

Farm Structure Survey in Luxembourg - 2007

62% of farms are livestock specialists

This Statistics in Focus is part of a series of country-specific publications on the results of the Farm Structure Survey (FSS) 2007. It provides a brief but nevertheless comprehensive insight into the farm structure in Luxembourg.

2 300 agricultural holdings were recorded in Luxembourg in the 2007 Farm Structure Survey, which represents a 6% decrease since 2005. In particular, farms under 5 ha fell by 16%.

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Due to the different coverage of the FSS across Member States, the total number of surveyed farms is not comparable between countries. This is why the present analysis focuses on holdings of at least one European Size Unit (ESU). See the methodological notes for more information on the concept of ESU.

In 2007, about **2 200 agricultural holdings** had an economic size of at least 1 ESU, compared to 2 350 in 2005 (a 6% reduction).

They made use of **130 000 ha of utilised agricultural area (UAA)**, (1% more than 2005), which is on average about 58 ha per holding;

These holdings employed **3 700 AWUs** (annual work units), the equivalent of 3 700 people working full time, revealing a decrease of 6% since 2005;

They had **161 000 livestock units (LSU)** in 2007, 2% more than in 2005.

Amongst these **2 200** agricultural holdings:

21 % made use of less than one AWU, while another 45% made use of 2 or more AWUs;

32% used less than 20 ha, while 19% used 100 ha or more;

62% of Luxembourgish farms specialize in livestock;

- 29% were specialist in dairy farming;
- 17% were specialists in vineyard;
- 12% were specialist cattle – rearing and fattening.

Amongst the sole holders:

21% were women in 2007;

39% were aged 55 or more and 5% were younger than 35 years;

17% had another gainful activity in 2007;

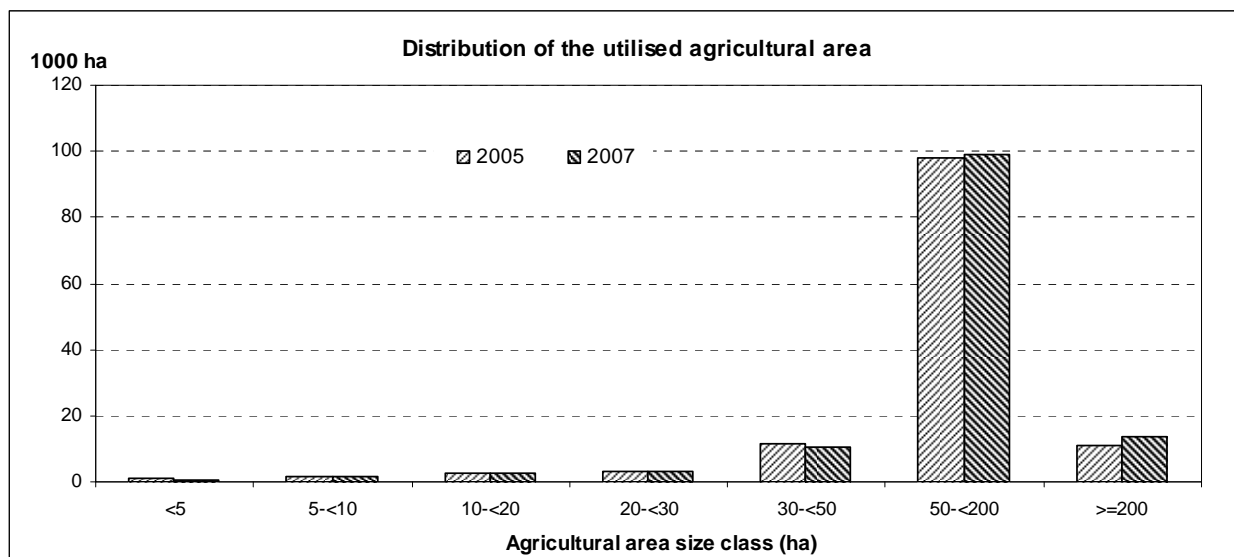
In Luxembourg in 2007, 43% of the agricultural area was owned by the holders.

The family labour force is 85% of the total labour force (a 2% increase since 2005).

