)

Name of Pagast	Wrong name	Wrong surname	Wrong address
BALVI DISTRICT			
Baltinava pagast	0	1	33
Balvi pagast	0	1	2
Krisjanu pagast	0	0	0
Susaju pagast	0	1	8
Total	0	3	43
TALSI DISTRICT			
Balgale pagast	0	1	11
Libagi pagast	1	0	7
Lube pagast	0	0	2
Strazde pagast	0	0	0
Total	1	1	20

TABLE 5

ERROR IN LAND CADASTER, number of cases
(ONLY FOR LAND PROPERTIES/USAGE
PRE-PRINTED IN QUESTIONNAIRES “A” AND “B”)

Name of Pagast	Wrong name of land property	Wrong address of land property	Land property sold	Compensation received	Owner/user died	Owner/user died, new owner/user known
BALVI DISTRICT						
Baltinava pagast	19	0	3	2	18	10
Balvi pagast	6	10	2	2	4	5
Krisjanu pagast	0	1	0	0	0	3
Susaju pagast	0	1	7	1	10	13
Total	25	12	12	5	32	31
TALSI DISTRICT						
Balgale pagast	0	0	7	0	3	5
Libagi pagast	5	0	10	0	2	14
Lube pagast	0	0	2	1	1	5
Strazde pagast	1	0	1	0	4	0
Total	6	0	20	1	10	24

In the Table 6 data on land area of 8 pagasts collected during the Pilot study is compared with the corresponding published data of Land Cadaster as well as with data calculated from the data base received from Land Cadaster at the beginning of Pilot study. In the row “**Physical persons**” the total area of land properties/usage of physical persons **plus** the total area of land **rented** from other persons or from pagast **minus** total area of land **rented out** to other physical/juridical persons is shown. In the row “**Juridical persons**” the total area of land properties/usage of juridical

persons **plus** the total area of land **rented** from other persons or from pagast is shown. In the Pilot study there was no one case of renting out the land property/usage of juridical person to other physical/juridical persons. In the row “**State land and Pagast land**” the total area of land parcels that are administrated by Pagast **minus** total area of land **rented out** to physical/juridical persons is shown.

Altogether there are 10 juridical persons having land properties/usage in 4 pagasts of Balvi district and only 3 juridical persons having land properties/usage in 4 pagasts of Talsi district. Besides in Talsi district there are 5 juridical persons that have not their own land properties/usage but are cultivating land rented from physical persons. There were only few cases of renting out land properties/usage of physical persons in Balvi district. At the same time there are large areas of Pagast land that is not rented and cultivated by any physical/juridical person.

TABLE 6
COMPARING OF LAND BALANCE IN PILOT-STUDY DATA
WITH LAND CADASTER DATA, in hectares

	Total area of land	Arable land and garden	Meadow and pasture
BALVI DISTRICT			
Baltinava pagast			
Situation in data base received from Land Cadaster at the beginning of Pilot study (without state forest land)	13254.5	4578.7	1191.5
Data collected during Pilot study:			
Physical persons	7575.8	4171.7	1101.6
Juridical persons	4634.2	0	45.1
State land and Pagast land	6062.0	2563.6	1701.8
Total	18272.0	6735.3	2848.5
Land Cadaster data 97.10.08	18122.1	6672.5	2654.9
Balvi pagast			
Situation in data base received from Land Cadaster at the beginning of Pilot study	7994.2	3042.0	1083.0
Data collected during Pilot study:			
Physical persons	5461.4	2632.8	675.9
Juridical persons	97.8	49.4	0.0
State land and Pagast land	2321.1	292.4	407.0
Total	7880.3	2974.6	1082.9
Land Cadaster data 97.10.08	8173.8	2913.9	1091.4
Krisjanu pagast			
Situation in data base received from Land Cadaster at the beginning of Pilot study	6328.5	2084.0	1135.0
Data collected during Pilot study:			
Physical persons	4030.9	1836.8	752.9
Juridical persons	1913.0	8.0	4.0
State land and Pagast land	1001.4	238.8	526.4
Total	6945.3	2083.6	1283.3
Land Cadaster data 97.10.08	7052.7	2111.9	1312.3
Susaju pagast			
Situation in data base received from Land Cadaster at the beginning of Pilot study	17612.7	2567.0	1600.0
Data collected during Pilot study:			
Physical persons	7648.3	2116.6	1371.9
Juridical persons	8009.6	27.3	24.0
State land and Pagast land	1377.9	659.7	584.5
Total	17035.8	2803.6	1980.4
Land Cadaster data 97.10.08	19624.2	3189.4	2163.8

TABLE 6 (continued)

	Total area of land	Arable land and garden	Meadow and pasture
TALSI DISTRICT			
Balgale pagast			
Situation in data base received from Land Cadaster at the beginning of Pilot study	7194.0	3807.0	596.0
Data collected during Pilot study:			
Physical persons	6156.6	2428.7	613.0
Juridical persons	1686.8	1628.5	54.4
State land and Pagast land	36.6	1.0	19.20
Total	7880.0	4058.2	686.6
Land Cadaster data 97.10.08	7478.4	3852.5	605.5
Libagi pagast			
Situation in data base received from Land Cadaster at the beginning of Pilot study	14305.2	3744.0	1151.0
Data collected during Pilot study:			
Physical persons	6256.3	2810.4	727.0
Juridical persons	1085.9	688.3	224.7
State land and Pagast land	6807.8	202.1	32.4
Total	14150.0	3700.8	984.1
Land Cadaster data 97.10.08	14025.8	3573.1	1169.9
Lube pagast			
Situation in data base received from Land Cadaster at the beginning of Pilot study	8231.4	2151.9	306.5
Data collected during Pilot study:			
Physical persons	3388.1	2088.4	423.7
Juridical persons	0	0	0
State land and Pagast land	4452.8	1.7	6.4
Total	7840.9	2090.1	430.1
Land Cadaster data 97.10.08	8226.4	2154.0	423.7
Strazde pagast			
Situation in data base received from Land Cadaster at the beginning of Pilot study	4078.0	1590.0	358.0
Data collected during Pilot study:			
Physical persons	2485.5	1291.7	303.7
Juridical persons	63.0	63.0	0
State land and Pagast land	1391.3	64.4	16.5
Total	3939.8	1419.1	320.2
Land Cadaster data 97.10.08	4117.0	1261.0	739.3

In the Tables 7-9 the distribution of the number of land properties/ usage by residence territory of owner/user is summarised. Land properties/ usage outside 8 pagast where the Pilot-study took place belonging to the surveyed households are included, too.

