

# Farm structure (ef)

National Reference Metadata in ESS Standard for Quality Reports Structure  
(ESQRS)

Compiling agency: Please provide the name of the organisation of the contact points  
for the data or metadata. Ministry of Agriculture and Food

Time Dimension: 2013-A0

Data Provider: BG6

Data Flow: FSS\_ESQRS\_A:1.0



## Eurostat metadata

### Reference metadata

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For any question on data and metadata, please contact: [EUROPEAN STATISTICAL DATA SUPPORT](#)

[Download](#)

## 1. Contact

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<b>1.1. Contact organisation</b>	<i>Please provide the name of the organisation of the contact points for the data or metadata.</i> Ministry of Agriculture and Food
<b>1.2. Contact organisation unit</b>	<i>Please specify an addressable subdivision of an organisation.</i> Directorate Agriculture and Land Relations Agrostatistics Department
<b>1.5. Contact mail address</b>	<i>Please specify the postal address of the contact points for the data or metadata.</i> 55, Blvd. Hristo Botev, Sofia 1040, Bulgaria

## 2. Introduction

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### 2.a. Brief description of the national history of Farm Structure Surveys (FSS)

*This item is of special interest for countries with less experience in FSS surveys. In these cases it is useful to include a brief description about the related statistical activities e.g. establishment/update of the statistical register, etc. Please keep the description **brief** (expected length of maximum 250 words)*

#### Historical overview

In 2003 the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry carried out the first census of agricultural holdings of Bulgaria in accordance with the EU legislation.

In 2005 and 2007 farm structure sample surveys based on list of holdings from Agricultural Census 2003 were conducted. Stratified

sample of 40 000 holdings was designed. Methodology and definitions of the characteristics used were similar to those of the census, thus ensuring comparability with the results of the other EU Member States.

In the second half of 2010 the Ministry of Agriculture and Food (MAF) carried out the farm structure survey (FSS) and the survey on agricultural production methods (SAPM) on the entire country's territory in accordance with the Law on Agricultural Census 2010 in Bulgaria. This was the first census carried out in Bulgaria being a member of the European Union (EU) and the second one, in compliance with the legislation of the EU. The census was conducted using a methodology consistent with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on farm structure surveys and the survey on agricultural production methods and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 571/88 and Regulation (EC) No 1200/2009 of 30 November 2009 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on farm structure surveys and the survey on agricultural production methods, as regards to livestock unit coefficients and definitions of the characteristics. This ensured comparability of the results on the structure of agricultural holdings in Bulgaria and agricultural production methods with those of the EU Member States (MS).

The FSS surveys are the main source of information on the status and trends in agriculture. It has to provide a current economic, social and environmental overview of the agrarian sector needed for the decision making in the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). The census data was taken as a basis for sampling of the FSS sample surveys and of the annual production surveys, to define the field of observation of the Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN) and to start the creation a statistical farm register.

## 2.b. Brief description of the national legislation of FSS

Please **briefly** specify the following provisions from the national legislation:

- the reference of the national legal base of the FSS survey (Act, Government Decree, etc.)	The FSS 2013 was conducted in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on farm structure surveys and the survey on agricultural production methods and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 571/88, and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1200/2009 of 30 November 2009 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on farm structure surveys and the survey on agricultural production methods, as regards to livestock unit coefficients and definitions of the characteristics. The country applied lower national thresholds set out in the Law on Agricultural Census in 2010.
- the scope and the coverage of the survey	The survey covers the units that meet the criteria for agricultural holding according to the Law on Agricultural Census 2010 and covers the entire territory of the country.
- the frequency and the reference period of the survey	The frequency is mentioned in Regulation (EC)1166: 2010, 2013, 2016, 2020. The reference periods of the survey are: - for areas - crop year from 1 October 2012 to 30 September 2013; - for number of livestock - 1 November 2013; - for labour force – the 12 months period ending on 30 September 2013.
- the responsibility for the survey	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
- the administrative and financial provisions	National Statistical Programme for years 2013, 2014 and 2015
- the obligations of the respondents with respect to the survey	Respondents are obliged to provide information to statistical surveys included in the National Statistical Programme (Law on Statistics).
- the identification, protection and obligations of survey enumerators	Enumerators are identified with service cards and are obliged to interview the agricultural holdings and fill in the paper questionnaire. The enumerators' obligations are set in the service contract they sign with the MAF.
- the right of access to administrative data	Law on statistics: Article 4. (Supplemented, SG No. 81/2005, amended, SG No. 98/2008) (1) Data necessary for the statistical survey, including individual data, shall be collected directly from the statistical units as well as from administrative sources. (2) Collection of individual data directly from statistical units shall be carried out on the basis of compulsory or voluntary participation of natural persons, households, economic units or other organisations. (3) The statistical authorities shall provide the National Statistical Institute with data, including individual data, necessary for development and production of the official national or European statistical information. (4) To reduce the administrative burden and costs for development and

	production of official national or European statistical information the National Statistical Institute and the statistical authorities shall receive data, including individual data, as well as aggregate information from administrative sources set up and maintained by other government authorities.
- confidentiality provisions	Individual data are confidential and are not disseminated as such (affidavits, Law on statistics).

### 3. Quality management - assessment

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[Not requested]

### 4. Relevance

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#### 4.1. Relevance - User Needs

##### 4.1.a Overview of the main groups of national characteristics

*Please indicate the main groups of national characteristics which are surveyed.*

*Please include references to characteristics surveyed only for national purposes and mention for which purposes and where the request came from (i.e. which are the users).*

Characteristics, surveyed for national purposes, in addition to the characteristics of Regulation (EC) No 1166/2008

National characteristics	Characteristics, included in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1166/2008	Institution requesting the inclusion of these characteristics
Vocational training undertaken by manager during the last 12 months	5.01.02.04.b Vocational training undertaken by manager during the last 12 months (this characteristic is not required for 2013)	Ministry of Agriculture and Food (MAF)
Holding's bookkeeping		Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Breakdown by type of ownership (of the owner) of UAA – state, municipal, private		Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Other cereals for the production of grain – area for triticale	Arable land – Cereals for the production of grain (seed incl.) Code 2.01.01.99 Other cereals for the production of grain	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Area for lentils, beans, chick-peas;	Arable land – Dried pulses and protein crops for the production of grain (seed and mixtures of cereals and pulses incl. ) Code 2.01.02	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Other oil seed crops. Area for groundnuts and oil pumpkinseed;	Arable land – Oil seed crops Code 2.01.06.08	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Area with crop typical for the country – oil rose, coriander, lavender, spearmint, valerian;	Arable land – Aromatic plants and herbs Code 2.01.06.12	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Area of lucerne	Other plants harvested green not mentioned elsewhere 2.01.09.02.99	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Area of strawberries	Fresh vegetables, melons and strawberries of which Code 2.01.07	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Breakdown of fruit tree plantations traditionally cropped in temperate climates, apples, pears, peaches and nectarines, apricots, plums, cherries, walnuts,	Permanent crops –Fruit and berry plantations Code 2.04.01	Ministry of Agriculture and Food

almonds, hazelnuts, aronia and raspberries incl. Individual data for types of vine and root-stock nurseries, fruit tree and berries nurseries, ornamental nurseries, commercial nurseries of forest trees.	Permanent crops –Nurseries Code 2.04.05;	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Area of wine grapes for PDO wines and for PGI wines, white and red grape varieties	Quality wine Code 2.04.04.01	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Area for raisins - not collected, low distribution, non-significant	Raisins Code 2.04.04.04	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
The position "Other land (land occupied by buildings, farmyards, tracks, ponds, quarries, infertile land, rock, etc.)" is divided in two: 1. Area occupied by farm buildings and farmyards; 2. Other non-agricultural area.	Other land (land occupied by buildings, farmyards, tracks, ponds, quarries, infertile land, rock, etc.) Code 2.05.03	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Area of unutilised orchards and vineyards	Unutilised agricultural land Code 2.05.01	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Trellis vine		Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Spread area of the main fresh vegetables grown in open field and in greenhouses		NSI and Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Types of sources used in farm irrigation		Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Irrigated area by types of installations		Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Breakdown of Bovine animals - cattle and buffaloes by category	Bovine animals – Code 3.02;	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Breakdown of pigs under Regulation No 1165/2008	Livestock – Pigs Code 3.04;	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Breakdown of sheep under Regulation No 1165/2008	Livestock – Sheep and Goats Code 3.03;	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Breakdown of equidae – horses by category, donkeys and mules and hinnies	Livestock – Equidae Code 3.01;	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Breakdown of poultry under Regulation No 1165/2008	Livestock – Poultry Code 3.05;	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Grazing of animals on the farm		Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Insurance of agricultural production and livestock		Institute of Agricultural Economics (IAE)
Mineral fertilizers and plant protection products application on open-field area of the holding's UAA		Ministry of Agriculture and Food
The additional national characteristics were included in the questionnaire after consultations with users of agricultural statistical information in the MAF, NSI and IAE.		

#### 4.1.b Reference periods/dates of the main groups of national characteristics

*Please indicate the reference periods/dates of the main groups of national characteristics. (new) Please provide justifications if the*

reference periods/dates from the Regulation 1166/2008 are not respected.

Reference period for data collection:

Characteristics	Reference period
Area	Area: the period from 1 October 2012 to 30 September 2013
Livestock	Livestock - 1 November 2013
Grazing of animals	12 month period, 1 November 2013
Rural development measures	Last 3 years (2011,2012, 2013)
Labour force	Period of 12 months ending on September 30, 2013

#### 4.2. Relevance - User Satisfaction

[Not requested]

#### 4.3. Completeness

##### Characteristics not collected (non-significant, non-existent or (new) possibly not collected for other reasons)

For non-significant or non-existent characteristics, you may repeat the information sent to Eurostat according to art. 7 par. 3 of Regulation 1166/2008. **You can also attach the relevant file to this section using the "Add file" button below.**

The overall answer to this item should provide information on:

- the list of characteristics non-significant and the list of characteristics non-existent from the EU list of characteristics [\[1\]](#); -the reasons i.e. the prevalence or physical thresholds;
- the source(s) of information used (for the prevalence or physical thresholds);
- (new) how are non-significant or non-existent characteristics marked in the dataset transmitted to Eurostat.
- (new) In addition, please specify whether non-significant characteristics are reported under the headings of other characteristics (as in the case of some countries). If yes, please specify which those other characteristics are and please indicate if the Standard Output of those other characteristics is recalculated considering the inclusion of the non-significant characteristics.

