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**VOLUME 13**  
**BUDGET-CONSUMPTION DATA**  
**BORGOU**



**Multinational Agribusiness Systems Incorporated**

**PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN**  
**MINISTRY OF PLANNING, STATISTICS AND ECONOMIC ANALYSIS**

*PNAAP 180*

**VOLUME 13**  
**BUDGET-CONSUMPTION DATA**  
**BORGOU**

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROJECT FOR THE  
DEVELOPMENT  
OF  
ONCHO-FREE AREAS**

**CENTRAL BUREAU FOR PROJECTS**  
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**MULTINATIONAL AGRIBUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC.**  
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**1980 - 1983**

VOLUME 13

BUDGET CONSUMPTION

BORGOU

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## VOLUME 13

### BORGOU

#### BUDGET CONSUMPTION

##### I. INTRODUCTION

The results presented in this document are the preliminary results of the Budget-Consumption survey conducted from April 1981 to April 1982 in the Province of BORGOU within the framework of the Socio-economic Study Project for the Development of Onchocerciasis-free Areas (ATACORA and BORGOU).

The main purpose of this survey is to determine the monetary components of the standard of living of the households by taking an inventory of the income and expenditures and to measure the importance of auto-consumption through consumption inventories.

The survey is composed of two sections: one refers to the budget as such (income and expenditures) and the other to food consumption. Four types of questionnaires were prepared:

- A questionnaire relative to the characteristics of the population of the households studied;
- A questionnaire relative to income;
- A questionnaire pertaining to expenses; and
- A food questionnaire.

The survey is essentially a matter of describing the structure of the budget of the households through the various items of expenditures and receipts and to determine the quantities of food products consumed at the household level; those that are purchased and those that are auto-consumed. One thus obtains a quantitative estimate of auto-consumption.

The sample used for this survey was prepared in two sections; the primary units (PU), or villages in proportion to their size; and, after having surveyed the village-samples, the secondary units (SU) were prepared with equal probability, that is, the household in each PU. The basis used for the survey was the 1979 population census. At the province level 60 villages were selected and 15 households were selected per village, 12 of which were agricultural and 3 were non-agricultural. Refer to Volume I for further details on the methodology used in the survey.

Of the 900 households selected, taking into account the elimination of certain questionnaires that could not be used, and that there were no non-agricultural households in some villages, we studied actually 873 sample households.

We are publishing four parts in this report: the first part will be devoted to the budget practices of the households studied. The second will involve a study of the income distribution and an analysis of the income structure. The third part will comprise a study of the distribution of expenses and an analysis of the structure of the expenses. Last, there will be the consumption of food in quantity.

## II. BUDGET PRACTICES

During the survey on Budget-Consumption we collected information on budget management methods of households as well as on the types of savings, credit and transfer systems used in the family groups.

### A. Budget Unit

According to the definition adopted in this survey, the budget unit consists of a group of persons who bring their income together and organize their expenditures under the authority of a decision center called the Budget Unit Chief. We point out that the budget unit may be confused with the ordinary household as defined in Volume I.

Table 9 shows the distribution of the agricultural and non-agricultural households which centralize their expenditures. This table reveals that 73.0% of the households surveyed centralize their expenditures whereas 27.0% of the households declare that each member of the family group incurs his own expenses. The non-agricultural households are more likely to incur expenses than the agricultural households: 77.3% compared to 71.9%. In terms of the various nationalities, the DENDI (90.4%) and the PEULH (57.7%) are the ones that centralize their expenditures the most.

Among the households that centralize their expenditures, 95% declare that the head of household manages the income of the community (Table 10). In 87.5% of the cases the decision on the expenses of the household is made by priority by the head of household (Table 11).

Generally speaking, the income generated by individual activities undertaken independently of those of the community (family operation, for example) is rarely made available to the community. During the course of this survey we recorded these individual incomes and expenses because those that made them are nevertheless a part of the household since they are still dependent upon the head of household. The head of household controls the group with regard to the proceeds of the work in common, but this income is generally subjected to all types of monetary tapping to meet expenses affecting the community as a whole. In this regard, it is the head of household who provides for all of the expenses (meals, upkeep of the women and children, ceremonies, operating costs, etc.).

