

## Farm structure in Malta - 2007

### Increase in the number of horticultural holdings: 39% from 2005 to 2007.

*This Statistics in Focus is part of a series of country-specific publications on the results of the Farm Structure Survey (FSS) 2007. It provides a brief but nevertheless comprehensive insight into the farm structure in Malta.*

*11 020 agricultural holdings were recorded in Malta in the 2007 Farm structure survey (55 less than in 2005). Only 38% of these holdings had an economic size of at least one European Size Unit (ESU), compared to about 74% in 2005. This big difference is due to a change in agricultural prices, which has reduced the total Standard Gross Margins (SGM) over recent years.*

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Due to the different coverage of the FSS across Member States, the total number of farms is not comparable between countries. This is why the present analysis, including Tables 1-4 and the graphs focus on holdings of at least 1 ESU. See the methodological notes for more information on the concept of ESU.

In 2007, about 4 100 holdings had an economic size of at least 1 ESU.

- They made use of **7 200 ha of utilised agricultural area (UAA)**, which is on average **1.75 ha** per holding (compared to **1.11 ha** in 2005);
- These holdings employed **3 400 annual work units (AWU)**, the equivalent of 3 400 people working full time;
- They had **49 000 livestock units (LSU)** in 2007, 7% more than in 2005.

Amongst these **4 100** agricultural holdings (≥1ESU):

- **65%** made use of less than one AWU, while another **10%** made use of 2 or more AWUs;
- **42%** used less than 1 ha, while **27%** used 2 ha or more;
- 11% of the holdings were producing mainly for own consumption;

- 31% of the holdings specialised in horticulture and 22% were holdings of the type mixed cropping;
- 16% of the holdings specialised in livestock;
- 3% were mixed farms.

The labour force has decreased by 12% from 2005 to 2007.

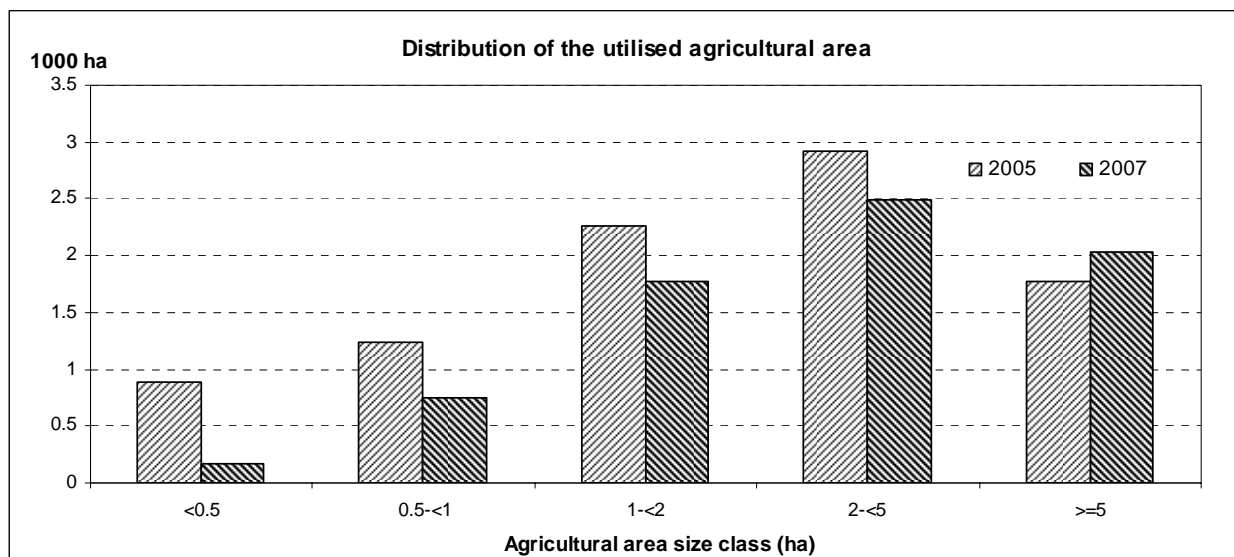
Amongst the sole holders:

- 5% were women in 2007, (compared to 7% in 2005);
- 50% were aged 55 or more, and 6% were younger than 35 years;
- 50% of sole/main holders had another gainful activity in 2007.