TABLE 7

DISTRIBUTION OF LAND PROPERTIES/ USAGE BY TERRITORY OF OWNER
(ONLY FOR PHYSICAL PERSONS SURVEYED DURING PILOT STUDY)

Territory	Property	Joint property	Usage	Total
BALVI DISTRICT				
Baltinava pagast	230	40	413	683
Balvi pagast	205	31	253	489
Krisjanu pagast	60	6	186	252
Susaju pagast	200	13	421	634
Other	80	22	57	159
Among them:				
Urban areas	7	1	2	10
Rural areas	73	21	55	149
Total	775	112	1330	2217
TALSI DISTRICT				
Balgale pagast	139	30	188	365
Libagi pagast	230	41	234	568
Lube pagast	112	7	105	272
Strazde pagast	70	8	119	199
Other	78	10	63	152
Among them:				
Urban areas	75	10	57	142
Rural areas	3	0	6	10
Total	629	96	709	1556

Tables 8-9 show areas of agricultural land (including cases where land does not belong to 8 pagasts) that are rented out or rented by households surveyed during Pilot project.

TABLE 8

AREA OF RENTED OUT AGRICULTURAL LAND BY TERRITORY OF LAND, in hectares
(ONLY FOR PHYSICAL PERSONS SURVEYED DURING PILOT STUDY)

Name of Pagast	Arable land and garden	Meadow and pasture
BALVI DISTRICT		
Baltinava pagast	71.3	10.8
Balvi pagast	119.1	34.7
Krisjanu pagast	19.8	2.2
Susaju pagast	31.1	20.5
Total	241.3	68.2
TALSI DISTRICT		
Balgale pagast	1703.2	102.9
Libagi pagast	817.7	163.3
Lube pagast	435.1	50.4
Strazde pagast	246.6	51.4
Other pagast	281.4	20.0
Total	3484.0	388.0

TABLE 9

AREA OF RENTED LAND BY TERRITORY OF LAND, in hectares
(ONLY FOR PHYSICAL PERSONS SURVEYED DURING PILOT STUDY)

Name of Pagast	Arable land and garden	Meadow and pasture
BALVI DISTRICT		
Baltinava pagast	282.3	67.5
Balvi pagast	55.8	0
Krisjanu pagast	39.4	2.9
Susaju pagast	0	0
Total	377.5	70.4
TALSI DISTRICT		
Balgale pagast	277.2	39.7
Libagi pagast	691.6	104.9
Lube pagast	660.3	78.3
Strazde pagast	92.0	24.5
Other pagast	187.8	0.0
Total	1908.9	247.4

Table 10 contains the information on households having land area of at least 1 hectare that do not have agricultural land.

TABLE 10
DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS HAVING NOT AGRICULTURAL LAND
BY TERRITORY OF HOUSEHOLD, number of cases
(ONLY FOR PHYSICAL PERSONS SURVEYED DURING PILOT STUDY)

Territory	Number of households
BALVI DISTRICT	
Baltinava pagast	3
Balvi pagast	7
Krisjanu pagast	1
Susaju pagast	5
Riga	15
Balvi town	12
Other	35
Among them:	
Urban areas	21
Rural areas	14
Total	78
TALSI DISTRICT	
Balgale pagast	9
Libagi pagast	7
Lube pagast	9
Strazde pagast	0
Riga	0
Talsi town	7
Other	9
Among them:	
Urban areas	3
Rural areas	6
Total	41

In the Tables 11-13 distribution of area of land properties and usage by the territory of residence of owner/user is presented. Those cases where land does not belong to 8 pagasts are also included.

TABLE 11

DISTRIBUTION OF AREAS OF LAND JOINT PROPERTIES/PROPERTIES/USAGE
BY THE RESIDENCE TERRITORY OF HOUSEHOLD, in hectares
(ONLY FOR PHYSICAL PERSONS SURVEYED DURING PILOT STUDY)

Territory	Total area of land	Arable land and garden	Meadow and pasture
BALVI DISTRICT			
Baltinava pagast	5199.2	3050.7	789.4
Balvi pagast	3803.0	1753.4	480.7
Krisjanu pagast	3473.2	1533.8	672.5
Susaju pagast	5065.7	1552.5	1018.6
Riga	1651.3	607.6	179.0
Balvi town	2695.2	1149.5	312.1
Other	5050.1	1996.5	718.3
Among them:			
Urban areas	3124.9	1031.3	502.8
Rural areas	1925.2	965.2	215.4
Total	26937.5	11643.9	4170.6
TALSI DISTRICT			
Balgale pagast	4388.6	2746.6	367.2
Libagi pagast	4545.1	2151.1	508.4
Lube pagast	2693.5	1462.8	349.7
Strazde pagast	1238.6	773.0	147.1
Riga	1289.0	610.0	175.0
Talsi town	2254.9	1029.2	295.7
Other	4225.8	1976.5	630.2
Among them:			
Urban areas	2323.6	1085.8	413.8
Rural areas	1902.2	890.7	216.4
Total	20635.5	10749.2	2473.3

TABLE 12
 DISTRIBUTION OF AREAS OF LAND PROPERTIES
 BY THE RESIDENCE TERRITORY OF HOUSEHOLD, in hectares
 (ONLY FOR PHYSICAL PERSONS SURVEYED DURING PILOT STUDY)

