

Farm structure in Portugal – 2005

66% of the agricultural land and 35% of the livestock are in farms of 50 ha or more

This Statistics in Focus is part of a series of country-specific publications on the results of the Farm Structure Survey (FSS) 2005. It provides a brief but nevertheless comprehensive insight into the farm structure in Portugal. A similar publication was issued in August 2005 presenting the results of the FSS 2003 in Portugal.

By the end of 2005 in Portugal, about 219.3 thousand* agricultural holdings had an economic size of at least 1 European Size Unit (ESU).

- These holdings employed 317.3 thousand AWUs (annual work units), the equivalent of 317.3 thousand persons working full time;
- they made use of about 3.5 million ha of agricultural area, which is on average 16 ha per holding (compared to 13.6 ha in 2003).

Among these 219.3 thousand agricultural holdings

- 35% made use of less than one AWU, while 22% made use of 2 or more AWUs;
- 65% used less than 5 ha agricultural area, while 3% used 100 ha or more;
- 21% were holdings of the type mixed cropping, 12% specialist vineyards, 9% specialist fruit and citrus fruit, 8% were engaged in various permanent crops combined and 8% were general field cropping,;
- 87% of their agricultural area was situated in less favoured or mountain areas;
- 9% benefited from direct investment aid.

Among the 213.4 thousand sole holders

- 25% were women;
- 68% were aged 55 or more, and only 3% were younger than 35 years;
- 22% had another gainful activity as their major occupation.

