

30.3.1982

EARNINGS OF PERMANENT MANUAL WORKERS IN AGRICULTURE - 1980

The principal results of the Community survey of earnings of permanent manual workers in agriculture in 1980 and trends in these earnings since 1976 are shown in the tables in this bulletin. The full results will be given in a later EUROSTAT publication.

Data are given for all Member States except Greece. However, the results for the FR of Germany, which was not able to take part in the Community survey for technical reasons, come from a national survey; they are less detailed and not fully comparable.

Tab. 1

Average gross hourly earnings of permanent male manual workers in agriculture, 1976 - 1979 - 1980

| | Nominal earnings | | | | | Real earnings 2) | | PPS 2) | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------|----------|-------|------------------|-------|--------|------|
| | in national currency 1) | | | % change | | % change | | | |
| | 1976 | 1979 | 1980 | 76/80 | 79/80 | 76/80 | 79/80 | 1976 | 1980 |
| BR Deutschland ³⁾ | 7,83 | 9,91 | 10,63 | +35,8 | +7,3 | +15,8 | +2,0 | 2,33 | 3,88 |
| France | 10,48 | 15,53 | 17,88 | +70,6 | +15,1 | +12,8 | +1,4 | 1,77 | 2,96 |
| Italia | 1426 | 2734 | 3455 | +142,3 | +26,4 | +33,4 | +4,4 | 2,13 | 3,94 |
| Nederland | 9,74 | 12,01 | 12,68 | +30,2 | +5,6 | +5,9 | -1,3 | 2,85 | 4,34 |
| Belgique/België | 120 | 155 | 167 | +39,2 | +7,7 | +11,9 | +0,7 | 2,39 | 3,95 |
| Luxembourg | 61 | 101 | 108 | +77,1 | +6,9 | +45,8 | +1,0 | 1,29 | 2,70 |
| United Kingdom | 1,03 | 1,45 | 1,75 | +69,9 | +20,7 | +2,1 | +4,6 | 2,21 | 3,11 |
| Ireland | 0,85 | 1,38 | 1,65 | +94,1 | +19,6 | +18,4 | +3,2 | 1,77 | 3,10 |
| Danmark | 23,20 | 32,37 | 34,07 | +46,9 | +5,3 | -1,5 | -4,9 | 2,64 | 3,98 |

1) D=DM, F=FF, I=LIT, NL=HFL, B=BFR, L=LFR, UK=UKL, IRL=IRL, DK=DKR

2) See explanatory note

3) 1980: national survey source



The surveys relate to a reference month in autumn (September, October or November). A first point to make is that the number of permanent manual workers employed in agriculture continues to decline. In the countries observed as a whole, the number of male workers fell by approximately 9% in 1980 compared with 1976. The number of female workers increased slightly however, but it should be pointed out that they do not amount to more than 9% of the total labour force in any country.

Table 1 gives a general outline of the average gross hourly earnings expressed in national currency of male workers, the trends in these earnings in nominal and real terms and a comparison of nominal figures converted into purchasing power standards (PPS). To interpret the results of this survey correctly, data given should not be considered in isolation but in relation to each country's structural characteristics given in the other tables in this bulletin.

Between 1979 and 1980 nominal earnings rose by 26% in Italy, 20 to 21% in the United Kingdom and Ireland, and 15% in France, while the increase in the other five countries was less than 8%.

Real earnings rose over this period of a year in 7 countries (ranging from 0.7% to 4.6%) but fell in the Netherlands (-1.3%) and Denmark (-4.9%). Taken over a four-year period (1976 - 1980), one country (DK) showed a slight decrease in real hourly earnings while the other countries recorded increases ranging from 2% (UK) to 33% (I)¹⁾.

As far as gross nominal earnings expressed in purchasing power standards (PPS) are concerned, it should be stressed that the data for various countries may be compared in respect of the same period but not of different periods (see explanatory note below).