These tables do not present very significant differences among the agricultural groups and the non-agricultural groups and between the nationalities.

## B. Savings, Credit and Transfer System

### 1. The Savings System

The distribution of the households belonging to a group practicing the "tontine" (pooling of resources) (Table 12) reveals that only 4.8% of all of the households studied belonged to a "tontine" group. The so-called "tontine" is an association of savers, the members of which pay out a fixed amount of money periodically. The quotas of the group are distributed, according to a certain periodicity, to each associate member. This non-institutional system of savings plays an important role in the social life of the village communities of the South, allowing each associate member to provide for his financial needs at the right time and to thus escape from the ups and downs of usury loans.

In the Province of BORGOU the "tontine" system does not seem to be a common practice in view of the very small proportion of cases recorded. The FON is the group where the "tontine" system is practiced the most (19.1%), followed by the DENDI (11.8%).

Table 13, which represents the distribution of the households adhering to the "tontine" system according to how often payments are made, reveals that 59.2% of the agricultural households make their payment in accordance with the periodicity of the markets (once a week) and that 46.2% of the non-agricultural households follow a monthly frequency.

Most of the agricultural households (53.6%) pay periodically less than 2,000 CFAF. The non-agricultural households are divided into classes paying an amount less than 2,000 CFAF (40%) and those paying more than 10,000 CFAF (40%) (Table 14). Subsequently, 38.5% of the agricultural households withdraw less than 20,000 CFAF annually from the "tontine" (pool of funds) whereas 30.0% of the non-agricultural households are in that class. The same proportion of non-agricultural households are in the categories of amounts greater than 40,000 CFAF (Table 15).

Other savings structures are used by the households surveyed. Hoarding money at home seems to be the most frequent procedure, since it is noted that 51.6% of the households studied save in this manner (Table 16).

In contrast, there is a very small propensity to resort to institutional savings structures such as the Caisse Nationale d'Epargne - CNE (National Savings Bank), the Caisse Locale de Credit Agricole Mutuel - CLCAM (Local Mutual Agricultural Credit Bank) and the Banks. It is interesting to note, however, that 41.0% of the households indicate that they do not save at all.

The distribution of the households according to the categories of amount of money saved in another system reveals that 57.8% of the households surveyed saved less than 20,000 CFAF during the year 1980 (Table 17). Table 18 shows that close to 77.4% of the households saved less than 20,000 CFAF per household during 1980.

## 2. Credit

Only 5.6% of the households studied requested a loan during 1980 (Table 19).

Tables 20 and 21 reveal that the loans requested come from sources other than the institutional sources of credit. Thus, 83.9% of the agricultural households and 46.2% of the non-agricultural households obtained their loans from sources classified in the category of "Other".

Generally speaking the time that it takes to repay these loans is between one and two agricultural cycles, for the agricultural households as well as for the non-agricultural households (Tables 22 and 23).

## 3. Transfers

The Budget-Consumption survey also revealed the transfer operations that can take place among the households surveyed. The amount of money must be estimated that the head of household receives free from a third person or from an institution and whether they provide some aid or subsidy to a third person without that third person having to give anything in exchange.

Table 25 reveals that 8.4% of the households surveyed receive some aid or subsidy from a third person. In the case of the OTAMMARI, however, there are few who receive any aid (3.9%). The amount of money received as aid

varies from less than 2,000 CFAF to more than 10,000 CFAF per household. It is noted that close to 51.8% of the agricultural households are in the category of receiving an amount of more than 10,000 CFAF and 57.1% of the non-agricultural households are in that category (Table 26).

It is also interesting to note that close to 19.9% of the households surveyed devote part of their income in the form of a salary pension or family support (Table 27) to third persons. The annual amount of this aid also varies from less than 2,000 CFAF to more than 10,000 CFAF per household. The greatest proportion of the non-agricultural households (72.1%) are in the aid category of more than 10,000 CFAF (Table 28).

The agricultural households receive subsidies from institutions or organizations in the form of a retirement pension or a war disability pension. Only about 1.9% of the households surveyed receive these subsidies (Table 29). Almost all of the subsidies received by these households were more than 10,000 CFAF (Table 30).