The non-significant or non-existent characteristics are:

- the list of non-significant and non-existent characteristics [\[1\]](#) - see file attached;
- the source(s) of information used (for the prevalence or physical thresholds) - CENSUS2010;
- The values of the non-significant characteristics are included in the aggregated codes and in codes "others", according to the group of crops. Non-existing characteristics are sent to Eurostat with value "0" (1.03.02.03.09, 1.03.02.03.10, 2.04.01.01.02, 2.04.02, 2.04.03, 2.04.03.01, 2.04.03.02, 2.04.07, 2.06.03, 2.06.04);
- The non-significant characteristics are not collected with separate headings in the questionnaire but in aggregated headings. Standard Output is not recalculated.

[\[1\]](#) See Annex III of Regulation (EC) 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on farm structure surveys and the survey on agricultural production methods and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) 571/88.

#### Annexes:

[Table of NE-NS characteristics for BULGARIA](#)

##### 4.3.1. Data completeness - rate

[Not requested]

## 5. Accuracy and reliability

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### 5.1. Accuracy - overall

#### Main sources of error

Please provide a **brief** general assessment on the main sources of error (e.g. sampling errors, measurement errors etc.)

The main source of error is the coverage error due to the impossibility to up-dating of the entire list of agricultural holdings and to the dynamic of changes in the Bulgarian farm structure.

## 5.2. Sampling error

Section 5.2 should be completed only in case of sample surveys.

### 5.2.a. Applicability of precision requirements (precision criteria)

The precision requirements stipulated in Annex IV "Precision Requirements" of the Regulation 1166/2008 are applicable only in some cases, depending on the actual value of characteristics. Thus, we are first interested to know the actual value of characteristics, in order to determine the applicability of precision requirements.

Please provide the actual values of the characteristics in a separate Excel file (template provided by Eurostat) and annex the completed file using the "Add file" button below. Here, we are interested in the point estimates (the weighted values), **NOT** in the relative standard errors (RSEs).

see the attached file named: **5.2.a Applicability of precision requirementsBG\_FSS2013**

### 5.2.b. Method used for estimation of relative standard errors (RSEs)

Please describe the method used for estimation of RSEs. You can annex a document with the description of method and formulae applied, using the "Add file" button.

$$\text{Var}(T_{st}) = \sum_{h=1}^L N_h(N_h - n_h) s_{2h}^2 / n_h$$

## Annexes:

[Applicability of precision requirements BG FSS2013](#)

### 5.2.1. Sampling error - indicators

#### 5.2.1.a Relative standard errors (RSEs)

*(new - the information request is not new, but only the template)* Please provide the RSEs in a separate Excel file (template provided by Eurostat) and annex the completed file using the "Add file" button below. The Excel file comprises tables related to the precision requirements stipulated in Annex IV "Precision Requirements" of the Regulation 1166/2008.

See attached file: **5.2.1.a Relative standard errors\_BG\_FSS2013**

#### 5.2.1.b. (new) Reasons for possible cases where precision requirements are applicable and estimated RSEs are above the thresholds

The cases where precision requirements are applicable are identified with the information provided in section 5.2.a. For those cases, the requirement is that the estimated RSEs are below the thresholds stipulated in Annex IV "Precision Requirements" of the Regulation 1166/2008. However, in some of these cases, estimated RSEs might be above the thresholds. In the latter cases, please provide justifications.

The sampling design meets the precision requirements of the Regulation 1166/2008. The a posteriori calculation of the RSEs gives the following deviations:

-for the number of sheep in NUTS2 (BG31, BG32, BG41): In some holdings from the sample a significant increase of the number of sheep is observed compared to 2010.

These holdings become atypical for the stratum in which they were allocated in 2010.

-for the number of poultry in BG31: The main problem is one holding with large number of broilers which in 2010 did not have poultry.

## Annexes:

[Relative standard errors BG FSS2013](#)

## 5.3. Non-sampling error

Section 5.3 should be completed only in case of a sample survey or a census.

Section 5.3 should **not** be completed when data are entirely taken from administrative sources. In this case, section 12.1.e.5 of the report provides the relevant information.

### Assessment of possible bias

If comparison with another source or consistency study is made, please give a **brief** description of the source used and the differences observed which can be proof of bias.

*(new)* Please also consider here bias risks associated with non-response by assessing the distribution of non-response across holdings' categories.

Low bias risks. The non-respondents units are 0,3% of all records sent to Eurostat.



**5.3.1. Coverage error****5.3.1.a Under-coverage errors**

*Under-coverage units are target population units that are not accessible via the frame. This mainly includes new units not included in the frame, either through real birth or demergers, and wrongly classified units. This generally leads to bias in the estimates. If possible, please provide an assessment on the extent of under-coverage.*

4 364 new agricultural holdings (created after the AC 2010) were added to the initial sample.

**5.3.1.b Over-coverage**

*Over-coverage units are units that do not belong to the target population. Please mention whether the data was corrected for over-coverage and if yes, please describe.*

The ineligible units are 8 160 from 36 153 units. 1 674 units are ineligible holdings which have new owners, or separated holdings, or have changed the legal status of the holding or have changed location. Their activity has been continued by other units. No weight correction due to over-coverage.

**5.3.1.c Misclassification errors**

*Misclassification refers to wrongly classified units (for example by geographical area or size) which belong to the target population. Please provide an assessment on the extent of misclassification errors and how they were addressed.*

There are holdings for which data received from FSS2013 was not consistent with the strata distribution in the Census2010 database. No new units allocations were made after receiving the data in 2013.

**5.3.1.d Contact errors**

*They refer to units with incomplete or incorrect contact data. Please describe how possible errors were corrected.*

The up-dated address and contact details of the agricultural holdings were requested from the IACS.

**5.3.1.e Multiple listings**

*Multiple listings are units which are present more than once in the frame. Please indicate the proportion of multiple listings in the frame which are present more than once in the frame and specify how the duplicates were eliminated.*

Farms operating in more than one NUTS3 are separated and introduced as separate units.

**5.3.1.f Other relevant information, if any**

n.a.

**5.3.1.1. Over-coverage - rate**

*Please provide the value of the over-coverage rate.*

*The over-coverage rate is the proportion of units accessible via the frame which do not belong to the target population (e.g. holdings with ceased activities still included in the frame).*

32%

**5.3.2. Measurement error****5.3.2.a Causes of measurement errors in the FSS survey**

*The causes are commonly categorised as:*

- *Survey instrument: the form, questionnaire or measuring device used for data collection may lead to the recording of wrong values;*
- *Respondent: respondents may, consciously or unconsciously, give erroneous data;*
- *Interviewer: interviewers may influence the answers given by respondents.*

*Please include here possible problems caused by difficult questions, unclear definitions, sensitive questions etc. which are likely to determine measurement errors.*

The causes are commonly categorised as:

- Survey instrument: the form, questionnaire or measuring device used for data collection may lead to the recording of wrong values; It is probable to have such cases due to the data collection on paper questionnaire. Once data is collected large amount of it is crosschecked with the administrative sources.

During data entry in the software there is no control of the individual data with previous surveys. Totals and some logically related fields get controlled. Example: The sum of the crop area can not be greater than UAA, irrigated area and organic farming area can not be larger than main area, etc.

- Respondent: respondents may, consciously or unconsciously, give erroneous data;

The individual data is compared and clarified if necessary with a second interview. Such interviews are carried out by phone in case significant differences are recorded between the interview data, the administrative crosschecks and data from previous surveys.

Controls of sums and some logically related fields.

- Interviewer: interviewers may influence the answers given by respondents.

Low possibility of such an error. The misunderstanding of some more complicated characteristics such as "F\_2\_1-Importance of other gainful activities directly related to the holding" can lead to systematic error of interviewers.

Problems caused by difficult questions, unclear definitions, sensitive questions etc. which are likely to determine measurement errors. Characteristics that are complicated for respondents are related to organic farming, more than 50% of production self-consumed by the holder; labour force, No. of working days by contractors, importance of other gainful activities directly related to the holding, machines used by several holdings.

**5.3.2.b If available, failure rates during data editing.** *Please mention if the data was corrected.*

n.a.

**5.3.2.c If available, assessments based on comparisons with external data, re-interviews, etc.**

n.a.

### 5.3.3. Non response error

#### 5.3.3.a (new) Unit non-response: reasons and treatment

*Please specify the reasons for unit non-response and how the unit non-response was accounted for. Unit non-response can be accounted for by e.g. re-weighting, imputation.*

In case of unit non-response the holder is contacted again in order to obtain response. In case the second attempt for interview is not successful the available administrative data is imputed from SAPS and the system for identification and registration of livestock. In other cases the data from the previous survey is used (when it is proven that the unit still has agricultural activity) for imputation or the non-responding unit is replaced (if its' weight is higher than 1). The main reasons for non-response are refusal, not found holdings, too many or unclear questions which lead to unwillingness of the respondent to answer.

#### 5.3.3.b Item non-response: reasons and treatment

*Please mention any characteristic(s) having higher item non-response rate together with the reasons of the item non-response. This information is important and will be useful for the organisation of future surveys.*

*Please also specify how the item non-response was accounted for. Item non-response can be accounted for by e.g. re-weighting, imputation.*

The most common item non-response is the characteristic E\_1\_6 (No. of working days by contractors).

The item non-response is accounted for by imputation.

#### 5.3.3.1. Unit non-response - rate

*Please provide the ratio of the number of non-responding holdings with no information or not usable information (item 5.1, table in section 12.3.d) to the total number of in-scope (eligible) units (item 5, table in section 12.3.d).*

0.3%

#### 5.3.3.2. Item non-response - rate

*Please provide the ratio of the in-scope (eligible) units which have not responded to a particular item (characteristic) to the in-scope (eligible) units that are required to respond to that particular item (characteristic). Please provide this rate for characteristics with high item non-response.*

The non-respondent units in characteristic A\_3\_1 (Utilised agricultural area) represent 0.3% of the records sent to Eurostat. For characteristic B\_1\_1 (Cereals) - 0.4 %, for B\_1\_6 (Industrial plants) - 0.5%, the characteristics C\_2 (Cattle), C\_3\_1 (Sheep - total) and C\_3\_2 (Goats) - 0.1%.

