

Structure of agricultural holdings

Latvia 2003

Statistics in focus

AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

39/2004

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A farm structure survey was carried out in all EU Member States in 2003 (2002 in Poland). The detailed results are now available for 10 Member States: Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Latvia, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Results for the other Member States will become available in the course of the next months. This Statistics in Focus is part of a series of country-specific publications, all following the same structure.

* * *

In Latvia, in June 2003 about 52 700 agricultural holdings had an economic size of at least one ESU (European size unit)*, which means 9% decline compared to 2000.

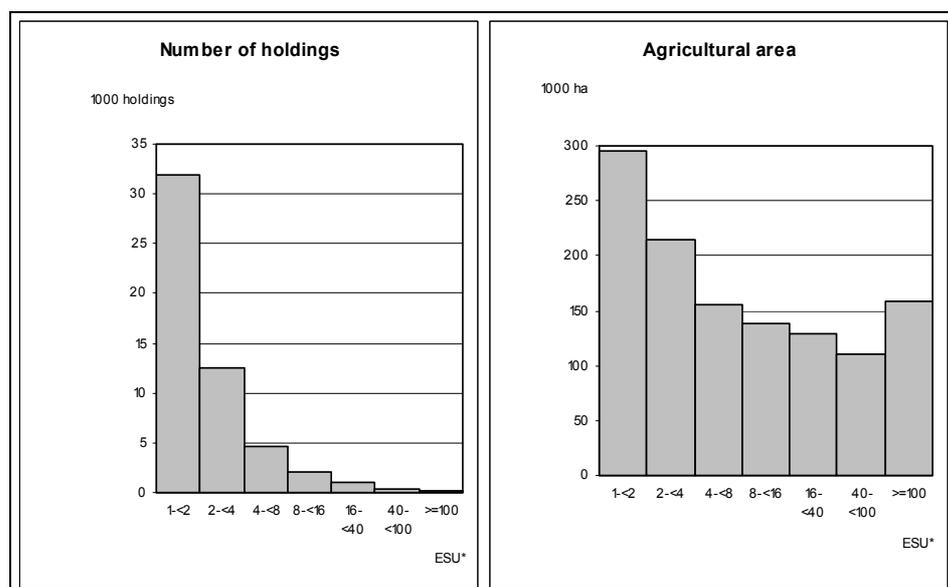
- These holdings employed 90 900 AWUs (annual work units), the equivalent of 90 900 persons working full time;
- they made use of 1.2 million ha of agricultural area, which is on average 22.8 hectare per holding (compared to 20.5 ha in 2000).

Amongst these 52 700 agricultural holdings,

- 23% made use of less than one AWU, while 29% made use of 2 or more AWUs;
- 19% used less than 5 ha, while 3% used more than 100 ha;
- 72% were mixed holdings, while 28% were specialised: field cropping 11%, dairies 9%, for cereals, oil seed and protein crops 4%, other grazing livestock 2%, pigs and poultry 1%, horticulture 1% (of which 29% under glass), permanent crops 2%;
- about 1% practised organic farming.