### III. THE INCOME OF THE HOUSEHOLDS

Table 31 gives the distribution of the income of the agricultural households and the non-agricultural households on a monthly basis. It can be seen immediately that each month the mean is clearly greater than the median, which indicates an asymmetrical distribution of households, leaning to the right. In other words, there are few households with high income, but their income is sufficiently high to have a considerable effect on the mean. Consequently, the median is a much more significant measure of dispersion, indicating the limit of income or expenses for 50% of the population. Table 31 seems to show that at the annual level the mean of the income declared for an agricultural household of BORGOU is 270,926 CFAF. Thus the

amount is clearly greater for the non-agricultural households. Considering the median, it is found that 50% of the agricultural households have annual incomes equal to or less than 80,309 CFAF and the non-agricultural households have income equal to or less than 134,658 CFAF. This confirms the difference in income between the two groups. Among the non-agricultural households in particular there is a small group of privileged persons in comparison to the rest of the population. They are probably merchants. The following table shows that the average monthly income for the agricultural households varies from 15,807 CFAF for June to 38,881 for March.

**MEAN AND MEDIAN DISTRIBUTION OF THE INCOME OF AGRICULTURAL  
AND NON-AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS**

	<u>AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLD</u>		<u>NON-AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLD</u>	
	MEAN	MEDIAN	MEAN	MEDIAN
January	26,282	7,000	32,989	16,215
February	31,863	7,555	24,782	10,947
March	38,881	11,125	30,845	12,610
April	23,129	9,000	19,852	4,685
May	19,734	6,000	24,210	7,600
June	15,807	4,250	21,789	10,000
July	19,399	5,647	28,027	11,762
August	23,630	4,832	20,695	9,612
September	15,798	4,100	28,414	11,757
October	10,126	5,700	23,551	12,670
November	20,959	7,600	24,329	14,300
December	16,905	6,000	26,443	12,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>270,514</b>	<b>80,309</b>	<b>305,926</b>	<b>134,658</b>

For the agricultural households, the greatest income occurs in the months following the harvests, in particular January, February and March. After that period the households only sell

to meet everyday expenses, as can be seen in the comparative income and expenditure graph. Considering the median income, the fluctuations are much smaller, but still confirm that as a whole the greatest income occurs in March. For the non-agricultural households, large fluctuations are also observed between these months, reaching a maximum in March (30,845 CFAF), as in the case of the agricultural households, and a minimum in April (19,852). The incomes of the households of BORGOU as a whole, although relatively low, are still much higher than for the ATACORA households. Superimposing the income and expenditures on the same graph shows that the income exceeds the expenses throughout the year, which reveals that there is a certain capacity for saving. The per capita income is 23,438 CFAF (Table 41), which is twice that of the households of ATACORA. In effect, a calculation based on Table 31 even yields a slightly higher income (around 28,000 CFAF).

**STRUCTURE OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURES  
OF NON-AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS  
ON A MONTHLY BASIS**

