

Farm Structure Survey in Finland - 2007

51% of the Utilized Agricultural Area under cereals



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 Finland.

68 200 agricultural holdings were recorded in Finland in the 2007 Farm Structure Survey (3% less than in 2005).

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Due to the different coverage of the FSS 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 European Size Unit (ESU). See the methodological notes for more information on the concept of ESU.

In 2007, 98% of the **agricultural holdings** (66 600) had an economic size of at least 1 ESU, compared with 70 000 in 2005.

They used about **2.29 million ha of utilised agricultural area** (UAA), an increase of 1% compared with 2005. This represents an average of 34 ha per holding (compared with 32 ha in 2005);

These holdings employed **67 400 AWUs** (annual work units), the equivalent of 67 400 people working full time; (14% less than 2005). The average area per AWU was 34 ha (around 5 ha more than in 2005);

They had **1.15 million livestock units** (LSU) in 2007, slightly less (0.5%) than in 2005.

Amongst these 66 600 agricultural holdings:

53% made use of less than one AWU, while another 21% made use of 2 or more AWUs;

2% used less than 2 ha, while 21% used 50 ha or more;

64% of Finish farms specialised in crops (an increase of 3% from 2005).

37% of the holdings were specialist in cereals, oil seed and protein crops;

23% specialised in general field cropping (an increase of 4% from the last survey);

18% of the holdings were engaged in dairy farming (3% less than in 2005).

The family labour force made up 89% of the total labour force in Finland and decreased by 15% from 2005 to 2007.

Amongst the sole holders:

11% were women;

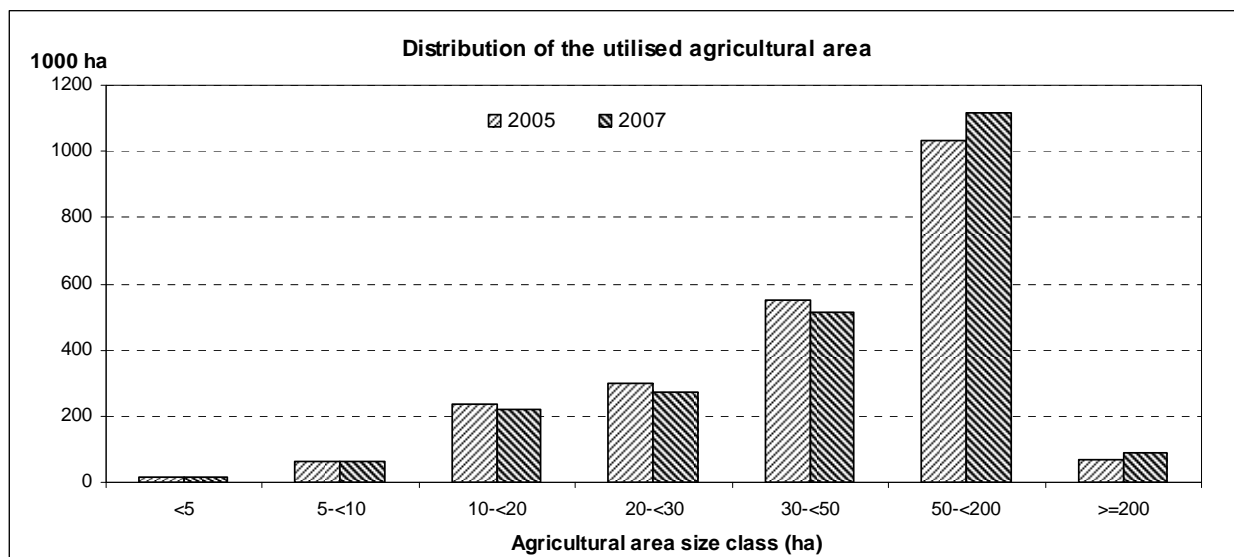
36% were aged 55 or more and 9% were younger than 35 years;

41% of the sole holders had another gainful activity in 2007.