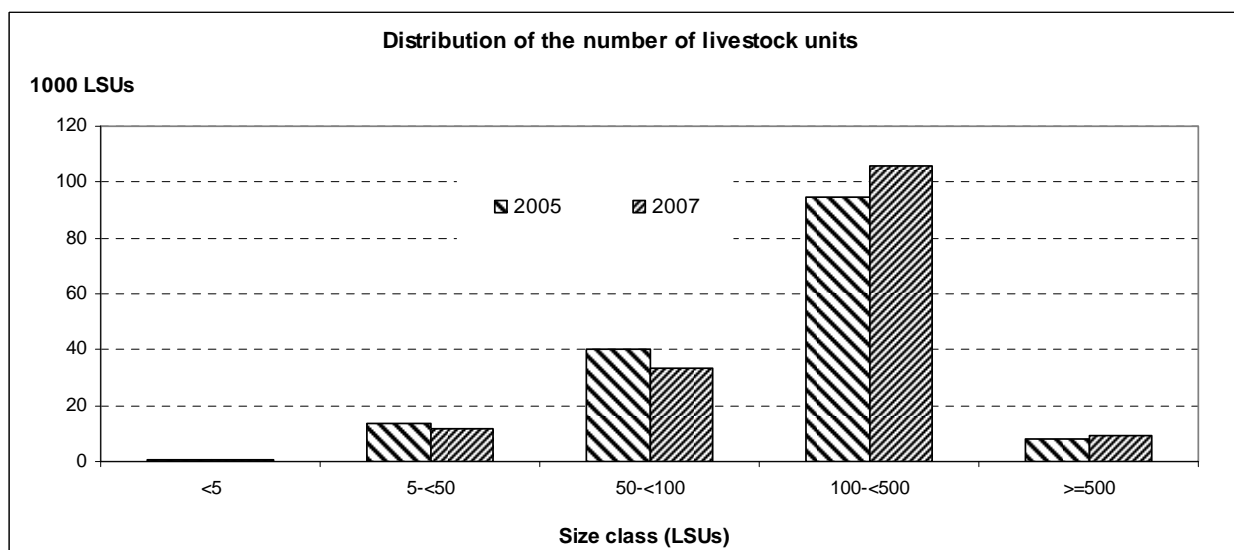
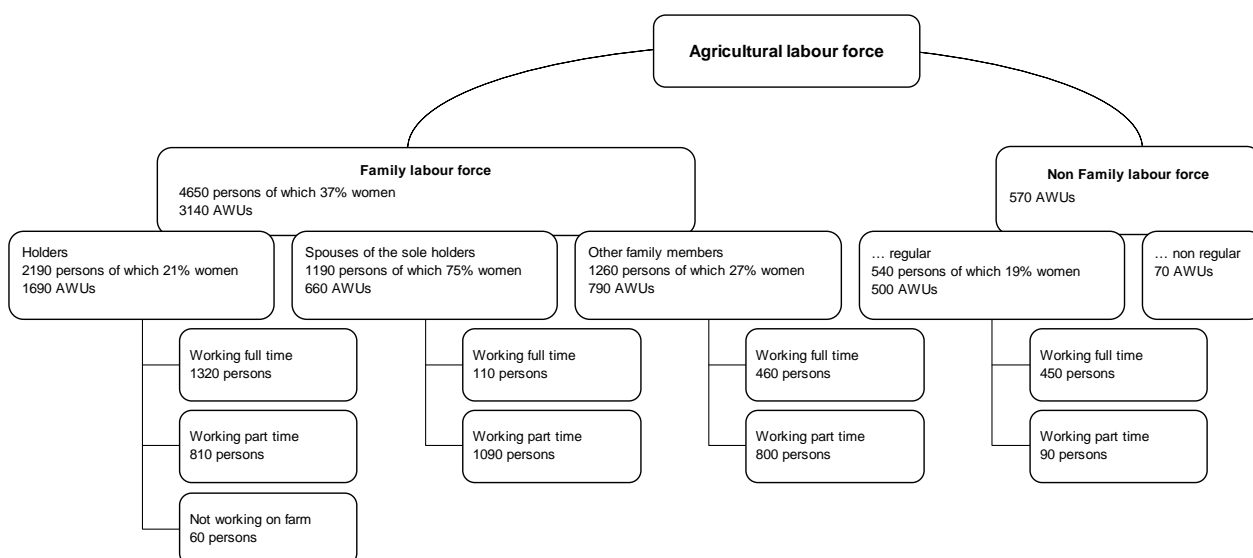
The area organically farmed increased by 10% but remains a small share of the total UAA (2%) and of the total number of farms (also 2%).

The percentage of farms with livestock has dropped from 81% in 2005 to 77% in 2007.

