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**FARM STRUCTURE SURVEY 2007**

**NATIONAL METHODOLOGICAL  
REPORT**

11 November 2008

**MEMBER STATE:  
UNITED KINGDOM**

# **FARM STRUCTURE SURVEY 2007 NATIONAL METHODOLOGICAL REPORT**

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## **Farm Structure Survey 2007 METHODOLOGICAL REPORT – UNITED KINGDOM**

### **UK SUMMARY**

In the United Kingdom, the collection of statistics is a devolved activity. The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) was responsible for collating Farm Structure Survey (FSS) 2007 data from each of the four countries of the United Kingdom, and for transmitting the final dataset to Eurostat.

Responsibility for the collection of data within each country was as follows:

England:	Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra)
Northern Ireland:	Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (DARD)
Scotland:	The Scottish Government (SG) Rural and Environment Analytical Services (REAS)
Wales:	Welsh Assembly Government

As a results of the separate surveys and procedures within each country, four methodological reports have been prepared - one each for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

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# METHODOLOGICAL REPORT CONTENTS

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**MEMBER STATE: ENGLAND (UNITED KINGDOM)**

## SUMMARY

The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) was responsible for collating Farm Structure Survey (FSS) 2007 data from each of the four countries of the United Kingdom, and for transmitting the final dataset to Eurostat. Defra was responsible for the collection of agricultural statistics in England.

The population for the FSS 2007 was drawn from The Statistical Register of Agricultural Holdings, which is used for all Defra-run statistical surveys of agriculture and horticulture and contains the details of all agricultural holdings that have contact with Defra.

The majority of the data was collected through two surveys which are detailed below. This report will cover both of these surveys in detail under each relevant section.

### **Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007**

- Defra's flagship agricultural survey. Run every year.
- Collected data on land areas and livestock numbers for FSS.
- Recorded a 'snapshot' as at 1 June 2007, with survey forms being despatched to arrive on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007.
- Operated as a postal survey with the option of completion online through Defra's Whole Farm Approach (WFA) system.
- Survey forms sent to 59,000 holdings. These generated 40,000 responses that had clean data for every section. In addition there were a significant number of responses that had only some usable data.
- Data has been provided for all 208,000 holdings believed to be active on 1 June 2007. Estimates are imputed for non-responding and non-sampled holdings using the most recent response updated by trends reported by respondents.
- Provisional results of the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 for England were published on 20 September 2007 and final results were published on 26 November 2007. The statistical release for the final results can be seen here: [https://statistics.defra.gov.uk/esg/statnot/june\\_eng.pdf](https://statistics.defra.gov.uk/esg/statnot/june_eng.pdf)

### **Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007**

- Run specifically to provide data for the FSS. Only run in FSS years.
- Collected data on holding management, labour and diversification.
- The survey covered the 12 month period from the beginning of October 2006 to the end of September 2007, with survey forms being despatched to arrive on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2007.
- Operated solely as a postal survey.
- Survey forms were sent to 60,000 holdings and generated 35,500 clean responses.

- Data has only been provided for the 35,500 clean responses. To obtain estimates for the full population, raising factors based on farm type and size can be applied to response data to account for both non-responding and non-surveyed holdings.
- No results from the Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007 have been published. A breakdown of results is expected to be published in late 2008.

Data on set-aside areas and organic holdings were derived from administrative sources. A very small amount of data was collected through the Survey of Mushroom Growers 2007 and the Survey of Vegetables and Flowers Grown in the Open 2006. These will not be covered in further detail in the remainder of the report.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 History**

There has been an annual agricultural census in England since 1866, which became a sample survey in 1995. Initially the census covered land areas and livestock numbers but in 1921 it was expanded to cover counts of farm labour (however these are not used in the FSS dataset). The Survey, which has always been postal, takes place at the beginning of June each year.

### **1.2 National legislation**

In England the legal basis for the collection of agricultural statistical data is the Agricultural Statistics Act 1979 (as amended by the Agriculture (Amendment) Act 1984) which imposes a statutory requirement on all occupiers to complete and return their questionnaires. This legislation does not need to be updated or amended to allow for new surveys or for additional questions. There is provision within the Act to prosecute those that do not respond to the survey, without reasonable excuse.

The annual June Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture is designated as statutory under the Agricultural Statistics Act. The additional Survey of Labour and Diversification, however, is a voluntary survey and is conducted under the terms of the Government Statistical Service Code of Practice. There is therefore no legal requirement for respondents to complete the Survey of Labour and Diversification.

## 2. CONTENT

### 2.1 Characteristics and reference period

The information in England was collected according to the Commission Regulation 204/2006 adapting Council Regulation 571/88 and amending Annex I to Council Regulation 571/88/EC.

#### Non-Existent Characteristics

The following characteristics were deemed to be non-existent (or close to zero) in the UK and therefore were not separately collected in England:

- CC03 – agricultural area used for shared farming and other modes;
- D02 – durum wheat;
- D06 – grain maize;
- D07 – rice;
- D09G – other protein crops harvested;
- D14B – fresh vegetables market gardening;
- D23 – tobacco;
- D25 – cotton;
- D27 – sunflower;
- D28 – soya;
- D30 – other oilseed crops;
- D33 – other textile crops;
- E – kitchen gardens;
- G01B – fruit and berry species of subtropical climate zones;
- G01C – nuts;
- G02 – citrus plantations;
- G03 – olive plantations;
- G04A – quality wine;
- G04C – table grapes;
- G04D – raisins;
- G06 – other permanent crops;
- G07 – permanent crops under glass;
- I01 – successive secondary crops;
- I08C – areas converted to permanent pasture and meadow.

Of these characteristics, D07, D23, D25, G01B, G02, G03, G04A, G04C, G04D and G07 are not thought to be grown at all in England.

Where identified, D27 and D30 were included in D20 (other crops) and G01C was included in G01A (Temperate fruit and berry plantations).



## Non-Significant Characteristics

The following items were deemed to be non-significant in the UK and therefore were not collected in England:

- CC06B – direct sales contribute >50% of total sales;
- D09F – lentils, chick peas and vetches;
- D24 – hops;
- D31 – flax;
- D32 – hemp;
- D35 – industrial crops not mentioned elsewhere;
- J17 – rabbits breeding females;
- J18 – bees

Where identified, D31 and D32 were included in D20 (other crops).

Characteristics D24 (hops) and D31 (flax) were not collected although they are known to exist with very small areas. These characteristics were last collected in 2006 and measured 1,117ha (D24) and 579ha (D31) for the England. In 2007 it was necessary to remove these crops from the June Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture in order to reduce the administrative burden on the industry.

Characteristic F03 (Permanent grassland and meadows no longer used for production purposes and eligible for the payment of subsidies) was problematic to understand and collect. Defra Statisticians and agricultural experts interpreted the original F03 definition to include only land that had at one time, been in production as *pasture*. The experts' view was that any permanent pasture not in full production by the owner would be either rented out or subject to informal low-intensity grazing, if it was to remain in good condition. As a result, none of this land existed in England in 2007 and the original intention for England and the UK was to treat F03 as Non-Significant. A more detailed definition of F03 was circulated by Eurostat in September 2008. This made it clear that land that had turned into pasture due to several years of being uncropped could be included in F03. An estimate for this type of land was produced by a statistician following in-depth analysis of administrative data from the Rural Payments Agency (RPA). It is recognised that some of the land declared as F03 is probably also included in H01 as 'set-aside under incentive schemes'. This is an area that will be investigated in more detail in 2010, although it is believed that the area in question is <5,000ha. It is the opinion of the survey statisticians that the complicated definition of F03 would make it extremely difficult to collect an accurate estimate for F03 using a postal questionnaire.

Following the definitions laid down in Commission Regulation (EC) No 1444/2002 of 24<sup>th</sup> July 2002, Annex I, variable B/1b, the decision was taken to not collect separate information on group holdings. Instead, for holdings where two or more natural persons carry out the functions of the holder, one of them (the one who bears the greatest share of the work) was recorded as

the holder and all other persons working on the holding were recorded in the relevant L04\*\*T characteristic as 'non-family labour force', regardless of their family relation to the holder.

### **Reference Period for Characteristics**

The Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 recorded the status of holdings on 1 June 2007. The survey results include responses that were completed between 1 June 2007 and early October 2007.

The Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007 recorded labour on holdings in the twelve months from the beginning of October 2006 to the end of September 2007. The survey results include responses that were completed between 3 October 2007 and March 2008.

### **Changes in definitions**

The area of mushrooms (characteristic I02) was reported incorrectly in FSS 2005 and therefore is significantly different to the area reported in FSS 2007. A processing error resulted in FSS 2005 areas being reported as 'production area' (bed area multiplied by number of crops in the year). The FSS 2007 have been correctly reported as just the bed area, with no multiplication if more than one crop was taken over the year.

## **2.2 Questionnaire**

### **Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007**

Two different survey forms were used to collect data, a detailed form and a core form. Standard Labour Requirement (SLR, see Annex 1) of holdings was used to determine which form an individual holding was sent. A detailed form was sent to selected agricultural holdings with an SLR  $\geq 0.25$  and 30% of selected agricultural holdings with an SLR  $> 0$  and  $< 0.25$ . These detailed forms had four A4 pages of questions and were sent to 47,000 holdings. A cut down 'core' form was sent to the remaining 70% of the selected agricultural holdings with an SLR  $> 0$  and  $< 0.25$  and all selected agricultural holdings with an SLR = 0. Core forms had two A4 pages of questions and were sent to 12,000 holdings. Form allocation (detailed or core) within the selected agricultural holdings with an SLR  $> 0$  and  $< 0.25$  was random.

Both questionnaires were despatched to arrive on holdings on 1 June 2007 and collected data on crops, land use and livestock. The questionnaires also collected data on the numbers of farmers and agricultural/horticultural workers employed by the holding on 1 June 2007, which did not contribute to the FSS dataset.

For the first time, all cattle related data for the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture was provided by the Cattle Tracing System (CTS) so no cattle questions were required on the survey forms.

There was an option for all holdings to complete the survey online through Defra's Whole Farm Approach (WFA) system, rather than on the paper form sent. This option was taken by 223 holdings.

The questions on both the detailed and core survey forms were very similar to those in previous June Surveys of Agriculture and Horticulture. The entire survey form was subject to close scrutiny from statisticians, survey support staff and industry experts to ensure that the design was appropriate.

### **Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007**

The Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007 questionnaire was despatched to arrive on holdings on 3 October 2007. Respondents were asked to provide data for the twelve month period from the beginning of October 2006 to the end of September 2007. There was a single version which had five A4 pages of questions and collected all the information required for the FFS labour (section L) and diversification (section M) characteristics. There was no online completion facility.

The questions on the survey form were similar to those on previous Surveys of Labour and Diversification, however the design was intensely scrutinised in order to make improvements to the clarity of the form.

Copies of the two Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 forms and the Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007 form can be found in Annexes 2, 3 and 4.

### **3. SURVEY METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Survey organisation**

##### **Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007**

The lead statistician oversaw the whole process including form design, sample design and results processing. A team of three administrative staff were responsible for system maintenance. A further team of nine administrative staff were responsible for contacting farmers as part of data validation and issuing reminders to farmers who had not responded by a given date. Four statisticians were responsible for producing the Survey results. The lead statistician used the response data to produce an imputed dataset with values for all live holdings on the The Statistical Register of Agricultural Holdings.

##### **Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007**

The lead statistician oversaw the process including form design, data validation rules and results processing. A senior statistician was responsible for the sample design. A team of three administrative staff were responsible for system maintenance. A further team of nine administrative staff were responsible for contacting farmers as part of data validation and issuing reminders to farmers who had not responded by a given date.

#### **3.2 Calendar (overview of work progress)**

##### **Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007**

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August 2006	Survey planning begins
March 2007	Form design completed
March 2007	Sampling design completed
29 May 2007	Survey forms despatched
27 June 2007	First reminder despatched to non-respondents
13 July 2007	Second reminder despatched to non-respondents
20 September 2007	Provisional England results published
8 October 2007	Survey closed
26 November 2007	Final England results published

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## Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007

June 2007	Sampling design completed
July 2007	Form design finalised
August 2007	Validation programmes prepared
1 October 2007	Survey forms despatched
19 October 2007	First reminder despatched to non-respondents
9 November 2008	Second reminder despatched to non-respondents
March 2008	Survey Closed
June 2008	Results processing completed

Between March and August 2008, there was considerable work performed by England to bring together datasets from England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales into a single FSS 2007 dataset for the United Kingdom. England co-ordinated the validation of final datasets and populated characteristics farm type (A06) and SGM (A12) for all of the UK. England also populated the organic fields CC05A, CC05D and CC05E for Scotland and Wales.

### 3.3 Planning the survey

#### 3.3.1 Population and frame

The population for the FSS 2007 was all holdings on The Statistical Register of Agricultural Holdings ('The Register') that were active on 1 June 2007. This is also used as the sampling frame. There were 208,166 such holding in 2007, compared to 195,908 in 2005.

#### Definition of a Holding

The basic unit of enumeration is the holding. The guideline definition is pragmatic and operational and subject to agreement with the individual farmer. The holding comprises land on which agricultural activities are carried out and which is by and large farmed as one unit having regard to such supplies as machinery, livestock, feeding stuffs and manpower, and to distance between any separate areas of land involved and their type of farming. The farm business is operated by a "farmer" who is a single individual, a partnership of individuals, a limited company, or an institution of some kind. Some farm businesses occupy more than one holding.

#### The Statistical Register of Agricultural Holdings ('The Register')

The Register contains a unique number for each holding (known as the CPH number), the contact details of the holder, the area of the holding, whether the holding is currently active, the legal status of the holding, and the CPH number of any associated holdings. The register does not hold statistical data about holdings. The Register is continuously updated by the Survey Support Section, who use comments on statistical survey forms, telephone conversations with holders and information from the Rural Payments Agency to maintain it.

## **Identification of the survey population from The Register**

In mid April 2007, the population of active farms was downloaded from The Register in preparation for the sample to be drawn. Inactive holdings and holdings that have indicated that they will refuse to complete statistical surveys ('non-co-operators') were excluded.

A further download of new holdings was taken in mid June 2007. This identified any holdings that were registered during the period between the original download of the population in mid April and 1 June 2007. These holdings were added to the Survey population and sent a Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 questionnaire. The population was finalised in September 2007 to take account of all changes to the Register between mid April and 1 June, some of which may not have been changed on The Register at the time of the mid June download. This resulted in a final population of 208,166 for the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 and subsequently the FSS 2007. The population for the Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007 was identical to that of the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 and subsequently the FSS 2007.

## **Organic Data**

The data for organic characteristics (CC05A, CC05D & CC05E) was taken from the United Kingdom Register of Organic Food Standards (UKROFS). UKROFS consists of an independent board appointed by UK Ministers for Agriculture. Any producer wishing to sell their produce as organic must, by law, be registered with UKROFS, or a body approved by UKROFS, and be inspected by them at least once a year. Only if the holding passes the inspection will they be kept on UKROFS. UKROFS contains parcels of land that are not necessarily the same as holdings on The Statistical Register of Agricultural Holdings. Entries on UKROFS were matched, where possible to holdings on The Statistical Register of Agricultural Holdings. Where entries on UKROFS did not appear to be on The Statistical Register of Agricultural Holdings they were not added to the FSS 2007 population.

### **3.3.2 Survey design**

In 2005 both the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 and the Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007 were carried out by sample enumeration. Different and independent samples were drawn for each survey and it was possible for a holding to be selected for both surveys.

## **Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007**

There were no exclusions apart from those holdings that had indicated that they would refuse to complete any statistical surveys (non-co-operators). However where a large pig or poultry producer has many holdings, each holding was not individually sent a survey form. Instead the producer was requested to return data for each of their holdings, either using WFA or direct to the Survey Support Section via e-mail.

### ***Sample Size***

From a sampling population of 209,652 holdings identified in mid April 2007, a stratified sample of approximately 60,000 holdings was drawn. Eligible holdings within each stratum were randomly selected from The Register by a computer system.

### ***Stratification***

The basic principal of stratification was by Standard Labour Requirement (SLR). (See annex 1 for definition). There are six bandings: very small (spare time), very small (part time), small, medium, large and very large. The smallest holdings (less than 0.25 SLR) are sampled on average just once every ten years (in practice this led to a 20% sample size), whilst the largest holdings (more than 5 SLR) are sampled at 100% to ensure that the overall coverage of the survey is high.

The samples sizes for the strata between the smallest and largest are 30%, 40%, 50% and 70% respectively.

In order to improve coverage, Horticultural holdings were stratified separately (again by SLR) and were sampled at the rate of the next strata size up. Small holdings were therefore sampled at the small-medium rate (30%) rather than the small rate (20%).

Six further strata dealt with holdings that had no previous response to the June survey of Agriculture and Horticulture.

The sampling population and sample sizes by strata for the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 are shown below:

Stratum	Description	Sampling rate	Form type	Pop size	Actual sample size (after restrictions)
1	SLR =0	10%	100% core	23,326	2332
2	SLR >0 and <0.25	20%	70%:30% split core:detailed	61,598	12315
3	SLR >=0.25 and <1	30%	detailed	45,453	13639
4	SLR >=1 and <2	40%	detailed	22,865	9144
5	SLR >=2 and <3	50%	detailed	9,894	4947
6	SLR >=3 and <5	70%	detailed	8,083	5659
7	SLR >=5	100%	detailed	4,684	4514
8	Hort SLR <0.25	30%	detailed	2,479	744
9	Hort SLR >=0.25 and <1	40%	detailed	3,021	1208
10	Hort SLR >=1 and <2	50%	detailed	1,440	720
11	Hort SLR >=2 and <3	70%	detailed	620	434
12	Hort SLR >=3 and <5	100%	detailed	591	588
13	Hort SLR >=5	100%	detailed	1,030	1024
14	New holdings SLR<1	0%	-	3,666	0
15	New holdings SLR >=1 and <3	20%	detailed	177	35
16	New holdings >=3	100%	detailed	77	71
17	Sent new holdings form but not returned	0%	-	9,379	0
91	Holdings no base (non-respondents to past June surveys & 1,600 never surveyed holdings)	20%	70%:30% split core:detailed	8,143	1612
92	New holdings since April 07 (done as late news exercise)	0%	-	0	0
	Total	29%		209,652	58,986

### Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007

Holdings selected for the Earnings & Hours Survey June 2007, holdings with SLR <0.25 that were selected for the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 and non-co-operator were excluded from selection for this survey.

### Sample Size

The target number of clean responses required for England was 36,000. Assumed response rates suggested that a sample of 60,000 holdings would be sufficient to meet the target whilst imposing the burden of the survey on as few holdings as possible.

### Stratification

The stratification was based on that used for the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 (stratification by SLR), with the addition of robust



farm types. This meant that SLRs were used for stratification, rather than Standard Gross Margins (SGMs) which had been used for stratification in previous Surveys of Labour and Diversification. The strata are numbered sequentially from 1 to 67. All strata for holdings with an SLR of zero have been combined into one strata. The final six strata (from 62 onwards) are for new holdings. The holdings in strata 65 to 67 (about whom we had no information) were not sampled.

### **Allocation**

Neyman Allocation was used to find the optimal sample size for each strata, based on the variability of the labour data from the 2006 June Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture. This method optimally allocates the sample between strata where the total sample size is fixed, by minimising the variance within strata.

The formula for Neyman Allocation is as follows:

$$n_h = n \left( \frac{N_h S_h}{\sum N_h S_h} \right)$$

Where:

$n_h$  = strata sample size

$n$  = total sample size

$N_h$  = strata population

$S_h$  = strata standard deviation

Once the optimum sample size within each strata had been calculated, a random sample of this size was drawn from the strata population. There were a few exceptions. The non-responders' (strata 65 and 66) were not sampled, because a failure to previous survey forms indicated a lack of willingness on their part to complete any survey forms, so this avoided wasting further forms. Holdings new to The Register since the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 sampling population was downloaded in April 2007 (stratum 67) were not sampled, as they did not form part of the June Survey sampling population.

The population and sample sizes by strata for the Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007 are shown below:

Stratum	SLR band	Robust type	Population	Reqd sample size	Sampling fraction
1	SLR =0	Lowland Grazing Livestock, Other	23,326	1,866	8%
2	SLR >0 and <0.25	Cereals	4,924	1369	28%
3	SLR >0 and <0.25	General Cropping	700	242	35%
4	SLR >0 and <0.25	Horticulture	2,469	1033	42%
5	SLR >0 and <0.25	Specialist Pigs	721	126	18%
6	SLR >0 and <0.25	Specialist Poultry	4,099	1732	42%
7	SLR >0 and <0.25	Dairy	356	171	48%
8	SLR >0 and <0.25	LFA Grazing Livestock	3,516	620	18%
9	SLR >0 and <0.25	Lowland Grazing Livestock	13,040	3409	26%
10	SLR >0 and <0.25	Mixed	2,330	478	21%
11	SLR >0 and <0.25	Other	31,922	8480	27%
12	SLR >=0.25 and <1	Cereals	8,452	2774	33%
13	SLR >=0.25 and <1	General Cropping	2,274	1007	44%
14	SLR >=0.25 and <1	Horticulture	3,007	1626	54%
15	SLR >=0.25 and <1	Specialist Pigs	588	146	25%
16	SLR >=0.25 and <1	Specialist Poultry	595	237	40%
17	SLR >=0.25 and <1	Dairy	1,095	217	20%
18	SLR >=0.25 and <1	LFA Grazing Livestock	5,215	1084	21%
19	SLR >=0.25 and <1	Lowland Grazing Livestock	13,685	3146	23%
20	SLR >=0.25 and <1	Mixed	3,410	1053	31%
21	SLR >=0.25 and <1	Other	10,153	2055	20%
22	SLR >=1 and <2	Cereals	4,841	1766	36%
23	SLR >=1 and <2	General Cropping	2,400	1544	64%
24	SLR >=1 and <2	Horticulture	1,434	1434	100%
25	SLR >=1 and <2	Specialist Pigs	259	77	30%
26	SLR >=1 and <2	Specialist Poultry	611	611	100%
27	SLR >=1 and <2	Dairy	4,543	980	22%
28	SLR >=1 and <2	LFA Grazing Livestock	1,976	438	22%
29	SLR >=1 and <2	Lowland Grazing Livestock	3,374	964	29%
30	SLR >=1 and <2	Mixed	2,191	691	32%
31	SLR >=1 and <2	Other	2,676	814	30%
32	SLR >=2 and <3	Cereals	1,964	735	37%

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Stratum	SLR band	Robust type	Population	Reqd sample size	Sampling fraction
33	SLR >=2 and <3	General Cropping	1,133	989	87%
34	SLR >=2 and <3	Horticulture	616	504	82%
35	SLR >=2 and <3	Specialist Pigs	167	40	24%
36	SLR >=2 and <3	Specialist Poultry	235	203	86%
37	SLR >=2 and <3	Dairy	2,775	690	25%
38	SLR >=2 and <3	LFA Grazing Livestock	918	234	25%
39	SLR >=2 and <3	Lowland Grazing Livestock	991	291	29%
40	SLR >=2 and <3	Mixed	1,019	392	38%
41	SLR >=2 and <3	Other	696	285	41%
42	SLR >=3 and <5	Cereals	1,397	1,257	90%
43	SLR >=3 and <5	General Cropping	1,083	1,083	100%
44	SLR >=3 and <5	Horticulture	591	591	100%
45	SLR >=3 and <5	Specialist Pigs	125	113	90%
46	SLR >=3 and <5	Specialist Poultry	207	207	100%
47	SLR >=3 and <5	Dairy	2,632	2,369	90%
48	SLR >=3 and <5	LFA Grazing Livestock	638	574	90%
49	SLR >=3 and <5	Lowland Grazing Livestock	641	577	90%
50	SLR >=3 and <5	Mixed	934	841	90%
51	SLR >=3 and <5	Other	426	383	90%
52	SLR >=5	Cereals	621	466	75%
53	SLR >=5	General Cropping	1,137	1137	100%
54	SLR >=5	Horticulture	1,030	1030	100%
55	SLR >=5	Specialist Pigs	233	157	67%
56	SLR >=5	Specialist Poultry	168	168	100%
57	SLR >=5	Dairy	1,137	716	63%
58	SLR >=5	LFA Grazing Livestock	212	85	40%
59	SLR >=5	Lowland Grazing Livestock	262	145	55%
60	SLR >=5	Mixed	768	768	100%
61	SLR >=5	Other	146	146	100%
62	New holdings SLR <1	Other	3,666	587	16%
63	New holdings SLR >=1 and <3	Other	177	35	20%
64	New holdings SLR >=3	Other	77	77	100%
65	Sent new holdings form but not responded	Other	9,379	0	0%
66	Other holdings with	Specialist	8,143	0	0%

FSS 2007 - National Methodological Report – United Kingdom

<b>Stratum</b>	<b>SLR band</b>	<b>Robust type</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Reqd sample size</b>	<b>Sampling fraction</b>
	no previous June Survey response	Pigs, Specialist Poultry, Other			
67	New holdings between mid April and 1 June 2007	Other	3,126	0	0%
<b>Total</b>			<b>209,652</b>	<b>60,062</b>	<b>29%</b>

### **3.3.3 Pilot Survey**

#### **Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007**

The questions on both the detailed and core survey forms were very similar to those in previous June Surveys of Agriculture and Horticulture so a pilot survey was not deemed necessary.

#### **Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007**

The form was sent to about fifty farmers who had volunteered to be part of a 'Farmers Panel' for comments, but this was not a formal pilot survey.

### **3.3.4 Informing and training the staff and respondents**

#### **Staff Training**

The same team of administrative staff investigated queries arising from responses to both the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 and the Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007 and where necessary contacted holders by telephone for clarification.

An oral presentation was given to the staff by the relevant lead statistician prior to the start of each survey to provide some background and highlight potential data issues that they may be able to help correct.

New staff are given individual training before beginning work on their first survey, and their work is checked for a length of time after they start. Most staff in the team had worked on the surveys in previous years.