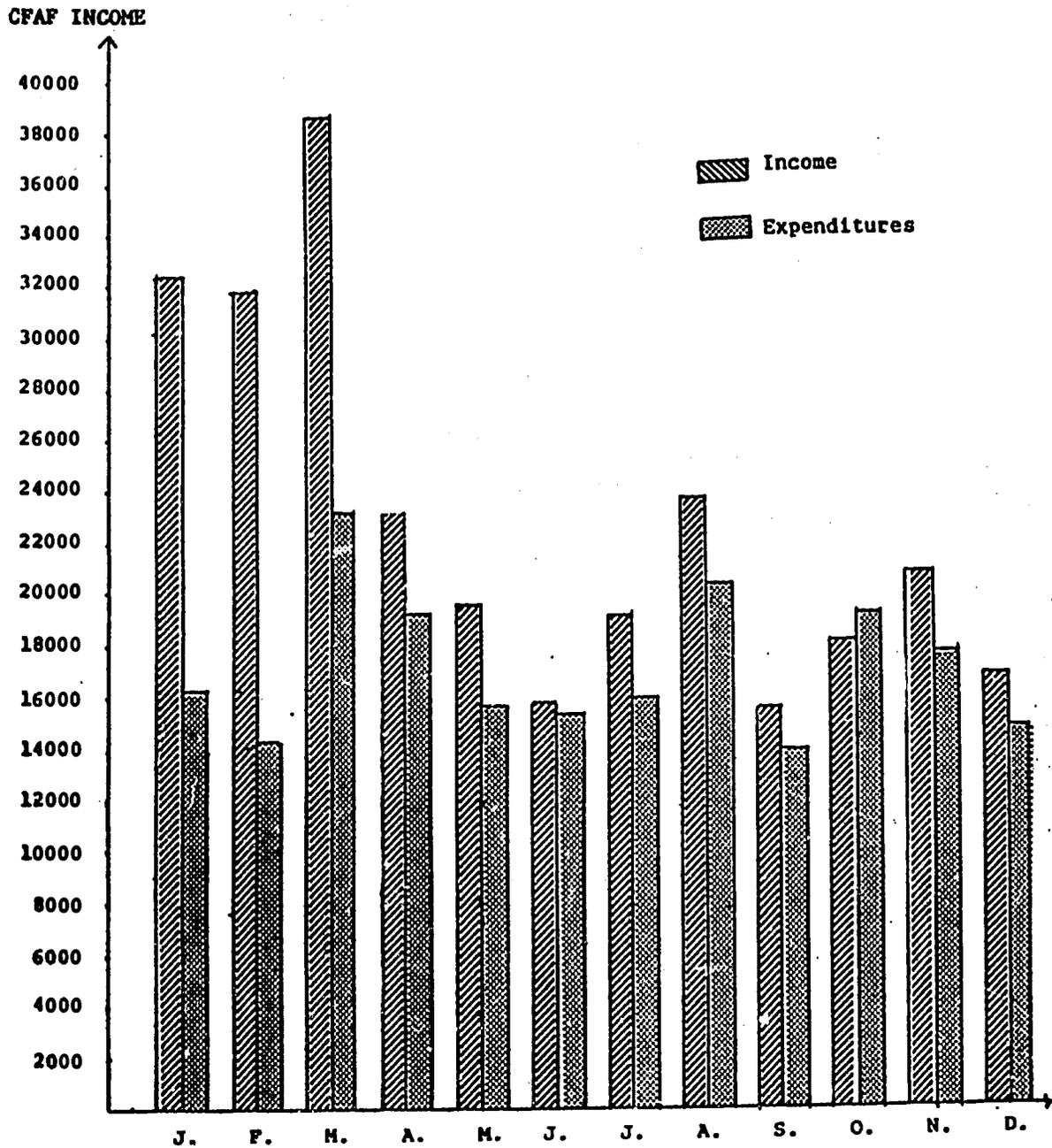


Table 32 shows that there is a statistical relationship ( $r = -.20$ ) between the income of the agricultural households and the age of the head of household. The largest percentage of income per capita above 20,000 CFAF is found in the category of 30 to 39 years of age. Starting with the age of 40, that percentage drops steadily. The same phenomenon is noted for the non-agricultural households (Table 33). There is also a statistical relationship ( $r = -.10$ ) between the income of the agricultural households and the size of the household (Table 34). Above 10 persons the income drops. This phenomenon is still more evident in non-agricultural households ( $r = -.30$ ). Above 5 persons the percentage of households with per capita income of more than 20,000 CFAF drops steadily (Table 35). There is also a small relationship ( $r = -.06$ ) between the income of the non-agricultural households and the number of gainfully employed (active) members of the household. The income per capita increases steadily up to 4 active persons. The income stabilizes between 5 and 6 active persons and decreases beyond 6 active persons (Table 36). The same phenomenon is observed for the non-agricultural households, but the per capita income drops beyond 4 active persons. Lastly, there is no relationship between the income of the non-agricultural households and the main activity of the head of household (Table 38).

