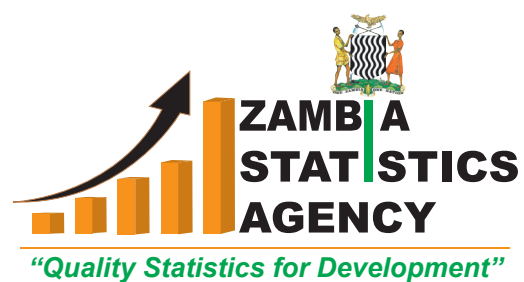




Republic of Zambia

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND LIVESTOCK
MINISTRY OF GREEN ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT



2024 INTEGRATED AGRICULTURE SURVEY (IAS)

2023/2024 Agricultural Season



The 2024 Integrated Agriculture Survey (IAS 2024) was implemented by the Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MFL) and the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment (MoGEE) under the overall guidance of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) through the 50x2030 Initiative. The funding for the IAS 2024 was provided Under the financial support of the World Bank SADC (Southern African Development Community) Regional Statistics Capacity Project (StatCap). FAO provided technical assistance from planning, execution through to dissemination of the survey.

Additional information about the IAS 2024 may be obtained from the Zambia Statistics Agency, P.O. Box 31908, Lusaka, Zambia; telephone: (260-211) 251377/85 257604/05; fax: (260-211) 253468; email: info@zamstats.gov.zm; internet: www.zamstats.gov.zm.

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Recommended citation:

Zambia Statistics Agency, Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock and the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment (MoGEE). 2024 Integrated Agriculture Survey.

Prepared by

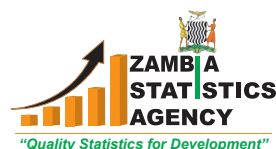


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MINISTRY OF GREEN ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT



2024 INTEGRATED AGRICULTURE SURVEY (IAS)

2023/2024 Agricultural Season

March 2026

FOREWORD



Agriculture remains the key priority sector in the growth and poverty reduction agenda of Zambia, significantly contributing to the country's economy and social well-being. It provides food security, employment opportunities and is a major source of income, particularly in rural areas.

Given the critical role that the sector plays in the Zambian economy, it is increasingly important to ensure that high quality data and statistics are available to support evidence-based decisions, policies and management of national food security. In this vain, the Government of the Republic of Zambia through the Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MFL) and the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment (MoGEE) conducted its first ever 2024 Integrated Agricultural Survey (IAS) for the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season. The IAS 2024 covered various agriculture subsectors of the country including crops, livestock and forestry in the framework of the 50x2030 Initiative.

In accordance with its mandate under the Statistics Act No. 13 of 2018, the Zambia Statistics Agency is responsible for coordinating the National Statistical System and producing and disseminating official statistics to support national development. To enhance transparency and promote informed use of the survey results, this report is accompanied by a Quality Report, which provides users with information on the statistical quality of the Integrated Agricultural Survey. The Quality Report outlines the survey methodology, concepts and definitions, data quality assurance measures, accuracy and reliability, coherence and comparability, timeliness, accessibility, and other quality dimensions that enable users to correctly interpret and apply the statistics presented in this report.

The 50x2030 is a multi-agency partnership initiative to close the agricultural data gap (World Bank, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Fund for Agriculture Development, (IFAD)). The initiative aims to provide data for smart agriculture to strengthen national agricultural data systems in 50 countries by the year 2030. Zambia is among the 50 countries to benefit from this initiative.

The purpose of the IAS 2024 was to obtain estimates of the agricultural sector, covering crops, livestock, poultry and apiculture. The survey provides reliable estimates at national and provincial level.

I am confident that the results of the IAS 2024 will play a pivotal role in informing formulation of evidence-based agricultural policies, environmental sustainability, and management of national food security among many others.

ZamStats would like to express profound and sincere gratitude to the World Bank and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) for their technical support through the 50x2030 Initiative. Special thanks go to the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MFL) and the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment (MoGEE) for their invaluable collaboration.

The Agency further extends its sincere appreciation to its Management and Staff at various levels who participated in the IAS 2024 implementation for their hard work and dedication to duty. Finally, utmost gratitude goes to all the farmers and institutions for allowing the data collectors to visit their households and collect agricultural related data from the household members.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Smudenda".

Sheila S. Mudenda
Statistician General

30th March, 2026





CONTENTS

IV	FOREWORD
XII	ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS
1	CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION
1	1.0 Background
1	1.1 Objectives of the Integrated Agriculture Survey
1	1.2 Data confidentiality
1	1.3 Questionnaire adaptation (Community of Practice)
2	1.4 Field operations
2	1.5 Data processing
3	1.6 Survey Methodology
3	1.6.1 Coverage
3	1.6.2 Survey timing and reference period
3	1.6.3 Sample Design
3	1.6.4 Sample size and allocation
3	1.6.5 Physical size thresholds
4	1.6.6 Methodology for Large-Scale Farms
4	1.6.7 Interpretation of Special Symbols
5	CHAPTER 2: CHARACTERISTICS OF AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS
5	Key findings
5	Concepts and definitions
6	2.0 Introduction
6	2.1 Agricultural households by Legal Status, Parcel Distribution and Total Area of Parcels
7	2.2 Agricultural Households by Type of Activity and Sex of Household Head
9	2.3 Education Level of Household Head and Agricultural Training
9	Education Level of Household Head
9	Agriculture Training
9	2.4 Record Keeping
9	2.4.1 Record Keeping by Status
10	2.4.2 Record Keeping by Type
10	2.4.3 Mode of Record-Keeping Used by Agricultural Households
11	2.5 Number and Area of Parcels by Land Tenure Type
13	2.6 Type of Documents Held for Owned Parcels
13	2.7 Number of Fields and Land Area by use
15	2.8 Distribution of Agricultural Households by Main Purpose of Production
16	CHAPTER 3: CROP PRODUCTION
16	Key Findings
16	Concepts and Definitions
16	Production Utilization
16	3.0 Introduction

17	3.1. Area Planted, Area Harvested, Production, Yield and Sales for Various Crops.
17	3.1.1 Maize
18	3.1.2 Sorghum
18	3.1.3 Rice
19	3.1.4 Millet
20	3.1.5 Mixed Beans
20	3.1.6 Cowpeas (for Grain)
21	3.1.7 Sunflower
22	3.1.8 Soya beans (for Grain)
22	3.1.9 Sweet Potatoes
23	3.1.10 Seed Cotton
24	3.1.11 Groundnuts
25	3.1.12 Tobacco (Virginia)
26	3.1.13 Wheat
26	3.1.14 Barley
27	3.2 Production Utilization
27	Crops Mainly Sold
27	Crops Mostly Consumed at Household Level
27	Transfers to Others (Gifts & Payment-in-kind)
27	Reuse on Farm
27	Stored Harvest
27	Losses and Other Uses
28	3.3 Reasons for Non-Harvest of Selected Crops by Small and Medium-Scale Agricultural Households
30	CHAPTER 4: AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES AND INPUTS
30	Key Findings
30	Concepts and Definitions
31	4.0 Introduction
31	4.1 Fertiliser Application
31	4.1.1 Agricultural households using fertilizers (Organic/Inorganic)
31	4.1.2 Fertilizer Application for Small and Medium Agricultural Households by type
32	4.1.3 Area Planted Applied with Fertilizers in Hectares (Ha) by Quantity, Small and Medium Scale Households
33	4.1.4 Fertilizer Use by Farm Size, Type, Area (Ha) and Province
34	4.1.5 Area Treated with Pesticides by Farm Size, Type and Province
35	CHAPTER 5: LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS
35	Key Findings
35	Concepts and Definitions
37	5.0 Introduction
37	5.1. Cattle Production
37	5.1.1 Number of Cattle Raised by Households and Establishments
38	5.1.2 Cattle Herd Structure under Households



38	5.1.3 Calving Percentage
39	5.1.4 Cattle Mortality due to Disease reported by small and medium-scale agricultural households
40	5.1.5 Households Reporting Cattle Theft
40	5.1.6. Livestock Sales
41	5.2. Goat Production
41	5.2.1 Number of Goats Raised by Households and Establishments
41	5.2.2 Goat Herd Structure under Households
42	5.3. Sheep Production
42	5.3.1 Number of Sheep Raised by Households and Establishments
43	5.3.2 Sheep Herd Structure under Households
43	5.4. Pigs Production
43	5.4.1 Number of Pigs Raised by Households and Establishments
44	5.4.2 Pig Herd Structure under Households
45	5.5. Poultry Production
45	5.5.1. Chicken Production under Households and Establishments
45	5.6 Milk Production
45	5.6.1 Milk Production among Households and Establishments
46	5.6.2 Milk Productivity
47	5.6.3 Milk Production under Households during the Low, Moderate and High Production Months in Litres
48	CHAPTER 6: LABOUR DYNAMICS IN AGRICULTURE
48	Key Findings
48	Concepts and Definitions
48	6.0 Introduction
48	6.1 Agricultural Households Engaged in Crop/Livestock Activities by Worker Category
49	6.2 Distribution of Workers Engaged in Crop/Livestock Activities by Sex and Worker Category
50	CHAPTER 7: FORESTRY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICES ON AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS.
50	Key Findings
50	Key Definitions
50	7.0 Introduction
50	7.1 Forestry Product Engagement Among Agricultural Households
52	CHAPTER 8: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION
53	APPENDIX 1: LIST OF PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN THE REPORT PREPARATION

LIST OF TABLES

7	Table 2.1: Distribution of Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Holdings by Legal Status, Number of Parcels and Total Area of ParcelsT, IAS 2024
8	Table 2.2: Percentage distribution of Small and Medium Scale Households (HHs) by Type of Agriculture Activity and Sex of Household Head, IAS 2024
9	Table 2.3: Percentage distribution of Education Level and Agriculture Training of Household Heads by Sex, IAS 202
10	Table 2.4: Number of Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Households by Type of Record keeping, IAS 2024
11	Table 2.5: Number and Percent of Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Households by Mode of Record-Keeping and by Province, IAS 2024
12	Table 2.6: Number of Parcels and Area by Land Tenure Type and Province in Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Households, IAS 2024
13	Table 2.7: Percentage Distribution of Land Ownership Documentation by Province in Small and Medium-Scale Agricultural Households, IAS 2024
14	Table 2.8: Distribution of Fields and Land Area by Province and Land Use type in Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Households, IAS 2024
15	Table 2.9: Percentage Distribution of Main Purpose of Agricultural Production by Province in Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Households, IAS 2024
17	Table 3.1: Area Planted, Area Harvested, Production, Yield and Sales of Maize, IAS 2024
18	Table 3.2: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Sorghum, IAS 2024
19	Table 3.3: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Rice by Province, IAS 2024
19	Table 3.4: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Millet, IAS 2024
20	Table 3.5: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Mixed beans by Province, IAS 2024
21	Table 3.6: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Cowpeas, IAS 2024
21	Table 3.7: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Sunflower by Province IAS 2024
22	Table 3.8: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Soya beans by Province, IAS 2024
23	Table 3.9 Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for sweet potatoes by Province, IAS 2024
23	Table 3.10: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for seed cotton, IAS 2024
24	Table 3.11: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for groundnuts by Province, IAS 2024
25	Table 3.12: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Virginia Tobacco by Province, IAS 2024
26	Table 3.13: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Wheat by Province, IAS 2024
26	Table 3.14: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Barley by Province, IAS 2024
28	Table 3.15: Percentage Disposition (Use) of Selected Crops by Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Households, IAS 2024
29	Table 3.16: Reasons for Non-Harvest of Selected Crops in Percentage, IAS 2024
31	Table 4.1: Fertilizer Use (Organic/Inorganic), by Farm Size and by Province, IAS 2024



32	Table 4.2 Number and Percentage Distribution of Agricultural Households by Type of Fertilizer Category and Quantity, IAS 2024
32	Table 4.3 Area Planted (in Hectares) with Total Quantity of Fertilizer Applied (Organic and Inorganic), IAS 2024
33	Table 4.4: Total Area Planted by Type (Organic vs. Inorganic) of Fertilizer Applied and Province, IAS 2024
34	Table 4.5 Area Planted Applied with Any Type of Pesticides (Ha) by Province, IAS 2024
37	Table 5.1: Number and Percentage of Cattle Raised by Households and Establishments, IAS 2024
38	Table 5.2. Total number of Households Raising Cattle and Average Number Raised as of December 2024, IAS 2024
39	Table 5.3: Cattle Calving Rate for Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Households by Province, IAS 2024
39	Table 5.4: Number of Cattle Raising Households, Cattle Lost Due to Disease and Mortality Rate by Province, IAS 2024
40	Table 5.5 Number of Cattle Raising Households, Households Reporting Cattle Theft by Province, IAS 2024
40	Table 5.6: Number of Cattle sold live by households to Specific Market by Province, IAS 2024
41	Table 5.7: Number and Percentage of Goats Raised by Households and Establishments, IAS 2024
42	Table 5.8: Total number of Households Raising Goats and Average Number Raised as of December 2024, IAS 2024
42	Table 5.9: Number and Percentage of Sheep Raised by Households and Establishments, IAS 2024
43	Table 5.10: Total number of Households Raising Sheep and Average Number Raised as of December 2024, IAS 2024
44	Table 5.11: Number and Percentage of Pigs Raised by Households and Establishments, IAS 2024
44	Table 5.12: Total number of Households Raising Pigs and Average Number Raised as of December 2024, IAS 2024
45	Table 5.13: Chicken Production under Households and Establishments as of 31st December, IAS 2024
46	Table 5.14 Quantity of Milk Produced in litres by Households and Establishments, IAS 2024
46	Table 5.15: Milk Productivity under Households, IAS 2024
47	Table 5.16: Milk Production during Low, Moderate and High Months in Litres under Households, IAS 2024
49	Table 6.1: Share of Households Reporting a Given Worker Category, IAS 2024
49	Table 6.2: Percentage Distribution of Workers Engaged in Crop or Livestock Activities by Sex and Worker Category, IAS 2024
51	Table 7.1: Holdings Reporting Collection of Forest and Wild Products in Small and Medium-Scale Agricultural Holdings, 2024

LIST OF FIGURE

- 10 | Figure 2.1: Percentage of Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Households by Record-Keeping Status, IAS 2024



ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CAPI	Computer Assisted Personal Interview
CFS	Crop Forecasting Survey
CPH	Census of Population and Housing
EA	Enumeration Area
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
Ha	Hectare
IAS	Integrated Agriculture Survey
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
MFL	Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoGEE	Ministry of Green Economy and Environment
Mt	Metric Tonnes
MTs	Master Trainers
PHS	Post-Harvest Survey
PPS	Probability Proportional Size
PSU	Primary Sampling Unit
SSU	Secondary Sampling Unit
ZamStats	Zambia Statistics Agency

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.0 Background

Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) has been conducting Agricultural Surveys in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MFL) namely; Crop Forecasting Survey (CFS), Post Harvest Survey (PHS) and Livestock Survey. The CFS and PHS are carried out during the first and fourth quarters of each year, respectively. The CFS focuses on providing information on the anticipated crop production while the PHS provides actual data on crop production. The Livestock Survey provides livestock population figures and other livestock indicators. All these surveys are conducted independently at different times, however, Zamstats, MoA, MFL and the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment (MoGEE) embarked on the first ever Integrated Agriculture Survey (IAS) under the 50x2030 Initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in order to bring all the sub sectors together.