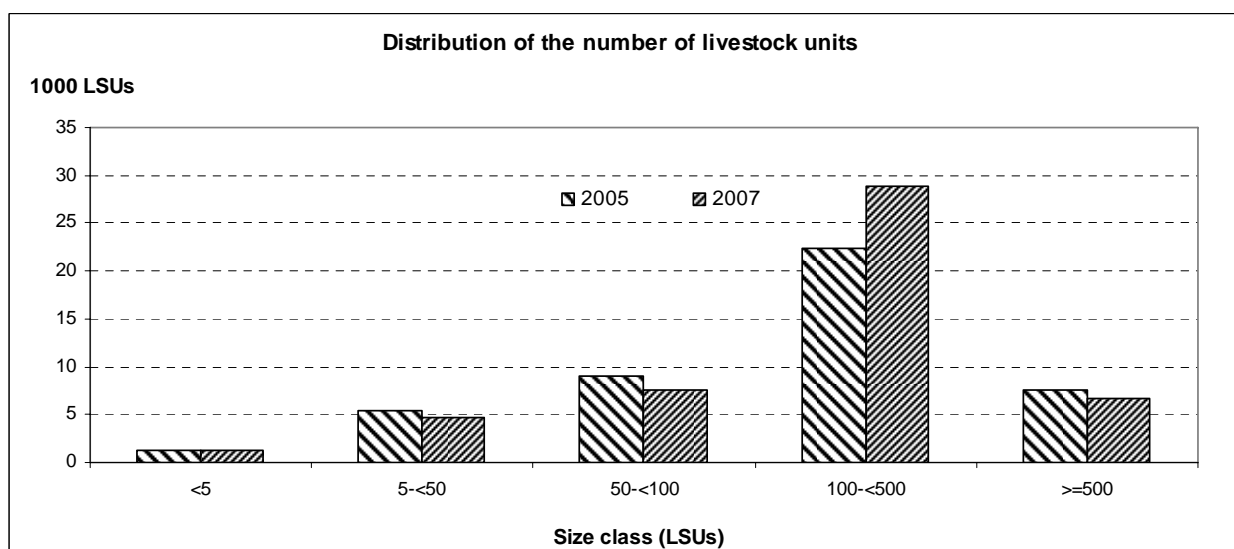
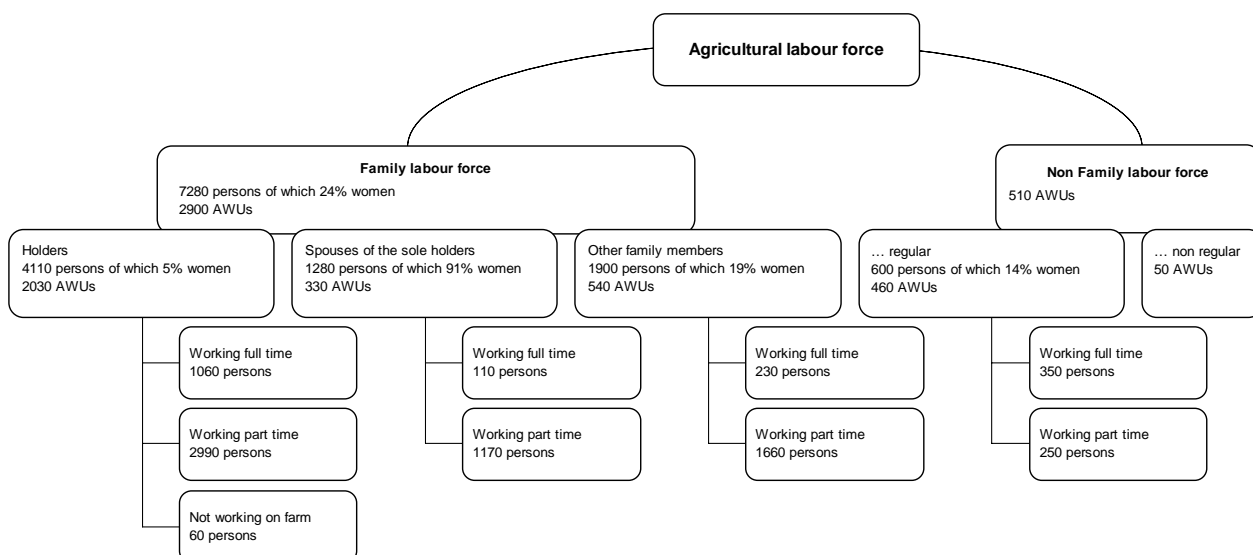
In Malta in 2007, 18% of the agricultural area was farmed by the owner.