### 5.3.4. Processing error

#### 5.3.4.a Assessment of processing errors affecting individual observations

*Please give a quantitative or qualitative assessment of processing errors.*

There is a limited number of errors due to data transferring from paper to software subsequently discovered during the inspections.

#### 5.3.4.b Completion/correction methods applied

*These can consist of follow-up interviews, imputation, re-weighting, use of other data sources etc. Please describe.*

The most common method used is second interview with the respondent.

The experts in Agrostatics Department in MAF conducted multiple checks of the logical links within each data record. Obvious erroneous questionnaires with incoherent data were compared with data from administrative sources (IACS, Paying Agency). In case of significant differences holdings were re-visited for follow-up interview.

#### 5.3.4.c Imputation methods



Please specify what kind of imputation methods were used and for which items (characteristics).

Imputation method is used in case the respondent refuses to cooperate or can't be found for interview but it is proven that the unit still has agricultural activity. Imputed data is from administrative source (SAPS, system for identification and registration of livestock). Imputation of administrative data was used for units non-response and for item non-response ( for units that responded to certain items but not all of them).

5.3.4.d Tools used and people/organisations authorised to make corrections

Agricultural statisticians from district offices of MAF (NUTS3).

#### 5.3.4.1. Imputation - rate

Please provide the ratio of the number of replaced values to the total number of values for a given characteristic, for each main characteristic where this method was applied.

0.3% regarding number of agricultural holdings sent to Eurostat.

0.6% regarding UAA.

#### 5.3.4.2. Common units - proportion

[Not requested]

#### 5.3.5. Model assumption error

In case of models used for estimation, please provide an estimation of related errors.

n.a.

#### 5.3.6. Data revision

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##### 5.3.6.1. Data revision - policy

Brief description of the revision policy

Data revision is not envisaged.

##### 5.3.6.2. Data revision - practice

###### Data revision practice

Please describe the practice, provide the main reasons for revisions and the extent to which the revisions improved accuracy.

n.a.

Please provide the average number of revisions (planned and unplanned) for main characteristics.

n.a.

Data revision for FSS data was not performed.

##### 5.3.6.3. Data revision - average size

[Not requested]

#### 5.3.7. Seasonal adjustment

[Not requested]

## 6. Timeliness and punctuality

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### 6.1. Timeliness

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#### 6.1.1. Time lag - first result

Please indicate the number of months from the last day of the reference period to the day of publication of first results.

8 months

#### 6.1.2. Time lag - final result

Please indicate the number of months from the last day of the reference period to the day of publication of complete and final results.

The tables with the main results were published on 22.12.2014. (14 months)

### 6.2. Punctuality

-
<b>6.2.1. Punctuality - delivery and publication</b>
<i>Please indicate the number of days between the delivery/ release date of data and the target date on which they were scheduled for delivery/ release.</i>
Publication of final data is still pending, it is expected to happen after the data validation by Eurostat. The tables with the main results were published on 22.12.2014.

<b>7. Accessibility and clarity</b>	<a href="#">Top</a>
-	
<b>7.1. Dissemination format - News release</b>	
[Not requested]	
<b>7.2. Dissemination format - Publications</b>	
<b>Regular and ad-hoc publications in which data are made available to the public</b>	
<b>7.2.a The nature of publications</b> <i>Please specify the nature of publications. For example, the publications can contain preliminary results or final results, can be technical reports, etc. Please also specify if the publications contain metadata.</i>	
Publication of final data is still pending, it is expected to happen after the data validation by Eurostat. The tables with the main results were published on 22.12.2014. Metadata will be published.	
<b>7.2.b Date of issuing (actual or planned)</b>	
First preliminary results were published on 30.06.2014. The tables with the main results were published on 22.12.2014.	
<b>7.2.c References for on-line publications.</b>	
<a href="http://www.mzh.government.bg/MZH/bg/ShortLinks/SelskaPolitika/Agrostatistics/Structure_agricultural_holdings.aspx">http://www.mzh.government.bg/MZH/bg/ShortLinks/SelskaPolitika/Agrostatistics/Structure_agricultural_holdings.aspx</a>	
<b>7.3. Dissemination format - online database</b>	
<i>Please provide information about on-line databases in which the disseminated data can be accessed.</i>	
There is no online database.	
<b>7.3.1. Data tables - consultations</b>	
<b>The number of consultations of on-line data tables for a given time period</b>	
<i>Please indicate on-line data tables with an indicative number of consultations.</i>	
n.a.	
<b>7.4. Dissemination format - microdata access</b>	
[Not requested]	
<b>7.5. Documentation on methodology</b>	
<b>7.5.a Available documentation on methodology on FSS national survey</b> <i>Please provide references.</i>	
<a href="http://www.mzh.government.bg/MZH/bg/ShortLinks/SelskaPolitika/Agrostatistics/Structure_agricultural_holdings.aspx">http://www.mzh.government.bg/MZH/bg/ShortLinks/SelskaPolitika/Agrostatistics/Structure_agricultural_holdings.aspx</a>	
<b>7.5.b Main scientific references</b> <i>Please provide references.</i>	
n.a.	
<b>7.5.1. Metadata completeness - rate</b>	
[Not requested]	
<b>7.5.2. Metadata - consultations</b>	
[Not requested]	
<b>7.6. Quality management - documentation</b>	
<b>Available documentation on quality</b>	

Please provide references.

No available documentation on quality.

### 7.7. Dissemination format - other

[Not requested]

## 8. Comparability

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### 8.1. Comparability - geographical

#### 8.1.a National vs. EU definition of a holding

Please indicate possible differences between the national definition and the EU definition of the holding [2]. Please also indicate the reasons.

There aren't differences for the definition of the agricultural holding between the EU Regulation 1166/2008 (definition in art.2.a) and the national survey.

#### 8.1.b National survey coverage vs. coverage of the records sent to Eurostat

Please indicate possible differences between the population covered in the national survey and the population covered by the records sent to Eurostat. Please also specify the reasons.

The population covered in the national survey may be different from the population covered by the records which are sent to Eurostat, in case very low national thresholds are applied or no national thresholds are applied.

There are no differences between the records sent to Eurostat and the coverage of the national survey. The published aggregated data includes only the data from the records sent to Eurostat.

#### 8.1.c National vs. EU definitions of characteristics

Please indicate the version of the Handbook on implementing the FSS definitions used for the organisation of the current FSS survey. Please indicate possible differences between national and EU definitions of characteristics and classifications of characteristics, the differences, the reasons and the impact on the comparability with the EU definitions. This information is relevant for users. Please also indicate the number of hours per year for a full-time employee, used to calculate the Annual Work Unit.

Handbook - CPSA/SB/652.rev.10;

No significant differences between national and EU definitions of characteristics and classifications of characteristics, Organic farming (A\_3\_2\_1;A\_3\_2\_2;A\_3\_2\_3) exclude rough grazings.

The number of hours per year for a full-time employee is 1 856.

#### 8.1.d Common land

The legal change of the utilised agricultural area concept, and also the fact that there are various options for the coverage of the common land make this an obligatory section in this report for all countries.

##### 8.1.d.1 Current methodology for collecting information on the common land

If common land does not exist in the country, please specify this.

If common land exists and you do not collect information on common land, please specify this and the reasons.

If you collect information on common land, please describe the methodology by referring to the below options. Combinations of the options are possible; if you use more options, please briefly describe each one.

- common land is included in the land use data of the agricultural holdings making use of the common land.

- common land is included as special holdings i.e. the common land holdings. In addition to records with data representing agricultural holdings, records representing the common land holdings are created.

- common land is collected at regional level and included in regional records. In addition to records with data representing agricultural holdings, records representing the regional sum of the common land are created. According to discussion in a Working Group, this third option has been converted into the second option (common land holdings) allowing all common land to be formatted and included in the Eurofarm tables.

In addition, please specify:

- whether there was a set of specific questions in the FSS questionnaire on common land or a separate questionnaire. In the case of a separate questionnaire, it should be attached to this report, section 12.3.e.

- (new) how was the common land treated in terms of tenure classification;

- (new) how can common land be identified in the data.

The common land is collected at regional level and included in regional records.  
 The position of common land includes pastures and meadows. Permanent crops and crops from arable land are excluded.  
 A separate questionnaire for common land was used in FSS questionnaire.  
 The type of tenure for common land units is A\_3\_1\_1 (Agricultural area utilised for farming by owner).  
 Common land identification in the data can be made through A\_2\_1 (y).

#### 8.1.d.2 Possible problems encountered in relation to the collection of information on common land and possible solutions for future FSS surveys

*Please provide this information in case information on common land is collected.*

Common land is expected to decrease in the future. Administrative steps are under way in order to allocate common land to holdings with animals for individual use.

#### 8.1.d.3 Total area of common land surveyed in the reference year

*Please indicate the survey estimate in case information on common land is collected.*

856 025.5 ha

#### 8.1.d.4 (new) Number of agricultural holdings making use of the common land or Number of (specially created) common land holdings in the reference year

*Please indicate this number in case information on common land is collected.*

264 statistical units provide common land for use.

### 8.1.e. Location of the holding

#### 8.1.e.1 The origin of the coordinates

*Please specify from which source you have obtained the origin of the coordinates (the geographical reference of the holding). This is required in the Handbook (document 3.1. Methodology - Handbook on implementing the FSS and SAPM definitions - REV 10). For example: cadastre information system, IACS (Integrated Administrative Control System), CAPI (Computer Assisted Personal Interview) with digital maps, address register (address of the farm or of the farmer), LAU2 (village, town, municipality etc.) region of the farm.*

LAU2 - settlements

The location of the holdings in Bulgaria is based on the actual coordinates of each administrative-territorial unit (5 302) in the Unified Classification of Administrative-Territorial and Territorial Units (UCATTU), maintained by NSI.