#### **Informing Respondents**

A letter accompanied the questionnaires to both surveys, with the aim of informing holders of the importance of the survey and to encourage them to respond.

## **3.4 Sampling, data collection and data entry**

### **3.4.1 Drawing the sample**

The sampling methodology for both the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 and the Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007 is detailed in section 3.3.2. Holdings are randomly selected from the survey population by a computer system called Farm Survey System, tailor made for Defra.

### **3.4.2 Data collection and entry**

Both the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 and the Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007 were postal surveys. Respondents were provided with reply paid envelopes. Those sampled for the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 were given the option of completing the survey online instead of by post, however electronic returns represented only a tiny proportion of responses.

- The mean self completion time declared by postal respondents to the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 was 21 minutes.
- The mean self completion time declared by postal respondents to the Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007 was 13 minutes.

Paper responses to both the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 and the Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007 were keyed into computerised format by an outside company (RR Donnellys, formerly trading as Astron). Detailed data validation was not carried out at this stage. The keyed data were sent back to Defra via email and transferred to our processing system. Scanned images of every form were created and were available for use during the data checking process. Data from internet form completion was loaded directly onto Defra computer systems every 24 hours.

### **3.4.3 Utilisation of administrative data sources**

There were two main sources of administrative data.

#### **Organic Data**

The data for organic characteristics (CC05A, CC05D & CC05E) was taken from the United Kingdom Register of Organic Food Standards (UKROFS), which is explained in more detail in section 3.3.1 of this report. The organic data was matched to the FSS population using the unique holding number identifier (CPH). A CPH field was present in the UKROFS data, but it was imperfect. Where a valid identification number was not available, a manual exercise was carried out, matching holdings on key variables such as name, address or post code. The data collected on organic methods for animal production (CC05E) only recorded the presence of organic methods for animal production. Because of this it was impossible to distinguish between 'full' and 'partial' production methods so as result any presence of organic methods of animal production were recorded as 'full' in characteristic CC05E.

#### **Set-aside Data**

Set aside data (used in sections I and H and to supplement crops grown on non set-aside land in sections D and G) was provided by the Rural Payments Agency (RPA). The RPA is responsible for the administration of the Single Payment Scheme in England. The Single Payment Scheme (SPS), introduced

by EC Council Regulation 1782/2003, replaced most existing crop and livestock payments from 1 January 2005. The data provided by the RPA covers all holdings which have made a claim for subsidy payments in England and is therefore has perfect (100%) coverage of all crops grown on set-aside land in England. The RPA use the same definition of an agricultural holding and the same CPH identifier so linking the data to the FSS 2007 population did not present any problems.

### **Cattle Tracing System (CTS)**

CTS data replaced survey data for the June Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture in 2007, having been available as an alternative source for several years. CTS data comes from cattle passport information which must be submitted every time an animal is born, moves or dies/is slaughtered. The data is thought to be more robust than the survey data it has replaced, with a coverage of 99%.

#### **3.4.4 Control of the data**

Control of the data is extremely similar for both the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 and the Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007.

Computer validation of keyed data is an integral part of processing. Both logic and consistency checks are applied and the validation for the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 makes extensive use of previous survey data as a comparison tool. The computer system corrects or completes some data automatically and then alerts Survey Support staff to further validation rules that have failed. These staff then resolve the queries by scrutiny of the response and any comments or by contacting the respondent by telephone. Once a query has been resolved, the data will be manually corrected. The computer system records details of any amendments to the data, when the amendment was made and the person that made the amendment.

A consistency query would be raised where component parts do not equal the total. The response would be analysed, and the holder may be contacted, to identify whether a component part had been omitted, or whether the total had been miscalculated.

A credibility query would also be raised where there is reason to doubt the response, for example, ewes but no lambs or livestock but no grassland. Queries are also raised where the response shows significant change from the previous year and is not consistent with market trends, and no explanation has been provided on the form by the farmer.

It is the intention of the Survey Support staff to resolve all queries by the end of the validation process. Where this is not possible, some outstanding

validation rules will prevent data from being used in the survey results whereas some are seen as less severe and will not prevent data still under query from contributing to the survey results.

Statisticians begin working with the data once it has been validated by Survey Support staff. Statisticians may spot errors in the data whilst processing survey results and may be able to correct them or may have to prevent them from contributing to the final survey results.

### **3.4.5 Non-response**

The response rate (forms with usable data/dispatch) for the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 was 68%. The response rate for the Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007 was 66%.

Non-response here is interpreted as questionnaires which were dispatched but either not returned or returned without any usable data. Questionnaires returned after the survey closedown date are not used (in practice there are very few of these). For the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007, where the data did not raise any credibility queries on a individual section of the form, partially completed forms were treated as acceptable for those respective sections. For example, a form with clean data in the pig section but credibility queries on the poultry section could be used for pig results, but would be treated as non-response for the poultry results.

#### **Action Taken**

Two postal reminders were issued for the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007, and two were issued for the Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007.

Non-respondents to the June Survey were not prosecuted. This is a sensitive issue and it is a political decision not to prosecute non-respondents. The Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007 was treated as voluntary.

#### **Reasons for Non-Response**

Anecdotal evidence from Survey Support staff and comments given on survey forms returned with no data would suggest the following reasons for non-response:

- Survey forms being lost in the post, either on the way to, or from the holding.
- Resentment of paperwork, particularly because similar data is collected by the RPA and the misconception that therefore the surveys are collecting information already held by Defra.



- The incorrect belief that survey data is freely distributed to third parties or may be used to check compliance with regulations at an individual level.
- A lack of tangible benefits to be realised by completing survey forms.
- A general non-co-operative attitude towards the Government, often as a protest against Defra policies or delays in receiving the Single Payment.
- A recognition that Defra will not prosecute holders who do not complete compulsory survey forms.
- A complaint that the survey forms are too confusing.
- Holders being under the misconception that none of their activities qualify as agriculture or that they are too minor to be of importance to the survey.
- Holders believing that they did not need to complete the Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007 because they employ no labour and are not involved in any diversification activities.

## **3.5 Data processing, analysis and estimation**

### **3.5.1 Methods for handling missing or incorrect data items**

Corrections to the data are covered by section 3.4.4 of this report.

Only the Survey Support Section at DEFRA and the statisticians were authorised to make data changes on either survey.

#### **Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007**

Where a non-response was registered, data were imputed for the holding. The 'ratio raising' method of imputation was used whereby a ratio is applied to the base data for the non-respondent holding. The ratio is calculated by observing how responding holdings in the same stratum have behaved since the base was measured.

The core survey form did not have the complete breakdown of sections collected by the detailed form, but instead recorded broader 'core' items. Core responses had their core responses apportioned between the detailed items. In most cases the breakdown was done in proportion to the medians of the results for new holdings that received the detailed form. This generally resulted in everything being allocated to the one or two most common categories found on smaller holdings. In some cases the medians of the items on the detailed form are all zeros and in these cases the means were used instead, resulting in a much more complex breakdown with some very small proportions.

#### **Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007**

Non-respondents to the Labour Survey were not imputed for. Instead, non-respondents were treated in the same manner as non-sampled holdings, and the raising factors calculated accordingly.

### 3.5.2 Estimation and sampling errors

#### Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007

Estimates were calculated using ratio raising estimation, by strata, with the base data taken from the final dataset from the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1st June 2006. The base data consisted of response data where available and imputed values otherwise. For the new holdings strata, the absence of base data meant that expansion raising (Population size/Achieved responses) was used instead.

Non-responding and non-sampled holdings were imputed for using the extrapolation factors generated by the ratio raising on their base imputed values. New holdings with non-response were imputed using the expansion raising factors.

Where the number of observations within strata is very low (typically in the strata for the smallest holdings), strata may be merged so that the ratio used for raising is based upon more observations.

Extreme observations believed to be genuine but unrepresentative of their stratum are excluded from the ratio calculation, but contribute to the published total.

Variance estimation on the ratio was produced by strata, using the following formula:

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{\left( N(N-n) \left( \sum y^2 + \sum x^2 \left( \frac{\sum y}{\sum x} \right)^2 \right) - \left( 2 \sum xy \left( \frac{\sum y}{\sum x} \right) \right) \right)}{n(n-1)}$$

Where:

$N$  = Number of holdings in the population

$n$  = Number of holding in the sample

$y^2$  = sum of squares of sample values

$y$  = sum of sample values

$x^2$  = sum of squares of base values

$x$  = sum of sample values

$xy$  = sum of product of sample and base values

These variances by strata are then weighted together to produce a total variance. Sampling errors, relative sampling errors (RSE – the key estimator) and confidence intervals were produced for each data item from the variance estimators. The RSE took into account sample design, as it was produced for each strata, but no account was taken of non-sampling errors (see below).

For each data item, a system of ticks and crosses, based upon the RSE was published alongside the results to show confidence within an estimate. Three ticks indicated the RSE was less than 2.5%, two ticks between 2.5% and 5%, one tick for 5% to 10%, no ticks for 10% to 20% and a cross for an RSE over 20%

Statistical principals and methodology are taken from Barnett, Sample Survey Processing & Methods (3<sup>rd</sup> edition) and Cochran, Sampling Techniques (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition).

A software package called Genstat was used for estimating totals, variances and other estimates.

### **Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007**

At the time of writing of this methodological report, variance and sampling errors for the Labour Survey have not yet been calculated.

### **3.5.3 Non sampling errors**

#### **Non-Response Errors**

The main source of non-sampling errors in England is from non-response. The imputation methodology for dealing with non-response is detailed in Section 3.5.1 . Due to the method of carrying forward previous years data, non-response errors on crop and livestock questions should be minimal (although this cannot be calculated). Due to low sampling rates, base data for holdings with small SLRs can be up to a decade old and are likely to be inaccurate. However this is not believed to have a significant effect on item totals.

#### **Coverage Errors**

Coverage errors are not believed to be significant. Continuous register maintenance ensures that The Register is up to date and that newly identified holdings are added to the register. As explained in section 3.3.1 of this report it is suspected that there is under coverage of the horticultural sector.

Some over coverage is likely to exist when holdings cease to be active but remain listed as active on The Register. The problem exists because when a holding ceases to be active the occupier to whom Defra correspondence will be addressed may not be present or inclined to notify our office of the change of status.

#### **Measurement Errors**

The main cause of measurement error is thought to be relating to the weights of pigs. However, the weights recorded by farmers are unchecked, so it is not possible to estimate the significance of any measurement error.

Respondents also use varying degrees of accuracy, although the holder signs a declaration on the Survey form to the effect that the information given is “correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief”.

## **Processing Errors**

Scope for these to have a significant affect on the survey results is limited by the validation checks that are in place, however in each survey it is expected that there are some errors resulting from data being keyed incorrectly from form to computer.

### **3.5.4 Evaluation of results**

#### **Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007**

No specific comparisons at holding level between the survey data and other sources have been carried out. Aggregate estimates were compared to outside data sources from organisations including the Meat Livestock Commission and Home Grown Cereals Authority, Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture results from the Devolved Administrations (Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland) and previous June results.

#### **Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007**

There is no practical way of comparing the Labour Survey figures with other sources, as there are differences in definitions between the Labour Survey and existing sources of labour statistics, such as the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture. Aggregate level comparisons with FSS 2005 did not identify any differences of concerning proportions.

## 4. PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION

### Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007

20 September 2007	English provisional results published through a press release and the Defra website.
26 November 2007	English final results published through a press release and the Defra website.

Detailed data queries are available through the Defra website at [http://www.Defra.gov.uk/esg/work\\_htm/publications/cs/farmstats\\_web/default.htm](http://www.Defra.gov.uk/esg/work_htm/publications/cs/farmstats_web/default.htm) or by contacting the Farming Statistics team on 0044 (0) 1904 455313

### Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007

No results have yet been published from the Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007. A publication with labour data and commonly requested breakdowns is planned for publication in late 2008.

## REFERENCES

Most information on the statistics collected in the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 in England can be found on the DEFRA website at:

[https://statistics.defra.gov.uk/esg/index/list.asp?i\\_id=032](https://statistics.defra.gov.uk/esg/index/list.asp?i_id=032)

Barnett, V. (2002) Sample Survey: Principles & Methods (3<sup>rd</sup> edition) Arnold Publishing, ISBN 0340763981

Cochran, W G. (1977) Sampling Techniques (3<sup>rd</sup> edition) Wiley Publications, ISBN 047116240X

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## ANNEXES

Annex 1: Definition of Standard Labour Requirement (SLR)

Annex 2: Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1st June 2007 Detailed survey form

Annex 3: Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1st June 2007 Core survey form

Annex 4: Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007

## **Annex 1: Definition of Standard Labour Requirement (SLR)**

The Standard Labour Requirement (SLR) for a farm business represents the labour requirement (in full-time equivalents) for all the agricultural activities on the farm, based on standard coefficients for each commodity on the farm. The SLR is representative of labour requirement under typical conditions for enterprises of average size and performance.

The SLR may be different from actual labour use on a farm depending on factors such as the extent to which the farmer chose to substitute machinery for labour. There are two advantages in using standard coefficients rather than actual labour used:

- SLR can be used as a physical measure of farm size, independent of labour efficiency and other non-size factors
- the labour requirement can be calculated for a group of farms or for a farm on which actual labour use is unknown



**Annex 2 part 1 of 4: Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1st June 2007 Detailed survey form**

Restricted Commercial



If there are any amendments or corrections to details opposite, please write them in this box.

Name:  
Address:

Postcode:  
Tel. no. (incl. nat. dialling code)

**Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture 1st June 2007**

Please complete this form only in respect of the holding named above as of 1st June. For assistance in completing the form please contact us using the details given at the foot of this page. There is a legal obligation, under the Agricultural Statistics Act 1979, to complete and return this form.

**1. Land Area**

<b>Area you own</b>			Hectares Area owned (Exclude land let out for 365 days or more) H2 •	If there are any other holdings under the same occupancy, please list the holding numbers here.  Q111
<b>Area you rent in</b>				
For 365 days or more	Full Agricultural Tenancy	H3 •		
	Farm Business Tenancy	H4 •		
	Other Agreement	H5 •		
For 364 days or less (including seasonal grazing licences)			H11 •	
<b>Area you let out</b> (Do not account for this land on the rest of the form)			If the areas in H2 to H12 are zero, please indicate why here:  H100	
For 364 days or less (including seasonal grazing licences)				H12 •
<b>Area used by you</b> (Land owned + area rented in - area let out)				
Area used (including woodland & land not in production)			H10 •	
Please account for this area in Sections 2-5				

**Official Use Only**

Name/Address	
Comments in box	
Comments elsewhere	

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
 Surveys, Statistics & Food Economics, Foss House  
 Kings Pool, 1-2 Peasholme Green, York YO1 7PX  
 Helpline: 01904 455284 Mon - Fri 8:30am - 4:30pm  
 Email: surveys@defra.gsi.gov.uk  
 Web: www.defra.gov.uk

**Annex 2 part 2 of 4: Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1st June 2007 Detailed survey form**

Sections 2-5 should relate to H10 (total area used) in section 1

**2. Crops grown on non set-aside land (Do not include crops grown on set-aside land here)**

Combinable crops				Other crops (non-horticultural)			
		Hectares				Hectares	
Cereals	Wheat	A1	•	Potatoes including seed	Earlies, intended for harvest before 31 July	A10	•
	Winter barley	A2	•		Main, intended for harvest after 31 July	A11	•
	Spring barley	A3	•	Sugar beet (not for stock feeding)	A12	•	
	Oats	A4	•	Maize (fodder and grain maize)	A23	•	
	Mixed Grain	A5	•	Root crops, brassicas and fodder beet for stockfeeding	A19	•	
	Rye	A6	•	All other crops for stock feeding	A18	•	
	Triticale	A7	•	All other crops (not vegetables) e.g miscanthus	A31	•	
Oilseed Crops	Winter Oilseed rape	A24	•	A310	Please list other crops here:		
	Spring Oilseed rape	A25	•				
	Linseed	A27	•				
Peas and Beans	Field beans	A21	•		Bare fallow (including all GAEC 12 land)	A32	•
	Peas for harvesting dry	A22	•	<b>Total other crops</b>	<b>A39</b>	<b>•</b>	
<b>Total combinable crops</b>			<b>A89</b>	<b>•</b>			

**3. Compulsory set-aside land (Cropped and uncropped)**

		Hectares		
<b>Total compulsory set-aside</b>	G7	•		As defined by Single Payment Scheme codes SA1 to SA6, NF1 and NF2. See notes for details.

**4. Horticulture**

Fruit and Vegetables (grown outdoors) for human consumption (include Spanish tunnels)				Hardy nursery stock (HNS), bulbs and flowers in the open			
		Hectares				Hectares	
Orchards	Commercial	C1	•	Christmas trees	D6	•	
	Non-commercial	C2	•	Perennial herbaceous plants (not cut flowers)	D8	•	
Small fruit	Strawberries	C5	•	Other HNS and mixed area	D10	•	
	Raspberries	C6	•	Bulbs and flowers (include aquatic plants)	D13	•	
	Blackcurrants	C7	•	<b>Total HNS, bulbs and flowers</b>	<b>D99</b>	<b>•</b>	
	Wine grapes	C10	•	<b>Glasshouse and protected crops (exclude Spanish tunnels)</b>			
	Other small fruit	C11	•	Record floor space not bench space <span style="float:right">Square metres</span>			
Peas and Beans	Vining peas for processing	B5	•	Vegetables, salad and fruit	F1		
	Other peas and beans	B14	•	Flowers, foliage for cutting and other plants	F2		
All other vegetables and salad (including herbs for human consumption)		B21	•	Glasshouse not in use on survey day	F7		
<b>Total fruit and vegetables</b>			<b>C299</b>	<b>•</b>	<b>Total glasshouse (used and unused)</b>	<b>F98</b>	

Include mushroom sheds in Section 5: G17

**Annex 2 part 3 of 4: Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1st June 2007 Detailed survey form**

Sections 2-5 should relate to H10 (total area used) in section 1

**5. Grassland and other land**

Grassland and other land				Other details					
			Hectares					Hectares	
Grassland	Grass sown in last 5 years	G1	•		What area of grassland do you expect to harvest for seed this year?	R3	•		
	Other grassland (include permanent pasture)	G2	•		Total outdoor area able to be irrigated this year	R4	•		
Sole right rough grazing ( e.g. mountain, hill, moor)		G5	•						
Woodland		G14	•						
All other land not entered elsewhere (including outdoor pigs land)		G17	•						
<b>Total grass and other land</b>		<b>G98</b>	•						

**6. Livestock (continues overleaf)**

				If YES please tick		<b>Cattle and calves</b>			
No livestock kept now but expect to have some later this year		R12			We are now sourcing cattle data via the the Cattle Tracing Scheme (CTS)				
No livestock kept now but expect to make hay or silage this year		R13			<b>Pigs</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include any stock you are grazing on common land</li> <li>• exclude any stock being looked after for you on another holding, or on land that you seasonally let out</li> </ul>						If YES please tick			
<b>Poultry</b>				Temporarily reduced pig numbers		L90			
				If YES please tick		If pigs are reared for someone else under contract please specify the company name and include these pig numbers below.			
Temporarily reduced poultry numbers		N1				L92			
		Number						Number	
Hens and pullets laying eggs for eating	Pullets, point of lay	N2				<b>Breeding pigs</b>	Sows in pig	L1	
	Birds in laying flock (include birds in moult)	Intensive	N31				Gilts in pig	L2	
		Barn	N32				Suckled or dry sows kept for further breeding	L3	
		Free range	N33				Boars for service	L4	
Breeders (include grandparents and growing pullets)	Layer breeders	N5					Gilts 50kg+ (intended to be kept/sold for further breeding)	L5	
	Broiler breeders	N6				Barren sows for fattening	L7		
	Cocks and cockerels	N7				All other pigs by liveweight (not already entered above)	110kg+	L10	
Broilers (table chickens)		N10					80 - 110kg	L11	
Other poultry	Ducks	N13					50 - 80kg	L12	
	Geese	N14					20 - 50kg	L13	
	Turkeys	N15				Under 20kg, include suckling pigs	L14		
All other birds		N16				<b>Total pigs</b>	L98		
<b>Total poultry</b>		<b>N98</b>				What % of your breeding pigs are housed outdoors?		L16	%

**Annex 2 part 4 of 4: Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1st June 2007 Detailed survey form**

**6. Livestock continued**

Sheep and Lambs			Other livestock		
		Number			Number
Breeding sheep 1 year and over	Ewes intended for further breeding	M1	Horses used in agriculture e.g. for meat or breeding	P3	
	Intended for slaughter	M4	All other horses	P4	
	Ewes intended for breeding (first time)	M7	Goats	P91	
	Rams for service	M9	All farmed deer	P10	
Other sheep and lambs	Females, 1 year and over	M13	Any other livestock e.g. donkeys, llamas, mules, hinnies	P11	
	Males, 1 year and over	M14	<b>Total other livestock</b>	<b>P98</b>	
	Lambs, under 1 year	M17			
<b>Total sheep and lambs</b>		<b>M98</b>			

**7. People working on the holding (remember to include yourself)**

Part-time is less than 39 hours a week			Number of people	
All principal farmers, spouses, and business partners	Full time	Q101		
	Part time	Q102		
Salaried managers	Full time	Q103		
	Part time	Q104		
Regular workers: Male	Full time	Q105		
	Part time	Q106		
Regular workers: Female	Full time	Q107		
	Part time	Q108		
Casual and Gang workers (include SAWS workers)	Male	Q109		
	Female	Q110		
<b>Total labour (including yourself)</b>		<b>Q98</b>		

Are you a Ltd company or is the holding run by an institution (hospital, school, church, prison)?

Q3 YES  1  NO  2

*If YES please tick*

All staff are self-employed  Q100

**Do you expect to employ casual or gang labour during the following months?**

*Please tick all boxes that apply*

August - October 2007	Q54
November - January 2008	Q55
February - April 2008	Q56
May - July 2008	Q57

**8. Declaration**

I declare the information I have given in this return to be correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature  V3

Name (please print)

Telephone number

Date

Time taken to complete the form  V1 *in minutes*

Any other comments  T99

Please now return the form in the enclosed pre-paid Wigston envelope.

**Annex 3 part 1 of 2: Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1st June 2007 Core survey form**

Restricted Commercial



If there are any amendments or corrections to details opposite, please write them in this box

Name:  
Address:  
  
Postcode:  
Tel. no. (incl. Nat. dialling code)

**Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture 1st June 2007**

Please complete this form only in respect of the holding named above as of **1st June**. For assistance in completing the form please contact us using the details given at the foot of this page. There is a legal obligation, under the Agricultural Statistics Act 1979, to complete and return this form.

**1. Land area**

(do not include land let out for 365 days or more) Hectares

Area owned + area rented in for 365 days or more	H1	•
Land rented in for 364 days or less (including seasonal grazing licences)	H11	•
Land let out for 364 days or less (including seasonal grazing licences)	H12	•
Total area used by you H1 + H11 - H12 =	H10	•

If the areas in H1 to H12 are zero please indicate why here:

H100

**Other holdings**

If there are any other holdings under the same occupancy, please list the holding numbers here.

Q111

**2. Crops grown on non set-aside land**

Seasonally let land

- Include crops on land rented in for 364 days or less
- exclude crops on land let out for 364 days or less

Include industrial / energy crops e.g. SRC and miscanthus in A399

		Hectares
Wheat	A1	•
Other cereals ( e.g. barley, oats )	A199	•
Oilseed Rape	A245	•
Other arable crops ( including potatoes, sugar beet, linseed )	A399	•
Crops for stockfeeding	A180	•
Bare fallow- include all GAEC12 land	A32	•

**3. Compulsory set-aside land**

(Cropped and uncropped)

As defined by Single Payment Scheme codes SA1 to SA6, NF1 and NF2.

		Hectares
Compulsory set-aside	G7	•

**Official Use Only**

Name/Address	
Comments in box	
Comments elsewhere	

CSS990(Rev 05/07)

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
Surveys, Statistics and Food Economics,  
Foss House, Kings Pool,  
1-2 Peasholme Green,  
York YO1 7PX  
Telephone: 01904 455284  
Email: surveys@defra.gsi.gov.uk Web: www.defra.gov.uk

**Annex 3 part 2 of 2: Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture – 1st June 2007 Core survey form**

**4. Horticulture (outdoor crops, including fruit, vegetables and flowers)**

Include Spanish tunnels

		Hectares
Orchards	C90	•
Other fruit	C91	•
Peas and beans (for human consumption)	B90	•
Other vegetables	B21	•
Total fruit and vegetables	C299	•
Nursery stock, Christmas trees, bulbs and flowers	D99	•

**5. Glasshouse and protected crops (exclude Spanish tunnels)**

Record floor space not bench space

		Square metres
Glasshouse area (used and unused)	F98	

**6. Grassland and other land**

		Hectares
Grass sown in the last 5 years	G1	•
Other grassland including permanent pasture	G2	•
Sole right rough grazing (e.g. mountain, hill or moor)	G5	•
Woodland	G14	•
All other land (including outdoor pig land)	G17	•

**7. People working on the holding (remember to include yourself)**

Part-time is less than 39 hours

- **Include** managerial, supervisory and office workers
- **Include** regular and family workers, seasonal and gang workers
- **exclude** equestrian workers and those solely involved in diversification activities

		Number
All <b>full-time</b> principal farmers, spouses and business partners	Q101	
All <b>part-time</b> principal farmers, spouses and business partners	Q102	
All other workers	Q112	

**8. Livestock**

- **Include** any stock you are grazing on common land
- **exclude** any stock being looked after for you on another holding, or on land that you seasonally let out

**Cattle and calves - We are now sourcing cattle data via the Cattle Trading System (CTS).**

		Number
FOWLS - egg layers, breeders and broilers	N97	
Other poultry - turkeys, geese, ducks etc	N90	
Breeding sheep	M80	
Other sheep and lambs	M81	
Breeding pigs	L80	
Other pigs	L81	
Horses / Ponies	P90	
Goats	P91	
Farmed deer	P10	
Any other livestock e.g donkeys, llamas, mules, hinnies	P11	

**9. Other details**

		IF YES please tick
No livestock kept now but expect to have some later this year	R12	<input type="checkbox"/>
No livestock kept now but expect to make hay or silage this year	R13	<input type="checkbox"/>

**10. Any other comments**

T99

**11. Declaration**

**I declare the information I have given in this return to be correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.**

Signature  V3

Name (BLOCK LETTERS)

Telephone number

Date

Time taken to complete the form  V1 minutes

F012599/3 Printed on recycled paper containing 100% post consumer waste

## Annex 4 part 1 of 6: Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007

Restricted Commercial



If there are any amendments or corrections to details opposite, please write them in this box

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Tel. no. (incl.

