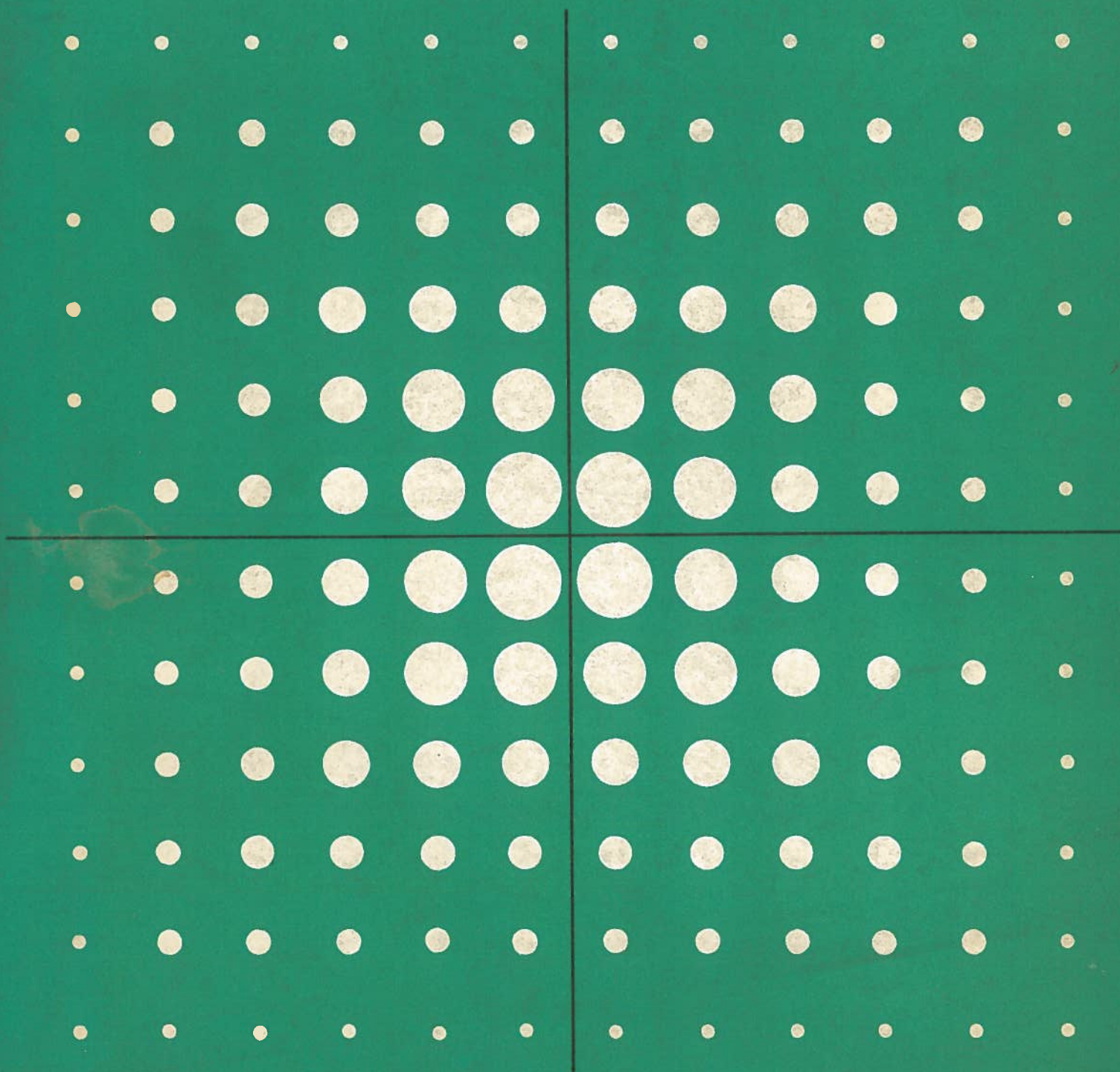


IV

report on the 1960 world census of agriculture

PROCESSING AND TABULATION

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS



REPORT ON THE 1960 WORLD CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

VOLUME IV

PROCESSING AND TABULATION

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Rome, 1968

FOREWORD

This publication, being one of the several volumes of the Report on the 1960 World Census of Agriculture, is devoted primarily to reporting on the various methods used by countries in processing their censuses of agriculture. It also deals with those aspects of an agricultural census that exert considerable influence on data processing operations. The aim is to bring out the salient features of data processing and national tabulation plans, illustrated by factual examples from the countries taking part in the 1960 World Census of Agriculture.

The importance of timely processing of the statistical data accruing from the rapidly growing statistical activities can hardly be over-emphasized. In order to make full use of the collected data it is imperative to improve the processing methods for efficiency and speed. One of the important ways is to discard the erroneous belief that planning for data processing commences only after the data have been collected. It is essential that the planners of censuses and surveys should bear in mind requirements of data processing from the very beginning of the planning stage, when the objectives of a census and appraisal of the available resources are being considered.

The publication is divided into two parts: Part A devoted to the processing operations and Part B dealing with the tabulation plans.

Part A includes the principal factors affecting the data processing, various operational steps, duration of processing and cost in the light of practical experience of the participating countries in the 1960 World Census of Agriculture. The analysis in this part is based upon the replies to the special questionnaire, "Processing of the National Agricultural Census Data", sent out by FAO; country reports; and specimen punch-cards supplied by the governments.

Part B is devoted to the analysis of the actual tabulation carried out by the countries as compared with the tabulation plans recommended by the FAO World Program for the 1960 World Census of Agriculture. This analysis is based on eighty national reports available to FAO at the time of writing this part. Sixty-four countries supplied their final reports, seven countries sent final but incomplete reports and for nine countries only provisional reports were available.

Limitations in respect of coverage, completeness of information and availability of census materials from the governments have a corresponding effect on the reporting in both parts of this Volume.

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