#### 8.1.e.2 (new) The reference system

*Eurostat asks to transmit the coordinates based on the reference system ETRS89 (European Terrestrial Reference system 1989) but has set up his system to allow coordinate transformation from different reference systems. Please specify the reference system used in countries to store data on location of the agricultural holdings. This information is required by the Handbook (document 3.1. Methodology - Handbook on implementing the FSS and SAPM definitions - REV 10).*

ETRS89

#### 8.1.e.3 (new) The rounding of the coordinates

*Eurostat recommends the transmission of the exact coordinates (the data is handled respecting statistical confidentiality provisions). If countries still round the coordinates to a grid system, Eurostat recommends the grid based on the INSPIRE data specification on Coordinate Reference System.*

*Please specify if you transmit the exact coordinates or if you round them. If in the last case, please briefly describe the rounding method and the level of the rounding. For example: LAU2, regions lower than LAU2, census enumeration areas, grids, grouping by 5 holdings (ranked by latitude and longitude).*

LAU2

#### 8.1.e.4 (new) The criteria used to determine the NUTS3 region of the holding

*Please indicate which criterion is used to determine the NUTS3 region of the holding. Criteria:*

- the majority of the total area of the holding where the holding is located;
- the building (administrative, for livestock or other production);
- the most important parcel (in terms of production);
- the residence of the farmer (if it is not further than 5 km from the farm).

- Second priority condition - in case the holding has no building, the larger part of the UAA is used to determine the holding's location;
- First priority condition - the agricultural holding is located where the building (agricultural building, store, hangar) is located.

**8.1.f (new) Organic farming****Possible differences between national standards and rules for certification of organic products and the ones set out in Council Regulation No.834/2007**

*Please mention possible differences. This information is requested by the handbook (document 3.1. Methodology - Handbook on implementing the FSS and SAPM definitions - REV 10).*

No

[2] See Article 2 of Regulation (EC) 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on farm structure surveys and the survey on agricultural production methods and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) 571/88

**8.1.1. Asymmetry for mirror flow statistics - coefficient**

[Not requested]

**8.2. Comparability - over time**

**8.2.a Possible changes of the definition of the holding, the reasons and the impact** of the changes on the comparability with previous sample survey/census data

*Please indicate the relevant case from the ones below:*

- There have been no changes, in which case this should be reported.*
- There have been some changes but not enough to warrant the designation of a break in series.*
- There have been sufficient changes to warrant the designation of a break in series.*

*In the second and third cases, please indicate the changes, the reasons and their impact on the comparability over time.*

*Particularly in the third case, please indicate any information relevant for users.*

- There have been no changes, in which case this should be reported.

**8.2.b (new) Possible changes in the coverage of holdings for which records are sent to Eurostat, the reasons and the impact** on the comparability with previous sample survey/census data processed by Eurostat

*Please indicate the relevant case from the ones below:*

- There have been no changes.*
- There have been some changes but not enough to warrant the designation of a break in series.*
- There have been sufficient changes to warrant the designation of a break in series.*

*In the second and third cases, please indicate the changes, the reasons and their impact on the comparability over time.*

*Particularly in the third case, please indicate which procedure Eurostat should apply to compare the data over years and any other information relevant for users.*

- There have been no changes.

**8.2.c Changes of definitions and/or reference time and/or measurements of characteristics, the reasons and the impact of the changes** on the comparability with previous sample survey/census data

*Please specify the characteristics whose definitions underwent changes, the reasons and the impact on the comparability over time.*

*Please indicate the relevant case from the ones below:*

- There have been some changes but not enough to warrant the designation of a break in series.*
- There have been sufficient changes to warrant the designation of a break in series.*

*Particularly in the second case, please indicate any information relevant for users.*

Reference date for livestock numbers (from code C\_1 to C\_99):

- Census 2010 - 31 August 2010;
- FSS2013 - 1 November 2013;

Reference period for labour force from the 12 month period ending on 31.08.2010 to the 12 months period ending on 30 September 2013.

**8.2.d (new) Changes over time in the results as compared to previous sample survey/census, which may be attributed to sampling variability**

*This item is applicable when at least one of the two surveys whose results are compared is carried out as a sample survey. Please indicate any information relevant for users.*

In sample survey there is a possibility for some characteristics not to achieve good accuracy of data at regional level :  
example - Area of flowers and ornamental plants.



**8.2.e Common Land**

**8.2.e.1 Possible change in the decision or in the methodology to collect common land**, compared with previous sample survey/census data and **reasons**.

*Please specify possible changes and reasons.*

No changes

**8.2.e.2 Change of the total area of common land and of the number of agricultural holdings making use of the common land / number of common land holdings** compared with the previous sample survey/census data and **possible reason(s)**

*Please specify.*

There is no change in the number of units providing common land for use since 2010. They are 264. The total area of common land decreases by 2 538 ha to 856 025.5 ha.

**8.2.f Major trends on the main characteristics compared with the previous sample survey/census data**

*Please complete the following table. Comments must be given in case there is a change of more than 10% in the current FSS survey compared with the previous one for any numeric main characteristic.*

*This comparison concerns the population covered by the records sent to Eurostat.*

Main characteristic	Current FSS survey	Previous FSS survey	Difference in %	Comments
Number of holdings	254 406	370 486	-31%	The number of small agricultural holdings of less than 10ha UAA and small livestock holding decreases.
Units with common land incl.	264	264		
UAA (A_3_1), ha	4 650 936	4 475 528	4%	
UAA, excl. common land, ha	3 794 911	3 616 965	5%	
Arable land, ha;	3 279 387	3 124 928	5%	
Permanent grassland (B_3), ha;	1 271 324	1 240 586	2%	
Permanent grassland in holdings incl.	415 299	382 023	9%	
Permanent crops (B_4), ha;	94 991	99 649	-5%	
Wooded area (B_5_2), ha;	915 473	701 610	30%	Unit having forestry as main activity, but also having some agricultural activity are included.
Unutilised Agricultural area (B_5_1),	16 231	35 822	-55%	There is an increase of the UAA
Fallow land (B_1_12_1 + B_1_12_2), ha;	45 577	106 486	-57%	Areas are covered by crops
LSU in LSU;	1 024 911	1 149 737	-11%	The number of goats, pigs and poultry bread decreases compared to 2010.
Cattle (C_2), head;	586 242	586 377	0%	
Family Labour force - in persons;	499 686	681 466	-27%	The decrease in the number of agricultural holdings lead to the decrease of the family labour force usually working on small farms

**8.2.1. Length of comparable time series**

[Not requested]

**8.3. Comparability - domain****Comparisons with other data sources at micro/macro level**

*Other data sources can be for example administrative data, crop production surveys, animal surveys, labour force surveys, National Accounts.*

*If you run comparisons, please give a brief description of the results of these comparisons and possible adjustment made to FSS data. If not, please indicate why not.*

**8.3.a Comparisons at micro level**

On the individual data was performed a control by comparing with administrative data from the SAPS and other statistical surveys.

**8.3.b Comparisons at macro level**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>FSS 2013</b>	<b>SAPS 2013</b>	<b>Difference % (col2-col3)/col3</b>	<b>Notes</b>
1	2	3	4	5
Wheat (ha)	1 318 652	1 298 847	1.5%	
Barley (ha)	198 716	191 460	3.8%	
Grain and seed maize (ha)	428 981	421 485	1.8%	
Sunflower (ha)	882 095	888 609	-0.7%	
Rape (ha)	137 718	144 871	-4.9%	
Vineyards (ha)	45 636	33 716	35.4%	Not all vineyards are declared for SAPS
Apple (ha)	5 485	4 254	28.9%	Not all areas are declared for SAPS
Peaches and Nectarines (ha)	4 293	3 523	21.9%	Not all areas are declared for SAPS
Cherry (ha)	9 950	8 761	13.6%	Not all areas are declared for SAPS

Comparison of the results – Livestock

<b>Livestock by categories</b>	<b>FSS2013 2013</b>	<b>Annual surveys 2013</b>	<b>Difference % (col2-col3)/col3</b>
1	2	3	4
Poultry (thou. heads)	14 288	13 214	8.13%
Bee colonies (number)	552 055	541 564	1.94%

Comparison of results - UAA, arable land

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>FSS-2013 (ha)</b>	<b>SAPS 2013 - Areas declared for support under SAPS 2013 (ha)</b>	<b>Difference % (col2-col3)/col3 (%)</b>
1	2	3	4
UAA minus common land	3 794 911	3 756 715	1.00%
Arable land	3 279 387	3 259 405	1.00%

The observed differences in arable land are minimal and acceptable.

**9. Coherence**
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**9.1. Coherence - cross domain****(new) Coherence with other data sources**

Please indicate whether the FSS statistics are reconcilable (i.e. can be combined) with those obtained through other data sources or statistical domains.

The statistics related to crops are comparable to high extent with the administrative data. Many other characteristics surveyed with the FSS are not available in any administrative source.

**9.1.1 Coherence - sub annual and annual statistics**

[Not requested]

**9.1.2. Coherence - National Accounts**

[Not requested]

## 9.2. Coherence - internal

[Not requested]

## 10. Cost and Burden

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### Co-ordination with other surveys: burden on respondents

*Please indicate if there is any co-ordination between surveys to avoid the situation that some farms have to answer multiple questionnaires with the same kind of questions.*

FSS is carried out together with the annual production surveys.

## 11. Confidentiality

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The confidentiality is required by law. This report should confirm these arrangements.

Please provide the requested information, taking into consideration that this report is a non-confidential document.

### 11.1. Confidentiality - policy

#### Dissemination of micro-data to external users for research purposes

*Please mention if micro-data are also disseminated and if yes, the confidentiality provisions that are applied.*

There are rules for releasing confidential data for the purpose of research and the provision of confidential data is performed according to these rules.

According to Art.26a of the Statistics Act individual data may be provided for the purpose of research to universities or legal persons whose main activity is research after permission by the President of the National Statistical Institute.

Micro-data from FSS 2013 has not been disseminated.

### 11.2. Confidentiality - data treatment

#### The procedures applied for ensuring confidentiality of the data during dissemination

*Procedures can include controlled rounding, cell suppression, aggregation of disclosive information, aggregation rules on aggregated confidential data, primary confidentiality with regard to single data values etc. Main reference: [Handbook on Statistical Disclosure Control](#) (2007).*

Distributed only aggregated data, not published when there is less than 3 holdings forming the value of the indicator or data of one of the monitored units formed over 85% of the published index.

## 12. Statistical processing

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### Survey organisation and calendar

*Please provide **brief** information on:*

#### 12.a The steps of the survey organisation and the starting and ending time of each step.

*This information could help countries in the future planning of the activities.*

*As guidelines, the steps can consist of the following.*

*Please adapt to the national situation if needed.*

*1. definition of survey objective and requirements:*

*1.1. formation of workgroups for survey organisation;*

*1.2. consultation of users;*

*1.3. set-up objectives,*

target population, statistical units, classifications, precision requirements etc.;

1.4. survey promotion.