Nat. dialling code)

### Survey of Labour and Diversification on Agricultural and Horticultural Holdings 2007

#### What we would like you to do.

A survey is taking place throughout the European Union in 2007 to provide up-to-date information about the structure of agriculture and horticulture in Member States. Most of the information for England can be provided from the June Survey, but to complete the requirements we need to ask a sample of holdings to provide us with some detailed information on the holders, managers and other workers employed on the holding and any diversification activities carried out on the holding.

The information you provide is primarily used for statistical purposes. Please read the Data Protection statement on pages 7 and 8 of this form for more details.

**Please complete this form in respect of the 12 months ending September 2007 and return it to us in the pre-paid envelope within two weeks of receipt.**

Thank you for your co-operation.

Marc Thomas, Statistician,  
Surveys, Statistics & Food Economics  
Foss House, Kings Pool,  
1-2 Peasholme Green,  
York YO1 7PX

#### Official Use Boxes

Name / Address

Comments in box

Comments elsewhere

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
Surveys, Statistics & Food Economics, Foss House,  
Kings Pool, 1-2 Peasholme Green, York YO1 7PX  
Telephone: 01904 455284  
Email: [surveys@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:surveys@defra.gsi.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)

## Annex 4 part 2 of 6: Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007

### Please read these important notes first

- **Period covered.** This form covers the 12 month period from beginning October 2006 to end September 2007.
- **Completion.** This form should be completed only in respect of the holding named on the front page.
- **Total labour force.** Include each person once only.
- **Trustees.** Where a holding is operated under the name of a trustee, please enter the trustee's details as the holder.
- **Land agents.** Land agent details should be entered as the manager and their employer's details as the holder. If the estate is a Limited Company, the Land Agent details should still be entered as the manager but there should be no holder.
- **Prisons.** Any farm workers employed specifically for working on the farm should be included but prison inmates excluded.
- **Need more information or help?** Notes are provided in this form to help you complete it, but if you have any difficulties in providing the information, please contact:

**01904 455284**  
**Monday – Friday 8.30am – 4.30pm**  
**Or email:**  
**surveys@defra.gsi.gov.uk**

### 1. Multiple groups of holdings

If possible, please complete this form only in respect of the holding number printed on the front of the form.

If you can only complete this form in respect of a multiple group of holdings, please tick here  H1

and list the other holding numbers below.

H99

### 2. Status of the farm business

**Who takes financial and legal responsibility for the holding?**  
**Limited companies:** For the purpose of this form, do not declare a holder. Tick boxes B4 and B8 below. In Section 3, complete only the Manager column.

Tick one box only

Holder only	<input type="checkbox"/> B1		
Holder and close family member(s) jointly	<input type="checkbox"/> B2	←	B2 includes spouse, brothers, sisters, parents, sons and daughters. B3 may include other family members not included in B2 above. Please designate ONE person as the principal holder and answer questions in Section 3 accordingly.
Holder and other business partner(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> B3	←	
A limited company or an institution (e.g. hospital, school, church etc)	<input type="checkbox"/> B4	←	Do not declare a holder. Tick box B8 below. In Section 3, complete only the Manager column.

**Who is mainly responsible for the day-to-day running of the holding?**  
 If there is an equal partnership, please choose one person only for this section.

Tick one box only

Holder only	<input type="checkbox"/> B5		
Holder's spouse	<input type="checkbox"/> B6	←	The holder's husband or wife, or other person in a similar un-married relationship.
Holder's close family member	<input type="checkbox"/> B7	←	These people are termed manager in Section 3.
Another person	<input type="checkbox"/> B8	←	



**Annex 4 part 3 of 6: Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007**

**3. Details of Holder, Holder's Spouse and Manager**

**Please read all the notes on the right hand side of this page before completing all relevant columns in this section.**

Please tick one box only

Does the Holder have a spouse? (Limited companies please ignore.) **A10** Yes <sub>1</sub> No <sub>2</sub>

If YES, please enter the details in the Holder's Spouse column below, even if the spouse does not work on the holding.

If you have ticked box B4 in Section 2, complete only the Manager column. Otherwise the Manager column should only be completed if you have ticked box B7 or box B8 in Section 2.

**For all appropriate columns, tick one box in each of the four sections below.**

		Holder	Holder's Spouse	Manager
<b>Sex</b>	Male	<b>A1</b>	<b>A22</b>	<b>A43</b>
	Female	<b>A2</b>	<b>A23</b>	<b>A44</b>
<b>Age</b> If age is not known please give an estimate	16 - 24	<b>A3</b>	<b>A24</b>	<b>A45</b>
	25 - 34	<b>A4</b>	<b>A25</b>	<b>A46</b>
	35 - 44	<b>A5</b>	<b>A26</b>	<b>A47</b>
	45 - 54	<b>A6</b>	<b>A27</b>	<b>A48</b>
	55 - 64	<b>A7</b>	<b>A28</b>	<b>A49</b>
	65 and over	<b>A8</b>	<b>A29</b>	<b>A50</b>
<b>* Time spent on farm work</b> (on this holding as a proportion of the last 12 months)	None	<b>A13</b>	<b>A34</b>	<b>A55</b>
	Less than ¼	<b>A14</b>	<b>A35</b>	<b>A56</b>
	¼ to less than ½	<b>A15</b>	<b>A36</b>	<b>A57</b>
	½ to less than ¾	<b>A16</b>	<b>A37</b>	<b>A58</b>
	¾ to less than full time	<b>A17</b>	<b>A38</b>	<b>A59</b>
	Full time	<b>A18</b>	<b>A39</b>	<b>A60</b>
<b>Time spent on other paid work</b>	None	<b>A19</b>	<b>A40</b>	<b>A61</b>
	Less than farm work on this holding	<b>A20</b>	<b>A41</b>	<b>A62</b>
	More than farm work on this holding	<b>A21</b>	<b>A42</b>	<b>A63</b>

**\* If this holding is part of a multiple group of holdings and you have not ticked box H1 in Section 1, please include only the proportion of the labour that relates to the holding number printed on the front of this form. A rough estimate is acceptable.**

**Holder**  
Where there are joint holders, please designate one person as the principal holder and complete the Holder column for that person.  
If a non-principal holder is the principal holder's spouse then enter their details in the Holder's Spouse column.  
The details of other non-principal holders who work on the holding should be entered later on the form in the appropriate section.

**Holder's spouse**  
Husband or wife or other person in a similar un-married relationship. Please enter their details in the Holder's Spouse column whether or not they work on the holding.

**Manager**  
Only complete the Manager column if neither the Holder nor the Holder's Spouse is responsible for the day to day running of the holding. Only one person should be regarded as the manager.  
Where two or more people share the management, please enter one as the manager and enter the details for the others later on the form in the appropriate section.

**Age**  
Age is needed to give more accurate statistics for workforce planning. If you do not know the exact age then please provide an estimate.

**Farm work**  
This should include all farming activities on the holding and the preparation of its produce for market. It should include managerial and office work. Diversification activities qualify as other paid work.

**Time spent on farm work**  
Full time is the equivalent of 39 hours a week over a full 12 months. The other categories are based on a proportion of this 12 month period.

**Other paid work**  
Other paid work includes any activity or occupation for payment of money or kind. It includes:  
non farm work OFF the holding;  
non farm work ON the holding such as tourism, operating the farm shop or other diversification activities;  
farm work ON ANOTHER holding.  
If the other paid work occupies exactly the same amount of time as the farm work on the holding, answer on the basis that less time is spent on other paid work.

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**Annex 4 part 4 of 6: Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007**

**4. Other family workers (Do not include Holder's spouse who should be entered in Section 3)**

If the holding is a limited liability company, please ignore this section and record ALL workers as non-family workers in Sections 5 and 6.

		Number of males	Number of females
<b>Total number of other family workers</b>		<b>C1</b>	<b>C10</b>

Please provide details of these workers in the section below

If you answered 0 for both C1 and C10, proceed to Section 5

**Time spent on farm work**  
(on this holding as a proportion of the last 12 months)

		Number of males	Number of females
All ages	Some but less than ¼	<b>C2</b>	<b>C11</b>
	¼ to less than ½	<b>C3</b>	<b>C12</b>
	½ to less than ¾	<b>C4</b>	<b>C13</b>
	¾ to less than full time	<b>C5</b>	<b>C14</b>
	Full time	<b>C6</b>	<b>C15</b>

**Time spent on other paid work**

		Number of males	Number of females
None		<b>C7</b>	<b>C16</b>
Less than farm work on this holding		<b>C8</b>	<b>C17</b>
More than farm work on this holding		<b>C9</b>	<b>C18</b>

**Farm work**  
This should include all farming activities on the holding and the preparation of its produce for market. It should include managerial and office work. Diversification activities qualify as other paid work.

**Time spent on farm work**  
Full time is the equivalent of 39 hours a week over a full 12 months. The other categories are based on a proportion of this 12 month period.

**Other paid work**  
Other paid work includes any activity or occupation for payment of money or kind. It includes:  
non farm work: OFF the holding;  
non farm work: ON the holding such as tourism, operating the farm shop or other diversification activities.  
farm work: ON ANOTHER holding.  
If the other paid work occupies exactly the same amount of time as the farm work on the holding, answer on the basis that less time is spent on other paid work.

**5. Non family regular workers (Do not include casual workers who should be entered in Section 6)**

		Number of males	Number of females
<b>Total number of other regular workers</b>		<b>E20</b>	<b>E30</b>

Please provide details of these workers in the section below

If you answered 0 for both E20 and E30, proceed to Section 6

**Time spent on farm work**  
(on this holding as a proportion of the last 12 months)

		Number of males	Number of females
All ages	Some but less than ¼	<b>E2</b>	<b>E8</b>
	¼ to less than ½	<b>E3</b>	<b>E9</b>
	½ to less than ¾	<b>E4</b>	<b>E10</b>
	¾ to less than full time	<b>E5</b>	<b>E11</b>
	Full time	<b>E6</b>	<b>E12</b>

**Include:**

- anyone working on land seasonally rented in;
- family workers if limited liability company.

**Exclude:**

- persons related to the holder;
- contract labour, seasonal/casual workers;
- anyone working on land seasonally let out.

Please enter the number of non-family regular workers who have been engaged in farm work on this holding in the last 12 months. For notes on farm work and time spent on farm work, see Section 4 above.

**Annex 4 part 5 of 6: Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007**

**6. Non family casual workers**

Exclude persons related to the holder. These should be included in Section 4.  
 Have you directly employed any casual labour on the holding in the last 12 months? Please tick one box. **F1** Yes <sub>1</sub> No <sub>2</sub>

If YES, please estimate the total number of **PERSON DAYS** (1 person day= 8hrs) worked by casual labour during each of the following periods:  
 (For example, calculation of person days: 3 workers for 10 days = 30 days, 12 workers for half a day = 6 days,  
 Total number of person days = 36 days)

Oct-Dec 2006	<b>F4</b>	<input type="text"/>	person days
Jan-Mar 2007	<b>F5</b>	<input type="text"/>	person days
Apr-Jun 2007	<b>F6</b>	<input type="text"/>	person days
Jul-Sep 2007	<b>F7</b>	<input type="text"/>	person days

**7. Contract labour**

Include self employed workers or people employed by a third party e.g. relief agencies, gang labour.  
 Exclude unpaid work under mutual aid arrangements, agricultural accountancy work, consultancy work.

Has any contract labour been used on the holding in the last 12 months? Please tick one box. **G1** Yes <sub>1</sub> No <sub>2</sub>

If 'YES' please estimate the total number of **PERSON DAYS** (1 person day = 8hrs) worked by contract labour during the last 12 months. **G3**  Number of person days

**8. Diversification and contract work**

Does any diversification activity or contract work take place on your holding? Please tick one box. **S26** Yes <sub>1</sub> No <sub>2</sub>

If YES, please tick the box beside any of the commercial enterprises listed below which you run on this holding

<b>Contracting / Haulage</b>		<b>Direct Sales</b>	
Agricultural contracting	<b>S1</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	Farm shops	<b>S11</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
Other (e.g. haulage)	<b>S2</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	Other sales (e.g Pick Your Own)	<b>S12</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Tourism</b>		<b>Processing / Food Manufacture</b>	
Camping / Caravanning	<b>S3</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	Animal products (e.g. dairy products)	<b>S13</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
Self catering	<b>S4</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	Arable products (e.g. crops/veg / fruit), wine	<b>S14</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
Services (B & B)	<b>S5</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	Handicraft	<b>S16</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Sport / Recreation</b>		Wood processing	<b>S17</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
Equestrian	<b>S6</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Environment</b>	
Fishing	<b>S7</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	Aquaculture	<b>S18</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
Shooting	<b>S8</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy production e.g. wind energy	<b>S19</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
Golf	<b>S9</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Other activities</b>	
Other sport	<b>S10</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	Renting out buildings for non-agricultural activity e.g. offices	<b>S27</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
		Any other non-agricultural activity	<b>S15</b> <input type="checkbox"/>

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## Annex 4 part 6 of 6: Survey of Labour and Diversification 2007

### 9. Comments

Please include any comments you have on the figures provided. This may remove the need for us to contact you.

<b>C99</b>	
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### 10. Declaration

I declare the information I have given in this return is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature	<b>V3</b>		Name (Please print)	
Telephone No. (Inc. National dialling code)			Date	
Time taken to complete this form	<b>V1</b>		Minutes	

# **FARM STRUCTURE SURVEY 2007**

## **METHODOLOGICAL REPORT**

**MEMBER STATE:  
NORTHERN IRELAND (UNITED KINGDOM)**

# **Farm Structure Survey 2007 METHODOLOGICAL REPORT - NORTHERN IRELAND (UNITED KINGDOM)**

## **SUMMARY**

The Department of Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) was responsible for collating FSS 2007 data from each of the four countries of the United Kingdom and submitting to Eurostat. The Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (DARD) in Northern Ireland is responsible for the collection of agricultural statistics for that country.

The register used in the conduct of DARD farm surveys contains all farm businesses who have contact with the Department, either in an administrative role (application for grants or subsidies) or in a statistical role (response to a statistical survey). The register is maintained by IACS administration and is updated on regular basis. The population for statistical purposes is established each year when a download of currently active businesses is obtained from the register.

All active farms in Northern Ireland (26,146) were eligible for surveying for the 2007 Structure Survey. The work was carried out in the following two postal surveys in addition to using administrative sources:

- Data on crop areas and livestock numbers were collected relating to the situation on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007.
- Other data were collected in a special additional survey carried out in March 2007.

Since the June questions were the same as in previous years no pilot exercise was required. The labour questions were largely the same as in previous surveys though with more detail, and were developed and checked in conjunction with a team of data users and were further tested by a number of Department staff who have close farming connections.

The response rate for the June survey was 69.8% and for the March survey 70.0%. For businesses which had made a return to earlier June surveys but which failed to respond in June 2007, estimates were provided, based on the previous year's return updated by trends reported by farms which did respond. For new businesses which failed to respond, estimates were made from administrative sources, covering the most significant crops and livestock. A different approach was used to deal with non-response to the March survey. The data were handled in a similar way as in a sample survey, with raising factors, based on farm type, size and location, added to the responses.

For the June survey data entry was carried out by a commercial company, Fujitsu, with double entry keying. Data from the March survey were captured by DARD statistical staff using a scanner. All data validation was carried out by staff of Farm Surveys Branch of DARD.

Preliminary results of the June survey were published on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2007 and final results on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2007. Work on validating the March data was spread over two periods, one before the June survey and the other after that had been completed,

The main strength of the Northern Ireland system was the link with administrative systems which provided an accurate and up to date register and which provided an important means of validating returns. Almost 95% of NI farms make IACS returns.

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 History, scope**

#### History

The series of crop and livestock surveys for the island of Ireland which extends over 150 years is one of the oldest in the world. The first survey was carried out in 1847. Annual surveys of crop areas and livestock numbers have been carried out in Northern Ireland in each year since its inception in 1921. These, along with data from special surveys to complete the requirements, have contributed data to Farm Structure Surveys since 1975.

#### Scope

The surveys were addressed to all businesses which, at the time of preparing the mailing list, were believed to be active. All businesses which received grants or subsidies in relation to crops or livestock were included along with any others which were active in the previous statistical survey or which had contact with DARD indicating active participation in an agricultural or horticultural enterprise. Returns from inactive businesses were subsequently excluded from the database. (Current average annual turnover in businesses is estimated as 7% closing and 5% new, with a net reduction of 2% per year, however the vast majority of these changes are generational shifts rather than completely new entrants).

### **1.2 Legislation**

#### National farm survey legislation

The Agricultural Statistics (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 authorises DARD to demand response to a specific list of questions which encompasses those which were asked in the June survey. This legislation was used in the conduct of the June 2007 survey but, while DARD has the power to do so, it was not politically or practically appropriate to prosecute for non-response.

#### Relevance to FSS

The Order requires occupiers of agricultural land or the owners of livestock to furnish to DARD, at any time or times in any year, such returns as may be prescribed in relation to a list of topics such as crop areas and livestock numbers. It is not specific to any one survey.

#### Protection of respondents

The Order restricts the ways in which individual records may be used and/or disclosed. This guarantee is reinforced by the Northern Ireland Code of Practice on Confidentiality which is adhered to by all Government statisticians in Northern Ireland. Along with the Data Protection Act 1998, this Code extends the guarantee of confidentiality to respondents to voluntary surveys such as that undertaken in March 2007 for the FSS.

#### Legislation on survey costs

There is no specific legislation related to the cost of the FSS in Northern Ireland. The cost was met from the Department's annual budget. The



collection of agricultural statistics contributes to one of the Departmental objectives, namely:

*“To promote sustainable development of the agri-food industry and the countryside and stimulate the economic and social revitalisation of disadvantaged rural areas.”*

#### Northern Ireland's obligations to the UK

Following the devolution of powers to the Northern Ireland Assembly, DARD's obligations to provide statistical data to enable DEFRA to meet UK obligations to the EU were embodied in a Concordat relating to the provision of statistical information.

### **1.3 Main changes in the 1990s**

The main change in the 1990s involved (a) an improvement to the register and (b) the advent of IACS and the subsequent access to administrative data leading to improved data quality.

#### The register

Prior to 1997 the register used in the conduct of farm surveys was specific to that task and was based on land ownership. It was updated by means of returns from annual surveys. It was divided into “mains” holdings (above 6 ha) and “minor” holdings, the former being surveyed each year and the latter every third year. The occupiers of one third of all holdings took no active part in farming, all the land being let out on a short term basis. Holdings in this category were included in the FSS up to and including 1990, though in that year records from such farms were subsequently excluded from the FSS file.

Since 1997 the register has been shared with IACS and other administrative sections of DARD and updated on an on-going basis. IACS checks ensure that, for the majority of those covered by the surveys, there is no duplication which had been a problem under the old system.

A break in statistical series occurred when the new register was introduced in 1997. The 1990, 1993, 1995 and 1997 Surveys were on the old basis and the Surveys since then, on the new.

#### IACS and administrative data

Almost 95% of farms in Northern Ireland grow cereal crops or have cattle or sheep and are, therefore, included in the IACS system. This benefits the operation of the FSS first by facilitating the identification of all such businesses and second by providing basic data which can be used to verify returns. For example if a farm has received a subsidy in respect of ewes but omits sheep from his census return, a query will be made. Other administrative sources have also been used to improve data quality by flagging up which enterprises should be recorded in statistical returns for specific farms. These sources include animal health registers and also reports by farm hygiene inspectors and farm and horticulture advisors.

## **2 CONTENT**

### **2.1 Characteristics**

For the most part information was collected in Northern Ireland and provided to Eurostat according to the accepted exclusions listed in Commission Decision 98/377/EC amending Annex 1 to Council Regulation 571/88/EC.

There were a number of exceptions where items, though existing in the UK, were non-existent in Northern Ireland. In such cases, most notably D11 (sugar beet) and G04 (vineyards), zero was recorded.

The UK was not authorised in 98/377/EC to collect information on Section M from a sample survey and all farms were asked to provide data on this. However non-response proved a problem and no acceptable method of imputing estimates for this could be found. To ensure good quality of data on this topic, raising factors were attached to data on this section (the same raising factors as for Section L).

From its register DARD identified<sup>1</sup> very few “group holdings” and information on this was not sought for Northern Ireland.

### **2.2 Questionnaires**

Two separate questionnaires were used --- one for crops and livestock (June) and the other for all other FSS items (March).

Both included questions not required for the FSS. The June form included a section on the numbers of farmers and workers<sup>2</sup> working on farms on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The March form sought information on the tasks for which agricultural contractors were employed (relating to the period March 2006 – March 2007). It also collected information on the ages of family and non-family regular workers and the other gainful activities of farmers’ spouses whether they worked on the farm or not.

Copies of the questionnaires and associated notes for guidance are attached.

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<sup>1</sup> The DARD business register includes background information on the composition of the ownership of each IACS business.

<sup>2</sup> The FSS labour definition do not satisfy the needs of other users of statistics on the agricultural labour force in Northern Ireland.

### 3 SURVEY METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Survey organisation

The FSS in Northern Ireland was under the management of a Principal Agricultural Economist with one Deputy Principal Statistician and 6 administrative staff who organised and carried out all the work with the exception of printing and mailing forms and data entry for the June questionnaire.

The work of the team was monitored by the Farm Census Development Group that considered and recommended any changes from earlier surveys. This group comprised a number of key users of the data.

#### 3.2 Work process

Planning dates for the 2007 FSS can be seen in the table below:

##### March survey<sup>3</sup>

November 2006	First draft of the March questionnaire prepared
December 2006	Options discussed by the Farm Census Development Group
December 2006	Plans discussed at UK level to ensure co-ordination
January 2007	Farmers' associations informed of planned surveys in 2007
January 2007	Contracts for printing and addressing forms agreed
February 2007	Staff instructions prepared
February 2007	Validation programmes prepared
February 2007	Press Release about the survey issued
February 2007	Forms posted
March 2007	Reminder posted to non-respondents
May 2007	Validation process halted <sup>3</sup>
September 2007	Validation recommenced
October 2007	Clean file completed
April 2008	Results published

<sup>3</sup> Work on validating and checking the data from the March survey began in May 2007, then interrupted by the June survey and a further survey carried out in December, before being restarted in September 2007.

## June survey

The organisation of the June survey continues on an annual cycle but key dates in running the survey included the following.

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May 2007	Press Release issued
May 2007	Forms posted
June 2007	First reminder issued
July 2007	Second reminder sent
August 2007	Third reminder sent
August 2007	Preliminary results published
October 2007	Files closed
November 2007	Final results published
January 2008	Detailed analyses published

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### 3.3 Preparing the survey operations

#### 3.3.1 Population and frame

The population for the additional survey questions was based on the 2006 June Agricultural survey. There were 26,739 active farms recorded for that year according to EU definition 571/88.

##### Definition of a farm business

The definition of a farm business used in Northern Ireland<sup>4</sup> is:

*“a single unit, both technically and economically, which has a single management and which produces agricultural products”*

Within that framework a threshold is applied so that the population surveyed includes:

*“all active farm businesses having one hectare or more of farmed land, whether owned, leased or taken in conacre<sup>5</sup>, and those with under one hectare having any cattle, sheep or pigs or with significant poultry or horticultural activity”.*

##### The Register

The IACS administrative system maintains a register of all DARD “clients”. Each person or company is allocated a client reference and each client is associated with a specific business, in accordance with the rules operated by the IACS controls. To this register have been added other clients and businesses, such as pig, poultry, horticulture or potato specialists, who have not made an IACS return but which are included on other DARD administrative registers, e.g. customers of the DARD Advisory Service. The register also includes other businesses which Farm Census Branch have identified from external sources.

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<sup>4</sup> This differs from that used in the other UK countries.

<sup>5</sup> Conacre is the system of annual lets which involves 30% of agricultural land in Northern Ireland.

The register for each client includes

- name
- address
- telephone number
- a reference for the business with which he/she is associated. This business reference incorporates a grid reference of the main farm buildings.

Behind the register screen for each client the history of the associated business is held, including a report on its acceptance as a separate business and a note about which other clients are included in the business.

For each business a principal “client” is identified and a Survey Reference Number<sup>6</sup> attached to that client name.

The register does not hold statistical data about each business. A separate data file is held for each survey in SPSS for Windows. Files can be merged as required.

#### Identification of the survey population from the Register

Around one month before each survey, the population of possibly active farms is downloaded from the register. This is defined as any which

- received a grant or subsidy for crops or livestock within the previous 15 months; or
- were flagged as “survey active” after the previous annual June survey; or
- were identified from other sources in the course of the previous year and which were flagged accordingly (see next section).

#### Steps to improve the Survey Register

Each year, lists of agricultural producers are received from other sources such as mushroom growers from crop advisors or poultry producers from quality assurance personnel, not normally covered by IACS. These lists are compared to the previous years register to identify any new producers so that they will be included in the next survey. A check is made to ensure that the activity which is flagged is recorded in the subsequent return. Checks are also made to ensure no holding is duplicated within the sampling population.

