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Structure of agricultural holdings

Luxembourg 2003

A farm structure survey was carried out in all EU Member States in 2003 (2002 in Poland). The detailed results are now available for 10 Member States: Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Latvia, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Results for the other Member States will become available in the course of the next six months. This Statistics in Focus is part of a series of country-specific publications, all following the same structure.

* * *

In Luxembourg, in May, 2003 almost 2 300 agricultural holdings had an economic size of at least one ESU (European size unit)*, which means 12% decline compared to 2000.

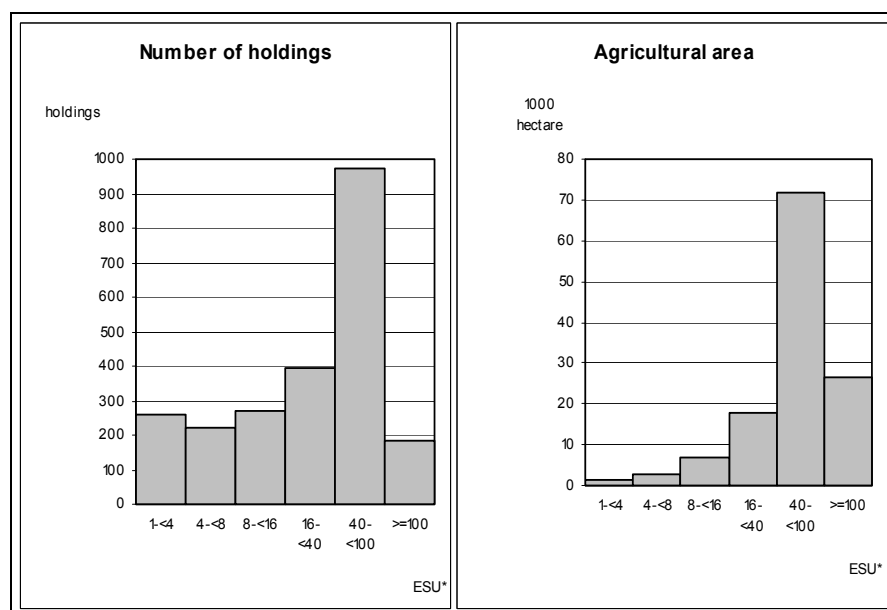
- These holdings employed 3 900 AWUs (annual work unit), the equivalent of 3 900 persons working full time;
- they made use of 127.5 thousand ha of agricultural area, which is on average 55.4 hectare per holding (compared to 48.2 ha in 2000).

Amongst these 2 300 agricultural holdings,

- 11% made use of less than one AWU, while 74% made use of 2 or more AWUs;
- 16% used less than 5 ha, while 15% used more than 100 ha;
- 16% were mixed holdings, while 84% were specialised: dairies 32%, producers on vineyards 16%, cattle fattening and rearing 11%, other grazing livestock 14%, field cropping 8%, others 4%;
- about 2% practised organic farming.