2. survey design:

2.1. set-up organisation of the survey (e.g. detailed timetable, specification of resources, costs estimation);

2.2. definition of the survey variables;

2.3. design of the sampling frame and sampling procedures;

2.4. design of data collection procedures (e.g. questionnaire design, selection of data collection modes etc.);

2.5. design of data processing procedures (e.g. CATI/CAPI/CAWI input programmes etc.);

2.6. pilot survey organisation and execution.

3. data collection:

3.1. sampling frame construction and sample selection;

3.2. recruitment of interviewers;

3.3. training of interviewers;

3.4. fieldwork;

3.5. evaluation and assessment of fieldwork.

4. data processing and validation:

4.1. data entry and data coding;

4.2. data validation (at record level);

4.3. data correction and imputation.

5. data compilation:

5.1. weight calculation and estimation;

5.2. calculation of derived variables;

5.3. calculation of quality indicators (e.g. non-response rates, relative standard errors, coverage errors, bias etc.);

5.4. aggregation and tabulation;

5.5. validation of aggregated data.

Calendar

A detailed timetable for preparation and conduct of the survey activities was prepared and approved by the Minister of Agriculture and Food. Most of the activities were carried out according to the timetable.

## **TIMETABLE TO CARRY OUT EACH STAGE OF THE ACTION FSS 2013**

### **Activity**

### **Timetable**

Analysis and elaboration of survey methodology	July – December 2012
Sample design and drawing of a sample (max. 30 000 units)	January - June 2013
Questionnaire design in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1166/2008 and determination of the characteristics to be included in the questionnaire	January - May 2013
Instruction and other documents required for the survey	January - July 2013
Terms of reference for creation and implementation of a computer system and Terms of reference for delivery of equipment	Nov. 2012-Oct. 2013
Testing of the statistical questionnaire	June-August 2013
Selection of surveyors for data collection from the holdings	Sept.-Oct. 2013
Organization of activities: Preparation of administrative documents (administrative documents for starting of the survey and contracts with the participants).	August-Sept. 2013
Developed and functioning computer program for data entry, data control and data processing of the collected information	Nov-13
Final version of the questionnaire and print of materials	July-Sept. 2013
Training of experts from 28 regional offices and surveyors	Sept.-Oct. 2013
Preparation and verification of holdings list	July-Sept. 2013
Data collection and electronic data entry on the spot	Nov. 2013 - Feb. 2014
Data control and data processing	January - May 2014
Data control and compliance with other sources of administrative information at central level	March – Oct. 2014
Preparing and sending of final files of FSS 2013 data for validation to Eurostat	Oct. 2014 – June 2015
Preparation, translation and transmission of National quality and methodological report for FSS 2013	Oct. 2014 – June 2015
Preparation of the publication of results (bilingual)	Dec. 2014 – June 2015
Preparation and submission of financial statements to Eurostat	June 15 - August 2015

<p>6. data analysis</p> <p>7. data dissemination</p>	
<p><b>12.b The bodies involved and the split of responsibilities among bodies</b> with respect to the main steps of the survey process</p>	<p>The organisation and allocation of responsibilities of the FSS activities were divided into two levels – central and regional level.</p> <p>Activities carried out <b>at central level (Agrostatistics Department in the Ministry of Agriculture and Food)</b>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Draft of the legal and administrative documents for the FSS;</li> <li>2. Elaboration of the legal acts and administrative records for the FSS;</li> <li>3. Organisational and methodological guidance;</li> <li>4. Establishment of the final list of holdings ;</li> <li>5. Financial and technical support;</li> <li>6. Data control and data processing, data transmission to Eurostat;</li> <li>7. Data dissemination to the interested users;</li> </ol> <p>Activities carried out <b>at regional level (regional statistical offices at NUTS 3 level)</b>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Examination/correction of the lists of holdings at regional level;</li> <li>2. Contracts concluded with the census participants – surveyors and operators;</li> <li>3. Organisation of training of the surveyors and operators;</li> <li>4. Collection and control of questionnaires;</li> <li>5. Data entry in a computer module;</li> <li>6. Report of the payments;</li> <li>7. Correction of errors in the computer module;</li> </ol>
<p><b>12.c Serious deviations (if any) from the established calendar and reasons.</b> <i>Please mention only serious deviations with significant consequences on the quality and the transmission time of data to Eurostat.</i></p>	<p>Extended period for data collection, data control and data validation because of the use of outdated software. An inability to set up an information system, which caused a delay in the transmission of the quality report. An information system for electronic data entry not created yet.</p>
<p><b>12.1. Source data</b></p>	
<p><b>12.1.a Target population</b></p>	
<p><b>12.1.a.1 The national definition of an agricultural holding</b></p>	
<p><i>Please mention if the national definition of the holding is as according to the EU definition [3] or not. If not, please mention the national definition of a holding.</i></p>	
<p>According to Law on Agricultural Census 2010 <b>Agricultural holding</b> or “holding” is a separate technical and economic unit which has a single management and which produces agricultural products or maintains agricultural land, which is no longer used for production purposes, in good agricultural and environmental condition as defined in Article 2(a) of Regulation (EC) No 1166/2008. The Law of Agricultural Census in 2010 defines the agricultural holding. The definition did not change since 2003 for the reason of comparison of the results. Agricultural activities are the same as in Annex 1.</p>	
<p><b>12.1.a.2 The number of holdings in the population disregarding any possible thresholds applied (the entire number of holdings in the country)</b>, according to the EU definition of a holding or, if different from the EU definition of a holding, according to the national definition. <i>Please indicate the number. If it is not possible to provide this information, please provide the reasons.</i></p>	
<p>The exact holdings number below the threshold is not available. There is no farm register including all the holdings.</p>	
<p><b>12.1.a.3 The national survey coverage; the thresholds applied in the national survey (if any) and the geographical coverage</b> <i>Please briefly describe the national target population which is the population for which national inferences are made. Please consider possible thresholds applied in the national survey and please mention them. Please mention the geographical coverage (including any geographical areas not covered).</i></p>	



The survey covers all agricultural holdings, meeting at least one of the following criteria:

Cultivation of at least:

- a) 0.5 ha (5 dca) of agricultural area used (A\_3\_1);
- b) 0.3 ha (3 dca) of arable land (B\_1\_1+B\_1\_2+...+B\_1\_11+B\_1\_12\_1+B\_1\_12\_2);
- c) 0.5 ha (5 dca) of natural meadows (B\_3);
- d) 0.1 ha (1 dca) of orchard (pure culture) (part of B\_4\_1);
- e) 0.1 ha (1 dca) of vineyard; (B\_4\_4);
- f) 0.1 ha (1 dca net) of specialised crops (vegetables (B\_1\_7), hops (B\_1\_6\_2), tobacco (B\_1\_6\_1), spices, medical and essential oil crops (B\_1\_6\_12), flowers, ornamental plants (B\_1\_8), berries (part of B\_4\_1), mushrooms (B\_6\_1), nurseries (B\_4\_5) etc.);
- g) 0.05 ha (0.5 dca) of greenhouses (B\_1\_7\_2+B\_1\_8\_2)

Keeping of at least:

- a) 1 cow (C\_2\_5+C\_2\_6);
- b) 1 buffalo-cow ;
- c) 2 cattle (C\_2);
- d) 2 buffaloes;
- e) 1 female for reproduction (equidae);
- f) 2 working animals (equidae);
- g) 5 pigs (C\_4);
- h) 1 breeding-sow (C\_4\_2);
- i) 5 breeding-ewes (C\_3\_1\_1);
- j) 2 breeding she-goats (C\_3\_2\_1);
- k) 50 laying hens (C\_5\_2);
- l) 100 chicken for fattening (C\_5\_1);
- m) 10 honey-bee colonies (C\_7);
- n) 10 doe-hares (C\_6);
- o) 1 reproductive male animal used for natural mating - bull, stud, boar;
- p) special animal and fowl species – 1,000 quails, 30 other birds (turkeys, geese, ducks etc.), ostriches, (C\_5\_3) angora goats, angora rabbits, minks, nutrias, silkworms etc.

Animal production: 10,000 eggs; 200 rabbits; 100 chickens for fattening; 10 lambs and / or goats; 5 pigs; 2 calves.

Production of mushrooms - 500 kg mushrooms.

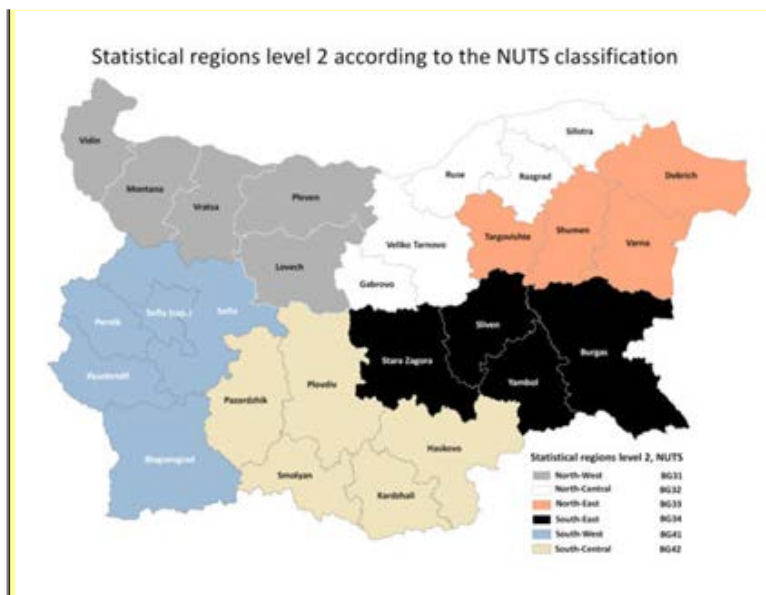
The farm threshold applied is lower than the one required by Eurostat.

All geographical areas are covered.

The map presented in the Figure shows the grouping of statistical regions – level 2 according to the Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS) of the European Union under Regulation (EC) No 176/2008.