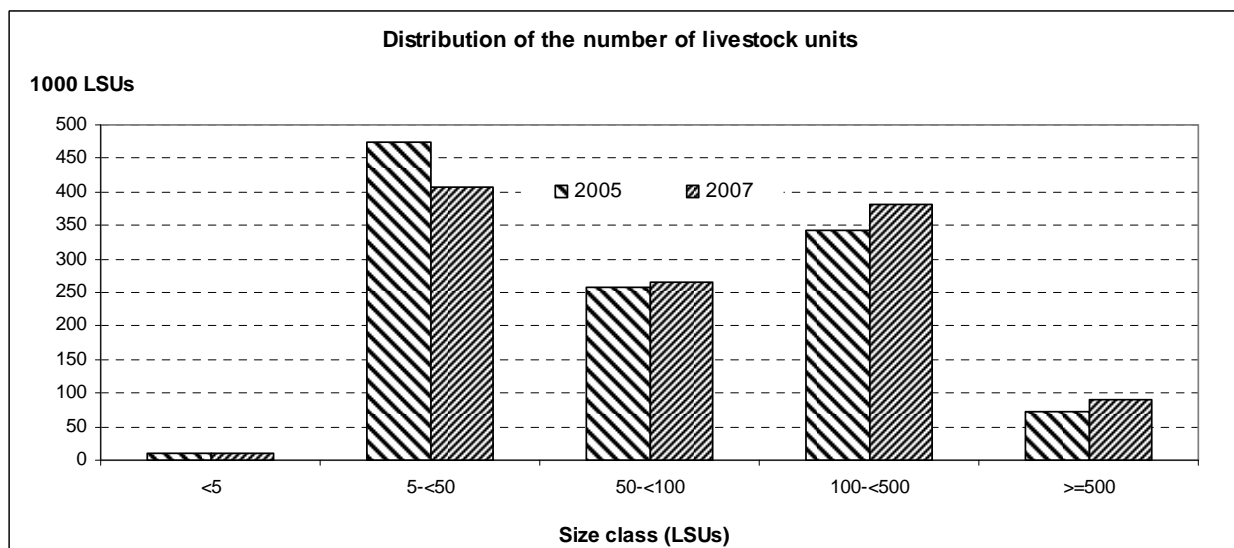
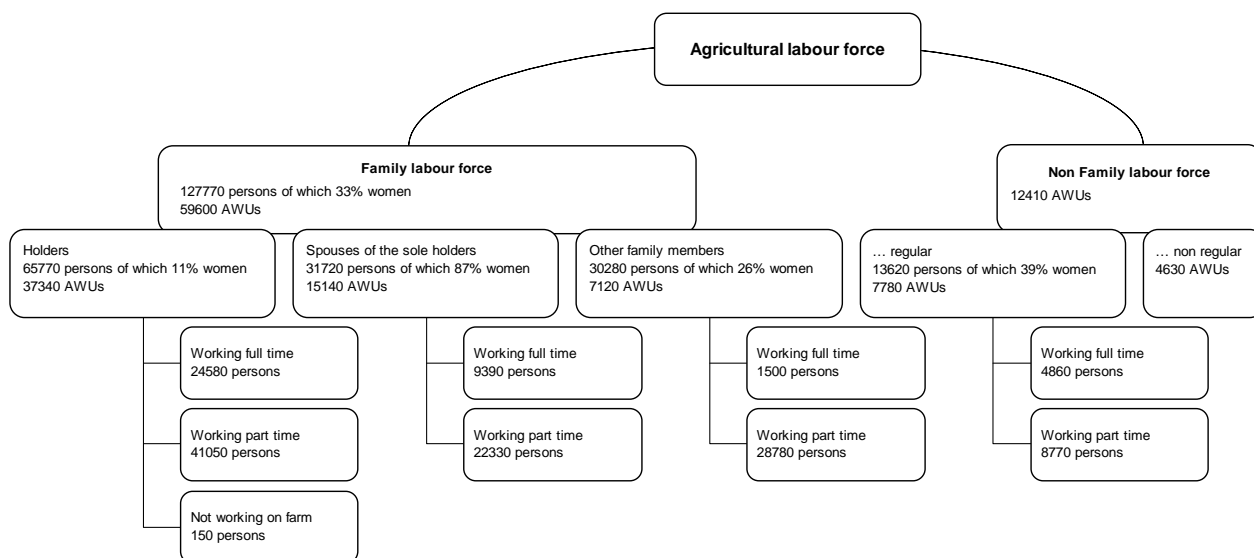
In Finland in 2007, 66% of the agricultural area was farmed by its owners.