The 50x2030 Initiative focuses on improving the country's agricultural data by developing a fit-for-purpose, integrated, and financially sustainable agricultural and rural survey program that fosters a culture of data use for decision-making to support agricultural sustainability and rural development. This initiative is intended to close the Agricultural Data Gap for data smart agriculture to strengthen national agricultural data systems in 50 countries by the year 2030. Zambia is among the 50 countries to benefit from this initiative.

The IAS 2024 covered various agriculture subsectors of the country including crops, livestock, poultry and forestry in the framework of the 50x2030 Initiative.

1.1 Objectives of the Integrated Agriculture Survey

The main objective of the IAS 2024 was to produce quality statistics on the major components of agricultural production of crop, livestock and forestry for the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season. Specifically, the objectives of the survey were:

- **Improved Coverage and scope:** target all agricultural production units covering all their crop and livestock activities within the agricultural season.
- Improved comparability and coherence by using international concepts and definitions.
- Improved data quality in terms of relevance, accuracy, timeliness and accessibility.

1.2 Data confidentiality

All the individual household data collected during the IAS 2024 was treated strictly confidential. Extensive confidentiality processes were made to ensure that anonymity of data providers was ascertained at all times. The data collected will not be shared with any third parties if it may lead to the direct or indirect identification of the respondents. All the non-civil service staff took an oath of secrecy before being engaged in the data collection or data handling. Mechanisms were put in place to report any possible violations of the survey procedures and/ or violation of confidentiality.

1.3 Questionnaire adaptation (Community of Practice)

The process of the IAS 2024 questionnaire adaptation started in June 2024. The draft questionnaires took into consideration local and international demands. Specifically, the following aspects were considered during questionnaire drafting:

- Quality of data collected through the previous surveys;
- Timeliness;
- International recommendations;
- Historical comparisons;
- International comparability;
- Suitability of topics for collecting reliable information; and
- Resources available for the survey undertaking.

The draft questionnaire was shared and a consultative process was held for stakeholders to provide feedback. Submissions were received and discussions were held to decide on the questions to be added. A consolidated draft questionnaire was produced and the data collection application was developed. Field pre-tests were conducted to ensure the questionnaire would be able to collect the required data.

The IAS 2024 had two types of questionnaires; the household and the establishment questionnaire. The household questionnaire was used to capture both individual and household characteristics, whereas, the establishment questionnaire was used to capture agricultural activities in establishments or institutions.

1.4 Field operations

All data from the IAS 2024 were collected by trained enumerators who were selected from among existing national and provincial staff of ZamStats, MoA and MFL. There were two levels of training, conducted separately and these were;

- a) Training of Master Trainers (MTs), which included ZamStats, MoA and MFL headquarters office staff serving as data quality controllers.
- (b) Training of enumerators and supervisors for both household and establishment questionnaire who served as field data collectors.

All field officials at all levels were trained extensively in concepts, definitions and procedures for data collection. Data quality controllers were responsible for conducting data quality control checks. Field Supervisors were responsible for assisting enumerators in the field, paying courtesy calls on the local leadership and promoting cooperation from agricultural household respondents and enumerators were responsible for data collection.

1.5 Data processing

Questionnaires were programmed into tablet computers to facilitate computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI). The use of CAPI for data collection allowed for timely monitoring of the data flow and data quality. Once the enumerators collected the survey data using the Survey solutions app, it was submitted to the data quality control team who, in turn, carried out scrutiny checks. In case of errors or suspicious data detected, questionnaires were returned to the enumerators to address the issues and the corrected record would be re-submitted to the data quality controller.

1.6 Survey Methodology

1.6.1 Coverage

The survey was carried out in all the 10 provinces of the country in order to provide estimates at provincial and national level. The survey was conducted in a total of 1,450 Enumeration Areas (EAs) drawn from the 2022 Census of Population and Housing (CPH) agriculture frame. The population units were agricultural households with at least a member(s) practicing their own account agricultural activities.

1.6.2 Survey timing and reference period

The data collection of the IAS 2024 was undertaken from February to March, 2025. The reference period for data collection was the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season which began on 1st October 2023 and ended on 30th September, 2024. However, the reference period for livestock related variables, was the last twelve months at the time of data collection.

1.6.3 Sample Design

The sampling method was a stratified two stage sampling. The primary sampling unit (PSU) was the EA as designed for the 2022 CPH and the secondary sampling unit (SSU) was the Agricultural household in the sampled EAs. The complete list of agricultural households was developed from a listing operation. The sampling frame was stratified by district and rural/urban criteria in each Province. 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.

1.6.4 Sample size and allocation

Sample sizes were calculated for each province considering requirements of reliable estimates of crop area and livestock number.

The sample size of households was computed separately for crop and livestock and the final size was chosen considering the contribution of the provinces to crop area and livestock production. A total of 1,450 EAs were selected countrywide and after the listing exercise, 14 agricultural households for each EA were selected using systematic random sampling, for a total planned sample size of 20,300 households.

1.6.5 Physical size thresholds

A set of physical thresholds was applied to define small and medium-scale farms subject to the survey. All agricultural households are defined as small or medium-scale farms if they are growing or raising less than:

- 20 (0 to 19.99) hectares of area under crops
- 100 cattle,
- 20 dairy cows,
- 150 goats,
- 150 sheep,
- 100 pigs
- 1000 village chickens
- 6,000 broilers per annum
- 1,000 layers per annum.

1.6.6 Methodology for Large-Scale Farms

The large-scale farms frame (agricultural households or establishments) was developed from the 2023/2024 CFS and the 2023 Livestock survey. The list includes all the farms above the physical threshold specified in 1.6.5 above. The list had about 2,500 potential large-scale agricultural holdings. A census of large-scale farms was conducted, with data collected from each farm by either hard copy or web based online questionnaire.

1.6.7 Interpretation of Special Symbols

In the statistical tables presented in this report, special symbols are used to clarify the status of certain data points. The symbol (0) indicates that no cases were observed in the survey sample; however, this does not necessarily imply that the true population value is zero. The symbol (-) denotes that data were withheld due to fewer than 30 unweighted cases or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds for small and medium-scale agricultural households. Totals include these withheld data. The symbol (+) is used to indicate suppressed data when unweighted cases of large-scale farms are fewer than 5.

These symbols ensure transparency in the presentation of results and help maintain statistical confidentiality and data reliability standards.

CHAPTER 2: CHARACTERISTICS OF AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS

Key findings

A total of 2,143,475 small and medium scale agricultural households were covered out of which 11,945 were in partnership and 2,131,530 were operated by single households.

The total number of households engaged in crop production was 2,123,130 while those engaged in livestock production were 1,217,257 and 60,429 households were engaged in honey production.

Out of the 2,143,475 agriculture households, the majority 1,525,554 (71.2 percent) were male headed.

A total of 3,529,810 Ha was utilized for various agricultural purposes during this period. At national level, cultivated fields for temporary and permanent crops represented the largest use of land at 3,453,413 Ha.

Slightly more than half (51.2 percent) of the agricultural households produced for own consumption, with a small portion sold.

Concepts and definitions

- **Agricultural holding:** Farms or agricultural enterprises operated by households or individuals.
- **Agricultural Household:** Is a household in which at least one member is carrying out some own-account agricultural activity.
- **Partnership:** this is when two or more different households come together, operating or carrying out an agricultural activity on the same land for their own mutual benefit. This partnership can be registered or not registered.
- **Small and medium scale agricultural household:** is an agricultural household below the physical threshold specified in 1.6.5.
- **Parcel:** A Parcel is a continuous piece of land (under the same tenure system, i.e., state, customary or simply rented-in from others) that is NOT split by a river or a path wide enough to fit an ox-cart or vehicle. A Parcel can be made up of one or more fields.
- **Field:** A field is defined as a continuous piece of land on which a specific crop or a mixture of crops is grown or which is fallow or waiting to be planted. A field is considered when it is $\frac{1}{4}$ of a Lima (625m²) and above.
- **Rented-in Land:** This is a land tenure type that refers to the land that a household rents at a cost (in cash or in kind) for use temporarily from another household for a specified period (for one or more seasons) without the owners of the land claiming usage of the land over the rented period.
- **Borrowed-in Land:** This is a land tenure type that refers to the land that a household borrows



at NO cost for use temporarily from another household for a specified period (for one or more seasons) without the owners of the land claiming usage of the land over the specified period.

- **Land tenure:** The relationship, whether legally or customarily defined, between people, as individuals or groups, with respect to land and associated natural resources (water, trees, minerals, wildlife, etc.). The most common land tenure types in a farm are: own land, land rented/borrowed in, land rented/borrowed out.
- **Title deed:** A legally binding document that confirms ownership rights to a specific property/land. It contains detailed information about the land or property, including its dimensions and historical background.
- **Certificate of occupancy/land certificate:** Is a document that verifies the legal occupancy and use of land. Usually this document is issued by the local council.
- **Certificate of hereditary acquisition:** An official document issued by a government agency, validating a person's legal right to inherit property or land.
- **Certificate of customary tenure:** This is a formal recognition of an individual's customary right to land issued by traditional authorities. This document recognizes an individual's rights to occupy and use land under customary law.
- **Long term lease or rental agreement:** Refers to a contractual agreement between a landlord and a tenant for the rental of property (residential, commercial or industrial) for an extended period typically exceeding five years. In Zambia long term lease typically spans 5 to 20 years. Certificate issued for adverse possession of land: A document issued to individuals who have been squatting on the land for a long time, without the owner claiming ownership. This document is given by a government agency.

2.0 Introduction

This chapter provides information on key characteristics of small and medium scale agricultural households during the 2023/2024 agricultural season. It presents information on the number of households practicing various agricultural activities, and the sex distribution of household heads. In addition, the chapter highlights the educational level and agriculture training of household heads, alongside information on land tenure and land use patterns at provincial level. Together, these indicators offer a foundational understanding of the diversity and composition of agricultural households in Zambia.

2.1 Agricultural households by Legal Status, Parcel Distribution and Total Area of Parcels

Table 2.1 shows the distribution of small and medium scale agricultural households by legal status, number of parcels and total area of parcels used during the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season. A total of 2,143,475 households were covered, out of which 11,945 were in partnerships accounting for 0.6

percent and 99.4 percent operated as single ownership. An average of 1.3 parcels were managed per holding. The households which operated as partnerships had 1.6 parcels on average while single households had 1.3 parcels. Households which operated as single ownership had the largest area covered by parcels with 9,430,777 hectares.

Table 2.1: Distribution of Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Holdings by Legal Status, Number of Parcels and Total Area of ParcelsT, IAS 2024

Legal Status	Total Number of Holdings		Total Number of Parcels	Average number of parcels per holding	Total Area (Ha)
	Number	Percent			
One household	2,131,530	99.4	2,784,738	1.3	9,430,777
Partnership (two or more households)	11,945	0.6	18,602	1.6	74,358
Zambia	2,143,475	100.0	2,803,340	1.3	9,505,135

2.2 Agricultural Households by Type of Activity and Sex of Household Head

Table 2.2 shows the percentage distribution of small and medium scale agricultural households by type of agriculture activity during the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season. The total number of households engaged in crop production was 2,123,130, while households engaged in livestock and honey production were 1,217,257 and 60,429 respectively. At provincial level, Eastern Province had the highest number of households engaged in crop production and other agricultural activities with 358,246, while Lusaka Province recorded the recorded the lowest at 99,019.

Table 2.2: Percentage distribution of Small and Medium Scale Households (HHs) by Type of Agriculture Activity and Sex of Household Head, IAS 2024

Province	Agriculture HHs engaged in Crop Production			Agriculture HHs engaged in Livestock Production			Agriculture HHs engaged in Honey Production			Total Agriculture HHs (N)		
	Male headed	Female headed	Total (N)	Male headed	Female headed	Total (N)	Male headed	Female headed	Total (N)	Male headed	Female headed	Total (N)
Central	74.5	25.5	264,445	77.2	22.8	184,887	83.8	16.2	9,449	200,085	68,275	268,361
Copperbelt	72.5	27.5	224,107	77.0	23.0	90,782	75.8	24.2	5,019	164,055	62,176	226,231
Eastern	70.9	29.1	354,967	75.6	24.4	207,930	81.2	18.8	11,707	254,210	104,035	358,246
Luapula	72.1	27.9	188,411	74.7	25.3	72,959	-	-	-	135,878	52,862	188,739
Lusaka	76.7	23.3	97,982	78.0	22.0	35,768	-	-	-	76,140	22,878	99,019
Muchinga	76.5	23.5	107,022	78.5	21.5	65,300	85.7	14.3	2,924	82,240	25,366	107,606
Northern	75.1	25.0	222,459	77.9	22.1	138,943	74.0	26.0	5,013	167,529	56,375	223,903
North Western	71.0	29.0	144,354	77.0	23.0	80,105	88.3	11.7	8,738	103,371	42,006	145,377
Southern	73.4	26.6	290,313	75.8	24.2	225,593	82.6	17.5	11,344	215,607	78,609	294,217
Western	54.7	45.3	229,069	64.1	35.9	114,990	-	-	-	126,439	105,338	231,777
Zambia	71.2	28.8	2,123,130	75.4	24.6	1,217,257	82.0	18.0	60,429	1,525,555	617,921	2,143,475

- Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).
 * The total number of agricultural households does not correspond to the sum of households across the different farm activities, as individual households may participate in multiple activities simultaneously.

2.3 Education Level of Household Head and Agricultural Training

Table 2.3 shows the number and percentage distribution of small and medium scale agricultural households by education level and agricultural training of household heads in the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season. Out of 2,143,475 agriculture household heads, a total of 1,525,554 were males and 617,921 were females. Majority (947,101) had attained Primary education, of which 67.2 percent were males and 32.8 were females. The lowest education level attained was pre-primary education, with the highest proportion being female household heads at 68.6 percent..

In addition, a total of 1,622,094 of agricultural household heads had no training in agriculture of which 69.8 percent were males and 30.2 percent were females.