The districts on NUTS 3 level according to the Regional Development Act are distributed as follows:

<b>Severozapaden (North-West Region)</b>	- Vidin, Vratsa, Montana, Lovech and Pleven;
<b>Severen tsentralen (North-Central Region)</b>	- Veliko Tarnovo, Gabrovo, Rousse, Razgrad and Silistra;
<b>Severoiztochen (North-East Region)</b>	- Varna, Dobrich, Targovishte and Shumen;
<b>Yugoiztochen (South-East Region)</b>	- Bourgas, Sliven, Yambol and Stara Zagora;
<b>Yugozapaden (South-West Region)</b>	- Blagoevgrad, Kyustendil, Pernik, Sofia (capital) and Sofia;
<b>Yuzhen tsentralen (South-Central Region)</b>	- Kardzhali, Pazardzhik, Plovdiv, Smolyan and Haskovo.



**12.1.a.4 (new) The number of holdings in the nationally covered population** (see 12.1.a.3), according to the EU definition of a holding or, if different from the EU definition of a holding, according to the national definition.

*Please indicate the number. These are holdings in the national survey coverage. If national thresholds are applied, the size of the national survey population is the number of holdings in the population by considering the thresholds applied in the national survey (see 12.1.a.3).*

According to the Agricultural Census in 2010 there are 370 222 agricultural holdings (264 units providing common land for use are excluded). In 2013 according to the FSS 2013 there are 254 142 agricultural holdings (264 units providing common land for use are excluded).

**12.1.a.5 (new) The survey coverage of the records sent to Eurostat**

*The survey coverage of the records sent to Eurostat can be different from the national survey coverage in case very low (or no) national thresholds are applied.*

*Please indicate if the coverage of the records sent to Eurostat is different the national survey coverage. If yes, please indicate the differences and how you selected the records sent to Eurostat.*

There is no difference between the national target population and the records sent to Eurostat. However for national purposes the units providing common land for use are excluded from the analysis.

**12.1.a.6 The number of holdings in the population covered by the records transferred to Eurostat**, according to the EU definition of a holding and, if different from the EU definition of a holding, according to the national definition (*this number should be reported as item 1, in the table from section 12.3.d*).

254 142 number of holdings in the population covered by the records transferred to Eurostat.

**12.1.a.7 (new) Records sent to Eurostat on holdings with standard output equal to zero.**

*These can be holdings with only fallow land and/or only kitchen gardens and/or only crops and animals for which standard output coefficients are not defined (crops and animals not valued). In the case of a few countries, a significant amount of records have been sent to Eurostat with standard output equal to zero. Please provide any information that could help Eurostat and users to better understand why standard output is equal to zero and why those holdings are included in the survey.*

There are 745 agricultural holdings in the population with SO equal to zero. These are farms with only fallow lands and permanent grassland not used for production kept in good agricultural and environmental condition.

(B\_1\_12\_1, B\_1\_12\_2, B\_3\_3)

These are eligible holdings, which maintain their land in good agricultural and environmental condition.

**12.1.a.8 Proofs that the requirements stipulated in art. 3.2 and (new) 3.3 of the Regulation 1166/2008 are met in the data transmitted to Eurostat**

Art. 3.2: *However, Member States which use a survey threshold above one hectare shall fix this threshold at a level that excludes only the smallest agricultural holdings which together contribute 2% or less to the total utilised agricultural area excluding common land and 2% or less to the total number of livestock units.*

Art. 3.3: *In any case, all agricultural holdings reaching one of the physical thresholds specified in Annex II shall be covered.*

Art. 3.2: n.a.

Art. 3.3: YES

**12.1.b Source of data**

*Please mention the source of data for example exhaustive coverage of units in a survey (census), sample survey, use of administrative sources, combinations, etc.*

Sample surveys and administrative sources to data of Rural development support from State Fund Agriculture. The sample frame is complemented by the new farms created after the AC 2010 identified through administrative sources such as IACS and farm register and other sample surveys.

**12.1.c (Sampling) frame**

Section 12.1.c refers to the frame used to identify holdings to be surveyed and therefore should be completed only in case of a sample survey or a census.

Section 12.1.c should not be completed when data are entirely taken from administrative sources. In this case, section 12.1.e of the report provides the relevant information.

**12.1.c.1 Source of the frame**

*Please specify the source of the frame, for example a statistical register (farm register, business register etc.), an administrative source etc.*

The Agricultural Census 2010 is used as a sampling frame. The sample is complemented by the new farms created after the AC 2010 identified through administrative sources such as IACS and farm register and other sample surveys.

**12.1.c.2 Type of frame**

*Please specify whether it is a list frame or an area frame, whether you used a combination of multiple frames etc.*

List frame

**12.1.c.3 Time reference and updating process for the frame**

The sample frame is complemented by the new farms created after the AC 2010 identified through administrative sources such as IACS and farm register and other sample surveys.

**12.1.d Sampling design**

*Section 12.1.d should be completed only in case of a sample survey.*

*Please describe the sampling design according to the following structure. This structure aims to increase the clarity and comparability of information between countries.*

**12.1.d.1 the name of the sampling design and whether it is a probability design.**

*A probability sampling design ensures known probabilities for units selected. In practice, non-response generally makes samples depart from the probability ones. However, the point here is to report on whether or not the gross sample (net sample plus non-respondents) has been selected in a probability way.*

According to art. 2 of Regulation 1166/2008 the random stratified sample is used. The stratification criteria are the farm type and size and the geographical location (district-NUTS3).

Probabilistic stratified random sampling.

**12.1.d.2 (new) the number of sampling stages.**

*If the survey sample is selected from another sample (e.g. master sample) please consider this stage.*

*If you use sub-sampling for some of the characteristics, please distinguish the cases in your answer.*

Single-stage sample.

n.a.

**12.1.d.3 (new) the sampling unit at each stage**

*For example, sampling units can be holdings in a single-stage design or municipalities/villages as primary sampling units and holdings as secondary sampling units in a two-stage design etc.*

The sampling units are the holdings in a single-stage design

**12.1.d.4 the stratification variables and the sampling stage where they are applied**

*For example, in a single-stage design, holdings can be stratified by region and size.*

Holdings are stratified by district (NUTS3), farm type and size.

**12.1.d.5 (new) the sampling method at each stage**

*The sampling method can be exhaustive selection, simple random sampling, systematic sampling with equal probabilities,*

*systematic sampling with probabilities proportional to size, etc.*

Single-stage stratified random sampling the selection within which stratum is purely random.

#### **12.1.d.6 the list and description of full coverage strata**

*Full coverage strata are strata with complete enumeration (all units are selected in the sample).*

Considering the low number of holdings in the group of largest farm size and the high variance in the strata with this farm size it was decided to put all holdings with SO equal or greater than 50 000 Euro in an exhaustive "1100" stratum. There are 28 strata "1100" – one for each district. There are 6 073 agricultural holdings in strata "1100".

Additional exhaustive stratum "1000" stratum was defined in order to improve the precision for some of the variables of interest for which the requested CV of 5% was not achieved with the initial stratification. There are 28 strata "1000" – one for each district. There are 4 503 agricultural holdings in strata "1000". The criteria are presented here bellow:

Regardless of the type of farm and if the farm size is less than 50 000 Euro, and if any of the conditions is fulfilled:

IF (SO < 50000 Euro); if (A\_3\_2\_1 > 0 ha); if (A\_3\_2\_2 > 0 ha); if (A\_3\_2\_3 > 0 ha); if (A\_3\_2\_4\_1 > 0 number); if (A\_3\_2\_4\_2 > 0 number); if (A\_3\_2\_4\_3 > 0 number); if (A\_3\_2\_4\_4 > 0 number); if (A\_3\_2\_4\_5 = 'y'); if (C\_99 = 'y'); if (B\_1\_1\_7 > 0 ha); if (B\_1\_6\_2 > 0 ha); if (B\_1\_6\_3 > 0 ha); if (B\_1\_4 > 0 ha); if ((B\_1\_6\_9 + B\_1\_6\_10 + B\_1\_6\_11) > 0 ha); if (B\_1\_6\_1 >= 5 ha); if (B\_1\_3 >= 5 ha); if (B\_1\_7 >= 5 ha); if (B\_4\_4 >= 5 ha); if (B\_4\_1\_1 >= 5 ha); if ((B\_3 - B\_3\_2) >= 100 ha); if (B\_6\_1 >= 0.001 ha); if (C\_2\_99 >= 4 number); if (C\_3\_2 >= 50 number); if (Buffalo-cows >= 5 number); if (Buffaloes >= 10 number); if (Oil rose >= 4 ha).

The new holdings created after AC2010 were added to the sample in "9999" stratum with a weight equal to one.

Common land holdings (special holdings created to report common land) were added to the sample in "8888" stratum with a weight equal to one.

#### **12.1.d.7 the overall sample size, how it was determined and any allocation method used**

*Allocation methods can be equal allocation, proportional allocation, Neyman allocation, optimal allocation considering different costs across strata etc.*

The sample size is 30 000 units and is determined based on available budget and requested precision to be achieved. The allocation method used is Neyman allocation. Variable: SO.

#### **12.1.d.8 sampling across time**

*This item refers to whether a new sample is drawn in each occasion, or a part or the whole sample is retained over all/several occasions. The latter two cases should be justified.*

-

#### **12.1.d.9 the software tool used in the sample selection**

SPSS

#### **12.1.d.10 other relevant information, if any**

-

### **12.1.e Use of administrative data sources**

#### **12.1.e.1 Name, legal base, time reference and (new) updating of the source**

*If more than one administrative data source is used, please provide this information for each of them.*

IACS-SAPS data control

State Fund Agriculture for the measures of the National Rural Development Programme.

**LEGAL BASIS:** ORDINANCE № 105 OF 22 AUGUST 2006 ON THE TERMS AND PROCEDURE FOR ESTABLISHING, MAINTAINING, ACCESSING AND USING THE INTEGRATED ADMINISTRATION AND CONTROL SYSTEM; § 4. The Ordinance is issued pursuant to Art. 30, paragraph 6 of the Farmers Support Act.

Art. 1. (Amended – SG, Issue 16 of 2015) (1) This Ordinance shall regulate the terms and procedure for establishing, maintaining, accessing and using of:

1. System for registration of the candidates, the aid applications and the payment requests;
2. Land Parcels Identification System (LPIS);
3. System for identification and registration of animals;
4. Integrated control system;
5. Integrated information system (electronic database).