Statistics in focus

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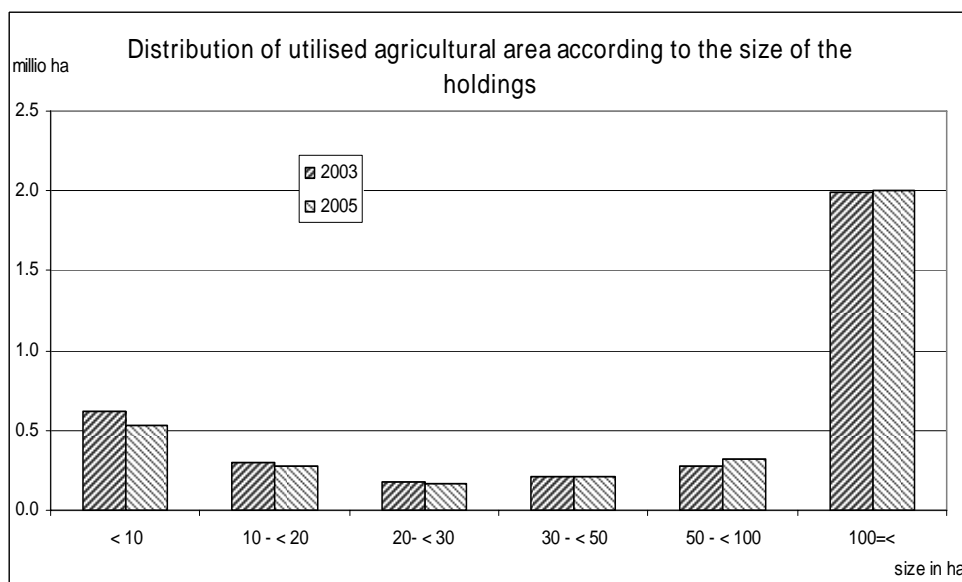
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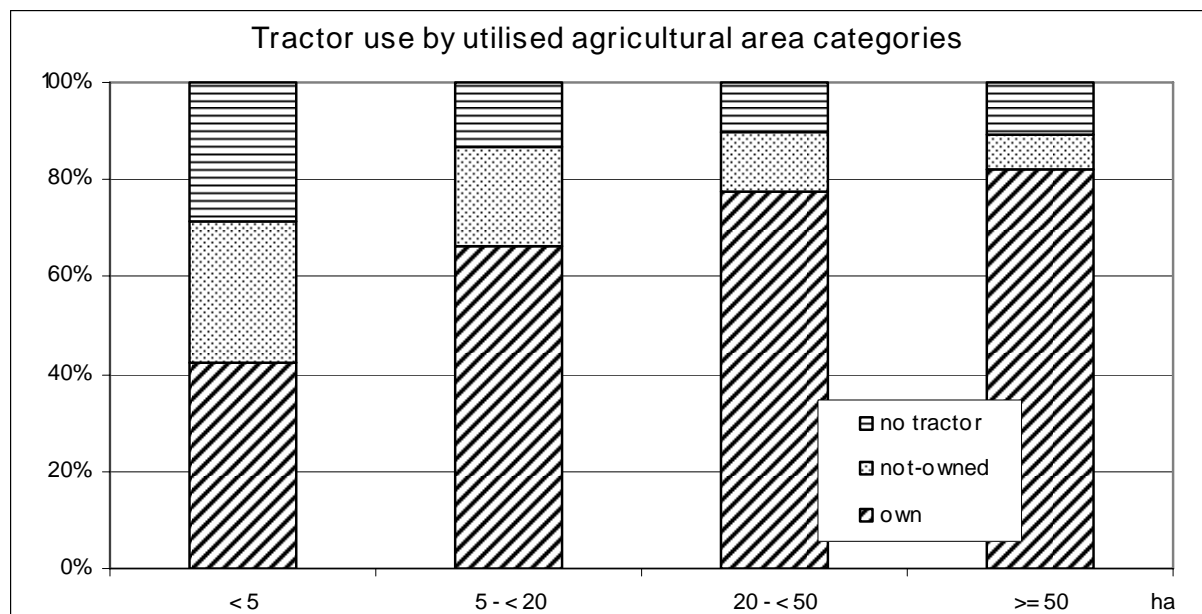
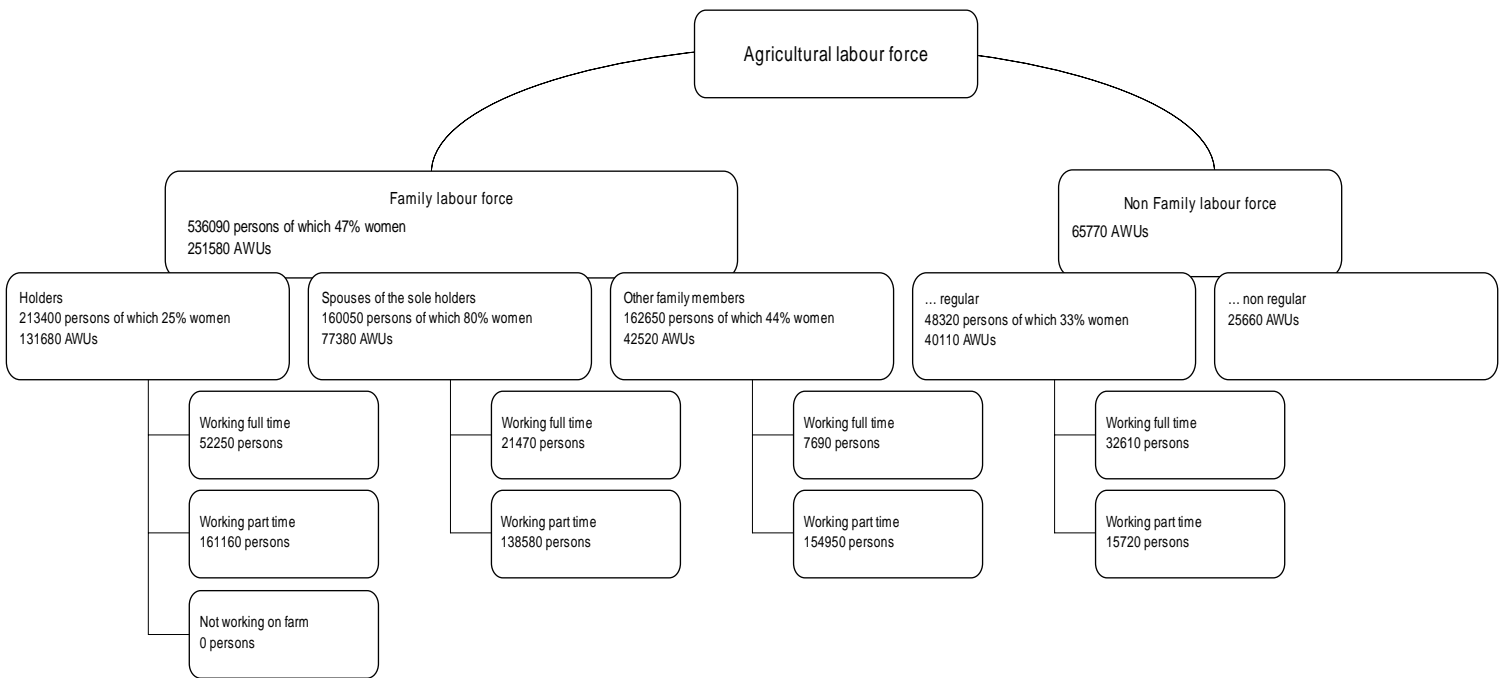
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Due to differences in the threshold across Member States, the total number of farms is not comparable between countries. This is why the present analysis, including Tables 1-4 and the graphs focus on holdings of at least one ESU. See methodological notes for more information on the concept of the ESU.