Almost half (49%) of the holdings in Luxembourg have dairy cows, with an average of 37 cows per farm.



Description of the Labour Force in Luxembourg



Size of the farms	Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LSU*)				
	<20	20-<50	50-<100	>=100		0	>0-<50	50-<100	>=100	
Total labour force										
1000 annual work units	1.0	0.5	1.3	1.0	3.7	0.8	0.7	0.8	1.5	
Family labour force										
1000 persons	1.2	0.7	1.6	1.1	4.6	0.8	1.1	1.0	1.7	
1000 annual work units	0.6	0.5	1.2	0.9	3.1	0.5	0.6	0.7	1.3	
Non-family labour regularly employed										
1000 persons	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1	
1000 annual work units	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1	
Non regular non family labour force										
1000 annual work units	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Holding managers	1000	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.4	2.2	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.6
- women (%)		19.0	21.0	9.0	4.6	13.5	17.4	21.4	9.9	5.4
- part-time: - under 50 % (%)		40.5	8.5	0.6	0.0	15.2	34.6	25.2	0.7	0.2
- 50 % and over (%)		29.6	36.2	6.8	3.8	18.8	21.3	39.4	8.7	3.7
Sole/main holders	1000	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.4	2.2	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.6
- women (%)		26.7	33.4	17.0	7.0	21.1	27.0	31.0	15.8	10.7
-distribution by age (%)										
- under 35 years		4.1	4.3	7.0	5.5	5.3	3.8	4.0	5.6	7.5
- from 35 to 44 years		16.0	15.2	24.6	32.3	21.7	16.9	14.8	23.9	30.3
- from 45 to 54 years		29.0	30.5	38.2	39.3	34.1	29.7	29.7	41.4	36.5
- from 55 to 64 years		22.6	27.8	25.4	18.6	23.6	25.7	25.2	22.3	21.5
- 65 years and over		28.3	22.2	4.8	4.3	15.3	23.8	26.3	6.8	4.2
- part-time: - under 50 % (%)		42.5	8.6	0.6	0.0	15.4	36.6	25.5	0.7	0.2
- 50 % and over (%)		31.1	36.4	6.8	3.9	19.2	22.6	40.0	8.8	3.7
- with another gainful activity ¹ (%)		36.0	17.8	6.8	4.1	17.4	28.3	31.6	7.2	4.1
- as a main occupation		31.9	8.3	0.7	0.5	11.9	24.5	23.8	0.7	0.2
- as a subsidiary occupation		4.0	9.6	6.2	3.6	5.5	3.8	7.9	6.5	3.9
Spouse of sole holder	1000	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.3	1.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4
- women (%)		67.3	54.9	79.7	92.0	75.0	70.5	55.7	81.3	87.5
-distribution by age (%)										
- under 35 years		3.1	5.7	6.5	10.4	6.3	1.7	5.2	6.7	9.5
- from 35 to 54 years		50.5	40.4	69.5	68.9	59.5	51.9	48.1	64.8	68.9
- 55 years and over		46.4	53.9	24.0	20.7	34.2	46.4	46.7	28.5	21.6
- part-time: - under 50 % (%)		47.4	26.9	12.1	12.0	24.0	41.8	36.4	13.1	11.5
- 50 % and over (%)		45.2	64.8	78.6	78.1	67.3	46.8	58.8	76.0	79.7
- with another gainful activity (%)		31.2	31.1	16.1	10.8	21.4	21.9	40.2	15.4	11.5
Other members of the holder's family working on the holding	1000	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	1.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.7
- women (%)		24.3	29.2	25.3	29.9	27.5	23.9	26.1	31.7	26.7
- part-time: - under 50 % (%)		62.7	51.8	28.5	15.4	31.2	50.5	63.3	28.4	18.1
- 50 % and over (%)		17.8	32.1	35.0	35.3	32.4	19.3	27.4	39.9	33.3
- with another gainful activity (%)		40.2	36.9	7.6	5.2	15.0	30.3	41.6	9.6	5.5