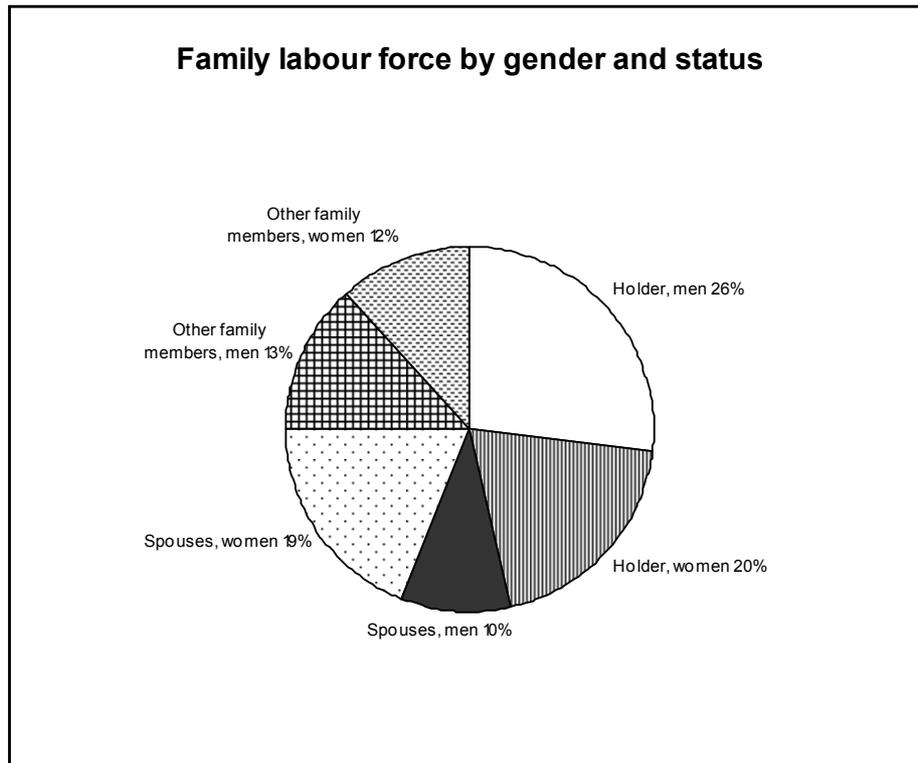
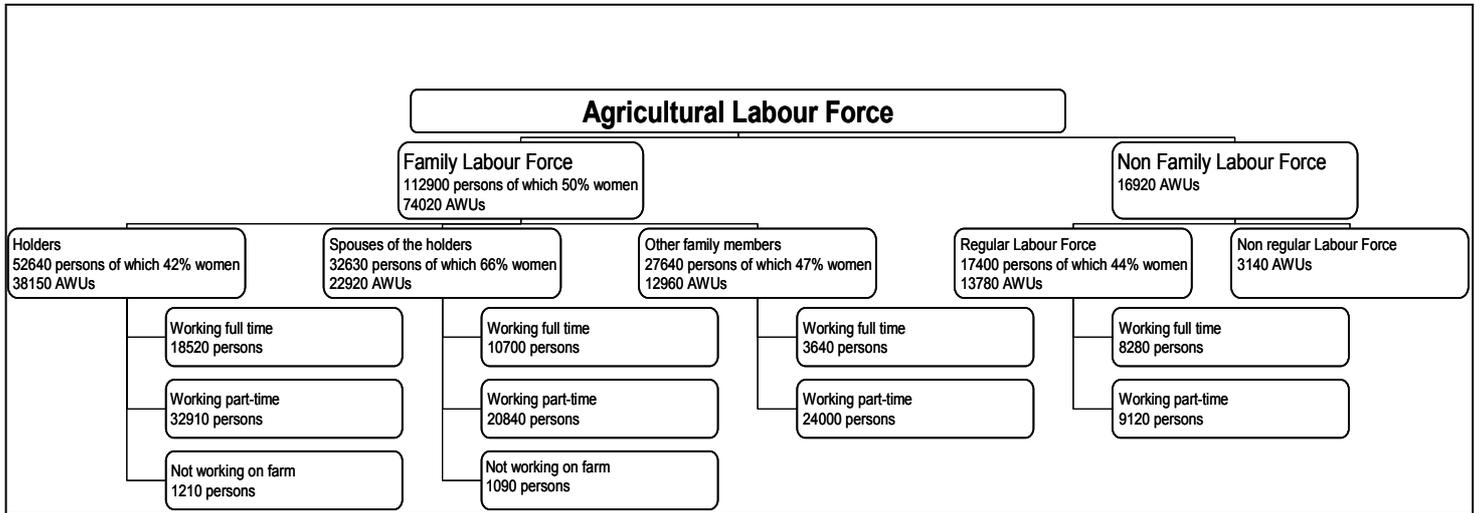
Amongst the 52 600 sole holders

- 42% were women;
- 45% were aged 55 or more, only 9% was younger than 35 years;
- 24% had another gainful activity as major occupation.