Territory	Total area of land	Arable land and garden	Meadow and pasture
BALVI DISTRICT			
Baltinava pagast	2075.3	1161.2	248.8
Balvi pagast	1735.9	716.9	236.5
Krisjanu pagast	872.5	392.3	170.7
Susaju pagast	1853.5	545.5	339.0
Riga	710.8	268.3	107.5
Balvi town	1240.7	564.1	100.6
Other	2034.9	807.7	225.7
Among them:			
Urban areas	1167.6	444.1	150.6
Rural areas	867.3	363.6	75.1
Total	10523.6	4456.0	1428.8
TALSI DISTRICT			
Balgale pagast	1783.8	996.4	173.5
Libagi pagast	2421.8	1122.5	208.3
Lube pagast	1748.8	902.5	204.6
Strazde pagast	458.3	276.0	69.2
Riga	810.8	341.5	115.6
Talsi town	1513.5	662.3	201.9
Other	2253.1	1047.1	259.7
Among them:			
Urban areas	1208.2	525.7	171.6
Rural areas	1044.9	521.4	88.1
Total	10990.1	5348.3	1232.8

TABLE 13
 DISTRIBUTION OF AREAS OF LAND USAGE
 BY THE RESIDENCE TERRITORY OF HOUSEHOLD, in hectares
 (ONLY FOR PHYSICAL PERSONS SURVEYED DURING PILOT STUDY)

Territory	Total area of land	Arable land and garden	Meadow and pasture
BALVI DISTRICT			
Baltinava pagast	2595.9	1569.4	460.2
Balvi pagast	1656.4	829.2	206.1
Krisjanu pagast	2535.4	1102.1	485.8
Susaju pagast	3088.7	969.2	659.9
Riga	604.4	241.7	49.8
Balvi town	1071.3	451.5	141.2
Other	2095.2	744.7	418.1
Among them:			
Urban areas	1548.7	489.3	308.9
Rural areas	546.4	255.4	109.2
Total	13647.3	5907.8	2421.1
TALSI DISTRICT			
Balgale pagast	2340.8	1656.4	192.2
Libagi pagast	1828.4	865.4	250.9
Lube pagast	864.1	528.2	102.6
Strazde pagast	656.5	453.5	50.6
Riga	304.5	174.7	36.3
Talsi town	629.9	302.3	78.3
Other	1357.0	687.5	201.5
Among them:			
Urban areas	647.7	352.4	123.0
Rural areas	709.3	335.1	78.5
Total	7981.2	4668.0	912.4

In the Tables 14-15 distribution of area of land properties and usage by the territory of residence of owner/user is presented. Those cases where land does not belong to 8 pagasts are not included.

TABLE 14

DISTRIBUTION OF AREAS OF LAND PROPERTIES WITHIN 4 PAGASTS
BY THE RESIDENCE TERRITORY OF OWNER, in hectares
(FOR PHYSICAL PERSONS SURVEYED DURING PILOT STUDY)

Territory	Total area of land	Arable land and garden	Meadow and pasture
BALVI DISTRICT			
Baltinava pagast	2037.2	1139.7	247.7
Balvi pagast	1433.0	679.6	200.9
Krisjanu pagast	823.6	378.4	170.7
Susaju pagast	1809.7	545.5	333.3
Riga	699.8	268.3	107.1
Balvi town	913.3	433.1	70.6
Other	1610.7	590.4	195.9
Among them:			
Urban areas	1088.5	413.5	149.0
Rural areas	522.2	176.9	46.9
Total	9327.2	4034.9	1326.2
TALSI DISTRICT			
Balgale pagast	1783.5	996.2	173.5
Libagi pagast	2044.2	979.1	179.5
Lube pagast	1569.4	872.7	179.8
Strazde pagast	450.3	276.0	69.3
Riga	670.0	296.3	114.1
Talsi town	1240.2	537.2	149.5
Other	1909.5	920.2	221.4
Among them:			
Urban areas	1082.5	472.4	142.4
Rural areas	827.1	447.8	79.0
Total	9667.0	4877.6	1087.1

TABLE 15

DISTRIBUTION OF AREAS OF LAND USAGE WITHIN 4 PAGASTS
BY TERRITORY OF USER, in hectares
(FOR PHYSICAL PERSONS SURVEYED DURING PILOT STUDY)

Territory	Total area of land	Arable land and garden	Meadow and pasture
BALVI DISTRICT			
Baltinava pagast	2570.2	1564.6	459.5
Balvi pagast	1520.6	775.4	195.9
Krisjanu pagast	2484.9	1084.4	465.0
Susaju pagast	2980.7	940.7	633.7
Riga	604.4	241.7	49.8
Balvi town	1010.2	432.3	138.6
Other	1909.5	626.0	390.5
Among them:			
Urban areas	1407.5	427.5	285.9
Rural areas	502.0	198.5	104.6
Total	13080.4	5665.1	2333.0
TALSI DISTRICT			
Balgale pagast	2208.5	1536.5	184.5
Libagi pagast	1628.3	795.7	221.0
Lube pagast	727.6	470.0	69.3
Strazde pagast	631.0	447.7	50.1
Riga	288.4	164.2	36.3
Talsi town	550.7	277.9	65.5
Other	1017.2	577.1	162.4
Among them:			
Urban areas	562.6	327.4	106.2
Rural areas	454.6	249.7	56.2
Total	7051.5	4269.0	789.1

During the Pilot-study the identification of cases of renting a land property/usage and renting out of the same land property/usage was not always reached. Sometimes respondents did not declare cases of renting or renting out a land property. Sometimes the information on such case given by respondent was not enough to identify the land property. The information on these cases is summarised in Tables 16-17.

