Agriculture and fisheries

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Farm Structure Survey in Germany - 2007

23 % of the agricultural holdings are engaged in other activities

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 Germany.

370 500 agricultural holdings were recorded in Germany in the 2007 Farm Structure Survey (5% less than in 2005).

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, 94% of the German **agricultural holdings** (348 500) had an economic size of at least 1 ESU, compared with 371 000 in 2005 (a 6% reduction).

They used about **16.9 million ha of utilised agricultural area** (UAA), a decrease of 1% compared with 2005. This area represented 99.6% of the UAA in Germany and an average of 48 ha per holding (compared with 46 ha in 2005);

These holdings employed **600 000 AWUs** (annual work units), the equivalent of 600 000 people working full time; (5% less than 2005).

They had **18 million livestock units** (LSU) in 2007, slightly less (1%) than in 2005.

Amongst these **348 500** agricultural holdings:

35% made use of less than one AWU, while another 27% made use of 2 or more AWUs;

7% used less than 2 ha, while 25% used 50 ha or more;

45% of German farms specialised in Livestock, a 2% increase compared with the 2005 value.

21% of the holdings specialised in dairy farming;

14% specialised in cereals, oil seed and protein crops;

10% of the holdings were engaged in sheep, goats and other grazing livestock.

The family labour force has decreased by 7% from 2005 to 2007 and it now is 68% of the total labour force in German holdings.

Amongst the sole holders:

9% were women;

29% were aged 55 or more and 8% were younger than 35 years;

45% of the sole holders had another gainful activity in 2007 and for 40% this other activity was the main gainful activity.

In Germany in 2007, 37% of the agricultural area was farmed by its owners.

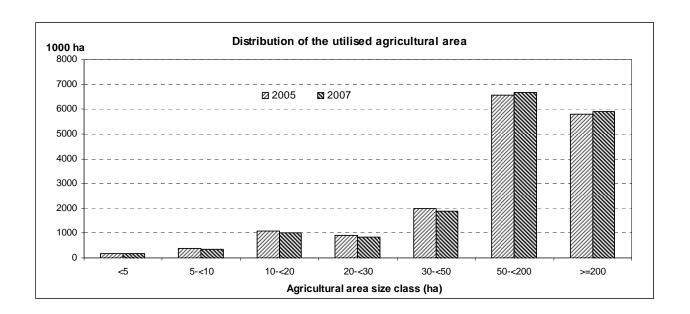
4% of the holdings are classified as practicing organic farming. The area of organic farming in Germany increased by 7% from 2005 to 2007.

23% of German holdings have another gainful activity. The production of renewable energy has risen, involving 7% of holdings in 2007 vs. 4% in 2005.

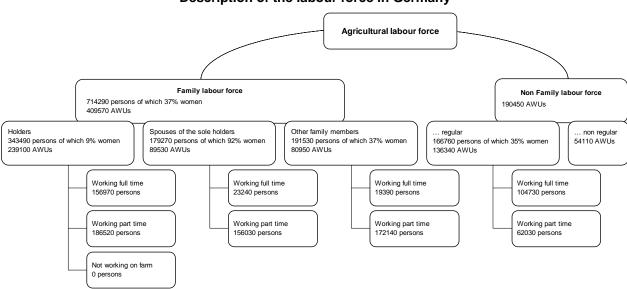
There was a 15% increase in the rape and turnip area from 2005 to 2007. The amount of arable land occupied by these crops increased, from 11% in 2005 to 13% in 2007.

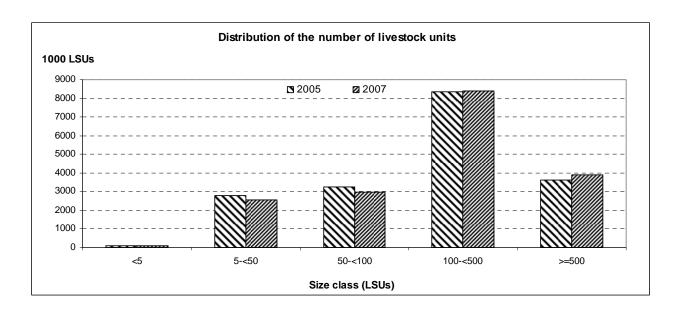
There was a decrease in the number of livestock, except from equidae (+5%), pigs (+1%) and poultry (+4%).