### **3.3.2 Survey design**

The March and June surveys were conducted as sample surveys in which 21,911 farms were surveyed in June and 13,387 were surveyed in the March survey. For the June data, estimates were provided for non-respondents. However, because of lack of other information sources, no estimates were made for those who failed to respond to the March survey. In that case the

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<sup>6</sup> It was found necessary to maintain Survey Reference numbers in addition to Business References to facilitate managing the dynamics of change of business identifications.

data were treated as if they were derived from a sample survey, the sample consisting of those who responded.

#### Sampling/raising frame

Data from the March survey were raised in accordance with a 3 dimensional frame with 9 farm types by 3 business sizes by 4 NUTS3 areas. These were:

*Type of farm:* Cereals, General Cropping, Horticulture, Pigs & Poultry, Dairying, Cattle & Sheep: LFA, Cattle & Sheep: Lowland, Mixed, Other types.

*Size of business:* Under 8 ESU, 8-<40 ESU, 40 ESU & over

*NUTS3 area:* Belfast and Outer Belfast combined, East of NI, North of NI, West & South of NI.

Raising factors varied from 1.50 to 4.67 (excluding 1 record) with 87% of records having a raising factor of less than 4.00.

The sample frame for the questionnaires sent for the Labour information (March) included only those farms which were going to receive a June Survey form.

### **3.3.3 Pilot Survey**

The questions in the June 2007 survey were the same as those in previous June surveys so they were not tested through a pilot.

As changes to the basic Structure Survey questions were minimal – from the previous survey - a full pilot was not conducted in 2007 but the Department's 5 FADN data collectors were consulted as were a similar number of DARD personnel with close farming connections.

### **3.3.4 Informing and training staff and respondents**

#### Staff who investigated queries

For all surveys administrative staff whose job is to investigate and, if necessary, correct queried returns are provided with a detailed instruction manual which indicates the appropriate steps to be taken, i.e. where supporting evidence may be found in the IACS system and when a phone call to the farmer is necessary.

New staff are given individual training before beginning work on their first survey. DARD operates a comprehensive training programme. In addition to formal training delivered externally, manuals are provided for specific topics and staff units use these for more targeted training, e.g. good telephone techniques.

#### Respondents

Before the March survey a Press Release was issued, describing the role and coverage of the survey.

The June survey is regarded<sup>7</sup> as a routine part of the farming year and farmers do not have to be specially informed about it. However special posters giving notice of the survey are placed in strategic locations (markets, rural banks, local DARD offices) in May each year. E-mail reminders were also sent to those farmers who had registered their e-mail account with the Rural-NI farming portal.

### **3.4 Sampling, data collection and data entry**

#### **3.4.1 Drawing the sample**

All farms classified as small, medium and large / very large (using the SGM methodology) were included in the survey. An additional 50% of farms, classified as very small, were identified and surveyed. These farms are targeted on alternate years.

#### **3.4.2 Data collection**

##### Data collection methods

The data were collected by means of a postal survey.

Non-respondents who were believed to have pigs, poultry or potatoes were telephoned to obtain the maximum response.

DARD is committed to reducing the burden of form filling and all June surveys collect information on the time taken to complete the questionnaire time. The average in 2007 was 18 minutes. The time taken to collect the information of the specific Structure Survey was 14 minutes.

##### Data entry modes

The June data were captured using double entry keying system through a reputable professional company – using a heads down approach.

The March data were keyed in-house.

#### **3.4.3 Utilisation of administrative data sources**

Data was also obtained through administrative sources. Appendix 3 lists the variables associated with these. Each administrative unit used is based on the holding definitions used for any farm surveys. The coverage of data from administrative sources is complete, particularly those with financial links which are subject to stringent checks.

All of the data derived from administrative sources (with the exception of the ESA coverage) were matched using name and address as key identifiers. As the total numbers were small, each case was linked manually to eliminate errors.

#### **3.4.4 Control of the data**

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<sup>7</sup> As reported by one of the NI Farming Organisations.

### June forms

An initial scrutiny of forms was made to ensure that they were legible before passing to the data entry process.

Data on the June forms were keyed twice into different files which were then compared to identify errors in data entry. The clean version was then returned to DARD for electronic validation. These were of 4 types:

**Sub-totals:** Sub-totals were included on the forms for land use and for each of the main livestock types.

**Maximum values:** For each item a maximum value was set, at a level below the absolute maximum expected.

**Credibility checks:** These identified unlikely scenarios, e.g. ewes but no lambs, sows but no piglets, large cereal areas but no setaside.

**Flag checks:** Before the survey a number of Yes/No flags were set against each Survey Reference number. Information to do this was derived from IACS and related information, from the previous survey return and from other sources during the preceding year. For example, if the business had received a sheep premium subsidy but no sheep were recorded on the form, this was rejected.

### March forms

Forms which recorded a farm diversification activity (Section A) were scrutinised and checked to ensure that the particular type of activity was correctly identified (respondents were asked to give details of the activity as well as placing it in a category).

A series of validation programs were set up using the SPSS analytical package. These tested for logical errors and credibility checks. Second level checks applied when the information was converted from the format in which it was collected to that in which it was supplied to Eurostat. For example if the form indicated that the occupier was the manager, data for a separate manager were rejected. The third level checks were made when the Eurostat validation checks were run.

Missing data was investigated by administrative staff. Data credibility checks were scrutinised by administrative supervisors, under pre-set guidance instructions (e.g. maximum values).

### **3.4.5 Non response**

Non-response was interpreted as questionnaires which are not returned at all. Partly completed ones were treated as queries and finalised by telephone contact with the farmer.

### Actions taken

One reminder was issued for the March survey and three for the June. Further reminders were not issued for March to avoid compromising



responses to the June survey. The first June reminder was a card, the second and third included duplicate forms with the third reminder form to very small farms (<3ESU) shortened to include only aggregated data. The third reminder also included a short note of common questions concerning the census, with answers which aimed to highlight its importance.

Non-respondents were not prosecuted because legal advice indicated that a successful prosecution would be unlikely and that the step would be likely to lower response to subsequent surveys rather than improve it.

The Department is continuing to make the census as easy for the data providers as possible. The following is a list of ongoing activities to assist with this aim.

- Query calls are kept to a minimum through reference to other data sources;
- In most years the coverage of the June survey has been reduced from a full census to a sample survey;
- A poster campaign was adopted to present a more friendly image;
- Survey results are made freely available to all on the DARD website;
- Help is freely available to farmers in completing the form.
- An on-line version is available to anyone wishing to complete the form through those means

#### Reasons for non-response

Non-co-operation with Government is a political reality in some areas. There was a strong regional variation in response rates, ranging, for the June survey, from 60% to 72% across the six counties.

### **3.5 Data processing, analysis and estimation**

#### **3.5.1 Methods for handling missing or incorrect data items**

##### June survey

Queries on forms which were returned for the June survey were dealt with:

- by reference to the relevant administrative file, i.e. cereals, fodder areas from IACS, cattle from subsidy claims and milk quota records, sheep from sheep subsidy claims;
- for other items the farmer was contacted by telephone.

A significant number of forms were returned indicating that the business was no longer active and that the land had been let. In such cases the administrative files were checked to ensure that no subsidy claims had been made.

Data were imputed for forms which were not returned for the June survey:

- since the same questions had been asked in each previous year, the most recent return was used as the basis for imputation;
- for items where significant<sup>8</sup> changes between 2005 and 2007 were recorded by those farms which did respond, the “brought forward” data for non-respondents were trended accordingly;
- for farms believed to have pigs, 1000 or more poultry or to grow potatoes, telephone enquiries were made;
- for new businesses for which no “brought forward” record was available, estimates were made on the basis of the information in the IACS and other administrative systems.

#### March survey

Most queries on forms which were returned for the March survey were dealt with through telephone enquiries. However, for a number of questions a “no” answer was assumed if there was no response given, e.g. Section A (farm diversification), use of contractors, irrigation, other employment (if aged 50+).

#### Both surveys

Only staff of Farm Census Branch of DARD are authorised to make changes. All changes are checked by a second, more senior, member of staff. All data are processed using SPSS analyses programs. These include a suite of credibility checks and maximum values tests.

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<sup>8</sup> For different items the level at which a change was significant varied. Also a subjective view was taken on whether changes were due to the number of farms including a particular crop or livestock type or whether due to an increase or decrease in enterprise size.

### **3.5.2 Estimation and sampling errors**

A previous interview survey conducted among 10% of farm households in Northern Ireland indicated a good match with the FSS on the time spent on farm work and the incidence of other gainful employment. An analysis of the response rate across the nine main robust farm types shows a 0.998 correlation between sample responses and the population total.

### **3.5.3 Non-sampling errors**

#### Coverage errors

Coverage errors are believed to be minimal for the cattle, sheep and cereal sectors. The other sectors are targeted in rotation when other sources of information are consulted.

The potato and horticultural sectors were targeted in 2007 and the registers updated where appropriate. A separate Horticultural survey provided additional information on the coverage of this type of enterprise

Coverage of the poultry sector is difficult because the questions refer to one specific date when a number of producers are likely to have no birds on their farm and to be disinfecting their premises. It is believed that a significant number of farms (1 or 2%) fatten turkeys specifically for the Christmas market and do not have any on their farms on the June census date. The number of farms with poultry at any time is believed to be around 10% short, but the number of birds recorded on the census date is believed to give a good measure of the position at that time.

#### Measurement errors

The main cause of measurement errors arises from the difficulty in estimating the ages of cattle and the weights of pigs and piglets. IACS requires farmers to have farm maps with the areas of each field marked on them and a percentage of areas are checked by IACS staff each year, so that errors in area estimation are thought to be small.

#### Processing errors

Scope for these is limited by the procedures and checks which are in place.

### Non-response errors

The main source of error in the FSS 2007 for Northern Ireland resulted from non-response. The means of dealing with non-response is detailed in Section 3.5.1. For enterprises for which administrative data were available (cereals, beef cows, dairy cows, ewes) and for activities which were specially targeted (pigs, poultry, potatoes) the impact of non-response in the totals is believed to have been within +/- 3%. It is likely to have been higher for other items, particularly those found on only a few farms.

### **3.5.4 Evaluation of estimates**

The annual June survey covers all farms greater than the very small classification and an alternating half of those classified as very small, giving 78% coverage. Validations on census returns are carried out using the IACS and APHIS system ensuring the coverage is as robust as possible. The 2007 comparison of estimated survey total and APHIS total indicated a difference of <0.5% between the two systems. Comparisons between only those returns received for 2006 and 2007 and finalised totals (including estimates and new businesses) are favourable with only a few percent variation. Greater variations are seen in marginal or volatile enterprises such as pigs and poultry.

#### 4 PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION

##### June survey

25th August 2007	Preliminary results (macro level) published through a Press Release and the DARD website
20 <sup>th</sup> November 2007	Final results (macro level) published through a Press Release and the DARD website
15 <sup>th</sup> January 2008	Final results (micro level analyses by enterprise size and by geographical area) published in a booklet which was freely available in full on the DARD website.

##### March survey

April 2008	Final results (micro level analyses by enterprise size and size) published in a booklet which was freely available in full on the DARD website.
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Both the published booklets contain full descriptions of the methodology

Both publications are available free to download from the DARD website at [www.dardni.gov.uk](http://www.dardni.gov.uk)

Access to individual data is not possible.

## 5 SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER TASKS

Each year a review of the farm survey system is to be undertaken..

The main issues in the reviews are include:

- revised use of IACS data in light of SFP processes
- wider use of the cattle tracing system
- access to other administrative systems
- improving response
- targeting the non-IACS sectors
- The demand for more focused information
- The demand for information for equality proofing

### IACS data

With the introduction of the Single Farm Payment the change in the data collected via the IACS system will have to be taken into consideration when preparing the census forms.

### Cattle tracing system (APHIS)

The data extracted from the APHIS database is considered to be of excellent quality and suitable for use for statistical purposes.

### Other administrative systems

Wherever possible, all DARD administrative systems are being linked to the central DARD client register.

### Improving response

Major improvements to response rates are unlikely to be achieved over the next few years but steps can be taken to safeguard against further deterioration. These include giving publicity to the role played by good statistics in developing Government policies and continuing to ensure that no lapse in confidentiality occurs.

### Targeting the non-IACS sectors

Currently new means of sharing the information held and gathered by the horticultural advisory service are being explored. This has improved coverage of horticultural activities in 2007 and will be continued. Other sectors are targeted in rotation.

## REFERENCES

Most information on the statistics collected in the FSS 2007 in Northern Ireland can be found on the DARD website at <http://www.dardni.gov.uk/econs/econ0033.htm> . This includes:

- Census 2007
- European Union Structure Survey 2007

Alternatively hard copies may be obtained from DARD of:

- The Agricultural Census in Northern Ireland: Results for June 2007
- EU Farm Structure Survey 2007, Northern Ireland:

## CONTACTS

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conor.mccormack@dardni.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – Structure Survey

**Section D Contractors and Casual Labour**

Did you employ contractors to carry out any work relating to crop production, livestock production or hedge cutting (not building) during the past 12 months? Yes  No

If yes, please give the number of person-days worked by contractors and their staff (e.g. 3 workers for 3 days = 6 person-days)

For which activities were contractors employed?

Hay/silage making <input type="checkbox"/>	Milking <input type="checkbox"/>
Crop harvesting <input type="checkbox"/>	Sheep shearing <input type="checkbox"/>
Spreading slurry/manure/fertilisers/lime <input type="checkbox"/>	Other livestock work <input type="checkbox"/>
Other field work <input type="checkbox"/>	Hedge cutting <input type="checkbox"/>

Have you employed any casual labour on the farm during the past 12 months? Yes  No

If yes, please give the number of person-days worked by casual workers (e.g. 3 workers for 2 days = 6 person-days)

---

**Section E Farm diversification**

Other commercial enterprises run on this farm

Please tick a box beside any of the commercial enterprises listed below but exclude mainstream farming, i.e. livestock breeding and rearing, and crop production. Also exclude activities run by persons who are not part of your farm business.

Tourism (accommodation) <input type="checkbox"/>	Letting of farm buildings for non-agricultural use <input type="checkbox"/>
Tourism (other) <input type="checkbox"/>	Livestock haulage <input type="checkbox"/>
Direct sales <input type="checkbox"/>	Equine sport <input type="checkbox"/>
Processing of farm products <input type="checkbox"/>	Other sport <input type="checkbox"/>
Renewable energy production <input type="checkbox"/>	Other commercial activities <input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural contracting <input type="checkbox"/>	None <input type="checkbox"/>
Non-agricultural contracting <input type="checkbox"/>	

If you have ticked 'Other commercial activities', please specify (e.g. aquaculture, bee keeping, handicrafts, wood processing, etc.)

Please indicate the length of time in minutes taken to complete this form

DARD (NI) is committed to reducing the burden of form filling and this information may help.

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

EUROPEAN UNION STATISTICAL ENQUIRY

Notice requiring attention by 15th March 2007

Business ID

Grid Reference

You can now complete your survey form over the internet by clicking Census Online at [www.ruralni.gov.uk](http://www.ruralni.gov.uk)  
Please use the Business ID and Grid reference above to gain secure access

Explanatory note

The Statistical Office of the European Union requires Member States to carry out a statistical survey of farms in 2007.

The statistics on farm structure which this survey provides are used in the formulation and assessment of agricultural policies.

The questions in the 2007 survey reflect the EU's growing interest in issues relating to farm labour.

Data will be anonymised before transmission to the EU. The information you provide will be used for statistical purposes only.

Further information about the survey including the results of the last such survey can be obtained from the Department's website ([www.dardni.gov.uk](http://www.dardni.gov.uk))

Most of the information on the structure of Northern Ireland farms will be derived from the June Census but you are asked to provide some additional information on this form which you should return in the postage paid envelope enclosed by 15th March 2007.

Notes and definitions are provided on a separate page (enclosed).

For help or further information please telephone 028 9052 4532.

Please return this form in the envelope provided to:

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Farm Census  
Farm Surveys Branch  
Room 908, Dundonald House  
Upper Newtownards Road  
Belfast  
BT4 3SB



**How to complete this form**

Write clearly in black ink. Tick boxes like this  Enter one number in each box like this

Do not strike through boxes like this  Do not write in boxes like this

---

**Section A Status of the farm business**

Who has legal and financial responsibility for the farm? (tick one box only)

The occupier  Occupier and other partner(s)   
Occupier and family partner(s)  An institution (eg hospital, school, church) or a limited company

Who is mainly responsible for the day-to-day running of the farm? (tick one box only)

The occupier  A member of the occupier's family  if ticked complete 'manager' column at section B  
The occupier's spouse  Another person

---

**Section B The occupier, occupier's spouse, manager**

Please designate one person as the principal occupier and complete the following section. Remember to complete the 'manager' column if applicable

Does the principal occupier have a spouse? Yes  No

	Occupier	Occupier's spouse	Manager
Sex	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Age	Under 25 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	25 - 34 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	35 - 44 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	45 - 54 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	55 - 64 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time spent working on THIS FARM as a proportion of a full working year	None <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Some, less than 1/4 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1/4 to less than 1/2 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1/2 to less than 3/4 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3/4 to less than full <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time spent working ELSEWHERE	A full year <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	None <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time spent working ELSEWHERE	Some, less than on the farm <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Some, more than on the farm <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Section C Other persons who regularly worked on the farm during the past 12 months**

If there is no occupier, or the business is a partnership other than a family one, record all workers as hired

**Other family workers**

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Sex	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time spent working on THIS FARM as a proportion of a full working year	Some, less than 1/4 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1/4 to less than 1/2 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1/2 to less than 3/4 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time spent working ELSEWHERE	3/4 to less than full <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A full year <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	None <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Less than on the farm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	More than on the farm <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Hired workers**

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Sex	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time spent working on THIS FARM as a proportion of a full working year	Some, less than 1/4 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1/4 to less than 1/2 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1/2 to less than 3/4 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time spent working ELSEWHERE	3/4 to less than full <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A full year <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	None <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Migrant workers**

Have you made use of any workers, during the past 12 months, who were neither British nor Irish nationals? Yes  No



**Appendix 2 – June Census**

Farm Census  
 Farm Surveys Branch  
 Room 908, Dundonald House  
 Upper Newtownards Road  
 Belfast BT4 3SB  
 Telephone (028) 9052 5432

<b>Agricultural &amp; Horticultural Census</b>
<b>IT IS COMPULSORY TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM</b>

**June  
2007**

*Business ID*

*Grid Reference*

*Area owned  
(hectares)*

Or Business Partner

You can now submit your census form over the Internet by clicking on the **CENSUS ONLINE** button  
 at the [www.ruralni.gov.uk](http://www.ruralni.gov.uk) website

Please use the Business ID and Grid Reference above to gain secure access

Dear Farmer / Grower,

**AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL CENSUS, JUNE 2007**

Under the Agricultural Statistics (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 you are required to complete **all** of this form in respect of the land you occupy. **This is a legal requirement.** Under Section 6.1 of the Order, anyone who without reasonable excuse fails to complete and return this form shall be guilty of an offence and may be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding £1,000.

**Information to be supplied**

The information which you are asked to supply concerns the use, by you and other partners in your business, of agricultural and horticultural land, the numbers of livestock you own on **1 June 2007** and the numbers of persons working in your business on that date. Data collected under the Agricultural Statistics (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 may only be used for specified purposes, such as the preparation of statistics or to assist with the control of serious animal diseases.

**Notes:**

- **Please return the form, in the pre-paid envelope provided, by 15th June 2007. A stamp is not required.**
- Further notes for guidance are enclosed. Should you have any problems with the completion of this form, please telephone (028) 9052 5432.
- An occupiers copy of the form is enclosed for you to retain for your own records.

**Mr Norman Fulton**  
 Director of Policy & Economics

OFFICIAL BOX			
Query	Cleared	Checked	Notes
1st Scrutiny		2nd Scrutiny	
Inits.	Date	Inits.	Date

**AREAS OF CROPS, GRASS AND OTHER LAND AS ON 1 JUNE 2007**

You are asked to state which crops are grown on the land you FARM, including any land you take in conacre (or which you crop or stock for another person), and excluding land you let to someone else.

**1 IF YOU HAVE STOPPED FARMING**

Please indicate the reason by ticking the relevant box:

**Sold farm**

**Transferred farm**

**Other (Please state)**

\_\_\_\_\_

**All land is let or leased**

Name and address of new owner:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**If possible, please pass this form to the new owner for completion.**  
Otherwise complete the declaration on the back of this form and return in the pre-paid envelope provided.

**PLEASE ENTER AREAS IN HECTARES  
TO 1 DECIMAL PLACE ONLY  
E.G. 10.3  
(1 acre = 0.4 ha)**

**2 AREA OF HOLDING**

			Hectares	Official Use
<b>Owned Land</b>	Area owned by your business	1	•	
<b>Land Taken</b>	Area which you take in conacre or on lease	2	•	
<b>Land Let</b>	Area which you let out in conacre or lease to another business	3	•	
<b>AREA FARMED</b>	Area farmed by your business (including horticultural and wooded areas) (Items 1 + 2 - 3)	4	•	

The remaining questions on this form refer to the area at **Item 4**, i.e. the land actually **farmed** by you.

**3 DESIGNATED LAND TYPE**

			Hectares	Official Use
<b>Land officially designated as Less Favoured</b>	Area of SDA, "old LFA" land	5	•	
	Area of DA, "new LFA" land	6	•	

**4 GRASS, CROPS AND OTHER USES OF THE LAND (i.e. area at Item 4)**

			Hectares	Official Use	
<b>Grass for grazing, hay or silage</b>	Grass under 5 yrs old	20	•		
	Grass 5 yrs old and over	21	•		
<b>Rough grazing (sole rights)</b>	Hill or rough land on which implements cannot be used	22	•		
<b>Cereals and other crops for threshing (not set-aside crops)</b>	Oats	25	•		
	Wheat	26	•		
	Barley	Winter	27	•	
		Spring	28	•	
	Mixed corn	29	•		
	Oilseed rape	30	•		
<b>Potatoes</b>	Ware	35	•		
	Seed (certified)	36	•		
<b>Fodder crops</b>	Whole crop cereals	40	•		
	Turnips, swedes, fodder beet, and other forage root crops	41	•		
	Kale or cabbage	42	•		
	Forage maize	43	•		
	Other crops for stockfeed	44	•		
<b>Fruit, vegetables and flowers grown outdoors or under cloches for sale</b>	Apples	45	•		
	Strawberries	46	•		
	Other fruit	47	•		
	Vegetables for sale	48	•		
	Bulbs and flowers	49	•		
	Hardy nursery stock	50	•		
<b>Glasshouse area (or plastic houses)</b>	Please state crops: ..... .....		•		
<b>Bio-mass Fuels</b>	SRC Willow	63	•		
<b>Other crops</b>	Please state crops: .....		•		
<b>Set-aside</b>	Under the Single Farm Payment Scheme	65	•		
<b>Woodlands</b>	Woods and plantations	70	•		

LIVESTOCK NUMBERS AS ON 1 JUNE 2007

**5 CATTLE**  
Tick this box if no Cattle

For the June 2007 Census some of the details on cattle will be taken from APHIS. However, you are asked to complete section 5a (and 5b if applicable).

**5a Total Cattle & Calves**

	Number	Official Use
<b>TOTAL CATTLE AND CALVES</b>	100	

**5b Heifer Replacement Stock**  
Heifers intended for replacements **can not** be identified from APHIS. If you have replacement heifers, please complete this section

Number of heifers **in calf** (with first calf) being kept for **Dairy** production

	Number	Official Use
2 years old and over	82	
Over 1 year and under 2 years old	83	

Number of heifers **in calf** (with first calf) being kept for **Beef** production

	Number	Official Use
2 years old and over	86	
Over 1 year and under 2 years old	87	

Number of heifers **not in calf** being kept for **Dairy or Beef** breeding

	Number	Official Use
2 years old and over	92	
Over 1 year and under 2 years old	95	

**6 SHEEP**  
Tick this box if no Sheep

	Number	Official Use
<b>Ewes put to the ram in 2006 and still on farm at 1 June 2007</b>	109	
<b>Rams for Service</b>	112	
<b>Other Sheep 1 year old and over</b>	For breeding	114
	Other	116
<b>Lambs under 1 year</b>	119	

**7 GOATS**  
Tick this box if no Goats

	Number	Official Use
Female goats which have kidded	125	
All other goats and kids	126	
<b>TOTAL GOATS ( Items 125-126 )</b>	130	

**8 FARMED DEER**  
Tick this box if no Deer

	Number	Official Use
<b>Farmed Deer</b>	140	

**9 HORSES AND PONIES**  
Tick this box if no Horses/Ponies

	Number	Official Use
Horses/Ponies owned by occupier	155	
Horses/Ponies NOT owned by occupier	156	
<b>TOTAL HORSES/PONIES ( Items 155-156 )</b>	160	

**10 PIGS**  
Tick this box if no Pigs   
Tick this box if you intend to restock

	Number	Official Use
<b>Pigs for Breeding</b>	Breeding Sows	170
	Gilts in pig	171
	Boars	173
	Maiden Gilts	174
<b>Sows waiting on cull</b>	175	
<b>All other Pigs by Liveweight</b>	110kg and above (Finishers)	176
	80 to 110kg (Finishers)	177
	50 to 80kg (Finishers)	178
	20 to 50kg (Second stage weaners)	179
	8 to 20kg (First stage weaners)	180
	Under 8kg (Suckling pigs)	181
<b>TOTAL PIGS ( Items 170-181 )</b>	185	

**11 POULTRY**

**PEOPLE WORKING ON THE FARM ON 1 JUNE 2007**

**12 FARMERS & WORKERS**

**INCLUDE**

- All persons engaged in agricultural or horticultural work in the business on 1st June 2007.
- Those who are **normally** employed in the business but who were absent on the census date.
- Persons working on your farm as self employed agricultural or horticultural workers on 1st June (record as paid workers).

**EXCLUDE**

- School children.
- Individuals employed by others but working on your farm on a contract basis on 1st June.