Table 2.3: Percentage distribution of Education Level and Agriculture Training of Household Heads by Sex, IAS 202

Selected Characteristics	Small and Medium Scale Households		
	Male	Female	Total (N)
Education Level of Household Head			
Total Number of Households	1,525,554	617,921	2,143,475
No Education	56.3	43.7	274,306
Pre-Primary Education	31.5	68.5	1,195
Primary Education	67.2	32.8	947,101
Secondary Education	79.7	20.3	814,331
Tertiary and Higher Education	79.8	20.2	106,541
Agriculture Training			
Total Number of Households	1,525,554	617,921	2,143,475
Formal Agricultural Education (e.g., university, monotechnic)	82.8	17.2	21,969
Vocational Training (e.g., short training courses by NGO)	77.9	22.1	112,996
Informal Training	74.4	25.6	386,417
No Training Received	69.8	30.2	1,622,094

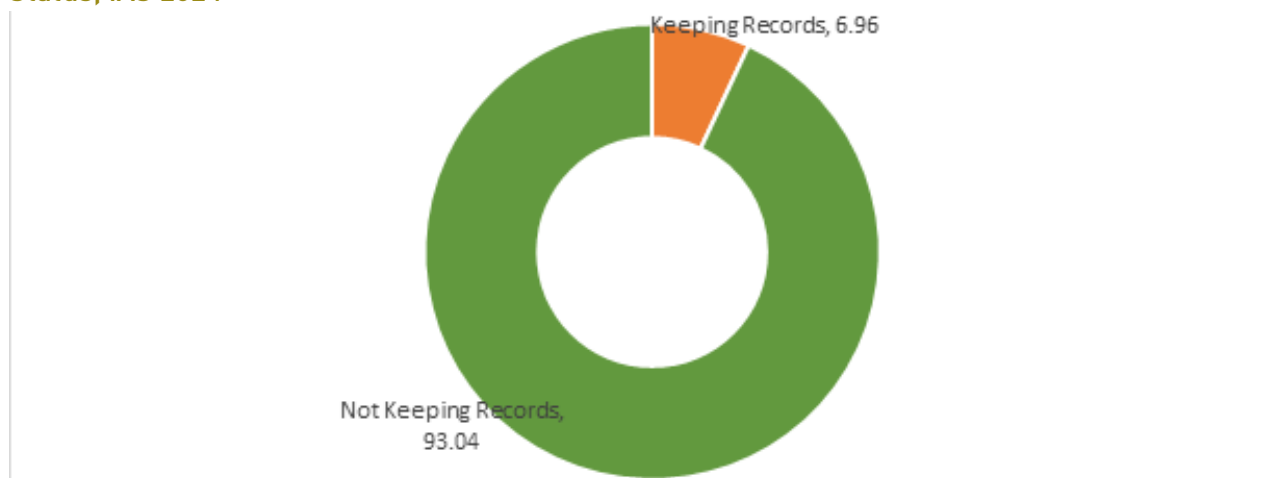
2.4 Record Keeping

2.4.1 Record Keeping by Status

Figure 2.1 shows the distribution of small and medium scale agricultural households that kept agricultural production records and those that did not during the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season. Out of 2,143,475 agricultural households, the majority (93 percent) did not keep any records whilst only 7 percent representing 149,167 households kept records.



Figure 2.1: Percentage of Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Households by Record-Keeping Status, IAS 2024



2.4.2 Record Keeping by Type

Table 2.4 shows the distribution of small and medium scale agricultural households that kept different types of records in the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season. Out of the 149,167 households that kept records, 105,639 households reported keeping records on crop production quantities. This was followed by households keeping records on the area cultivated/harvested at 84,276 and the least number of households reported keeping records on worker time which accounted for 13,812.

Table 2.4: Number of Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Households by Type of Record keeping, IAS 2024

Type of Records kept	Small and Medium scale households	
Type of Record Kept*	Number	Percent
Area Cultivated/Harvested.	84,276	56.5
Crop Production	105,639	70.8
Livestock Production	47,388	31.8
Quantities Sold	72,214	48.4
Revenues From Quantities Sold	54,017	36.2
Quantities Of Inputs Used.	78,908	52.9
Quantities Of Inputs Purchased And Their Cost	66,895	44.8
Worker Time	13,812	9.3
Payments To Workers	31,527	21.1
Others	989	0.7
* Agricultural holdings may maintain records on more than one type; therefore, percentages can exceed 100%.		

2.4.3 Mode of Record-Keeping Used by Agricultural Households

Table 2.5 shows the distribution of small and medium scale agricultural households that kept agricultural records by mode of record-keeping and province in the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season. Manual record-keeping was dominant across all the provinces and at national level, 96.2 percent of the households used paper-based methods while 3.8 percent used electronic record-keeping.

Eastern Province had the largest number of households keeping records at 5.3 percent using electronic methods and 94.7 percent using paper-based methods.

Table 2.5: Number and Percent of Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Households by Mode of Record-Keeping and by Province, IAS 2024

Province	Electronic		Manually (on paper)		Total
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
Central	1,077	4.4	23,372	95.6	24,449
Copperbelt	980	6.1	15,137	93.9	16,117
Eastern	1,392	5.3	24,954	94.7	26,346
Luapula	621	4.7	12,531	95.3	13,152
Lusaka	299	2.9	10,146	97.1	10,445
Muchinga	234	2.8	8,049	97.2	8,283
Northern	425	2.5	16,842	97.5	17,267
North Western	43	0.5	9,064	99.5	9,107
Southern	325	2.0	16,288	98.0	16,614
Western	259	3.5	7,128	96.5	7,387
Zambia	5,654	3.8	143,513	96.2	149,167

2.5 Number and Area of Parcels by Land Tenure Type

Table 2.6 shows the distribution of land parcels of small and medium scale agricultural households by the type of tenure in the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season. A total of 2,803,340 parcels with a total area of 9,505,135 hectares were recorded at national level of which 2,339,431 parcels were owned by the households, 243,121 rented-in and 220,789 were borrowed-in.

Luapula Province recorded the largest total parcel area, covering 1,911,033 hectares with 1,795,121 hectares of owned parcels, 25,576 hectares rented-in, and 90,336 hectares borrowed-in. In contrast, the lowest parcel area was recorded in Lusaka Province with 223,508 hectares.

Table 2.6: Number of Parcels and Area by Land Tenure Type and Province in Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Households, IAS 2024

Province	Land Tenure											
	Owned			Rented in			Borrowed in			Total		
	Total number of parcels	Average parcel area (ha)	Total area of parcels (Ha)	Total number of parcels	Average parcel area (ha)	Total area of parcels (Ha)	Total number of parcels	Average parcel area (ha)	Total area of parcels (Ha)	Total number of parcels	Average parcel area (ha)	Total area of parcels (Ha)
Central	282,954	5.9	1,662,053	30,572	1.7	51,541	31,401	3.9	122,984	344,927	5.3	1,836,579
Copperbelt	128,318	3.7	476,979	56,257	1.3	71,391	52,061	1.8	92,063	236,636	2.7	640,434
Eastern	364,517	2.5	905,869	27,721	1.4	38,223	9,798	1.0	9,392	402,036	2.4	953,484
Luapula	279,092	6.4	1,795,121	34,476	0.7	25,576	33,090	2.7	90,336	346,659	5.5	1,911,033
Lusaka	66,676	2.5	168,155	17,424	1.0	16,830	25,390	1.5	38,524	109,491	2.0	223,508
Muchinga	103,202	4.4	457,614	7,020	-	-	5,688	1.1	6,229	115,911	4.1	480,645
Northern	228,549	4.4	1,013,786	17,617	1.4	24,298	18,295	1.5	27,615	264,461	4.0	1,065,699
North Western	164,451	3.1	515,280	8,266	0.9	7,366	8,962	1.3	11,696	181,679	2.9	534,342
Southern	346,722	3.0	1,044,018	35,748	1.5	55,315	24,431	1.7	40,388	406,901	2.8	1,139,720
Western	374,949	1.8	690,553	8,019	1.1	9,011	11,673	1.7	20,128	394,641	1.8	719,692
Zambia	2,339,431	3.7	8,729,427	243,121	1.3	316,352	220,789	2.1	459,355	2,803,340	3.4	9,505,135
Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).												

- Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).



2.6 Type of Documents Held for Owned Parcels

Table 2.7 shows the distribution of parcels based on the type of documents held by the agricultural households in the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season. Out of the total of 2,803,340 parcels, only 632,039 were accompanied with land ownership documents.

At the national level, the highest number of parcels had certificates of customary tenure at 62.9 percent, followed by title deeds at 14.2 percent. Perpetual/long term lease or rental agreements, certificates issued for adverse possession or prescription, and other specified documents recorded very low percentages.

Table 2.7: Percentage Distribution of Land Ownership Documentation by Province in Small and Medium-Scale Agricultural Households, IAS 2024

Province	Title deed	Certificate of occupancy/Land Certificate	Certificate of hereditary acquisition	Certificate of customary tenure	Perpetual/long term lease or rental agreement	Certificate issued for adverse possession or prescription	Other	Total number of parcels
Central	11.4	8.0	7.2	72.6	0.1	0.5	0.3	136,766
Copperbelt	27.8	25.6	2.0	42.4	0.2	0.6	1.4	61,626
Eastern	21.3	17.8	16.1	42.7	0.8	0.6	0.7	52,577
Luapula	3.0	3.7	12.4	80.6	0.2	0.1	(0)	81,198
Lusaka	38.2	7.9	5.6	47.6	(0)	0.7	0.1	40,789
Muchinga	7.5	3.3	6.4	82.3	0.2	0.3	(0)	34,073
Northern	3.9	9.1	13.1	73.9	(0)	(0)	0.1	61,974
North Western	7.8	5.2	18.1	67.7	(0)	(0)	1.2	33,654
Southern	30.8	16.8	8.0	43.0	(0)	0.1	1.3	55,234
Western	4.6	10.1	24.8	60.0	(0)	0.3	0.2	74,149
Zambia	14.2	10.7	11.3	62.9	0.2	0.3	0.5	632,039

(0) No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.

2.7 Number of Fields and Land Area by use

Table 2.8 shows the provincial distribution of land use, number of fields, and area in hectares (Ha) for the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season. A total of 4,055,191 Ha was utilized for various agricultural purposes during this period. At national level, cultivated fields for temporary and permanent crops represented the largest use of land at 3,453,413 Ha. The smallest area of land used was for cultivated backyard/gardens at 35,070 Ha.

Table 2.8: Distribution of Fields and Land Area by Province and Land Use type in Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Households, IAS 2024

Province	Land use												Total		
	Cultivated field (temporary and permanent crops)			Fallow		Cultivated Backyard/ Garden			Pastures – Temporary & Permanent						
	Total number of fields	Average field area (ha)	Total area of fields (Ha)	Total number of fields	Average field area (ha)	Total area of fields (Ha)	Total number of fields	Average field area (ha)	Total area of fields (Ha)	Total number of fields	Average field area (ha)	Total area of fields (Ha)	Total number of fields	Average field area (ha)	Total area of fields (Ha)
Central	503,959	1.2	610,916	39,836	2.8	111,325	12,526	0.5	5,898	2,070	-	-	558,391	1.3	738,746
Copperbelt	290,429	0.9	256,779	16,112	2.3	37,075	-	-	-	-	-	-	313,969	1	300,084
Eastern	719,119	0.9	675,740	19,052	1	19,423	5,192	0.7	3,828	-	-	-	745,907	0.9	700,965
Luapula	372,758	0.4	158,129	70,058	1.2	84,396	16,027	0.1	1,926	-	-	-	460,530	0.5	245,469
Lusaka	126,038	1	125,936	7,355	1.6	-	10,320	0.2	2,026	-	-	-	145,739	1	141,286
Muchinga	164,298	0.7	115,619	16,650	1.8	30,021	6,527	0.3	2,051	-	-	-	188,262	0.8	148,452
Northern	469,153	0.7	314,640	49,976	2.1	105,216	7,744	0.5	3,730	4,923	0.9	4,321	531,796	0.8	427,907
North Western	250,345	0.7	185,966	21,633	1.6	34,024	-	-	-	-	-	-	275,880	0.8	221,499
Southern	529,945	1.2	652,031	22,674	1.6	36,575	28,665	0.4	12,383	-	-	-	584,952	1.2	712,096
Western	399,447	0.9	357,656	30,479	1.8	55,499	9,937	0.2	1,679	3,502	-	-	443,365	0.9	418,687
Zambia	3,825,491	0.9	3,453,413	293,826	1.8	525,381	102,863	0.3	35,070	26,611	1.6	41,327	4,248,792	1	4,055,191

- Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).



2.8 Distribution of Agricultural Households by Main Purpose of Production

Table 2.9 shows the percentage distribution of small and medium scale agricultural households by main purpose of agricultural production during the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season. Out of the 2,143,475 agricultural households, 51.2 percent reported that the main purpose for agriculture production was mainly for own consumption with some sale while 42.0 percent reported production for own consumption only and 6.9 percent reported production only for sale.

Table 2.9: Percentage Distribution of Main Purpose of Agricultural Production by Province in Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Households, IAS 2024

Province	Own Consumption Only	Mainly for own consumption, with some sale	Only for sale	Total Agricultural Households (N)
Central	29.9	65.9	4.2	268,361
Copperbelt	40.9	52.8	6.3	226,231
Eastern	45.3	50.9	3.8	358,246
Luapula	36.8	51.4	11.8	188,739
Lusaka	59.6	33.8	6.6	99,019
Muchinga	29.2	55.9	14.9	107,606
Northern	28.5	55.1	16.5	223,903
North Western	40.3	53.3	6.4	145,377
Southern	45.8	50.3	3.8	294,217
Western	63.7	34.0	2.3	231,777
Zambia	42.0	51.2	6.9	2,143,475



CHAPTER 3: CROP PRODUCTION

Key Findings

Maize remained Zambia's dominant crop with 2.23 million Ha planted and 1.46 million Mt produced. Northern Province had the highest maize produced at 287,576 Mt, while Southern Province had the lowest (25,946 Mt) of maize produced.

An estimated 1,460,148 metric tonnes (Mt) of Maize were produced, out of which 1,276,448 Mt were produced by small and medium scale agricultural households and 183,699 Mt by large-scale farms. Muchinga Province recorded the highest maize yields at 2.27 Mt/Ha planted and 2.47 Mt/Ha harvested. The highly sold or commercial crops were Virginia Tobacco and Cotton with 98 percent of the produced quantities sold.

Severe dry spells and drought were reported as the sole cause of all instances of non-harvest for Irish Potatoes, Cotton, and Sorghum.

Concepts and Definitions

- **Area Planted (Ha):** Refers to the total land area on which crop is sown, regardless of whether it was eventually harvested or not.
- **Area Harvested (Ha):** Portion of planted area from which the crop is actually harvested.
- **Production (Tonnes):** The total quantity of crop produced after harvest, measured in metric tonnes.
- **Yield (Tonnes/Ha):** A measure of productivity calculated as the ratio of total production to area planted or harvested. It reflects how efficiently land was used.
- **Small and Medium-Scale Agricultural Households:** Farm households cultivating up to 19.99 hectares of land, primarily using family labour and limited mechanization.
- **Large-Scale Farm:** Commercially oriented farms operating on larger land areas (usually above 20 hectares), using advanced technology and hired labour.

