

Legal Status Until 2016 of the Land Fund, Labor, Salary and Performance in the Agricultural Sector of the Trinidad Municipality

Delvis Valdés Zayas*, Ismery Dayami Pujol Bandomo, Reynaldo Ramírez Piñeda, Eduardo Águila Turiño, Teresa Turiño López, Gonzalo López Castro

Department of Development, Agricultural Faculty, Municipal University Center of Trinidad, José Martí Pérez University of Sancti Spiritus, Ministry of Higher Education, Trinidad, Cuba

Email address:

Delvis@uniss.edu.cu (Delvis Valdés Zayas)

*Corresponding author

To cite this article:

Delvis Valdés Zayas, Ismery Dayami Pujol Bandomo, Reynaldo Ramírez Piñeda, Eduardo Águila Turiño, Teresa Turiño López, Gonzalo López Castro. Legal Status Until 2016 of the Land Fund, Labor, Salary and Performance in the Agricultural Sector of the Trinidad Municipality. *International Journal of Science, Technology and Society*. Vol. 11, No. 1, 2023, pp. 11-16. doi: 10.11648/j.ijsts.20231101.12

Received: May 4, 2022; Accepted: May 17, 2022; Published: March 16, 2023

Abstract: The present work realized by specialists of the agricultural sector of the Municipal University Center of Trinidad, in the period between the years 2011 and 2016, through compilation, analysis and comparison of data supplied by the National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Cuba, allows to establish an assessment of the situation of the agricultural sector of that territory, in relation to the situation of the use of the land fund, labor, and salary, in the aforementioned period of time. Observing that regardless of the political will of the authorities of the party and the government in the municipality, besides being legally established the delivery of land in usufruct, there were up to 2016 of the total agricultural area of the territory a total 11 800 has declared idle and another 11 600 ha not fit, this last figure is alarming, since they are declared unfit land within the agricultural area, so it is a limitation when expanding the plantings of different crops, necessary to achieve the necessary food self-sufficiency that the municipality must achieve and its possible delivery in usufruct according to the current Decree Law 258, when comparing this data with another municipality of our country chosen at random, it can be observed that it has also been delinquent in this action. On the other hand, it shows the decrease in the workforce in the sector, from 5,302 workers in 2012, to 535, in 2016, being a significant difference and that also hinders the aspirations of growth and increase of productions, which in turn are necessary for the achievement of the objectives proposed by the same, you can also find data regarding the behavior of the salary which are also not favorable.

Keywords: Agricultural, Labor, Salary, Analysis, Organization

1. Introduction

77.1 percent of the land delivered in usufruct in Cuba is already in production, although more than 9,000 people who had received plots had the right to exploit them for poor use, local media reported today. In 2017, Cuba had a total of 300,000 hectares of oily land, this represented 33% of the total 894,000 hectares designated as oily in the country [9].

According to Núñez [2], he told the state National Information Agency (AIN) that there are difficulties with meeting the deadlines provided for processing the

applications, which exceed the 105 days established in the process. According to the source cited, there is a "poor use" on idle land delivered, so "more than 9,000 usufructuaries had the right to exploit them."

This author indicated that there are many lands belonging to peasants and state entities, which are unproductive and have not yet been declared idle. More than 146,000 Cubans have received land in usufruct in the last two years and about 71,000 of them are new farmers, according to newly released official data. The agricultural area of Cuba is 6,600,000 hectares and the idle fund was estimated at more than 1,800,000 in July 2008, when the Government of President

Raúl Castro decreed its delivery in usufruct.

According to data from the Ministry of Agriculture [1], until December 2010, 1,179,795 hectares of land in usufruct had been delivered, representing 67.7 percent of the country's idle land. The usufruct regime is one of the main projects to revive agriculture and increase food production in Cuba, an issue that the authorities of the island consider "national security." Most of the idle land has been dedicated to livestock (53%), followed by various crops (25%), rice (8%) and other items such as coffee, tobacco, cane and fruit trees.