There was a 9% increase in the area of organic farming from 2005 to 2007. The nearly 130 000 ha of land used for organic farming accounted for 6% of the UAA in Finland.

Economically, the farms in Finland suffered a fall: the total amount of ESU dropped 7% from 2005 to 2007.



Description of the labour force in Finland



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	19.8	27.8	17.4	7.0	72.0	26.9	31.3	8.4	5.4	
Family labour force										
1000 persons	46.5	49.7	24.2	7.4	127.8	68.9	45.1	9.1	4.7	
1000 annual work units	15.2	25.2	14.6	4.6	59.6	20.6	28.7	6.9	3.5	
Non-family labour regularly employed										
1000 persons	5.2	3.3	2.9	2.2	13.6	7.1	3.2	1.4	1.9	
1000 annual work units	2.9	1.5	1.8	1.6	7.8	3.5	1.7	1.1	1.5	
Non regular non family labour force										
1000 annual work units	1.7	1.1	1.1	0.7	4.6	2.9	0.8	0.5	0.4	
Holding managers	1000	27.5	24.9	11.1	3.3	66.8	39.2	21.5	3.9	2.2
- women	(%)	14.8	8.1	5.4	4.6	10.2	8.4	14.7	6.5	5.3
- part-time:										
- under 50 %	(%)	72.1	43.2	22.9	12.8	50.2	73.9	20.4	2.5	4.8
- 50 % and over	(%)	9.6	12.4	16.1	17.6	12.1	13.4	11.6	5.0	6.5
Sole/main holders	1000	26.8	24.8	11.0	3.2	65.8	38.6	21.3	3.9	2.0
- women	(%)	15.1	8.6	5.8	5.1	10.6	9.0	14.7	6.8	5.4
-distribution by age	(%)									
- under 35 years		6.7	9.4	13.4	13.2	9.1	8.2	9.4	14.5	13.9
- from 35 to 44 years		17.3	23.3	31.6	35.3	22.8	20.7	22.9	37.0	35.7
- from 45 to 54 years		30.4	33.5	33.4	33.0	32.2	31.4	33.4	32.5	34.2
- from 55 to 64 years		36.5	29.0	19.2	17.2	29.8	32.2	29.6	15.0	15.2
- 65 years and over		9.1	4.8	2.3	1.3	6.0	7.4	4.8	1.0	1.1
- part-time:										
- under 50 %	(%)	74.1	43.4	23.0	13.1	51.0	75.1	20.6	2.6	5.2
- 50 % and over	(%)	9.8	12.5	16.2	18.1	12.3	13.7	11.7	5.0	7.0
- with another gainful activity ¹	(%)	52.8	37.1	25.7	19.9	40.8	54.8	24.3	9.4	8.1
- as a main occupation		42.8	25.3	13.6	8.8	29.7	41.8	15.4	3.0	2.4
- as a subsidiary occupation		9.9	11.9	12.1	11.1	11.1	13.0	8.9	6.5	5.8
Spouse of sole holder	1000	10.6	12.6	6.5	2.0	31.7	15.1	12.6	2.7	1.4
- women	(%)	79.1	89.9	93.5	94.9	87.3	87.1	85.3	93.8	95.8
-distribution by age	(%)									
- under 35 years		6.7	9.2	14.9	15.1	9.9	7.9	10.2	17.8	14.3
- from 35 to 54 years		51.3	63.4	69.2	72.6	61.1	56.6	62.8	71.8	74.7
- 55 years and over		41.9	27.4	15.9	12.3	28.9	35.5	27.0	10.4	11.0
- part-time:										
- under 50 %	(%)	78.0	55.3	45.0	46.2	60.2	87.8	39.5	21.0	24.7
- 50 % and over	(%)	8.2	10.7	11.3	14.1	10.2	6.2	13.7	13.1	16.7
- with another gainful activity	(%)	57.8	43.5	37.0	36.3	46.5	63.3	34.5	20.7	23.6
Other members of the holder's family working on the holding	1000	9.1	12.3	6.7	2.2	30.3	15.2	11.2	2.5	1.3
- women	(%)	27.7	25.6	23.8	27.2	26.0	22.1	30.8	27.3	27.4
- part-time:										
- under 50 %	(%)	94.3	89.5	85.3	79.6	89.3	96.0	84.5	76.3	77.4
- 50 % and over	(%)	2.8	6.0	7.7	11.0	5.8	2.7	8.0	12.2	10.5
- with another gainful activity	(%)	44.1	32.2	24.9	22.3	33.5	39.4	30.6	18.7	18.0