* ESU measures the economic size of the holdings (see methodological notes).

Latvia, 2003 – Holdings of at least 1 ESU



Symbols : not available 0 less than half of the unit or nil

Economic size (ESU)	<1	>=1	1-<2	2-<4	4-<8	8-<16	16-<40	40-<100	>=100
Total labour force									
1000 annual work units	50.0	90.9	42.6	21.0	9.1	4.8	3.6	2.6	7.2
Family labour force									
1000 persons	121.8	112.9	66.2	28.2	10.9	4.6	2.1	0.6	0.3
1000 annual work units	47.2	74.0	40.4	19.7	8.2	3.5	1.7	0.5	0.2
Non-family labour regularly employed									
1000 persons	4.2	17.4	2.9	1.2	0.8	1.2	1.6	2.3	7.4
1000 annual work units	1.7	13.8	1.5	0.8	0.6	0.9	1.3	1.9	6.8
Non regular non family labour force									
1000 annual work units	1.0	3.1	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.3
Holding managers (1000)	73.9	52.7	32.0	12.5	4.7	2.1	1.0	0.3	0.2
- women (%)	49.4	42.4	46.3	40.3	34.9	27.0	24.5	20.1	14.8
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	65.8	22.2	27.5	16.5	11.0	11.6	7.4	6.2	3.3
- 50 % and over (%)	27.1	41.6	46.4	38.1	29.7	25.4	27.3	25.3	29.7
Sole/main holders (1000)	73.9	52.6	31.9	12.5	4.6	2.0	1.0	0.3	0.2
- women (%)	49.1	42.3	46.1	40.4	34.6	28.3	24.6	19.6	16.6
- distribution by age (%)									
- under 35 years	8.4	8.9	8.2	9.7	9.5	12.1	11.6	12.5	11.6
- from 35 to 44 years	18.6	22.6	20.6	23.4	26.8	31.5	33.6	36.8	30.9
- from 45 to 54 years	20.3	23.4	21.7	24.0	28.5	28.7	30.5	35.2	31.5
- from 55 to 64 years	21.7	23.2	23.4	24.2	22.5	18.6	17.5	12.1	22.1
- 65 years and over	31.0	21.9	26.1	18.6	12.7	9.1	6.8	3.1	3.9
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	63.5	22.1	27.2	16.6	11.2	12.1	7.7	6.2	3.3
- 50 % and over (%)	26.2	40.4	45.0	37.1	29.3	24.7	26.1	23.4	27.6
- with another gainful activity ¹ (%)	36.2	28.9	30.9	27.8	24.2	20.6	18.1	13.4	24.3
- as main occupation	33.8	23.7	26.7	21.9	16.3	12.5	8.6	5.1	17.1
- as a subsidiary occupation	2.4	5.2	4.2	5.9	7.9	8.1	9.4	8.3	7.1
Spouse of sole holder (1000)	27.6	32.6	18.5	8.4	3.4	1.4	0.7	0.1	0
- women (%)	65.5	66.3	64.8	66.3	68.9	73.5	76.3	85.9	72.7
- distribution by age (%)									
- under 35 years	10.0	9.3	8.3	9.7	10.8	13.1	13.9	15.4	22.7
- from 35 to 54 years	46.6	51.8	48.4	52.6	59.0	65.5	64.9	67.8	59.1
- 55 years and over	43.3	38.9	43.3	37.7	30.1	21.5	21.2	16.1	18.2
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	59.7	24.0	29.3	18.2	15.3	14.6	15.0	19.5	9.1
- 50 % and over (%)	26.5	39.9	44.0	37.9	30.2	28.3	30.1	28.9	38.6
- with another gainful activity (%)	36.0	26.6	28.7	25.6	22.3	20.8	18.9	14.1	18.2
- as main occupation	33.3	22.5	25.0	21.4	17.0	16.1	12.1	10.1	18.2
- as a subsidiary occupation	2.7	4.1	3.7	4.2	5.3	4.7	6.9	4.0	0
Other members of the holder's family working on the holding (1000)	20.3	27.6	15.7	7.3	2.8	1.1	0.5	0.1	0
- women (%)	48.8	46.5	47.6	46.2	44.0	44.0	39.7	33.6	30.6
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	79.6	60.4	64.8	57.7	52.3	49.2	42.8	41.2	38.9
- 50 % and over (%)	16.6	26.4	26.1	26.9	26.8	25.5	27.7	26.9	36.1
- with another gainful activity (%)	26.5	21.7	23.5	21.9	17.0	13.1	12.6	10.9	2.8