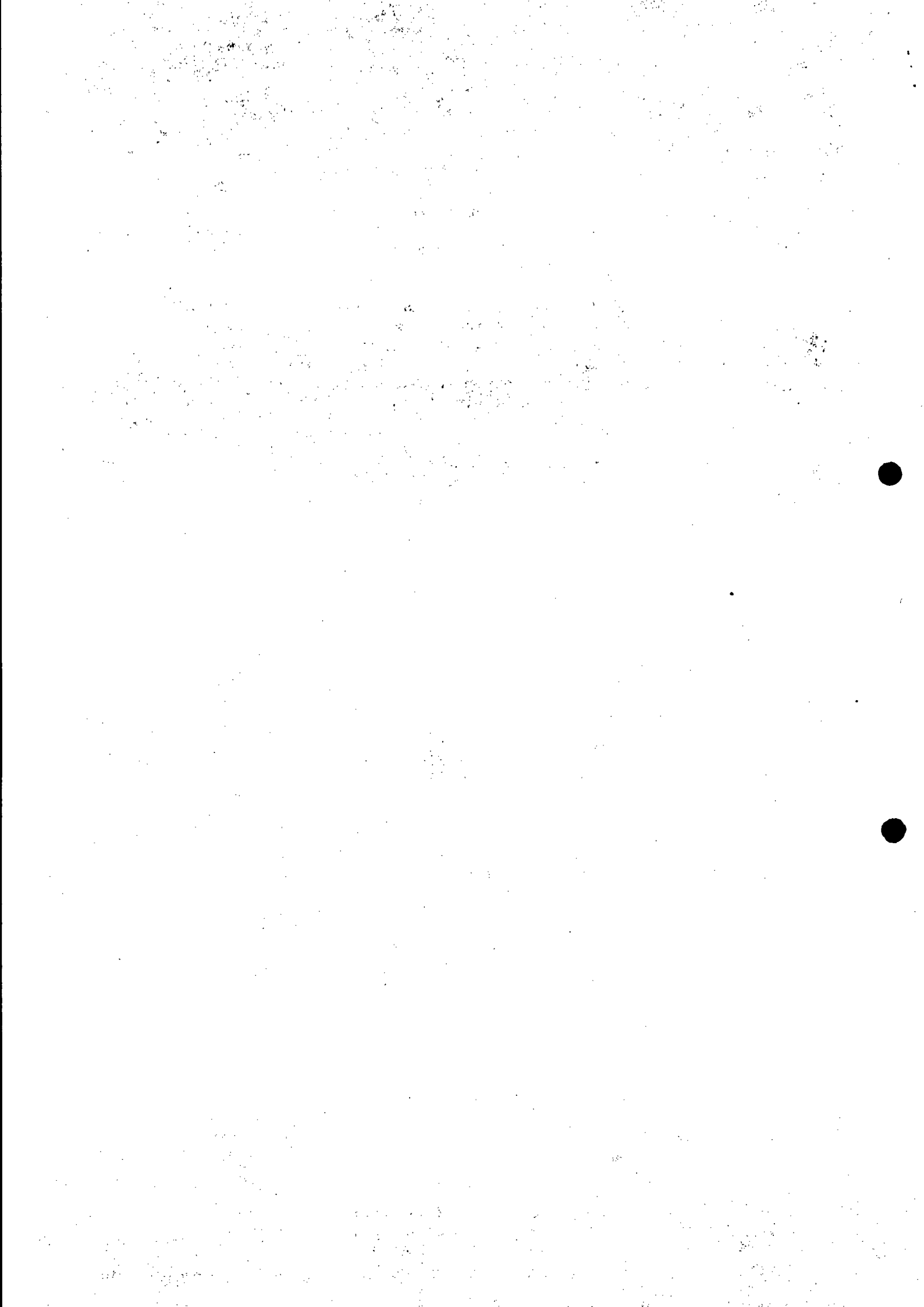
Major differences between countries are as evident in 1976 as in 1980, although the gap between the two countries furthest apart has narrowed considerably (in 1976 the L/NL gap was 121%, while in 1980 it had gone down to 61%).

When arranged in decreasing order, countries are found to occupy the same positions in 1980 as in 1976, except Italy, which goes from 6th up to 4th place, ahead of the United Kingdom and the FR of Germany.

Tables 2, 3 and 4 give some details of the structural criteria applied in respect of agricultural workers. In all countries the great majority of male workers are employed on holdings with fewer than 10 permanent manual workers; in 1980 small holdings (with 1 or 2 manual workers) employed almost half the total labour force in France (49%) and Belgium (47%) and 60% or more in three other countries (DK, IRL, L). Salary levels rise as the size of holdings increases in all countries, but the differences vary greatly according to the country.

In the Netherlands and Belgium, the great majority of agricultural workers are employed on specialized crops, whereas general agriculture employs 60 to 70% of the labour in the other countries; the average gross hourly earnings in general agriculture are generally lower than those in the stock keeping and specialized crops activities.

1) The 46% rise in Luxembourg should be interpreted with caution on account of the very limited extent of the survey.



In most Member States a substantial number of manual workers employed in agriculture receive benefits in kind (accommodation, meals): for example, 52% of manual workers in the United Kingdom, 63% in Luxembourg and 64% in Denmark receive one or both of these benefits; only in Belgium (13%) and the Netherlands (2%) is this practice much less widespread. The income level of manual workers benefiting from both accommodation and meals lies between 14% and 37%, depending on the country, below that of workers receiving no benefit in kind.