**AGRICULTURAL / HORTICULTURAL WORK**

- **INCLUDES** care of crops and livestock, managerial, supervisory and office work, preparation and marketing of produce, maintenance (e.g. ditching, etc).
- **EXCLUDES** gardening, housework, work on capital investments (i.e. on new buildings).

	Time normally spent on farm work in this business		NUMBER OF MALES		NUMBER OF FEMALES	
<b>FARMERS</b>						
<b>Farmer or principal partner (one only)</b>	30 hrs/week or more	220			250	
	Less than 30hrs/week	221			251	
<b>Spouse</b> (i.e husband or wife) of farmer or principal partner <b>(if working on the farm)</b>	30 hrs/week or more	225			255	
	Less than 30hrs/week	226			256	
<b>Other partners</b> in this farm business	30 hrs/week or more	227			257	
	Less than 30hrs/week	228			258	
<b>PAID WORKERS</b>						
<b>Regular paid workers</b> (including waged family members) who work on the farm for <b>20 weeks or more</b> per year.	30 hrs/week or more	229			259	
	Less than 30hrs/week	230			260	
<b>Paid casual/seasonal workers</b> who work for less than 20 weeks per year (exclude contractors).	All times	231			261	
<b>UNPAID WORKERS</b>						
<b>Regular unpaid workers</b> (include unwaged family members) aged 16 or over who work on the farm for <b>20 weeks or more</b> per year.	30 hrs/week or more	236			266	
	Less than 30hrs/week	237			267	
<b>Unpaid casual/seasonal workers</b> who work for less than 20 weeks per year (exclude contractors).	All times	238			268	
<b>TOTAL FARMERS AND WORKERS</b>		240			270	

**13 OTHER DETAILS**

Please indicate ( ) any of the following circumstances that apply.

(1) I/we grow **mushrooms** for sale  Number of **mushroom houses/tunnels**

(2) I/we have **no livestock** now but expect to have some later this year

(3) I/we have **no livestock** now but expect to make hay or silage this year

(4) My/our land is **not farmed**

280	<input type="text"/>
290	<input type="text"/>

**14 DECLARATION**

I declare that the information I have given on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please print name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone/ mobile number \_\_\_\_\_

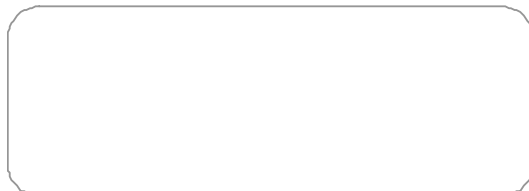
Could you please indicate the length of time taken to complete this form?  (mins)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION**

The results will be published on our website [www.dardni.gov.uk](http://www.dardni.gov.uk)

## Appendix 3 - Bird Register

### Update of Northern Ireland Bird Register 2007



**Flock Number**

**Business ID**

**Site Grid Reference**

Dear Keeper

You have been sent this form because you have registered birds on the Northern Ireland Bird Register.

We now wish to update the information we hold to ensure it is accurate and also to ensure we have the information that will allow us to contact you quickly if the need arises, for example in the event of an avian influenza outbreak in the UK.

The information may also be shared with the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) in GB for the purpose of UK disease surveillance. Some of the information will also be used by the Department for statistical purposes.

Please complete this form and return it in the postage paid envelope provided by **Friday 6 July 2007**.

Keepers of birds should remain vigilant for signs of disease and observe a high standard of biosecurity.

Further information on avian influenza, including biosecurity advice is available on the DARD website at [www.dardni.gov.uk](http://www.dardni.gov.uk)

If you have any queries, please contact the **DARD Helpline on 028 905 24999**.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours faithfully

**Jackie Robinson**

**Animal Disease Control Branch**

**Return completed form to:**

**Section 1 General information**

**1a Your details (person in day to day charge)**

<u>Address (if different from front)</u>	
.....	
.....	
<u>E-mail</u>	<u>Post code</u>
<u>Phone no.</u>	<u>Fax no.</u>
	<u>Mobile no.</u>

**1b Place where birds are kept**

<u>Address (if different from front)</u>	
.....	
.....	
<u>E-mail</u>	<u>Post code</u>
<u>Phone no.</u>	<u>Fax no.</u>
<u>PBF, NIPHAS or Egg Market Number (if held)</u>	<u>Mobile no.</u>

**1c Owner of the birds**

<u>Owner's name</u>	
<u>Address (if different from front)</u>	
.....	
.....	
<u>E-mail</u>	<u>Post code</u>
<u>Phone no.</u>	<u>Fax no.</u>
	<u>Mobile no.</u>

**1d Organisation or Bird club to which you are affiliated (if applicable)**

(tick as appropriate)	
Organisation <input type="checkbox"/>	Club <input type="checkbox"/>
Name of organisation/club .....	
<u>Contact Name</u>	
<u>Address</u>	
.....	
<u>E-mail</u>	<u>Post code</u>
<u>Phone no.</u>	<u>Fax no.</u>
	<u>Mobile no.</u>

1e Herd/flock numbers for animals held by person in day-to-day charge of birds

Please note the number of any references listed below which you hold

Herd number (cattle)

Holding number (pigs)

Flock number (sheep/goats) .....

Business identifier (if not on front of this form) .....

IACS number(client reference) .....

Section 2 Birds and Use

Birds kept for commercial purposes\*

If not kept for commercial purposes please go to 2d (\*see notes for guidance)

2a Purpose of production

Egg production/line  Meat production/line  Rearing

2b Stage in chain

Grandparents  Parents  Commercial  Hatchery

2c Information on the birds

Chickens		Actual Number of birds	Max number of birds on site	Number of houses	Numbers per house
For producing table eggs	Laying birds from point of lay to end of first cycle				
	Hens retained after first cycle				
Mainly for producing hatching eggs	Growing pullets from day old to point of lay				
	Hens, pullets, cockerels, etc (not turkeys, ducks, etc)				
Broilers and other table chickens					
Other poultry					
Turkeys					
Geese					
Ducks					
Pheasants					
Pigeons					
Partridges					
Guinea-fowl					
Quail					
Others					
please specify.....					

2d Husbandry system - how you keep your birds – see Notes for Guidance (tick appropriate box)

Free range

Partially housed

Housed at all times

2e Birds kept other purposes (tick appropriate box)

Hobby/Racing

Rare Breed

**Information on the birds**

	Actual Number of birds	Max number of birds on site	Number of houses	Numbers per house
Chickens				
Turkeys				
Geese				
Ducks				
Pheasants				
Pigeons				
Partridges				
Guinea-fowl				
Quail				
Others please specify.....				

**Signature of bird keeper** ..... **Date** .....  
**Name in BLOCK CAPITALS** .....



## **Appendix 4 – Administrative Sources**

### **1. Organic producers**

A register of all organic producers is held by a specialist unit at Greenmount Campus (College of Agriculture Food and Rural Enterprise). This consists of the name and address – including postcode – of the participants, coupled with the area currently considered organic or under conversion plus the types of enterprises conducted there. A sub-list of poultry producers is also held where the actual area of production may be registered as zero. This list was merged with the sample drawn for the Structure Survey using both address and name as key variables.

### **2. Agricultural areas with environmental restrictions**

A list of postcodes covering the ESA areas was obtained from the branch administering the scheme. This was merged with the census data to indicate the status of the each farm using name and address as key variables.

## **Appendix 5 – F03 variable**

Northern Ireland has predominantly grass based agricultural systems consisting of relatively intensive dairy farming and relatively extensive beef and sheep production. Approximately one-third of the agricultural area is rented by farmers on an annually renewable basis - mostly for grazing and the production of winter forage. The existence of a large and flexible short-term rental market for land means that there is no incentive to hold land unused, when rent income (albeit modest) is readily available. Renting does not compromise eligibility for payment under the Single Payment System. As a consequence of these characteristics, the area of permanent grassland (eligible for subsidies) and not being used for grazing or silage / conserved fodder purposes is, at present, judged to be insignificant.

Additionally, for permanent pasture areas, to be entitled for a “Less Favoured Area” subsidy (covering 70% of NI) a minimum stocking density is needed. Farmers are careful to ensure this requirement is met, which when coupled with the requirement that all land receiving subsidy is in good agricultural condition (involving an inspection regime) results in all land being grazed – even if it is low intensity.

The total area of “set-aside” land in the country was less than 2,000 hectares, as the cereal sector is small – and is largely producing grain for fodder. It is again unlikely that any of this land would ever fall within this category.

To confirm that the F03 category did not exist in any measurable quantity in 2007, briefings were undertaken with Farm Account Officers who are involved in the Farm Business Survey (which collects data for FADN). These revealed that there was none of this type of land present on any of the farms included

in this survey. This mechanism will allow a rolling and robust assessment of the situation and if/when land of this type appears, either an assessment can be made directly from the farmers in 2010, through the questionnaire, or, interrogation of the single farm payment system may allow figures to be derived.

#### **Appendix 6 - Cattle data extracted from the APHIS (Animal and Public Health Information System) database**

An extraction of the APHIS system was undertaken on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2007 (allowing time for late updates to occur) and consisted of all cattle alive in Northern Ireland as at 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007. The variables extracted, for each animal, from the system included

Date of Birth  
Sex  
Breed  
Progeny  
Herd / Business number  
Animal Number

Using breed as a reliable measure of Dairy / Beef production status, it is possible to segregate the data into most of the categories needed. Aggregation by business number allows this data to be appended to that collected through survey or other administration sources

Information on heifers is obtained through the June survey. This survey covers approximately half of all NI farms. The numbers of heifers, determined from this survey, are then used to expand on the APHIS data.

# **FARM STRUCTURE SURVEY 2007**

## **METHODOLOGICAL REPORT**

**MEMBER STATE:  
SCOTLAND (UNITED KINGDOM)**

## **Farm Structure Survey 2007 METHODOLOGICAL REPORT - SCOTLAND (UNITED KINGDOM)**

### **SUMMARY**

The Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) was responsible for collating FSS 2007 data from each of the four countries of the United Kingdom and for passing them to Eurostat. The Scottish Government (SG) Rural and Environment Analytical Services (REAS) are responsible for the collection of agricultural statistics for Scotland where it conducted FSS 2007.

The Agricultural Census register, which is used for all REAS statistical surveys, contains the details of all agricultural holdings that have contact with the SG. The register is maintained by the Agricultural Census team and is updated on a day to day basis. All agricultural holdings require a unique holding number, which is allocated by the census team.

All the active main agricultural holdings in Scotland were surveyed for the 2007 survey. Minor agricultural holdings, which are classed as statistically insignificant, were not included in this survey. The work was carried out in two stages:

- Data on crop areas, livestock numbers, diversification and holding management were collected, by a postal census, relating to the situation on 1 June 2007. Generally, the same questions on crop areas and livestock are asked each year. Forms were sent to all active main agricultural holdings in 2007.
- All other data (apart from areas of non-cultivation, agri-environmental premium data and information on organic farming and some minor crops data not normally collected in June (all obtained from administrative data)) were collected in a special additional survey. There were 14500 from approximately 27000 active farms included and forms were posted out in March 2007.

Both surveys were carried out by post. In 2007, from a survey sample of 14 500, 155 customers submitted their March survey form online.

Since the June questions were broadly the same as in previous years no pilot exercise was required.

The response rate for the June 2007 survey was 75% and the response rate for the March survey was also 75%.

A major effort was made to make the potentially complex FSS as simple as possible. Ideas were shared across UK departments and within Scotland, both specialist and administrative staff were involved in drafting the FSS notes for

completion and other documentation going out with the survey to check that it was as clear as possible.

Despite these efforts, a number of farmers clearly had significant difficulty in completing the forms, although the effort did pay off in that the response rate held up to virtually the same level as 2005. There were a number of complaints from clearly angry farmers who phoned, wrote or e-mailed census branch with their grievances.

The main complaints related to views that the data was a waste of time, too personal or that the form was too complicated. Some complained that the survey overlapped with the June census (although it does not).

Many said they would refuse to complete the FSS and any further surveys or censuses. Apart from the threat to all other agriculture statistics the FSS causes, this was a very stressful time for census staff.

**On complexity, the main area of difficulty related to distinguishing between owners, occupiers/farmers, business/institutions, managers, partners, spouses, agents etc, all who may receive the form, and which sections each should fill in.**

Some of the information requested was apparently **simply not known**.

Estimated data were provided for non-respondents in June, based on the previous year's return updated by trends reported by respondents. Non-response to the labour survey was handled by adjusting the extrapolation factor to reflect achieved response rates within each stratum.

For both surveys data entry was carried out by a commercial company, Advanced Data Services Limited, with single entry keying. All data validation was carried out by staff in the Agricultural Census Branch of REAS.

Provisional results of the June survey were published on 19 September 2007 and final results on 24 October 2007. Work on validating the March data was spread over two periods, one before the June survey and the other after that had been completed. No results from the March survey in Scotland have been published.

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 History, scope**

#### History

The series of crop and livestock surveys for Scotland extends for more than 100 years. Annual surveys of crop areas and livestock numbers have been carried out in Scotland throughout this period. These, along with data from special surveys to complete the requirements, have contributed data to Farm Structure Surveys since 1975.

#### Scope

The surveys were addressed to all agricultural holdings that, at the time of preparing the mailing list, were believed to be active. All holdings with an up-to-date address and who were not survey suppressed due to unconfirmed land movement, received a survey form. Returns from holdings that had been sold off or were no longer used for agriculture were subsequently excluded from the database.

### **1.2 Legislation**

#### National farm survey legislation

The Agricultural Act 1947 authorises REAS to demand response to certain types of questions which encompasses those which were asked in the June survey. This Act was used in the conduct of the June 2007 survey but, while REAS has the power to do so, it was not politically or practically appropriate to prosecute for non-response.

The Act does not empower REAS to collect information on training or farmers' other gainful activities so it was not used in the conduct of the March survey, the March survey was therefore treated as voluntary.

#### Relevance to FSS

The Act requires occupiers of agricultural land or the owners of livestock to furnish to REAS, at any time or times in any year, such returns as may be prescribed in relation to a list of topics such as crop areas, labour and livestock numbers. It is not specific to any one survey.

#### Protection of respondents

The Act restricts the ways in which individual records may be used and/or disclosed. This guarantee is reinforced by the National Statistics Code of Practice on 'Data Access and Confidentiality', which is adhered to by all Government statisticians. Along with the Data Protection Act 1998, this Code extends the guarantee of confidentiality to respondents to voluntary surveys such as that undertaken in March 2007 for the FSS. The Freedom of Information Act 2002 does not cut across this.

#### Legislation on survey costs

No specific legislation related to the cost of the FSS in Scotland. The cost was met from the Department's annual budget and using **existing** staff resources.

### Scotland's obligations to the UK

Following the devolution of powers to the Scottish Government, REAS's obligations to provide statistical data to enable DEFRA to meet UK obligations to the EU were embodied in a Concordat relating to the provision of statistical information.

## **1.3 Reclassification**

The register used in the conduct of farm surveys is specific to that task and is based on land occupancy (either by ownership or full tenancy). It is updated by means of returns from annual surveys. It is divided into "mains" holdings (the main conditions for this are that the holding is above 1 ha and has greater than or equal to 1 & 2/3 ESU) and "minor" holdings, the former being surveyed each year and the latter every third year.

A break in statistical series occurred in 2000 when there was a reclassification exercise of main and minor holdings. The previous reclassification exercise had been conducted in 1990 and by 2000, significant numbers of large holdings were classed as minor and visa versa. Classification of holdings as main and minor is now done on an annual basis to prevent any future large discontinuities, although this was not done in 2004. The 1990, 1993, 1995 and 1997 Farm Structure Surveys were run under the old reclassification system, with all subsequent Farm Structure Surveys since then using the new methodology.

## **2 CONTENT**

### **2.1 Characteristics**

For the most part information was collected in Scotland and provided to Eurostat according to the accepted exclusions listed in Commission Decision 98/377/EC amending Annex 1 to Council Regulation 571/88/EC.

There were a number of exceptions where items, though existing in the UK, were non-existent in Scotland. In such cases, most notably D11 (sugar beet), D24 (hops) and G04 (vineyards), zero was recorded.

Information on F03 (Permanent grassland and meadow - not used for production, eligible for subsidies):

(i) We have no evidence or actual data to support any direct estimates for this item.

(ii) Because we have no evidence to use in the formulation of an estimate, we are not confident that any results produced would be anything other than speculative, given that they would not be empirically based.

(iii) After considering (i) and (ii), we have concluded that attempting to produce any immediate estimates for item F03 would incur 'disproportionate cost'.

Resources for the immediate future have already been allocated, and we do not consider that any estimates produced would be robust enough to justify the additional resource that would be needed. However, we will consider what can be done for item F03 for FSS2010.

(iv) As an additional quality assurance measure, discussions took place in the Scottish Government with senior colleagues responsible for Rural Payments and Inspections, Rural Business Development and Regional Delivery. Various scenarios were considered with regard to the potential magnitude of item F03 (in line with the examples provided by the Commission), but ultimately the conclusions were that:

(a) our agricultural data systems (covering inspections and monitoring, statistical requirements and payments and compliance) hold no data on this type of land.

(b) We will investigate item F03 and our options for data supply for FSS 2010.

(c) We will share our work and any findings on this with the other 3 UK countries.

Information on Group holdings was not sought for Scotland as it is insignificant.

## **2.2 Questionnaires**

Two separate questionnaires were used - one for crops, livestock and management (June) and the other for all other FSS items (March).

The June form included questions not required for the FSS on the numbers of farmers and workers<sup>9</sup> working on farms on 1st June.

## **3 SURVEY METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Survey organisation**

The FSS in Scotland was under the management of one Assistant Statistician, one survey manager and seven administrative staff who organised and carried out all the work with the exception of printing and mailing forms and data entry. The printing and mailing of forms was done by Adare Halcyon Ltd (external contractor). The data entry was done by Advanced Data Services Ltd (external contractor).

### **3.2 Work process**

---

<sup>9</sup> The FSS labour definitions do not satisfy the needs of other users of statistics on the agricultural labour force in Scotland.



Planning for the 2007 FSS was initiated in 2005. Key dates in the planning and operation included:

### March survey<sup>10</sup>

September 2006	First draft of the March questionnaire prepared
October 2006	Plans discussed at UK level to ensure co-ordination
November 2006	Form circulated around Department for comments
December 2006	Form finalised
January 2007	Timetable for printing, addressing and issuing forms agreed with printers
February 2007	Staff instructions prepared
February 2007	Validation programmes prepared
February 2007	Sample chosen for labour survey
February 2007	Data entry instructions sent to punching company
March 2007	Forms posted
March–May 2007	Data punched and loaded into system
April 2007	Reminder posted to non-respondents
April–May 2007	Forms validated and errors repaired
End May 2007	Validation process halted
October 2007	Validation recommenced
June 2008	Clean file completed
June – July 2008	Data from other sources added in and converted into one file in the correct format
July 2008	Final data sent to DEFRA to merge with other UK data

### June survey

The organisation of the June survey continues on an annual cycle but key dates in running the survey included the following.

May 2007	Forms posted
July 2007	Reminder issued
September 2007	Provisional results published
October 2007	Files closed and final results published

## 3.3 Preparing the survey operations

### 3.3.1 Population and frame

#### Definition of a holding

The definition of a holding used in Scotland is:

*“a single unit, both technically and economically, which has a single management and which produces agricultural products.”*

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<sup>10</sup> Work on validating and checking the data from the March survey began in April–May 2007. Work recommenced in October 2007 after publication of the June survey results.

Please note however, that two parcels of land that are a significant distance away from each other may be classed as two different holdings even if they are run as one unit.

Within that framework a threshold is applied so that the population surveyed includes:

*“all holdings having one hectare or more of farmed land and at least 1&2/3 European Size Units, and/or a full-time farmer, and all holdings where an occupier farms more than 1 holding and all holdings with significant poultry or horticultural activity”.*

### The Register

The census branch maintains a statistical register of all agricultural holdings in Scotland. Each discrete area of agricultural land is allocated a holding number and then an occupier (Owner or person/company renting the land under a full tenancy) is allocated to the holding.

The register for each holding includes:-

- Name of occupier
- Address of occupier
- telephone number of occupier
- holding description
- area of land
- details of land movements and previous occupiers

### Identification of the survey population from the Register

About one month before the survey was issued (shortly before the sample was selected) a list of ineligible holdings was obtained. These holdings can be ineligible for surveys for a number of reasons these include:

- No valid contact name/address
- Unconfirmed land movement

## **3.3.2 Survey design**

### Sampling design

The March survey was based on a sample of 14 500 holdings. The holdings were stratified by farm size (European Size Units) and farm type. The FSS has in the past attracted many complaints from farmers. In order to manage the survey burden on individual farmers and minimise respondent fatigue, the bulk of the sample was made up of those holdings in scope which either were not selected for FSS 2005 or did not respond. These holdings accounted for 9 904 or 68% of the sample. These were then topped up with a further 4 596 holdings who had responded to FSS 2005 to reach the desired overall sample size of 14 500.

These top up holdings were selected at random within each stratum in such a way as to maximise the minimum overall sampling fraction among all strata. The response rate of 76% to FSS 2005 was used as a guide to determine the number of forms necessary to ensure the required 9 100 responses.

The June survey was sent to all agricultural holdings and estimates were provided for non-respondents.

#### Raising frame

Data from the March survey were raised in accordance with a 2-dimensional frame with 10 farm types by four sizes (the same frame as the sample was drawn from). These were:

*Type of farm:* Specialist Cereals, General cropping, Horticulture, Dairy, Rearing /fattening cattle, Specialist sheep, Other grazing livestock, Pigs and poultry, Mixed and Unclassified.  
*Size of business:* Under 8 ESU, 8–<40 ESU, 40–<100, 100 ESU & over

Raising factors varied from 2.11 to 4.33 with 75% of records having a raising factor of less than 2.67.

### **3.3.3 Pilot Survey**

The questions in the June 2007 survey were broadly the same as those in previous June surveys so they were not tested.

In the given timescales, it was not possible to pilot the FSS. As a compromise, the form was circulated around the Department and to the other UK Departments for comment.

### **3.3.4 Informing and training staff and respondents**

#### Staff who investigated queries

All survey administrative staff whose job is to investigate and, if necessary, correct queried returns were provided with detailed instructions. In cases where the query could not be resolved using the available information the occupier was contacted by telephone for more details.

New staff are given individual training before beginning work on their first survey. Ongoing training in the form of job shadowing, computer based training, videos and external courses are also available for more targeted training, e.g. good telephone techniques.

#### Respondents

A letter was sent to long-term non-responders prior to issuing the June form, encouraging them to complete and return the form and stressing why it is important to do so.

## **3.4 Sampling, data collection and data entry**

### **3.4.1 Drawing the sample**

A simple random sample stratified by size and farm type was drawn from the population as described in 3.3.2. This method of stratification is our standard way of drawing samples and ensures accurate coverage of each of the main sectors. The simple random sample was picked using the 'Survey Select' procedure in SAS.

### **3.4.2 Data collection**

#### Data collection methods

The data were collected by means of a postal survey. Data on areas of non-cultivation, agri-environmental premium data and organic farming were collected from administrative sources.

#### Organic Data

The data for organic characteristics (CC05A, CC05D & CC05E) was taken from the United Kingdom Register of Organic Food Standards (UKROFS), which is explained in more detail in section 3.3.1 of this report. The organic data was matched to the FSS population using the unique holding number identifier (CPH). A CPH field was present in the UKROFS data, but it was imperfect. Where a valid identification number was not available, a manual exercise was carried out, matching holdings on key variables such as name, address or post code. The data collected on organic methods for animal production (CC05E) only recorded the presence of organic methods for animal production. Because of this it was impossible to distinguish between 'full' and 'partial' production methods so as result any presence of organic methods of animal production were recorded as 'full' in characteristic CC05E.

#### Data entry modes

The March and June data were captured using heads down, data entry.

### **3.4.3 Control of the data**

#### March and June forms

An initial scrutiny of forms was made to ensure that they were signed and completed before passing to the data entry process.

Data was keyed by a contractor (Advanced Data Services Ltd) into a text file. The text file was then checked to make sure it contained the correct number of records and that the data was in the correct format. The file was then loaded into our system for electronic validation. These were of 5 types:

- Sub-totals:** Sub-totals were included on the forms for land use, for each of the main livestock types and for labour questions.
- Maximum values:** For each item a maximum value was set, at a level below the absolute maximum expected.
- Absence checks:** If certain questions were missing then forms were queried (e.g. tick box about who managed holding).

**Valid value:** For questions on Livestock and labour, checks were applied to make sure all figures were entered as whole numbers. For tick box questions only specific values were allowed (e.g. 1 if box one was ticked, 2 if box two was ticked etc.).

**Credibility checks:** The credibility of certain figures was also checked (e.g. more than 100 poultry but no labour).

Second level checks were applied when the information was converted from the format in which it was collected to that in which it was supplied to Eurostat. For example if the form indicated that the occupier was the manager, data for a separate manager were rejected. The third level checks were made when the Eurostat validation checks were run.

#### **3.4.4 Non response**

Non-response was interpreted as questionnaires that are not returned at all. Partly completed ones were treated as queries and finalised by telephone contact with the farmer. However, forms that were returned blank or had errors that could not be fixed were not included in the data sent to Eurostat.

##### Actions taken

One reminder was issued for the March survey and one for the June. Further reminders were not issued for March for fear of compromising response to the June survey. The June reminder included a reminder letter and a duplicate form. Long-term non-responders were sent a letter prior to receiving the June form, encouraging them to complete and return the form and stressing why it is important to do so.

Non-respondents were not prosecuted because it is likely that this would lower response to subsequent surveys rather than improve it. Additionally, the SG would prefer to work together with farmers to improve survey response.

Much time has been spent in trying to improve the image of the “Farm Census”:

- Query calls being kept to a minimum through reference to other data sources;
- Very small holdings only surveyed once every 3 years;
- Survey results made freely available to all on the REAS website.