(2) The electronic database under paragraph 1, point 5 includes data from the systems under points 1, 2 and 3 and from external databases.

Art. 2. (1) The systems under Art. 1 are established and maintained :

1. under points 1, 4 and 5 - by the Paying Agency (PA);
2. under point 2 - Ministry of Agriculture and Food;

3. (amendment – SG, Issue 21 of 2012) under point 3 - from the Bulgarian Agency for Food Safety (BAFS).

(2) The systems under Art. 1, points 1, 2, 3 and 5 shall be set up and maintained on the basis of registries and graphic information as computerized databases.

Art. 28. (1) (Amended - SG, Issue 16 of 2015) The Paying Agency sets up an Integrated information system uniting the data from the system for registration of the candidates, of the aid applications and the payment requests, LPIS and the system for identification and registration of animals.

2) The Integrated Information System is created and maintained in accordance with:

1. information strategy approved by the executive director of PA;

2. established rules and procedures for information systems and databases in PA;

3. the international standards for information systems;

4. the requirements of EU legislation;

5. (new – SG, Issue 21 of 2012) the requirements of the Personal Data Protection Act, the Access to Public Information Act and the eGovernment Act.

### 12.1.e.2 Definition of the reporting unit (holding)

*If more than one administrative data source is used, please provide this information for each of them.*

Agricultural Producers Support Act (State Gazette No.58 from 22 May 1998 and amendments)

.....

Additional provisions

§ 1. According to the provisions of this law:

1. "Agricultural producers" are physical and legal persons that produce unprocessed and/or processed crop and/or animal production.

....

### 12.1.e.3 The purpose(s) of the use of administrative sources

Purpose	Administrative source <i>Please specify the name of the administrative source(s) in the rows of this column. The row(s) where the name(s) of the source(s) is (are) specified indicate(s) the purpose(s) of the use of that (those) source(s).</i>
- to totally replace the survey, on all characteristics and on the whole survey population	No
- to replace the survey on some of the characteristics and on the whole survey population. <i>Please indicate these (groups of) characteristics, the common identifiers and the method(s) of integration (record linkage algorithm).</i>	State Fund Agriculture - replace the survey for the following characteristics: from G_1_1 to G_1_11
- to replace the survey on all characteristics and on a part of the survey population	No
- to replace the survey on some of the characteristics and on a part of the survey population. <i>Please indicate these (groups of) characteristics, the common identifiers and the method(s) of integration (record linkage algorithm).</i>	No
- to build/update the (sampling) frame (used for census or for sample survey)	Used for completing the sampling frame with the new holdings created after 2010 - new farms are added to the list of agricultural holdings from the sample to be interviewed. Data is not used to up-date the surveyed characteristics from the sampling frame.
- to pre-fill answers in the questionnaires which are then checked by farmers during the survey	No
- to impute item/unit non-response	Yes
- to validate the survey data (quality control). <i>Please indicate actions taken in case of large discrepancies</i>	Yes Second visit to the holding or phone call to clarify the divergencies.
- to calibrate of survey estimates. <i>Please indicate the calibration variables</i>	No



- other (please specify in the next column)

No

#### 12.1.e.4 Difficulties of using administrative source(s) and measures taken

For each administrative source used, please briefly describe any difficulties and the way those difficulties were addressed. Examples of difficulties:

- incoherence of concepts/definitions;
- incoherence of classification systems;
- different population coverage;
- problems creating the links between the units: the units in administrative sources do not correspond directly to the definition of required statistical units;
- problems creating the links between databases caused by e.g. the lack of common identifiers, obstacles related to IT issues etc.;
- impossibilities to establish cooperation with register owners;
- (too high) costs charged for the access by the register owners;
- problems related to data quality of the source;
- resistance to change caused by a general lack of trust in the quality of the source;
- timeliness and punctuality: the final validated data in the source may not be in time to meet statistical deadlines or may relate to a period which does not coincide with the statistical reference period;
- risks concerning the stability of the source to political changes etc.

- incoherence of concepts/definitions - **No**;
- incoherence of classification systems - **No**;
- different population coverage - **YES**;
- problems creating the links between the units: the units in administrative sources do not correspond directly to the definition of required statistical units - **YES**;
- problems creating the links between databases caused by e.g. the lack of common identifiers, obstacles related to IT issues etc. - **YES**;
- impossibilities to establish cooperation with register owners - **NO**;
- (too high) costs charged for the access by the register owners - **NO**;
- problems related to data quality of the source - **NO**;
- resistance to change caused by a general lack of trust in the quality of the source - **NO**;
- timeliness and punctuality: the final validated data in the source may not be in time to meet statistical deadlines or may relate to a period which does not coincide with the statistical reference period - **NO**;
- risks concerning the stability of the source to political changes etc. - **NO**;

#### 12.1.e.5 Quality assessment of the administrative sources

Section 12.1.e.5 should **not** be completed when administrative sources are used only for building/updating the (sampling) frame of a census or a sample survey. In that case, other sections of the report (sections 5.3, 12.1.c, 12.3.d) provide relevant information.

		<b>Administrative source and assessment of errors</b> Please specify the name of the administrative source(s) in this column, along with information required for each row.
<b>-coverage:</b>		
	<b>- over-coverage</b> If the source covers more units than it should, please provide an assessment of the over-coverage rate and mention whether the out-of-scope units were excluded.	State Fund Agriculture - replace the survey for the following characteristics: from G_1_1 to G_1_11. State Fund Agriculture covers all units accepted for subsidizing under the rural development measures.
	<b>- under-coverage</b> If the source covers less units than it should, please provide an assessment of the extent of under-coverage (if possible) and mention if and how the missing information is derived.	IACS - SAPS data control and imputation. The registration is not mandatory. The small holdings are not covered.
	<b>- misclassification</b> Please mention whether the information allows for the requested classification of units and whether there are errors in classification variables.	NA
	<b>- multiple listings</b> Please provide an assessment on units which were present more than once in the source and specify how	No duplicates.

	<i>the duplicates were eliminated.</i>	
	<p><b>- rate of unreported events</b>  <i>If data of the System for the Identification and Registration of Bovine Animals is used, please provide an assessment of the rate of unreported events. Unreported events refer to births, deaths or loss, sales or change of owners etc. of animals, which create under – and/or over-coverage errors for the estimates of animals.</i></p>	NA
	<p><b>- missing data</b> (analogue to item and unit non-response errors in a survey).<i>Please provide an assessment of missing data, specify for which characteristics and how it was accounted for (e.g. by imputation).</i></p>	NA
	<p><b>- errors in register variables</b> (analogue to measurement errors in a survey) i.e. erroneous values for certain variables</p>	NA
	<p><b>- processing errors.</b> <i>Please provide an assessment. You can mention here imputation methods used, if any.</i></p>	NA
	<p><b>- coherence</b> (comparison to other available data) of the administrative data (ex-ante and/or ex-post)</p>	NA
	<p><b>- other drawbacks (if any)</b> of the use of data from the administrative source. <i>Please specify the drawbacks in the next column.</i></p>	NA

[3] See Article 2 of Regulation (EC) 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on farm structure surveys and the survey on agricultural production methods and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) 571/88

## 12.2. Frequency of data collection

*(new) Please indicate the frequency of data collection.*

2010-census, 2013-sample survey

## 12.3. Data collection

### 12.3.a Data collection modes

*Please specify the data collection mode(s) used.*

*These can be for example:*

- Telephone

*The data collection is carried out through the telephone interviews, usually supported by the CATI technology.*

- Face-to-face

*An interviewer visits selected holdings to directly communicate with them and get the required data.*

- Internet

*The data collection is carried out by using questionnaires which can be completed through internet applications.*

- Self-completed paper questionnaires

*The data is gathered through self-completed paper questionnaires which can be collected on a spot or sent to the survey organisation by mail.*

- Mixed-mode

*Several modes for data collection are combined. The typical example is the survey where the telephone interviews are complemented with the face-to-face interviews for the respondents who were not reached by telephone.*

- Telephone - NO;
- Face-to-face - YES;
- Internet - NO;
- Self-completed paper questionnaires - NO;
- Mixed-mode - NO.