Amongst the 2 300 sole holders

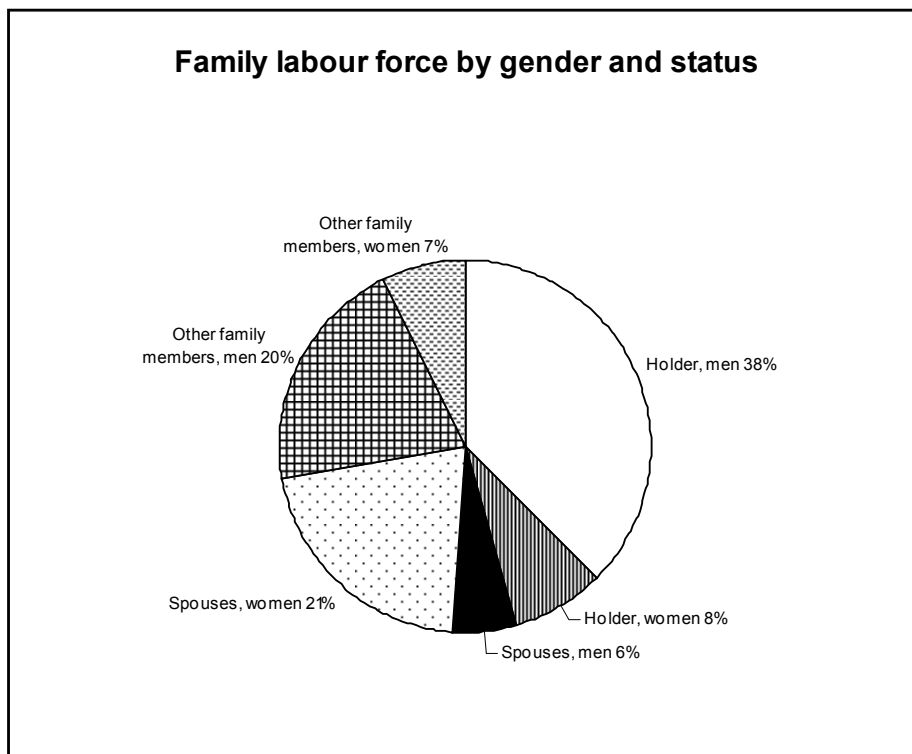
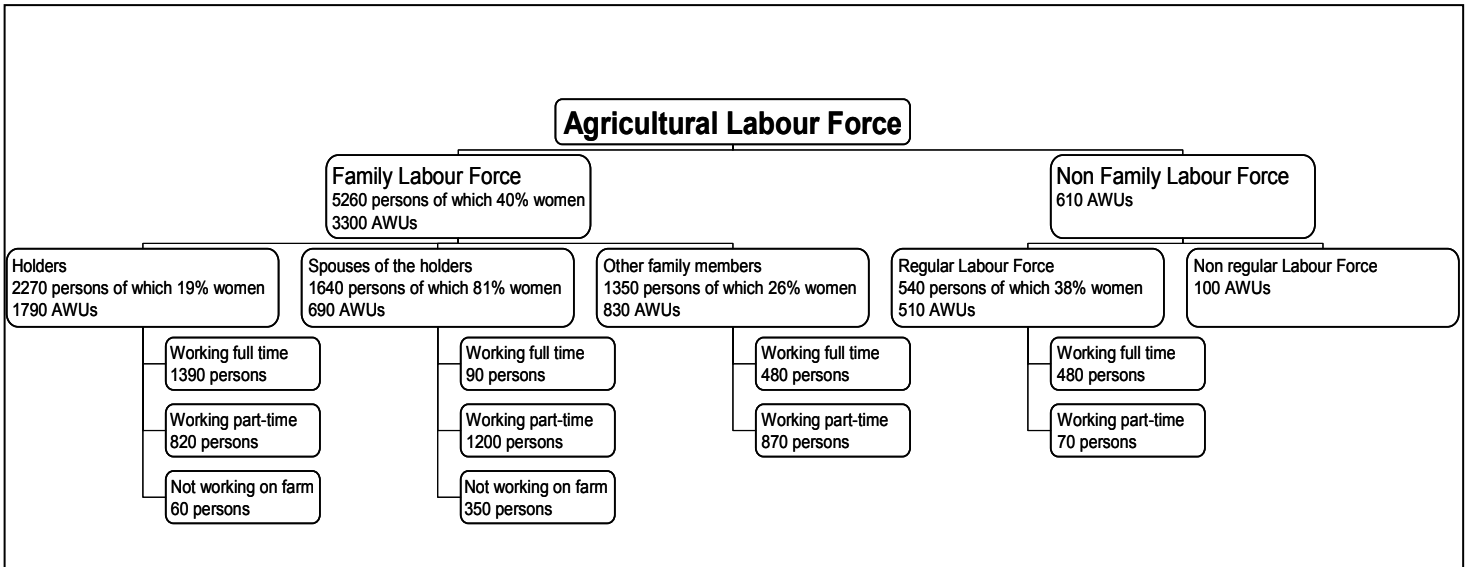
- 19% were women;
- 35% were aged 55 or more – 50% or more in holdings between 1 and 16 ESU;
- 9% had another gainful activity as major occupation.



* ESU measures the economic size of the holdings (see methodological notes).