##### Reasons for non-response

A significant number of farmers feel that they are receiving too many forms from the government, so they refuse to fill in forms unless there is a financial implication (i.e. IACS and Single Application Form). Other farmers have reported that they do not have the time to complete survey forms. The SG is investigating ways to streamline bureaucracy in order to reduce the data burden on farmers. More details are available in section 5.

### **3.5 Data processing, analysis and estimation**

### **3.5.1 Methods for handling missing or incorrect data items**

#### June survey

Queries on forms that were returned for the June survey were dealt with:

- By checking that the data was entered correctly and fixing where it was not;
- Looking at returns from previous years;
- Sending a letter to the occupier and the other party involved to confirm land movements;
- Contacting the occupier by telephone.

Data were imputed for forms that were not returned for the June survey:

- Since the same questions had been asked in each previous year, the most recent return was used as the basis for imputation;
- Imputations for items with significant activity within each robust farm type were created by trending the 2006 figure using average proportional changes in similar holdings which returned in both 2006 and 2007.
- For new holdings for which no “brought forward” record was available, no estimates were made. This should not cause a large shortfall as there are very few new holdings every year and because some of the carried forward holdings will be farms that have been sold off but have not notified us yet.

#### March survey

Most queries on forms that were returned for the March survey were dealt with through telephone enquiries. However, for a number of questions a “no” answer was assumed if there was no response given, e.g. Section F (farm diversification), Section G (Environmental Issues).

#### Both surveys

Only staff of Agriculture Census Branch of REAS were authorized to make changes.

### **3.5.2 Estimation and sampling errors**

The June survey is a complete census rather than a sample survey, with imputation for non-respondents. It covers all crop and livestock items, and has been augmented with administrative data for crop items not normally collected in the June census. Totals for these items can therefore be obtained directly by summation.

The March Survey sampled just over half of all holdings and covered questions on labour, farm diversification and environmental restrictions. Estimates of totals are obtained by expansion using the extrapolation factor A10.

### **3.5.3 Non-sampling errors**

#### Coverage errors

Coverage errors are believed to be minimal for most crop and livestock sectors.

Coverage of the poultry sector is difficult because the questions refer to one specific date. It is possible that on the census day (1 June) a number of producers may have no birds on their farm and be disinfecting their premises. This caused problems in June 1999 when broiler figures appeared to be about 3 million lower than normal. However, the figures for June 2007 appear to be close to usual trends.

#### Measurement errors

There is no way of estimating measurement errors as we do not check that the figures the occupier supplies are correct. The occupier signs the census form to the effect that the information he has supplied is correct to the best of their knowledge. There is scope to improve this however – more details are available in section 5.

#### Processing errors

Scope for these is limited by the procedures and checks that are in place.

#### Non-response errors

The main source of error in the FSS 2007 for Scotland resulted from non-response. The means of dealing with non-response is detailed in Section 3.5.1. Due to the method of carrying forward previous years data and the high response rate (75% for the 2007 June Census) non-response errors on crop and livestock questions are minimised (although this has not been quantified). The non-response errors for the March Survey (labour questions) will be higher as data from previous years was not used to fill in the gaps.

### **3.5.4 Evaluation of estimates**

The June Survey was a full census and figures for non-responses were carried forward from previous years as described earlier. The data on labour in the June survey is as at 1 June 2007 whereas the March Survey is for the whole year. There are also different classifications for labour and work time. June results are validated against previous years data and where any large variations are observed, these are investigated.

## **4 PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION**

### June survey

19 September 2007	Provisional results (Scotland level) published through a Press Release and the REAS website
24 October 2007	Final results (Scotland level) published through a Press Release and the REAS website

### March survey

No data has yet been published from the March Survey. However, it is our intention to publish figures from the March survey via the REAS website later this year.

## **5 SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER TASKS**

### Improving response

Major improvements to response rates are unlikely to be achieved over the next few years but steps can be taken to safeguard against further deterioration. These include giving publicity to the role played by good statistics in developing Government policies and continuing to ensure that no lapse in confidentiality occurs. In June 2007, further changes have been made in an attempt to improve response rates. Letters have been sent to a further sample of non-responders who were not sent the similar form last year.

### Streamlining bureaucracy

The SG is currently assessing ways in which duplication can be eliminated. Specifically, a project is underway to assess the extent to which the June census and the Single Application Form (SAF) can be streamlined to provide data that has been historically collected through separate systems. In addition to this, data already collected from the two systems will be analysed to aid validation and improve overall data quality.

Other areas where there is the potential to reduce duplication are the use of cattle movement data and also the use of inventory data for sheep and goats.

These areas will be investigated further as soon as is realistically possible.

## **REFERENCES**

Statistics collected in the June 2007 Survey in Scotland can be found on the REAS website at  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Agriculture-Fisheries/PubFinalResultsJuneCensus>

## **CONTACTS**

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**Annex 1: Simple Random sample stratified by size and farm type**

**Holdings in 2007 sample which did not return a valid 2005 FSS form (including holdings not sampled in 2005)**

EC Farm type	ESU				Total
	<8	8-<40	40-<100	≥100	
Cereals	306	482	316	220	1324
General cropping	146	57	185	303	691
Horticulture	121	75	22	19	237
Dairy	28	31	139	437	635
Other cattle	577	568	189	30	1364
Sheep	996	490	223	53	1762
Other livestock	1765	455	352	102	2674
Pigs & Poultry	115	24	19	26	184
Mixed	237	281	244	197	959
Unclassified	74	0	0	0	74
<b>Total</b>	<b>4365</b>	<b>2463</b>	<b>1689</b>	<b>1387</b>	<b>9904</b>

The figures above are as close as is possible to those used in FSS2007. Exact replication is not possible because of changes to our farm register from when the sample was initially picked in February 2007.

**Holdings in 2007 sample which returned a valid 2005 FSS form**

EC Farm type	ESU				Total
	<8	8-<40	40-<100	≥100	
Cereals	139	302	199	128	768
General cropping	85	40	97	207	429
Horticulture	0	10	5	6	21
Dairy	0	12	30	148	190
Other cattle	175	244	80	14	513
Sheep	543	283	127	8	961
Other livestock	978	169	120	48	1315
Pigs & Poultry	0	3	7	19	29
Mixed	55	126	98	66	345
Unclassified	25	0	0	0	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1189</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>4596</b>

EC Farm type	ESU				Total
	<8	8-<40	40-<100	≥100	
Cereals	445	784	515	348	2092
General cropping	231	97	282	510	1120
Horticulture	121	85	27	25	258
Dairy	28	43	169	585	825
Other cattle	752	812	269	44	1877
Sheep	1539	773	350	61	2723
Other livestock	2743	624	472	150	3989
Pigs & Poultry	115	27	26	45	213
Mixed	292	407	342	263	1304
Unclassified	99	0	0	0	99
<b>Total</b>	<b>6365</b>	<b>3652</b>	<b>2452</b>	<b>2031</b>	<b>14500</b>

Annex 2 : Copy of FSS questionnaire



	Survey ID	Holding Number
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European Union Farm Structure Survey 2007

Name:  
Address:

Postcode:  
Telephone No:

**NB, if you use 'SEERAD ONLINE', you may complete this form electronically.**

To do so, please visit:

[www.seeradonline.gov.uk](http://www.seeradonline.gov.uk)

Holding description:

The Scottish Executive  
Environment & Rural Affairs Department  
Division AS1  
1A Pentland House  
47 Robb's Loan  
Edinburgh EH14 1TY

Dear Occupier,

A survey of farms is taking place throughout the European Union (EU) in 2007 to provide up to date information on the structure of agriculture in all member states. Among other things, the information is required in order to help formulate future agriculture policies, and to measure the effect of changes made in the past. **We are required to take part in this survey.**

**We would therefore be grateful if you will complete this form for the above holding and return it in the prepaid envelope (no stamp required) by 28 March 2007.** The information you provide will be linked with your June 2007 Census form to produce the information needed by the EU. All your information will be treated as strictly confidential and will be used for statistical purposes only. Data will be anonymised before transmission to the EU.

The enclosed 'Notes and Questions answered' sheet provides general notes about the survey and notes on the completion of this form.

If you need further information, please contact: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION A: STATUS OF THE FARM BUSINESS**

**1** Who has legal and financial responsibility for the farm? Please tick (✓) **one** box only

The occupier	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	See notes for Question 1
The occupier and family partner(s)	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	
The occupier and other partner(s)	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	
An institution (e.g. hospital, school, church) or limited liability company	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**2** Who is mainly responsible for the day to day running of the farm? Please tick (✓) **one** box only

The occupier	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	If box 3 or 4 is ticked, this person will be classified as the manager for the purposes of Questions 3 to 7
The occupier's spouse	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	
A member of the occupier's family	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Another person	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Annex 2 : Copy of FSS questionnaire

**SECTION B: THE OCCUPIER, OCCUPIER'S SPOUSE, MANAGER**

You must complete the **occupier** details in **column 1** (unless there is no occupier - i.e. you ticked box 4 at question 1). Please complete all questions by ticking **one box** for **each** question 3 through to 7. The attached notes explain more about questions 5 to 7.

Then please complete the occupier's **spouse** details in **column 2**, if applicable. You should complete the spouse's details even if the spouse does no farm work. Enter a tick in **one box** for **each** question 3 to 7.

Then please complete the **manager's** details in **column 3** (if the manager is not the occupier or the spouse - i.e. if box 3 or 4 was ticked at Question 2).

Please check: **at least one** of the columns 1 or 3 **must** be completed.

		1	2	3
		Occupier	Occupier's spouse	Manager (if not occupier or spouse)
3	Sex	Male		
		Female		

4	Age group	Under 25			
		25 - 34			
		35 - 44			
		45 - 54			
		55 - 64			
		65 & over			

5	Time spent on agricultural work on <b>this</b> farm, as a proportion of the full working year	None			
		Less than ¼			
		¼ to less than ½			
		½ to less than ¾			
		¾ to less than full			
		A full year			

6	Time spent on any other work	None			
		Same or less than on the farm			
		More than on the farm			

7	Agricultural training	No formal training			
		Formal course lasting less than 2 years			
		Formal course lasting at least 2 years			

Annex 2 : Copy of FSS questionnaire

**SECTION C: OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS (AGED 16+) WORKING ON THIS FARM**

Please read the notes for Section C before completing questions 8 to 10. Tick (✓) as appropriate.

		Member of Family						
		Example	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
8 Sex	Male	✓						
	Female							

9 Time spent on agricultural work on this farm, as a proportion of the full working year	Less than ¼	✓						
	¼ to less than ½							
	½ to less than ¾							
	¾ to less than full							
	A full year							

10 Time spent working elsewhere	None							
	Same or less than on the farm							
	More than on the farm	✓						

\* If there are more than 6 family workers doing farm work, please provide details on a separate sheet, covering questions 8 to 10 for each.

**SECTION D: OTHER REGULAR WORKERS WORKING ON THIS FARM**

Please read the notes for Section D before completing questions 11 and 12. Tick (✓) as appropriate.

		Regular (Non Family) Worker						
		Example	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
11 Sex	Male	✓						
	Female							

12 Time spent working on this farm as a proportion of the full working year	Less than ¼	✓						
	¼ to less than ½							
	½ to less than ¾							
	¾ to less than full							
	A full year							

\* If there are more than 6 regular (non family) workers doing farm work, please provide details on a separate sheet, covering questions 11 and 12 for each.

Annex 2 : Copy of FSS questionnaire

**SECTION E: CASUAL AND SEASONAL WORKERS AND USE OF CONTRACTORS**

- 13** Have you employed any casual or seasonal labour on the farm in the past 12 months? Yes  No
- 14** If 'yes', please estimate the number of 'person-days' work done by casual workers  
*Example: 4 'casuals' for 20 days = 80 days*  Days
- 15** Did you employ contractors to carry out any work relating to crops or livestock? Yes  No
- 16** If 'yes', please estimate the number of 'person-days' work done by contractors and their staff. *Example: 3 workers for 2 days = 6 days*  Days

**SECTION F: FARM DIVERSIFICATION**

- 17** Does any non-agricultural activity take place on your holding? Yes  No
- 18** If 'yes', please tick a box beside any of the commercial enterprises listed which you run on this farm. Exclude mainstream farming, i.e. livestock breeding and rearing and crop production and exclude activities run by persons who are not part of your farm business.

Types of diversification	Tourism - accommodation	1	Aqua culture	7
	Tourism - other	2	Contracting / haulage	8
	Handicraft	3	Livestock haulage	9
	Processing of farm products	4	Leisure - equine activities, shooting etc.	10
	Wood processing	5	Direct sales	11
	Renewable energy production	6	Other commercial activities	12

- 19** Please give details of the diversification here  
*Example: horse livery, B&B, farm shop, bee keeping, etc.*
- 20** If you have ticked 'Tourism - accommodation' please indicate the number of beds  Beds
- 21** and during which months of the year are they available (e.g. June - Dec)
- 22** Does the diversification activity occupy anyone full-time throughout the year Yes  No

**SECTION G: DESIGNATED AREAS**

Does this farm lie partly or wholly within either of the designated areas described below? Please tick (✓) **one** box only

<b>23</b>	Yes	No	<b>24</b>	Yes	No
Natura Site/ Special Area of Conservation (1992 Habitats Directive)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Special Protection Area (1979 Birds Directive)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Declaration by owner/occupier**  
I declare that the information I have given on this form is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

If the signature opposite is not that of the addressee, please state reason you are signing e.g. 'manager', 'agent', 'owner abroad', etc.

Signature

Full Name PLEASE PRINT


Date

Reason for signing

Telephone No

**Please return this form in the enclosed pre-paid envelope**

Annex III : Copy of Agricultural and Horticultural Census 1 June 2007 Questionnaire  
(Page 1 of 4)

 <p><b>SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE</b> Environment &amp; Rural Affairs Department Science and Analysis Group</p>	Survey ID	Holding Number																																																																		
<p><b>Agricultural and Horticultural Census 1 June 2007</b></p> <p><b>Notice requiring Information by 15 June 2007</b></p>																																																																				
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<p><b>AGRICULTURE ACT 1947, SECTION 78 (As amended)</b></p> <p>As the occupier you must complete and return this form. The information you give should be as at 1 June 2007 except where otherwise stated. The completed form must be returned as soon as possible but no later than 15 June 2007.</p> <p>The information you provide is confidential and cannot be disclosed without your written consent, except as specified in Section 80 of the above Act and Section 12 of the European Communities Act 1972.</p> <p>Section 81 of the Agriculture Act states that anyone who fails to complete and return the form shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding £1,000. Penalties are also prescribed for knowingly or recklessly furnishing false information.</p> <p>The Scottish Executive Environment &amp; Rural Affairs Department Division AS1, 1A Pentlands House 47 Robb's Loan Edinburgh EH14 1TY</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Richard Wakeford, Secretary</b></p>																																																																				
<p>If you need help or further information, please contact:</p> <p>Name: Telephone:</p>																																																																				

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4 Crops (see notes, Section 4)		Hectares (to nearest 0.01)		5 Grassland (see notes, Section 5)		Hectares (to nearest 0.01)	
1	Land set aside under the Single Farm Payment Scheme (Include non-food set-aside)			1	For mowing this season	Under 5 years old (including grass sown this year without a nurse crop)	
2	Wheat for combining			2		5 year grass and older (i.e. sown in 2001/2002 or earlier)	
3	Triticale for combining			3	For grazing this season	Under 5 years old (including grass sown this year without a nurse crop)	
4	Barley for combining	Winter		4		5 year grass and older (i.e. sown in 2001/2002 or earlier)	
5		Spring		5	TOTAL CROPS AND GRASS (Total of Section 4 item 29 and items 1 to 4 above)		
6	Oats for combining	Winter		6	Rough Grazings - Mountain, Hill, Moor, Deer Forest situated within the farming unit, enclosed or not. Do not include: woods, roads, etc., share in common grazings or land taken seasonally		
7		Spring		7	Woodland - total area of woodland (other than orchards) forming part of the holding, including woodland used for commercial or amenity purposes, and forest trees		
8	Mixed Grain for threshing (only mixtures of wheat, barley and oats or any 2 of these)			8	Other land - i.e. roads, yards, buildings (excluding glasshouses in use), ponds, derelict land, etc.		
9	Rape for oilseed	Winter		9	AREA OF ALL LAND to which this form relates Total of Section 5 items 5 + 6 + 7 + 8 above. (Must agree with Section 2 item 11 on page 1)		
10		Spring		6	Vegetables for human consumption (see notes, Section 6)		
11	Linseed			Hectares (to nearest 0.01)			
12	Potatoes intended mainly for seed			1	Peas for canning, freezing or drying (Not green peas for market or peas for stock feed)		
13	Potatoes intended mainly for ware	Earlies intended for harvesting on or by 31 July		2	Beans for canning, freezing or drying (Not fresh beans for market or beans for stock feed)		
14		Main crop intended for harvesting after 31 July		3	Leeks		
15	Beans for combining			4	Turnips and swedes		
16	Peas for combining			5	Cabbages and savoys	Summer/Autumn	
17	Lupine			6		All other	
18	Turnips and swedes for stock feeding (Not for human consumption)			7	Brussels sprouts		
19	Kale and cabbage for stock feeding (Not for human consumption)			8	Calabrese		
20	Rape for stock feeding (Not oilseed rape)			9	Cauliflower, broccoli-heading varieties		
21	Maize			10	Carrots		
22	Fodder beet			11	Lettuce		
23	Other crops for stock feeding including cereal crops for silage (Not grass)			12	Rhubarb		
24	Vegetables for human consumption grown in the open (must agree with Section 6 item 15)			13	Other vegetables - grown in the open (Not tomatoes or other glasshouse crops)		
25	Orchard fruit - apples, plums, etc. for sale or manufacture. Include land planted with maiden trees, but exclude fruit stocks (see Section 3 item 4)			14	Mixed vegetables - areas of individual crops which are too small to be shown separately		
26	Soft fruits (must agree with Section 7 item 5)			15	TOTAL VEGETABLES (must agree with Section 6 item 24)		
27	Other crops not included above (not grass). See notes, Section 4. Do not include set-aside land						
28	Bare fallow land - do not include set-aside land						
29	TOTAL CROPS, FALLOW AND SET-ASIDE LAND (Items 1 to 28 above)						
Item 27 above (Other crops). If crops other than glasshouse crops, bulbs, flowers and nursery stock are included, enter the total area in the box below.							
30	Unspecified crops - total area						
31	Please name any unspecified crops in this box, e.g. " lucerne, 5 hectares"						

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7 Soft fruit grown in the open (see notes, Section 7) Hectares (to nearest 0.01)		10 Poultry (see notes, Section 10)		Number		
1	Strawberries		1 Fowls laying eggs for eating	Hens in the laying flock	Hens in first laying season	
2	Raspberries		2	Moulted hens		
3	Blackcurrants		3	Pullets being reared for laying		
4	Mixed and other kinds of soft fruit - including those above which as individual crops are too small to be shown separately		4	Females laying eggs for breeding	To hatch layer chicks	
5	TOTAL SOFT FRUIT (must agree with Section 4 Item 26)		5		To hatch table chicks	
6			6	Cocks		
8 Bulbs, flowers and nursery stock grown in the open (see notes, Section 8) Hectares (to nearest 0.01)		7		Broilers and other table fowls		
1	Bulbs grown for the production of dry bulbs and/or cut flowers in the open		8	Turkeys		
2	Other flowers for cutting in the open not from bulbs, incl. land prepared for the crop		9	Ducks		
3	Bedding + pot plants grown in the open		10	Geese		
4	Hardy nursery stock in the open	Fruit stocks - spawn beds, runner beds, stool beds and young plants intended for sale	11	Other poultry		
5		Roses and rose stocks	12	TOTAL POULTRY (Items 1 to 11 above)		
6		Shrubs	13 Apart from ducks and geese, do any of the above poultry have access to the outside? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			
7		Ornamental trees (not forest trees)				
8		Other nursery stock - herbaceous plants, alpinas, etc. (not forest trees)				
9	TOTAL (should also be included in Section 4 Item 27)		11 Cattle			
Glasshouses and protected crops		Square metres		Number		
10	Glass-houses	"Walk-in" plastic structures	1	Cows and heifers in milk		
11		Glass clad structures	2	Dairy		
12	Area of which is Tomatoes		3	Beef		
13	Area of which is Other Fruit		4	Cows in calf but not in milk		
14	Area of which is Vegetables		5	Dairy		
15	Area of which is Bedding and Pot Plants		6	2 years old and over		
16	Area of which is Hardy Nursery Stock		7	Dairy		
9 Pigs		Number		8	Beef	
1	Sows in pig		9	2 years old and over		
2	Glits in pig		10	1 year old and under 2		
3	Other sows for breeding		11	Male		
4	Barren sows for fattening		12	2 years old and over	Female	For breeding
5	Glits 50kg and over, not yet in pig, but expected to be used for breeding		13			Dairy
6	Boars being used for service		14			Beef
7	All other pigs (not entered above)	110kg liveweight and over	15	Not for breeding		
8		80kg and under 110kg liveweight	16	1 yr old and under 2		
9		50kg and under 80kg liveweight	17	1 yr old and under 2	Female	For breeding
10		20kg and under 50kg liveweight	18			Dairy
11		Under 20kg liveweight	19			Beef
12	TOTAL PIGS (Items 1 to 11 above)		20	6 months old and under 1 year		
				21	Male	
				22	Female	
				23	Under 6 months old	
				24	Male	
				25	Female	
				26	TOTAL CATTLE (Items 1 to 22 above)	



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<p><b>12</b> Calves and store cattle sold/bought, excluding those for immediate slaughter (see notes, Section 12) <span style="float:right">Number</span></p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:5%; text-align:center">1</td> <td style="width:20%;">Calves and store cattle sold from 2 June 2006 to 1 June 2007</td> <td style="width:20%;">Under 6 months old</td> <td style="width:10%; text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="width:10%; text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="width:10%; text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="width:10%; text-align:center">[ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align:center">2</td> <td></td> <td>6 months old and under 1 year</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align:center">3</td> <td></td> <td>1 year old and under 2</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align:center">4</td> <td></td> <td>2 years old and over</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align:center">5</td> <td rowspan="3">Calves and store cattle bought from 2 June 2006 to 1 June 2007</td> <td>Under 6 months old</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align:center">6</td> <td>6 months old and under 1 year</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align:center">7</td> <td>1 year old and under 2</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align:center">8</td> <td></td> <td>2 years old and over</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> <td style="text-align:center">[ ]</td> </tr> </table>	1	Calves and store cattle sold from 2 June 2006 to 1 June 2007	Under 6 months old	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	2		6 months old and under 1 year	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	3		1 year old and under 2	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	4		2 years old and over	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	5	Calves and store cattle bought from 2 June 2006 to 1 June 2007	Under 6 months old	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	6	6 months old and under 1 year	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	7	1 year old and under 2	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	8		2 years old and over	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	<p><b>16</b> Labour - Occupier/spouse doing farm work (see notes, Section 16)</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; 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**FARM STRUCTURE SURVEY 2007**

**NATIONAL METHODOLOGICAL  
REPORT**

**MEMBER STATE: WALES (UNITED KINGDOM)**

## SUMMARY

UK results are compiled by the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) from separate data collected in Wales, England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Results for Wales for the 2007 Structure Survey have been collected by the Welsh Assembly Government.

The Welsh design, methodology and operation of the survey are closely based on that for England. Some functions – such as form despatch and data capture – are still performed jointly.

The Welsh Assembly Government maintains a register of farm holdings in Wales for statistical purposes. All known holdings on the register are allocated a unique identifier. The Agricultural Statistics team at the Assembly maintains this register. The workings of the Welsh register are based on the register in England maintained by DEFRA. Arrangements exist to ensure that a holding with land in both countries is registered only once.

Data for the 2007 Structure survey was collected from three sources in Wales.

- June 2007 Agricultural Survey. Regular postal sample survey to collect information about land and livestock on farms in Wales. The survey also collects information about farm labour but this is not used in the Structure Survey.
- Labour survey March 2007. An additional postal sample survey to cover the agricultural labour questions for the Structure Survey. The survey also carried the diversification questions.
- Administrative sources were used to supply results for numbers of cattle on a holding; organic farming and the environmental schemes.

Given the similarity in the questions for this and previous Structure Surveys no piloting was specifically undertaken.

Estimated data for land areas and livestock numbers have been provided for holdings that were not selected for the June survey or did not respond to it. For the Labour Survey a smaller number is required and so we have not attempted to impute values for all missing holdings. The data include raising factors to scale the survey results to overall population estimates.

The administrative sources provide definitive information for the holdings in the particular schemes. The administrative data are linked to the statistical results using unique holding identifiers.

Provisional and final results from the June 2007 Agricultural Survey have been published:

- Provisional June 2007 results published 2 October 2007 (SDR143/2007)
- Final June 2007 results published 29 November 2007 (SDR186/2007)

Results from the Labour survey have not yet been published. A table on the age distribution of principal farmers will be included in the next volume of “Welsh Agricultural Statistics” to be published in spring 2009.

A consideration of the data quality issues for the June Survey, and its implications on how the results can be used, was published in August 2007. This was entitled “Agricultural Small Area Statistics Bulletin” (SB39/2007).

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 History, scope**

#### History

There has been an annual agricultural survey in England and Wales since 1866. Initially run as a census it covered land areas and livestock numbers. In 1921 it was expanded to cover data on farm labour. The survey has always been postal and takes place at the beginning of June each year.

Since 1995 the survey has been based on a sample rather than being a full census. A full census is run periodically, the last being in June 2000 and the next will be 2010.

#### **Scope**

In June 2007 survey returns were sent to 13,500 holdings in Wales out of a total of 37,000 known holdings. The survey is stratified by the economic size of the holdings. The selection of the survey is described below.

To run the Agricultural Survey the Welsh Assembly Government maintains a register of farm holdings. While there is no compulsory register of farms in the UK the statistical register represents the best attempt at a register of all farms. The register carries general contact details for each holding.