There was an increase of 11% in the number of goats, but a reduction of 23 % in the number of sheep.

39% of the UAA was irrigated in 2007. The area of irrigated land has increased by 14% from 2005 to 2007. This increase is mainly related to the large number of horticultural holdings (39% more than in 2005).



### Description of the labour force in Malta



\*LSUs = Livestock Unit

| Size of the farms  | Agricultural area (ha) |            |            |            | All farms  | Livestock (LSU*) |            |            |            |            |
|--|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|  | <0.5                   | 0.5-<1     | 1-<2       | >=2 ha     |            | 0                | >0-<5      | 5-<50      | >=50       |            |
| <b>Total labour force</b>  |                        |            |            |            |            |                  |            |            |            |            |
| 1000 annual work units   | 0.4                    | 0.6        | 0.9        | 1.5        | 3.4        | 1.9              | 0.6        | 0.3        | 0.6        |            |
| <b>Family labour force</b>   |                        |            |            |            |            |                  |            |            |            |            |
| 1000 persons   | 1.2                    | 1.8        | 2.1        | 2.1        | 7.3        | 4.2              | 2.1        | 0.5        | 0.5        |            |
| 1000 annual work units   | 0.3                    | 0.5        | 0.8        | 1.3        | 2.9        | 1.7              | 0.6        | 0.3        | 0.4        |            |
| <b>Non-family labour regularly employed</b>                        |                        |            |            |            |            |                  |            |            |            |            |
| 1000 persons   | 0.1                    | 0.1        | 0.1        | 0.3        | 0.6        | 0.3              | 0.1        | 0.0        | 0.2        |            |
| 1000 annual work units   | 0.1                    | 0.1        | 0.1        | 0.2        | 0.5        | 0.2              | 0.1        | 0.0        | 0.1        |            |
| <b>Non regular non family labour force</b>                         |                        |            |            |            |            |                  |            |            |            |            |
| 1000 annual work units   | 0.0                    | 0.0        | 0.0        | 0.0        | 0.0        | 0.0              | 0.0        | 0.0        | 0.0        |            |
| <b>Holding managers</b>  | <b>1000</b>            | <b>0.7</b> | <b>1.0</b> | <b>1.3</b> | <b>1.1</b> | <b>4.1</b>       | <b>2.5</b> | <b>1.1</b> | <b>0.2</b> | <b>0.3</b> |
| - women (%)  |                        | 3.3        | 4.6        | 6.6        | 1.8        | 4.3              | 5.3        | 1.3        | 10.2       | 1.4        |
| - part-time: - under 50 % (%)                                      |                        | 75.6       | 76.3       | 59.7       | 25.1       | 57.4             | 58.5       | 72.5       | 33.0       | 1.9        |
| - 50 % and over (%)  |                        | 6.0        | 11.7       | 23.0       | 18.6       | 16.1             | 16.0       | 17.6       | 18.8       | 7.6        |
| <b>Sole/main holders</b>   | <b>1000</b>            | <b>0.7</b> | <b>1.0</b> | <b>1.3</b> | <b>1.1</b> | <b>4.1</b>       | <b>2.5</b> | <b>1.1</b> | <b>0.2</b> | <b>0.2</b> |
| - women (%)  |                        | 3.3        | 7.3        | 6.6        | 2.1        | 5.0              | 6.3        | 1.8        | 11.2       | 1.5        |
| -distribution by age (%)   |                        |            |            |            |            |                  |            |            |            |            |
| - under 35 years   |                        | 6.1        | 4.2        | 6.7        | 6.8        | 6.0              | 5.0        | 6.2        | 13.1       | 7.8        |
| - from 35 to 44 years  |                        | 21.6       | 7.7        | 11.0       | 16.6       | 13.4             | 15.9       | 4.8        | 20.3       | 21.8       |
