

Farming Facts and Figures, Wales 2021

INTRODUCTION

This is an annual publication produced by the Welsh Government. It provides an overview of agricultural statistics taken from the Welsh June Agricultural Survey and a range of other sources. Latest data are usually for 2020. This document is intended to be a handy pocket guide. For this reason it is selective about the range of information provided and the level of additional explanatory information is kept deliberately minimal. For more detailed information, explanation and commentary please see the full range of agricultural statistics outputs on our website.

www.gov.wales/statistics-and-research

The following outputs can be found under the “Farming and Countryside” topic:

- Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture (June Survey)
- Agricultural Small Areas Statistics
- Aggregate Agricultural Output and Income
- Forecasts of Farm Incomes

Enquiries relating to any of the tables contained in this publication may be directed to:

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LIVESTOCK

Dairy sector	2010	2018	2019	2020
Dairy breeding herd ('000) (a)	221.3	254.3	251.6	252.2
Number of holdings with dairy herd	3,372	2,666	2,584	2,495
Average size of herd	66	95	97	101
Beef sector				
Beef breeding herd ('000) (a)	185.8	166.6	163.8	162.0
Number of holdings with beef herd	8,579	7,202	7,128	7,043
Average size of herd	22	23	23	23
Finished cattle price (b)	145	193	182	195
Sheep sector				
Total sheep and lambs ('000)	8,244.2	9,530.8	9,533.6	8,989.4
Number of holdings	14,398	13,755	14,135	14,100
Average size of flock	573	693	674	638
Total breeding flock ('000)	4,109.6	4,758.4	4,706.0	..
All other sheep 1 year old and over ('000)	196.4	187.1	187.2	..
Lambs under 1 year ('000)	3,938.1	4,585.3	4,640.4	4,508.3
Finished sheep price (c)	172	199	191	218
Pig sector				
Pigs ('000)	27.0	23.2	24.4	28.4
Number of holdings	1187	1,357	1,335	1,339
Average size of herd	23	17	18	21
Total breeding pigs ('000)	4.5	3.4	3.3	3.0

Source: June Agricultural Survey

(a) Female cattle aged 2 years and over that have calved

(b) Average market price (pence per kilo liveweight)

(c) Average return to producers (pence per kilo liveweight)

Cattle figures sourced from the Cattle Tracing System (CTS). Finished livestock prices sourced from the Agricultural and Horticultural Development Board (AHDB).

PLEASE NOTE: The figures give indications of size and trends. Many figures are rounded so some components may not add to the totals shown. There are often qualifications to the data, and users should therefore refer to more detailed published sources.

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FARMS, OUTPUT AND LAND AREA BY FARM TYPE 2020

	Farms	Output (a) (€million)	Land (‘000ha)
Crops and horticulture	551	106	60
Specialist pig & poultry	146	152	11
Dairy	1,469	836	174
SDA grazing	4,343	374	592
DA grazing	1,944	144	156
Non-LFA Grazing	1,176	86	84
Mixed & others	570	94	55
Very small (b)	14,478	105	238
All types	24,677	1,898	1,369

Source: June Agricultural Survey

Excludes a large number of dormant holdings who remain registered but have no activity at present.

(a) Standard Output - a proxy measure of turnover.

(b) Holdings with small amounts of agricultural activity are grouped together irrespective of farm type.

LABOUR

Labour on holdings (‘000)	2010	2018	2019	2020
Farmers, partners & directors:				
Full-time	16.4	18.3	18.1	18.7
Part-time	27.6	21.0	21.6	18.6
Family and hired workers:				
Full-time	3.7
Part-time	5.0
Seasonal or casual workers	5.2
Total farm workers	13.8	12.9	13.2	15.5
Total labour engaged on holdings	57.8	52.2	52.9	52.8

.. = not available

Source: June Agricultural Survey

AGRICULTURAL LAND USE

Agricultural area ('000 ha)	2010	2018	2019	2020
Total area	1,710	1,903	1,944	1,879
of which:				
Arable land	190	251	256	239
Permanent grass	1,021	1,108	1,126	1,063
Rough grazing (a)	410	431	434	433
Woodland and other land	90	113	128	144

(a) Includes common rough grazing.

Source: June Agricultural Survey

AVERAGE FARM BUSINESS INCOME BY FARM TYPE (a)

In real terms (deflated by GDP deflator)

Farm Business Income	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Type of farming:			
All farm types	34,600	23,600	26,200
Dairy	82,400	46,600	50,700
Grazing livestock (LFA)	26,900	18,900	22,600
Grazing livestock (lowland)	24,000	17,100	16,600

Source: Farm Business Survey (FBS)

BREAKDOWN OF WELSH AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

	2018	2019	2020
Production as a share of gross output:			(forecast)
Milk and milk products	33.7%	32.7%	30.2%
Cattle	24.0%	23.9%	25.7%
Sheep	16.7%	16.9%	18.4%
Poultry and eggs	5.8%	6.8%	7.2%
All crops and horticulture	6.3%	6.2%	5.5%
Others (a)	12.9%	13.5%	12.5%

Source: Aggregate Agricultural Account

(a) Includes pigs, clip wool, other livestock, other livestock products, capital formation in livestock, other agricultural activities and 'inseparable secondary activities'.

PRINCIPAL GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES - TOTAL PAYMENT

(£million)

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Basic Payment Scheme	235.3	235.6	233.4	240.0
Glastir Advanced	11.7	14.2	15.1	11.1
Glastir Entry	20.1	17.5	15.7	16.6
Glastir Commons	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.3
Glastir Woodland	3.5	4.4	2.6	0.9
Glastir Organic	4.1	4.0	3.7	3.6
Glastir Small Grants	1.1	2.1	2.2	1.1

Note: Payments are made on a continuous basis and as such are always subject to revision.

PEOPLE, LAND AND AGRICULTURE IN WALES AND THE UK 2020

General	WALES	UK	WALES SHARE
All land (hectares)	2,100,000	24,400,000	9%
Total persons (a)	3,170,000	67,080,000	5%
Agricultural land (hectares)(b)			
Permanent pasture	1,060,000	6,120,000	17%
Sole rights	250,000	3,920,000	6%
Grassland under 5 years	160,000	1,180,000	14%
Crops and horticulture	80,000	4,840,000	2%
Farm woodland and other (c)	140,000	1,370,000	10%
Total	1,700,000	17,430,000	10%
Livestock numbers (b)			
Sheep	8,990,000	32,700,000	27%
Cattle	1,120,000	9,610,000	12%
Dairy breeding herd	250,000	1,850,000	14%
Beef breeding herd	160,000	1,510,000	11%
Poultry	9,840,000	181,960,000	5%
Pigs	30,000	5,050,000	0.6%

(a) 2019 mid-year estimates of resident population.

(b) Survey of Agriculture, June 2020 run by each of the 4 home countries.

(c) June 2020 survey included bare fallow in other land