*LSU = Livestock unit

¹ Only holders who are also farm managers

"0" less than a half of the unit or nil

Size of the farms	Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LSU)				
	<20	20-<50	50-<100	>=100		0	>0-<50	50-<100	>=100	
Holdings										
- total number	1000	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.4	2.2	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.6
- by legal personality of the holder	(%)									
- sole holder		95.3	99.5	99.6	99.8	98.2	94.5	98.6	99.6	99.7
- legal person		4.7	0.5	0.4	0.2	1.8	5.5	1.4	0.4	0.3
- group holders		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- by employed labour force	(%)									
- under 1 AWU		53.5	17.8	1.0	0	21.2	42.1	40.0	1.3	0.2
- from 1 to less than 2 AWU		28.8	72.1	62.4	31.0	46.9	32.2	53.3	66.6	38.6
- from 2 to less than 3 AWU		9.0	7.7	31.3	45.0	22.4	13.2	4.7	28.0	42.9
- 3 AWU and over		8.7	2.4	5.4	24.0	9.5	12.5	1.9	4.0	18.3
- by economic size	(%)									
- from 1 to less than 8 ESU		56.2	9.0	0.4	0	20.5	41.1	39.2	0	0
- from 8 to less than 16 ESU		13.8	35.6	1.0	0.7	11.1	14.0	27.7	0.2	0
- from 16 to less than 40 ESU		10.9	40.4	19.7	3.8	17.3	16.8	28.8	23.3	2.2
- from 40 to less than 100 ESU		15.7	13.6	71.6	38.0	36.8	22.3	4.0	74.0	54.7
- 100 ESU and over		3.5	1.3	7.2	57.5	14.4	5.7	0.3	2.5	43.1
- by type of farming (top 5 + 'other')	(%)									
... specialist dairy farming		1.2	21.5	55.1	41.1	28.8	0	11.1	58.7	48.1
... specialist vineyard		49.2	1.6	0.3	0.5	16.9	72.3	1.6	0	0.2
... cattle – dairy farming, rearing and fattening com		2.7	9.3	14.6	28.4	12.3	0	7.6	14.1	25.3
... specialist cattle – rearing and fattening		6.6	18.9	9.1	8.4	9.8	0	17.6	10.8	9.1
... sheep, goats and other grazing livestock		18.8	11.2	2.7	3.1	9.6	0	28.8	4.0	2.2
Other types of farming		21.6	37.5	18.1	18.5	22.6	27.7	33.4	12.3	15.2
- by farming methods	(%)									
- organic farming		1.7	2.9	3.0	2.2	2.4	1.8	4.1	2.5	1.2
- irrigating		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- with crops under glass		2.9	0.3	0.4	0.2	1.2	3.8	0.6	0.4	0.3
- with another gainful activity than agricultural production:	(%)									
Tourism		9.8	12.2	24.6	24.8	17.6	8.5	12.8	22.6	25.9
Handicraft		2.7	3.5	3.0	2.4	2.9	1.0	4.3	2.9	2.9
Processing of farm products		0.3	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.5
Wood processing		4.6	3.2	3.0	4.6	3.9	5.9	2.7	3.8	3.4
Aquaculture		1.3	0.8	3.2	1.7	1.9	0.6	1.7	3.1	2.2
Renewable energy production		0.1	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0
Contractual work		1.1	4.3	16.1	18.5	9.5	0.6	4.6	13.9	18.3
Other gainful activities n.a.e		0.4	1.9	3.2	4.6	2.3	0.4	1.4	3.4	3.9
Other gainful activities n.a.e		0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.9