| - from 45 to 54 years  |                        | 26.3       | 27.2       | 34.9       | 32.9       | 31.0             | 31.4       | 29.4       | 33.5       | 31.9       |
| - from 55 to 64 years  |                        | 21.2       | 34.2       | 39.0       | 28.4       | 32.0             | 29.6       | 37.3       | 32.7       | 30.6       |
| - 65 years and over  |                        | 24.8       | 26.7       | 8.4        | 15.3       | 17.6             | 18.1       | 22.2       | 0.4        | 7.9        |
| - part-time: - under 50 % (%)                                      |                        | 76.7       | 76.5       | 59.9       | 25.4       | 57.8             | 58.9       | 72.5       | 33.1       | 2.0        |
| - 50 % and over (%)  |                        | 6.1        | 11.8       | 23.1       | 18.8       | 16.2             | 16.1       | 17.6       | 18.8       | 8.0        |
| - with another gainful activity <sup>1</sup> (%)                   |                        | 48.9       | 50.3       | 62.4       | 33.1       | 49.6             | 49.6       | 58.0       | 42.6       | 11.2       |
| - as a main occupation   |                        | 45.9       | 47.6       | 55.7       | 25.4       | 44.3             | 44.1       | 53.7       | 37.3       | 3.4        |
| - as a subsidiary occupation                                       |                        | 3.0        | 2.7        | 6.7        | 7.7        | 5.3              | 5.6        | 4.3        | 5.4        | 7.8        |
| <b>Spouse of sole holder</b>                                       | <b>1000</b>            | <b>0.3</b> | <b>0.2</b> | <b>0.4</b> | <b>0.4</b> | <b>1.3</b>       | <b>0.7</b> | <b>0.4</b> | <b>0.1</b> | <b>0.1</b> |
| - women (%)  |                        | 100.0      | 86.3       | 82.6       | 97.7       | 91.4             | 89.0       | 98.1       | 80.7       | 96.2       |
| -distribution by age (%)   |                        |            |            |            |            |                  |            |            |            |            |
| - under 35 years   |                        | 10.2       | 0.5        | 1.6        | 6.3        | 4.7              | 4.8        | 4.1        | 1.0        | 9.5        |
| - from 35 to 54 years  |                        | 36.4       | 36.2       | 61.6       | 66.4       | 53.8             | 61.0       | 33.1       | 63.3       | 66.9       |
| - 55 years and over  |                        | 53.4       | 63.3       | 36.8       | 27.3       | 41.5             | 34.2       | 62.8       | 35.7       | 23.5       |
| - part-time: - under 50 % (%)                                      |                        | 91.4       | 93.3       | 84.3       | 64.4       | 81.2             | 80.8       | 90.0       | 79.5       | 52.1       |
| - 50 % and over (%)  |                        | 4.2        | 2.5        | 13.8       | 15.5       | 10.6             | 10.5       | 8.9        | 15.8       | 11.7       |
| - with another gainful activity (%)                                |                        | 14.6       | 10.5       | 13.4       | 5.6        | 10.8             | 12.8       | 9.6        | 8.8        | 2.8        |
| <b>Other members of the holder's family working on the holding</b> | <b>1000</b>            | <b>0.2</b> | <b>0.6</b> | <b>0.4</b> | <b>0.6</b> | <b>1.9</b>       | <b>1.0</b> | <b>0.6</b> | <b>0.1</b> | <b>0.2</b> |
| - women (%)  |                        | 17.6       | 4.8        | 36.7       | 21.0       | 18.8             | 12.4       | 33.4       | 7.9        | 16.4       |
| - part-time: - under 50 % (%)                                      |                        | 78.3       | 94.7       | 83.0       | 62.9       | 79.4             | 81.5       | 93.8       | 67.8       | 26.1       |
| - 50 % and over (%)  |                        | 3.8        | 3.9        | 6.3        | 15.3       | 8.2              | 9.3        | 4.3        | 9.4        | 14.0       |
| - with another gainful activity (%)                                |                        | 50.5       | 78.2       | 67.9       | 57.2       | 65.5             | 71.4       | 74.4       | 40.7       | 19.0       |