¹ Only holders being also farm managers.

Symbols : not available 0 less than half of the unit or nil

Economic size (ESU)	<1	>=1	1-<2	2-<4	4-<8	8-<16	16-<40	40-<100	>=100
Holdings									
- total number (1000)	73.9	52.7	32.0	12.5	4.7	2.1	1.0	0.3	0.2
- by legal personality of the holder (%)									
- sole holder	99.2	98.7	99.3	99.0	98.8	97.1	93.5	72.5	47.8
- legal person	0	0.1	0	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.9	0.9	0.5
- group holders	0.7	1.2	0.7	0.8	0.9	2.4	5.6	26.5	51.6
- by employed labour force (%)									
- under 1 AWU	74.0	22.7	29.2	14.6	11.0	10.5	5.8	2.2	1.1
- from 1 to less than 2 AWU	22.3	48.1	52.0	49.0	36.8	30.8	22.1	9.9	2.7
- from 2 to less than 3 AWU	3.5	23.8	17.4	31.5	41.3	39.2	29.2	13.6	5.5
- 3 AWU and over	0.3	5.3	1.4	4.9	10.8	19.5	42.9	74.1	90.7
- by agricultural area (%)									
- under 5 ha	73.4	18.8	27.3	7.5	3.0	2.1	1.9	0.9	11.0
- from 5 to less than 20 ha	25.5	58.0	66.5	63.5	24.1	7.8	4.4	0.3	2.2
- from 20 to less than 50 ha	1.0	16.2	5.8	26.9	56.7	27.4	9.4	2.2	2.7
- from 50 to less than 100 ha	0.1	4.1	0.3	1.8	14.8	44.4	23.7	6.5	1.1
- 100 ha and over	0	2.9	0.1	0.2	1.4	18.2	60.8	90.1	83.0
- by livestock size (%)									
- without livestock	41.1	9.8	7.8	9.4	12.4	20.4	30.4	45.4	35.7
- under 10 LSU	58.9	78.9	92.0	79.8	32.5	21.6	16.0	9.6	1.1
- from 10 to less than 20 LSU	0	7.0	0.1	10.5	42.3	14.3	6.6	2.8	1.1
- from 20 to less than 50 LSU	0	3.1	0.1	0.3	12.6	39.9	18.3	5.9	1.6
- from 50 to less than 100 LSU	0	0.6	0	0	0.1	3.7	21.7	8.6	2.7
- 100 LSU and over	0	0.5	0	0	0	0.1	7.0	27.5	57.1
- by farm type (%)									
... specialist cereals, oil seed and protein crops	1.0	3.5	1.0	2.9	8.3	18.4	27.5	32.4	12.1
... general field cropping	37.5	11.2	10.5	10.4	12.8	14.8	19.0	29.3	31.3
... specialist horticulture	0.1	1.0	0.2	1.4	2.7	4.0	5.0	4.0	4.4
... specialist vineyard	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
... specialist fruit and citrus fruit	3.8	1.3	1.0	1.7	2.1	1.8	0.4	0.3	0.5
... specialist olives	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
... various permanent crops combined	0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.8	1.5	0.9	0.5
... specialist dairy farming	4.4	8.9	6.6	10.2	16.7	16.3	13.7	10.2	11.0
... specialist cattle – rearing and fattening	0	0	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0
... cattle – dairy farming, rearing and fattening combined	0	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.3	0
... sheep, goats and other grazing livestock	1.4	1.7	1.9	1.6	0.9	0.5	0.1	0	0
... specialist granivores	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.6	0.6	1.8	3.2	2.8	18.1
... mixed cropping	18.1	20.5	22.0	19.7	18.5	14.9	10.8	5.2	1.1
... mixed livestock, mainly grazing livestock	9.9	20.4	24.1	18.8	12.0	5.4	2.2	2.2	2.2
... mixed livestock, mainly granivores	1.0	1.7	1.4	2.4	2.3	1.8	0.9	1.2	1.6
... field crops – grazing livestock combined	17.2	25.7	28.2	26.2	17.4	13.8	9.5	7.4	14.8
... various crops and livestock combined	5.1	3.3	2.7	3.6	4.9	5.0	5.9	3.7	2.7
- by farming methods (%)									
- organic farming	0.2	0.9	0.5	1.3	1.8	2.9	2.8	2.2	3.3
- irrigating	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- with crops under glass	0	0.8	0	0.9	2.3	5.1	8.4	7.4	4.4
- % in less favoured or mountain area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Symbols : not available 0 less than half of the unit or nil