*LSU = Livestock unit

¹ Only holders who are also farm managers

"." 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
Holdings										
- total number	1000	28.3	24.2	10.9	3.2	66.6	39.4	21.1	3.9	2.2
- by legal personality of the holder	(%)									
- sole holder		91.4	93.0	90.7	83.3	91.5	91.7	92.8	88.3	80.5
- legal person		2.7	0.4	0.8	2.7	1.6	1.7	0.9	1.0	7.1
- group holders		5.9	6.6	8.5	14.0	7.0	6.7	6.4	10.7	12.4
- by employed labour force	(%)									
- under 1 AWU		73.6	47.0	28.0	14.4	53.2	78.7	21.2	1.8	2.7
- from 1 to less than 2 AWU		18.0	30.6	34.3	36.1	26.3	15.8	44.1	31.9	30.7
- from 2 to less than 3 AWU		6.0	20.3	30.8	29.7	16.6	3.4	31.7	52.8	40.9
- 3 AWU and over		2.3	2.1	6.9	19.8	3.9	2.2	3.1	13.4	25.7
- by economic size	(%)									
- from 1 to less than 8 ESU		77.2	15.1	0.2	0	38.3	54.4	19.2	0.1	0
- from 8 to less than 16 ESU		9.8	36.9	4.3	0.1	18.3	22.3	15.8	1.3	0.5
- from 16 to less than 40 ESU		9.3	32.9	47.2	15.2	24.4	16.5	42.1	14.9	11.9
- from 40 to less than 100 ESU		2.6	14.4	42.2	56.2	15.9	5.3	22.6	69.4	48.0
- 100 ESU and over		1.1	0.6	6.1	28.5	3.1	1.5	0.3	14.3	39.5
- by type of farming (top 5 + 'other')	(%)									
... specialist cereals, oil seed and protein crops		34.0	38.6	37.3	43.2	36.7	58.0	5.7	4.6	6.8
... general field cropping		33.3	17.7	10.8	11.6	22.9	32.1	11.8	1.2	2.4
... specialist dairy farming		7.7	26.6	28.6	16.4	18.4	0	46.7	53.2	15.5
... field crops – grazing livestock combined		6.5	5.3	6.6	9.4	6.2	0.3	17.8	5.8	2.8
... specialist horticulture		7.5	1.2	0.8	0.6	3.8	6.2	0.4	0.2	0.2
Other types of farming		11.0	10.6	15.9	18.8	12.0	3.4	17.6	35.1	72.3
- by farming methods	(%)									
- organic farming		4.5	5.7	6.2	7.7	5.4	4.9	6.1	6.5	4.2
- irrigating		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- with crops under glass		4.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	2.4	3.7	0.4	0.3	0.6
- with another gainful activity than agricultural production:	(%)									
Tourism		1.9	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.5	2.1	1.2	1.0
Handicraft		0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0
Processing of farm products		0.6	0.7	0.8	1.1	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.6	1.1
Wood processing		0.8	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.3
Aquaculture		0.1	0.1	0	0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0
Renewable energy production		0.4	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.3	0.5	0.5
Contractual work		7.4	14.8	21.0	26.5	13.4	13.8	12.3	15.8	12.7
Other gainful activities n.a.e		11.6	9.2	10.6	11.5	10.5	11.4	9.9	6.3	8.0