\*LSU = Livestock Unit

<sup>1</sup>Only holders who are also farms manager

"0" less than half of the unit or nil

| Size of the farms   | Agricultural area (ha) |        |      |        | All farms | Livestock (LSU*) |       |       |      |      |
|---|------------------------|--------|------|--------|-----------|------------------|-------|-------|------|------|
|   | <0.5                   | 0.5-<1 | 1-<2 | >=2 ha |           | 0                | >0-<5 | 5-<50 | >=50 |      |
| <b>Holdings</b>   |                        |        |      |        |           |                  |       |       |      |      |
| - total number  | 1000                   | 0.7    | 1.0  | 1.3    | 1.1       | 4.1              | 2.5   | 1.1   | 0.2  | 0.3  |
| - by legal personality of the holder (%)                          |                        |        |      |        |           |                  |       |       |      |      |
| - sole holder   |                        | 95.8   | 96.8 | 98.6   | 91.6      | 95.8             | 97.4  | 96.2  | 96.2 | 78.6 |
| - legal person  |                        | 1.4    | 0.4  | 0.4    | 1.2       | 0.8              | 0.7   | 0     | 0.4  | 5.1  |
| - group holders   |                        | 2.7    | 2.9  | 1.1    | 7.2       | 3.4              | 1.9   | 3.8   | 3.8  | 16.3 |
| - by employed labour force (%)                                    |                        |        |      |        |           |                  |       |       |      |      |
| - under 1 AWU   |                        | 76.9   | 79.1 | 74.9   | 30.8      | 64.6             | 65.3  | 81.8  | 41.4 | 2.3  |
| - from 1 to less than 2 AWU                                       |                        | 13.7   | 19.1 | 19.9   | 45.2      | 25.4             | 27.0  | 15.6  | 41.8 | 37.4 |
| - from 2 to less than 3 AWU                                       |                        | 6.8    | 1.4  | 3.6    | 16.4      | 6.9              | 5.6   | 1.8   | 15.2 | 35.0 |
| - 3 AWU and over  |                        | 2.7    | 0.5  | 1.7    | 7.7       | 3.1              | 2.1   | 0.8   | 2.1  | 24.9 |
| - by economic size (%)  |                        |        |      |        |           |                  |       |       |      |      |
| - from 1 to less than 8 ESU                                       |                        | 78.0   | 93.1 | 70.1   | 23.9      | 65.0             | 66.4  | 82.8  | 34.2 | 0    |
| - from 8 to less than 16 ESU                                      |                        | 6.8    | 4.3  | 25.4   | 25.9      | 17.0             | 18.9  | 8.3   | 46.0 | 11.3 |
| - from 16 to less than 40 ESU                                     |                        | 9.9    | 1.8  | 3.4    | 40.3      | 13.9             | 12.3  | 8.1   | 17.7 | 51.8 |
| - from 40 to less than 100 ESU                                    |                        | 3.2    | 0.7  | 0.9    | 9.0       | 3.4              | 2.2   | 0.6   | 2.1  | 28.8 |
| - 100 ESU and over  |                        | 2.0    | 0.1  | 0.2    | 1.0       | 0.7              | 0.1   | 0.3   | 0.4  | 8.2  |
| - by type of farming (top 5 + 'other') (%)                        |                        |        |      |        |           |                  |       |       |      |      |
| ... field crops – grazing livestock combined                      |                        | 9.9    | 29.2 | 41.8   | 32.1      | 30.6             | 38.1  | 26.3  | 4.2  | 0.4  |
| ... mixed livestock, mainly grazing livestock                     |                        | 6.9    | 21.3 | 23.1   | 31.2      | 22.1             | 27.1  | 19.0  | 6.3  | 0.8  |
| ... specialist dairy farming                                      |                        | 15.5   | 16.8 | 2.4    | 3.3       | 8.5              | 11.1  | 6.4   | 0    | 0    |
| ... mixed cropping  |                        | 20.8   | 3.4  | 4.8    | 2.4       | 6.5              | 0     | 2.9   | 38.4 | 57.2 |
| ... specialist cereals, oil seed and protein crops                |                        | 9.6    | 8.4  | 1.2    | 7.7       | 6.2              | 0     | 18.4  | 16.9 | 2.3  |
| Other types   |                        | 37.3   | 20.9 | 26.7   | 23.3      | 26.1             | 23.7  | 27.1  | 34.2 | 39.3 |
| - by farming methods (%)  |                        |        |      |        |           |                  |       |       |      |      |
| - organic farming   |                        | 0      | 0    | 0      | 0         | 0                | 0     | 0     | 0    | 0    |
| - irrigating  |                        | 27.9   | 61.6 | 55.4   | 76.3      | 57.8             | 70.8  | 43.4  | 32.5 | 18.3 |
| - with crops under glass  |                        | 0.8    | 4.1  | 4.4    | 17.3      | 7.2              | 10.0  | 2.9   | 2.1  | 3.1  |
| - with another gainful activity than agricultural production: (%) |                        |        |      |        |           |                  |       |       |      |      |
| Tourism   |                        | 0      | 0    | 0      | 0         | 0                | 0     | 0     | 0    | 0    |
| Handicraft  |                        | 0      | 0    | 0      | 0         | 0                | 0     | 0     | 0    | 0    |
| Processing of farm products                                       |                        | 7.3    | 8.9  | 2.9    | 9.0       | 6.8              | 1.7   | 12.0  | 27.8 | 13.6 |
| Wood processing   |                        | 0      | 0    | 0      | 0         | 0                | 0     | 0     | 0    | 0    |
| Aquaculture   |                        | 0      | 0    | 0      | 0         | 0                | 0     | 0     | 0    | 0    |
| Renewable energy production                                       |                        | 0      | 0    | 0      | 0         | 0                | 0     | 0     | 0    | 0    |
| Contractual work  |                        | 0.1    | 2.7  | 0.6    | 3.5       | 1.8              | 1.3   | 3.1   | 3.0  | 1.2  |
| Other gainful activities n.a.e                                    |                        | 0      | 0    | 0      | 0         | 0                | 0     | 0     | 0    | 0    |