Explanatory note

Trend in real earnings

Expresses in approximate terms the change in the purchasing power of nominal earnings over a given period. The figure for each country is obtained by deflating the nominal earnings index, using the general consumer prices index.

The results of this exercise, presented in Table 1, must be interpreted with caution as, firstly, the fields of reference of the two indices are determined differently and, secondly, consumer price indices are calculated according to different methods in the various countries. It should also be borne in mind that earnings are deflated on a gross basis, i.e. before deduction of contributions to social security and taxes; thus, for example, any relative increase in the fiscal burden is not reflected in the trend of real hourly earnings given above.

Purchasing power standard (PPS)

The data expressed in national currency were converted into current purchasing power standards (PPS) using the rates compiled each year for the "gross domestic product at market prices" aggregate of the ESA. The results of this exercise are comparable for a given period (between countries) but not over time (between periods).

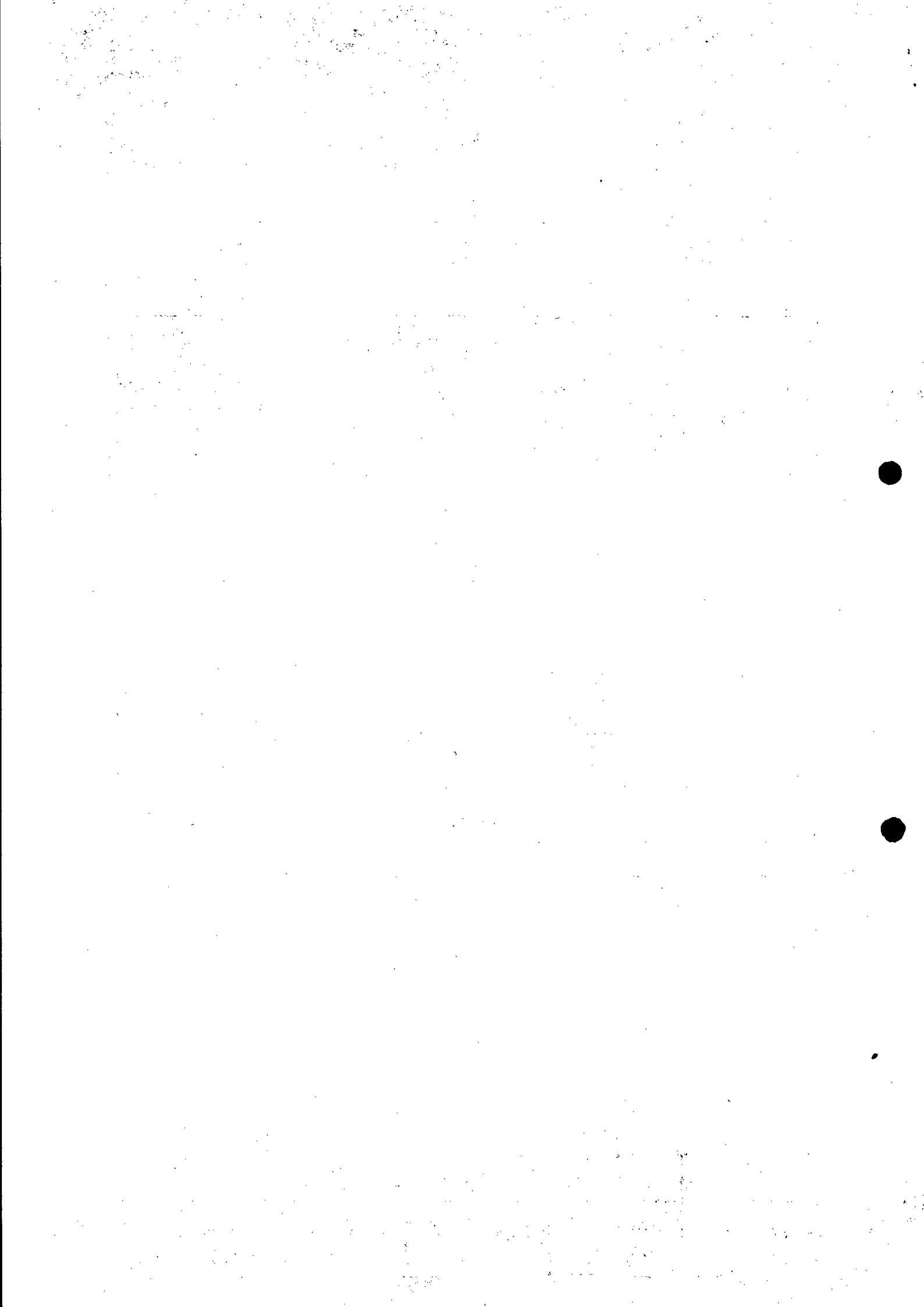
The data converted into PPS should be interpreted with caution in view of:

- the difference between the concepts and the fields of reference of the aggregates used (hourly earnings of manual workers in industry on the one hand, PPS established for gross domestic product on the other);
- the importance, varying from country to country, of certain elements of remuneration (bonuses, gratuities, etc.) not taken into consideration in the harmonized earnings statistics;
- the fact that the earnings data converted into PPS are on a gross basis, i.e. before deduction of social security contributions and taxes, the importance of which varies from country to country.

Purchasing power parities for gross domestic product

1 purchasing power standard (PPS) =

| | DM | FF | 100 LIT | HFL | BFR | LFR | UKL | IRL | DKR |
|------|------|------|------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| 1976 | 3,36 | 5,91 | 6,68 | 3,42 | 50,19 | 47,19 | 0,467 | 0,481 | 8,79 |
| 1980 | 2,74 | 6,05 | 8,76 | 2,92 | 42,26 | 39,93 | 0,562 | 0,532 | 8,57 |



Tab. 2

Number and earnings of permanent male manual workers in agriculture
by size of holdings, professional qualification
and existence of benefits in kind - 1980

a) Number of male manual workers

| | BR DEUTSCH- LAND | FRANCE | ITALIA | NEDER- LAND | BELGIQUE BELGIË | LUXEM- BOURG | UNITED KINGDOM | IRELAND | DANMARK |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|---------|---------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------|---------|
| TOTAL | : | 109 944 | 115 869 | 16 623 | 3 333 | 338 | 135 377 | 13 872 | 13 938 |
| <u>Size of farm</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 or 2 workers | : | 53 221 | 36 283 | 6 230 | 1 576 | 250 | 45 950 | 8 700 | 8 350 |
| 3 to 9 workers | : | 37 322 | 42 285 | 5 907 | 1 173 | 67 | 58 147 | 3 222 | 4 290 |
| 10 workers or more | : | 19 401 | 37 301 | 4 485 | 584 | 21 | 31 280 | 1 951 | 1 297 |
| <u>Professional qualification</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| Group I | : | 54 796 | 103 034 | 14 538 | 1 595 | 66 | 54 141 | 4 335 | 9 205 |
| Group II | : | 55 148 | 12 835 | 2 084 | 1 738 | 272 | 81 236 | 9 537 | 4 733 |
| <u>Provision of benefits in kind</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| Free accommodation and meals | : | 8 974 | 5 501 | 175 | 165 | 198 | 4 388 | 1 235 | 5 485 |
| Free accommodation only | : | 31 857 | 41 490 | : | 127 | 27 | 62 275 | 1 360 | 2 766 |
| Free meals only | : | 5 799 | 3 486 | 223 | 151 | 20 | 3 111 | 3 001 | 689 |
| No free accommodation or meals | : | 63 314 | 65 392 | 16 224 | 2 890 | 92 | 65 604 | 8 276 | 4 997 |