*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	
Area	(1000 ha)									
Total area of agricultural holdings	1450.6	2359.0	1623.4	851.3	6284.3	3212.9	2093.7	599.5	378.1	
· H. Other area	1156.3	1575.7	876.3	390.2	3998.5	2081.7	1413.0	327.3	176.5	
Wooded area	897.5	1242.6	692.7	310.3	3143.1	1651.5	1095.3	255.3	141.0	
· Agricultural area	294.3	783.2	747.1	461.2	2285.8	1131.2	680.7	272.2	201.6	
- D. Arable land	285.4	772.0	736.2	449.3	2242.9	1116.5	663.0	266.6	196.8	
Cereals	123.7	391.4	395.3	257.1	1167.5	700.8	247.5	106.9	112.4	
<i>Common wheat and spelt</i>	11.3	51.0	73.3	68.4	203.9	150.0	24.3	10.0	19.6	
<i>Durum wheat</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>Rye</i>	2.7	8.8	10.5	9.9	31.9	24.8	4.6	1.3	1.2	
<i>Barley</i>	52.4	184.4	194.8	118.3	549.9	316.4	106.7	57.3	69.6	
<i>Oats</i>	57.1	146.8	116.3	60.3	380.4	209.1	111.5	38.1	21.7	
<i>Grain maize</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Dried pulses	0.2	0.9	1.9	2.1	5.2	3.5	0.8	0.3	0.6	
Root crops	4.8	15.6	14.6	8.5	43.5	35.3	5.0	1.3	2.0	
<i>Potatoes</i>	3.7	10.6	9.0	4.3	27.6	23.4	2.9	0.6	0.7	
<i>Sugar beet</i>	1.1	5.1	5.6	4.2	16.0	11.9	2.1	0.7	1.3	
<i>Fodder root</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Industrial crops	11.1	38.4	40.7	40.7	130.8	101.8	16.0	5.4	7.7	
<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>	4.8	22.4	32.7	30.3	90.2	68.0	11.4	4.5	6.3	
<i>Sunflower</i>	0	0	0	0	0.1	0.1	0	0	0	
<i>Soya</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Fresh vegetables, melons, strawberry	3.5	3.0	3.4	2.1	12.1	10.4	0.9	0.3	0.5	
<i>outside</i>	3.3	3.0	3.4	2.1	11.8	10.1	0.9	0.3	0.5	
<i>under glass</i>	0.2	0	0	0	0.3	0.3	0	0	0	
Flower and ornamental plants	0.2	0	0	0	0.2	0.2	0	0	0	
<i>outside</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>under glass</i>	0.2	0	0	0	0.2	0.2	0	0	0	
Forage plants	107.7	256.2	205.1	88.6	657.5	112.8	352.7	134.7	57.3	
Fallow land	34.1	66.0	74.6	49.7	224.4	150.6	39.8	17.7	16.4	
- E. Kitchen garden	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.1	1.2	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.1	
- F. Permanent pasture and meadows	6.0	9.7	10.0	11.5	37.1	10.1	16.8	5.5	4.7	
- G. Permanent crops	2.6	1.1	0.5	0.3	4.5	4.0	0.4	0.1	0	
Fruit and berry plantation	2.3	1.1	0.4	0.2	3.9	3.4	0.4	0.1	0	
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)	10.4	32.4	68.3	145.6	34.3	28.7	32.3	70.1	93.1
Agricultural area...	(%)									
... own farmed		82.7	72.5	61.2	53.9	66.3	69.0	66.2	60.3	60.3