\*LSU = Livestock unit

"0" less than half of the unit or nil

| Size of the farms                          | Agricultural area (ha) |            |            |            | All farms  | Livestock (LSU) |            |            |            |
|--|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------|------------|------------|------------|
|  | <0.5                   | 0.5-<1     | 1-<2       | >=2 ha     |            | 0               | >0-<5      | 5-<50      | >=50       |
| <b>Area</b>                                | <b>(1000 ha)</b>       |            |            |            |            |                 |            |            |            |
| <b>Total area of agricultural holdings</b> | <b>0.3</b>             | <b>0.9</b> | <b>2.0</b> | <b>5.0</b> | <b>8.2</b> | <b>4.9</b>      | <b>2.1</b> | <b>0.4</b> | <b>0.8</b> |
| • <b>H. Other area</b>                     | <b>0.1</b>             | <b>0.2</b> | <b>0.2</b> | <b>0.5</b> | <b>1.0</b> | <b>0.5</b>      | <b>0.2</b> | <b>0</b>   | <b>0.2</b> |
| Wooded area                                | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| • <b>Agricultural area</b>                 | <b>0.2</b>             | <b>0.8</b> | <b>1.8</b> | <b>4.5</b> | <b>7.2</b> | <b>4.4</b>      | <b>1.8</b> | <b>0.4</b> | <b>0.6</b> |
| - <b>D. Arable land</b>                    | <b>0.1</b>             | <b>0.5</b> | <b>1.4</b> | <b>3.7</b> | <b>5.8</b> | <b>3.3</b>      | <b>1.6</b> | <b>0.4</b> | <b>0.5</b> |
| Cereals                                    | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| <i>Common wheat and spelt</i>              | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| <i>Durum wheat</i>                         | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| <i>Rye</i>                                 | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| <i>Barley</i>                              | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| <i>Oats</i>                                | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| <i>Grain maize</i>                         | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| Dried pulses                               | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| Root crops                                 | 0                      | 0.1        | 0.2        | 0.4        | 0.7        | 0.5             | 0.2        | 0          | 0          |
| <i>Potatoes</i>                            | 0                      | 0.1        | 0.2        | 0.4        | 0.7        | 0.5             | 0.2        | 0          | 0          |
| <i>Sugar beet</i>                          | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| <i>Fodder root</i>                         | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| Industrial crops                           | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| <i>Tobacco</i>                             | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| <i>Hops</i>                                | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| <i>Cotton</i>                              | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| <i>Rape and turnip</i>                     | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| <i>Sunflower</i>                           | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| <i>Soya</i>                                | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| Fresh vegetables, melons, strawberry       | 0                      | 0.2        | 0.5        | 1.2        | 1.9        | 1.4             | 0.4        | 0.1        | 0          |
| <i>outside</i>                             | 0                      | 0.2        | 0.5        | 1.1        | 1.8        | 1.3             | 0.4        | 0.1        | 0          |
| <i>under glass</i>                         | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0.1        | 0.1             | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| Flower and ornamental plants               | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| <i>outside</i>                             | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| <i>under glass</i>                         | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| Forage plants                              | 0                      | 0.2        | 0.5        | 1.9        | 2.8        | 1.1             | 0.9        | 0.2        | 0.5        |
| Fallow land                                | 0                      | 0.1        | 0.1        | 0.2        | 0.4        | 0.3             | 0.1        | 0          | 0          |
| - <b>E. Kitchen garden</b>                 | <b>0</b>               | <b>0.1</b> | <b>0.1</b> | <b>0</b>   | <b>0.2</b> | <b>0.1</b>      | <b>0.1</b> | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>   |
| - <b>F. Permanent pasture and meadows</b>  | <b>0</b>               | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>        | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>   |
| - <b>G. Permanent crops</b>                | <b>0</b>               | <b>0.2</b> | <b>0.3</b> | <b>0.7</b> | <b>1.3</b> | <b>1.0</b>      | <b>0.2</b> | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>   |
| Fruit and berry plantation                 | 0                      | 0          | 0.1        | 0.3        | 0.4        | 0.3             | 0.1        | 0          | 0          |
| Citrus plantation                          | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0.1        | 0.1             | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| Olive trees                                | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0.1        | 0.1             | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| Vineyard                                   | 0                      | 0.1        | 0.2        | 0.4        | 0.7        | 0.6             | 0.1        | 0          | 0          |
| <b>Ratios</b>                              |                        |            |            |            |            |                 |            |            |            |
| <b>Agricultural area per holding</b>       | <b>(ha)</b>            |            |            |            |            |                 |            |            |            |
|  | <b>0.2</b>             | <b>0.7</b> | <b>1.4</b> | <b>4.1</b> | <b>1.7</b> | <b>1.8</b>      | <b>1.6</b> | <b>1.7</b> | <b>2.2</b> |
| <b>Agricultural area...</b>                | <b>(%)</b>             |            |            |            |            |                 |            |            |            |
| ... own farmed                             | 26.0                   | 18.9       | 16.0       | 17.7       | 17.6       | 18.6            | 14.2       | 16.7       | 21.2       |
| ... in less favoured or mountain area      | 100.0                  | 100.0      | 100.0      | 100.0      | 100.0      | 100.0           | 100.0      | 100.0      | 100.0      |
| ... organic farmed                         | 0                      | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0               | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| ... irrigated                              | 23.1                   | 32.4       | 32.3       | 42.7       | 38.6       | 48.0            | 26.4       | 27.5       | 12.0       |