Luxembourg, 2003 – Holdings of at least 1 ESU



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

Economic size (ESU)	<1	>=1	1-<4	4-<8	8-<16	16-<40	40-<100	>=100
Total labour force								
1000 annual work units	0.1	3.9	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.7	2.0	0.5
Family labour force								
1000 persons	0.2	5.3	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.8	2.4	0.6
1000 annual work units	0.1	3.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.5	1.8	0.4
Non-family labour regularly employed								
1000 persons	0	0.5	0	0	0	0.1	0.3	0.1
1000 annual work units	0	0.5	0	0	0	0.1	0.2	0.1
Non regular non family labour force								
1000 annual work units	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0.1	0
Holding managers (1000)	0.1	2.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	1.0	0.2
- women (%)	24.3	12.2	19.1	23.5	27.0	14.7	4.7	1.6
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	76.4	12.6	58.0	33.5	19.3	3.6	0.2	0
- 50 % and over (%)	21.6	20.0	35.4	52.0	47.4	18.0	5.4	1.6
Sole/main holders (1000)	0.1	2.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	1.0	0.2
- women	22.3	19.1	23.7	34.4	38.1	25.0	9.3	5.5
- distribution by age (%)								
- under 35 years	5.4	8.6	4.3	2.3	3.7	7.7	11.5	15.3
- from 35 to 44 years	15.5	25.0	14.6	15.3	16.0	23.7	32.3	27.9
- from 45 to 54 years	20.9	31.1	22.5	17.7	28.7	31.4	36.4	33.9
- from 55 to 64 years	18.2	19.5	22.5	25.6	23.5	23.5	14.2	21.3
- 65 years and over	39.9	15.8	36.0	39.1	28.0	13.7	5.6	1.6
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	72.3	13.2	55.7	32.6	22.4	5.7	0.6	1.1
- 50 % and over (%)	17.6	22.8	34.0	48.4	43.3	22.9	11.8	4.9
- with another gainful activity ¹ (%)	45.5	14.7	40.4	29.8	25.8	13.9	5.0	1.8
- as main occupation	43.9	8.7	38.6	22.1	15.2	3.0	0.3	0
- as a subsidiary occupation	1.5	6.0	1.8	7.7	10.6	10.9	4.7	1.8
Spouse of sole holder (1000)	0.1	1.6	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.7	0.2
- women (%)	85.7	80.7	77.6	69.4	55.6	69.1	91.0	94.1
- distribution by age (%)								
- under 35 years	3.9	9.8	4.5	2.8	2.2	5.7	14.2	15.7
- from 35 to 54 years	40.3	57.9	37.8	40.3	40.6	57.6	67.5	69.3
- 55 years and over	55.8	32.3	57.7	56.9	57.2	36.6	18.3	15.0
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	35.1	20.9	41.7	41.0	26.7	21.0	12.1	16.3
- 50 % and over (%)	6.5	52.5	12.2	26.4	53.3	51.5	64.0	62.7
- with another gainful activity (%)	11.7	14.3	14.7	29.2	29.4	18.3	8.2	4.6
- as main occupation	11.7	10.5	12.8	25.0	25.6	13.7	4.2	2.0
- as a subsidiary occupation	0	3.8	1.9	4.2	3.9	4.6	4.0	2.6
Other members of the holder's family working on the holding (1000)	0	1.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.2
- women (%)	38.1	26.1	32.2	14.9	26.2	28.6	26.2	25.6
- part-time - under 50 % (%)	85.7	33.8	78.0	74.3	63.1	38.9	26.7	14.3
- 50 % and over (%)	9.5	30.6	18.6	21.6	27.2	28.1	34.5	28.2
- with another gainful activity (%)	52.4	15.3	50.8	52.7	47.6	21.1	6.6	1.7

¹ Only holders being also farm managers.

