

Farm structure in Norway – 2005

One-third of the holdings have a gainful activity other than agriculture

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 Norway. A similar publication was issued in September 2005 presenting the results of the FSS 2003 in Norway.

* * *

In summer 2005 in Norway, about **52.8 thousand*** agricultural holdings had an economic size of at least 1 European Size Unit (ESU).

- These holdings employed 58.8 thousand AWUs (annual work units), the equivalent of 58.8 thousand persons working full time;
- they made use of about 1 million ha of agricultural area, which is on average **19.6 ha per holding** (compared to 17.9 ha in 2003).

Among these 52.8 thousand agricultural holdings

- 48% made use of less than one AWU, while 12% made use of 2 or more AWUs;
- 12% used less than 5 ha agricultural area, while 5% used 50 ha or more;
- 27% were holdings of specialist dairy farming, 24% engaged in various grazing livestock including sheep, 18% were specialist cereals, oil seed and protein crops, 7% had specialised in cattle rearing and fattening and 6% were the type general field cropping;
- 4% were organic farms.

Among the 52.6 thousand sole holders and main holders of group holdings

- 13% were women;
- 34% were aged 55 or more, and 9% were younger than 35 years;
- 42% had another gainful activity as their major occupation.

Statistics in focus

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Agriculture

Authors

György BENOIST

POL MARQUER

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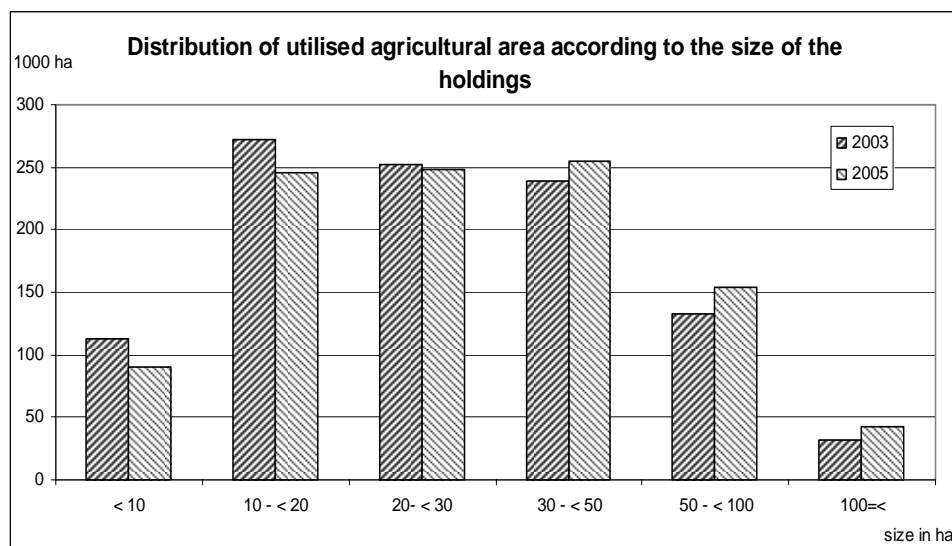
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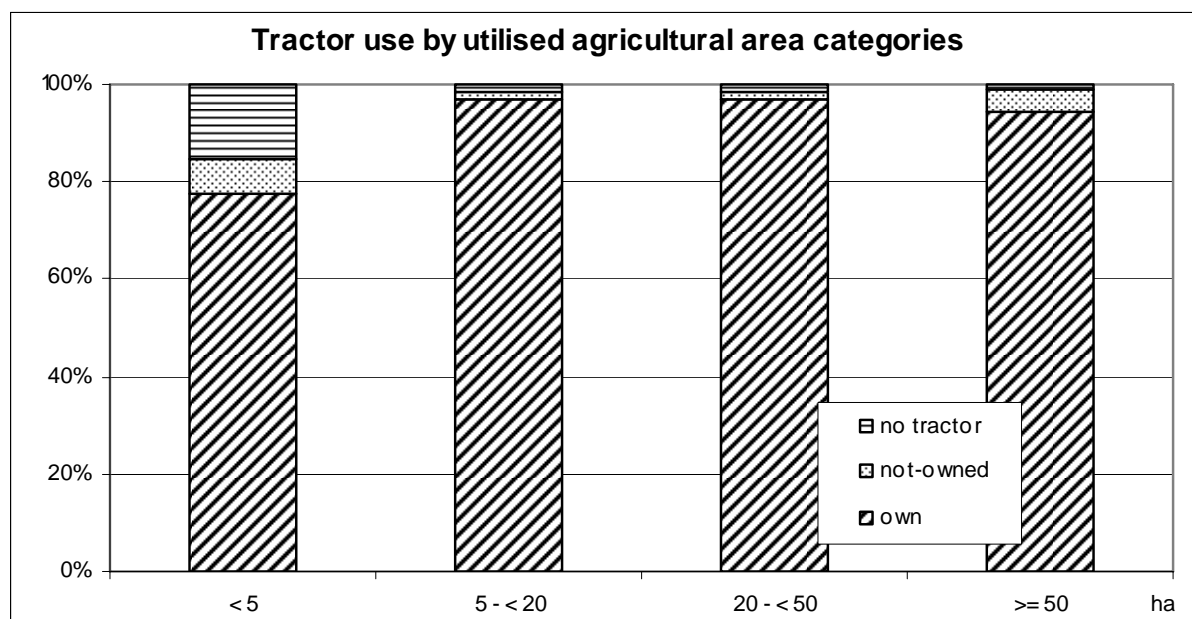
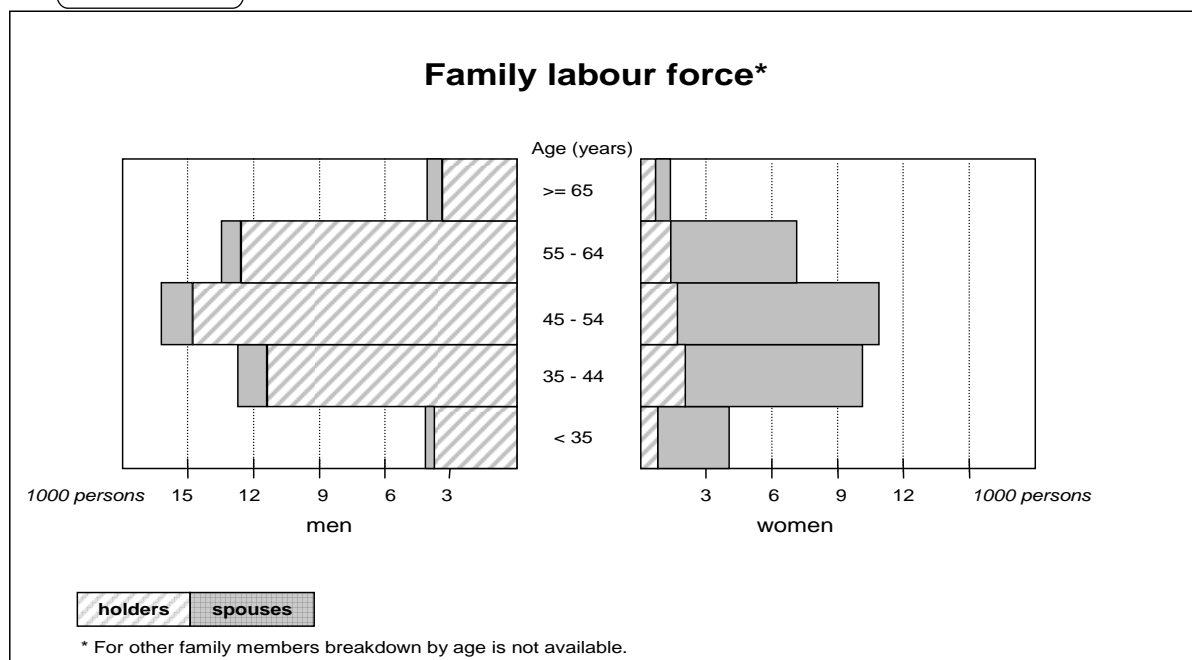
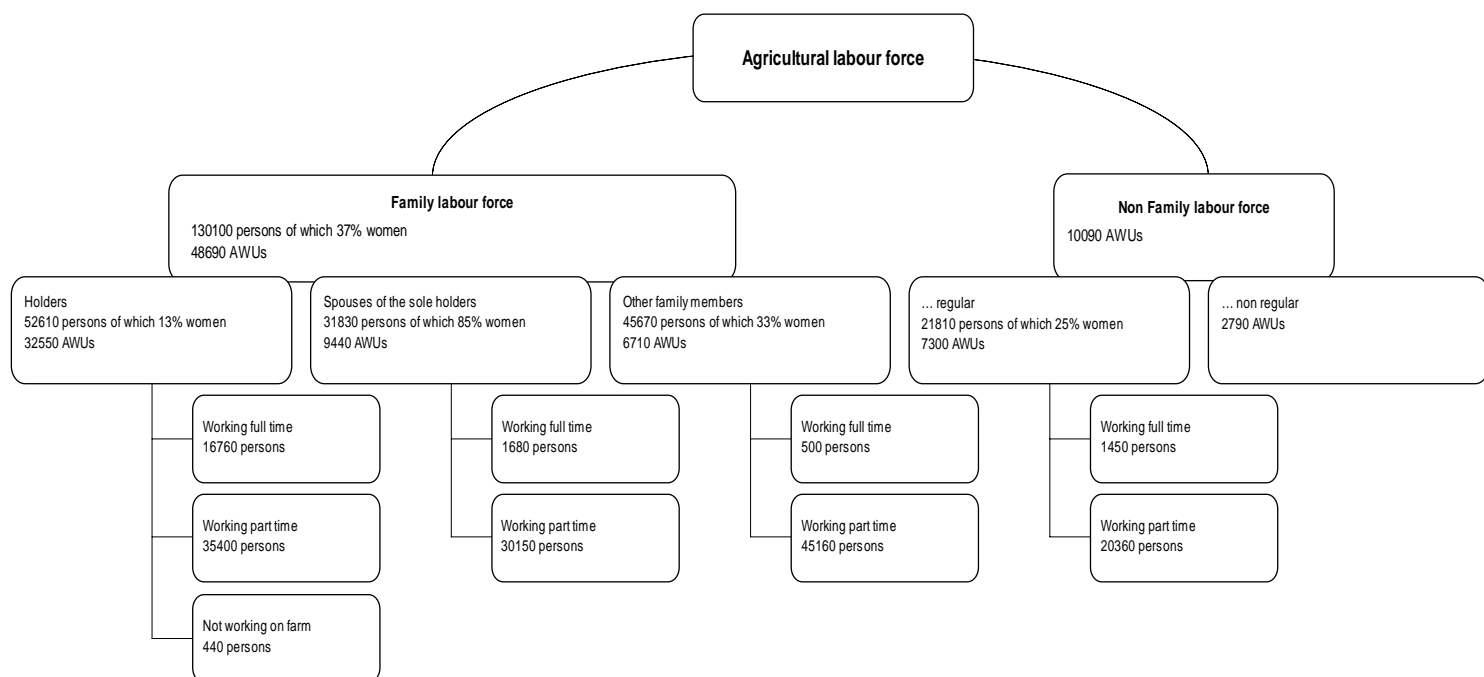
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* Due to differences in the threshold across Member States, the total number of farms is not comparable between countries. This is why the present analysis, including Tables 1-4 and the graphs focus on holdings of at least one ESU. See methodological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