Table 39 reveals the source of the income of the households. For agricultural households, it can be seen that the income of the farming operation represents 62.7% of the total income; 25.9% comes from small-scale trade and the other income consists of gifts (3.3%), outside jobs (4.1%) and miscellaneous (4.0%). Table 40 presents the detailed structure of the income by product and more or less confirms these figures. Thus, the products of the farm plus the products from hunting or fishing represent 66.7% of the income of the agricultural households. Commerce, if we exclude the products of the farm, represents 15.6% and outside jobs represent 5.3%. Lastly, the

miscellaneous category accounts for 12.4%. A graphical representation of the income structure of the agricultural households, based on Table 39, provides the following:

**INCOME STRUCTURE OF AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS**

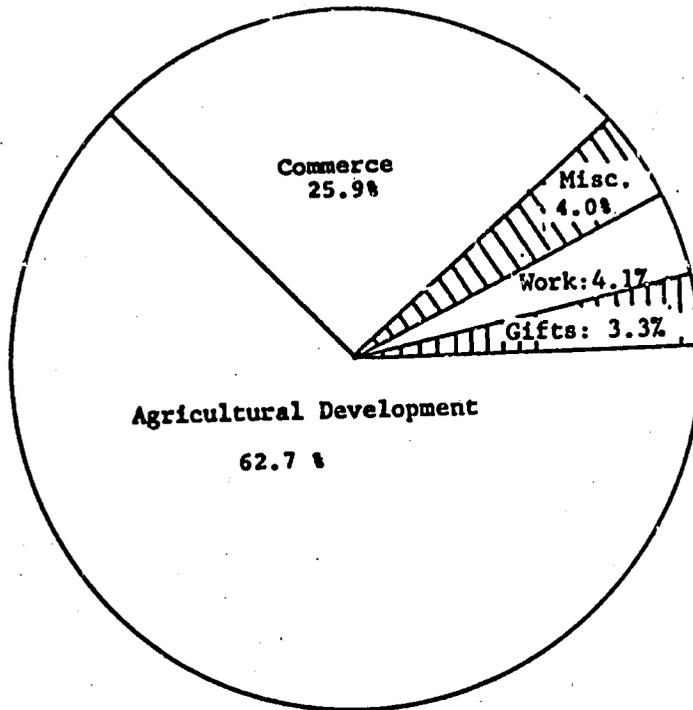
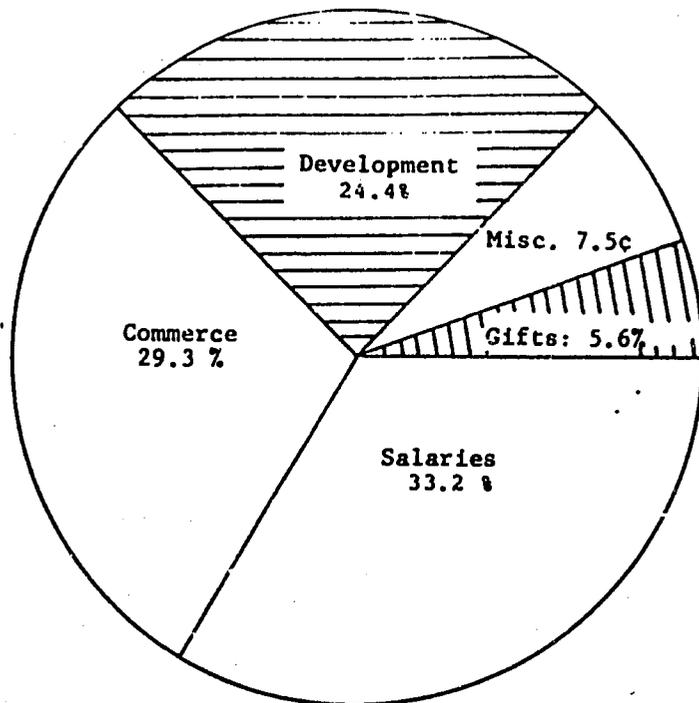


Table 39 has little meaning for the non-agricultural households, since the enumerators often were confused between the categories "outside jobs" and "agricultural operation", having included their wages sometimes in one category and sometimes in the other. Thus, it would appear that 48.8% of their income comes from their agricultural operation, which is significant, especially when considering that their main activity is not agriculture. Table 40 reveals, that products of the agricultural operation only represent 24.4% of their income. When considering that trade represents 29.3% of their income, their

salary then reaches 33.3%, which seems to be more probable. A graphical representation of the structure of the income of the non-agricultural households therefore yields the following:

#### INCOME STRUCTURE OF NON-AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS



Comparing the income structure of the agricultural households and the non-agricultural households reveals that trade is more important for the non-agricultural households, some of which have their primary occupation in the field of commerce. It is interesting to note, however, that the share of agricultural operation in the non-agricultural households is far from negligible, since it represents close to one-fourth of their income.