The classification of known farms on the register into Robust Farm Type and economic size group is derived from data from the annual June Agricultural Survey. This information is used to obtain the optimal stratification for sample surveys. It is also used administratively for providing the names and addresses of holdings with particular types of livestock in the event of disease outbreak or for mail shots directed at certain holding types.

Communication between the Assembly and farmers can be in either English or Welsh. The register records the language that individual farmers would prefer to use. English and Welsh versions of the questionnaires are produced. In any telephone contact the farmer can conduct the call in Welsh if desired.

### **1.2 National legislation**

#### National Farm Survey Legislation

In England and Wales the legal basis for the collection of agricultural statistical data is the Agricultural Statistics Act 1979 (as amended by the Agriculture (Amendment) Act 1984) which imposes a statutory requirement on all occupiers to complete and return their questionnaires. This legislation does not need to be updated or amended to allow for new surveys or for additional questions. There is provision within the Act to prosecute those that do not

respond to the survey, without reasonable excuse. The maximum financial penalty that can be imposed is currently £1,000.

There is also a requirement to minimise the burden on respondents wherever possible. This is in line with EU Council Regulation (REC) No. 322/97 on Community Statistics, and Office of National Statistics guidelines in “Statistical Surveys Guide to Best Practice”. Administrative data, such as that from IACS, has therefore been incorporated where a close match has been identified between previous IACS and June Survey returns.

The Agricultural Statistics Act requires that farmers complete the June survey when they are selected in the sample. The additional labour survey, however, is a voluntary survey and is conducted under the terms of the Government Statistical Service Code of Practice. There is therefore no legal requirement for respondents to complete the labour questionnaire.

### **1.3 Main changes since 2000**

The main changes apply to the June Agricultural Survey. For the 2000 Structure Survey the June results were derived from a full census of agricultural main holdings.

- The June survey is now a sample survey going to some 13,500 holdings in Wales (see section 3.4).
- The distinction between main and minor holdings has been dropped. All known holdings are now included in the scope of the June survey (see section 3.3).
- The 2007 survey did not ask for information about cattle. Cattle information came from the Cattle Tracing System. The link between the survey and administrative data was through the unique farm identifier.
- In 2007 the Labour survey for Wales was run in March rather than October as for previous Structure Surveys.

Minor changes are made from time to time to try and make the form easier for farmers to complete. The main changes to the survey are those detailed above.

## **2. CONTENT**

### **2.1 Characteristics and reference period**

The information for Wales was collected according to the Commission Decision 98/377/EC amending Annex 1 to Council Regulation 571/88/EC.

The reference periods for the sources used in Wales were as follows:

- June Survey areas and livestock numbers as at 1 June 2007
- Labour Survey – number and ages of farm workers as at 1 March 2007

The climate, soil quality and topography of Wales mean that agriculture is largely based on raising livestock on permanent pasture and rough grazing. Growing arable or horticultural crops is largely restricted to the coastal zone and sheltered valleys. Taken together arable crops and horticulture account for less than 5% of the agricultural land in Wales. The pig and poultry sectors in Wales are also relatively small, with production concentrated in a small number of large holdings.

These factors make it impracticable to collect the full range detail from these small sectors in Wales. The following table summarises these approximations. These are in addition to variables that have been agreed as not significant or not available for the UK as a whole.

Sub total	Notes	Non-zero responses
Stockfeed	Includes turnips, swedes, fodder beet, mangolds, kale, cabbage, kohlrabi, rape and other crops grown for non-human consumption.	403
Total vegetables and salad grown in the open	Includes broad beans, runner beans, French beans, picked green peas, vining peas and other vegetables and salad grown in the open for human consumption.	73
Total orchards and small fruit	Includes commercial and non-commercial orchards, strawberries, grapes, raspberries, blackcurrants, blackberries, gooseberries and other small fruit.	114
Glasshouses	Includes glasshouse in use and not in use on survey day. Includes those used for vegetables, salad, fruit, flowers and foliage for cutting and all other plants.	85
Hardy nursery stock	Includes christmas trees, perennials not cut for flowers and other hardy nursery stock. Excludes bulbs and flowers grown in the open.	31
Other poultry	Poultry excluding chickens and turkeys	384

To estimate the full level of detail for the Structure Survey these sub-totals have been distributed using historical patterns.

No data have been collected for F03 – land not being used for agricultural production but kept in good agricultural and environmental condition. This is intended to include pasture no longer used to graze animals and land taken out of crop production for the long term.

Using evidence from available experts in the Welsh Assembly Government suggest that while some of this land will exist in Wales the amounts will be limited. The active market in Wales for rented agricultural land provides an incentive not to let land fall out of production. Some agri-environment agreements require the exclusion of livestock from an area but these are rare. More usually the priority is to reduce stocking levels to an acceptable level.

The original intention for the UK was that this item was to be recorded as “not significant”. The surveys were conducted on this basis. This means that we have not been able to establish a plausible methodology to estimate this area for the 2007 survey. Work will be required to rectify this for 2010.

## **2.2 Questionnaire**

Two separate postal questionnaires were used:

- June Survey. Regular annual survey collecting information about land usage, changes to land area, livestock numbers (excluding cattle) and farm labour head counts. The labour and land change results from this survey were not required for the Farm Structure Survey.
- Labour Survey. Collecting the information required by the Structure Survey on the characteristics of farmers and their workforce and diversification information.

Copies of the questionnaires are attached.

## **3. SURVEY METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Survey organisation**

The surveys used to collect information for the Structure Survey in Wales were managed by the Statistics Directorate of the Welsh Assembly Government.

The Agricultural Statistics team is led by a statistician with 5 support staff. This team maintains the statistical register of farms, runs the surveys and analyses and disseminates the results. The team has one member of staff who is fully bilingual in English and Welsh. The team was the same individuals who were involved in the 2005 Structure Survey.

DEFRA has the lead in co-ordinating the UK response to the Structure Survey. They also lead on agreeing the requirements of the survey. To take advantage of economies of scale the printing and despatch of forms is done for us by DEFRA. The contract for data capture is also managed by DEFRA.

## **3.2 Calendar (overview of work progress)**

The June Survey is an annual survey. The Labour Survey is only run when required for Structure Survey. The timetable for the surveys was as follows:

Stage	June	Labour
Survey design completed	May 07	Feb 07
Sample chosen	25 May 07	23 Feb 07
Survey day	1 Jun 07	1 Mar 07
First reminder	25 Jun 07	4 Apr 07
Second reminder	14 Aug 07	4 May 07
Third reminder	14 Sep 07	N/A
Provisional results	2 Oct 07	N/A
Survey closed	9 Nov 07	May 07
Final results calculated	Nov 07	Jul 08
Final results published	29 Nov 07	N/A

The final Welsh Structure survey data set was sent to DEFRA in July 2008 to be incorporated into the UK results.

## **3.3 Planning the survey**

### **3.3.1 Population and frame**

#### **Definition of a holding**

The basic unit of enumeration is the holding. The guideline definition is pragmatic and operational and subject to agreement with the individual farmer. The holding comprises land on which agricultural activities are carried out and which is by and large farmed as one unit having regard to such supplies as machinery, livestock, feeding stuffs and manpower, and to distance between any separate areas of land involved and their type of farming. The farm business is operated by a "farmer" who is a single individual, a partnership of individuals, a limited company, or an institution of some kind. Some farm businesses occupy more than one holding.

From June 2002 the distinction between "main" and "minor" has been dropped. The sample for the agricultural surveys in Wales is now drawn from the full register of all holdings. Previous surveys had been drawn only from "main" holdings on the assumption that the contribution from the "minor" holdings was statistically insignificant.

#### **Register of farm holdings**

A statistical register of farm holdings in Wales is maintained by the Welsh Assembly Government. The register is continuously updated but there is no statutory requirement for holdings to register.

The four main sources of new register information are:

- Registration of new holdings is administered by the Divisional Offices of the Welsh Assembly Government.



- Administrative records such as the subsidy payment system will provide updated information mainly about names and addresses.
- Survey correspondence will identify name and address changes, business structure changes and closures.
- Maintaining the mailing lists for monthly farming magazine (“Gwlad”) will give information about name and address changes and also identify addresses that the Royal Mail cannot deliver to.

The statistical register is accurate for the majority of holdings in Wales. Particularly where the holding is known through the subsidy payments system. Tracing holdings that do not receive subsidy can be difficult. This can include specialist pig, poultry or horticulture producers or very small holdings.

Links between administrative systems and the statistical register are through a unique holding identifier. The two systems are maintained independently. Thus there is scope for minor discrepancies when one system is updated before the other.

### **3.3.2 Survey design**

The enumeration for the 2007 Structure Survey was by sample. Separate samples were taken for the June Survey and the Labour Survey. The Structure Survey questions were divided between these two surveys.

- June Survey. Land area and usage and livestock number questions. Data on cattle were collected separately using the Cattle Tracing System. The survey has a section of farm labour questions but these were not used for Structure Survey purposes.
- Labour Survey. Questions about the characteristics of farmers and farm workers and also diversification.

This avoids the possibility that a single farmer would have to answer the same question on different surveys. The larger farms are included in the sample for both surveys. Smaller farms are sampled and may be included in none, one or both of the surveys.

#### Stratification of the samples

The samples for the two surveys are stratified separately.

For the June survey the stratification was based on the economic size of the holding. The Labour Survey stratifies according to economic size and the farm type. The standard ESU groups and farm types are used in the stratification. Calculation of the stratification was carried out by DEFRA in accordance with the methodology set out in the English paper.

Once the optimum sample size within each strata had been calculated, then a random sample of this size was drawn from the strata population.

### **3.3.3 Pilot Survey**

Pilot surveys were not implemented since none of the surveys used to collect the data was significantly different from previous surveys.

### **3.3.4 Informing and training the staff and respondents**

#### Staff training

The June Survey forms a regular part of the work of the Agricultural Statistics team. Training is given to new staff and desk instructions are maintained. The desk instructions for the Labour survey were developed from the European documentation with the help of DEFRA statisticians. In 2007 Wales was fortunate that all the members of the team had also been involved in the 2005 Structure Survey.

#### Informing respondents

Various trade and farming organisations were contacted to gain their support for the survey. These contacts were largely through DEFRA working on an England and Wales basis.

## **3.4 Sampling, data collection and data entry**

### **3.4.1 Drawing the sample**

Within the sample strata the sample is drawn as a simple random sample.

### **3.4.2 Data collection and entry**

All the surveys were postal surveys. Farmers were provided with pre-paid reply envelopes. A helpline telephone number was given for farmers with queries about the surveys.

Average completion time for the questionnaires was:

- June survey – 30 minutes
- Labour Survey – 15 minutes

Data capture of the paper returns was through a contract managed by DEFRA for Wales and England. The captured data were sent on a CD by courier to the Assembly for final processing. The completed Welsh data set was sent as a database to DEFRA by secure e-mail. DEFRA then collated the full UK data set.

### **3.4.3 Control of the data**

A thorough check of returned forms is an integral part of the processing system. Prior to data capture all forms are subject to manual scrutiny for completeness and legibility. Once the data have been captured they are run through computer validation. This involves logic and consistency checks (including comparison with previous survey data) and reconciliation of area information to the recorded area of the holding. Where appropriate, differences are resolved through telephone contact with the occupier of the holding. A record is kept of the original return, any amended data and the person who made the amendment.

A validation procedure exists for returned forms, which checks the response for consistency and credibility. The validation rules used incorporate those required specifically by the Structure Survey.

### 3.4.4 Utilisation of administrative data sources

Administrative data were used in a small number of cases to flag when a holding was involved in a particular scheme. For the first time in 2007 all the cattle information was taken from the Cattle Tracing system.

Code	Description
CC05a	UAA for organic farming
CC05d	UAA under conversion
CC05e	Organic animal production
AO3	Areas with environmental restrictions
J02 to J08	Cattle information

The data for organic characteristics (CC05A, CC05D & CC05E) was taken from the United Kingdom Register of Organic Food Standards (UKROFS), which is explained in more detail in section 3.3.1 of this report. The organic data was matched to the FSS population using the unique holding number identifier (CPH). A CPH field was present in the UKROFS data, but it was imperfect. Where a valid identification number was not available, a manual exercise was carried out, matching holdings on key variables such as name, address or post code. The data collected on organic methods for animal production (CC05E) only recorded the presence of organic methods for animal production. Because of this it was impossible to distinguish between 'full' and 'partial' production methods so as result any presence of organic methods of animal production were recorded as 'full' in characteristic CC05E. Areas with environmental restrictions are derived from the definitive records of the NATURA2000 areas and Nitrate Sensitive Zones. Where the Assembly holds individual field level data a direct comparison between the holdings and the restricted areas can be made. The field level data are available for all single farm payment recipients. These recipients form the great majority of holdings agricultural land in Wales. For non-recipients an estimate is made of whether the holding has land in the restricted area using the address of the farm holding.

The information about numbers of cattle was derived from the Cattle Tracing System rather than survey data. This system covers all holdings with cattle in Great Britain but excludes Northern Ireland. Since the Cattle Tracing System requires all holdings with cattle to register this means that the data do not have the sampling errors associated with survey data.

There are issues with linking the Cattle Tracing System and survey information to give a full farm record. There are also issues because the administrative data does not collect the information in exactly the same way as the June Agricultural Survey. Defra have led on developing the appropriate links between the sources for farms in Wales and England. The details of this work can be found in the methodology report for England.

### 3.4.5 Non-response

Non-response was interpreted as questionnaires that were not returned at all.

Most farms in Wales will only have results for a small sub-set of the Structure Survey questions. Farmers are asked to strike out questions that do not apply to them. However, where questions are left blank a nil response to the question is assumed.

The share of forms sent out that were completed for the three surveys were:

Survey	Forms sent out	Responses received	Response rate
June Survey	13,500	7,300	54%
Labour Survey	14,500	9,300	64%

#### Action Taken

In common with many government surveys, the response rates to agricultural surveys have fallen sharply in recent years. The Agricultural Statistics team in Wales has given a lot of thought to how this trend can be countered.

As a routine part of the survey reminders are sent to holdings which have not yet returned their data. There were three reminders for the June Survey and two for the Labour Survey. The issuing of reminders is shown in the survey timetables in section 3.2, above.

As part of the reminder process particular effort is put into getting responses from the largest holdings. This is particularly so for the large pig and poultry producers where a single holding can make a significant contribution to the Wales total. Another key area is to try and get responses from holding that have not completed the survey for a number of years.

#### Reasons for Non-Response

The main reasons for non-response are clear from management of the survey – written comments on the forms and telephone queries and comments from farmers. The key reasons are as follows:

- Farmers see no benefit to responding to the surveys either for themselves or the industry. They are seen as pure bureaucratic burden.
- The volume and complexity of the data are seen as excessive.
- Farmers already complete vast amounts of data for their subsidy payments. They resent the additional statistical data collection.
- Farmers believe that there is duplication between the administrative and statistical data.
- Farmers are concerned that survey data will be used against them statutory bodies such as Revenue and Customs.

It is noticeable that the Labour survey achieved a higher response rate than the June Survey. This may suggest that farmers find it easier to complete tick boxes rather than writing in values or free text.

Compared to small business in other industries, farmers are still relatively good at completing surveys. When the farmers can see the benefit of the survey to their own farm, and the burden of the survey is proportionate to this benefit, then response rates can still be high.

### **3.5 Data processing, analysis and estimation**

#### **3.5.1 Methods for handling missing or incorrect data items**

Queries raised against the survey data are firstly checked against other survey returns and previous data. If this cannot clear the query then the farmers are contacted by telephone to correct or explain the query.

Where a June Survey form had not been returned, or the holding had not been selected for the sample, data were imputed for the holding. Imputation was based on the most recent base data available for the holding. To this base data a trend calculated from the survey data was applied. When there were sufficient results from the survey different trends were calculated for the different strata in the sample.

For the Labour Survey there was no attempt to impute results for individual holdings. Non-responding holdings were treated as if they had not been sampled and the raising factors calculated accordingly.

#### **3.5.2 Estimation and sampling errors**

Estimation and sampling errors occur because we do not have actual observations for all farm holdings in Wales. Missing results can be due to a holding either not being selected for the sample or failing to respond.

The following table gives results for some key land area and livestock results from the June 2007 Welsh Agricultural Survey.

	Values ('000)		Non-zero holdings ('000)		Average per holding (a)	Standard deviation (a)	Response share (b)
	Total	Responses	Total	Responses			
All land	1,460	484	32.9	5.8	44	85	33%
Grass (c)	1,306	435	32.0	5.7	41	80	33%
Crops (d)	67	24	4.2	1.2	16	31	36%
Sheep	8,987	2,964	15.1	3.3	597	857	33%
Poultry (e)	7,510	7,033	5.4	1.1	1,378	12,701	94%
Pigs	24	20	1.0	0.3	25	145	85%
Horses	46	10	7.6	1.5	6	9	21%

(a) - average and standard deviation calculated using only those holdings with a non-zero value

(b) - total from survey responses as a share of total estimated value

(c) - includes permanent pasture over 5 years, sole rights rough grazing and new grass under 5 years

(d) - all arable crops and horticulture

(e) - includes chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese and other fowls

For most of the variables the share from actual responses is around a third of the final estimate. The figures for pigs and poultry are particularly high because these animals are largely concentrated on a few very large holdings. The small number of large units can be targeted individually.

Since the results are taken from an administrative source, rather than the survey, cattle data are excluded from this table.

### 3.5.3 Non sampling errors <sup>(1)</sup>

#### Coverage errors

There is no compulsory register of farms in the UK therefore there is scope for coverage error. The statistical register has good coverage for most purposes. The coverage will be at its best for farms that are in receipt of subsidy payments. This will include the majority of holdings with sheep or cattle or arable crops. For these farms the main issue will be about how quickly the statistical register is notified of changes, new holdings and closures.

Specialist pig, poultry and horticulture producers may have more scope for coverage error. These holdings are often outside the subsidy payments system. Also for these types of holdings the production tends to be dominated by a few very large producers. Thus missing a single large producer may be more significant than in other sectors.

Very small holdings are also difficult to track. This is partly because they are often outside the subsidy payments system, the owners often do not consider themselves to be “farmers” and also because of the volume of change in this sector. The very small holdings are not generally statistically significant with less than 1% of the Wales total for most agricultural variables (although horses are an exception).

The four main ways to reduce the coverage error have been employed in Wales

- Improving links with the subsidy administration system and so speeding up the maintenance of the statistical register.
- Targeting large non-responders so that we have up to date information about the key holdings.
- The register has benefited greatly from the introduction of a monthly farming magazine issued by the Welsh Assembly Government. The magazine is known as “Gwlad” (which is the Welsh for “country”). This gives a regular source of up to date address information since farmers appear keen to continue to receive it. It also gives early warning when an address falls out of use because the magazine is returned undelivered.
- Register cleaning exercises. Prior to 2007 there was an exercise to look at holdings for which we had not had a response for a long time or which recorded no agricultural activity (dormant holdings). The exercise attempted to confirm the status of the holding as either live or dead.

#### Measurement errors

Most of the variables on the Structure Survey should be virtually free from measurement error. The crop and livestock categories have a long history and are understood by farmers. There may be some scope for mis-allocation between categories – for example on the weights of pigs. Any such mis-specification is not thought to be significant.

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<sup>(1)</sup> *Non-sampling error* is the error attributable to all sources other than sampling error. Non-sampling errors arise during the planning, conducting, data processing and final estimation stages of all types of survey.



The main area for concern in the June Agricultural Survey is for the labour questions. These questions are not used for Structure Survey purposes.

### **Processing errors**

The scope for processing error is limited by the validation checks. Spot checks on the data that we receive from the data capture contractor confirm the accuracy of the data capture.

### **Non-response errors**

Results from respondents may be taken as an accurate statement for the individual holding. The major source of error for the Structure Survey results comes from those holdings that do not have a response. These could be either holdings in the survey that did not respond or holdings that were not selected for the survey.

In Wales the proportion of the estimated total that comes from responses usually falls in the range from 30% to 40%. Thus between 60% and 70% of the total is imputed and so subject to non-response and sampling error.

Response rates in Wales vary by the economic size of the holding and the robust farm type. In keeping with the rest of the UK, response rates are higher for arable farms than livestock farms. In Wales the response rates are higher for smaller farms. This is largely because the larger farms in Wales are mainly livestock farms but elsewhere there is bigger share of large arable farms.

## **3.5.4 Evaluation of results**

The evaluation of the results from Welsh agricultural surveys has concentrated on an internal investigation of the impacts of the various data quality issues. This included some simple simulation work and some sub-sampling of the real data. The main conclusions of this work were:

- The results for an individual holding are accurate only for those holdings for which we have a response.
- The imputed values may not be good estimates of the true holding results particularly if the given holding has not responded for some time.
- The imputed values are, however, accurate *in aggregate*. The accuracy of the estimates depend primarily on being based on reasonably large numbers of holdings.
- The location of a holding can only be approximated. Flexible regions can be estimated by aggregating individual holdings but these estimates are, again, only accurate *in aggregate*.
- Maintenance of the register of farm holdings is crucial to the quality of the statistical estimates. The two major factors in keeping the register up to date appear to be regular contact with farmers and giving farmers an incentive to maintain contact.

The practical impact of this is that it is important to use results that are based on a sufficient number of responses. This is a balance between the desire for precision and the need for accuracy.

The data quality issues are discussed further in the Agricultural Small Area Statistics Bulletin (SB39/2007).

## **4. PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION**

The Welsh Assembly Government published agricultural statistics for Wales. The Assembly also contributes data to UK compendia volumes.

The following statistical releases contain results used in the 2007 Structure Survey.

- June Survey 2007 provisional results (SDR143/2007), 2 October 2007
- June Survey 2007 final results (SDR186/2007), 29 November 2007

The data quality and usage issues were considered in the Agricultural Small Area Statistics bulletin (SB39/2007).

These publications are all available on the statistical pages Assembly Internet site, along with many other general statistics publications, releases and bulletins.

A regular general volume of results (“Welsh Agricultural Statistics”) is published annually. There is also a pocket sized summary of Welsh agriculture (“Farming Facts and Figures”). These publications are available on the Assembly Internet site and as paper publications.

Results from the 2007 Labour Survey have not yet been published. Defra will in due course publish UK level results. A table showing the age distribution for principal farmers from the 2007 survey will be included in the next edition of “Welsh Agricultural Statistics”.

## **REFERENCES**

Statistical releases, bulletins and publications may be found on the statistics pages of the Welsh Assembly Government Internet site.

[www.wales.gov.uk/statistics](http://www.wales.gov.uk/statistics)

## **ANNEXES**

1. The Annual Agricultural and Horticultural Survey 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 – Survey Form
2. Survey of Labour on Agricultural and Horticultural Holdings 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007 - Survey Form

Annex 1: The Annual Agricultural and Horticultural Survey 1st June 2007 – Survey Form. Page 1 of 8.

Restricted – Commercial

The Survey Manager, FREEPOST NAT 8910  
SD6, Room 2-002, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3BR  
Tel No. 029 2082 5082/029 2082 5047 (English/Cymraeg)  
Fax: 029 2082 5350 e-mail: stats.agric@wales.gsi.gov.uk



ystadegau  
ar gyfer cymru  
statistics  
for wales



Ulywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

If there are any amendments or corrections to your name and/or address, please write them in this box.

Holding Number:

Recorded holding area:

ha

**The Annual Agricultural & Horticultural Survey**  
**1st JUNE 2007**

Mae yna ffurflen Gymraeg ar gael hefyd. Os hoffech gopi, cysylltwch a'r adran ar y rhif uchod, neu ticwch blwch V2

V2

**A. Ownership of land and area of the holding**

Please give all areas you farm to the nearest 0.1 hectare

**Permanently** is defined as land that is RENTED IN or LET OUT for **365 days** or **MORE**

**Seasonally** is defined as land that is RENTED IN or LET OUT for **364 days** or **LESS**

- **Has all the land been sold?**  
If YES please tell us who is now farming the land on the Comments section on Page 8 then sign the Declaration on Page 8.

NA51 Yes  1 No  2
- **Do you own the land but no longer farm e.g. retired or the land is not being used?**  
If YES please complete THIS PAGE & sign the Declaration on Page 8.

NA52 Yes  1 No  2
- **If all your land has been LET OUT only tick here & sign**  
Please indicate if the land has been LET OUT is PERMANENTLY or SEASONALLY let and sign the Declaration on Page 8.

NA50A Permanently  3 Seasonally  4

Hectares

<p>■ <b>Land OWNED at the 1st June 2007</b> <i>(include all land that is let out but is OWNED)</i></p>	H2	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	+						
<p>■ <b>Land RENTED IN at the 1st June 2007</b></p>	HC1	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	Which is rented in:						
<p>■ <b>Land LET OUT at the 1st June 2007</b></p>	HC6	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	Which is let out:						
<p>■ <b>TOTAL area at the 1st June 2007</b></p>	H10	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	=						

This will be the TOTAL AREA that is FARMED by this holding NOT the total area OWNED

THIS FORM IS COMPULSORY - PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN IMMEDIATELY.

Annex 1: The Annual Agricultural and Horticultural Survey 1st June 2007 – Survey Form. Page 2 of 8.