Production Utilization

This refers to the various ways in which harvested crops are used or disposed of by the producing household. It outlines the proportions sold, consumed, stored, reused, or lost after harvest

3.0 Introduction

This section provides an overview of crop production for the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season, focusing on selected crops grown by small and medium scale agricultural households and large scale agricultural households/holdings. It presents information on the area planted, area harvested, total production, and yield, highlighting variations across provinces and farming sectors. The section also provides insights into crop productivity, intended use of harvests, whether for consumption, sales, or storage and reasons reported by households for reduced or non-harvested crops.

3.1. Area Planted, Area Harvested, Production, Yield and Sales for Various Crops.

The results show the provincial distribution of area planted, area harvested, production, yield and sales for various crops in the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season among small and medium scale agricultural households and only national estimates for large scale farms.

3.1.1 Maize

At national level, 1,868,507 small and medium agricultural households and 2,029 large scale farms planted Maize. A total of 2,232,580 Ha was planted, out of which 980,526 Ha was harvested nationwide by both small and medium scale agricultural households and large-scale farms.

An estimated 1,460,148 metric tonnes (Mt) of Maize were produced, out of which 1,276,448 Mt were produced by small and medium scale agricultural households and 183,699 Mt by large-scale farms during the season. At provincial level, small and medium scale agricultural households in Northern Province produced the highest at 287,576 Mt while Southern Province recorded the lowest production accounting for 25,946 Mt.

The national yield on area planted and area harvested for maize was estimated at 0.65 metric tonnes per hectare (Mt/Ha) and 1.5 Mt/Ha, respectively. At provincial level, Muchinga Province recorded the highest yield in area planted and area harvested at 2.3 Mt/Ha and 2.5 Mt/Ha, respectively.

During the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season, a total of 752,385 Mt of maize were sold, out of which 578,463 Mt was sold by small and medium scale agricultural households and 173,922 Mt by large scale holdings.

Table 3.1: Area Planted, Area Harvested, Production, Yield and Sales of Maize, IAS 2024

Sector	Province	Number of holdings planted crop	Area Planted (Ha)	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (Tonne)	Yield on area planted (Tonne/Ha)	Yield on area harvested (Tonne/Ha)	Quantity Sold (Tonne)
Small and medium	Central	251,545	380,894	89,978	117,084	0.3	1.3	43,327
	Copperbelt	212,771	203,270	135,300	134,810	0.7	1.0	50,437
	Eastern	320,387	363,917	230,164	221,446	0.6	1.0	53,613
	Luapula	130,727	80,148	69,856	148,477	1.9	2.1	85,998
	Lusaka	82,982	90,112	17,053	15,315	0.2	0.9	4,358
	Muchinga	94,684	78,094	71,702	176,977	2.3	2.5	102,382
	Northern	170,724	147,942	129,132	287,576	1.9	2.2	184,429
	North Western	138,428	137,269	88,013	114,931	0.8	1.3	44,694
	Southern	256,743	455,970	48,171	25,946	0.1	0.5	3,118
	Western	209,516	230,479	58,927	33,887	0.1	0.6	6,108
	Total	1,868,507	2,168,097	938,296	1,276,448	0.6	1.4	578,463
Large-scale farms	Total	2,029	64,483	42,230	183,699	2.8	4.3	173,922
All Sectors	Zambia	1,870,535	2,232,580	980,526	1,460,148	0.7	1.5	752,385

3.1.2 Sorghum

Table 3.2 shows that a total of 34,295 small and medium agricultural households and 17 large scale farms had planted Sorghum. A total of 28,525 Ha was planted, out of which only 5,075 Ha was harvested nationwide and 2,054 metric tonnes (Mt) of Sorghum were produced.

The national yield on area planted and area harvested for Sorghum was estimated at 0.1 Mt/Ha and 0.4 Mt/Ha, respectively.

The results further indicate a total of 951 Mt of Sorghum being sold, out of which 337 Mt was sold by small and medium scale agricultural households and 614 Mt by large scale farms.

Table 3.2: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Sorghum, IAS 2024

Sector	Number of holdings planted crop	Area Planted (Ha)	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (Tonne)	Yield on area planted (Tonne/Ha)	Yield on area harvested (Tonne/Ha)	Quantity Sold (Tonne)
Small and Medium Scale Households	34,295	28,274	4,839	1,432	0.1	0.3	337
Large Scale Farms	17	252	236	622	2.5	2.6	614
All Sectors	34,312	28,525	5,075	2,054	0.1	0.4	951

3.1.3 Rice

The results on Rice show that 58,240 small and medium agricultural households and 23 large scale farms planted Rice. A total area of 62,962 Ha was planted, out of which 29,561 Ha was harvested nationwide.

An estimated number of 24,609 metric tonnes (Mt) of Rice were produced nationwide. Under small and medium households, Northern Province produced the highest at 13,404 Mt

The national yield on area planted and area harvested for Rice was estimated at 0.4 Mt/Ha and 0.8 Mt/Ha, respectively. At provincial level, the highest yield for area planted and area harvested was recorded in Luapula Province 1.3 Mt/Ha and 1.5 Mt/Ha among small and medium scale agricultural households, respectively.

A total of 16,668 Mt of Rice was sold, out of which 16,081 Mt was sold by small and medium scale agricultural households and 587 Mt by large scale farms. Among small and medium scale agricultural households, Northern Province contributed the highest sales of rice estimated at 10,299 Mt.

Table 3.3: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Rice by Province, IAS 2024

Sector	Province	Number of holdings planted crop	Area Planted (Ha)	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (Tonne)	Yield on area planted (Tonne/Ha)	Yield on area harvested (Tonne/Ha)	Quantity Sold (Tonne)
Small and Medium Scale Households	Central	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
	Copperbelt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Eastern	9,346	3,550	2,021	2,967	0.8	1.5	1,745
	Luapula	8,071	2,420	1,978	3,030	1.3	1.5	-
	Lusaka	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
	Muchinga	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Northern	11,289	20,326	18,725	13,404	0.7	0.7	10,299
	North Western	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Southern	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
	Western	25,432	32,444	3,951	2,855	0.1	0.7	-
	Total	58,240	61,962	28,700	23,945	0.4	0.8	16,081
Large Scale Farms	Total	23	1,000	861	664	0.7	0.8	587
All Sectors	Zambia	58,262	62,962	29,561	24,609	0.4	0.8	16,668

(0) No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.

-Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).

3.1.4 Millet

Overall, 59,212 small and medium agricultural households cultivated Millet, covering a total area planted of 38,039 hectares, of which 13,012 Ha were harvested and an estimated 11,852 metric tonnes of Millet were produced nationally.

The national yield was estimated at 0.3 Mt/Ha based on area planted and 0.9 Mt/Ha based on area harvested while a total of 4,696 Mt of Millet were sold nationally and all was attributed to small and medium scale households.

Table 3.4: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Millet, IAS 2024

Sector	Number of holdings planted crop	Area Planted (Ha)	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (Tonne)	Yield on area planted (Tonne/Ha)	Yield on area harvested (Tonne/Ha)	Quantity Sold (Tonne)
Small and Medium Scale Households	59,212	38,039	13,012	11,852	0.3	0.9	4,696
All Sectors	59,212	38,039	13,012	11,852	0.3	0.9	4,696

3.1.5 Mixed Beans

At national level, 117,737 small and medium agricultural households and 78 large scale farms cultivated Mixed beans. The total planted area was estimated at 62,219 Ha, of which 48,600 Ha were harvested by both household and large-scale farms.

An estimated 18,568 Mt of Mixed beans were produced nationally, with 17,913 Mt attributed to small and medium scale households and 656 Mt to large-scale farms. Among the provinces, small and medium scale agricultural households in Northern province recorded the highest production at 12,464 Mt.

The national yield was estimated at 0.3 Mt/Ha based on area planted and 0.4 Mt/Ha based on area harvested. At the provincial level, Muchinga Province recorded the highest yield on area planted among small and medium scale households, with 0.4 Mt/Ha.

A total of 12,005 Mt of Mixed beans were sold nationally, out of which 11,355 Mt was attributed to small and medium scale households and 650 Mt to large scale farms. Among the provinces, Northern Province accounted for the highest sales at 8,066 Mt.

Table 3.5: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Mixed beans by Province, IAS 2024

Sector	Province	Number of holdings planted crop	Area Planted (Ha)	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (Tonne)	Yield on area planted (Tonne/Ha)	Yield on area harvested (Tonne/Ha)	Quantity Sold (Tonne)
Small and Medium Scale Households	Central	3,356	1,319	229	-	-	0.2	-
	Copperbelt	5,245	987	467	-	-	0.4	-
	Eastern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Luapula	10,756	3,500	3,090	1,215	0.3	0.4	755
	Lusaka	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Muchinga	11,005	4,705	4,351	1,746	0.4	0.4	1,019
	Northern	58,077	38,919	33,550	12,464	0.3	0.4	8,066
	North Western	15,464	7,183	5,107	1,786	0.2	0.3	1,189
	Southern	6,229	2,437	-	-	-	-	-
	Western	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	117,737	61,803	48,284	17,913	0.3	0.4	11,355
Large Scale Farms	Total	78	416	317	656	1.6	2.1	650
All Sectors	Zambia	117,815	62,219	48,600	18,568	0.3	0.4	12,005

-Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).

3.1.6 Cowpeas (for Grain)

Overall, a total of 22,810 small and medium scale agricultural households and 60 large-scale farms reported cultivating Cowpeas during the 2023/2024 season. The total area planted was estimated at 13,482 hectares, of which 2,868 Ha were harvested by both small and medium-scale agricultural households and large-scale farms.

The total Cowpeas production for the season was estimated at 752 metric tonnes. The national average yield was estimated at 0.1 Mt/Ha based on area planted and 0.3 Mt/Ha based on area harvested.

About 387 Mt of Cowpeas were sold nationally. Of this total, 285 Mt were sold by small and medium scale agricultural households, while 103 Mt were sold by large-scale farms.

Table 3.6: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Cowpeas, IAS 2024

Sector	Number of holdings planted crop	Area Planted (Ha)	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (Tonne)	Yield on area planted (Tonne/Ha)	Yield on area harvested (Tonne/Ha)	Quantity Sold (Tonne)
Small and Medium Scale Households	22,810	13,313	2,764	635	0	0.2	285
Large Scale Farms	60	170	104	117	0.7	1.1	103
All Sectors	22,869	13,482	2,868	752	0.1	0.3	387

3.1.7 Sunflower

Nationally, 216,604 small and medium agricultural households and 522 large scale farms planted sunflower giving a total of 19,853 Mt of sunflower produced, out of which 19,088 Mt were produced by small and medium scale agricultural households and 765 Mt by large scale farms. At provincial level, small and medium scale agricultural households in Eastern Province produced the highest at 13,063 Mt.

The national yield on area planted and area harvested for sunflower was estimated at 0.1 Mt/Ha and 0.3 Mt/Ha, respectively. Northern Province recorded the highest yield on area planted among small and medium scale households, with 0.3 Mt/Ha.

The results further show that a total of 7,671 Mt of sunflower were sold, out of which 7,267 Mt were sold by small and medium scale agricultural households and 404 Mt by large scale farms. Among small and medium scale agricultural households, Eastern Province contributed the highest sales of sunflower estimated at 5,493 Mt out of 13,063 Mt were produced within the province.

Table 3.7: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Sunflower by Province IAS 2024

Sector	Province	Number of holdings planted crop	Area Planted (Ha)	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (Tonne)	Yield on area planted (Tonne/Ha)	Yield on area harvested (Tonne/Ha)	Quantity Sold (Tonne)
Small and Medium Scale Households	Central	33,236	38,824	8,039	2,129	0.1	0.3	729
	Copperbelt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Eastern	105,474	85,942	48,670	13,063	0.2	0.3	5,493
	Luapula	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Lusaka	3,455	3,159	-	-	-	0.2	-
	Muchinga	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Northern	7,165	3,938	3,758	973	0.3	0.3	427
	North Western	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Southern	61,426	66,796	9,349	1,962	0.0	0.2	389
	Western	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	216,604	202,460	72,751	19,088	0.1	0.3	7,267
Large Scale Farms	Total	522	2,332	908	765	0.3	0.8	404
All Sectors	Zambia	217,127	204,792	73,659	19,853	0.1	0.3	7,671

-Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).

3.1.8 Soya beans (for Grain)

A total number of 260,342 small and medium agricultural households and 1,032 large scale farms cultivated soya beans, covering a total planted area of 311,124 hectares (Ha), of which 160,814 Ha were harvested by both household and large-scale farms.

An estimated 130,912 metric tonnes (Mt) of soya beans were produced nationally, with 54,327 Mt attributed to small and medium scale households and 76,585 Mt to large-scale farms. Among the provinces, Eastern Province recorded the highest production of soya beans at 28,040 Mt.

The national yield was estimated at 0.4 Mt/Ha based on area planted and 0.8 Mt/Ha based on area harvested. Muchinga Province recorded the highest yields among small and medium scale households, with 0.5 Mt/Ha on area planted and 0.6 Mt/Ha on area harvested.

A total of 111,979 Mt of soya beans were sold nationally, out of which 43,674 Mt was attributed to small and medium scale households and 68,305 Mt to large scale farms. Considering small and medium scale agricultural households' production only, Eastern Province accounted for the highest sales at 22,275 Mt.

Table 3.8: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Soya beans by Province, IAS 2024

Sector	Province	Number of holdings planted crop	Area Planted (Ha)	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (Tonne)	Yield on area planted (Tonne/Ha)	Yield on area harvested (Tonne/Ha)	Quantity Sold (Tonne)
Small and Medium Scale Households	Central	87,493	109,786	29,413	14,762	0.1	0.5	11,802
	Copperbelt	8,887	15,194	9,468	2,749	0.2	0.3	2,144
	Eastern	121,315	107,398	67,940	28,040	0.3	0.4	22,275
	Luapula	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Lusaka	6,935	10,507	-	-	0.3	0.4	-
	Muchinga	2,521	1,333	1,033	597	0.5	0.6	439
	Northern	14,355	6,571	5,937	2,767	0.4	0.5	2,277
	North Western	6,089	5,427	3,040	1,613	0.3	0.5	1,412
	Southern	9,791	10,956	-	-	0.0	0.3	-
	Western	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	260,342	269,751	125,855	54,327	0.2	0.4	43,674
Large Scale Farms	Total	1,032	41,372	34,959	76,585	1.9	2.2	68,305
All Sectors	Zambia	261,374	311,124	160,814	130,912	0.4	0.8	111,979
Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).								

3.1.9 Sweet Potatoes

Sweet potatoes were cultivated by a total of 82,139 small and medium scale agricultural households and 80 large-scale farms. The total area planted was estimated at 28,746 hectares (Ha), of which 17,944 Ha were harvested by both small and medium scale agricultural households and large-scale farms.