Table 41 gives the annual income of all of the households by nationality. Only the data concerning the BARIBA, the DENDI and the PEULH are significant, because of their greater

numbers. It can thus be seen that the per capita income of the DENDI is the greatest, being more than twice as much as that of the PEULH.

NATIONALITY	PER CAPITA INCOME CFAF
DENDI	42,466
BARIBA	22,134
PEULH	18,567
PROVINCE	23,438

Table 42 gives the distribution of the agricultural households and of the amount of annual income per household. It can be seen that 50% of the agricultural households have income that is equal to or less than 137,640 CFAF and only 14.5% of the households have declared income of less than 40,000 CFAF. At the same time, 15.1% of the households have income of more than 200,000 CFAF.

#### IV. THE EXPENDITURES OF THE HOUSEHOLD

Table 44 gives the distribution of the expenditures of the agricultural and the non-agricultural households on a monthly basis. As for the income, the mean of the expenditures is far greater than the median: 50% of the population with very low income spends little and those with greater income can spend more. The next table shows that the greatest expenditures for the agricultural households occur in March (23,330 CFAF) and in August (20,427 CFAF), the beginning and in the middle of the agricultural cycle. The income is lower in February (14,264 CFAF) and in September (13,855 CFAF). For the non-agricultural

households, the greatest expenditures occur in January (26,246 CFAF) and the smallest in December (17,594 CFAF) as shown in the following table:

**MONTHLY MEAN OF EXPENSES OF THE AGRICULTURAL  
AND NON-AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLD**

EXPENSES (CFAF)				
MONTHS	<u>AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS</u>		<u>NON-AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS</u>	
	MEAN	MEDIAN	MEAN	MEDIAN
January	16,961	5,125	26,246	9,985
February	14,269	5,580	19,428	7,975
March	23,330	6,485	19,964	10,630
April	19,573	6,265	18,848	5,495
May	15,625	6,085	24,763	6,835
June	15,637	6,980	22,969	10,315
July	16,023	7,667	25,123	13,062
August	20,427	6,542	20,644	10,067
September	13,855	5,167	24,505	8,957
October	19,250	6,555	20,150	10,037
November	17,702	5,807	17,779	8,940
December	14,940	4,647	17,594	6,825
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>207,592</b>	<b>73,705</b>	<b>258,013</b>	<b>109,123</b>

Similarly to the income, there is a significant relationship between the annual expenditures per capita for the agricultural households and the age of the head of household ( $r=-.13$ ). In all of the expenditure categories, the percentage increases with the age of the heads of household (Table 45). The same phenomenon is observed in the non-agricultural households, with the exception of the categories of expenditures exceeding 18,000 CFAF (Table 46). There is also a significant relationship between the annual expenditures per capita for the agricultural households and the size of the household ( $r=-.28$ ):

the larger the size of the household, the lower the expenditures per person (Table 47). The same phenomenon is observed in the non-agricultural households (Table 48). In contrast, there is no statistical relationship between the annual expenditures per person and the number of active persons, for the agricultural households (Table 49) as well as for the non-agricultural households (Table 50). Lastly, there is no statistical relationship between the annual expenditures per person and the main activity of the head of household for the non-agricultural households (Table 51).

Table 59 presents the overall structure of the expenditures of the agricultural and the non-agricultural households. In categories such as education, health, transportation, animal and plant production represent a very small percentage of the expenditures for the agricultural as well as for the non-agricultural households. For the two groups, the expenditures for commerce are quite high: 29.2% in the agricultural households and 40.2% in the non-agricultural households. These two major categories of expenses are food and commerce which account for 39.9% of the expenditures of the agricultural households and 79.1% of the expenditures for the non-agricultural households.