The territory of the current Trinidad municipality extends from 21° 05' to 21° 15' north latitude, and between 79° 45' and 80° 07' west longitude. The 80° west meridian of Greenwich passes through the city of Trinidad. By its widest axis from west to east, between the mountains of La Rosa site on the border with Cienfuegos and the mountains of Ciego Ponciano, on the border with the municipality Sancti Spiritus, the municipality measures about 45 km, and for its part more wide from north to south, from the bridge over the Seibabo River, on the border with the municipality of Manicaragua, to Punta Manatí, at the mouth of the Agabama River, it measures about 40 km. Trinidad borders to the north with the municipalities of Fomento, Sancti Spiritus and Manicaragua, Villa Clara; to the south with the Caribbean Sea; to the west with the municipality Cumanayagua, Cienfuegos and to the east with the head municipality of the province of Sancti Spiritus, ECURED [4].

Most of the economic activity of the municipality is carried out by entities that constitute organizations created in accordance with current legislation, and present various legal forms. These entities constitute, in turn, the main source for the elaboration of municipal statistics. They are state-owned companies, unions, state economic organizations, state banks, budgeted units and cooperatives, National Statistics Office [5].

One of the main challenges of the Trinidad Municipality is to achieve its food sovereignty, regardless of the fact that some steps have been taken in this regard, it is still insufficient to meet the ever increasing demand of the population and sectors of the territory, for this the government and the party, have guided the search for alternatives that can meet these demands. Being the delivery of bony land in usufruct one of them [10].

Among the main latent difficulties that constitute a current brake to achieve the proposed objectives to achieve territorial food sovereignty.

Based on the respect and conservation of the environment, we can mention: poor agrogenic management, indiscriminate use of agricultural inputs, ignorance of producers and professionals of sustainable production technologies, soil degradation, ignorance of botany and plant breeding of frequently planted crops, poor quality or insufficient availability of the dynamic and agamic seeds used, lack of knowledge and violation of current agricultural legislation, territorial agricultural planning outside the real context presented by the municipality, poor attention to man, poorly applied and insufficient wage systems according to current

prices, breach of the legal contracts established between the different productive forms and between productive forms and independent producers, among others [14].

For all the aforementioned with the completion of this work, the following objectives have been set:

1.1. General Objective

Establish the behavior until 2016 of the agricultural sector in the Trinidad Municipality through the legal situation of the use of the land, labor and salary fund.

1.2. Specific Objectives

- 1) Seek the legal behavior, until 2016, of the land fund, salary, and labor in the municipality of Trinidad.
- 2) Compare the behavior until 2016 of the land fund, salary, and labor in the Trinidad municipality with respect to another municipality in Cuba, chosen at random.
- 3) Assess the behavior of the current behavior of the land fund, salary, and labor in the municipality of Trinidad.

2. Methods

The information offered below includes the main indicators that characterize the agricultural sector, both in the non-cane and livestock agricultural productive activity. It also includes data on tenure and land use and cooperativization. As the basic source of the information, the data reported through the National Statistical Information System (SIE-N) was taken; except for the tables referring to the existence of cattle and equidae whose figures were taken from the Livestock Control Center.

The universe of information centers is integrated as follows:

- 1) The state sector includes agricultural companies, and other state entities that develop agricultural and livestock activities.
- 2) The non-state sector includes the Basic Units of Cooperative Production (UBPC), Agricultural Production Cooperatives (CPA), Credit and Service Cooperatives (CCS), dispersed private producers (farmers) and the estimated patios and plots of the homes.

The Basic Units of Cooperative Production were created in 1993 and are constituted with workers from state enterprises. The lands have been transferred to usufruct and the means of production purchased from the State. These UBPCs are classified according to their fundamental activity in sugarcane and non-sugar cane, dedicated to various crops, citrus, fruit, coffee, tobacco and livestock [11].

The current economic base of Cuban agriculture is the result of profound transformations that have taken place over more than 30 years in the forms of property, production relations and, consequently, in the forms of organization of production and work [15].

Agricultural Production Cooperatives constitute a

collective form of social property and are created from the farmers' decision to unite their land and other fundamental means of production [12].