The total sweet potatoes production for the season was estimated at 43,101 metric tonnes (Mt), comprising 42,824 Mt produced by small and medium scale agricultural households and 277 Mt produced by large-scale farms. Central Province recorded the highest production at 11,488 Mt, representing the largest share of national production from small and medium scale agricultural households. The national average yield was estimated at 1.5 Mt/Ha based on area planted and 2.4 Mt/Ha based on area harvested.

An estimated number of 30,733 Mt of sweet potatoes were sold nationally. Central Province recorded the highest sales at 9,660 Mt, among the small and medium scale agricultural households.

Table 3.9 Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for sweet potatoes by Province, IAS 2024

Sector	Province	Number of holdings planted crop	Area Planted (Ha)	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (Tonne)	Yield on area planted (Tonne/Ha)	Yield on area harvested (Tonne/Ha)	Quantity Sold (Tonne)
Small and Medium Scale Households	Central	12,690	5,405	3,433	11,488	2.1	3.4	9,660
	Copperbelt	11,425	3,063	2,295	4,369	1.4	1.9	3,097
	Eastern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Luapula	14,297	2,827	2,618	5,374	1.9	2.1	3,058
	Lusaka	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Muchinga	3,140	931	879	2,660	2.9	3.0	1,864
	Northern	10,931	3,505	3,462	8,387	2.4	2.4	5,018
	North Western	8,206	2,131	1,593	4,279	2.0	2.7	3,116
	Southern	13,862	7,165	1,405	-	-	-	-
	Western	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	82,139	28,585	17,878	42,824	1.5	2.4	30,478
Large Scale Farms	Total	80	161	66	277	1.7	4.2	255
All Sectors	Zambia	82,220	28,746	17,944	43,101	1.5	2.4	30,733
Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).								

3.1.10 Seed Cotton

A total of 18,392 small and medium scale households and 9 large scale farms grew Seed Cotton. Small and medium scale households recorded a total of 18,519 Ha planted and 8,090 Ha harvested. A total of 4,185 Mt of seed cotton was produced among the small and medium scale households and only 32 Mt among large scale farms and 4,158 Mt of Seed Cotton was sold.

Table 3.10: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for seed cotton, IAS 2024

Sector	Number of holdings planted crop	Area Planted (Ha)	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (Tonne)	Yield on area planted (Tonne/Ha)	Yield on area harvested (Tonne/Ha)	Quantity Sold (Tonne)
Small and Medium Scale Households	18,392	18,519	8,090	4,185	0.2	0.5	4,127
Large Scale Farms	9	122	52	32	0.3	0.6	31
All Sectors	18,401	18,641	8,142	4,217	0.2	0.5	4,158

3.1.11 Groundnuts

Overall, a total of 323,590 small and medium scale agricultural households and 560 large-scale farms reported cultivating groundnuts. The total area planted was estimated at 165,149 Ha, of which 85,098 Ha were harvested.

The total groundnuts produced was estimated at 48,592 metric tonnes (Mt). Among provinces, small and medium scale agricultural households in Eastern and Northern provinces recorded the highest production at 10,265 Mt and 10,354 Mt respectively, representing the largest share of national production. The national average yield was estimated at 0.3 Mt/Ha based on area planted and 0.6 Mt/Ha based on area harvested.

The results further indicate that 26,354 Mt of groundnuts were sold nationally. Among the provinces, Eastern and Northern provinces recorded the highest sales at 5,080 Mt and 5,750 Mt respectively, among the small and medium scale agricultural households.

Table 3.11: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for groundnuts by Province, IAS 2024

Sector	Province	Number of holdings planted crop	Area Planted (Ha)	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (Tonne)	Yield on area planted (Tonne/Ha)	Yield on area harvested (Tonne/Ha)	Quantity Sold (Tonne)
Small and Medium Scale Households	Central	31,602	25,632	8,270	5,012	0.2	0.6	2,662
	Copperbelt	26,172	11,457	8,835	4,885	0.4	0.6	2,314
	Eastern	71,185	41,796	20,875	10,265	0.2	0.5	5,080
	Luapula	45,895	12,443	11,492	7,727	0.6	0.7	4,168
	Lusaka	8,691	5,156	-	-	-	0.3	-
	Muchinga	11,079	3,828	3,578	2,352	0.6	0.7	1,545
	Northern	55,424	19,939	18,208	10,354	0.5	0.6	5,750
	North Western	14,406	7,601	4,763	3,972	0.5	0.8	-
	Southern	45,113	27,925	4,336	1,307	0.0	0.3	-
	Western	14,022	8,129	3,353	1,564	0.2	0.5	568
	Total	323,590	163,907	84,498	47,654	0.3	0.6	25,535
Large Scale Farms	Total	560	1,242	600	938	0.8	1.6	819
All Sectors	Zambia	324,150	165,149	85,098	48,592	0.3	0.6	26,354
- Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).								

3.1.12 Tobacco (Virginia)

At national level, a total of 16,352 small and medium scale agricultural households and 131 large-scale farms reported cultivating Virginia tobacco during the 2023/2024 agricultural season. The total area planted was estimated at 21,524 hectares (Ha), of which 17,098 Ha were harvested.

The total Virginia tobacco production for the season was estimated at 16,465 metric tonnes (Mt), comprising 9,819 Mt produced by small and medium scale households and 6,646 Mt produced by large-scale farms. Among provinces, small and medium scale agricultural households in Eastern Province recorded the highest production at 9,819 Mt. The national average yield was estimated at 0.8 Mt/Ha based on area planted and 1.0 Mt/Ha based on area harvested.

An estimated number of 16,338 Mt of Virginia tobacco were sold countrywide. Of this total, small and medium scale agricultural households sold 9,711 Mt, while 6,627 Mt were sold by large-scale farms. Among the provinces, small and medium scale agricultural households in Eastern Province recorded the highest sales at 4,120 Mt.

Table 3.12: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Virginia Tobacco by Province, IAS 2024

Sector	Province	Number of holdings planted crop	Area Planted (Ha)	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (Tonne)	Yield on area planted (Tonne/Ha)	Yield on area harvested (Tonne/Ha)	Quantity Sold (Tonne)
Small and Medium Scale Households	Central	3,959	3,367	2,557	2,047	0.6	0.8	2,038
	Copperbelt	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
	Eastern	5,666	8,342	7,378	4,146	0.5	0.6	4,120
	Luapula	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
	Lusaka	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Muchinga	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Northern	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
	North Western	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Southern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Western	5,530	5,546	3,284	2,928	0.5	0.9	2,854
	Total	16,352	18,894	14,587	9,819	0.5	0.7	9,711
Large Scale Farms	Total	131	2,629	2,512	6,646	2.5	2.6	6,627
All Sectors	Zambia	16,483	21,524	17,098	16,465	0.8	1.0	16,338
-Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data). (0) No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.								

3.1.13 Wheat

In Zambia, wheat is normally produced by the large scale farmers. In the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season, 101 large-scale farms reported having planted wheat at an estimated hectareage of 22,504 Ha, out of which 22,338 Ha were harvested.

At national level, production of wheat was estimated at 120,183 Mt among large scale farms. Central Province recorded the highest production of 73,679 Mt, while Muchinga Province recorded the lowest at 72 Mt. The national average yield based on area planted stood at 5.3 Mt/Ha and 5.4 Mt/Ha based on the area harvested.

A total of 114,224 tonnes of wheat was sold countrywide. At provincial level, Central Province recorded the highest sales at 67,816 Mt.

Table 3.13: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Wheat by Province, IAS 2024

Sector	Province	Number of holdings planted crop	Area Planted (Ha)	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (Tonne)	Yield on area planted (Tonne/Ha)	Yield on area harvested (Tonne/Ha)	Quantity Sold (Tonne)
Small and Medium Scale Households	Central	57	11,175	11,096	73,679	6.5	6.7	67,816
	Copperbelt	10	4,929	4,929	15,165	4.5	4.5	15,165
	Eastern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Luapula	(0)	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
	Lusaka	20	2,774	2,687	18,038	6.5	6.7	18,008
	Muchinga	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Northern	(0)	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
	North Western	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
	Southern	12	3,412	3,412	13,071	3.8		
	Western		3.8	13,006				
	Zambia	101	22,504	22,338	120,183	5.3	5.4	114,224

-Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).
(0) No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.

3.1.14 Barley

Overall, a total of 10 large-scale farms reported cultivating barley during the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season. The total area planted was estimated at 443 Ha, of which 343 Ha were harvested.

The total barley production for the season was estimated at 2,715 Mt. The national average yield was estimated at 6.1 Mt/Ha based on area planted and 7.9 Mt/Ha based on area harvested and an estimated 2,715 Mt of Barley were sold countrywide.

Table 3.14: Area planted, Production, Yields, and Sales for Barley by Province, IAS 2024

Sector	Province	Number of holdings planted crop	Area Planted (Ha)	Area Harvested (Ha)	Production (Tonne)	Yield on area planted (Tonne/Ha)	Yield on area harvested (Tonne/Ha)	Quantity Sold (Tonne)
Large Scale Farms	Zambia	10	443	343	2,715	6.1	7.9	2,715

3.2 Production Utilization

Table 3.13 shows the disposition of crops among small and medium-scale agricultural households showing the distinct usage patterns depending on the crop type and purpose. Commercial crops such as tobacco, cotton, and soya beans were primarily market-oriented, while staple food crops like maize, sorghum, and millet were largely retained for household consumption. Losses and “other uses” remained minimal across all crops, indicating effective post-harvest utilization.

Crops Mainly Sold

Tobacco (Virginia) had the highest share sold at 98.9 percent, confirming its strong commercial orientation. Cotton also recorded a high sale share of 98.6 percent. Sorghum (23.5 percent), millet (39.6 percent), and sunflower (38.1 percent) were among the least sold, showing their greater role in household food security rather than market trade.

Crops Mostly Consumed at Household Level

Sorghum (63.8 percent), millet (46.0 percent), sunflower (52.4 percent), and maize (41.9 percent) were primarily retained for home consumption.

Transfers to Others (Gifts & Payment-in-kind)

Cow Peas (6.5 percent) and maize (5.9 percent) had the highest levels of social redistribution, often through sharing with relatives or payment-in-kind.

Reuse on Farm

Mixed Beans (9.9 percent) and groundnuts (9.9 percent) recorded the highest reuse on farm, mainly for seed retention. Maize and sweet potatoes had minimal reuse below 1 percent, suggesting reliance on external seed sources or limited feed usage.

Stored Harvest

Millet (6.8 percent) and maize (5.3 percent) had the highest proportions of stored harvest, consistent with their importance as staple reserves.

Losses and Other Uses

Post-harvest losses were generally very low with less than 1 percent across all crops, with slightly higher levels in Rice at 2.0 percent. Other uses such as processing or non-food applications remained negligible, averaging below 1.5 percent for most crops.



Table 3.15: Percentage Disposition (Use) of Selected Crops by Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Households, IAS 2024

Crop	Sold (%)	House- hold Con- sumption (%)	Transfers to Others (Gifts & Payment- in-kind) (%)	Reused on Farm (Feed/ Seed) (%)	Stored Harvest (%)	Lost (%)	Other Uses (%)	Total pro- duction (tons)
Maize(for grain)	45.3	41.9	5.9	0.6	5.3	0.3	0.6	1,276,448
Sorghum(for grain)	23.5	63.8	5.4	3.9	1.8	0.3	1.3	1,432
Rice	67.2	17.7	4.4	6.6	0.6	2.0	1.6	23,945
Millet	39.6	46.0	4.8	2.3	6.8	0.1	0.4	11,852
Mixed Beans	63.4	18.6	3.9	9.9	3.3	0.6	0.3	17,913
Cow Peas (for grain)	44.8	42.9	6.5	5.1	0.04	0.03	0.5	635
Soya beans	80.4	7.7	1.5	9.0	0.7	0.3	0.4	54,327
Sweet Potatoes(for tuber)	71.2	23.3	4.3	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.3	42,824
Sunflower	38.1	52.4	1.8	4.7	1.3	0.2	1.6	19,088
Groundnuts(unshelled)	53.6	30.7	3.1	9.9	1.4	0.1	1.2	47,654
Seed cotton	98.6	0.9	(0)	0.03	0.4	(0)	0.1	4,185
Tobacco (Virginia)	98.9	0.4	0.1	0.03	0.6	0.02	0.01	9,819
(0) No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.								

3.3 Reasons for Non-Harvest of Selected Crops by Small and Medium-Scale Agricultural Households

Table 3.17 shows that the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season was significantly affected by dry spells and drought, which emerged as the predominant causes of non-harvest across most major crops among small and medium scale agricultural households. However, the degree of impact and the proportion of planted area affected varied across crop types and fields. Some fields were fully affected by a hazard which means they were not harvested at all, while others were partially affected which corresponds to partially harvested fields due to some hazards.

Dry spells and drought were identified as the leading causes of crop loss in both fully and partially affected fields. The highest proportions of fully affected fields were observed in Cotton recording 100 percent, and sorghum which recorded 98 percent, all primarily impacted by drought conditions. In contrast, other issues such as pests, diseases, floods, and management-related factors were generally minimal across most crops.

In terms of the share of planted area not harvested due to hazards that affected the crop fields, either fully or partially, the largest proportions were recorded for sorghum at 82.9 percent, and millet at 65.5 percent, underscoring the widespread impact of drought across both cereal and oilseed crops during the season.

Table 3.16: Reasons for Non-Harvest of Selected Crops in Percentage, IAS 2024

Crop	Affected fields	Fully affected fields			Partially affected fields		
	(fully or partially)	Share in the planted area	Reported cause		Share in the planted area	Reported cause	
			Dry spell/drought	Others Issues (all other)		Dry spell/drought	Others Issues (all other)
Maize(for grain)	37	39.8	97.2	2.8	16.9	84.9	15.1
Sorghum(for grain)	70.2	73.1	98	2	9.8	96.4	3.6
Rice	40.6	43.3	95	5	10.3	75.6	24.4
Millet	33.5	49.4	94.7	5.3	16.1	83.8	16.2
Mixed Beans	14.1	10.6	91.1	8.9	11.3	64.6	35.4
Soya beans	34.2	35	97.6	2.4	18.3	94.5	5.5
Sweet Potatoes(for tuber)	21.6	26.6	89.9	10.1	10.9	91.3	8.7
Sunflower	39.9	44.9	98.8	1.2	19.2	95.8	4.2
Groundnuts(unshelled)	32.9	38	96.9	3.1	10.4	84.6	15.4
Cotton	38.1	38.9	100	0	17.4	81.9	18.1
Tobacco (Virginia)	11.3	9	95.5	4.5	13.8	97.6	2.4
[0] No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.							



CHAPTER 4: AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES AND INPUTS

Key Findings

In Zambia, 72.6 percent of Small and Medium-scale agricultural households applied one or more types of fertilizer.