Portugal 2005 – Holdings of at least 1 ESU



Size of the farms	Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LU*)			
	< 5	5 - < 20	20 - < 50	50 = <		0	0 < - < 5	5 - < 50	50 = <
Total labour force									
1000 annual work units	178.3	81.6	24.6	32.9	317.3	63.8	171.3	56.4	25.7
Family labour force	373.2								
1000 persons	360.3	130.9	28.1	16.8	536.1	105.3	328.1	88.9	13.7
1000 annual work units	161.0	65.1	15.3	10.1	251.6	37.3	157.1	48.4	8.7
Non-family labour regularly employed									
1000 persons	12.9	10.9	6.7	17.8	48.3	18.5	8.1	6.0	15.7
1000 annual work units	9.0	8.8	6.0	16.3	40.1	14.7	5.6	5.1	14.8
Non regular non family labour force									
1000 annual work units	8.3	7.7	3.3	6.4	25.7	11.8	8.7	2.9	2.2
Holding managers (1000)	142.4	54.3	12.3	10.2	219.3	52.8	127.2	32.2	7.1
- women (%)	27.2	18.9	15.3	12.3	23.8	20.8	26.6	19.9	11.5
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	43.2	36.3	26.1	26.1	39.8	61.7	36.6	21.5	16.3
- 50 % and over(%)	35.7	36.0	33.1	27.5	35.2	23.5	40.6	35.4	24.7
- with a basic agricult. training only (%)	8.9	21.4	31.7	28.7	14.2	16.7	10.3	20.6	35.9
- with a full agricultural training (%)	0.7	1.9	4.3	12.8	1.7	3.4	0.4	2.0	11.1
Sole/main holders (1000)	141.1	52.8	11.5	8.0	213.4	50.0	126.5	31.6	5.3
- women (%)	28.1	20.5	17.7	17.4	25.2	22.9	27.3	22.2	14.8
- distribution by age (%)									
- under 35 years	1.7	3.8	5.6	6.8	2.6	3.3	1.4	5.3	8.4
- from 35 to 44 years	8.5	10.8	17.6	17.5	9.9	9.8	7.4	17.8	24.2
- from 45 to 54 years	18.8	19.1	23.4	23.2	19.3	18.7	17.7	25.4	26.6
- from 55 to 64 years	26.3	24.8	22.7	21.0	25.5	23.3	26.3	26.5	22.2
- 65 years and over	44.7	41.5	30.7	31.5	42.7	44.9	47.2	24.9	18.6
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	43.7	37.3	28.1	33.1	40.9	65.1	36.8	22.0	21.8
- 50 % and over(%)	36.0	37.0	35.6	34.9	36.2	24.8	40.9	36.1	33.1
- with another gainful activity ¹ (%)	26.8	21.9	18.8	15.9	24.8	32.9	23.3	19.6	13.5
- as main occupation	24.6	18.9	15.4	12.5	22.2	30.4	21.0	16.5	10.1
- as a subsidiary occupation	2.3	2.9	3.3	3.4	2.5	2.6	2.3	3.1	3.4
Spouse of sole holder working on the holding (1000)	107.3	39.9	8.1	4.7	160.0	31.2	100.4	24.8	3.7
- women (%)	78.6	83.3	83.9	81.6	80.1	85.1	78.9	78.1	84.7
- distribution by age (%)									
- under 35 years	2.5	4.5	6.9	7.8	3.4	5.3	1.9	6.0	11.2
- from 35 to 54 years	32.3	36.5	44.7	44.1	34.3	36.4	29.6	47.8	56.3
- 55 years and over	65.1	59.0	48.4	48.2	62.3	58.3	68.6	46.2	32.5
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	57.0	55.5	53.9	54.3	56.4	79.2	52.3	46.1	46.1
- 50 % and over(%)	30.7	29.0	30.8	26.8	30.2	14.2	34.2	34.3	25.6
- with another gainful activity (%)	24.8	20.7	21.8	22.9	23.6	31.4	21.9	21.2	18.8
Other members of the holder's family working on the holding (1000)	111.9	38.2	8.5	4.1	162.6	24.1	101.2	32.6	4.8
- women (%)	45.6	42.1	41.0	32.0	44.2	42.2	45.2	43.4	40.4
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	88.8	81.0	74.1	69.9	85.7	91.0	87.7	79.2	61.5
- 50 % and over(%)	8.4	11.5	13.8	14.6	9.6	5.9	9.4	11.8	15.5
- with another gainful activity (%)	49.0	35.9	25.9	24.5	44.1	39.9	49.3	34.7	18.4