Credit and Services Cooperatives are primary collective organizations that allow the common use of irrigation, of some facilities, services and other means, as well as the global processing of their credits, although the ownership of each farm, its equipment and production [13]. The result remains private, except in the case of farms, to incorporated landowners, who have benefited from DECREE-LAW No. 259 on the delivery of idle land in usufruct, dated July 11, 2008.

- 3) The information of the forestry sector includes all state and non-state entities as well as the activities carried out by the population convened through political and mass organizations.
- 4) The information of the tenure and use of the land corresponds to state entities regardless of the section in which they classify and have 1.34 hectares or more dedicated to agricultural activity, as well as those entities that exploit the land based on their exercise economical It also includes the non-state sector and the architectural departments and agencies responsible for the surface information not managed by any entity.

Below is the methodological definition of the main indicators that appear in the chapter.

2.1. Total Area

It is the area allocated to agricultural (forestry), forestry and other state entities (units), as well as that of non-state holders included in the national territory. It is determined based on the data of the cartographic materials and the documents of sale and land usufructs, provided for in the laws of the country. Land is classified by tenure forms of agreement who exploits or uses it, whether or not it is the owner [3].

2.2. Agricultural Surface

It is the one dedicated to agriculture in any of the forms of production, being able to be sown of some crop, both temporary and permanent, dedicated to nurseries and seedlings, to natural pastures, as well as the one that is not half-harvested It is suitable for cultivation; It includes the cultivated and uncultivated surface.

2.3. Cultivated Area

It is the land dedicated to a crop, considering the planted area, in preparation, at rest or waiting for the preparation for planting, including roads, guardrays, irrigation canals, drainage and others that constitute essential areas for its exploitation.

2.4. Non-Agricultural Area

Includes forest area and other non-agricultural land occupied by settlements, roads, facilities, unfit surface and

water surface, among others.

2.5. Existing Area Planted

It is the area planted with temporary and permanent crops that is in the process of development or production at the close of the information.

2.6. Harvested Area

In the case of temporary crops, the area in which the agricultural fruit or part of the plant has been harvested is generally called harvested area.

2.7. Existing Area in Production

Corresponds to the surface of permanent crops in which the crop has already reached the age of fruiting and has given appropriate fruits, at least once. When in a given year no production is obtained due to lack of water, as a result of pests or any other cause, the affected area is considered within this category.

2.8. Agricultural Production

Products harvested in their natural form, before any further processing, regardless of the purpose for which they are intended. Production for sale, self-consumption and productive input among other destinations are included.

2.9. Agricultural Yield

The yield on temporary crops is determined by dividing the total production by the harvested area. In the case of permanent ones, it is determined by dividing the total production by the area under production.

3. Results

When performing an analysis of Table 1, it can be seen that until 2016, in the municipality of Trinidad, after being in force Decree Law 259, subsequently repealed by Decree Law 300 and 258, the latter in force, which, in Its essence establishes the delivery of land in usufruct, there were 10.10% of the declared agricultural area in idle state, this translates into 11 800 ha that were still in idle state, or without producing food, although there is a discreet advance in In this sense, there are still lands waiting for people who can make them produce, if these results are compared with those shown in Table 2, which represents the distribution of the land and its use in the Ciego de Ávila Municipality, belonging to the same province of Cuba, then it can be seen, that regardless of whether this municipality has a smaller agricultural area, than the Municipality of Trinidad, in the same period of time evaluated, however they have a smaller idle area, only 7, 1%, so it can be said that independently that the agricultural area is not the same; However, taking into account the percentages of idle land existing in both municipalities compared, it can be said that the action of eliminating idle lands has been slower in the Trinidad

Municipality than in the Ciego de Ávila Municipality until 2016.

Table 1. Distribution of the land and its use of the Trinidad Municipality, in June 2016. According to the National Statistics Office [5].

Municipality	Total m/ha	Total m/ha	Cultivated m/ha	No Cultivated m/ha	Idle m/ha	No Agricultural m/ha
Trinidad	116,8	60,7	23,8	36,9	11,8	56,1

Legend: m / ha = thousands of hectares

Table 2. Distribution of the land and its use of the Ciego de Ávila Municipality, in June 2016. According to the National Statistics Office [5].