... 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		4.7	5.4	5.6	6.8	5.6	4.7	6.7	6.8	5.6
... 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)	139.3	368.9	410.0	233.6	1151.8	0	416.5	265.1	470.2
of which grazing	(%)	45.7	71.9	61.6	46.6	59.9	:	92.0	76.8	22.0
Grazing livestock	(1000 heads)									
Equidae		16.9	7.6	3.5	1.5	29.5	0	27.3	1.5	0.7
Bovine animals		64.3	353.0	352.2	157.1	926.6	0	481.2	287.7	157.7
Under 1 year		22.0	113.0	119.1	57.0	311.1	0	148.5	99.2	63.4
From 1 to less than 2 years		14.8	85.4	92.7	43.3	236.2	0	116.0	73.2	47.0
Dairy cows		21.8	127.4	109.0	37.8	296.1	0	179.2	87.6	29.3
Other cows		2.4	12.2	16.2	12.5	43.3	0	16.6	15.1	11.6
Other bovine animals 2 years and older		3.2	15.1	15.3	6.5	40.0	0	21.0	12.7	6.4
Sheep		40.7	42.0	23.1	13.0	118.7	0	101.2	12.6	4.9
Goats		3.0	2.4	0.5	0.1	6.1	0	6.0	0.1	0
Granivores										
Pigs	(1000 heads)	227.1	340.5	484.7	395.7	1448.0	0	124.3	233.9	1089.8
Piglets < 20 kg		76.6	124.6	131.3	95.2	427.7	0	62.1	87.4	278.2
Breeding sows		34.5	48.5	51.1	40.5	174.6	0	21.2	32.8	120.6
Other pigs		115.9	167.4	302.3	260.0	845.6	0	40.9	113.7	691.0
Poultry	(million heads)	2.0	2.2	3.4	2.2	9.8	0	0.6	0.6	8.6
Broilers		1.2	1.0	1.7	1.2	5.1	0	0	0.1	5.0
Laying hens		0.8	1.1	1.5	0.9	4.3	0	0.6	0.5	3.2
Other poultry		0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.5	0	0	0	0.4
Rabbits, breeding females	(1000 heads)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beehives	(1000)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Average size of herds*	(head/holding)									
Equidae	(head/holding)	5.7	5.2	4.7	6.4	5.5	:	5.6	4.7	4.7
Cattle	(head/holding)	17.6	39.2	73.7	135.9	49.8	:	32.5	94.6	211.1
Dairy cows	(head/holding)	8.4	17.6	29.2	45.7	20.6	:	15.5	36.8	64.5
Other cows	(head/holding)	6.2	14.4	25.0	45.8	20.1	:	11.4	30.0	59.0
Sheep	(head/holding)	41.8	82.0	100.2	122.5	65.2	:	60.3	128.5	113.3
Goats	(head/holding)	12.1	19.3	10.4	7.4	13.8	:	14.6	3.5	2.2
Pigs	(head/holding)	660.1	320.9	505.9	879.4	514.7	:	133.9	311.4	961.0
Breeding sows	(head/holding)	152.2	62.5	82.8	158.3	93.1	:	30.7	62.7	182.9
Other pigs > 20 kg	(head/holding)	354.6	163.6	318.9	582.9	308.2	:	46.9	152.8	613.1
Rabbits, breeding females	(head/holding)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Laying hens	(1000/holding)	1.7	2.5	5.4	9.0	3.3	:	0.6	3.7	15.7
Broilers	(1000/holding)	33.1	27.0	43.2	45.6	36.8	:	0.3	13.4	38.5
Beehives	(hive/holding)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