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

* LU = Livestock Unit

¹ Refers only to holders who are also farm managers.

Size of the farms	Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LU)			
	< 5	5 - < 20	20 - < 50	50 =<		0	0 <- < 5	5 - < 50	50 =<
Holdings									
- total number (1000)	142.4	54.3	12.3	10.2	219.3	52.8	127.2	32.2	7.1
- by legal personality of the holder (%)									
- sole holder	99.0	97.2	93.0	78.6	97.3	94.8	99.5	97.9	74.5
- legal person	1.0	2.8	7.0	21.4	2.7	5.2	0.5	2.1	25.5
- group holders	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
- by employed labour force (%)	100.1								
- under 1 AWU	38.7	31.7	21.5	14.8	34.9	58.9	31.4	16.3	3.0
- from 1 to less than 2 AWU	44.5	42.9	41.2	31.8	43.3	27.3	49.6	48.5	25.0
- from 2 to less than 3 AWU	14.7	18.5	23.6	22.9	16.5	8.2	16.6	26.6	30.8
- 3 AWU and over	2.2	6.9	13.6	30.4	5.3	5.5	2.4	8.7	41.2
- by economic size (%)									
- from 1 to less than 8 ESU	92.1	67.4	36.2	13.1	79.2	75.8	91.6	52.9	0.6
- from 8 to less than 16 ESU	5.1	15.1	23.9	17.8	9.2	10.3	5.4	23.2	5.6
- from 16 to less than 40 ESU	2.0	12.6	20.4	30.6	7.0	7.9	2.1	20.1	28.4
- from 40 to less than 100 ESU	0.5	4.0	14.8	23.1	3.2	4.0	0.6	3.0	45.3
- 100 ESU and over	0.2	0.9	4.8	15.5	1.3	1.9	0.2	0.8	20.2
- by farm type (%)									
- mixed cropping	25.6	13.1	8.5	5.4	20.6	8.8	30.7	4.5	1.7
- specialist vineyard	13.7	10.3	6.7	4.1	12.0	27.8	9.0	0.6	0.3
- specialist fruit and citrus fruit	8.9	10.1	6.7	2.4	8.8	19.7	6.8	0.8	0.3
- various permanent crops combined	6.7	13.9	6.6	2.9	8.3	12.5	8.9	1.0	0.3
- general field cropping	9.6	4.8	5.7	5.5	8.0	7.7	10.3	0.9	1.0
- other types of farming	35.5	47.7	65.8	79.7	42.3	23.6	34.3	92.3	96.5
- by farming methods (%)									
- organic farming	0.1	0.5	1.4	3.8	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.6	2.8
- irrigating	68.7	56.6	48.6	39.6	63.2	42.9	74.0	58.4	43.7
- with fixed irrigation equipment	61.3	50.1	40.3	30.1	55.9	40.9	66.0	47.3	24.4
- with crops under glass	2.0	1.8	1.0	0.4	1.8	2.5	1.7	1.5	0.7
- benefiting of direct investment aids	6.1	11.8	18.7	28.3	9.3	10.0	7.7	11.1	22.7
- using a tractor (%)	71.4	86.9	89.7	89.5	77.1	65.8	78.8	85.4	93.5
- with their own tractor	42.4	66.2	77.6	81.9	52.1	46.0	48.5	68.6	88.5
- using a combine harvester (%)	3.3	12.8	25.8	30.1	8.2	5.1	7.4	14.3	17.8
- with another gainful activity than agricultural production (%)	10.7	10.2	11.4	11.6	10.6	5.6	12.5	11.6	9.7
- tourism	0.2	0.3	0.6	1.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.8
- handicraft	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
- processing of farm products	9.6	8.6	8.5	4.9	9.1	4.3	11.1	9.6	4.6
- wood processing	0.2	0.2	0.3	1.2	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.9
- aquaculture	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
- renewable energy production	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.8
- contractual work	0.5	0.8	1.3	2.0	0.7	0.4	0.7	1.0	1.2
- other gainful activities n.a.e.	0.3	0.4	1.2	3.3	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.7	2.9