TABLE 16

CASES WHERE RENTERS OF RENTED OUT LAND PROPERTIES/USAGE
WERE NOT FOUND DURING PILOT STUDY
(FOR PHYSICAL PERSONS SURVEYED DURING PILOT STUDY)

Territory of land property	Number of land properties	Total area	Arable land and garden	Pasture and meadow	Among them cases where rented out area is less than 1 hectare			
					Number of land properties	Total area	Arable land and garden	Pasture and meadow
BALVI DISTRICT								
Baltinava pagast	14	51.8	49.1	1.6	4	1.9	1.2	0.7
Balvi pagast	1	39.6	37.2	0.6	0	0	0	0
Krisjanu pagast	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
Susaju pagast	7	56.4	26.7	20.5	0	0	0	0
Total	22	147.8	113	22.7	4	1.9	1.2	0.7
TALSI DISTRICT								
Balgale pagast	18	278.8	268.8	10.0	1	0.5	0.5	0
Libagi pagast	32	194.1	121.6	43.3	3	2.1	0	2.1
Lube pagast	9	88.0	67.1	16.2	0	0	0	0
Strazde pagast	21	227.7	215.9	13.5	3	1.5	1.5	0
Total	80	788.6	673.4	83	7	4.1	2	2.1

TABLE 17

CASES OF RENTED LAND PROPERTIES/USAGE WHERE PERSONS RENTING OUT THEM
WERE NOT FOUND DURING PILOT STUDY
(FOR PHYSICAL PERSONS SURVEYED DURING PILOT STUDY)

Territory of land property	Number of land properties	Total area	Arable land and garden	Pasture and meadow	Among them cases where rented area is less than 1 hectare			
					Number of land properties	Total area	Arable land and garden	Pasture and meadow
BALVI DISTRICT								
Baltinava pagast	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
Balvi pagast	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
Krisjanu pagast	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
Susaju pagast	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
Total	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-
TALSI DISTRICT								
Balgale pagast	9	49.4	41.6	7.8	1	0.1	0.1	0
Libagi pagast	32	502.8	391.9	63.3	3	1.1	0.2	0.9
Lube pagast	32	425.4	194.9	45.8	0	0	0	0
Strazde pagast	16	145.1	117.7	24.5	1	0.6	0.6	0
Total	89	1122.7	746.1	141.4	5	1.8	0.9	0.9

Table 18 shows the cases where respondents deleted some of pre-printed records on land properties/usage as well as added some new records on land properties/usage. Table 19 summarises those cases where respondents updated the information on the size of their land properties/usage.

TABLE 18

ADDING OF NEW RECORDS AND DELETING OF PRE-PRINTED RECORDS, in hectare
(FOR PHYSICAL PERSONS SURVEYED DURING PILOT STUDY)

Territory	Number of cases	Total area	Arable land and garden	Pasture and meadow	Number of cases	Total area	Arable land and garden	Pasture and meadow
BALVI DISTRICT								
Baltinava pagast	18	243.5	102.5	79.6	22	224.3	144.3	22.8
Balvi pagast	5	57.6	8.7	22.2	6	44.9	20.8	2.6
Krisjanu pagast	0	-	-	-	1	9.0	0.2	5.9
Susaju pagast	13	83.9	17.0	26.2	13	117.1	28.7	16.6
Total	36	385.0	128.2	128.0	42	395.3	194.0	47.9
TALSI DISTRICT								
Balgale pagast	19	227.7	131.9	12.9	10	99.5	77.5	4.5
Libagi pagast	12	245.0	148.1	8.7	39	452.1	198.0	105.7
Lube pagast	7	137.8	74.3	4.7	6	78.0	44.5	8.6
Strazde pagast	13	248.6	49.2	42.2	5	67.7	49.0	1.3
Total	51	859.1	403.5	68.5	60	697.3	369.0	120.1

¹⁾ Sold properties not included.

TABLE 19

CORRECTIONS IN PRE-PRINTED RECORDS, in hectare
(FOR PHYSICAL PERSONS SURVEYED DURING PILOT STUDY)

Territory	Number of cases	Total area	Arable land and garden	Pasture and meadow	Number of cases	Total area	Arable land and garden	Pasture and meadow
BALVI DISTRICT								
Baltinava pagast	8	27.5	5.3	7.5	12	-63.5	-32.1	-10.7
Balvi pagast	3	4.1	0.1	0	2	-17.5	0.6	-6.0
Krisjanu pagast	6	34.8	0	0	6	-33.0	-5.3	-5.2
Susaju pagast	7	17.9	0.8	16.2	6	-21.1	-19.8	4.9
Total	24.0	84.3	6.2	23.7	26.0	-135.1	-56.6	-17
TALSI DISTRICT								
Balgale pagast	24	84.3	6.2	23.7	26	-135.1	-56.6	-17
Libagi pagast	7	6.8	10.6	-5.9	4	-7.2	-5.4	-1.0
Lube pagast	5	2.9	6.6	-1.0	10	-114.0	-29.1	-6.3
Strazde pagast	1	3.0	1.5	0	4	-0.4	-0.4	0.4
Total	37	97.0	24.9	16.8	44	-256.7	-91.5	-23.9

TABLE 20

STATE AND PAGAST LAND RENTED TO PHYSICAL PERSONS, in hectare
(INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE PAGAST ADMINISTRATION)

Territory	Total area of state and Pagast land	Area of agricultural land	Number of persons renting land	Area of rented agricultural land
BALVI DISTRICT				
Baltinava pagast	1373.5	789.9	22	373.5
Balvi pagast	2120.1	812.3	15	55.8
Krisjanu pagast	895.5	575.0	43	65.8
Susaju pagast	83.0	66.7	0	0
Total	4472.1	2243.9	80	495.1
TALSI DISTRICT				
Balgale pagast	83.0	67.4	67	19.1
Libagi pagast	159.6	118.3	60	55.4
Lube pagast	89.6	75.5	87	75.7
Strazde pagast	77.0	60.6	1	6.2
Total	409.2	321.8	215	156.4

The distribution of farms (juridical persons not included) by the value of agricultural production and by the type of agricultural production is given in Tables 21-22.