**Conversion tables**

The following tables provide approximate equivalents for use in completing your return

Acres to Hectares								Square feet to square metres				
Acres	1/4	1/2	3/4	1	10	100	1000	Square feet	10	50	100	1000
Hectares	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	4	40.5	404.7	Square metres	1	5	9	93

**Other holdings** Are there any other holdings in the same occupancy/partnership?  Q1 Yes  1 No  2

If YES please list the holding numbers (no spaces) of the other holdings in the group (you only need to do this on one form):

Q92A  Q92B  Q92C

**B. Arable crops and bare fallow (NOT on set aside)**

	Hectares	
<b>■ Cereals for combining</b>		
Wheat .....	A1	.
Winter barley .....	A2	.
Spring barley .....	A3	.
Oats .....	A4	.
Other cereals for combining .....	AC4	.
<b>Other cereals for combining - Box AC4</b> Include mixtures of grain crops with other grain or peas, beans etc. sown together & intended for combining, rye for threshing and mixed corn and triticale.		
<b>■ Potatoes (including seed potatoes)</b>		
Potatoes already harvested or intended for harvesting by 31 July .....	A10	.
Potatoes intended for harvesting after 31 July .....	A11	.
<b>■ Crops for human consumption</b>		
Field beans and peas for harvesting dry .....	AC3	.
Maize .....	AS1	.
Oilseed rape (winter & spring) (not on set aside) .....	AC5	.
<b>■ Crops for stockfeeding</b>		
Maize (green maize, Indian corn) .....	AS2	.
Lupins (all types) .....	AC6	.
All other crops for stockfeeding .....	AC7	.
<b>All other crops for stockfeeding - Box AC7</b> Exclude grass to be used for hay or silage. These should be entered in Boxes G1 and/or G2 on Page 3.		
<b>■ Other crops not mentioned above EXCLUDING grass for hay/silage</b> (please name and give area in ha)		
A31A e.g. sugar beet	A	.
A31B e.g. kale	B	.
A31C e.g. hemp	C	.
<b>■ Bare fallow (NOT on set-aside)</b>		
	A32	.
<b>TOTAL AREA OF ARABLE CROPS &amp; BARE FALLOW</b>	<b>A99</b>	<b>.</b>

AHC/JME PB12583 (2007)

Annex 1: The Annual Agricultural and Horticultural Survey 1st June 2007 – Survey Form. Page 3 of 8.

**C. Horticultural activity at the 1st June 2007** (These totals will be used to conduct future and more detailed surveys)

■ TOTALAREA of vegetables & salad grown in the open	<b>B99</b> <input type="text"/>	Hectares	2
■ TOTALAREA of commercial orchards	<b>C1</b> <input type="text"/>	Hectares	3
■ TOTALAREA of non-commercial orchards	<b>C2</b> <input type="text"/>	Hectares	4
■ TOTALAREA of small (soft) fruit & grapes	<b>CC2</b> <input type="text"/>	Hectares	5
■ TOTALAREA of hardy nursery stock, bulbs & flowers grown in the open	<b>D99</b> <input type="text"/>	Hectares	6
■ TOTALAREA of glasshouse & plastic covered structures	<b>F99</b> <input type="text"/>	Hectares	7
	or	<b>F98</b> <input type="text"/>	Metres Square m <sup>2</sup>

Notes for Guidance  
Please see the enclosed insert for full Notes for Guidance for this section

**D. Grassland, rough grazing and woodland** (include clover, sainfoin, lucerne, areas used for hay, silage & grass seed)

■ Grass sown in 2003 or later.....	<b>G1</b> <input type="text"/>	Hectares	Of which: <b>R3A</b> <input type="text"/>	Area kept for grass seed (ha)
■ Grassland 5 years old or older.....	<b>G2</b> <input type="text"/>	Hectares	Of which: <b>R3B</b> <input type="text"/>	Area kept for grass seed (ha)
■ Rough grazing where you have sole rights	<b>G5</b> <input type="text"/>	Hectares		
■ TOTAL set-aside area.....	<b>GC1</b> <input type="text"/>	Hectares	Of which: <b>GC2</b> <input type="text"/>	Industrial crops on set-aside (ha)
			<b>G11</b> <input type="text"/>	All other set-aside land (ha)
■ Woodland.....	<b>G14</b> <input type="text"/>	Hectares		Woodland - Box G14 Include: coppice Exclude: orchards (see C1 & C2)
■ Other land not covered above (roads, yards, buildings, ponds, etc).....	<b>G17</b> <input type="text"/>	Hectares		
■ TOTALAREA OF GRASSLAND, ROUGH GRAZING & WOODLAND & OTHERLAND	<b>G99</b> <input type="text"/>	Hectares	8	

THE SUM OF THE BOXES 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 ON PAGES 2 & 3 SHOULD CORRESPOND TO THE AREA SHOWN AT H10 ON PAGE 1

■ Common land  
Do you graze any of your animals on common land? **GC3** Yes  1 No  2

Annex 1: The Annual Agricultural and Horticultural Survey 1st June 2007 – Survey Form. Page 4 of 8.

**E. People employed on the holding (remember to include yourself)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Managerial, supervisory and office work, preparation and marketing of produce and maintenance (ditching, etc);</li><li>• All persons normally engaged in agricultural or horticultural work;</li><li>• those who are not present/not working on the 1st June 2007;</li><li>• youth trainees on official schemes.</li></ul> | <p><b>Exclude:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gardeners, groundsmen, gamekeepers, grooms, farm shop workers, sales assistants in garden centres, domestic staff in the farm house, school children and work on capital investments (i.e. on new buildings, new equipment) etc</li><li>• Prison inmates &amp; students working on college farms;</li></ul> |
|---|--|

**Glossary of terms**

**Casual or regular:**

Casual labour refers to people employed for a fixed part or parts of the year which covers **1st June 2007**. Typically this period would not be in excess of 20 weeks. Such labour are deemed to be casual, irrespective of the number of hours worked. Employees working longer than a 20-week period should be viewed as regular labour and classed as either **full-time** or **part-time** (See below).

**Full time or part time**

This status is determined by the average number of hours worked per week. If this figure is **39 hours or more** it is deemed to be **full-time**; if it is **less than 39 hours** then the worker is deemed to be **part-time**.

**SECTION I - (QUESTION NUMBERS Q5A TO Q12A)**

**Principal farmer:** the person(s) who own(s) the land and who tends it. This also covers people who rent in land for more than a year at a time who, for the purposes of this return, are classed as the principal farmer.

(NB. if all the land is let out for a period of less than a year then you should indicate this at question HC6D on Page 1 and therefore the questions on labour need not be completed ).

**Spouse:** any spouses or (non-business) partners of people included above. Note that they should only be included if they work on the holding or assist in the running of the holding.

**Other business partners, directors and their spouses:** any people not already included who have financial and/or legal responsibility for the running of the holding. Also ensure to include any spouses or (non-business) partners if they work on the holding.

**SECTION II - (QUESTION NUMBERS Q17 TO Q20)**

**Salaried managers:** include anyone who is paid to undertake the day-to-day management of the holding (or part of the holding).

Do not include anyone already included in Section I.

**SECTIONS III AND IV - (QUESTION NUMBERS Q21A TO Q28B)**

All other workers (excluding contractors) who have not been included in either Section I or Section II above should be shown in these sections. Each worker should only be included once in one of questions Q21A to Q28B according to the following:

**Paid or unpaid:** paid workers should be shown in Section III and unpaid workers in Section IV. 'Paid' is defined as giving money in return of or, in exchange of services. 'Unpaid' is defined as providing services without payment i.e. unsalaried.

Annex 1: The Annual Agricultural and Horticultural Survey 1st June 2007 – Survey Form. Page 5 of 8.

**E. People employed on the holding** (REMEMBER TO COUNT YOURSELF AND EACH PERSON ONCE ONLY)

Please place **numbers** in these boxes **NOT** ticks or crosses

				Number of people		
<p><b>■ Section I</b> Principal farmers (holders), spouse and business partners</p> <p><b>REMEMBER TO COUNT YOURSELF AND EACH PERSON ONCE ONLY</b></p>	All principal farmers (holders)	Male	Full Time	Q5A		
			Part Time	Q6A		
		Female	Full Time	Q7A		
			Part Time	Q8A		
	Spouses of all principal farmers (who work on the holding)	Male	Full Time	Q5B		
			Part Time	Q6B		
		Female	Full Time	Q7B		
			Part Time	Q8B		
	Other business partners, directors and their spouses (who work on the holding)	Male	Full Time	Q9A		
			Part Time	Q10A		
		Female	Full Time	Q11A		
			Part Time	Q12A		
+						
<p><b>■ Section II</b> Salaried Managers</p>	Salaried managers	Male	Full Time	Q17		
			Part Time	Q18		
		Female	Full Time	Q19		
			Part Time	Q20		
+						
<p><b>■ Section III</b> PAID Workers</p> <p>‘PAID’ is defined as giving money in return of or in exchange of services.</p> <p><b>REMEMBER</b></p> <p>Exclude yourself &amp; each person if you have already been entered in Section I or II. See notes opposite for definitions of PART TIME, FULL TIME &amp; CASUAL.</p>	Family workers PAID	Male	Full Time	Q21A		
			Part Time	Q22A		
			Casual	QC9A		
		Female	Full Time	Q23A		
			Part Time	Q24A		
			Casual	QC10A		
	Non-family workers PAID	Male	Full Time	Q21B		
			Part Time	Q22B		
		Female	Full Time	Q23B		
			Part Time	Q24B		
+						
<p><b>■ Section IV</b> UNPAID Workers</p> <p>‘UNPAID’ is defined as providing services without payment i.e. unsalaried.</p> <p><b>REMEMBER</b></p> <p>Exclude yourself &amp; each person if you have already been entered in Section I or II. See notes opposite for definitions of PART TIME &amp; FULL TIME</p>	Family workers UNPAID	Male	Full Time	Q25A		
			Part Time	Q26A		
		Female	Full Time	Q27A		
			Part Time	Q28A		
	Non-family workers UNPAID	Male	Full Time	Q25B		
			Part Time	Q26B		
		Female	Full Time	Q27B		
			Part Time	Q28B		
+						
<b>TOTAL LABOUR</b>				<b>TOTAL AREA of Sections I + II + III + IV</b>	<b>Q98</b>	

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**F. Cattle at 1st June 2007**

Dairy and beef cattle information is now being collected from other administrative sources e.g. Cattle Tracing System (CTS), therefore there is no need for you to enter any beef or dairy cattle details on this Survey form.

**G. Sheep, rams and lambs on the holding at 1st June 2007**

■ **Breeding sheep and rams 1 year and over**

	Number
Ewes intended for further breeding .....	M1 <input type="text"/>
Ewes intended for slaughter or cull .....	M4 <input type="text"/>
+	
Ewes intended for first time breeding .....	M7 <input type="text"/>
Rams for service .....	M9 <input type="text"/>

**Further Breeding Box M1**  
Ewes and shearlings present on 1st June 2007 that have produced lambs between 1st June 2006 & 1st June 2007.

■ **Other sheep and rams NOT already entered above**

Other sheep (1 year and over) - female .....	M13 <input type="text"/>
Other sheep (1 year and over) - male .....	M14 <input type="text"/>

■ **All lambs under one year old .....**

M17

Please tick this box if the majority or all of your lambs have been sold or have gone to slaughter on or before the 1st June 2007.

Tick or Cross

MC17

**TOTAL OF SHEEP & RAMS & LAMBS**

M98

**H. Pigs on the holding at 1st June 2007**

Please tick this box if the pig numbers are reduced to zero, but you intend to restock .....

Tick or Cross  
L90

Please tick this box if you are rearing pigs for someone else under contract .....

L91

Please specify the name of the company for whom you are keeping pigs:

L92

and include pig numbers in the boxes below.

■ **Breeding pigs .....**

Number  
L60

■ **All other pigs and piglets .....**

Number  
L70

Box L60 - Breeding pigs - include:

- all sows in pig;
- gilts in pig;
- gilts expected to be used for breeding;
- boars being used for service.



Annex 1: The Annual Agricultural and Horticultural Survey 1st June 2007 – Survey Form. Page 7 of 8.

**J. Poultry at 1st June 2007** Do not include any bird in more than ONE category

Empty poultry sheds		Tick or Cross
If you usually keep poultry but all your sheds were empty on 1 June 2007 due to your turnaround cycle, please tick or cross here		N1 <input type="checkbox"/> 1
Hens and pullets kept for producing eggs for eating		Number
Growing pullets up to point of lay	N2	<input type="text"/>
Birds in laying flock	N3	<input type="text"/>
		+
Fowls for breeding		Number
Layer breeders	N5	<input type="text"/>
Broiler breeders	N6	<input type="text"/>
Cocks and cockerels	N7	<input type="text"/>
		+
■ Broilers - (table chicken)	N10	<input type="text"/>
		+
■ Turkeys - TOTAL number	N15	<input type="text"/>
		+
■ All other poultry - TOTAL number	NC6	<input type="text"/>
		=
<b>TOTAL POULTRY</b>	<b>N98</b>	<input type="text"/>

**All other poultry Box NC6**  
 Include :  
 ducks, geese, guinea fowl, ostriches, game birds, etc

**K. Other livestock on the holding at 1st June 2007**

Horses		Number
Horses and ponies owned by the occupier or the occupier's family .....	P1	<input type="text"/>
Horses or ponies not owned by the occupier or occupier's family .....	P2	<input type="text"/>
Goats		Number
Breeding females - dairy .....	P5	<input type="text"/>
Breeding females - not dairy .....	P6	<input type="text"/>
Other goats and kids .....	P7	<input type="text"/>
		<p><b>Goats - Boxes P5 and P6</b>                  Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nanny goats</li> <li>• goatlings which have been mated or have already kidded.</li> </ul>
Deer		Number
All farmed deer (not park or pet) .....	P10	<input type="text"/>
		<p><b>Deer - Box P10</b>                  Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• only those deer which are being kept for the production of meat or other foodstuffs, skins, other by-products or as breeding stock for this purpose, enclosed by a deer-proof barrier;</li> <li>• deer belonging or hired by you.</li> </ul>
Any other livestock		Yes/No
Including for example: donkeys, mules, hinnies, llamas, wild boar, etc.	P11	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 1 No <input type="checkbox"/> 2

Annex 1: The Annual Agricultural and Horticultural Survey 1st June 2007 – Survey Form. Page 8 of 8.

**L. Any other comments**

X99

Please use this space to provide any information you feel may be of interest to us. For example, if there are any major changes in farming activity since last year, a simple explanation here may avoid the need for us to trouble you further.

**M. Casual labour employed in the previous 12 months**

Please tick or cross each relevant box if you employed casual labour in the previous 12 months

Q50	July-September 2006	<input type="checkbox"/>	Q51	October-December 2006	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q52	January-March 2007	<input type="checkbox"/>	Q53	April-June 2007	<input type="checkbox"/>

**N. Miscellaneous questions**

■ **Mushrooms**

Have you grown mushrooms for commercial purposes in the past 12 months? ..... R1 Yes  1 No  2

■ **Vegetables, flowers and bulbs**

Do you expect to have more than 2 ha of vegetables, flowers and/or bulbs in the 2007/2008 growing season? ..... R2 Yes  1 No  2

■ **Seed and seedlings**

What area of your land do you expect to harvest for seed this year or use for growing seedlings? (Exclude grass seed which should be entered in Boxes R3A & R3B on Page 3) R3C  . ha

■ **Irrigation**

What is the TOTAL AREA area of all outdoor crops which you are able to irrigate this year (exclude liquid manure spreading)? R4  . ha

**P. Declaration**

(Before signing this declaration, please check that you have completed all relevant sections)

I declare that I have read the Notes for Guidance and I am authorised to sign this Declaration either as an individual holder, an agent, or as a member of this business partnership as per Section 3 of the Agricultural Statistics Act 1979.

Signature  Name (please print)

Status (Title)  e.g. owner, partner, etc Date

Telephone No. (incl. national dialling code) T

e-mail address if applicable E

We know you will only continue returning forms if you are confident that we respect the confidential nature of the data you supply. Details of your return are not disclosed outside this division of the Welsh Assembly Government except in accordance with the provisions of Section 3(2) of the Agricultural Statistics Act 1979 and the Data Protection Act 1998.

Could you please indicate the approximate length of time taken to complete this form VI  minutes

PB12583 AHC/JME (2007)

Annex 2: Survey of Labour on Agricultural and Horticultural Holdings 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007 - Survey Form. Page 1 of 4.

<p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e6b89c; margin: 0;">Restricted – Commercial</p> <p>National Assembly for Wales SD6, Room 2-002, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ Tel No. 02920 825082/02920 825047 (English/Cymraeg) Fax: 02920 825350 e-mail: stats.agric@wales.gsi.gov.uk</p>	<p>Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru National Assembly for Wales</p>
PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THE FORM IMMEDIATELY	
	<p style="font-size: small;">If there are any amendments or corrections to your name and/or address, please write them in this box.</p>
Holding Number:	Recorded holding area: <span style="float: right;">ha</span>

<b>SURVEY OF LABOUR ON AGRICULTURAL &amp; HORTICULTURAL HOLDINGS</b> <b>1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2007</b>	If all your land is permanently let/rented out on the 1st March 2007, you only need to tick here, sign, and return the form. <span style="float: right;">V3 <input type="checkbox"/></span>	Mae yna ffurflen Gymraeg ar gael hefyd. Os hoffech gopi, cysylltwch a'r adran ar y rhif uchod, neu tiwch yma <span style="float: right;">V2 <input type="checkbox"/></span>
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**A. Multiple groups of holdings**

Are there any other holdings in the same occupancy/partnership? H1  Yes <sub>1</sub> No <sub>2</sub>

We would prefer the information given on this form to relate to only ONE holding, but if it relates to more than one holding, please list the holding numbers below:

H99A <input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	H99B <input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	H99C <input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>
--	--	--

**B. Status of the farm business**

Is the responsibility of the holding taken by:

Tick one box only

<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>One or more individuals? (e.g. the principle farmer, and/or spouse or partner)</b> <span style="float: right;">BS1 <input type="checkbox"/></span></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>An institution (e.g. hospital, school, church, prison, etc.) or a limited liability company?</b> <span style="float: right;">BS2 <input type="checkbox"/></span></p>	<p><b>Please complete Section C below + Column I on Page Two + any other relevant column(s)</b></p> <p><b>Please complete Column IV on Page Two</b></p>
---	---

**C. Day to day running of the farm business**

*Who is mainly responsible for the day to day running of the farm?*

Tick one box only

<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>The Principal farmer (Holder)</b> <span style="float: right;">BS3 <input type="checkbox"/></span></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Holder's spouse</b> <span style="float: right;">BS4 <input type="checkbox"/></span></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other family member</b> <span style="float: right;">BS5 <input type="checkbox"/></span></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other non-family member</b> <span style="float: right;">BS6 <input type="checkbox"/></span></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">or</p> <p style="text-align: center;">or</p> <p style="text-align: center;">or</p> <p style="text-align: center;">or</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; font-size: small; text-align: center;">                 If either Boxes BS5 or BS6 are ticked, this person will have to be classified as the <b>Manager</b> at Column IV on Page Two             </div>
---	--

PLEASE ALSO READ THE INSERTED NOTES FOR GUIDANCE

Annex 2: Survey of Labour on Agricultural and Horticultural Holdings 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007 - Survey Form. Page 2 of 4.

**D. Principal farmers, their spouses/partners, other business partners and managers**

PLEASE ALSO READ THE INSERTED NOTES FOR GUIDANCE

- \* Please complete all questions by ticking **one box** for **each** Section ❶ through to ❺ in each **applicable** column.
- \* Each Section should have a tick

\* If there is more than one person (who works on the holding) for Columns I or II or III or IV, just account for one person on this page and then complete the Other Workers columns on Page 3

\* You must always complete the **Principal Farmer (holder)** details in **Column I** UNLESS there is no occupier - i.e. you ticked box **BS2** at **Section B**.

❶ Sex	Male
	Female

❷ Age Group	Under 25
	25-34
	35-44
	45-54
	55-64
65 & over	

❸ Time spent working on this farm as a proportion of the full working year	None
	Less than ¼
	¼ to less than ½
	½ to less than ¾
	¾ to less than full time
Full Time	

❹ Time spent working elsewhere	None
	Same or less than on the farm
	More than on the farm

❺ Agricultural training	Practical experience only
	Formal course lasting less than 2 yrs
	Formal course lasting at least 2 yrs

Please use a tick in the boxes NOT numbers   
At least ONE column must be ticked

I	II	III	IV
Principal farmer (holder)	Spouse of Principal farmer (holder)	Other business partner or director	Manager (who is not the principal farmer or spouse)
QL001	QL022	QL043	QL064
↓	↓	↓	↓
QL002	QL023	QL044	QL065
QL003	QL024	QL045	QL066
↓	↓	↓	↓
QL004	QL025	QL046	QL067
QL005	QL026	QL047	QL068
QL006	QL027	QL048	QL069
QL007	QL028	QL049	QL070
QL008	QL029	QL050	QL071
QL009	QL030	QL051	QL072
↓	↓	↓	↓
QL010	QL031	QL052	QL073
QL011	QL032	QL053	QL074
QL012	QL033	QL054	QL075
QL013	QL034	QL055	QL076
QL014	QL035	QL056	QL077
QL015	QL036	QL057	QL078
↓	↓	↓	↓
QL016	QL037	QL058	QL079
QL017	QL038	QL059	QL080
QL018	QL039	QL060	QL081
↓	↓	↓	↓
QL019	QL040	QL061	QL082
QL020	QL041	QL062	QL083
QL021	QL042	QL063	QL084

Annex 2: Survey of Labour on Agricultural and Horticultural Holdings 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007 - Survey Form. Page 3 of 4.

**E. Other workers doing farm work - Please complete ONE column for EACH worker**

**DO NOT COUNT ANYONE ALREADY ENTERED ON PAGE 2**  
**IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN FOUR WORKERS**  
**PLEASE CONTACT THE HELPLINE FOR CONTINUATION SHEETS**

Please complete by ticking **one box** for **each Section 6** through to **10** in **each** column for **each** worker.  
 See the example on the enclosed **Notes for Guidance**

How many other workers (excluding people entered on Page 2) are there doing farm work for this holding?		Number	Please use a tick in these boxes NOT numbers <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
		NA60 <input type="text"/>	Please account for all these workers	1st worker	2nd worker	3rd worker	4th worker
<b>6</b> Is this worker	PAID?			QL085	QL106	QL127	QL148
	UNPAID?			QL086	QL107	QL128	QL149
			↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
<b>7</b> Is this worker a	Family worker?			QL087	QL108	QL129	QL150
	Non family worker?			QL088	QL109	QL130	QL151
			↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
<b>8</b> Sex	Male			QL089	QL110	QL131	QL152
	Female			QL090	QL111	QL132	QL153
			↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
<b>9</b> Time spent working on this farm as a proportion of the full working year	None			QL097	QL118	QL139	QL160
	Less than ¼			QL098	QL119	QL140	QL161
	¼ to less than ½			QL099	QL120	QL141	QL162
	½ to less than ¾			QL100	QL121	QL142	QL163
	¾ to less than full time			QL101	QL122	QL143	QL164
Full Time			QL102	QL123	QL144	QL165	
			↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
<b>10</b> Time spent working elsewhere	None			QL103	QL124	QL145	QL166
	Same or less than on the farm			QL104	QL125	QL146	QL167
	More than on the farm			QL105	QL126	QL147	QL168

**F. Casual labour - please see Notes for Guidance on how to calculate Person-Days**

**Exclude:** Persons related to the holder

Have you directly employed any casual labour on the holding in the last 12 months?  F1 Yes  1 No  2

If YES please estimate the total number of **PERSON DAYS (1 person day = 8hrs)** worked by casual labour during each of the following periods.

Mar–May 2006  F4A  Jun–Aug 2006  F5A  Sep–Nov 2006  F6A  Dec 06–Feb 07  F7A

**G. Contract labour**

**Include:** Self employed or people employed by a third party e.g. relief agencies, gang labour.  
**Exclude:** Unpaid work under mutual aid arrangements, agricultural accountancy work, consultancy work.

Has any contract labour been engaged on the holding in the last 12 months?  G1 Yes  1 No  2

If 'YES' please estimate the total number of **PERSON DAYS** (1 person day = 8hrs) worked by contract labour during the last 12 months  G3  **Number of person-days**

Annex 2: Survey of Labour on Agricultural and Horticultural Holdings 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007 - Survey Form. Page 4 of 4.

**H. Non-agricultural activity**

Does any non-agricultural activity take place on your holding?  SC20 Yes  1 No  2

If YES then these activities should be accounted for in the appropriate box(es) below.

Please tick a box beside any of the commercial enterprises listed which you run on this holding:

Contracting/Haulage .....	<input type="checkbox"/> SC1	Livestock Haulage .....	<input type="checkbox"/> SC7
Renewable energy production .....	<input type="checkbox"/> S19	Tourism (Accommodation) .....	<input type="checkbox"/> SC8
Sport/Recreation .....	<input type="checkbox"/> SC3	Tourism (Other) .....	<input type="checkbox"/> SC9
Direct sales .....	<input type="checkbox"/> SC4	Beekeeping (apiculture) .....	<input type="checkbox"/> SC10
Processing/Food manufacturing...	<input type="checkbox"/> SC5	Any other activity.....	<input type="checkbox"/> SC6
Wood processing.....	<input type="checkbox"/> S17	Please list any other activities here:	
Aquaculture.....	<input type="checkbox"/> S18	<input type="text"/> SC99	

Do you employ anyone full time to work on any non agricultural activities?  S20 Yes  1 No  2

**L. Any other comments**

X99

Please use this space to provide any information you feel may be of interest to us. For example, if there are any major changes in farming activity since last year, a simple explanation here may avoid the need for us to trouble you further.

**J. Declaration (Before signing this declaration, please check that you have completed all relevant sections)**

I declare that I have read the Notes for Guidance within and enclosed and I am authorised to sign this Declaration either as an individual holder, an agent, or as a member of this business partnership as per Section 3 of the Agricultural Statistics Act 1979.

Signature  Name (please print)

Status (Title)  e.g. owner, partner, etc Date

Telephone No. (incl. national dialling code)  T

e-mail address if applicable  E

Tick here if you have completed and enclosed continuation sheets  V4

We know you will only continue returning forms if you are confident that we respect the confidential nature of the data you supply. Details of your return are not disclosed outside this division of the National Assembly for Wales except in accordance with the provisions of Section 3(2) of the Agricultural Statistics Act 1979 and the Data Protection Act 1998.

Could you please indicate the approximate length of time taken to complete this form  V1  minutes

FBI1342 AH02LME (0/07)