Norway 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	6.2	24.6	23.1	4.9	58.8	9.6	1.8	34.8	12.5
Family labour force									
1000 persons	13.1	66.0	44.4	6.6	130.1	29.8	6.9	76.5	16.9
1000 annual work units	3.6	22.1	19.7	3.3	48.7	6.7	1.6	31.4	9.0
Non-family labour regularly employed									
1000 persons	4.1	6.7	8.7	2.4	21.8	2.9	0.4	11.4	7.2
1000 annual work units	2.1	1.5	2.5	1.1	7.3	1.4	0.1	2.7	3.1
Non regular non family labour force									
1000 annual work units	0.5	1.0	0.9	0.5	2.8	1.5	0.1	0.7	0.5
Holding managers (1000)	6.3	26.9	17.0	2.7	52.8	14.1	3.2	28.7	6.8
- women (%)	18.1	13.5	8.6	6.6	12.1	10.9	20.1	12.8	8.2
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	63.4	47.1	22.6	12.8	39.4	73.8	72.3	25.8	10.1
- 50 % and over(%)	24.2	29.9	27.6	29.5	28.5	17.2	20.4	35.3	26.9
- with a basic agricult. training only (%)	8.8	9.3	9.0	7.0	9.0	9.4	9.1	8.5	10.3
- with a full agricultural training (%)	25.7	30.6	52.9	71.6	39.3	39.1	25.5	36.2	59.2
Sole/main holders (1000)	6.1	26.8	17.0	2.7	52.6	14.0	3.2	28.7	6.7
- women (%)	19.0	13.9	8.9	6.9	12.5	11.8	19.6	13.1	8.4
- distribution by age (%)									
- under 35 years	7.9	7.7	10.4	10.0	8.7	6.8	5.2	9.3	12.1
- from 35 to 44 years	17.7	23.8	30.2	32.4	25.6	22.7	19.4	25.7	34.0
- from 45 to 54 years	33.6	30.4	32.0	32.6	31.4	32.4	33.6	30.6	31.5
- from 55 to 64 years	27.5	28.5	23.7	22.9	26.6	29.8	25.9	26.6	20.1
- 65 years and over	13.3	9.6	3.7	2.2	7.8	8.4	15.9	7.8	2.3
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	64.7	47.2	22.7	12.9	39.6	74.5	72.7	25.8	10.2
- 50 % and over(%)	24.6	30.0	27.7	29.7	28.6	17.4	20.5	35.3	27.1
- with another gainful activity ¹ (%)	94.6	82.1	83.6	91.3	84.4	91.7	86.2	80.2	86.0
- as main occupation	61.9	48.3	28.0	20.6	41.8	69.0	60.4	31.6	16.5
- as a subsidiary occupation	32.7	33.9	55.6	70.7	42.5	22.7	25.7	48.6	69.6
Spouse of sole holder working on the holding (1000)	3.1	16.2	10.9	1.6	31.8	7.1	1.8	18.8	4.2
- women (%)	75.5	83.3	89.7	91.2	85.1	83.0	79.5	85.4	89.6
- distribution by age (%)									
- under 35 years	7.5	10.9	13.5	13.8	11.6	8.3	9.4	12.2	15.7
- from 35 to 54 years	62.1	59.8	67.2	70.1	63.1	63.4	58.6	62.5	66.8
- 55 years and over	30.4	29.3	19.4	16.1	25.3	28.3	31.9	25.3	17.5
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	88.5	79.5	67.6	69.5	75.8	91.3	92.3	72.3	58.1
- 50 % and over(%)	9.4	16.8	24.5	21.9	19.0	6.5	5.6	22.3	30.6
- with another gainful activity (%)	71.6	71.8	69.7	69.2	70.9	79.4	70.2	69.8	61.8
Other members of the holder's family working on the holding (1000)	3.9	22.9	16.5	2.4	45.7	8.7	2.0	29.0	5.9
- women (%)	36.4	33.5	31.2	29.4	32.7	24.7	34.4	35.3	31.4
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	95.7	95.0	91.3	84.2	93.2	95.8	96.6	93.5	86.6
- 50 % and over(%)	4.0	4.2	7.4	12.3	5.7	3.2	2.7	5.7	10.5
- with another gainful activity (%)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