Municipality	Total m/ha	Total m/ha	Cultivated m/ha	No Cultivated m/ha	Idle m/ha	No Agricultural m/ha
Ciego de Ávila	45,0	40,2	19,8	20,4	3,2	4,8

Legend: m / ha = thousands of hectares

From the analysis of Table 3, Distribution of the land of the Trinidad municipality, according to productive destination, it is worrying that there are 11,600 ha not suitable for cultivation, here may be considered lands that due to their level of advanced erosion have lost their fertility or are unusable for other reasons, the truth is that it constitutes a limitation in the process of expansion of the arable area in the Trinitarian territory, that is to say that there is 9.9% of the declared agricultural area in the municipality that is not suitable for cultivation. These results if compared with those shown in Table 4, Land distribution of the Ciego de Ávila municipality, according to productive destination, it can be seen that independently that the agricultural area of

this municipality is smaller; However, they have 8.2% of their agricultural area declared unfit for crops, this value compared to that shown by the Trinidad Municipality, if it is true that it is lower, it is still alarming because it translates into 3700 hectares that limit The growth in agricultural area of the Avilanian municipality, in both municipalities, the agricultural area declared unfit is a constraint for their aspirations for expansion in the agricultural area, a situation to consider as a concern of the agricultural sector and authorities of both territories, however, It is more aggravating in the municipality of Trinidad where its percentage is higher. Alvarez [6].

Table 3. Distribution of the land of the municipality, according to productive destination on June 30, 2016.. According to the National Statistics Office [5].

Municipality	Total m/ha	Crops Temporary m/ha	Crops Permanent m/ha	Cattle raising m/ha	Forest m/ha	Not fit m/ha
Trinidad	116,8	4,5	9,4	46,8	44,5	11,6

Legend: m / ha = thousands of hectares

Table 4. Distribution of the land of the municipality, according to productive destination on June 30, 2016.. According to the National Statistics Office [5].

Municipality	Total m/ha	Crops Temporary m/ha	Crops Permanent m/ha	Cattle raising m/ha	Forest m/ha	Not fit m/ha
Ciego Ávila	45,0	6,1	7,4	26,7	1,1	3,7

Legend: m / ha = thousands of hectares

The table below shows the average monthly salary earned by workers in the agricultural sector in the Trinidad municipality, although the years 2011, 2012 and 2013 are not registered in the statistics, if it can be seen that from 2014 to year 2015 there is a fall in the average monthly salary of agricultural sector workers, this translates into \$ 61,300, from 2015 to 2016 there is a recovery of \$ 125,800, so to analyze these values globally you can observe a fluctuation in the average monthly salary per worker, if we divide the \$ 566400 of the average monthly salary declared in 2016 by the number of workers declared in that same period (535 workers) in the agricultural sector of the Trinidad Municipality, it can be observed that the salary per capita corresponds to a total of \$ 1058, 69, this result does not specify whether the worker is direct to production or not, so it leaves doubt about the entry of a direct worker to production, but if this amount of money accrued by an agricultural worker is considered globally, it does not meet their needs, taking into account the prices that today they prevail in the markets of our country. On the other hand, if

Table 6 is analyzed. Average monthly salary in the agricultural sector of the Ciego de Ávila Municipality.. According to the National Statistics Office [5], and we made a comparison with Table 5. Average monthly salary (in pesos) in those in the agricultural sector of the Trinidad Municipality.. According to the National Statistics Office [5] several results can be obtained: First, greater control can be observed in the results shown by Ciego de Ávila since the average monthly salary appears from the year 2011 to 2013, which is impossible in the Trinidad municipality, because from 2011 to 2012, this salary is not reported, the reasons are unknown, Second: In the case of the average monthly salary of a worker of the Municipality of Ciego de Ávila, a logical and sustained increase of the same that goes from the \$ 683 of average monthly salary in the year 2011 to the \$ 1321 in the year 2016, not happening this in the Trinidad Municipality where there are salary fluctuations in the registered years, for example between the years 2014 and 2015, there is a downward trend, from a total of \$ 501.9 in 2014, to a total of \$ 440 in 2015, after 2015 to 2016 there is a

slight increase of \$ 440 and n 2015 to \$ 566.4 in 2016, which denotes salary instability and if the salary comparison between the two municipalities is returned, then a bad wage policy can also be inferred in the Trinidad municipality, since when analyzing the results of the Tables mentioned above, it

can be seen that in all the years registered by both municipalities the values of the average monthly salary per worker are always higher in the Ciego de Ávila Municipality in relation to the average salaries earned in the Trinidad municipality Suárez [7].