The most commonly used inorganic fertilizer (Top dressing and Basal) were Urea and Compound D at 94.1 and 93.8 percent respectively, while the most frequently used organic fertilizer was solid manure at 9.2 percent.

A total area of 1,932,783 Ha and 153,710 Ha was treated with some form of fertilizer by small and medium and Large-scale farmers respectively, while 276,183 Ha and 119,046 Ha were treated with some type of pesticide by small and medium scale and Large scale farmers respectively.

Concepts and Definitions

Fertilizers: refers to inorganic or organic substances, natural or manufactured, which are applied to soil, irrigation water or a hydroponic medium, to supply plants with nutrients or to enhance plant growth. The term "fertilizer" normally applies to sources of plant nutrients which contain at least 5 percent of a combination of the three primary nutrients (N, P2O5 and K2O).

Inorganic fertilizers: are fertilizers prepared from inorganic materials manufactured through an industrial process. Manufacturing entails mechanical enrichment, simple crushing or more elaborate chemical transformation of one or more raw materials. Inorganic fertilizers are also known as "chemical fertilizers", "artificial fertilizers", and "mineral fertilizers".

Organic fertilizers: are fertilizers prepared from processed plant or animal material and/or unprocessed mineral materials (such as lime, rock or phosphate) containing at least 5 percent of combined plant nutrients.

Manure: this is fertilizer prepared from organic material. Manures contribute to the fertility of the soil by adding organic matter and nutrients, such as nitrogen, that are trapped by bacteria in the soil. Pesticides are substances used to control pests like insects, weeds, fungi, and rodents that can harm crops, livestock, or public health. They are used in agriculture to protect crops, improve yields, and reduce losses, with common types including insecticides (for insects), herbicides (for weeds), and fungicides (for fungi).

4.0 Introduction

This section presents key findings on the use of agricultural inputs during the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season, specifically fertilizers and pesticides across Zambia. The focus is on the number of small and medium scale and large-scale agricultural households/ holdings utilizing different fertilizer types, the area treated with fertilizers, and the extent and type of pesticide use by province. It further provides detailed insights including input usage patterns, regional variations and preferences for specific type of fertilizers and pesticides.

4.1 Fertiliser Application

4.1.1 Agricultural households using fertilizers (Organic/Inorganic)

Table 4.1 shows the number of small and medium scale agricultural households that used fertilizers (Organic/Inorganic), by province in the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season. Out of 2,082,835 households that reported growing crops in fields (backyards and gardens excluded), 1,514,000 applied various types of fertilizers.

Table 4.1: Fertilizer Use (Organic/Inorganic), by Farm Size and by Province, IAS 2024

Farm Size	Province	Percentage of Agriculture Holdings applying any fertilizer		Number Ag. Holdings with crop prod applying any fertilisers	Total number of Agric. Holdings growing crops
		Organic fertilisers	Inorganic fertilisers		
Small and medium	Central	7.2	99.2	227,657	260,562
	Copperbelt	19	99	204,744	220,741
	Eastern	11.1	97	263,262	351,393
	Luapula	5.5	97.2	102,690	188,000
	Lusaka	11.3	97.3	82,063	90,637
	Muchinga	2.6	99.8	94,766	105,985
	Northern	5.2	99.9	153,321	218,240
	North Western	-	99.5	100,315	143,310
	Southern	13.3	97.1	214,399	277,837
	Western	16.8	90.2	70,784	226,132
	Zambia	10	98	1,514,000	2,082,835
Large-scale farms	Zambia	11.9	99.4	2,203	2,292

-Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).

4.1.2 Fertilizer Application for Small and Medium Agricultural Households by type

Table 4.2 shows the percentage of small and medium scale agricultural households that applied any type of fertilizer in the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season. The most commonly used inorganic fertilizer was Compound D and Urea with 1,420,748 and 1,425,200 agricultural households respectively. On the other hand, the frequently used organic fertilizer was solid manure at 9.2 percent.



Table 4.2 Number and Percentage Distribution of Agricultural Households by Type of Fertilizer Category and Quantity, IAS 2024

Category of Inputs		Fertilizer Type	Small and Medium Scale Households	
			Number	Percent
Organic		Solid Manure	138,973	9.2
		Liquid Manure/Slurry	5,162	0.3
		Vegetable Material & Compost	-	-
		Stabilised Sewage Sludge	-	-
		Biostimulant	5,868	0.4
Inorganic	Basal Fertilizers	Compound B	18,103	1.2
		Compound D	1,420,748	93.8
		Compound S	-	-
		Compound X	-	-
	Top Dressing Fertilizers	Urea	1,425,200	94.1
		Ammonium Nitrate	3,110	0.2
		Can (Calcium Ammon. Nitr)	11,150	0.7
		Ammonium Sulphate	-	-

* Percentages are Calculated among agricultural holdings that applied any type of fertilizer.

- Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).

4.1.3 Area Planted Applied with Fertilizers in Hectares (Ha) by Quantity, Small and Medium Scale Households

Table 4.3 shows the area planted that was treated with fertilizers by type in hectares (Ha). Solid manure was the most commonly used organic manure with 187,899 Ha treated with the fertilizer while compound D was the most used inorganic fertilizer with 1,803,390 Ha treated.

Table 4.3 Area Planted (in Hectares) with Total Quantity of Fertilizer Applied (Organic and Inorganic), IAS 2024

Fertilizer Group		Fertilizer Type	Small and Medium Scale Households	
			Area (Ha)	Total Quantity Used (Kg)
Organic		Solid Manure	187,899	25,865,777
		Liquid Manure/Slurry	5,633	-
		Vegetable Material & Compost	-	-
		Stabilised Sewage Sludge	25	3,041
		Biostimulant	9,085	-
Inorganic	Basal Fertilizers	Compound B	28,687	2,627,788
		Compound D	1,803,390	212,023,344
		Compound S	-	-
		Compound X	-	-
	Top Dressing Fertilizers	Urea	1,787,115	210,983,139
		Ammonium Nitrate	4,984	362,233
		Can (Calcium Ammon. Nitr)	25,371	1,702,932
		Ammonium Sulphate	-	-

- Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).

4.1.4 Fertilizer Use by Farm Size, Type, Area (Ha) and Province

Table 4.4 shows the area planted in hectares (Ha) that was treated with fertilizers by type at province levels and by farm size. A total of 1,932,783Ha was treated with some form of fertilizer by small and medium scale farms and 153,710 Ha were treated by large-scale farms. In small and medium scale households, majority at 97.7% (1,888,100 Ha) treated the planted area with some inorganic fertilizer, while only 10 % (202,595 Ha) was treated with some organic fertilizer. Southern Province recorded the largest area treated with some type of fertilizer (417,591Ha) by small and medium scale agricultural households while Western province had the lowest with 88,751 Ha.

Table 4.4: Total Area Planted by Type (Organic vs. Inorganic) of Fertilizer Applied and Province, IAS 2024

Farm Size	Province	Total area applied with organic fertilizer	Total area applied with inorganic fertilizer	Total area applied with any fertilizer*
Small and medium	Central	33,078	367,339	373,415
	Copperbelt	33,198	203,965	205,800
	Eastern	35,270	325,442	334,124
	Luapula	3,844	69,829	70,735
	Lusaka	10,494	99,250	101,825
	Muchinga	1,964	81,677	81,698
	Northern	9,823	153,956	154,219
	North Western	-	104,397	104,625
	Southern	60,260	402,693	417,591
	Western	13,025	79,554	88,751
	Zambia	202,595	1,888,100	1,932,783
Large-scale farms	Zambia	6,868	153,033	153,710

- Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).
 * The total area applied with any fertilizer exceeds overall use since fields may receive more than one type of fertilizer.



4.1.5 Area Treated with Pesticides by Farm Size, Type and Province

Table 4.5 shows the total area treated with pesticides used by small and medium scale households throughout the country and by province in the 2023/24 Agricultural Season. The total area applied with pesticides amounted to 276,183 Ha nationwide. Central Province recorded the largest area treated with pesticide (69,919Ha), followed by Central Province with 67,521 Ha. Western Province recorded the lowest area treated with pesticide, with only 4,397 Ha.

Table 4.5 Area Planted Applied with Any Type of Pesticides (Ha) by Province, IAS 2024

Farm Size	Province	Insecticides	Herbicide	Fungicide	Any pesticide use*
Small and medium	Central	25,071	49,351	-	69,919
	Copperbelt	18,628	50,884	-	67,521
	Eastern	13,059	33,600	-	44,241
	Luapula	-	-	-	-
	Lusaka	16,595	9,323	-	25,680
	Muchinga	3,595	-	-	5,704
	Northern	-	-	-	9,567
	North Western	-	12,236	-	13,751
	Southern	18,052	13,329	-	30,567
	Western	-	-	(0)	4,397
	Zambia	107,874	182,000	4,284	276,183
Large-scale farms	Zambia	49,598	62,070	5,378	119,046

* The total area applied with any pesticide exceeds overall use because fields may receive more than one type of pesticide.

** Only the main pesticide used on the crop was reported for large scale farms

- Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).

(0) No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.

CHAPTER 5: LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

Key Findings

The number of households engaged in cattle rearing was 414,722 and goat rearing was at 452,976 households. A total number of 119,642 households were recorded pig rearing and 24,064 households rearing sheep in the country.

As of 31 December 2024, the cattle population from both Households and Establishments was 3,973,754, goats 3,767,031, sheep 234,370, and pigs 668,518.

The average calving percentage in the country was 23.4 percent. Among Provinces, the highest calving percentage was recorded in Southern at 28.8 percent. The Cattle mortality due to disease in the country was 9.9 percent and Copperbelt province had the highest mortality recorded at 12.8 percent.

The Village Chicken population from both Household and Establishment was estimated at 9,659,299 as at 31st December 2024. The Broiler Chicken population was 5,518,108 chickens, while the Layer Chicken population was 2,210,273.

A total of 151,367,094 litres of milk was produced by both households and establishments, with households contributing 146,966,859 litres. At provincial level, the highest quantity of milk produced was from Southern Province at 62,086,663 litres followed by Central and Western at 34,841,506 litres and 22,793,699 litres respectively.

Concepts and Definitions

Livestock Household: A household engaged in any livestock raising activity. For the 2024 IAS, this definition included a household involved in Honey Production.

Establishment: A business or other organization, or the place where an organization operates.

Livestock: Refers to all domesticated animals that are used/may be used for food and agriculture systems such as cattle, pigs, goats, sheep and poultry.

Poultry: all domesticated fowls such as chickens, ducks, geese, pigeons, guinea fowls, turkeys and quails.

Livestock Management: all activities pertaining to the control and organization of livestock production.

Fodder/Forage: Crops that are grown for feeding livestock such as grasses (Rhodes grass, Napier grass, Bracaria and Panicum) and legumes (velvet beans, Cow peas, Sunhemp, Pigeon peas, and Dolicos lablab).

Vaccine: a preparation administered to an animal to prevent it from suffering from a particular disease or condition.

Vaccination: this is administration of vaccines in order to prevent diseases.

Livestock Type: For the purposes of this survey livestock type refers to the livestock type (species) for which the data is collected and includes: cattle, goats, sheep, pigs, donkeys and main types of poultry (village chickens, broilers, layers, exotic chicken, ducks, Turkeys, Guinea fowls, pigeons and quails).

Also data is collected for some other animals (rabbits) or insects (bees etc.) that the household raises or keeps for consumption of their meat or use of their products. Each livestock type is broken down to categories of livestock which are described here below. For poultry species, each livestock group is not further broken down and there is only one livestock category (e.g. village chicken).

Cattle: For the purposes of this survey the cattle are categorized in the following 7 categories:

- **Bulls:** are uncastrated adult male cattle.
- **Oxen:** are adult castrated male cattle.
- **Steers:** are young castrated male cattle.
- **Cows:** are female cattle that have given birth at least once
- **Heifers:** are female cattle that have not yet given birth and are less than 3 years old.
- **Calves:** are either male or female young cattle that are suckling
- **Weaners:** These are young animals that have stopped sucking and are less than 1 year old.

Pigs: For the purposes of this survey the pigs are categorized in the following 5 categories:

- **Boar:** mature male breeding pig.
- **Sow:** mature female breeding pig.
- **Gilt:** young female pigs that have never given birth).
- **Weaner Piglet:** is young pig that has stopped suckling less than one year
- **Piglets:** are male or female young pigs that are still suckling.

Goats: For the purposes of this survey the goats are categorized in the following 4 categories:

- **Buck/Billy:** mature male breeding goat.
- **Doe/Nanny:** mature female breeding goat.
- **Weaners:** These are small livestock that have stopped suckling or feed on milk less than one year
- **Kid:** young goat that is still suckling.

Sheep: For the purposes of this survey the sheep are categorized in the following 4 categories:

- **Ram:** mature male breeding sheep.
- **Ewe:** mature female breeding sheep.
- **Weaners:** These are small livestock that have stopped suckling or feed on milk less than one year
- **Lamb:** young sheep that is still suckling.

Donkey: A domesticated animal specifically used for draught power.

Poultry and Rabbits: For the purposes of this survey the following poultry types are used:

- **Village chicken:** Traditional indigenous chickens normally raised for meat.

- **Chickens (Broilers):** Exotic chickens raised mainly for meat.
- **Chickens (Layers):** Exotic chickens raised mainly for egg production.
- **Guinea fowl:** Large speckled grey or White African bird that are domesticated for meat.
- **Pigeons:** Birds usually white/grey in colour mostly kept at home.
- **Ducks:** Birds with webbed feet and are mostly kept for meat.
- **Quails:** Bird essentially streaked brown with a white eye stripe and has long wings.
- **Rabbits:** Small animals which normally burrow in the soil and have long ears and a short tail.

5.0 Introduction

This chapter presents livestock production statistics, including the households and establishments raising various types of livestock, number of livestock raised, sales of live cattle in households and establishments, and herd structure during the reference period. Further, the chapter highlights key livestock productivity parameters such as milk yields and calving percentage.

5.1. Cattle Production

5.1.1 Number of Cattle Raised by Households and Establishments

Table 5.1 shows the number and percentage of cattle raised by households and establishments as of 31 December 2024. The household category constituted of the small and medium and large-scale livestock raising households. Of the total 3,973,754 cattle in the country, 96.8 percent (3,847,332) were raised by households while 3.2 percent (126,422) were raised by establishments.