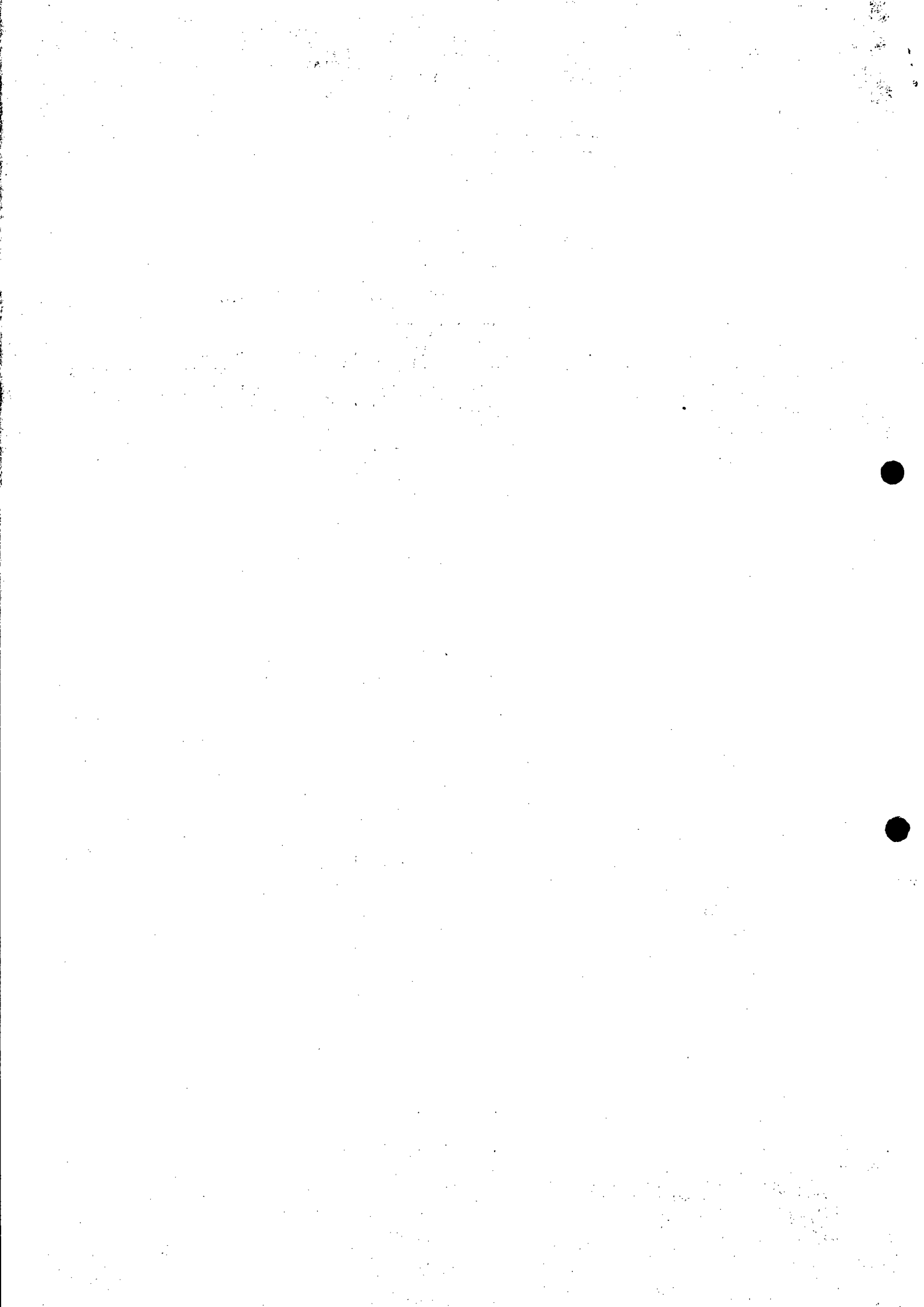
b) Average gross hourly earnings (in national currencies)

| | DM | FF | LIT | HFL | BFR | LFR | UKL | IRL | DKR |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|-------|------|-------|-----|-----|------|------|-------|
| TOTAL | 10,63 ²⁾ | 17,88 | 3455 | 12,68 | 167 | 108 | 1,75 | 1,65 | 34,07 |
| <u>Size of farm</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 or 2 workers | : | 16,56 | 3173 | 12,24 | 158 | 98 | 1,65 | 1,54 | 30,36 |
| 3 to 9 workers | : | 18,58 | 3425 | 12,69 | 173 | 130 | 1,80 | 1,50 | 38,64 |
| 10 workers or more | : | 20,13 | 3751 | 13,27 | 178 | 164 | 1,82 | 2,03 | 42,90 |
| <u>Professional qualification</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| Group I | : | 19,64 | 3571 | 13,01 | 177 | 166 | 1,94 | 1,80 | 37,82 |
| Group II | : | 16,12 | 2525 | 10,38 | 158 | 94 | 1,63 | 1,58 | 26,79 |
| <u>Provision of benefits in kind</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| Free accommodation and meals | : | 13,14 | 3027 | 8,88 | 140 | 89 | 1,25 | 1,37 | 26,85 |
| Free accommodation only | : | 17,72 | 3390 | : | 162 | 137 | 1,89 | 1,74 | 39,73 |
| Free meals only | : | 16,07 | 3957 | 10,24 | 152 | 108 | 1,45 | 1,49 | 26,58 |
| No free accommodation or meals | : | 18,76 | 3508 | 12,75 | 169 | 142 | 1,68 | 1,74 | 39,90 |

1) In principle "group I" includes workers whose qualification is recognized and necessary in order to carry out specialized work which demands a high degree of responsibility.