Description of the labour force in Germany





Size of the farms			Agricultural area (ha)					Livestock (LSU*)				
		<20	20-<50	50-<100	>=100	farms	0	>0-<50	50-<100	>=100		
Total labour for	ce											
1000 annual work units		205.0	138.2	111.2	145.6	600.0	174.3	192.8	81.3	151.6		
Family labour fo	orce											
1000 persons			348.2	180.7	123.7	61.7	714.3	175.0	337.4	100.3	101.5	
1000 annual v	vork units		157.9	117.3	88.1	46.3	409.6	87.8	173.6	73.0	75.1	
Non-family labo	ur regularly employed											
1000 persons	. , . ,		45.6	15.4	18.6	87.1	166.8	57.5	18.2	9.6	81.5	
1000 annual v	vork units		33.3	11.1	13.6	78.4	136.3	45.0	12.2	7.0	72.1	
Non regular nor	n family labour force											
1000 annual v	-		13.8	9.8	9.6	21.0	54.1	41.5	7.0	1.3	4.3	
Holding manage		1000	181.2	81.9		32.0	348.5	97.1	162.6	42.0	46.8	
- women		(%)	11.8	6.5		4.8	8.7	9.9	10.4	4.9	3.8	
- part-time:	- under 50 %	(%)	51.4	15.2		4.2	31.6	45.6	38.4	4.5	3.0	
,	- 50 % and over	(%)	26.6	24.9	11.4	7.2	22.1	18.6	31.1	12.3	6.6	
Sole/main holde	ers	1000	179.7	81.5	53.1	29.1	343.5	95.4	161.9	41.7	44.4	
- women		(%)	12.2	6.9	4.5	4.8	9.1	10.4	10.9	5.2	3.7	
-distribution b	y age	(%)					• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •					
- under 35	- under 35 years		7.9	8.4	7.7	7.2	7.9	6.6	8.5	8.3	8.3	
- from 35 to 44 years			27.2	29.0	31.7	32.2	28.8	27.0	28.0	30.5	33.5	
- from 45 to	o 54 years		33.0	35.1	35.5	35.4	34.1	33.7	33.5	35.8	35.3	
- from 55 to	o 64 years		22.6	23.3	22.2	21.0	22.6	23.3	22.7	22.4	20.5	
- 65 years	and over		9.4	4.3	2.9	4.2	6.7	9.4	7.3	3.0	2.4	
- part-time:	- under 50 %	(%)	51.9	15.3	5.6	4.6	32.0	46.4	38.6	4.5	3.1	
	- 50 % and over	(%)	26.8	25.0	11.4	7.9	22.4	18.9	31.3	12.4	6.9	
- with another	gainful activity ¹	(%)	64.0	37.4	16.3	8.9	45.4	51.5	59.6	17.5	8.3	
- as a mair	occupation		59.4	29.7	10.3	4.5	39.9	46.4	53.6	11.1	4.5	
- as a subs	sidiary occupation		4.5	7.8	6.0	4.5	5.5	5.2	6.0	6.4	3.8	
Spouse of sole	holder	1000	84.2	47.0	32.9	15.2	179.3	42.6	82.8	27.1	26.8	
- women		(%)	88.3	93.9	95.9	95.4	91.8	89.7	90.1	95.5	96.5	
-distribution b	y age	(%)										
- under 35	•		6.7	7.7	9.4	8.5	7.6	5.9	7.1	9.2	10.2	
- from 35 to	•		67.4	72.4		76.0	70.8	66.4	70.3	74.2	76.4	
- 55 years			25.9	19.9		15.5	21.6	27.8	22.6	16.6	13.4	
- part-time:	- under 50 %	(%)	66.4	40.5		38.7	51.7	64.6	58.0	27.1	36.8	
	- 50 % and over	(%)	25.6	43.4		40.9	35.3	24.1	32.4	51.9	45.4	
- with another gainful activity (%)		37.9	25.3	20.0	18.9	29.7	34.0	35.8	16.9	16.8		
Other members of the holder's family working on the holding 1000		84.2	52.2	37.8	17.4	191.5	36.9	92.6	31.6	30.4		
- women		(%)	38.3	38.2		31.9	37.1	35.9	38.2	38.2	33.9	
- part-time:	- under 50 %	(%)	74.9	59.8		48.4	64.1	70.3	70.6	52.0	49.3	
1	- 50 % and over	(%)	20.2	30.4		28.2	25.8	20.1	24.1	33.4	29.9	
- with another	gainful activity	(%)	23.6	17.4		9.0		20.3	22.4	13.9	8.2	