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

Size of the farm	Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LU)			
	< 5	5 - < 20	20 - < 50	50 =<		0	0 <- < 5	5 - < 50	50 =<
Area (1000 ha)									
Total area of agricultural holdings	575.0	720.1	467.5	2660.0	4422.7	1008.0	892.7	978.2	1543.7
Other area	278.8	206.4	93.1	341.5	919.8	256.8	304.0	178.2	180.7
Wooded area	228.7	148.5	67.7	271.9	716.9	187.9	234.3	151.3	143.4
Agricultural area	296.2	513.7	374.4	2318.6	3502.9	751.2	588.7	800.0	1363.0
Arable land	125.3	191.8	153.2	701.3	1171.6	230.0	240.9	295.8	404.9
Cereals	50.9	45.3	40.7	229.1	366.0	92.6	92.2	67.1	114.1
<i>Common wheat and spelt</i>	1.1	7.1	11.1	89.3	108.6	34.6	11.9	17.4	44.6
<i>Durum wheat</i>	0.2	0.6	1.0	7.2	9.1	4.3	0.6	1.1	3.0
<i>Rye</i>	3.1	9.6	6.6	4.0	23.3	1.0	10.6	10.6	1.1
<i>Barley</i>	0.3	2.4	3.0	25.2	30.9	12.9	3.3	4.6	10.1
<i>Oats</i>	1.4	4.4	5.8	51.3	62.9	10.2	6.4	14.3	32.1
<i>Grain maize</i>	43.8	17.4	8.5	19.7	89.4	15.8	52.9	12.5	8.2
Dried pulses	3.2	1.3	0.9	6.7	12.1	2.2	4.0	2.4	3.6
Root crops	11.0	8.9	4.1	9.5	33.4	8.7	15.5	6.2	3.0
<i>Potatoes</i>	10.2	7.2	2.1	2.0	21.5	4.2	13.1	3.6	0.6
<i>Sugar beet</i>	0.1	0.3	0.9	5.8	7.2	4.3	0.8	0.6	1.5
<i>Fodder root</i>	0.7	1.3	1.1	1.6	4.7	0.2	1.6	2.0	1.0
Industrial crops	0.3	0.4	0.8	7.5	9.0	4.4	1.0	1.4	2.1
<i>Tobacco</i>	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
<i>Hops</i>	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
<i>Cotton</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<i>Rape and turnip</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<i>Sunflower</i>	0.0	0.4	0.5	5.6	6.5	3.6	0.8	0.8	1.4
<i>Soya</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fresh vegetables, melons, strawberry	9.7	9.7	5.4	10.0	34.9	19.2	12.2	1.9	1.5
<i>outside</i>	8.9	9.1	5.2	10.0	33.2	18.3	11.5	1.9	1.5
<i>under glass</i>	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.0	1.7	0.9	0.6	0.1	0.0
Flower and ornamental plants	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.3	1.6	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.1
<i>outside</i>	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.9	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.0
<i>under glass</i>	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
Forage plants	38.6	83.8	61.5	192.5	376.4	21.5	62.1	141.5	151.3
Fallow land	10.6	41.6	39.4	245.4	337.0	79.9	53.0	74.8	129.3
Kitchen garden	7.9	4.4	1.1	0.6	14.0	2.6	8.8	2.2	0.3
Permanent pasture and meadows	28.5	115.2	132.4	1451.1	1727.3	265.1	124.4	431.9	905.9
Permanent crops	134.5	202.2	87.8	165.5	590.1	253.6	214.5	70.0	51.9
Fruit and berry plantation	24.1	50.1	20.4	14.6	109.2	47.3	47.2	12.3	2.4
Citrus plantation	6.5	6.7	3.9	2.1	19.3	11.1	6.6	1.1	0.6
Olive trees	45.2	84.0	38.4	111.3	278.8	107.8	87.1	42.9	40.9
Vineyard	58.3	60.6	24.7	37.2	180.7	86.1	73.1	13.6	8.0
Ratios									
Agricultural area per holding (ha)	2.1	9.5	30.3	226.9	16.0	14.2	4.6	24.8	191.6
Agricultural area... (%)									
... own farmed	87.2	80.5	68.2	64.8	69.4	83.0	83.9	55.2	63.8
... in less favoured or mountain area	68.4	77.6	84.2	92.4	87.3	80.7	79.8	91.2	91.9
... organic farmed	0.1	0.4	0.9	3.1	2.2	0.9	0.4	1.3	4.3
... irrigated	36.4	22.4	15.7	6.5	12.4	16.1	24.2	11.2	5.9