*LSU = Livestock unit

		Absolute figures			% of total	
		Total	< 1 ESU	>= 1 ESU	< 1 ESU	>= 1 ESU
Regular Labour force	(1000 pers)	143.5	2.2	141.4	1.5	98.5
Regular labour force	(1000 AWU)	67.7	0.4	67.4	0.5	99.5
Holder with...	(1000)	67.2	1.4	65.8	2.1	97.9
... at least 65 years		4.2	0.2	3.9	5.4	94.6
... another gainful activity		28.2	0.9	27.3	3.1	96.9
Number of sole holdings	(1000)	68.2	1.7	66.6	2.4	97.6
... producing mainly for own consumption		0.0	0.0	0.0	:	:
... producing mainly for direct sales		0.0	0.0	0.0	:	:
SGM	(1000 ESU)	1649.9	1.0	1648.9	0.1	99.9
Agricultural area	(1000 ha)	2292.3	6.5	2285.8	0.3	99.7
... own farmed		1522.4	6.0	1516.4	0.4	99.6
Livestock	(1000 LSU*)	1152.1	0.3	1151.8	0.0	100.0

*LSU = Livestock unit

➤ METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The Information System of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (IC/MAF), in collaboration with Statistics Finland, implemented the 2007 survey on the structure of agricultural holdings in Finland. The reference dates for the FSS were for arable land summer 2007, for livestock the reference year 2007 and the days vary (1 April for poultry, horses and pigs; 1 May for cattle and 1 June for sheep and goats), for the labour force September 2006 to August 2007 and for other gainful activities the year 2007. This was the sixth FSS carried out in Finland complying with Community legislation.

The definition of an agricultural holding used in the Finnish FSS includes all enterprises that use at least one hectare or one livestock unit, or horticultural units that, in spite of not meeting the 1 ha threshold, produce for sale. The farms producing only for own consumption are not included. Unlike the previous surveys, FSS 2007 no longer took into account the 1 ESU threshold, but this change in methodology does not have a significant influence on the number of farms in the population.

The sample frame included around 71 200 holdings within the Farm Register, the Horticultural Enterprise Register or the Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS). These administrative sources use a common holding identifier and are annually updated.

There were 2 main sources of information for this survey:

- the administrative data (that covers most of the data on land use, crop areas and livestock) taken from the Farm Register, the Horticultural Enterprise Register and IACS covering exhaustively all the holdings; and
- the sample survey on labour force, other gainful activities and irrigable area (among other characteristics defined at national level) that was conducted through telephone interviews (during the autumn 2007) and in some cases through an internet form.

The sample used for the telephone interviews was selected using the Neymann allocation method with three variables: regions (20), farm types (7) and economic sizes (4 to 6 depending on the farm type). The sample size covered close to half of the initial population (35 500 holdings).

For the online questionnaire around 500 holdings were selected randomly amongst farmers with electronic codes (they were not included in the telephone sample). This process was a test for the data collection method for the future 2010 Census.

There was some over coverage registered in the telephone survey (mainly due to farms that ceased production). The non-response in the 2007 FSS in Finland was 3.3% for the telephone survey. For the online survey only 23% of the farmers responded (because of the voluntary and experiment character of this method).

The total number of sheep increased by 36% from 2005 to 2007 this increase is partly related to the improvement of the data collection on lamb and sheep. On holdings with this type of livestock the average number of sheep grew from 51 to 65 heads.

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 Finland such grassland covers close to 4 700 ha, 82% in holdings 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 Finland it is 1800 hours (225 working days of 8 working hours per day).

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 Information System of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (IC/MAF): <http://www.mmmtike.fi>

National Methodological Report – FSS 2007 (available on request)

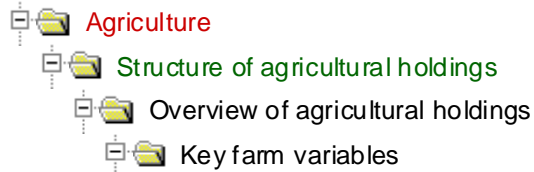
Further information

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

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