^{*}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		Aaricultur	al area (ha)	All	Livestock (LSU)			
				>=100	farms	0		50-<100	>=100
Holdings									
- total number 100	181.2	81.9	53.4	32.0	348.5	97.1	162.6	42.0	46.8
		01.5	33.4	32.0	340.3	37.1	102.0	42.0	40.0
- by legal personality of the holder (%		00.0	00.0	74.4	00.0	04.0	07.7	04.0	70.7
- sole holder	96.4			71.4	93.2	91.8	97.7	94.0	79.7
- legal person	0.8			8.9	1.4	1.7	0.4	0.5	5.2
- group holders	2.8	3.3	8.6	19.7	5.3	6.4	1.8	5.5	15.1
- by employed labour force (%									
- under 1 AWU	56.1			3.0	34.8	49.8	42.9	4.5	2.4
- from 1 to less than 2 AWU	31.0	53.1	48.3	29.6	38.7	27.2	42.4	50.7	39.1
- from 2 to less than 3 AWU	7.9	22.0	33.7	31.4	17.3	10.3	11.9	35.1	34.8
- 3 AWU and over	5.0	6.3	11.8	36.0	9.2	12.7	2.8	9.7	23.7
- by economic size (%)								
- from 1 to less than 8 ESU	61.8	6.1	0.2	0	33.6	42.1	46.9	0	0
- from 8 to less than 16 ESU	16.0	16.8	2.4	0.3	12.7	14.3	18.3	1.5	0
- from 16 to less than 40 ESU	14.2	39.3	16.4	4.2	19.5	16.5	26.5	19.4	1.8
- from 40 to less than 100 ESU	5.2	33.0	56.0	26.0	21.4	14.6	6.7	74.3	39.5
- 100 ESU and over	2.7	4.6	24.9	69.6	12.7	12.6	1.6	4.8	58.7
- by type of farming (top 5 + 'other') (%)								
specialist dairy farming	10.8	34.9	35.8	21.9	21.3	0	21.0	55.8	35.8
specialist cereals, oil seed and protein crops	14.9	11.0	8.8	20.4	13.6	27.6	11.9	1.2	1.3
sheep, goats and other grazing livestock	15.8	5.0	2.4	2.8	10.0	7.8	15.7	3.1	1.1
general field cropping	7.5	10.0	11.9	18.5	9.7	20.1	7.6	2.2	2.6
field crops – grazing livestock combined	7.1	8.4	9.7	14.1	8.4	3.0	12.2	9.5	5.6
Other types of farming	43.9	30.8	31.5	22.3	36.9	41.4	31.7	28.2	53.7
- by farming methods (%)								
- organic farming	3.1	4.7	3.9	5.2	3.8	3.1	4.7	3.8	2.1
- irrigating	:	:	:	:	: :		:	:	:
- with crops under glass	4.7	0.4	0.2	0.3	2.6	8.5	0.4	0.1	0.1
- with another gainful activity than									
agricultural production: (%	19.2	24.6	26.6	29.7	22.6	23.3	21.5	25.4	22.3
Tourism	4.0	4.4	3.6	3.5	4.0	3.3	5.0	3.5	2.4
Handicraft	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1
Processing of farm products	8.9	6.4	6.5	7.7	7.8	12.7	6.4	5.5	4.7
Wood processing	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.7	0.2
Aquaculture	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.1
Renewable energy production	3.4	8.3	10.9	11.9	6.5	4.7	5.2	10.1	11.5
Contractual work	1.9	6.3	8.1	10.3	4.7	3.7	3.8	9.1	5.7
Other gainful activities n.a.e	3.6	4.6	4.5	5.3	4.2	3.4	5.1	3.5	3.0