*LSU = Livestock unit

"0" less than a half of the unit or nil

Size of the farms	Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LSU)				
	<20	20-<50	50-<100	>=100		0	>0-<50	50-<100	>=100	
Area	(1000 ha)									
Total area of agricultural holdings	5.4	14.4	54.0	63.5	137.3	5.1	19.1	33.8	79.4	
· H. Other area	0.7	1.1	2.9	2.3	7.1	0.6	1.5	1.8	3.2	
Wooded area	0.7	1.0	2.6	2.1	6.4	0.5	1.4	1.5	3.0	
· Agricultural area	4.6	13.3	51.1	61.2	130.2	4.5	17.6	32.0	76.2	
- D. Arable land	1.2	6.0	23.3	30.4	60.9	2.7	7.4	14.7	36.1	
Cereals	0.8	3.4	10.8	13.5	28.5	1.7	4.2	7.1	15.5	
<i>Common wheat and spelt</i>	0.2	1.0	4.5	6.9	12.6	0.6	1.5	3.0	7.5	
<i>Durum wheat</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>Rye</i>	0	0.2	0.4	0.6	1.3	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.6	
<i>Barley</i>	0.3	1.3	3.6	4.0	9.2	0.6	1.4	2.4	4.8	
<i>Oats</i>	0.1	0.3	0.7	0.5	1.6	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.6	
<i>Grain maize</i>	0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0	0.1	0	0.2	
Dried pulses	0	0	0.2	0.1	0.4	0	0.1	0.1	0.2	
Root crops	0	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	
<i>Potatoes</i>	0	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	
<i>Sugar beet</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>Fodder root</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Industrial crops	0.1	0.5	1.6	3.9	6.1	0.4	0.7	1.2	3.7	
<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	0.4	1.3	3.6	5.4	0.4	0.6	1.0	3.3	
<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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>outside</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>under glass</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Flower and ornamental plants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>outside</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>under glass</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Forage plants	0.2	1.9	9.8	11.2	23.0	0.2	2.1	5.6	15.1	
Fallow land	0	0.1	0.4	0.8	1.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.8	
- E. Kitchen garden	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
- F. Permanent pasture and meadows	2.2	7.1	27.8	30.7	67.8	0.5	10.1	17.3	40.0	
- G. Permanent crops	1.2	0.2	0	0.1	1.5	1.3	0.1	0	0.1	
Fruit and berry plantation	0.1	0	0	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	
Citrus plantation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Olive trees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Vineyard	1.1	0.1	0	0.1	1.3	1.2	0.1	0	0	
Ratios										
Agricultural area per holding	(ha)	6.2	35.3	74.0	147.2	58.4	8.9	27.8	71.8	118.1
Agricultural area...	(%)									
... own farmed		51.5	53.6	48.8	34.6	42.7	51.1	49.9	46.6	39.0
... in less favoured or mountain area		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
... organic farmed		1.5	3.3	2.9	1.9	2.5	1.4	6.8	3.0	1.3
... irrigated		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*LSU = Livestock unit

":" not available

"0" less than a half of the unit or nil

Size of the farms		Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LSU)			
		<20	20-<50	50-<100	>=100		0	>0-<50	50-<100	>=100
Total livestock	(1000 LSU)	4.0	13.1	67.6	76.0	160.7	0	12.3	33.2	115.2
of which grazing	(%)	75.1	85.4	86.7	90.0	87.9	:	98.1	97.5	84.0
Grazing livestock	(1000 heads)									
Equidae		1.3	1.1	1.0	1.0	4.3	0	2.3	0.8	1.2
Bovine animals		2.4	14.4	80.0	95.1	191.9	0	13.8	43.4	134.7
Under 1 year		0.6	3.8	21.7	26.6	52.7	0	3.7	11.4	37.7
From 1 to less than 2 years		0.5	3.0	17.8	22.2	43.5	0	2.9	9.0	31.6
Dairy cows		0.2	2.2	18.5	19.2	40.0	0	1.7	10.9	27.4
Other cows		0.8	3.5	12.4	16.2	32.8	0	3.7	6.5	22.6
Other bovine animals 2 years and older		0.3	1.9	9.6	11.0	22.9	0	1.9	5.5	15.5
Sheep		2.5	1.8	1.9	2.6	8.7	0	4.8	0.9	3.1
Goats		0.2	0.1	1.9	0.6	2.8	0	0.3	0.3	2.2
Granivores										
Pigs	(1000 heads)	2.3	9.1	39.9	31.9	83.3	0	1.0	3.9	78.3
Piglets < 20 kg		0.9	4.3	15.4	9.0	29.6	0	0.7	2.5	26.4
Breeding sows		0.4	1.3	3.9	1.9	7.5	0	0.1	0.7	6.6
Other pigs		1.0	3.6	20.6	21.1	46.2	0	0.2	0.7	45.3
Poultry	(million heads)	0	0	0	0	0.1	0	0	0	0.1
Broilers		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Laying hens		0	0	0	0	0.1	0	0	0	0.1
Other poultry		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rabbits, breeding females	(1000 heads)	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.8	0	0.4	0.1	0.3
Beehives	(1000)	0.5	0	0.1	0	0.6	0.3	0.2	0	0
Average size of herds*	(head/holding)									
Equidae	(head/holding)	8.3	11.8	7.6	8.3	8.7	:	9.0	10.2	7.5
Cattle	(head/holding)	17.3	50.7	123.1	236.7	130.2	:	33.3	99.1	216.9
Dairy cows	(head/holding)	4.0	15.5	33.8	53.5	36.8	:	10.1	29.3	50.2
Other cows	(head/holding)	6.5	12.6	19.2	40.4	22.7	:	9.5	14.9	36.6
Sheep	(head/holding)	36.7	47.6	38.7	70.2	45.9	:	43.1	37.3	54.8
Goats	(head/holding)	5.6	4.4	62.8	39.1	27.4	:	5.3	16.5	71.6
Pigs	(head/holding)	121.8	277.1	531.7	625.8	467.7	:	31.7	126.0	686.9
Breeding sows	(head/holding)	29.4	66.9	84.3	99.2	75.5	:	6.1	33.7	114.1
Other pigs > 20 kg	(head/holding)	70.1	169.3	321.4	489.6	325.1	:	12.1	31.8	439.6
Rabbits, breeding females	(head/holding)	6.0	5.1	5.6	3.9	5.4	:	5.6	2.8	7.2
Laying hens	(1000/holding)	0.3	0.1	0.2	0	0.2	:	0	0.1	0.4
Broilers	(1000/holding)	0.1	0	0.1	0.2	0.1	:	0	0.3	0.2
Beehives	(hive/holding)	35.3	13.0	5.9	1.0	21.2	108.0	12.6	7.5	2.0