"Group II" covers all other workers

2) Source: national survey



Tab. 3

Number and earnings of permanent manual workers in agriculture,
by type of activity and by sex, 1976 and 1980

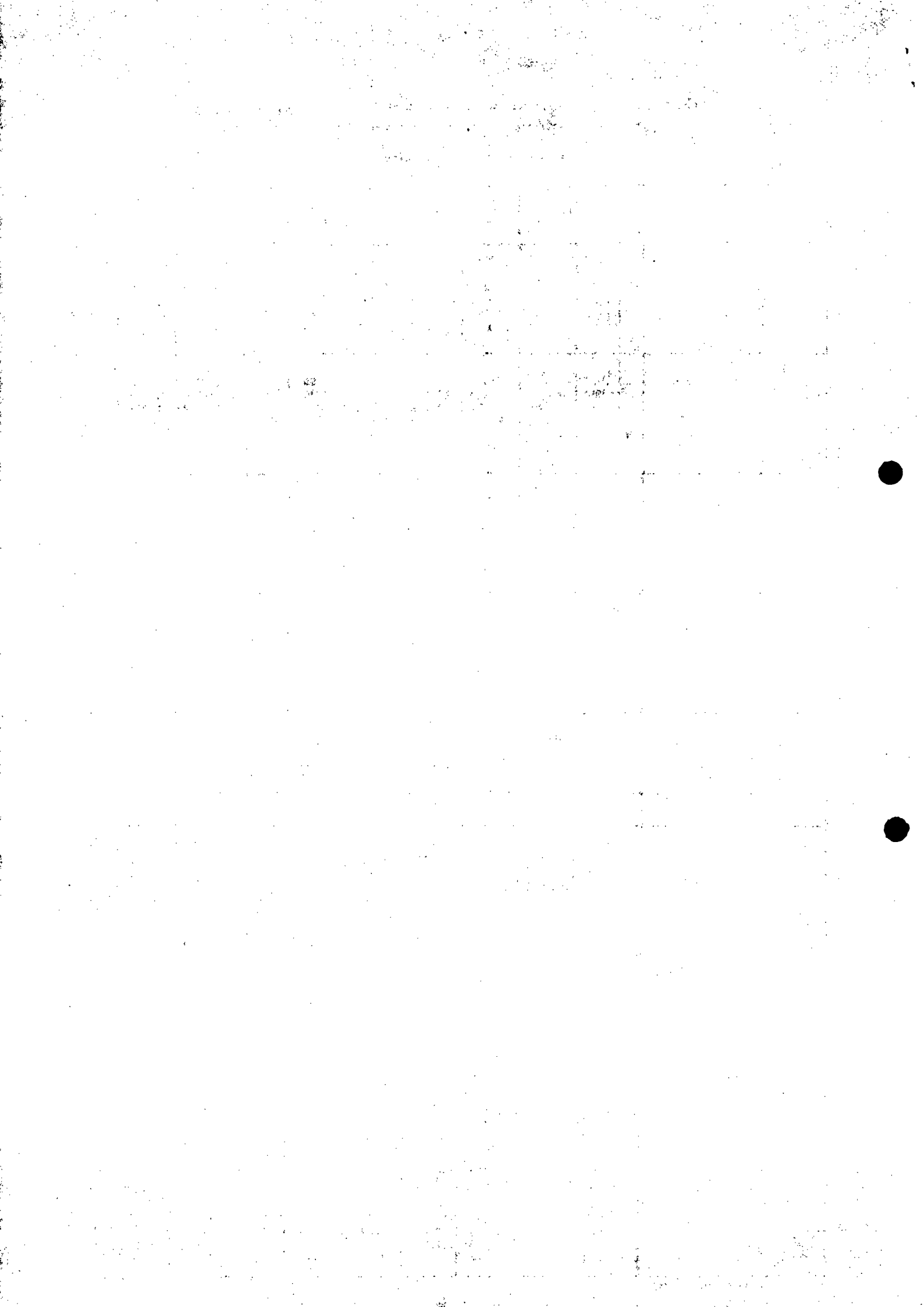
a) Number of manual workers

| | | Year | BR DEUTSCH- LAND | FRANCE | ITALIA | NEDER- LAND | BELGIQUE BELGIÉ | LUXEM- BOURG | UNITED KINGDOM | IRELAND | DANMARK |
|---------------------|---|------|------------------------|---------|---------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------|---------|
| Total | T | 1976 | 39 076 | 149 771 | 114 798 | 16 158 | 3 692 | 315 | 164 596 | 17 515 | 14 823 |
| | | 1980 | : | 120 750 | 123 496 | 17 632 | 3 661 | : | 145 898 | 14 173 | 15 286 |
| | M | 1976 | 34 028 | 138 910 | 106 843 | 15 579 | 3 449 | 301 | 154 112 | 17 226 | 14 125 |
| | | 1980 | : | 109 944 | 115 869 | 16 623 | 3 333 | 340 | 135 377 | 13 872 | 13 938 |
| | W | 1976 | 5 048 | 10 861 | 7 955 | 579 | 243 | 14 | 10 484 | 289 | 698 |
| | | 1980 | : | 10 806 | 7 627 | 1 008 | 328 | : | 10 521 | 301 | 1 348 |
| General agriculture | T | 1976 | 21 030 | 94 217 | 66 988 | 2 705 | 859 | : | 107 703 | : | 9 138 |
| | | 1980 | : | 73 153 | 78 104 | 1 855 | 940 | : | 104 385 | 8 590 | 9 234 |
| | M | 1976 | 19 549 | 90 497 | 64 179 | 2 705 | 830 | 224 | 105 322 | 11 275 | 9 076 |
| | | 1980 | : | 69 333 | 73 826 | 1 855 | 915 | 230 | 98 977 | 8 471 | 9 016 |
| | W | 1976 | 1 481 | 3 720 | 2 809 | - | 29 | : | 2 381 | : | 62 |
| | | 1980 | : | 3 820 | 4 278 | - | 25 | : | 5 408 | 119 | 218 |
| Stock keeping | T | 1976 | 2 852 | 10 778 | 34 597 | 2 393 | 500 | : | 35 629 | : | 2 774 |
| | | 1980 | : | 8 373 | 28 249 | 2 325 | 388 | : | 25 320 | 4 869 | 2 954 |
| | M | 1976 | 2 313 | 9 661 | 32 230 | 2 367 | 464 | : | 32 456 | 4 895 | 2 699 |
| | | 1980 | : | 7 453 | 26 242 | 2 302 | 355 | 10 | 23 791 | 4 720 | 2 734 |
| | W | 1976 | 539 | 1 117 | 2 367 | 26 | 36 | : | 3 173 | : | 75 |
| | | 1980 | : | 920 | 2 007 | 23 | 33 | : | 1 529 | 149 | 220 |
| Specialized crops | T | 1976 | 15 194 | 44 776 | 13 213 | 11 061 | 2 333 | : | 21 264 | 1 158 | 2 911 |
| | | 1980 | : | 39 224 | 17 143 | 13 450 | 2 333 | : | 16 192 | 715 | 3 096 |
| | M | 1976 | 12 166 | 38 752 | 10 434 | 10 508 | 2 155 | 67 | 16 334 | 1 056 | 2 350 |