Table 5.1: Number and Percentage of Cattle Raised by Households and Establishments, IAS 2024

Province	Households						Establishment		Total
	Small and medium scale households		Large-scale households		Total Households		Number	Percent	Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent			
Central	544,553	75.6	135,215	18.8	679,769	94.3	40,989	5.7	720,758
Copperbelt	116,087	80.6	13,814	9.6	129,900	90.2	14,062	9.8	143,962
Eastern	594,436	99.1	4,499	0.8	598,936	99.8	921	0.2	599,857
Luapula	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lusaka	71,773	88.0	2,280	2.8	74,054	90.8	7,507	9.2	81,561
Muchinga	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern	38,226	98.7	[0]	[0]	38,226	98.7	516	1.3	38,742
North Western	50,020	95.6	918	1.8	50,938	97.4	1,368	2.6	52,306
Southern	1,371,150	78.5	319,460	18.3	1,690,611	96.7	56,939	3.3	1,747,550
Western	474,686	89.0	58,319	10.9	533,005	99.9	292	0.1	533,297
Total	3,307,106	83.2	540,226	13.6	3,847,332	96.8	126,422	3.2	3,973,754
Note: - Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data). [0] No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.									



5.1.2 Cattle Herd Structure under Households

The cattle herd structure for households by province as of 31st December 2024, is shown in Table 5.2. Cows constituted a larger number with 1,519,753 herds, followed by oxen at 757,381. The least were Steers at 153,250. The average number of cattle raised by households was 9. Lusaka Province had the highest average number raised, with 12 cattle per household.

Table 5.2. Total number of Households Raising Cattle and Average Number Raised as of December 2024, IAS 2024

Province		Households raising Cattle	Total number of Cattle raised	Average Number of Cattle Raised	Number of cows	Number of heifers	Number of bulls	Number of cattle weaners	Number of oxen	Number of steers	Number of calves
Small and medium-scale Agricultural Households	Central	65,563	544,553	8	229,665	61,202	56,166	28,155	106,891	11,171	51,303
	Copperbelt	14,459	116,087	8	41,463	15,382	20,118	9,084	18,424	-	8,395
	Eastern	121,495	594,436	5	218,239	34,334	117,421	23,567	154,482	10,154	36,239
	Luapula	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Lusaka	6,065	71,773	12	-	-	2,463	-	-	-	-
	Muchinga	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Northern	9,304	38,226	4	9,365	-	5,612	-	14,110	-	-
	North Western	8,930	50,020	6	19,191	4,519	9,927	-	8,856	-	-
	Southern	131,932	1,371,150	10	540,751	204,411	88,906	60,145	264,228	56,857	155,852
	Western	48,613	474,686	10	186,686	44,190	43,436	7,468	139,763	14,071	39,072
Total		411,740	3,307,106	8	1,302,754	379,999	357,973	141,115	720,561	99,393	305,311
Large Scale Households		2,982	540,226	181	216,999	67,419	17,791	65,965	36,820	53,857	81,375
Total Households		414,722	3,847,332	9	1,519,753	447,418	375,764	207,080	757,381	153,250	386,686
Note: - Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data). [0] No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.											

5.1.3 Calving Percentage

The calving percentage is the number of calves born in relation to the number of cows exposed for mating or servicing in the herd. The calving percentage by province during the reference period is shown in Table 5.3.

The average calving percentage among small and medium Scale households was 23.4 percent. Among Provinces, the highest calving percentage was recorded in Southern at 28.8 percent followed by Central Province at 22.3 percent. The least calving percentage was recorded in Lusaka at 16.6 percent.

Table 5.3: Cattle Calving Rate for Small and Medium Scale Agricultural Households by Province, IAS 2024

Province	Number of cows	Number of calves	Calving Rate
Central	229,665	51,303	22.3
Copperbelt	41,463	8,395	20.2
Eastern	218,239	36,239	16.6
Luapula	-	-	-
Lusaka	-	-	-
Muchinga	-	-	-
Northern	-	-	-
North-Western	-	-	-
Southern	540,751	155,852	28.8
Western	186,686	39,072	20.9
Zambia	1,302,754	305,311	23.4

Note: - Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).
[0] No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.

5.1.4 Cattle Mortality due to Disease reported by small and medium-scale agricultural households

The Cattle Mortality due disease is the number of Cattle that died due to disease in relation to the total cattle population. The cattle mortality due to disease in small and medium scale agricultural households by province during the reference period is shown in Table 5.4.

The Cattle mortality due to disease in the country was 9.9 percent. Among Provinces, the highest mortality was recorded on the Copperbelt at 12.8 percent followed by Western at 11.7 percent. The least was recorded in Eastern at 5.0 percent.

Table 5.4: Number of Cattle Raising Households, Cattle Lost Due to Disease and Mortality Rate by Province, IAS 2024

Province	Number of Cattle	Number of Cattle lost due to Disease	Mortality Rate
Central	544,553	62,418	11.5
Copperbelt	116,087	14,901	12.8
Eastern	594,436	29,617	5.0
Luapula	-	-	-
Lusaka	71,773	-	-
Muchinga	-	-	-
Northern	38,226	2,237	5.9
North-Western	50,020	3,418	6.8
Southern	1,991,150	154,641	11.3
Western	474,686	55,512	11.7
Zambia	3,307,106	326,429	9.9

Note: - Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).
[0] No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.

5.1.5 Households Reporting Cattle Theft

The number of small and medium scale households that reported losing cattle due to theft was 22,711 indicating 5.5 percent of the total cattle raising small and medium households in the country. Among Provinces, the highest reports were recorded in Southern at 8.8 percent followed by Central and Western at 4.8 percent. The lowest percentage was recorded in Eastern at 4.1 percent.

Table 5.5 Number of Cattle Raising Households, Households Reporting Cattle Theft by Province, IAS 2024

Province	Number of Cattle Raising Households	Number of Households Reporting Cattle Theft	Percent of Total Cattle Raising households
Central	65,563	3,132	4.8
Copperbelt	14,459	-	-
Eastern	121,495	5,010	4.1
Luapula	-	-	-
Lusaka	6,065	-	-
Muchinga	-	-	-
Northern	9,304	-	-
North-Western	8,930	-	-
Southern	131,932	11,579	8.8
Western	48,613	2,318	4.8
Zambia	411,740	22,711	5.5

Note: - Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).
 (0) No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.

5.1.6. Livestock Sales

Table 5.6 shows the number of cattle sold live by households in Zambia to various markets. A Total of 266,611 cattle were sold in 2024, of which the majority (128,775 cattle) were sold to households/private individuals and Businessmen. 63,746 cattle were sold to Abattoirs, while 21,584 cattle were sold to Market places/Butcheries. Southern Province had the highest number of cattle sold live with 142,224 cattle. This was followed by Central Province with 53,617 cattle sold live.

Table 5.6: Number of Cattle sold live by households to Specific Market by Province, IAS 2024

Province	Abattoirs	Market Place/ Butchery	Households/ Private Individuals/ Businessmen	Other buyers*	Total Cattle Sold Live
Central	6,952	24,458	19,807	2,400	53,617
Copperbelt	-	1,018	4,430	2,020	7,950
Eastern	4,484	7,465	24,726	-	37,557
Luapula	-	-	-	-	-
Lusaka	-	-	-	-	2,093
Muchinga	-	-	-	-	-
Northern	(0)	-	-	-	1,089
North-Western	(0)	-	-	-	1,276
Southern	45,690	15,108	65,959	15,467	142,224
Western	5,971	1,283	11,176	-	19,132
Zambia	63,746	52,506	128,775	21,584	266,611

Note: - Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).
 (0) No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.

5.2. Goat Production

5.2.1 Number of Goats Raised by Households and Establishments

Table 5.7 shows the number and percentage of goats raised by households and establishments as of 31 December 2024. Of the total 3,767,031 goats in the country, 99.6 percent (3,752,094) were raised by households while 0.4 percent (14,937) were raised by establishments. Among provinces, Southern reported the highest at 1,660,490 followed by Central with 779,900. The lowest was Muchinga with 81,970 goats.

Table 5.7: Number and Percentage of Goats Raised by Households and Establishments, IAS 2024

Province	Households						Establishment		Total
	Small and medium scale households		Large-scale households		Total Households				
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number
Central	728,494	93.4	48,735	6.2	777,228	99.7	2,672	0.3	779,900
Copperbelt	166,462	89.8	17,288	9.3	183,749	99.2	1,566	0.8	185,315
Eastern	313,363	99.8	419	0.1	313,782	99.9	352	0.1	314,134
Luapula	107,347	99.5	[0]	[0]	107,347	99.5	508	0.5	107,855
Lusaka	132,943	81.8	28,634	17.6	161,576	99.4	935	0.6	162,511
Muchinga	80,430	98.1	1,046	1.3	81,476	99.4	494	0.6	81,970
Northern	245,832	99.9	[0]	[0]	245,832	99.9	259	0.1	246,091
North Western	107,287	99.4	279	0.3	107,566	99.7	325	0.3	107,891
Southern	1,549,403	93.3	103,261	6.2	1,652,664	99.5	7,826	0.5	1,660,490
Western	119,384	98.8	1,489	1.2	120,873	100.0	[0]	[0]	120,873
Total	3,550,943	94.3	201,151	5.3	3,752,094	99.6	14,937	0.4	3,767,031
Note: - Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).									
[0] No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.									

5.2.2 Goat Herd Structure under Households

The Goat herd structure for households by province as of 31st December 2024, is shown in Table 5.8. Female goats constituted a larger number at 1,827,569 followed by male goats at 878,547. The least were weaners at 473,255 goats. The average number of goats raised by households was 8. Lusaka Province had the highest average number raised, with 12 goats per household.



Table 5.8: Total number of Households Raising Goats and Average Number Raised as of December 2024, IAS 2024

Province		Households raising Goats	Total number of Goats raised	Average Number of Goats Raised	Number of male goats	Number of female goats	Number of goat weaners	Number of kids
Small and medium Scale Households	Central	76,212	728,494	10	194,615	326,413	86,402	121,065
	Copperbelt	19,359	166,462	9	36,814	74,784	26,207	28,656
	Eastern	61,588	313,363	5	94,322	140,538	32,238	46,264
	Luapula	26,463	107,347	4	35,228	47,885	8,485	15,750
	Lusaka	11,552	132,943	12	27,407	69,810	16,133	19,593
	Muchinga	17,876	80,430	4	20,635	39,336	9,077	11,382
	Northern	51,188	245,832	5	61,257	108,258	47,279	29,037
	North Western	20,432	107,287	5	26,437	52,118	17,548	11,183
	Southern	144,312	1,549,403	11	329,635	807,721	186,620	225,427
	Western	21,672	119,384	6	30,135	57,529	15,986	15,734
Total		450,653	3,550,943	8	856,485	1,724,393	445,975	524,091
Large Scale Households		2,322	201,151	87	22,062	103,177	27,280	48,632
Total Households		452,975	3,752,094	8	878,547	1,827,569	473,255	572,723

5.3. Sheep Production

5.3.1 Number of Sheep Raised by Households and Establishments

Table 5.9 shows the number and percentage of Sheep raised by households and establishments as of 31 December 2024. Of the total 234,370 Sheep in the country, 96.6 percent (226,468) were raised by households while 3.4 percent (7,902) were raised by establishments.

Table 5.9: Number and Percentage of Sheep Raised by Households and Establishments, IAS 2024

Province	Households						Establishment		Total
	Small and medium scale households		Large-scale households		Total Households				
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number
Central	39,070	76.4	9,052	17.7	48,122	94.1	3,007	5.9	51,129
Copperbelt	-	-	938	6.9	12,383	90.4	1,309	9.6	13,692
Eastern	16,896	97.2	234	1.3	17,130	98.6	248	1.4	17,378
Luapula	-	-	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	-	-	(0)
Lusaka	-	-	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	525	11.6	4,545
Muchinga	-	-	-	-	-	-	112	2.1	5,213
Northern	-	-	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	-	-	(0)
North Western	-	-	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	68	10.2	668
Southern	98,855	72.8	34,361	25.3	133,216	98.1	2,599	1.9	135,815
Western	(0)	(0)	-	-	(0)	(0)	-	-	(0)
Total	181,844	77.6	44,624	19	226,468	96.6	7,902	3.4	234,370

Note: - Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).

(0) No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.

5.3.2 Sheep Herd Structure under Households

The Sheep herd structure for households by province as of 31st December 2024, is shown in Table 5.10. Female sheep (Ewes) constituted the largest number at 109,251 followed by male sheep (Rams) at 55,251. The least were weaners at 24,614 sheep. The average number of sheep raised by households was 9.

Table 5.10: Total number of Households Raising Sheep and Average Number Raised as of December 2024, IAS 2024

Province		Households raising Sheep	Total number of Sheep raised	Average Number of Sheep Raised	Number of male sheep (Rams)	Number of female sheep (Ewes)	Number of sheep weaners	Number of lambs
Small and medium Scale Households	Central	4,504	39,070	9	11,275	16,076	-	6,607
	Copperbelt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Eastern	3,360	16,896	5	6,852	6,422	2,227	1,395
	Luapula	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Lusaka	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Muchinga	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Northern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	North Western	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Southern	11,621	98,855	9	22,044	56,297	5,933	14,581
	Western	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
	Total	22,883	181,844	8	48,302	90,206	15,522	27,814
Large Scale Households		1,181	44,624	38	6,949	19,044	9,093	9,538
Total Households		24,064	226,468	9	55,251	109,251	24,614	37,352
Note: - Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data). (0) No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.								

5.4. Pigs Production

5.4.1 Number of Pigs Raised by Households and Establishments

Table 5.11 shows the number and percentage of pigs raised by households and establishments as at 31 December 2024. Of the total 668,518 pigs in the country, 96.9 percent (647,833) were raised by households and 3.1 percent (20,685) by establishments. Among provinces, Eastern reported the highest at 137,009 followed by Lusaka at 103,693, while Luapula reported the lowest at 15,159.

**Table 5.11: Number and Percentage of Pigs Raised by Households and Establishments, IAS 2024**

Province	Households						Establishment		Total
	Small and medium scale households		Large-scale households		Total Households		Number	%	Number
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%			
Central	80,762	86.2	6,710	7.2	87,472	93.4	6,223	6.6	93,695
Copperbelt	50,198	85.8	5,729	9.8	55,927	95.6	2,583	4.4	58,510
Eastern	136,758	99.8	(0)	(0)	136,758	99.8	251	0.2	137,009
Luapula	15,001	99	(0)	(0)	15,001	99	158	1	15,159
Lusaka	-	-	66,188	63.8	94,506	91.1	9,187	8.9	103,693
Muchinga	39,277	99.4	(0)	(0)	39,277	99.4	223	0.6	39,500
Northern	61,721	99.9	(0)	(0)	61,721	99.9	78	0.1	61,799
North West-ern	21,833	97.2	479	2.1	22,312	99.3	158	0.7	22,470
Southern	92,707	95.9	2,178	2.3	94,885	98.1	1,824	1.9	96,709
Western	38,300	95.8	1,674	4.2	39,974	100	(0)	0	39,974
Total	564,875	84.5	82,958	12.4	647,833	96.9	20,685	3.1	668,518

Note: - Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).

(0) No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.