\*LSU = Livestock unit

": not available

"0" less than half of the unit or nil

| Size of the farms                             | Agricultural area (ha) |        |       |        | All farms | Livestock (LSU) |       |       |       |
|---|------------------------|--------|-------|--------|-----------|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|
|   | <0.5                   | 0.5-<1 | 1-<2  | >=2 ha |           | 0               | >0-<5 | 5-<50 | >=50  |
| <b>Total livestock</b> (1000 LSU)             | 22.7                   | 4.4    | 7.3   | 14.5   | 49.0      | 0               | 1.2   | 4.7   | 43.1  |
| of which grazing (%)                          | 18.1                   | 33.3   | 32.1  | 56.4   | 32.9      | :               | 84.9  | 39.0  | 30.9  |
| <b>Grazing livestock</b> (1000 heads)         |                        |        |       |        |           |                 |       |       |       |
| <b>Equidae</b>                                | 0.1                    | 0.1    | 0.1   | 0.1    | 0.5       | 0               | 0.3   | 0.1   | 0.1   |
| <b>Bovine animals</b>                         | 4.7                    | 1.3    | 2.7   | 10.1   | 18.9      | 0               | 0.1   | 1.7   | 17.1  |
| Under 1 year                                  | 1.2                    | 0.3    | 0.7   | 2.8    | 5.0       | 0               | 0     | 0.4   | 4.6   |
| From 1 to less than 2 years                   | 1.1                    | 0.3    | 0.7   | 2.4    | 4.6       | 0               | 0     | 0.6   | 4.0   |
| Dairy cows                                    | 2.1                    | 0.6    | 1.2   | 4.2    | 8.1       | 0               | 0     | 0.6   | 7.5   |
| Other cows                                    | 0                      | 0      | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0               | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Other bovine animals 2 years and older        | 0.3                    | 0.1    | 0.2   | 0.6    | 1.2       | 0               | 0     | 0.2   | 1.0   |
| <b>Sheep</b>                                  | 2.1                    | 1.8    | 1.2   | 3.2    | 8.3       | 0               | 4.6   | 2.7   | 0.9   |
| <b>Goats</b>                                  | 1.9                    | 1.6    | 0.5   | 1.7    | 5.6       | 0               | 2.5   | 2.1   | 0.9   |
| <b>Granivores</b>                             |                        |        |       |        |           |                 |       |       |       |
| <b>Pigs</b> (1000 heads)                      | 44.6                   | 7.2    | 12.1  | 15.3   | 79.2      | 0               | 0     | 3.7   | 75.5  |
| Piglets < 20 kg                               | 10.5                   | 2.4    | 2.5   | 2.7    | 18.2      | 0               | 0     | 1.3   | 16.8  |
| Breeding sows                                 | 4.0                    | 0.7    | 1.2   | 1.4    | 7.3       | 0               | 0     | 0.5   | 6.8   |
| Other pigs                                    | 30.1                   | 4.0    | 8.4   | 11.2   | 53.7      | 0               | 0     | 1.9   | 51.8  |
| <b>Poultry</b> (million heads)                | 0.6                    | 0.1    | 0.2   | 0.3    | 1.2       | 0               | 0     | 0.2   | 1.0   |
| Broilers                                      | 0.2                    | 0.1    | 0.2   | 0.2    | 0.7       | 0               | 0     | 0.2   | 0.5   |
| Laying hens                                   | 0.4                    | 0      | 0     | 0      | 0.6       | 0               | 0     | 0.1   | 0.5   |