Table 5. Average monthly salary (in pesos) in those in the agricultural sector of the Trinidad Municipality.. According to the National Statistics Office [5].

Concept	Year 2011	Year 2012	Year 2013	Year 2014 Thousands of pesos	Year 2015 Thousands of pesos	Year 2016 Thousands of pesos
Agriculture, livestock, hunting and forestry	Not registered	Not registered	Not registered	\$ 501,9	\$ 440,6	\$ 566,4

Table 6. Average monthly salary (in pesos) in those in the agricultural sector of the Ciego Ávila Municipality.. According to the National Statistics Office [5].

Concept	Year 2011	Year 2012	Year 2013	Year 2014 Thousands of pesos	Year 2015 Thousands of pesos	Year 2016 Thousands of pesos
Agriculture, livestock, hunting and forestry	\$ 683	\$ 724	\$ 827	\$ 917	\$ 883	\$1,321

Table 7. The hired labor appears in the agricultural sector of the Trinidad Municipality. According to the National Statistics Office [5], independently that there are no comparative reference results with respect to the municipality chosen at random, in this case Blind of Ávila, since the behavior of the workforce in the agricultural sector is not reported in its statistical yearbook, for years from 2011 to 2016, as it appears in the case of Trinidad, in the specific case of Trinidad, if one can see a decrease per year in the employment of workers in the agricultural sector, there being

a drop of 5,302 workers employed in 2011 to only 535, in 2016, if this compares with the declared agricultural area for the Trinidad Municipality which is out of a total of 116 800 ha, subtracting the 11 600 ha not suitable, would give a total of 105 200 ha suitable for cultivation, if it is established Saria relation cultivated area-number of men needed, then it can be established that the number of men employed by the agricultural sector in Trinidad is still low to meet the suitable agricultural area declared by the municipality, there is a shortage of labor so far of this analysis.

Table 7. Works contracted in the agricultural sector of the Trinidad Municipality.. According to the National Statistics Office [5].

Concept	Year 2011 (both genders) (Units)	Year 2012 (both genders) (Units)	Year 2013 (both genders) (Units)	Year 2014 (both genders) (Units)	Year 2015 (both genders) (Units)	Year 2016 (both genders) (Units)
Agriculture, livestock, hunting and forestry	Not registered	5 302	Not registered	657	301	535

The data offered in this work, are only reflected until 2016, since when consulting the information provided by the National Statistical Office, in its yearbook, regarding the behavior of wages, land fund and employment of labor in the agricultural sector in several municipalities consulted only appears until the aforementioned year, so it is necessary to update them in order to have a reference of true data that effectively contribute to the decision-making process of the managers of the agricultural sector of the trinitarian territory and at national level, as well as of political and governmental decision makers at territorial and national level Valdés [8].

4. Conclusions

After performing an analysis, comparison and evaluation of the results, the following conclusions are reached:

- 1) Until 2016 in the Trinidad Municipality there were 10.10% of the agricultural area declared in idle state, this translates into 11 800 ha that were still in idle state.
- 2) It is worrying that there are 11,600 hectares that are not suitable for cultivation, which constitutes a limitation in the process of expanding the cultivable area in the Trinitarian territory.
- 3) There is late payment with respect to another

municipality in the country in the delivery of ocean lands.

- 4) The average monthly salary earned by an agricultural sector worker in the Trinidad Municipality shows instability.
- 5) If the comparison of the average monthly salary earned by a worker in the agricultural sector between the workers of the Trinidad Municipality and that of Ciego de Ávila is established, a bad wage policy can be established in the agricultural sector of the Trinidad municipality.
- 6) There is a tendency to decrease the workforce in the agricultural sector in the Trinidad Municipality.
- 7) The labor force in the Trinidad Municipality is insufficient to cover the amount of declared agricultural area.
- 8) Data that illustrate the behavior of the aspects evaluated in this work to date have not been found in the information provided by the National Statistical Office.
- 9) The information provided by the agricultural sector in the Trinitarian territory to the National Statistics Office, regarding the land, labor and salary fund in the period between 2011 and 2016 is incomplete.