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

Size of the farm	Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LU)		
	< 5	5 - < 20	20 - < 50	50 = <		0 < - < 5	5 - < 50	50 = <
Total livestock (1000 LU)	638.1	446.3	236.5	702.2	2023.0	175.9	522.4	1324.7
of which grazing (%)	27.8	69.2	83.8	83.4	62.8	64.7	88.0	52.6
Grazing livestock (1000 heads)								
Equidae	19.1	17.8	5.1	9.6	51.7	23.2	21.1	7.4
Bovine animals	174.2	314.2	204.6	613.1	1306.1	82.0	403.0	821.1
Under 1 year	70.8	84.8	49.3	150.2	355.0	34.8	114.1	206.0
From 1 to less than 2 years	32.1	54.7	32.0	84.2	203.1	10.4	62.6	130.1
Dairy cows	30.0	124.9	80.8	51.5	287.3	7.9	113.8	165.6
Other cows	33.2	33.8	28.5	273.0	368.3	25.1	86.3	257.0
Other bovine animals 2 years and older	8.1	16.0	14.0	54.4	92.5	3.9	26.2	62.4
Sheep	323.0	435.8	325.3	1355.8	2439.9	306.5	1241.6	891.8
Goats	157.8	133.1	42.3	73.6	406.9	122.3	244.5	40.1
Granivores								
Pigs (1000 heads)	954.8	347.7	116.8	381.4	1800.8	125.9	159.3	1515.6
Piglets < 20 kg	297.3	100.1	35.4	99.1	531.9	33.0	55.3	443.6
Breeding sows	142.2	45.2	16.3	52.4	256.1	25.0	35.2	195.9
Other pigs	515.3	202.4	65.1	230.0	1012.7	67.9	68.8	876.1
Poultry (million heads)	21.6	4.7	0.8	1.4	28.5	2.0	2.2	24.3
Broilers	14.1	2.8	0.4	0.6	17.9	0.8	1.8	15.2
Laying hens	6.2	1.7	0.4	0.6	8.9	0.9	0.2	7.8
Other poultry	1.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	1.7	0.3	0.2	1.3
Rabbits, breeding females (1000 heads)	179.5	37.5	6.1	14.7	237.8	119.7	95.4	22.7
Beehives* (1000)	128.8	27.4	12.7	5.8	174.7	90.1	27.0	2.4
Average size of herds**								
Equidae (head/holding)	1.6	1.6	1.8	5.3	1.8	1.2	2.7	5.9
Cattle (head/holding)	5.4	20.9	42.9	142.0	23.2	2.7	19.1	156.9
Dairy cows (head/holding)	4.7	19.5	35.3	73.8	18.1	1.6	13.5	68.8
Other cows (head/holding)	2.3	5.2	12.9	82.0	14.1	1.8	8.7	98.6
Sheep (head/holding)	13.1	41.8	92.8	303.7	56.6	11.1	95.1	376.3
Goats (head/holding)	8.8	20.1	25.5	56.0	14.8	6.3	33.7	52.7
Pigs (head/holding)	20.5	24.9	34.6	173.5	27.3	2.6	10.5	517.8
Breeding sows (head/holding)	10.2	13.2	16.4	46.2	13.2	2.1	6.2	112.0
Other pigs > 20 kg (head/holding)	13.5	16.3	20.9	110.0	18.2	1.7	5.2	318.0
Rabbits, breeding females (head/holding)	5.3	3.9	4.6	38.6	5.3	3.2	14.6	35.0
Laying hens (1000/holding)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	3.1
Broilers (1000/holding)	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	6.3
Beehives (hive/holding)	18.3	13.1	24.4	22.1	17.6	12.2	16.3	13.6

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

* Bees are not taken into account when calculating Livestock Unit, there are 55.2 thousand hives on holdings with 0 LU.