TABLE 21

DISTRIBUTION OF FARMS BY THE VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTION AND TERRITORY
(FOR PHYSICAL PERSONS SURVEYED DURING PILOT STUDY)

Territory	Value of production, in Ls.	Number of farms
BALVI DISTRICT		
Baltinava pagast	Less than 500 Ls	422
Baltinava pagast	500 - 1000 Ls	40
Baltinava pagast	1000 - 10000 Ls	5
Baltinava pagast	More than 10000 Ls	0
Balvi pagast	Less than 500 Ls	167
Balvi pagast	500 - 1000 Ls	73
Balvi pagast	1000 - 10000 Ls	30
Balvi pagast	More than 10000 Ls	0
Krisjanu pagast	Less than 500 Ls	178
Krisjanu pagast	500 - 1000 Ls	1
Krisjanu pagast	1000 - 10000 Ls	0
Krisjanu pagast	More than 10000 Ls	0
Susaju pagast	Less than 500 Ls	336
Susaju pagast	500 - 1000 Ls	9
Susaju pagast	1000 - 10000 Ls	4
Susaju pagast	More than 10000 Ls	0
Total		1265
TALSI DISTRICT		
Balgale pagast	Not declared	7
Balgale pagast	Less than 500 Ls	137
Balgale pagast	500 - 1000 Ls	72
Balgale pagast	1000 - 10000 Ls	16
Balgale pagast	More than 10000 Ls	0
Libagi pagast	Not declared	9
Libagi pagast	Less than 500 Ls	321
Libagi pagast	500 - 1000 Ls	28
Libagi pagast	1000 - 10000 Ls	12
Libagi pagast	More than 10000 Ls	0
Lube pagast	Not declared	2
Lube pagast	Less than 500 Ls	103
Lube pagast	500 - 1000 Ls	22
Lube pagast	1000 - 10000 Ls	33
Lube pagast	More than 10000 Ls	2
Strazde pagast	Not declared	4
Strazde pagast	Less than 500 Ls	99
Strazde pagast	500 - 1000 Ls	19
Strazde pagast	1000 - 10000 Ls	1
Strazde pagast	More than 10000 Ls	0
Total		887

TABLE 22

DISTRIBUTION OF FARMS BY THE TYPE OF AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTION AND TERRITORY
(FOR PHYSICAL PERSONS SURVEYED DURING PILOT STUDY)

Territory	Type of production	Number of farms
BALVI DISTRICT		
Baltinava pagast	Not shown	426
Baltinava pagast	Crop production	2
Baltinava pagast	Animal production	1
Baltinava pagast	Mixed production	38
Balvi pagast	Not shown	167
Balvi pagast	Crop production	5
Balvi pagast	Animal production	33
Balvi pagast	Garden production	1
Balvi pagast	Mixed production	64
Krisjanu pagast	Not shown	178
Krisjanu pagast	Mixed production	1
Susaju pagast	Not shown	336
Susaju pagast	Crop production	2
Susaju pagast	Mixed production	11
Total		1265
TALSI DISTRICT		
Balgale pagast	Not shown	145
Balgale pagast	Crop production	12
Balgale pagast	Animal production	15
Balgale pagast	Garden production	0
Balgale pagast	Mixed production	60
Libagi pagast	Not shown	329
Libagi pagast	Crop production	4
Libagi pagast	Animal production	12
Libagi pagast	Garden production	2
Libagi pagast	Mixed production	23
Lube pagast	Not shown	105
Lube pagast	Crop production	8
Lube pagast	Animal production	33
Lube pagast	Garden production	0
Lube pagast	Mixed production	16
Strazde pagast	Not shown	103
Strazde pagast	Crop production	3
Strazde pagast	Animal production	7
Strazde pagast	Garden production	0
Strazde pagast	Mixed production	10
Total		887

8. LEGISLATION PROBLEMS

The legality aspects of the Farm register project at the moment are reflected in the following laws and regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers.

Law on State Statistics

On November 6, 1997, the Saeima (Parliament) of the Republic of Latvia adopted the **Law on State Statistics**. The Law lays down that in compliance to the demand of the Central Statistical Bureau respondents shall submit individual statistical data on economic, demographic and social phenomena and processes pertaining to their economic activity. The Law lays down that the respondent is a natural or legal person. On the basis on this Law and for the purpose of register building, information is collected from the population about the composition of their households and land; information was also drawn from the registration cards at the disposal of pagast authorities and from the register of the Land Cadastre Centre.

Confidentiality of data

The Law on State Statistics lays down that confidential data that were collected for statistical purposes shall be used only for statistical purposes such as data aggregation, grouping and the analysis of social and economic developments and processes; the obtained statistical data shall not be published or divulged in such a way that would allow to either directly or indirectly identify a natural or legal person.

A draft **Law on the Protection of Data on Natural Persons** has been submitted for review to the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia. This draft law lays down the principles of data collection and processing as well as the rights of data providers and the functions of the State Data Inspectorate.

Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers on Agricultural Census

This Regulation was adopted on January 21, 1997. It refers to the preparatory work for the Census including also the farm register.

9. FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF THE PILOT STUDY

Pilot project expenses are summarised in the table below. Some reduction in costs per one farm can be expected in the main project because there will be no need to use post services for those addressee who have a land in one pagast but live in another one. The information from such persons it will be possible to receive in pagast where the person is living.

Activity	Sum (in Ls)	Sum (in ECU)
1. Post service		
1.1.envelopes	281	413
1.2.stamps	274	403
2. Telephone calls	210	309
3. Paper costs	29	43
4.Printing	133	196
5.Business trips	365	537
6.Interviewer expenses		
6.1.travel costs	413	607
6.2.payment for interviews	2065	3037
6.3.supervisor payment	800	1176
7.Organisation of seminar	74	109
8.Collection, testing, and correction of information	800	1176
10.Programming	800	1176
11.Correction of program	800	1176
12.Data entry of questionnaires	1540	2265
13.Data entry of household register (2 districts)	4200	6176
Total	12784	18800

10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Pilot-study showed that it would be feasible to build up a farm register in Latvia on the basis of each of the two approaches tested during the pilot study. Preference should be given to the approach based on the use of household register since this approach is less labour consuming and allows to obtain more precise data on households.

