

Farming Facts and Figures, Wales 2022

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 2021. 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	2011	2019	2020	2021
Dairy breeding herd ('000) (a)	220.3	251.6	252.2	255.4
Number of holdings with dairy herd	2,938	2,584	2,495	2408
Average size of herd	75	97	101	106
Beef sector				
Beef breeding herd ('000) (a)	186.8	163.8	162.0	159.5
Number of holdings with beef herd	8,467	7,128	7,043	6927
Average size of herd	22	23	23	23
Finished cattle price (b)	168	182	195	223
Sheep sector				
Total sheep and lambs ('000)	8,619.4	9,533.6	8,989.4	9464.3
Number of holdings	14,184	14,135	14,100	14060
Average size of flock	608	674	638	673
Total breeding flock ('000)	4,117.8	4,706.0	..	4626.5
All other sheep 1 year old and over ('000)	161.5	187.2	..	190.1
Lambs under 1 year ('000)	4,340.1	4,640.4	4,508.3	4647.7
Finished sheep price (c)	191	191	218	265
Pig sector				
Pigs ('000)	25.8	24.4	28.4	27.181
Number of holdings	1167	1,335	1,339	1348
Average size of herd	22	18	21	20.16395
Total breeding pigs ('000)	4.5	3.3	3.0	3.005

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.

..=not available

FARMS, OUTPUT AND LAND AREA BY FARM TYPE 2021

	Farms	Output (a) (€million)	Land ('000ha)
Crops and horticulture	574	106	65
Specialist pig & poultry	163	160	15
Dairy	1,441	847	180
SDA grazing	4,374	390	613
DA grazing	1,946	148	164
Non-LFA Grazing	1,169	88	88
Mixed & others	562	95	56
Very small (b)	14,379	105	250
All types	24,608	1,939	1,432

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)	2011	2019	2020	2021
Farmers, partners & directors:				
Full-time	19.9	18.1	18.7	17.8
Part-time	25.0	21.6	18.6	20.2
Family and hired workers:				
Full-time	3.3
Part-time	3.1
Seasonal or casual workers	7.1
Total farm workers	13.5	13.2	15.5	12.4
Total labour engaged on holdings	58.4	52.9	52.8	50.4

.. = not available

Source: June Agricultural Survey

AGRICULTURAL LAND USE

Agricultural area ('000 ha)	2011	2019	2020	2021
Total area	1,713	1,944	1,879	1,964
of which:				
Arable land	206	256	239	252
Permanent grass	1,045	1,126	1,063	1,141
Rough grazing (a)	404	434	433	422
Woodland and other land	57	128	144	149

(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	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Type of farming:			
All farm types	23,600	26,200	35800
Dairy	46,600	50,700	60200
Grazing livestock (LFA)	18,900	22,600	29900
Grazing livestock (lowland)	17,100	16,600	22900

Source: Farm Business Survey (FBS)

BREAKDOWN OF WELSH AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

	2019	2020	2021
Production as a share of gross output:			(forecast)
Milk and milk products	32.5%	30.2%	32.1%
Cattle	23.3%	25.8%	24.9%
Sheep	16.8%	17.7%	17.1%
Poultry and eggs	6.7%	7.1%	7.7%
All crops and horticulture	6.1%	5.7%	6.0%
Others (a)	13.5%	12.4%	11.4%

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)

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Basic Payment Scheme	235.6	233.4	241.0	234.1
Glastir Advanced	14.2	15.1	11.1	17.2
Glastir Entry	17.5	15.7	16.6	9.2
Glastir Commons	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.3
Glastir Woodland	4.4	2.6	0.9	2.4
Glastir Organic	4.0	3.7	3.6	3.4
Glastir Small Grants	2.1	2.2	1.1	1.9

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 2021

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	1,141,336	6,070,912	19%
Sole rights	241,533	3,893,944	6%
Grassland under 5 years	155,923	1,216,835	13%
Crops and horticulture	95,727	4,838,984	2%
Farm woodland and other	149,351	1,415,543	11%
Total	1,783,870	17,436,217	10%
Livestock numbers (b)			
Sheep	9,464,299	32,957,022	29%
Cattle	1,128,849	9,603,206	12%
Dairy breeding herd	255,445	1,850,042	14%
Beef breeding herd	159,547	1,485,283	11%
Poultry	10,352,244	190,018,992	5%
Pigs	27,181	5,322,951	1%

(a) 2020 mid-year estimates of resident population.

(b) Survey of Agriculture, June 2021 run by each of the 4 home countries.