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

Economic size (ESU)	<1	>=1	1-<4	4-<8	8-<16	16-<40	40-<100	>=100
Holdings								
- total number (1000)	0.1	2.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	1.0	0.2
- by legal personality of the holder (%)								
- sole holder	100.0	98.7	98.4	97.3	99.3	98.5	99.1	98.4
- legal person	0	1.3	1.6	2.7	0.7	1.5	0.9	1.6
- group holders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- by employed labour force (%)								
- under 1 AWU	75.7	10.6	52.5	29.9	13.7	1.5	0	0
- from 1 to less than 2 AWU	22.3	15.6	38.5	49.8	41.1	8.9	0.4	0
- from 2 to less than 3 AWU	2.0	42.6	7.4	17.2	37.8	70.6	52.0	20.4
- 3 AWU and over	0	31.2	1.6	3.2	7.4	19.0	47.6	79.6
- by agricultural area (%)								
- under 5 ha	71.6	16.3	52.1	29.0	20.4	18.8	4.7	1.1
- from 5 to less than 20 ha	27.7	16.1	45.1	48.9	11.5	2.3	8.9	10.2
- from 20 to less than 50 ha	0.7	18.9	2.7	21.7	64.1	37.1	6.1	0.5
- from 50 to less than 100 ha	0	33.8	0	0.5	4.1	39.1	60.0	15.6
- 100 ha and over	0	14.9	0	0	0	2.8	20.3	72.6
- by livestock size (%)								
- without livestock	14.9	19.7	28.8	33.5	25.2	22.8	13.2	10.2
- under 10 LSU	85.1	10.3	59.1	18.1	8.9	3.3	0.8	0.5
- from 10 to less than 20 LSU	0	5.7	12.1	23.5	12.6	3.3	0.1	0
- from 20 to less than 50 LSU	0	13.2	0	24.9	47.0	26.6	1.5	0.5
- from 50 to less than 100 LSU	0	24.0	0	0	6.3	34.8	40.3	2.7
- 100 LSU and over	0	27.1	0	0	0	9.1	43.9	86.0
- by farm type (%)								
... specialist cereals, oil seed and protein crops	2.0	7.2	13.6	19.9	15.9	9.6	0.5	0.5
... general field cropping	3.4	0.6	1.9	0.5	1.5	0.8	0.1	0
... specialist horticulture	0	1.1	2.3	0.9	2.6	1.8	0.4	0
... specialist vineyard	0	15.6	19.5	23.5	16.7	16.2	12.9	11.3
... specialist fruit and citrus fruit	0	0.2	0.8	0.5	0	0.3	0.1	0
... specialist olives	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
... various permanent crops combined	0	0.7	0.4	1.4	0.7	1.0	0.4	0.5
... specialist dairy farming	0	32.3	0.4	0.5	2.2	25.6	58.4	35.5
... specialist cattle – rearing and fattening	9.5	11.2	10.5	24.0	25.6	18.5	3.3	2.2
... cattle – dairy farming, rearing and fattening combined	0	7.9	0	0	1.9	3.6	13.4	16.7
... sheep, goats and other grazing livestock	52.7	6.1	34.2	12.2	5.6	1.8	0.2	0.5
... specialist granivores	4.1	1.6	0.8	0.9	0.4	2.0	1.1	6.5
... mixed cropping	2.7	1.2	2.7	2.3	2.6	1.3	0.2	1.1
... mixed livestock, mainly grazing livestock	5.4	3.0	5.4	3.6	1.5	3.0	2.1	5.4
... mixed livestock, mainly granivores	3.4	1.5	0	0	0	1.3	1.8	5.9
... field crops – grazing livestock combined	0.7	8.8	5.4	10.0	20.7	11.9	4.1	12.4
... various crops and livestock combined	5.4	1.2	1.9	0	2.2	1.3	0.8	1.6
- by farming methods (%)								
- organic farming	0	1.6	1.2	1.4	1.1	3.6	1.2	0.5
- irrigating	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- with crops under glass	0	1.3	1.6	1.4	3.0	2.3	0.7	0
- % in less favoured or mountain area	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