Economic size (ESU)	<1	>=1	1-<2	2-<4	4-<8	8-<16	16-<40	40-<100	>=100
Area (1000 ha)									
• Total area of agricultural holdings	899.1	1885.8	601.6	385.6	241.2	197.2	158.8	125.5	175.9
• H. Other area	611.2	684.3	307.0	170.6	86.2	58.6	29.0	15.1	17.9
Wooded area	324.4	411.4	189.6	106.1	52.8	33.6	16.1	7.4	5.8
• Agricultural area	287.9	1201.4	294.6	215.0	155.0	138.6	129.7	110.4	158.1
- D. Arable land	126.0	815.7	144.1	124.0	102.8	99.9	108.3	98.0	138.7
Cereals	15.8	411.5	36.3	48.9	52.9	59.5	68.8	61.4	83.6
<i>Common wheat and spelt</i>	2.7	164.9	7.3	12.5	15.8	21.1	26.7	29.4	52.1
<i>Durum wheat</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Rye</i>	1.1	42.6	2.9	4.8	5.3	6.6	9.1	7.5	6.5
<i>Barley</i>	7.8	126.3	15.1	18.2	19.0	19.8	21.0	16.1	17.1
<i>Oats</i>	2.8	45.6	7.3	8.6	8.0	7.0	6.5	4.2	4.1
<i>Grain maize</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dried pulses	0.1	2.7	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.8
Root crops	17.7	56.2	16.4	9.9	5.4	4.0	4.2	4.5	11.8
<i>Potatoes</i>	16.0	36.0	13.6	8.3	4.5	3.3	2.6	1.7	2.0
<i>Sugar beet</i>	0	14.9	0	0.1	0.2	0.5	1.5	2.7	9.8
<i>Fodder root</i>	1.7	5.4	2.7	1.6	0.7	0.2	0.1	0	0
Industrial crops	0.3	31.1	0.2	0.4	0.9	2.9	6.8	8.8	10.9
<i>Tobacco</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Hops</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Cotton</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Rape and turnip</i>	0.1	27.7	0.2	0.3	0.8	2.6	5.8	8.0	10.1
<i>Sunflower</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Soya</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fresh vegetables, melons, strawberry	3.3	9.4	2.6	1.7	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.6
<i>outside</i>	3.3	9.3	2.6	1.7	1.3	1.1	1.1	0.9	0.6
<i>under glass</i>	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flower and ornamental plants	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>outside</i>	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>under glass</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fodder plants	61.1	220.9	70.8	48.0	29.6	21.1	15.7	11.5	24.1
Fallow land	26.9	75.9	16.5	13.9	11.3	9.9	9.4	8.9	6.0
- E. Kitchen garden	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- F. Permanent pasture and meadows	155.0	370.9	145.4	87.4	49.9	37.0	20.5	11.8	18.8
- G. Permanent crops	7.0	14.9	5.2	3.7	2.2	1.7	0.9	0.6	0.5
Fruit and berry plantation	7.0	14.5	5.2	3.7	2.2	1.7	0.8	0.6	0.4
Citrus plantation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Olive trees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vineyard	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ratios									
Agricultural area per holding (ha)	3.9	22.8	9.2	17.1	33.2	67.5	135.0	340.9	868.4
Agricultural area... (%)									
... own farmed	94.2	69.2	93.2	89.2	77.9	63.3	47.9	37.1	34.0
... in less favoured or mountain area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
... organic farmed	0.3	1.0	0.3	1.0	1.4	2.2	1.8	0.8	0.6
... irrigated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
... under cover crop protecting soil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Symbols : not available 0 less than half of the unit or nil