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)	6.3	26.9	17.0	2.7	52.8	14.7	3.4	28.3	6.4
- by legal personality of the holder (%)									
- sole holder	85.3	98.8	96.2	89.0	95.8	97.7	98.4	97.4	84.5
- legal person	2.0	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.9	0.5	0.0	0.8
- group holders	12.7	1.1	3.6	10.6	3.7	1.4	1.0	2.6	14.8
- by employed labour force (%)									
- under 1 AWU	70.1	57.5	28.8	19.0	47.8	82.7	84.3	35.5	10.4
- from 1 to less than 2 AWU	14.4	36.3	53.7	47.3	39.9	10.7	13.6	53.9	53.5
- from 2 to less than 3 AWU	9.8	4.9	15.1	21.5	9.6	2.8	1.3	9.8	26.9
- 3 AWU and over	5.7	1.3	2.4	12.1	2.7	3.8	0.9	0.8	9.3
- by economic size (%)									
- from 1 to less than 8 ESU	60.1	34.0	0.4	0.0	24.6	33.5	69.0	20.1	0.1
- from 8 to less than 16 ESU	10.4	31.4	8.8	0.1	20.1	29.4	16.7	20.1	0.2
- from 16 to less than 40 ESU	9.8	22.8	38.6	7.2	25.5	25.2	10.5	31.3	8.8
- from 40 to less than 100 ESU	11.7	10.9	46.3	49.8	24.3	8.3	2.6	28.1	56.4
- 100 ESU and over	8.0	0.9	5.9	42.8	5.5	3.6	1.1	0.4	34.5
- by farm type (%)									
- specialist dairy farming	12.1	20.8	42.9	23.7	27.0	0.0	0.6	41.1	40.9
- sheep, goats and other grazing livestock	33.8	31.4	11.8	3.7	23.9	3.6	37.8	36.7	7.0
- specialist cereals, oil seed and protein crops	9.9	19.4	17.4	25.8	18.0	58.6	17.6	0.8	0.4
- specialist cattle – rearing and fattening	4.6	8.0	6.6	4.3	7.0	0.0	9.1	10.7	5.3
- general field cropping	4.4	6.2	5.4	13.4	6.1	15.7	11.8	1.6	0.8
- other types of farming	35.3	14.3	15.9	29.1	18.0	22.1	23.0	9.1	45.6
- by farming methods (%)									
- organic farming	1.7	3.5	4.4	9.2	3.8	2.6	4.5	4.3	4.3
- irrigating	8.4	7.6	9.8	19.1	9.0	14.4	5.6	6.4	10.4
- with fixed irrigation equipment	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
- with crops under glass	6.9	0.8	0.7	1.4	1.5	3.9	1.3	0.4	0.9
- benefiting of direct investment aids	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
- using a tractor (%)									
- with their own tractor	84.7	98.4	98.7	99.1	96.9	97.1	94.5	98.0	93.2
- using a combine harvester (%)									
- with another gainful activity than agricultural production (%)	14.0	28.1	39.8	78.1	32.7	73.0	27.1	12.3	38.1
- tourism	16.9	29.4	39.8	48.2	32.2	29.9	28.0	33.7	32.8
- handicraft	4.1	6.0	6.0	3.9	5.6	4.1	6.1	6.8	3.9
- processing of farm products	1.5	1.5	1.2	0.4	1.4	0.9	1.9	1.7	0.9
- wood processing	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.8
- aquaculture	6.1	10.0	12.1	8.9	10.2	10.5	8.5	11.0	6.8
- renewable energy production	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
- contractual work	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
- other gainful activities n.a.e.	6.2	15.5	28.6	41.9	20.0	19.1	13.6	19.9	24.9
	4.0	4.4	4.2	3.4	4.2	2.8	5.6	4.9	3.8