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

Economic size (ESU)		<1	>=1	1-<4	4-<8	8-<16	16-<40	40-<100	>=100
Area	(1000 ha)								
• Total area of agricultural holdings		0.9	137.3	1.8	3.5	7.7	20.1	76.3	27.9
• H. Other area		0.2	9.8	0.2	0.5	0.9	2.2	4.7	1.2
Wooded area		0.2	7.7	0.2	0.4	0.8	1.6	4.0	0.8
• Agricultural area		0.7	127.5	1.5	3.0	6.8	17.8	71.6	26.7
- D. Arable land		0.1	61.8	0.5	1.1	3.1	8.3	33.5	15.4
Cereals		0	28.9	0.3	0.8	2.0	4.6	14.7	6.6
<i>Common wheat and spelt</i>		0	11.2	0.1	0.1	0.5	1.5	5.9	3.1
<i>Durum wheat</i>		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Rye</i>		0	0.7	0	0	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2
<i>Barley</i>		0	10.3	0.1	0.4	0.9	1.7	5.2	2.1
<i>Oats</i>		0	2.5	0	0.1	0.2	0.6	1.3	0.3
<i>Grain maize</i>		0	0.3	0	0	0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Dried pulses		0	0.6	0	0	0	0.2	0.2	0.1
Root crops		0	0.7	0	0	0	0.1	0.3	0.2
<i>Potatoes</i>		0	0.6	0	0	0	0.1	0.3	0.2
<i>Sugar beet</i>		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Fodder root</i>		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial crops		0	3.7	0	0	0.1	0.4	1.5	1.6
<i>Tobacco</i>		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Hops</i>		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Cotton</i>		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Rape and turnip</i>		0	3.7	0	0	0.1	0.4	1.5	1.6
<i>Sunflower</i>		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Soya</i>		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fresh vegetables, melons, strawberry		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>outside</i>		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>under glass</i>		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flower and ornamental plants		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>outside</i>		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>under glass</i>		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fodder plants		0.1	26.0	0.1	0.3	0.8	2.8	15.8	6.2
Fallow land		0	1.8	0	0	0.1	0.2	0.9	0.6
- E. Kitchen garden		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- F. Permanent pasture and meadows		0.6	64.2	1.0	1.8	3.7	9.4	37.3	11.1
- G. Permanent crops		0	1.4	0	0	0.1	0.2	0.8	0.3
Fruit and berry plantation		0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Citrus plantation		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Olive trees		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vineyard		0	1.3	0	0	0	0.2	0.7	0.3
Ratios									
Agricultural area per holding	(ha)	4.5	55.4	5.9	13.4	25.4	45.3	73.5	143.6
Agricultural area...	(%)								
... own farmed		76.6	44.7	73.9	62.5	57.6	45.5	45.3	35.6
... in less favoured or mountain area		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
... organic farmed		0	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	5.0	1.4	0.2
... irrigated		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
... under cover crop protecting soil		0	1.0	0	0.1	0.4	0.8	0.9	1.6

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

Economic size (ESU)		<1	>=1	1-<4	4-<8	8-<16	16-<40	40-<100	>=100
Total livestock	(1000 LSU⁺)	0.3	159.1	1.1	2.4	5.7	17.9	90.7	41.3
of which grazing	(%)	95.4	87.7	94.9	97.3	97.0	92.6	93.1	71.5
Grazing livestock	(1000 heads)								
Equidae		0.2	3.2	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.2
Bovine animals									
Under 1 year		0	51.3	0.2	0.7	2.2	6.6	30.7	10.9
From 1 to less than 2 years		0	42.3	0.1	0.4	1.3	4.5	25.6	10.3
Dairy cows		0	40.6	0	0	0.1	2.5	28.2	9.7
Other cows		0	31.5	0.2	0.8	2.6	6.3	16.3	5.3
Other bovine animals 2 years and older		0	23.9	0.1	0.4	1.0	3.0	14.8	4.6
Sheep		0.4	9.1	1.8	1.5	1.0	3.6	1.1	0.1
Goats		0	1.9	0.2	0	0	0.1	0.1	1.5
Granivores									
Pigs	(1000 heads)								
Piglets < 20 kg		0	30.2	0	0.1	0.4	2.0	16.9	10.9
Breeding sows		0	8.0	0	0	0.1	0.7	4.6	2.6
Other pigs		0	45.9	0	0.1	0.3	2.6	9.9	33.0
Poultry	(million heads)	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Broilers		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Laying hens		0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other poultry		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rabbits, breeding females	(1000 heads)	0.1	0.9	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0
Beehives	(1000)	0	0.5	0.1	0.1	0	0.3	0.1	0
Total livestock per holding with...	(LSU/holding)								
Livestock		2.4	86.1	6.2	16.1	28.4	58.9	107.3	247.6
Grazing livestock		2.6	85.7	6.8	16.9	29.8	59.1	107.0	230.7
Bovine animals (cattle)		3.6	93.5	8.0	17.6	31.1	60.7	107.5	230.9
Cattle, other than cows		3.7	93.8	8.2	17.7	31.2	60.8	107.5	230.9
Granivores		1.8	89.6	5.5	14.6	24.6	60.6	111.7	307.1
Pigs		:	151.0	6.6	12.9	22.7	70.9	128.4	374.1
Average size of herds*	(head/holding)								
Equidae		3.3	7.9	6.4	12.6	15.0	6.1	5.4	6.9
Dairy cows		:	39.2	2.0	2.0	6.6	20.2	37.6	68.6
Other cows		1.6	23.5	4.7	9.5	18.2	28.2	22.9	39.8
Sheep		12.9	50.1	29.1	55.3	56.0	148.3	22.8	41.7
Goats		3.8	25.5	5.8	4.1	4.0	8.3	3.6	500.3
Breeding sows		:	58.2	:	8.8	9.9	31.4	55.9	135.9
Other pigs > 20 kg		:	235.4	3.8	10.1	30.2	75.4	103.3	768.5
Rabbits, breeding females		3.7	4.4	3.5	5.1	3.9	4.2	4.9	4.2
Laying hens	(1000/holding)	0	0.1	0	0	0	0.1	0.1	0.7
Broilers	(1000/holding)	0	0.2	0.1	0	0.1	0.6	0.2	0
Beehives	(hive/holding)	4.0	18.1	8.9	27.5	7.2	46.3	9.7	:

* number of animals of a given livestock category per holding with this kind of animals

+ LSU : Livestock Unit

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

Economic size (ESU)	<1	>=1	1-<4	4-<8	8-<16	16-<40	40-<100	>=100
Holdings with another gainful activity than agricultural production: (% all holdings)	2.7	11.5	6.2	7.7	12.2	9.9	12.8	18.3
Tourism	1.4	2.8	2.7	3.2	5.2	1.3	2.8	2.2
Handicraft	1.4	0.6	0.4	0.5	1.5	0.8	0.3	0.5
Processing of farm products	0	3.6	0.8	0.9	5.6	2.8	4.5	4.3
Wood processing	0	1.1	1.6	0.9	0.7	1.8	0.9	0.5
Aquaculture	0	0	0	0.5	0	0	0	0
Renewable energy production	0	2.1	0.8	0.9	0.7	1.5	2.9	4.8
Contractual work	0.7	2.4	0	1.4	1.9	1.5	2.9	7.0
Other gainful activities n.a.e	0	1.2	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.8	1.3	0

➤ METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The survey on the structure of agricultural holdings in Luxembourg was carried out in May 2003 on an exhaustive base. Prior full-scale agricultural census was conducted on an annual basis since 1953. The reference time of the FSS 2003 was 15 May 2003, however for farm labour force characteristics the preceding 12 months.

The FSS relates to agricultural holdings whose utilised agricultural area is one hectare or more and those whose area is less than one hectare if they produce a certain proportion for sale or if their production unit exceeds certain physical thresholds. The target population was all the farms with an operating base located in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The list of holdings was updated and completed at municipality level prior to the census.

The data are multi-level checked; the non-response was only 0.5%.

For each activity ('enterprise') on a farm (for instance wheat, dairy cow or vineyard), a **standard gross margin (SGM)** is estimated, based on the area (or the number of heads) and a regional coefficient. The sum of such margins in a farm is its **economic size**, expressed in **European Size Units (ESU)**. 1 ESU is equal to 1200 euros.

Due to the differences in the coverage of units of less than 1 ESU across Member States, these data are not comparable between countries. That is why the present analysis and graphs focus on the holdings of at least one ESU.

Each farm is classified in the community typology by its economic size and its **type of farming**, depending on the share of each enterprise in its economic size. For instance, a farm where breeding sows account for more than 2/3 of the economic size is classified as *specialist pig rearing* (type 5011). Depending on the level of aggregation, farms are grouped into 8 to 70 types.

Annual working unit (AWU) means the labour force working yearly like a worker employed on full time basis. In Luxembourg, it is defined as 2200 working hours per year (275 eight-hour working days), provided the person is between 15 and 80 years.

➤ REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

Les recensements agricoles 2003, Bulletin du Statec No 2-2004 Statec, Luxembourg, 2004

Website of the STATEC: www.statec.lu

Further information:

➤ **Databases**

[EUROSTAT website/Agriculture, forestry and fisheries/Agriculture/Structure of agricultural holdings](http://europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat/Agri/Structure_of_agricultural_holdings)

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