^{*}LSU = Livestock unit

":" not available

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

Size of the farms		Ą	gricultura	l area (ha)	All	Livestock (LSU)			
		<20 20-<50 50-<100 >=100			farms	0 >0-<50 50-<100			>=100	
Area (1000) ha)									
Total area of agricultural holdings	,	2022.8	3160.5	4069.2	9309.5	18562.1	3993.3	4466.6	2751.1	7351.1
H. Other area		480.2	436.7	327.0	457.2	1701.1	406.3	679.4	247.9	367.5
Wooded area		399.1	367.7	253.5	307.6	1327.9	325.9	575.5	199.9	226.6
Agricultural area		1542.6	2723.8	3742.3	8852.3	16860.9	3586.9	3787.2	2503.1	6983.6
•		741.6	1618.4	2499.0	7022.5	11881.5	3195.4	2226.5	1416.8	5042.8
- D. Arable land Cereals		471.0	940.7	1385.8	3783.4	6581.0	1821.7	1345.8	749.6	2663.8
Common wheat and spelt		156.3	362.4	583.4	1886.1	2988.2	1034.5	562.8	306.2	1084.7
Durum wheat		0.3	0.4	1.4	5.4	7.5	4.4	1.3	0.3	1.6
Rye		26.8	51.7	94.1	512.0	684.6	163.5	103.6	57.0	360.5
Barley		179.3	335.3	443.3	967.4	1925.3	439.2	454.3	268.1	763.7
Oats		36.2	48.6	42.2	69.8	1925.5	30.6	85.5	35.1	45.6
Grain maize		38.8	81.5	130.2	147.3	397.7	100.1	63.0	30.5	204.2
Dried pulses		5.1	8.5	12.8	82.4	108.7	31.1	18.8	11.1	47.8
·		28.9	78.4	164.7	419.0	690.9	310.9	133.7	54.0	192.3
Root crops Potatoes		14.2	76. 4 29.1	71.2				51.8	23.4	95.7
		13.3	47.6	91.3	162.0 253.2	276.5 405.3	105.6 202.9	78.8	29.3	94.4
Sugar beet Fodder root (including brassicas)		1.4	1.7	2.2	3.8	9.1	2.5	3.1	1.3	2.2
		54.2	126.1	230.9	3.0 1204.5	1615.7	2.5 548.4	246.8	133.1	687.3
Industrial crops										
Tobacco		0.3	1.0	1.4	0.7	3.4	2.1	0.8	0.2	0.2
Hops		4.4	8.9	3.1	1.3	17.7	9.4	5.6	1.4	1.3
Cotton		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape and turnip		47.6	113.0	222.1	1166.9	1549.5	520.1	234.1	129.2	666.2
Sunflower		0.5	0.7	1.0	16.5	18.8	5.2	2.2	0.9	10.5
Soya		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fresh vegetables, melons, strawberry		13.3	18.3	25.9	61.4	118.9	82.2	18.3	3.9	14.5
outside		12.6	18.2	25.9	61.4	118.0	81.3	18.3	3.9	14.5
under glass		0.8	0.1	0	0	0.9	0.8	0.1	0	0
Flower and ornamental plants		6.9	1.1	0.5	0.8	9.2	8.1	0.7	0.2	0.2
outside		4.5	0.9	0.5	0.7	6.7	5.7	0.7	0.2	0.2
under glass		2.4	0.1	0	0	2.5	2.4	0.1	0	0
Forage plants		130.9	367.4	550.9	1035.1	2084.3	184.3	341.9	398.7	1159.5
Fallow land		30.5	76.9	124.9	411.4	643.7	201.0	116.2	65.0	261.5
- E. Kitchen garden		1.7	0.8	0.9	0.7	4.1	1.1	1.7	0.4	0.8
- F. Permanent pasture and meadows		698.3	1057.0	1220.5	1801.2	4776.9	221.4	1534.9	1084.0	1936.5
- G. Permanent crops		101.0	47.5	21.9	28.0	198.5	169.0	24.1	1.9	3.4
Fruit and berry plantation		25.5	18.5	6.5	13.6	64.1	52.3	9.0	1.0	1.8
Citrus plantation		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Olive trees		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vineyard		62.0	19.6	9.6	6.2	97.3	87.7	8.3	0.5	0.8
Ratios										
Agricultural area per holding	(ha)	8.5	33.2	70.1	276.9	48.4	36.9	23.3	59.7	149.2
Agricultural area	(%)									
own farmed		66.5	54.1	40.8	24.3	36.7	37.4	49.7	40.5	27.8
in less favoured or mountain area		58.6	53.9	51.7	45.3	49.3	27.0	55.6	59.1	53.9
organic farmed		3.7	4.3	3.6	4.8	4.4	3.1	6.1	5.2	3.8
irrigated		:	:	:	:		:	:	:	:

^{*}LSU = Livestock unit

":" not available

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

Size of the farms		Ą	gricultura	l area (ha	1)	All	Livestock (LSU)			
		<20 20-<50 50-<100 >=100		farms	0	>0-<50	50-<100	>=100		
Total livestock	(1000 LSU)	2517.8	3954.1	5621.2	5858.3	17951.4	0	2670.5	2978 6	12302.3
of which grazing	(%)	42.1	59.3	52.5	57.9	54.3	:	84.7	82.7	40.8
Grazing livestock	(1000 heads)									
Equidae	(1000 1100 110)	221.5	132.5	86.8	65.1	505.9	0	372.9	78.4	54.6
Bovine animals		1186.5	3079.0	3967.3	4434.8	12667.6	0	2636.1	3208.8	6822.7
Under 1 year		381.8	962.8	1262.9	1307.3	3914.8	0	786.2	953.2	2175.5
From 1 to less than 2 years		280.0	733.6	984.2	997.4	2995.2	0	640.9	736.8	1617.6
Dairy cows		285.1	990.6	1292.0	1508.6	4076.4	0	699.7	1121.5	2255.2
Other cows		147.0	149.6	132.4	312.5	741.4	0	302.8	137.6	300.9
Other bovine animals 2 years a	and older	92.7	242.4	295.8	308.9	939.8	0	206.6	259.7	473.5
Sheep	illa olaei	547.1	317.0	447.8	1067.4	2379.3	0	867.4	591.2	920.7
·			317.0			23/9.3		007.4		
Goats		:	·	:	:	:	0	:	:	:
Granivores										
Pigs	(1000 heads)	3154.1	6035.3	9544.8	8322.7	27057.0	0	1655.3	2195.3	23206.3
Piglets < 20 kg		1034.1	1961.2	2328.4	1835.6	7159.3	0	631.1	861.1	5667.1
Breeding sows		333.9	692.2	802.7	669.6	2498.3	0	185.4	281.2	2031.8
Other pigs		1786.1	3381.9	6413.7	5817.5	17399.3	0	838.9	1053.0	15507.5
Poultry	(million heads)	60.0	16.1	23.3	26.3	125.7	0	3.2	2.7	119.8
Broilers		24.3	9.3	13.7	14.0	61.3	0	0.2	0.6	60.5
Laying hens		32.2	4.7	6.3	8.2	51.4	0	2.8	2.0	46.6
Other poultry		3.5	2.1	3.3	4.1	13.0	0	0.2	0.1	12.7
Rabbits, breeding females	(1000 heads)	:	:	:	:	:	0	:	:	:
Beehives	(1000)	:	:	:	:	:	0	:	:	:
Average size of herds*	(head/holding)									
Equidae	(head/holding)	7.2	9.5	8.9	10.4	8.3	:	8.1	11.1	7.0
Cattle	(head/holding)	19.5	58.3	111.6	241.6	75.6	:	26.2	89.1	221.5
Dairy cows	(head/holding)	11.6	26.8	48.0	118.6	40.3	:	14.9	37.2	94.1
Other cows	(head/holding)	5.6	9.6	13.9	49.2	12.9	:	7.4	15.9	38.2
Sheep	(head/holding)	39.8	76.5	144.8	423.4	101.2	:	47.4	232.0	348.5
Goats	(head/holding)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Pigs	(head/holding)	99.7	274.6	564.8	1003.2	343.3	:	39.0	181.3	956.7
Breeding sows	(head/holding)	34.3	73.2	117.7	245.2	87.0	:	14.7	50.4	193.6
Other pigs > 20 kg	(head/holding)	60.5	160.4	389.1	714.3	231.3	:	21.2	90.7	645.9
Rabbits, breeding females	(head/holding)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Laying hens	(1000/holding)	0.8	0.3	8.0	2.6	0.7	:	0	0.2	9.0
Broilers	(1000/holding)	4.9	5.6	13.1	21.4	7.3	:	0	0.8	44.2
Beehives	(hive/holding)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