The Pilot survey also demonstrated that involving interviewers for data collection is a more efficient way than data collection by mail. The questionnaires collected by interviewers had a high degree of completion and accuracy of data. In contrast, questionnaires received by post were not always completely filled-in as a result of which a repeated contact with the respondent was needed. Since charges for post and telephone services in Latvia are relatively high, sending reminders by mail or by telephone substantially increases project expenditures.

Janis Lapins

Ilzite Gramberga

ORGANISATION OF THE MAIN PROJECT "FARM REGISTER IN LATVIA"

Introduction:

In Latvia there do not exist a Register over the agriculture holdings or farmers to be used as base in an agriculture statistical system, a system which also pays attention to future support program to the farmers. A pre-study and pilot-study has been carried out to see what the register ought to contain and how it in practice can be constructed. Present project plan pays attention to the conclusions made in the pre-study and the pilot-study for a Farm Register.

Orderer: The main project "New Agriculture Statistical System in Latvia" (NASS).

Project leader: Ligita Argale/Janis Lapins

Consult: Twinning partner

Project name: Farm Register in Latvia

Project goal:

The project shall create a computerised register over all agriculture holdings in Latvia. The Register shall mainly be used for statistical purposes. Both stratification and sampling shall be possible to do out from the register. The register ought also to be performed so that it can be used also for support to the farmers in future.

Definitions:

- Agriculture Holding

Agriculture holding is a single unit both technically and economically, which has a single management and the output of which are agricultural products.

Single management means that there is a single management even though two or more persons acting jointly carry this out.

Single unit both technically and economically indicates a common use of labour and means of production.

For Latvia it means that the starting point for an Agriculture Holding is that the holding is the same as the household. This has been confirmed in the pilot-study for household living in the rural area. The household do also cultivate the area where there are living. Usually the holding is prosecuted without any co-operation with or help from another

household. The condition occurs irrespective if the main income is coming from the farming or not. In case where co-operation occurs, the co-operation usually concerns the use of technical equipment. If the co-operation concerning livestock's, the ownership of the animal is specified. The economic accounts of households are always separated.

In the case the owner of the land is not living in the rural area, the land is rented out or cultivated at distance. In case when the land is rented out the owner do not have agriculture holding, he/she is a landlord and usually not a farmer. The renter is considered as a farmer with an agriculture holding. If the renter is not already a household having own agriculture land and therefore already counted as holding he/she have to be included in the farm Register. In case the owner of the land cultivates the land at distance, the household shall be created for the owner as a distance household. All other members in the household shall be registered at the same rules as for household living inside the Pagast. This is valid only for information necessary for the Farm Register.

It occurs that juridical persons own or cultivate agriculture. In the 8 Pagast (of 514) which were included in the pilot-study, there exist 7 juridical persons that owned land. It is possible that it also occur some juridical persons that cultivate a farm without being an owner of agriculture land. They can exist but they are rare. Nearly all of the juridical persons having agricultural production are statutory companies.

The state and the Pagast own some land (around 30 %), but in they do not cultivate the land. They are landlords who rent out land. In no case the state or the Pagast shall be considered as a farm.

The rule about household, that one person can only be a member of one household at the time is of significant importance when the register over agriculture holdings will be built up. That means also that one single person can only belong to one holding. This is valid when the holding is one or more physical persons. Concerning juridical persons there will be juridical units that are holdings. Owners of the juridical persons can never be a holding, as long as they do not run a holding as private farm and in the name of the household. It can also occur that one single person is owner of more than one juridical person.

As long as a holding (physical or juridical) do not grow such big that it will have different working units with own management and own economic account, the definition about agriculture holding in the structure census and in IACS will coincide. In IACS as well as in the structure surveys it is the holder who cultivates the land that is of interest.

Holder is the person who is legally or economically responsible for the holding. The holder of the holding is that person in whose name the holding is operated. The holder can own the holding outright or rent it or be a hereditary long-term leaseholder or a trustee.

The holder may delegate all or part of power to a manager. If within one holding two or more natural persons carry out the functions of the holder only one of them is shown as such (e.g. the one who bears the greatest share of the risk or who takes the main part in managing the holding. If such criteria still fail to pick out one individual the choice should be based on some other criterion, such as age). In case of share farming the share farmer is shown as holder.

In reality there can be more than one holder of a holding, but one of them must be pointed out as the main holder (the head). The head of the holding will then be asked for in the structure census. It is with the head of the holding all communication will be carried out in different surveys. For example, in Sweden there can be up to three holders in the register, but only one head of the holding (main holder).

In normal cases the head of the household is also the holder or main holder.

Geographical situation of the holding

Today there is no relevant administrative subdivision of areas according to the agriculture use in Latvia. Latvia is divided into 26 districts and 7 large cities. The districts are then divided into smaller cities (around 60) and in the rural area into Pagasts. Latvia contains of 514 Pagast with a mean size of 120 km². The division into Pagast is historical and made for administrative use. For agriculture use another subdivision of Latvia maybe should have been more relevant. Today there does not exist any other subdivision. When there does not exist any relevant subdivision for agriculture purposes, the division into Pagast will be the most suitable today for agriculture use.

In the structure census it is important to know where the headquarters of the holding is situated. For Latvia headquarters of the holding means, where the most important buildings are situated. If there do not exist any buildings at the holding, the holding shall be counted to that Pagast where most of the agriculture areas are situated.