Economic size (ESU)	<1	>=1	1-<2	2-<4	4-<8	8-<16	16-<40	40-<100	>=100
Total livestock (1000 LSU ⁺)	48.5	411.2	90.8	72.1	51.9	37.5	30.8	21.2	107.0
of which grazing (%)	76.0	65.8	79.9	79.1	79.4	78.0	70.5	71.9	31.6
Grazing livestock (1000 heads)									
Equidae	3.8	10.6	5.7	2.8	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.3
Bovine animals									
Under 1 year	10.3	94.5	24.6	21.3	16.3	11.0	7.3	5.5	8.5
From 1 to less than 2 years	6.6	69.7	14.0	14.1	11.4	8.6	6.1	4.6	10.9
Dairy cows	22.8	159.7	44.9	33.2	23.6	16.6	12.9	8.4	19.9
Other cows	0.1	2.4	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2
Other bovine animals 2 years and older	0.9	11.7	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.3	2.9
Sheep	8.0	33.6	14.2	11.9	5.2	1.3	0.5	0.4	0
Goats	6.5	9.5	5.5	2.3	0.9	0.6	0.1	0	0
Granivores									
Pigs (1000 heads)									
Piglets < 20 kg	5.5	97.6	7.8	9.0	8.1	7.0	7.8	5.7	52.2
Breeding sows	0.2	46.1	1.9	4.6	4.7	3.7	4.0	2.9	24.4
Other pigs	20.8	246.1	39.4	32.0	23.0	18.8	22.5	14.5	95.9
Poultry (million heads)	0.3	3.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0	0	0	2.7
Broilers	0	0.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.9
Laying hens	0.3	2.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	0	0	0	1.7
Other poultry	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rabbits, breeding females (1000 heads)	19.8	32.0	17.2	8.7	2.3	3.5	0.3	0	0
Beehives (1000)	10.3	32.4	13.3	10.0	6.0	2.1	0.7	0.1	0.1
Total livestock per holding with... (LSU/holding)									
Livestock	1.1	8.7	3.1	6.3	12.7	22.9	46.0	119.7	914.3
Grazing livestock	1.6	7.5	3.3	6.6	13.3	25.0	48.6	128.6	520.0
Bovine animals (cattle)	1.7	7.6	3.3	6.6	13.4	25.1	49.4	131.3	526.0
Cattle, other than cows	2.0	8.7	3.6	6.9	13.9	26.0	51.6	142.2	539.2
Granivores	1.1	7.7	3.1	6.3	12.4	21.2	38.6	94.1	1152.4
Pigs	1.5	8.0	3.3	6.4	12.4	22.3	40.5	101.3	876.9
Average size of herds* (head/holding)									
Equidae	1.1	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.7	4.6	6.0	13.8	30.9
Dairy cows	1.1	3.8	1.7	3.2	6.5	12.2	24.0	66.3	265.6
Other cows	1.3	6.0	3.2	5.5	5.5	7.7	11.1	11.5	28.3
Sheep	4.2	8.5	6.0	10.3	16.3	19.3	14.6	99.8	:
Goats	2.2	4.0	3.5	4.2	6.7	11.7	6.6	2.3	:
Breeding sows	1.1	7.1	1.3	1.9	3.1	5.6	14.4	39.4	459.7
Other pigs > 20 kg	1.7	8.4	2.3	4.1	8.0	18.2	54.5	147.7	1625.2
Rabbits, breeding females	2.6	3.9	3.3	4.1	4.4	20.3	6.3	4.2	2.0
Laying hens (1000/holding)	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	124.4
Broilers (1000/holding)	0	4.1	0	0	0	0.1	0	:	231.0
Beehives (hive/holding)	4.7	8.2	6.5	8.8	12.1	13.6	10.6	17.5	16.4