5.4.2 Pig Herd Structure under Households

The Pig herd structure for households by province as of 31st December 2024, is shown in Table 5.12. Female Pigs (Sows) constituted the largest at 193,129 followed by male pigs (Boars) at 135,896. The least were gilts at 57,309. The average number of pigs raised by households was 5.

Table 5.12: Total number of Households Raising Pigs and Average Number Raised as of December 2024, IAS 2024

Province		House-holds raising Pigs	Total number of Pigs raised	Average Number of Pigs Raised	Number of boars	Number of sows	Number of gilts	Number of pig weaners	Number of piglets
Small and medium Scale Households	Central	13,258	80,762	6	16,224	19,153	10,342	20,407	14,636
	Copperbelt	7,384	50,198	7	12,367	13,203	3,532	13,735	7,361
	Eastern	28,681	136,758	5	39,959	41,506	4,363	15,301	35,629
	Luapula	5,504	15,001	3	-	5,910	-	-	-
	Lusaka	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Muchinga	9,560	39,277	4	9,024	12,455	-	6,220	9,340
	Northern	19,266	61,721	3	14,697	24,857	4,579	7,388	10,200
	North Western	5,179	21,833	4	4,501	10,196	-	-	3,458
	Southern	18,884	92,707	5	20,583	34,305	-	15,048	13,638
	Western	9,490	38,300	4	10,041	12,219	-	-	10,404
Total		119,151	564,875	5	133,979	180,029	40,938	95,411	114,518
Large Scale Households		491	82,958	169	1,917	13,100	16,371	27,972	23,598
Total Households		119,642	647,833	5	135,896	193,129	57,309	123,383	138,116

Note: - Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).

(0) No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.

5.5. Poultry Production

5.5.1. Chicken Production under Households and Establishments

Table 5.13 shows the distribution of poultry raised by households and Establishments as of 31 December 2024. The number of households raising Village Chickens was the highest at 956,946 followed by the number of those raising Broiler Chickens at 12,868. The number of households raising layers was the least at 62,987. The Village Chicken population from both Household and Establishment was estimated at 9,659,299 as of 31 December 2024. Central Province reported the highest number at 1,884,205 of the total national stock. The Broiler Chicken population from both Household and Establishment was 5,518,108 chickens. The Layer Chicken population from both Household and Establishment was 2,210,273.

Table 5.13: Chicken Production under Households and Establishments as of 31st December, IAS 2024

Province		Poultry								
		Village Chickens			Broilers Chickens			Layers Chickens		
		No. of house-holds raising Village Chickens	Total Number of Village Chickens	Average Number of Village Chickens	No. of house-holds raising Broilers Chickens	Total Number of Broilers Chickens	Average Number of Broilers Chickens	No. of house-holds raising Layers Chickens	Total Number of Layers Chickens	Average Number of Layers Chickens
Small and medium-scale Agricultural Households	Central	156,838	1,884,205	12	2,257	374,573	166	-	-	-
	Copperbelt	77,408	898,752	12	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Eastern	135,913	1,072,134	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Luapula	55,832	484,212	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Lusaka	26,695	394,481	15	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Muchinga	56,626	634,564	11	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Northern	116,846	1,168,790	10	-	-	-	0	0	0
	North Western	71,201	727,838	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Southern	170,537	1,547,302	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Western	86,460	712,865	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	954,356	9,525,143	10	12,545	1,935,911	154	2,866	150,882	53
Large-scale households		2,590	122,759	47	323	1,557,058	4,821	121	82,608	683
Establishments		59	11,397	193	71	2,025,139	28,523	57	1,976,783	34,680
Total Zambia			9,659,299			5,518,108			2,210,273	
Note: - Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).										
[0] No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.										

5.6 Milk Production

5.6.1 Milk Production among Households and Establishments

Table 5.14 shows the quantity of fresh milk produced by households and establishments in 2024. The total quantity of milk produced was 151,367,094 litres, of which 146,966,859 litres was produced by households and 4,400,235 litres by establishments. Southern Province had the highest quantity of milk produced (62,086,663 litres), followed by Central at 34,841,506 litres.

**Table 5.14 Quantity of Milk Produced in litres by Households and Establishments, IAS 2024**

Province	Households			Establishments	Total Annual Milk Production (Litres)
	Small and medium scale households	Large-scale households	Total Households		
Central	30,516,924	3,261,991	33,778,915	1,062,591	34,841,506
Copperbelt	19,772,287	562,094	20,334,381	92,515	20,426,896
Eastern	3,214,545	239,643	3,454,188	7,805	3,461,993
Luapula	0	0	0	0	0
Lusaka	1,433,789	1,079,155	2,512,944	1,742,287	4,255,231
Muchinga	-	-	-	-	-
Northern	-	-	-	-	-
North Western	771,327	47,883	819,210	1,206	820,416
Southern	58,415,922	2,181,490	60,597,412	1,489,251	62,086,663
Western	20,909,007	1,884,692	22,793,699	0	22,793,699
Zambia	137,591,607	9,375,252	146,966,859	4,400,235	151,367,094

Note: - Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).
 (0) No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.

5.6.2 Milk Productivity

Table 5.15 shows milk productivity under households during the period under review. The average milk yield per cow per day was 1.2 litres, translating to an average of 431 litres of milk per cow per year. Copperbelt Province recorded the highest average milk yield among small and medium scale households with 1.9 litres of milk per cow per day or 695 litres per cow per year. This was followed by Western Province with 1.8 litres of milk per cow per day or 639 litres per cow per year.

Table 5.15: Milk Productivity under Households, IAS 2024

PROVINCE	Total Number of Households Raising Milk Cows	Number of milking cows	Annual Milk Production (Litres)	Average Milk Yield (Litres per Cow per Day)	Average Milk Yield per Cow per Year (Litres)	
Small and medium scale Households	Central	19,727	80,084	30,516,924	1.6	594
	Copperbelt	4,262	17,746	19,772,287	1.9	695
	Eastern	8,167	16,979	3,214,545	0.6	215
	Luapula	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
	Lusaka	-	-	1,433,789	-	-
	Muchinga	-	-	-	-	-
	Northern	-	-	-	-	-
	North Western	-	-	771,327	-	-
	Southern	52,564	226,194	58,415,922	0.9	331
	Western	13,757	47,917	20,909,007	1.8	639
	Total	101,665	397,972	137,591,607	1.2	432
Large-scale Households		3,504	41,986	9,375,252	1.1	397
Total Households		105,169	439,958	146,966,859	1.2	431

Note: - Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).
 (0) No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.

5.6.3 Milk Production under Households during the Low, Moderate and High Production Months in Litres

Table 5.16 shows milk production trends during low (August to October), moderate (May to July) and high (November to April) production months during the reference period. The table shows that the quantity of milk produced by households during the high production months was 86,216,380 litres, while the quantity produced during low production months was 19,939,848 litres.

Table 5.16: Milk Production during Low, Moderate and High Months in Litres under Households, IAS 2024

Province		Low Production Months	Moderate Production Month	High Production Month	Annual milk production by Households
Small and medium scale households	Central	6,573,599	6,907,638	17,035,687	30,516,924
	Copperbelt	2,832,196	7,408,811	9,531,280	19,772,287
	Eastern	394,193	969,829	1,850,523	3,214,545
	Luapula	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
	Lusaka	267,573	345,842	820,374	1,433,789
	Muchinga	-	-	-	-
	Northern	71,564	197,125	448,184	716,873
	North Western	152,282	285,860	333,185	771,327
	Southern	6,036,917	15,716,756	36,662,249	58,415,922
	Western	2,494,284	5,308,211	13,106,512	20,909,007
	Total	18,978,546	37,518,158	81,094,903	137,591,607
Large-scale households		961,302	3,292,473	5,121,477	9,375,252
Total Households		19,939,848	40,810,631	86,216,380	146,966,859

Note: - Data are suppressed when unweighted cases are fewer than 30 or when CV/SE exceed acceptable thresholds (totals include suppressed data).
(0) No cases observed in the survey sample; may not represent actual zero in the population.



CHAPTER 6: LABOUR DYNAMICS IN AGRICULTURE

Key Findings

Overall, the majority (93.5 percent) of the agricultural households rely on the labour of household members aged 12 years and above. The second most common labour source was hired casual workers, used by 15.0 percent of households.

Household members under 12 years old had the lowest participation in agricultural activities at only 0.4 percent.

Hired permanent workers for one season or more was the category with the highest share of male workers (70.2 percent) and the lowest share of female workers (29.8 percent).

Concepts and Definitions

Worker Category: Classification of workers based on their relationship to the household and on the type of labor arrangement (e.g., household members, free/exchange labor, hired labor).

Household members: Individuals who are part of the household, including those 12 years and above, and those under 12 years old.

Hired labor: Workers employed by the household for agricultural activities, including casual and permanent workers.

Agricultural holdings: Farms or agricultural enterprises operated by households or individuals.

Free/exchange labor: A type of labor arrangement where workers provide labor without receiving direct payment, often in exchange for other forms of compensation or benefits.

6.0 Introduction

This chapter explores the human resources engaged in agriculture, focusing on the distribution and roles of workers involved in crop and livestock production activities. The distribution highlights differences by province, gender, and worker category (e.g., household members, hired labor), providing insights into the labor structure of agricultural holdings (in particular of small and medium-scale agricultural households). Understanding these differences can provide insights into the roles and responsibilities of male and female in agriculture, as well as the types of labor arrangements that are most prevalent.

6.1 Agricultural Households Engaged in Crop/Livestock Activities by Worker Category

Table 6.1 shows a share of agricultural households reporting given worker category for the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season. Nationally, 2,143,475 agricultural households were engaged in crop or livestock activities. The results show 93.5 percent of agricultural households reported using labour from household members aged 12 years and above, with Western Province recording the highest at 97.0

percent. The least recorded worker category was household members under 12 years old, reported by 0.4 percent of the agricultural households.

Table 6.1: Share of Households Reporting a Given Worker Category, IAS 2024

Province	Household members (incl. household head) 12 years old or more	Household members under 12 years old	Free/exchange labor	Hired permanent workers (hired for more than one season)	Hired temporary workers (hired for a season or less)	Hired casual workers (hired on daily basis)	Total Number of Agricultural households
Central	95.5	0.2	13.8	1.5	7.6	15.8	268,361
Copperbelt	88.2	0.4	5.7	2.0	15.7	25.1	226,231
Eastern	95.6	0.4	1.7	1.4	6.6	6.0	358,246
Luapula	94.8	0.1	2.1	0.9	12.1	20.5	188,739
Lusaka	77.0	0.1	2.6	10.3	17.2	20.7	99,019
Muchinga	95.9	0.3	5.8	1.7	10.0	15.1	107,606
Northern	90.0	0.3	7.2	0.5	12.4	20.7	223,903
North-Western	94.2	0.4	2.2	0.7	16.2	19.4	145,377
Southern	96.2	0.8	9.8	2.2	5.7	10.6	294,217
Western	97.0	0.5	3.9	0.4	5.0	8.8	231,777
Zambia	93.5	0.4	5.9	1.7	9.8	15.0	2,143,475

6.2 Distribution of Workers Engaged in Crop/Livestock Activities by Sex and Worker Category

Table 6.2 presents a distribution of workers engaged in crop/livestock production activities by sex and worker category in the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season.

Table 6.2: Percentage Distribution of Workers Engaged in Crop or Livestock Activities by Sex and Worker Category, IAS 2024

Worker Category	Male	Female
Household members (incl. household head) 12 years old or more	49.5	50.5
Household members under 12 years old	56.8	43.2
Free/exchange labor	54.6	45.4
Hired permanent workers (hired for more than one season)	70.2	29.8
Hired temporary workers (hired for a season or less)	62.4	37.6
Hired casual workers (hired on daily basis)	60.1	39.9



CHAPTER 7: FORESTRY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICES ON AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS.

Key Findings

Firewood is the most commonly collected wood-based forestry product reported by 1,394,050 households while mushrooms are the leading non-wood-based products collected by 550,927 households.

Key Definitions

Forestry products: Forestry Products are tangible goods and materials derived from forests and forestry land. Examples include Wood-based & non-wood-based.

Wood-based: Wood-based products are goods derived from the woody material of trees and shrubs. The key characteristic is that the product's origin and primary material value come from the trunk, branches, or other woody parts of a tree i.e. firewood, charcoal.

Non-wood based: The FAO defines Non-Wood Forest Products as those that consist of goods of biological origin other than wood, derived from forests, other wooded land, and trees outside forests (FAO 1999) i.e. Mushrooms, Honey, Edible Insects, etc.

7.0 Introduction

The chapter examines the extent to which agricultural households participate in forestry activities, encompassing the collection and production of both wood-based and non-wood forest products, based on the data from the IAS 2024.

7.1 Forestry Product Engagement Among Agricultural Households

Table 7.1 shows the number of agricultural households engaged in the collection, production, or sale of various forestry products, categorized into wood-based and non-wood-based products during the 2023/2024 Agricultural Season. The data revealed significant variations in household participation across different forest products.

The results indicate that firewood remains the most common wood-based forestry product, with 1,394,050 agricultural households involved in its collection.

On the other hand, mushrooms are the leading non-wood-based products, engaging 550,927 households while wild game involved the lowest number of households at 5,096.

Table 7.1: Holdings Reporting Collection of Forest and Wild Products in Small and Medium-Scale Agricultural Holdings, 2024

Forestry Product	Reporting Agricultural Holdings
WOOD-BASED	
Firewood	1,394,050
Charcoal	206,109
Other woods	54,719
NON-WOOD BASED	
Mushrooms	550,927
Honey	45,583
Wild fruits	288,426
Medicinal plants	107,914
Mopani worms \ Caterpillars	90,639
Edible insects	28,307
Wild birds (pheasant, bats, quail, etc.)	12,581
Wild game	5,096
Sand	28,896
Rocks, stone, mud	32,276



CHAPTER 8: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

About 2.14 million small and medium scale households engaged in agricultural activities in the 2023/24 Agriculture Season. Crop production was the dominant agricultural activity with 2.12 million households involved, while 1.21 million households were engaged in livestock raising. Maize remained the country's staple crop, though challenges like drought and dry spells impacted yields during the 2023/2024 Agriculture Season.

Gender disparities persisted, with 71 percent of the agricultural households being male-headed. The results also show that only 6.96 percent of the households keep records of their agricultural activities. Fertilizer use was relatively high, with 72.6 percent of the households applying urea and Compound D. Livestock populations recorded 3.97 million cattle and 3.75 million goats.

In terms of recommendations, there is need to enhance climate resilience by promoting drought tolerant crops like sorghum and millet, and invest in irrigation infrastructure to mitigate the impact of dry spells and drought. It is also recommended that training and resources for farmers on data recording and management be enhanced to strengthen record-keeping practices and support informed decision-making.

Finally, the government must implement disease control measures and breeding programs to reduce mortality rates among animals and improve productivity.

APPENDIX 1: LIST OF PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN THE REPORT PREPARATION

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