

Zambia - 2024-2025 Crop Forecasting Survey

Zambia Statistics Agency,

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Identification

SURVEY ID NUMBER
ZMB-ZSA-CFS-2024-25-V1.0

TITLE
2024-2025 Crop Forecasting Survey

SUBTITLE
40th edition

COUNTRY

Name	Country code
Zambia	ZMB

STUDY TYPE
Agricultural Survey [ag/oth]

SERIES INFORMATION

The purpose of the Crop Forecasting Survey is to obtain crop data for the current agricultural season. The Crop Forecasting Survey is conducted during the first and second quarters of each year, a critical period when crops are actively growing. The survey generally collects estimates, relate to area planted to crops, expected and/or realized production, quantity and variety of seed, quantity harvested and type of fertilizer used, crop sales, carryover stocks, and crop marketing among other variables. Except otherwise stated, the reference period for this information is the current agricultural season starting 1st October 2024 ending 30th September 2025.

ABSTRACT

The Crop Forecasting Survey (CFS) is an indispensable tool for Zambia's agricultural sector, offering accurate, timely data on crop production and related variables. Initiated under the Statistics Act of 2018, the survey is an ongoing collaborative effort between the Ministry of Agriculture and the Zambia Statistics Agency, aimed at generating reliable estimates of Zambia's agricultural output. The data produced serve as a foundation for policy formulation, enabling both the government and private sector stakeholders to respond proactively to food security needs and economic opportunities.

KIND OF DATA
Sample survey data [ssd]

UNIT OF ANALYSIS
Household level
Establishment level

Version

VERSION DESCRIPTION
Version 1.0

VERSION DATE
2025-05-01

Scope

NOTES

This scope of this survey includes the concepts and definitions used, the survey methodology, seasonal weather performance, and household characteristics. The survey further provides information on farmland and use, crop production, fertiliser acquisition and application, seed type and source, anticipated crop sales, and an indication of the food security situation during the 2024/2025 marketing season

TOPICS

Topic
Household Demographic Characteristics
Record Keeping
Parcel Roster
Field Roster
Crop Roster
Temporary Crop Production (Non-vegetable)
Permanent Crop Production
Food Crop Stocks
Vegetable Crop Production
Seeds and Seedlings Acquisition
Input Use
Crop Forecast Sales from Own Production,
Land Ownership

KEYWORDS

Keyword
land use
Crop yield
Area planted
Tillage methods
crop production
Maize
Sorghum
Rice
Millet
Soya beans
Seed cotton
Irish potatoes
Tobacco
Dry spells
Fertiliser
Seed
Food security

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National Coverage
Provincial

Rural/Urban

UNIVERSE

Category A included households with cultivated land of less than two hectares, and raised less than 50 cattle, less than 30 goats, less than 20 pigs and less than 50 chickens.

Category B included households with 2.0 to 4.99 hectares of cultivated land. This category also included households reporting any of the rarely grown crops, when 3 to 5 households in the EA report the specified crop(s), even if they do not qualify based on area under crops.

Category C included households with 5.0 to 19.99 hectares of cultivated land. This category also included: Households reporting any of the rarely grown crops when only 1 or 2 households in the EA report the rarely grown crop(s), even if they do not qualify based on area under crops. Households raising either, 50 or more cattle, and/or 20 or more pigs, and/or 30 or more goats, and/or 50 or more chickens, even if they do not qualify based on area under crops.

For Large scale farmers were enumerators

Producers and sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATORS

Name	Affiliation
Zambia Statistics Agency	Ministry of Finance and National Planning

PRODUCERS

Name	Affiliation	Role
Ministry of Agriculture	GRZ	questionnaire design, data collection, processing and analysis
Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock	GRZ	questionnaire design, data collection, processing and analysis

FUNDING AGENCY/SPONSOR

Name	Abbreviation	Role
Government of the republic of Zambia	GRZ	Facilitating funds for the survey
The World Bank Group	WB	Funded the survey

OTHER IDENTIFICATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Name	Affiliation	Role
Food Agriculture Organisation	United Nations	Technical Assistance

Sampling

SAMPLING PROCEDURE

The sampling method for agricultural households is a stratified two stage sampling design. The primary sampling unit (PSU) for the survey is the enumeration area (EA) as designed for the 2022 census of population and housing (CPH) and the secondary sampling unit (SSU) is the Agricultural household in the sampled EAs. The complete list of agricultural households will be developed from a listing operation that took place during the 2024 IAS. During the survey design stage, the sampling frame was stratified by district and region (rural/urban) criteria in each Province (estimation domain/analytical stratum). An implicit stratification was also performed through sorting the frame of EAs by geographic identification particulars and the number of agricultural households before the selection of EAs.

WEIGHTING

The basic weight for each sample agricultural household would be equal to the inverse of its probability of selection (calculated by multiplying the probabilities at each sampling stage).