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

Size of the farm (1000 ha)	Agricultural area (ha)				All farms	Livestock (LU)			
	< 5	5 - < 20	20 -< 50	50 =<		0	0 <- < 5	5 -< 50	50 =<
Area									
Total area of agricultural holdings	259.7	3189.3	2514.5	515.9	6479.5	1443.2	295.9	3975.2	765.1
Other area	243.5	2869.0	2012.7	319.3	5444.6	1173.8	261.0	3467.7	542.1
Wooded area	130.5	1090.2	993.1	206.0	2419.7	788.7	144.2	1214.8	272.0
Agricultural area	16.0	320.1	502.2	196.7	1035.0	279.8	37.7	503.5	214.0
Arable land	6.7	161.6	296.1	157.2	621.6	250.7	24.5	214.6	131.8
Cereals	2.6	73.4	140.9	109.3	326.2	206.6	16.8	45.5	57.3
<i>Common wheat and spelt</i>	0.3	11.4	32.6	36.6	80.8	50.1	4.1	9.4	17.3
<i>Durum wheat</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<i>Rye</i>	0.0	1.2	2.6	3.1	6.9	4.3	0.4	0.9	1.3
<i>Barley</i>	1.5	39.1	73.0	49.6	163.3	97.5	7.6	26.6	31.7
<i>Oats</i>	0.8	21.6	32.0	19.8	74.2	54.6	4.8	7.9	6.8
<i>Grain maize</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dried pulses	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Root crops	0.2	2.1	5.0	6.4	13.7	8.4	0.6	2.2	2.6
<i>Potatoes</i>	0.2	2.1	5.0	6.4	13.7	8.4	0.6	2.2	2.6
<i>Sugar beet</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<i>Fodder root</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Industrial crops	0.0	0.8	2.6	3.3	6.7	4.4	0.3	0.9	1.1
<i>Tobacco</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<i>Hops</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<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	0.8	2.6	3.3	6.7	4.4	0.3	0.9	1.1
<i>Sunflower</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<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	0.4	2.1	3.4	2.9	8.7	6.2	0.4	0.9	1.2
<i>outside</i>	0.3	2.1	3.3	2.9	8.6	6.1	0.4	0.9	1.2
<i>under glass</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Flower and ornamental plants	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
<i>outside</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<i>under glass</i>	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Forage plants	3.2	81.6	141.5	32.7	259.0	21.3	5.9	163.7	68.2
Fallow land	0.1	0.7	0.6	0.4	1.8	1.0	0.2	0.5	0.1
Kitchen garden	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Permanent pasture and meadows	8.1	156.9	205.8	39.4	410.2	26.7	13.0	288.4	82.1
Permanent crops	1.1	1.7	0.3	0.1	3.2	2.4	0.2	0.5	0.1
Fruit and berry plantation	1.0	1.6	0.3	0.1	3.0	2.1	0.2	0.5	0.1
Citrus plantation	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Olive trees	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Vineyard	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ratios									
Agricultural area per holding (ha)	2.6	11.9	29.5	73.3	19.6	19.0	11.1	17.8	33.7
Agricultural area... (%)									
... own farmed	86.6	75.0	65.1	50.3	65.7	72.1	74.5	64.8	58.6
... in less favoured or mountain area	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
... organic farmed	2.2	3.0	3.3	4.5	3.4	1.5	3.8	4.3	3.8
... irrigated	5.8	3.3	3.7	6.6	4.2	7.6	4.3	2.3	4.3