| | | 1980 | : | 33 158 | 15 801 | 12 465 | 2 063 | 100 | 12 608 | 682 | 2 187 |
| | W | 1976 | 3 028 | 6 024 | 2 779 | 553 | 178 | : | 4 930 | 102 | 561 |
| | | 1980 | : | 6 066 | 1 342 | 985 | 270 | : | 3 584 | 33 | 909 |

b) Gross hourly earnings (in national currencies)

| | | | DM | FF | LIT | HFL | BFR | LFR | UKL | IRL | DKR |
|---------------------|---|------|---------------------|-------|------|-------|-----|-----|------|------|-------|
| Total | T | 1976 | 7,64 | 10,44 | 1414 | 9,66 | 119 | 60 | 1,02 | 0,85 | 23,28 |
| | | 1980 | : | 17,78 | 3445 | 12,51 | 165 | : | 1,74 | 1,65 | 34,03 |
| | M | 1976 | 7,83 ¹⁾ | 10,48 | 1426 | 9,74 | 120 | 61 | 1,03 | 0,85 | 23,20 |
| | | 1980 | 10,63 ¹⁾ | 17,88 | 3455 | 12,68 | 167 | 108 | 1,75 | 1,65 | 34,07 |
| | W | 1976 | 6,23 | 9,93 | 1257 | 7,42 | 105 | 50 | 0,93 | 0,74 | 24,96 |
| | | 1980 | : | 16,82 | 3274 | 9,70 | 148 | : | 1,55 | 1,55 | 33,65 |
| General agriculture | T | 1976 | 7,15 | 10,27 | 1372 | 10,10 | 113 | : | 1,01 | : | 21,41 |
| | | 1980 | : | 17,62 | 3422 | 12,67 | 155 | : | 1,73 | 1,63 | 31,55 |
| | M | 1976 | 7,27 | 10,31 | 1381 | 10,10 | 114 | 51 | 1,01 | 0,83 | 21,44 |
| | | 1980 | : | 17,67 | 3434 | 12,67 | 155 | 99 | 1,74 | 1,63 | 31,75 |
| | W | 1976 | 5,56 | 9,42 | 1186 | - | 94 | : | 0,89 | : | 17,69 |
| | | 1980 | : | 16,78 | 3212 | - | 143 | : | 1,55 | 1,46 | 23,22 |
| Stock keeping | T | 1976 | 7,53 | 10,76 | 1485 | 9,29 | 115 | : | 1,07 | : | 24,21 |
| | | 1980 | : | 18,74 | 3463 | 12,01 | 174 | : | 1,86 | 1,68 | 34,05 |
| | M | 1976 | 7,88 | 10,81 | 1494 | 9,30 | 116 | : | 1,08 | 0,88 | 24,36 |
| | | 1980 | : | 18,95 | 3466 | 12,04 | 176 | 139 | 1,87 | 1,68 | 34,81 |
| | W | 1976 | 6,03 | 10,33 | 1366 | 8,35 | 109 | : | 0,97 | : | 18,68 |
| | | 1980 | : | 17,07 | 3418 | 9,56 | 150 | : | 1,64 | 1,55 | 24,54 |
| Specialized crops | T | 1976 | 8,29 | 10,68 | 1434 | 9,63 | 122 | : | 0,98 | 0,89 | 28,27 |
| | | 1980 | : | 17,87 | 3519 | 12,57 | 168 | : | 1,59 | 1,72 | 41,44 |
| | M | 1976 | 8,72 | 10,76 | 1487 | 9,75 | 123 | 92 | 1,00 | 0,90 | 28,67 |
| | | 1980 | : | 18,07 | 3542 | 12,80 | 170 | 129 | 1,61 | 1,71 | 42,72 |
| | W | 1976 | 6,58 | 10,17 | 1236 | 7,38 | 106 | : | 0,93 | 0,80 | 26,60 |
| | | 1980 | : | 16,80 | 3248 | 9,70 | 148 | : | 1,53 | 1,82 | 38,36 |