* number of animals of a given livestock category per holding with this kind of animals

+ LSU : Livestock Unit

Symbols : not available 0 less than half of the unit or nil

Economic size (ESU)	<1	>=1	1-<2	2-<4	4-<8	8-<16	16-<40	40-<100	>=100
Holdings with another gainful activity than agricultural production:									
(% all holdings)	2.0	4.5	2.6	5.1	7.9	12.3	16.4	22.2	23.1
Tourism	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.3	1.5	1.4	0.9	0.5
Handicraft	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0	0
Processing of farm products	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.6	1.2	2.2	3.1	6.6
Wood processing	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.8	1.3	2.0	3.6	2.5	4.4
Aquaculture	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.3	0
Renewable energy production	0	0.1	0	0	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.5
Contractual work	0.6	2.3	1.1	2.8	4.7	6.9	9.7	14.5	14.3
Other gainful activities n.a.e	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.8	1.4	1.5	3.5	5.9	6.6

► METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The survey on the structure of agricultural holdings in Latvia was carried out between 30 May and 15 June 2003 with the reference day of 1 June (for labour force information the preceding 12 months were the reference period). The survey was a sample one. Prior full-scale agricultural census was conducted in 2001.

The target population was all economically active farms which produce agricultural products; indeed some holdings may provide other supplementary (non-agricultural) products and services. These holdings are included in the statistical farm register, which is updated regularly (from statistical surveys and from administrative sources like Business and Population Registers). The frame was stratified by economic size (8 categories), by location (NUTS4 level), by type of farming (3 groups) and by special characteristics (active, non-active and new). For non-active farms owned by natural person a 20 hectare agricultural land threshold was applied. In practice all holdings have an economic size of at least 2 ESU were included, while from the other strata sample was drawn by simple random method. The sampling rate is bigger for the important strata. Altogether 49,7 thousand holdings were chosen to be surveyed.

The data are multi-level checked. The unit non-response was 2%, re-weighting was used to adjust it.

For each activity ('enterprise') on a farm (for instance wheat, dairy cow or vineyard), a **standard gross margin (SGM)** is estimated, based on the area (or the number of heads) and a regional coefficient. The sum of such margins in a farm is its **economic size**, expressed in **European Size Units (ESU)**. 1 ESU is equal to 1200 euros.

Due to differences in the coverage of units of less than 1 ESU across Member States, these data are not comparable between countries. That is why the present analysis and graphs focus on the holdings of at least one ESU.

Each farm is classified in the community typology by its economic size and its **type of farming**, depending on the share of each enterprise in its economic size. For instance, a farm where breeding sows account for more than 2/3 of the economic size is classified as *specialist pig rearing* (type 5011). Depending on the level of aggregation, farms are grouped into 8 to 70 types.

Annual working unit (AWU) means the labour force working yearly like a worker employed on full time basis, it is 1800 hours (225 working days of 8 working hours per day).

► REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

Provisional Results of Farm Structure Sample Survey 2003 (press release), Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia, Riga, October 2003

Structure of Farms of Latvia in June 2003, Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia, Riga, September 2004.

Website of Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia (LR Centrālā statistikas pārvalde): www.csb.lv/avidus.cfm

Further information:

➤ **Databases**

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