Population:

Demarcation of the population must be done from the expected use of the register. Today we can see two main usage of the register: for agriculture statistics and for support to the farmers. In the structure surveys all holdings do not need to be included. The demand from Eurostat are that holdings kept outside the structure surveys may not represent more than 1,0 % of the total agriculture production value in Latvia. As a practical limit EU has set 1,0 hectare.

To use the Register for support to the Farmers, it will be important to include all farms that can be eligible for direct aid (area payment). In

IACS there is a limit of 0,3 hectare for area aid. In national programs the limit can be of 0,1 hectare. Therefore it is desirable that the farm register contains all holdings of 0,1 hectare or more, even if the demand for statistical uses are higher.

The conclusion is that the Register needs to contain all farms that cultivates at least 0,1 hectare. It is important to cover all farms when the register is constructed. They can at this time easily be detected. Nevertheless if the budget for building up the farm register does not allow to cover all farms that cultivates at least 0,1 hectare this threshold must be increased. In the future other considerations can be made.

Parameters in the register

Two important aspects what the farm register shall contain are

- The register shall contain information that is necessary for the use of the register. Normally a register shall contain some basic information like
 - identification
 - name and addresses
 - relevant variables for stratification as size of farm, economic variables as SGM, type of production, region the farm belongs to and perhaps also the number of animals.
- A register shall not contain information that easily can be retrieved from other register. A condition is that the demand on the information actualisation, quality and content can be fulfilled.

A Register in Latvia need information about

- Administrative information about the holding
 - unique identification code of the holding. An identification code shall follow the holding over the years and shall not contain other information than identification.
 - information about where the holding is situated (in what region defined at the lowest level). For Latvia it will be Pagast where the main buildings are situated. For the moment Pagast will be the most suitable regional division for agricultural holdings in Latvia. If a holding is situated in more than one Pagast, only one Pagast shall be chosen. The Pagast that will be chosen is the Pagast where the main building is situated. In the future there can be changes in the regional division.
- Administrative information about the holder. It will be possible to register more than one holder of a farm, but only one will be the main holder.
 - person code of the holder
 - name of the holder
 - address to the holder
 - telephone to the holder

- relation to the head of the holding
- Area under own management, for each property
 - identification of the property
 - status of the property as property, usage etc.
 - owned, leased or leased out
 - agriculture land under own management
 - arable land under own management
 - grassland under own management
 - the Pagast where the property is situated, if the identification of the property does not contain such information
- Other information needed for stratification
 - type of production
 - economic values of the production
 - type and number of animals

Information about type of production, value of production and number of animals is information that will be updated from the structure census.

Realisation:

Below the realisation plan of the project is described step by step. For each step there is stated what is necessary to do. The timetable follows and tells when each step has to be finished. Before the realisation of the project, a more detailed timetable for each step will be prepared.

Step 1: Computerising of the household register

- updating the person-codes in the household registers
- control of addresses
- grouping the pagast into three groups:
 1. pagast where register contains person-codes of all household members;
 2. pagast where register contains person-codes but not for all persons;
 3. pagast where information about person-codes do not exist or are defective

Different approaches depending on which group pagast belongs to can be used.

Step 2: Processing the information from the Cadaster Register

- receiving a copy of the register from January 1999
- merging information from the Cadaster Register with information from the Household Register
- receiving the information on persons of non matching properties from the Population Register concerning
 - dead persons

- addresses

The file with non-matching information shall contain all properties in the Cadaster Register where the owner does not belong to the Household Register

- for all persons living in a Pagast, where the Household Register does not exist
- for persons that live in a Pagast, but where the identification failed
- for persons that do not live in the rural area

Step 3: Creating questionnaires

Creation of two types A and B of questionnaires, one for those where information about Household exist and one for those where information about household do not exist

Step 4: Printing and pre-printing of questionnaires

- Printing questionnaire A and B
- Pre-printing information in questionnaire A in the middle of February
- Updating the file for questionnaire B concerning dead persons and addresses (1st of April)
- Pre-printing questionnaire B in the middle of April

Step 5: Collecting information, questionnaire A

- Collecting information using questionnaire A with help from the Pagast administration during March - May (in connection with the land tax-collection)
- Interviewer work in June-July

Step 6: Collecting information, questionnaire B

- sending out questionnaires in the end of April
- First reminder in the end of May
- Second reminder in the middle of June
- Interviewer work for non-respondents in July

Step 7: Registration of incoming questionnaires

- Develop of data programmes
- Incoming registration
- List of non-respondent

Step 8: Registration of data from the questionnaires

- Develop of data programmes
- Entering data from the questionnaires

Step 9: Control and matching of information

- Data processing, control and matching of the entered data from the questionnaires including quality control
- Completing of information that is incorrect or missing

Step 10: Lay down the Register, volume 1999

- Lay down the version of the register that will be the official version to work with in 2000

ANNEX 2.

TIMETABLE FOR THE MAIN PROJECT “FARM REGISTER IN LATVIA”

PROJECT OF FARM REGISTER STRUCTURE

On the bases of Pilot study the representation of the Farm register by following tables can be recommended (“**bold**” variables will be used as a primary key variable):

1. Holding (household) table

- **ATK** - code of the administrative territory
- **NR** - identification code of holding within administrative territory
- ADR - address of holding
- CIEMS - village
- MGR - group of holding
- VERT - group of economic value of production
- VEIDS - type of production
- TEL - contact telephone
- PAS - postal code
- KADR - contact address (if it differs from registration address)
- IDAT - date of entry
- KDAT - the date of last updating
- PIEZ - remarks

2. Persons table

- **ATK** - code of the administrative territory
- **NR** - identification code of holding within administrative territory
- **PNR** - index number of a person within holding
- VARDS - name of person
- UZV - surname of person
- RADN - relationship to the head of household (head of holding)
- DZIM - sex
- PKODS - a unique person identification code
- DZDAT - birth date of person
- IDAT - date of entry
- KDAT - the date of last updating