EXPENSES	AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS %	NON-AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS %
FOOD	30.7	38.9
COMMERCE	29.2	40.3
CEREMONIES-LEISURE	7.2	3.7
HOUSING	5.8	2.4
CLOTHING	4.8	2.6

A priori it is surprising to note that the expenditures on food for the non-agricultural households are not much greater, as a percentage, than in the agricultural households. This is because the income of the non-agricultural households is definitely greater than the income of the agricultural households and the expenditures on food, in absolute figures, are almost twice as much as for the agricultural households. Lastly, it is noted that the non-agricultural households spend little on ceremonies and leisure (3.7% of their total expenditures) compared to 7.2% for the agricultural households. The housing expenses are much higher in the agricultural households than the clothing expenses.

Table 60 gives a breakdown of expenses by product. One can immediately see that the expenses for buying sorghum are twice as much, in percentages, for the non-agricultural households as for the agricultural households. The other very marked differences between the two groups have to do with the purchase of cattle. The agricultural households purchase animals to increase their herd. This is a way of using their savings. The purchase of animals represents 12.7% of their expenses, as against only 1.5% for the non-agricultural households. For the other categories, the differences are not significant, except for imported industrial products that are part of commerce.

Table 61 shows the expenses by household and by person, on an annual basis. Considering only the three main nationalities of BORGOU, the expenses per person are as follows:

NATIONALITIES	EXPENSES	INCOME
DENDI	48,170	42,446
BARIBA	19,130	22,134
PEULH	11,859	18,567

## V. FOOD CONSUMPTION

Table 66 shows the detailed structure of the annual consumption of food of the agricultural and the non-agricultural households, by product and by origin of the products, as well as the per capita consumption. It is interesting to compare the results by large categories with the data presented by the Ministry of French Cooperation in 1980 on the food situation in the countries of black Africa and the Indian Ocean. This study contains data on Benin which we reproduce in part in the following table:

### CONSUMPTION STRUCTURE (In kg per capita and per year)

PRODUCTS	BORGOU		BENIN
	AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS	NON-AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS	FRENCH COOPERATION STUDY 1980
Cereals	150	146	87.7
Tubers	144	115	217.2
Beef	8	10	3.7
Mutton	1	-	0.7
Goat meat	3	-	0.8
Pork	-	-	1.6
Eggs (unit)	8	5	-
Milk (liter)	10	10	4.4

In BORGOU the consumption structure between non-agricultural households is not very different, except that the quantity of cereals and tubers is slightly greater in the agricultural households. In contrast, this table shows that the non-agricultural households consume somewhat more beef: 10 kg per capita and per year, against 8 kg for the agricultural households, but the agricultural households eat more mutton and goat

meat, as well as eggs. The same quantity of milk is consumed by the agricultural households and the non-agricultural households. Comparing these data to those of Benin as a whole, very great differences appear in the consumption of cereals and tubers in particular. The consumption of cereals in BORGOU is clearly greater than that of Benin as a whole, whereas the consumption of tubers in BORGOU appears to be much less. In contrast, more meat, eggs and milk is consumed in BORGOU. In terms of nationalities, considerable differences appear, as shown by the following table on the structure of the consumption of the agricultural households. The non-agricultural households are not numerous enough to permit an analysis by nationality.

**CONSUMPTION STRUCTURE OF THE AGRICULTURAL HOUSEHOLDS**  
(in kg per capita and per year)

PRODUCTS	BORGOU	BARIBA	DENDI	PEULH
Cereals	150	128	297	187
Tubers	144	161	30	94
Beef	8	9	5	2
Mutton	1	-	1	1
Goat meat	3	-	29	-
Pork	-	-	-	-
Poultry (unit)	-	1	-	-
Eggs (unit)	8	4	47	11
Milk (liter)	10	6	2	48

This table shows that the BARIBA consume the most tubers (161 kg), whereas the DENDI consume much more cereals (247 kg), but very few tubers. They also eat more eggs and goat meat. The PEULH naturally, are the ones who drink the most milk (48 liters per capita per year). In effect, milk, along with cereals, constitutes their basic food.