The probability of selection for sample agricultural households includes factors for three sampling stages, expressed as follows :

1. Selection of EAs for IAS (frame PHC2022)

where:

p_{1hi} = probability of selection for the i -th sample EA in stratum h (District x Rural/Urban)

n_h = number of sample EAs in stratum h

M_h = total number of agricultural households in the frame for stratum h

M_{hi} = total number of agricultural households in the frame for the i -th sample EA in stratum h

2 Selection of EAs for CFS within frame = IAS

p_{2hi} = probability of selecting the i -th EA in stratum h for CFS

n'_h = number of sample EAs in stratum h for CFS

M'_h = total number of agricultural households in stratum h (frame = IAS)

3 stage Selection of AHHs in EA sampled after A, B and stratification (k)

m_{ki} = number of sample agricultural households selected in the i -th sample EA in stratum h

M_{ki} = total number of agricultural households listed in the i -th sample EA in stratum k

Finally the probability of i -th AHH in stratum h to be selected

The basic sampling weight, or expansion factor, is calculated as the inverse of this probability of selection. Based on the previous expression for the probability, the weight can be simplified as follows:

where:

W_{kij} = basic weight for the sample agricultural household j within the i -th sample EA in stratum k

Data Collection

DATES OF DATA COLLECTION

Start	End
2025-04-01	2025-05-15

DATA COLLECTION MODE

Face-to-face [f2f]

SUPERVISION

Interviewing was conducted by teams of interviewers from ZamStats, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock and Ministry of Agriculture. Each interviewing team comprised 3 interviewers one supervisor and a driver.

The role of the supervisor was to coordinate field data collection activities, including management of the field teams, field logistics, enumeration area canvassing, allocation of work among team members, navigating the area using Mapsme and listings, coordinate with local authorities concerning the survey and make arrangements for accommodation and travel. Additionally, the field supervisor conducts spot checks and provided progress reports to the central office.

DATA COLLECTION NOTES

The sampled small and medium-scale agricultural households were visited by enumerators and face-to-face interviews were conducted using Survey solutions software installed on the tablets. A team approach was used. The teams consisted of a supervisor and 3 enumerators and a driver.

For large-scale farms/establishments were enumerated on 100 percent coverage basis. Face to face interviews were conducted but in cases where farmers were not available a hard copy questionnaires was left with the farmer to fill in and farmers were also given the option of filling in an online questionnaire.

DATA COLLECTORS

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation
Zambia Zambia Statistics Agency staff	ZamStats	Ministry of Finance and National Planning
Ministry of Agriculture staff	MoA	GRZ
Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock Staff	MFL	GRZ

Questionnaires

QUESTIONNAIRES

Small and Medium scale questionnaire :The questionnaire was administered households and had questions on household head, holding identifiers, demographics, farm data, crop roster and expected yields

Large scale questionnaire was used: The questionnaire was administered to holdings and had questions, holding identifiers, farm data, crop roster, expected yields and expected sales.

Data Processing

DATA EDITING

Data was collected by enumerators then it was checked by the supervisor and uploaded to the server. The Trainers and Information Technology (IT) personnel were monitoring and reviewing the data uploaded by enumerators to the server. The Trainers reviewed the questionnaires; if the collected data met quality standards, the Trainers would approve the questionnaire. Conversely, if the data was deemed substandard, the questionnaire would be rejected. This process was an integral part of the quality control measures, allowing teams to revisit households and correct errors before advancing to the next cluster.

Access policy

CONTACTS

Name	Affiliation	Email	URL
Head of Dissemination	Zambia Statistics Agency	info@zamstats.gov.zm	Link

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ACCESS CONDITIONS

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3. No attempt will be made to re-identify respondents, and no use will be made of the identity of any person or establishment discovered inadvertently.

CITATION REQUIREMENTS

Zambia Statistics Agency (2025). 2024-2025 Crop Forecasting Survey

ACCESS AUTHORITY

Name	Affiliation	Email	URL
Zambia Statistics Agency	Ministry of Finance and National Planning	info@zamstats.gov.zm	Link

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Metadata production

DDI DOCUMENT ID

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PRODUCERS

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Zambia Statistics Agency	ZamStats	Ministry of Finance and National Planning	Survey Implementors

DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION

2026-01-12

DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

Version 1.0 (January 2026)

Data Dictionary

Data file	Cases	Variables
<p>Crop Small and Medium scale Farmers This data set contains information about the area planted of various crops, yield rate, the of fertilizer used, type of pesticides used and expected production and sales by small and medium scale farming households</p>	32031	124
<p>Crop Large Scale Farmers This data set contains information about the area planted of various crops, yield rate, the of fertilizer used, type of pesticides used and expected production and sales by large scale farmer</p>	5535	22