*LSU = Livestock unit

		Absolute figures			% of total	
		Total	< 1 ESU	>= 1 ESU	< 1 ESU	>= 1 ESU
Regular Labour force	(1000 pers)	5.3	0.1	5.2	2.0	98.0
Regular labour force	(1000 AWU)	3.7	0.0	3.6	1.1	98.9
Holders with...	(1000)	2.3	0.1	2.2	3.2	96.8
... at least 65 years		0.4	0.0	0.3	7.2	92.8
... another gainful activity		0.4	0.0	0.3	7.4	92.6
Number of sole holdings	(1000)	2.3	0.1	2.2	3.2	96.8
... producing mainly for own consumption		:	:	:	:	:
... producing mainly for direct sales		:	:	:	:	:
SGM	(1000 ESU)	119.2	0.0	119.1	0.0	100.0
Agricultural area	(1000 ha)	130.9	0.7	130.2	0.5	99.5
... own farmed		56.0	0.3	55.7	0.5	99.5
Livestock	(1000 LSU*)	160.8	0.1	160.7	0.1	99.9

*LSU = Livestock Unit

► METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The survey on the structure of agricultural holdings in Luxembourg was carried out in May 2007 on an exhaustive base, by STATEC (the Central Statistical and Economic Studies Office) in collaboration with the 116 municipalities of the country and the Rural Economy Office (Service d'Economie Rurale -SER).

The agricultural census has been conducted yearly since 1953. The reference date of the FSS 2007 was the 15 May 2007, however for farm labour force characteristics the reference period covers the 12 preceding months.

The FSS relates to holdings whose utilised agricultural area is one hectare or more and those whose area is less than one hectare but produce for sale (including the livestock) or have at least 100 m² under vineyard. The target population was all the farms with an operating base located in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The list of holdings was updated and completed at municipality level prior to the census; data from SER were also used to check the completeness of the population.

Administrative sources from SER were used to determine agricultural areas and livestock. The organic farming data were also checked by using data from the Administration of the technical services of agriculture.

The data have been checked several times during their processing: at municipality level (when collecting the questionnaires and when compiling the data) and then at a national level using software. The national data are checked against the municipal lists and tables from previous years. The non-response rate is not significant (0.5%) and

the missing data are imputed from previous surveys.

Between FSS 2005 and 2007 "maintaining land in good agricultural and environmental conditions" (GAEC) became an agricultural activity and the concerned land has been included in the agricultural area. In Luxembourg it covers 260 ha, 96% being in farms with at least 1 ESU.

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 a 1200-euro SGM).

An Annual work unit (AWU) is equivalent to a worker employed on a full time basis for one year. In Luxembourg it is 2200 hours (275 working days of 8 working hours per day) provided the person is between 15 and 80 years.

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

► REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

Website of the Central Statistical Office of Luxembourg: <http://www.statec.lu>

National Methodological Report – FSS 2007 Luxembourg (available for request)

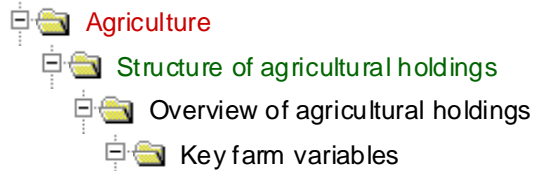
Further information

Data: [Eurostat Website: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat)

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