1) Source: national survey



Tab. 4

Average gross hourly earnings of permanent male manual workers
in agriculture, by type of activity
Indices (1976 = 100)

| | Year | BR DEUTSCH- LAND | FRANCE | ITALIA | NEDER- LAND | BELGIQUE BELGIÉ | LUXEM- BOURG | UNITED KINGDOM | IRELAND | DANMARK |
|---------------------|------|------------------------|--------|--------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------|---------|
| T o t a l | 1977 | 108,3 | 113,8 | 128,5 | 107,3 | 115,0 | 118,0 | 107,8 | 116,5 | 115,5 |
| | 1978 | 117,1 | 130,0 | 152,0 | 116,0 | 120,8 | 129,5 | 121,4 | 135,3 | 126,7 |
| | 1979 | 126,6 | 148,2 | 191,7 | 123,3 | 129,2 | 165,6 | 140,8 | 162,4 | 139,5 |
| | 1980 | 135,8 ¹⁾ | 170,6 | 242,3 | 130,2 | 139,2 | 177,1 | 169,9 | 194,1 | 146,9 |
| General agriculture | 1977 | 109,5 | 114,3 | 128,5 | 108,7 | 112,3 | 98,0 | 107,9 | 115,7 | 116,7 |
| | 1978 | 118,8 | 130,2 | 154,9 | 113,9 | 119,3 | 121,6 | 121,8 | 136,1 | 127,9 |
| | 1979 | 128,9 | 148,9 | 195,4 | 119,1 | 127,2 | 172,6 | 142,6 | 162,7 | 141,3 |
| | 1980 | : | 171,4 | 248,7 | 125,5 | 136,0 | 194,1 | 172,3 | 196,4 | 148,1 |
| Stock keeping | 1977 | 109,8 | 114,4 | 128,7 | 108,3 | 125,9 | . | 110,2 | 117,1 | 112,1 |
| | 1978 | 118,5 | 132,8 | 147,1 | 116,9 | 132,8 | . | 123,2 | 136,4 | 122,7 |
| | 1979 | 129,8 | 151,9 | 186,3 | 124,3 | 145,7 | . | 141,7 | 163,6 | 136,9 |
| | 1980 | : | 175,3 | 232,0 | 129,5 | 151,7 | : | 173,2 | 190,9 | 142,9 |
| Specialized crops | 1977 | 106,5 | 112,9 | 128,1 | 106,7 | 113,0 | 125,0 | 104,0 | 111,1 | 114,7 |
| | 1978 | 113,7 | 129,4 | 151,6 | 116,4 | 119,5 | 128,3 | 118,0 | 133,3 | 125,5 |
| | 1979 | 121,8 | 146,0 | 188,0 | 124,0 | 128,5 | 138,0 | 136,0 | 153,3 | 137,1 |
| | 1980 | : | 167,9 | 238,2 | 131,3 | 138,2 | 140,2 | 161,0 | 190,0 | 149,0 |

1) Source: national survey

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