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)	138.8	393.1	575.1	149.7	1256.8	9.2	633.3	614.4
of which grazing (%)	49.8	78.7	78.1	65.3	73.6	96.8	95.3	50.9
Grazing livestock (1000 heads)								
Equidae	2.2	15.4	9.8	2.3	29.7	3.3	22.4	4.1
Bovine animals	74.3	230.6	505.6	123.2	933.7	3.0	552.9	377.8
Under 1 year	22.1	78.1	171.6	40.1	311.9	1.5	187.2	123.2
From 1 to less than 2 years	23.2	57.9	137.6	36.8	255.6	0.9	140.3	114.3
Dairy cows	22.7	68.4	145.5	28.6	265.2	0.1	169.1	96.1
Other cows	1.4	15.8	27.9	10.5	55.7	0.3	32.7	22.6
Other bovine animals 2 years and older	4.9	10.3	23.0	7.1	45.4	0.2	23.6	21.6
Sheep	137.3	1303.4	873.3	107.4	2421.5	43.9	1906.1	471.5
Goats	4.0	52.1	16.0	0.9	73.0	1.7	67.5	3.8
Granivores								
Pigs (1000 heads)	109.4	218.7	368.8	127.3	824.2	0.8	103.6	719.8
Piglets < 20 kg	32.5	75.5	128.4	38.9	275.3	0.4	49.5	225.5
Breeding sows	16.4	25.8	42.0	14.5	98.7	0.1	12.1	86.6
Other pigs	60.5	117.3	198.5	73.9	450.2	0.4	42.0	407.8
Poultry (million heads)	4.1	3.4	4.3	2.2	14.0	0.0	0.8	13.2
Broilers	2.2	2.2	2.9	1.6	8.9	0.0	0.1	8.7
Laying hens	1.8	1.1	1.2	0.5	4.7	0.0	0.6	4.1
Other poultry	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.4
Rabbits, breeding females (1000 heads)	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.1	1.9	0.3	1.3	0.3
Beehives (1000)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Average size of herds*								
Equidae (head/holding)	4.5	4.6	4.5	6.7	4.7	2.6	5.2	5.1
Cattle (head/holding)	62.4	24.9	50.5	94.4	42.9	5.0	32.9	86.9
Dairy cows (head/holding)	28.9	11.4	17.8	30.0	16.7	2.6	13.8	26.9
Other cows (head/holding)	5.5	7.0	12.5	21.3	10.6	2.0	8.6	18.1
Sheep (head/holding)	61.4	125.8	197.6	260.1	138.9	26.3	136.8	257.5
Goats (head/holding)	31.6	61.4	58.1	49.7	57.6	14.2	63.1	49.3
Pigs (head/holding)	262.9	172.7	257.2	360.8	237.6	8.8	78.2	351.5
Breeding sows (head/holding)	71.4	33.4	47.3	66.3	46.8	2.2	16.1	64.9
Other pigs > 20 kg (head/holding)	159.7	102.1	149.9	222.6	141.4	5.6	37.6	204.9
Rabbits, breeding females (head/holding)	5.3	3.4	4.4	3.3	4.0	3.4	3.8	6.0
Laying hens (1000/holding)	4.1	0.9	1.6	3.5	1.8	0.0	0.4	6.2
Broilers (1000/holding)	20.8	17.6	25.4	27.1	22.0	0.0	2.3	26.5
Beehives (hive/holding)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