** Number of animals of a given livestock category per holding with this kind of animal.

		Absolute figures			% of total	
		Total	< 1 ESU	>= 1 ESU	< 1 ESU	>= 1 ESU
Regular labour force	(1000 persons)	806.8	222.4	584.4	27.6	72.4
Regular labour force	(1000 AWU)	370.6	78.9	291.7	21.3	78.7
Holders	(1000 persons)	317.1	103.7	213.4	32.7	67.3
... at least 65 years old		150.1	59.1	91.1	39.3	60.7
... having another gainful activity		79.9	28.8	51.1	36.1	63.9
Number of holdings	(1000)	323.9	104.6	219.3	32.3	67.7
... producing mainly for own consumption		29.4	29.4	0.0	100.0	0.0
... producing mainly for direct sales		0.0	0.0	0.0	:	:
... using a tractor		231.6	62.5	169.1	27.0	73.0
Standard Gross Margin (SGM)	(1000 ESU)	2247.4	57.5	2189.9	2.6	97.4
Agricultural area	(1000 ha)	3679.6	176.7	3502.9	4.8	95.2
... owned farmed		2588.6	159.3	2429.3	6.2	93.8
Livestock	(1000 LU)	2069.8	46.8	2023.0	2.3	97.7

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

► METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The survey on the structure of agricultural holdings in Portugal was carried out between November 2005 and March 2006 on a sample basis. A full-scale agricultural census was conducted previously in 1999. The reference period of the farm structure survey was the agricultural year between 1 November 2004 and 31 October 2005. However for livestock the reference day was the day of the interview.

The target population was all the holdings enumerated in the agricultural census 1999 (now included in the updated farm register), that produced agricultural products for sale over the reference period and above certain thresholds (at least 1 ha UAA or equivalent land area, or having livestock either on the day of the survey or during the reference period). The planned sample size (about 40 thousand holdings, 9.5%) was allocated among the nine agricultural regions taking into account the actual number of holdings. Stratification was done by taking into account the significance of certain variables and their concentration in each region, and in the case of the remaining holdings, by UAA. Holdings within the specially built strata (significant variable with small number of holdings) as well as strata above certain higher thresholds were sampled in full. The FSS 2005 sample was combined with the sample-panels of the annual livestock and cereals surveys. For the estimations the target population was modified taking into account the abandoned, ceased or newly establish holdings.

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.

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 work unit (AWU) is equivalent to a worker employed on a full time basis for one year. In Portugal it is 1920 hours (240 working days of 8 working hours per day).

Livestock Unit (LU) is equivalent to a dairy cow. The number of animals (number of heads) is converted into LU using a set of coefficients reflecting the feed requirements of the different animal categories.

Subsistence farming refers here to all farms below 1 ESU economic size. Note that the number of farms cannot be compared between countries due to the differences in coverage of FSS.

► REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

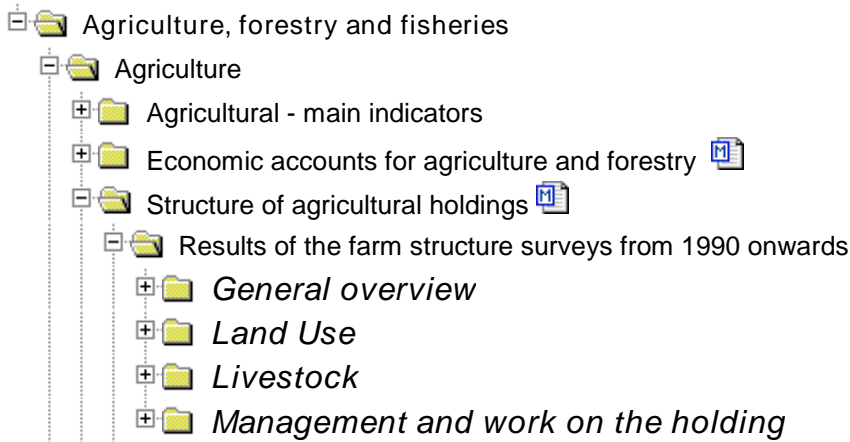
Publication of the results is expected to be issues in November 2006

Website of the Instituto Nacional de Estatística - Portugal:
www.ine.pt

National Methodological Report – FSS 2005 (available on request)

Further information:

Data: [EUROSTAT Website/Theme: Agriculture and Fisheries/Data](#)



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