3. Table of land parcels (properties/usage's)

- **ATK** - code of the administrative territory
- **NR** - identification code of holding within administrative territory
- **ZNR** - index number of a land parcel within holding
- KADNR - Land Cadaster code of a land parcel
- IPKODS - person identification code of owner/user
- ADR - address of land parcel
- KOP - total size of land parcel
- ARAM - area of arable land ¹⁾
- DARZI - area of garden ¹⁾
- GAN - area of pasture ²⁾
- PLAVAS - area of meadow ²⁾
- DAT - date of updating

- PAZ - indicator of updating
- PIEZ - remarks

¹⁾ instead of two variables ARAM and DARZI one variable (total area of arable land and garden) can be used

²⁾ instead of two variables GAN and PLAVAS one variable (total area of pasture and meadow) can be used

4. Table of land parcels rented to other persons

- ATK - code of the administrative territory
- NR - identification code of holding within administrative territory
- ZNR - index number of a land parcel within holding
- KADNR - Land Cadaster code of a land parcel
- IPKODS - person identification code of owner/user
- ZNOS - name of land parcel
- ADR - address of land parcel
- KOP - total size of rented land (for each renter)
- ARAM - area of rented arable land ¹⁾ (for each renter)
- DARZI - area of rented garden ¹⁾ (for each renter)
- GAN - area of rented pasture ²⁾ (for each renter)
- PLAVAS - area of rented meadow ²⁾ (for each renter)
- NFJ - a status of renter (physical/juridical)
- NPKODS - person identification code of physical renter
- NVARDS - name of physical renter
- NUZV - surname of physical renter
- NJNOS - name of juridical renter
- NJKODS - registration code of juridical renter
- NATK - code of the administrative territory of renter
- NADR - address of renter
- NTEL - contact telephone of renter
- DAT - date of updating
- PAZ - indicator of updating
- PIEZ - remarks

^{1), 2)} - see comments to Table of land parcels.

5. Table of land parcels rented from others

- ATK - code of the administrative territory
- NR - identification code of holding within administrative territory
- KADNR - Land Cadaster code of land parcel
- ZNOS - name of land parcel
- ADR - address of land parcel
- KOP - total area of rented land (for each case of renting)
- ARAM - area of rented arable land ¹⁾
- DARZI - area of rented garden ¹⁾
- GAN - area of rented pasture ²⁾
- PLAVAS - area of rented meadow ²⁾
- IFJ - a status of owner (physical/juridical)
- IPKODS - person identification code of physical owner
- IVARDS - name of physical owner

- IUZV - surname of physical owner
- IJNOS - name of juridical owner
- IJKODS - registration code of juridical owner
- IATK - code of the administrative territory of owner
- IADR - address of owner
- DAT - date of updating
- PAZ - indicator of updating
- PIEZ - remarks

¹⁾, ²⁾ - see comments to Table of land parcels.

DESCRIPTION OF DATA FILES RECEIVED FROM THE LAND CADASTER

The data file from the Land Cadaster was received as a MICROSOFT EXCEL for WINDOWS 95 file. An example of its content is given below.

Pagast code	8842			
Group	1			
Index number	1	3	5	6
Status of land	10	10	20	20
Purpose of use of land	160	110	160	160
Name of property	Name of property	Name of property	Name of property	Name of property
Total area	6.7	12.6	5.1	3.6
Measurement unit	ha	ha	ha	ha
Agricultural land	3.8	4.3	0	0
Arable land	3.3	2.2	0	0
Garden	0.4	0	0	0
Meadow	0	0	0	0
Pasture	0.1	2.1	0	0
Forest	2.5	7.8	5	3.6
Updated	23-APR-96	09-MAY-96	10-JUN-96	10-JUN-96
Number of owners	1	1	1	1
Status of person	10	10	10	10
Name	Name	Name	Name	Name
Surname	Surname	Surname	Surname	Surname
Person identification code	12345612345	12345612345	12345612345	12345612345
Code of residence territory	8842	8815	4064	8052
Name of house				
Street				
House number				
Apartment number				
Address abroad				

Status of land

- 10 Property
- 20 Usage
- 30 Rent
- 40 Adjudgement
- 50 Other

Status of person

- 10 Physical person
- 20 Juridical person
- 30 State
- 40 Pagast

Purpose of use of land

- 100 For agriculture
- 110 Peasant farms
- 120 Household plots
- 130 Private subsidiary farms
- 140 Specialised state farms
- 150 Statutory companies
- 160 For other agricultural purposes
- 200 Forestry

DESCRIPTION OF DATA FILES RECEIVED FROM THE POPULATION
REGISTER

In order to have updated addresses of persons whom the “B” questionnaire was planned to send a @ delimited text file was received from the Population Register. This file contained the following information:

Nr.	Variable	Type of variable	Remarks
1	Index number	Numeric (10)	
2	Person identification code (ID)	Char (11)	
3	Surname	Char (34)	
4	Name	Char (68)	
5	Status of person	Numeric (2)	1-5 live, 7 emigrated, 9 died, 15 ID changed, 17 ID cancelled
6	Date of change of person status	DD.MM.YYYY	
7	Code of administrative territory of person	Numeric (4)	
8	Village	Char (34)	
9	Street	Char (34)	
10	Name of house	Char (34)	
11	House number (numeric part)	Numeric (3)	
12	House number (textual part)	Char (8)	
13	Block number	Char (3)	
14	Apartment number (numeric part)	Numeric (3)	
15	Apartment number (textual part)	Char (8)	
16	Postal code	Char (6)	
17	Telephone	Char (14)	
18	Address of person living abroad	Char (102)	
19	Country	Char (34)	
20	Status of address	Numeric (2)	1 checked in, 0 checked out
21	Date of changes of address	DD.MM.YYYY	

QUESTIONNAIRE “A”

ANNEX 6.

QUESTIONNAIRE “B”

ANNEX 7.

QUESTIONNAIRE “J”

ANNEX 8.

QUESTIONNAIRE “P”

ANNEX 9.