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

* 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)	152.2	0.3	151.9	0.2	99.8
Regular labour force	(1000 AWU)	56.0	0.0	56.0	0.1	99.9
Holders	(1000 persons)	52.7	0.1	52.6	0.3	99.7
... at least 65 years old		4.1	0.0	4.1	0.8	99.2
... having another gainful activity		42.0	0.1	41.9	0.3	99.7
Number of holdings	(1000)	53.0	0.2	52.8	0.3	99.7
... producing mainly for own consumption		0.0	0.0	0.0	:	:
... producing mainly for direct sales		0.0	0.0	0.0	:	:
... using a tractor		51.3	0.1	51.2	0.2	99.8
Standard Gross Margin (SGM)	(1000 ESU)	1788.4	0.1	1788.3	0.0	100.0
Agricultural area	(1000 ha)	1035.4	0.4	1035.0	0.0	100.0
... owned farmed		680.0	0.2	679.8	0.0	100.0
Livestock	(1000 LU)	1257.2	0.4	1256.8	0.0	100.0

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

► METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The survey on the structure of agricultural holdings in Norway was carried out in June/July 2005 on a sample basis; however information on crop production, livestock and farming practices (organic farming) was gained from registers on an exhaustive basis. The last full-scale agricultural census was conducted in 1999. The reference period of the farm structure survey for UAA, crops and livestock (excluding sheep) was 31 July 2005, for labour force characteristics the 12 months prior to 1 June 2005, and for sheep and other information (non-agricultural activity, irrigation, etc) 1 June 2005.

The target population was all active farms having at least 0.5 ha UAA or, if less UAA, livestock and/or cultivate horticultural crops exceeding certain thresholds (300 m² greenhouse, 0.2 ha open field vegetables, 0.1 ha orchards, berry-plantations or nurseries, 10 bovines, 25 sheep or 10 goats over 1 year old, 5 breeding pigs and/or 200 other pigs, 1000 laying hens or pullets, 5000 broilers). For the purpose of the FSS 2005 the sample of FSS 2003 was updated. Stratification was done by 18 counties, 6 UAA size classes and 8 types of farming. The result was assessed and supplementary sampling was done. Before the estimation of the results the sample frame was updated and post-stratified with actual survey data. Finally about 11 thousand holdings were in the sample, which means a 20.4% sample size.

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 Norway it is 1845 hours (230.6 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.

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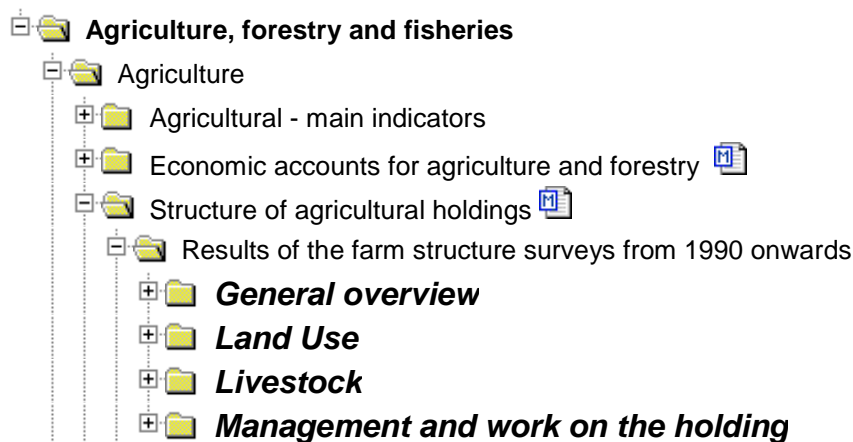
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*Website of Statistisk Sentralbyrå Norge: www.ssb.no
National Methodological Report – FSS 2005 (available on request)*

Further information:

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