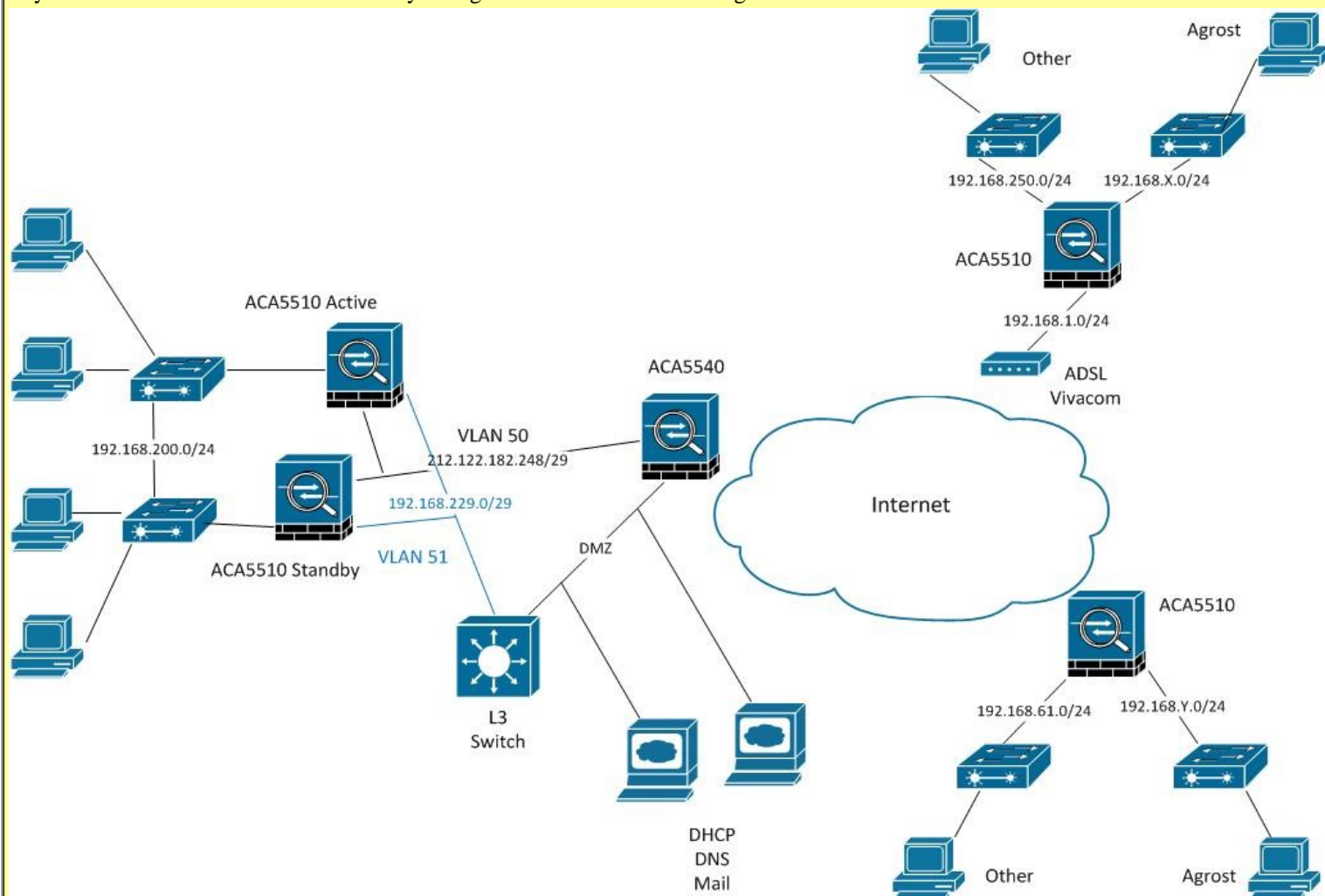
### 12.3.b Data entry modes

Please specify the data entry mode(s) used.

These can be, for example:

- Optical character recognition (OCR);
- Electronic data capture during personal interview;
- Entering the data online by the holder etc.

Physical model of the network in Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Regional Statistical Offices.



Information is collected on paper questionnaire through face-to-face interviews. Manual data entry into the software.

**Software used:**

- MS Office;
- Custom software, based on Access;
- Java.

This network secures the official information and meets the requirements of the Law on Statistics regarding statistical confidentiality and protection of individual data.

### 12.3.c Measures taken to increase response rates

Please specify, for example:

- call-back strategies, written / telephone reminders, contacting respondents who have only partly completed the questionnaires;
- giving priority to more important, for example large holdings;
- taking care that the mailing list is based on up to date information;
- training staff in handling difficult respondents;
- legal actions taken on non-response.

- call-back strategies, written / telephone reminders, contacting respondents who have only partly completed the questionnaires
- Reminder by phone, second visit on-the-spot, additional clarification of the data by phone.
- giving priority to more important, for example large holdings - YES;
- taking care that the mailing list is based on up to date information - YES;
- training staff in handling difficult respondents - YES;

- legal actions taken on non-response - NO.

### 12.3.d Monitoring of response and non-response

The following table should be completed only in case of a sample survey or a census.

It should **not** be completed when data are entirely taken from administrative sources. In the latter case, section 12.1.e.5 provides relevant information.

The following table aims to collect exact information of the number of holdings in a uniform way. This information allows, among other, calculating response rates according to the definition of response rates in the Eurostat (2009) [ESS Handbook for Quality Reports](#), page 49. These definitions of the response rates are presented in the handbook for sample surveys but, as stated in the same handbook, page 57, they are also applicable to censuses.

The following table refers to the number of holdings covered by the records sent to Eurostat.

- If you send records on all surveyed holdings to Eurostat, then please include all surveyed holdings - **YES**;

- If you send records on a subset of surveyed holdings to Eurostat (that, according to Regulation 1166/2008, account for 98% of the utilised agricultural area and 98% of the livestock units), then please consider only the subset of holdings transferred to Eurostat, if possible. If this is not possible, please explain and then include information concerning all holdings surveyed in the country - **NO**.

This table refers to the number of holdings according to the EU definition, and, if different from the EU definition [\[4\]](#), according to the national definition. Please specify the case.

Common land holdings (special holdings created to report common land), if any, should not be included in the number of the holdings of any category below. They should be reported in section 8.1.d.4

1.	<p><b>Number of holdings in the population covered by the records sent to Eurostat</b></p> <p>Please note that the survey coverage of the records sent to Eurostat can be different from the national survey coverage in case very low (or no) national thresholds are applied.</p> <p>In case of a census <math>1=3+4+5</math></p>	254 142
2.	<p><b>Number of holdings in the gross sample</b></p> <p>The number of holdings selected from the sampling frame to be included in the sample.</p> <p>This item should be completed <u>only</u> in case of a sample survey, in which case <math>2=3+4+5</math></p>	36 153
3.	<p><b>(new) Number of ineligible holdings</b></p> <p>The number of surveyed holdings which result to be out-of-scope (the frame is not updated and the data collection reveals that some holdings e.g. fall below set thresholds during the reference period), which do not exist at the selected address, which have the activities ceased during the reference period etc.</p>	8 160
3.1	<p><b>Number of holdings with ceased activities</b></p> <p>This item is a subset of 3.</p> <p><math>3.1 \geq 3.1.1 + 3.1.2</math></p>	5 857
3.1.1	<p><b>Number of holdings which definitively ceased i.e. the land is abandoned.</b></p> <p>This item should be completed only if information is available.</p>	n.a.
3.1.2	<p><b>Number of holdings with ceased activities following the change of manager</b></p> <p>This item should be completed only if information is available.</p>	n.a.
4	<p><b>(new) Number of holdings with unknown eligibility status</b></p> <p>The number of surveyed holdings which could not be contacted (e.g. in a CATI survey) and for which it is not certain if they are eligible (e.g. in scope) or not.</p>	26
5	<p><b>(new) Number of eligible holdings</b></p> <p>The number of surveyed holdings which are eligible</p> <p><math>5=5.1+5.2</math></p>	27 967

<b>5.1</b>	<b>Number of non-responding holdings</b> <i>The number of eligible holdings which:</i> - were contacted but refused to take part in the survey; - were contacted but were unable to participate in the survey for various reasons; - participated in the survey but the entire survey form cannot be used because of poor quality etc. This item refers to holdings for which no data is collected ( <b>unit non-response</b> ). <b>5.1 ≥ 5.1.1 + 5.1.2</b>	- were contacted but refused to take part in the survey - 78; - were contacted but were unable to participate in the survey for various reasons - 0; - participated in the survey but the entire survey form cannot be used because of poor quality etc. - 0; This item refers to holdings for which no data is collected (unit non-response).
<b>5.1.1</b>	<b>Number of non-responding holdings – re-weighted</b>	0
<b>5.1.2</b>	<b>Number of non-responding holdings – imputed</b>	78
<b>5.2</b>	<b>Number of responding holdings</b> This item includes holdings which provided completed questionnaires, either entirely or partially.	27 889

### 12.3.e Questionnaire(s) - File with the questionnaire in Bulgarian and English.

Please annex the questionnaire(s) used for the data collection, using the "Add file" button. If possible, please provide the questionnaire in English, French or German.

Copies of the above mentioned statistical questionnaires are hereby attached.

[4] See Article 2 of Regulation (EC) 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on farm structure surveys and the survey on agricultural production methods and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) 571/88

### Annexes:

[BG Questionnaire FSS2013](#)

[Common Land BG 2013](#)

## 12.4. Data validation

### 12.4.a Edit rules/checks

Please mention edit rules applied. For example: data format checks, completeness checks, routing (skip) checks, range/outlier checks, relational checks, ratio edits, etc.

The individual data is checked through series of logical and mathematical controls. The completeness of the records is checked for the obligatory fields of the questionnaire. The completeness of the units from the list to be surveyed is also checked.

### 12.4.b Tools used for data validation

Please mention tools used.

- manual for interviewers;
- computer module CENS10.

### 12.4.c Level of data validation

Please mention. For example, data validation can be done at the level of the interviewer, of the supervisor, of the local collection centre, of the final collection centre.

Validation is done at district (local collection centre) and central level (final collection centre) of the MAF.

## 12.5. Data compilation

Sections 12.5.a and 12.5.b should be completed *only* in case of sample surveys.

### 12.5.a Methods for deriving the extrapolation factor (the weight)

Please give a description of the extrapolation procedures used to weight the data of the sampled holdings to the population, discussing the different steps taken, as follows:

#### 12.5.a.1 Design weights

Please explain how design weights were obtained. In case the approach departed from the usual one that consists of taking the inverse of the inclusion probabilities, then the latter should be explained.  
Design weights are defined as the inverse of the units' selection probabilities.

taking the inverse of the inclusion probabilities



**12.5.a.2 Adjustment of weights for non-response**

Please mention if you applied re-weighting for non-response. If yes, then the method used to determine the correction factors should be explained: reweighted Horvitz-Thompson estimator, ratio estimation, regression estimation, etc.

Please indicate if response homogeneity groups have been created.

No

No

**12.5.a.3 Adjustment of weights to external data sources**

Please mention if you adjusted the weights to external sources and if so please describe and mention the variables used from the sources and the sources. Generally, samples are adjusted to external data sources in order to make their accuracy better. For instance, the calibration technique aims at calculating new weights which provide error-free estimates for a certain number of characteristics. If the characteristics are strongly correlated with the variables of interest, then the level of accuracy for most of the survey estimates is improved.

No

**12.5.a.4 Any other applied adjustment of weights**

For example, extreme weights (which increase the variance of the estimates) can be trimmed.

No

**12.5.b Formulae applied for estimation methods**

Please annex the formulae applied for estimation methods, using the "Add file" button.

**12.5.c Other relevant information (if any)**

Data processing, estimation and analysis were carried out on central level. Preliminary results were prepared and distributed. The data file was prepared and sent to Eurostat for validation.

**12.6. Adjustment**

[Not requested]

**13. Comment**[Top](#)**13.a Any regional specification**

Please include relevant information such as on extreme weather conditions in certain region(s) during the agricultural year (reference period), differences in methodology across regions etc.

n.a.

**13.b Possible improvements in the future**

Please suggest possible improvements.

New information system and option for on-line filling in of e-questionnaires.  
Building of statistical farm register.

**13.c Other annexes**

Please annex any other(s) file(s), deemed as useful, using the "Add file" button.

Please indicate here the nature and purpose of the file(s).

**Related metadata**[Top](#)**Annexes**[Top](#)