5. Recommendations

- 1) It is recommended to monitor and improve control over the destiny of oceanic lands, lands declared unfit for cultivation, completion of labor and wages in the agricultural sector of the Trinidad Municipality, as they are key success factors to achieve Food sovereignty of the municipality, besides being a matter of National Security.
- 2) The National Statistical Office is also recommended to update the data available in its statistical yearbook, in order to have a better perception of the behavior of these data until today.

References

- [1] Ministry of Agriculture. (2011). Information provided to CUBADEBATE for article "Withdraw lands in usufruct to 9,000 Cubans for poor use" [Online], <http://www.cubadebate.cu/noticias/2011/07/16/retiran-tierras-en-usufructo-a-9000-Cubans-for-poor-use/#.XJuWcmUpDbI>
- [2] Núñez, A. (2011). Deputy Director of the National Land Control Center, information to the state National Information Agency (AIN).
- [3] Álvarez, E. H. (2006). Relationship of land uses, agricultural practices and biodiversity with the emission of greenhouse gases and the energy efficiency of agroecological farms. Thesis in Option to the Master's Degree in Agricultural Sciences. Carlos Rafael Rodríguez University of Cienfuegos.
- [4] ECURED, (2019). Trinidad geography. [Online], https://www.ecured.cu/Geograf%C3%ADa_de_TrinidadWorldStat_info, (2019). Cuba [Online], http://es.worldstat.info/Central_America_and_the_Caribbean/Cuba/Land
- [5] National Statistics Office (2017). Statistical Yearbook, Trinidad, Sancti Spiritus. 2017 edition. [Online], <http://www.one.cu/aed2016/28Sancti%20Spiritus/Municipalidades%20Trinidad.pdf>
- [6] Alvarez, R. (2018). Territorial Project for the elimination of the Marabu in the municipality of Trinidad. University of Sancti Spiritus. Department of Development.
- [7] Suárez, Clara Isabel, (2019). Analysis of the economic situation of Trinidad Municipality for the implementation of proposed plans in the agricultural sector. Asotio of Economists of the Trinidad Municipality.
- [8] Valdés, D. (2019). Legal behavior of the Agricultural sector of Trinidad, Cuba. Forum of Science and Technique. Assistant Teacher, Department of Development, Municipal University Center Trinidad.
- [9] Cuba has 300,000 hectares of idle land to deliver in usufruct. (2017). Cuba Agriculture. EFE News Agency. [Online], <https://www.efe.com/efe/america/economia/cuba-tiene-300-000-hectareas-de-tierra-ociosa-para-entregar-en-usufructo/20000011-3354483>.
- [10] Local Development Strategy of the Municipality of Trinidad until the year 2030. (2020). Municipal Government of Trinidad. Province of Sancti Spiritus. Cuba.
- [11] The improvement of the UBPCs and the relaunch of cooperativism within the process of updating the Cuban economic model. (2017). REVESCO. Journal of Cooperative Studies. Vol 124. [Online], <https://revistas.ucm.es/index.php/REVE/article/view/54920>.
- [12] Cooperative ownership in the agricultural sector in Cuba. Notes for understanding. Carracedo, L. (2020). Eastern University. Santiago de Cuba. Cuba.
- [13] Agricultural credit and service cooperatives in Cuba. Matias, A. (2016). Civilizar Journal. vol. 16 no. 30 Bogotá Jan./June 2016.
- [14] Municipal Delegation of Agriculture Trinidad. (2018). Report to the Municipal Assembly. Sancti Spiritus Province. Cuba.
- [15] Structural changes in Cuban Agriculture. Pampín, B. 2019. National Association of Economists of Cuba. [Online], <http://biblioteca.clacso.edu.ar/ar/libros/lasa98/PampinBalado-TrujilloRodriguez.pdf>.