^{*}LSU = Livestock unit

			Absolute figure	% of total		
		Total	< 1 ESU	>= 1 ESU	< 1 ESU	>= 1 ESU
Regular Labour force	(1000 pers)	915.1	34.1	881.0	3.7	96.3
Regular labour force	(1000 AWU)	555.1	9.2	545.9	1.7	98.3
Holders with	(1000)	365.3	21.8	343.5	6.0	94.0
at least 65 years		27.3	4.3	23.0	15.7	84.3
another gainful activity		173.3	15.2	158.1	8.8	91.2
Number of sole holdings	(1000)	370.5	22.0	348.5	5.9	94.1
producing mainly for own consumption		0.0	0.0	0.0	:	:
producing mainly for direct sales		:	:	:	:	:
SGM	(1000 ESU)	18328.6	15.4	18313.2	0.1	99.9
Agricultural area	(1000 ha)	16931.9	71.0	16860.9	0.4	99.6
own farmed		6232.6	52.4	6180.2	0.8	99.2
Livestock	(1000 LSU*)	17985.2	33.8	17951.4	0.2	99.8

^{*}LSU = Livestock unit

>METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The 2007 FSS was a decentralized statistical operation carried out in the Federal Republic of Germany by the Federal Statistical Office in collaboration with the Land Statistical offices. The survey was organized using a combination of exhaustive survey (for the land, livestock, labour force and their other gainful activities and profit accounting and tax) and sample survey (for tenure, sources of income from outside the holding, production and use of animal origin fertilizers, more detailed information on the labour force, other non-agricultural gainful activities related to the holding). The only the full records were transmitted to Eurostat.

The reference period for land use, labour force and other gainful activities was the period between May 2006 and April 2007, for livestock characteristics it was the 3rd of May 2007. The threshold for including an agricultural holding in the FSS 2007 was having an UAA of at least 2 hectares. Farms with less than 2 ha were included if they have at least 8 bovines or pigs, or 20 sheep, or 200 poultry (hens, cocks, geese, ducks or turkeys), or 0.3 ha of one of the following crops: vineyards, fruit trees, hops, tobacco, nurseries, outdoor cultivation of vegetables, flowers, ornamental plants, aromatic, medicinal or culinary plants, garden seeds, or 0.03ha of vegetables, flowers or ornamental plants under glass.

The frame for the survey was the Farm Register (374 500 holdings) which was consolidated with the 2003 FSS and with administrative sources such as the Integrated administrative and control system (IACS) and the livestock register. For the sample survey a total of about 96 700 farms were selected from 26 strata using a single stage stratified sample. The sampling was based on geographical location, typology, UAA. The sample included also a

separate stratum of all the new farms. Administrative sources (IACS) were also used in 10 of the 15 Länder for some of the land use and livestock characteristics.

Depending on the Länder, personal interviews, postal surveys, telephone surveys or on-line surveys were used for the data capture of the German 2007 FSS.

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 Germany it covers close to 12 100 ha, 87% 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 Germany it is 1760 hours (220 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 Federal Statistical Office Germany: www.destatis.de

National Methodological Report – FSS 2007 (available on request)

Further information

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