| Other poultry                                 | 0                      | 0      | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0               | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| <b>Rabbits, breeding females</b> (1000 heads) | 2.7                    | 1.8    | 1.9   | 0.6    | 6.9       | 0               | 3.5   | 2.1   | 1.3   |
| <b>Beehives</b> (1000)                        | :                      | :      | :     | :      | :         | 0               | :     | :     | :     |
| <b>Average size of herds*</b> (head/holding)  |                        |        |       |        |           |                 |       |       |       |
| Equidae (head/holding)                        | 1.8                    | 1.3    | 1.1   | 2.0    | 1.5       | :               | 1.3   | 2.3   | 2.2   |
| Cattle (head/holding)                         | 75.0                   | 39.1   | 78.0  | 107.5  | 83.6      | :               | 2.9   | 21.2  | 136.8 |
| Dairy cows (head/holding)                     | 40.6                   | 18.8   | 41.4  | 51.3   | 41.4      | :               | 1.3   | 7.6   | 65.9  |
| Other cows (head/holding)                     | :                      | :      | :     | :      | :         | :               | :     | :     | :     |
| Sheep (head/holding)                          | 10.2                   | 8.9    | 7.2   | 13.9   | 10.4      | :               | 7.1   | 32.9  | 14.8  |
| Goats (head/holding)                          | 9.9                    | 19.9   | 14.6  | 11.0   | 12.3      | :               | 7.3   | 32.3  | 23.0  |
| Pigs (head/holding)                           | 564.4                  | 377.3  | 606.5 | 588.6  | 553.7     | :               | :     | 154.7 | 634.2 |
| Breeding sows (head/holding)                  | 52.2                   | 38.0   | 61.1  | 52.9   | 52.0      | :               | :     | 18.9  | 58.9  |
| Other pigs > 20 kg (head/holding)             | 381.2                  | 212.8  | 418.2 | 430.4  | 375.6     | :               | :     | 79.9  | 435.2 |
| Rabbits, breeding females (head/holding)      | 11.6                   | 11.1   | 15.2  | 4.4    | 10.7      | :               | 5.8   | 105.3 | 64.0  |
| Laying hens (1000/holding)                    | 2.1                    | 0.4    | 0.3   | 0.5    | 1.1       | :               | 0     | 1.0   | 9.9   |
| Broilers (1000/holding)                       | 6.8                    | 1.3    | 4.4   | 10.2   | 4.4       | :               | 0     | 3.3   | 12.6  |
| Beehives (hive/holding)                       | :                      | :      | :     | :      | :         | :               | :     | :     | :     |

\*LSU = Livestock unit

| Size of the farms                        |                   | Absolute figures |            |             | % of total  |             |
|--|-------------------|------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|  |                   | Total            | < 1 ESU    | >= 1 ESU    | < 1 ESU     | >= 1 ESU    |
| Regular Labour force                     | (1000 pers)       | 17.6             | 9.7        | 7.9         | 55.1        | 44.9        |
| Regular labour force                     | (1000 AWU)        | 4.2              | 0.8        | 3.4         | 19.5        | 80.5        |
| Holder with...                           | (1000)            | 11.0             | 6.9        | 4.1         | 62.6        | 37.4        |
| ... at least 65 years                    |                   | 2.8              | 2.1        | 0.7         | 74.0        | 26.0        |
| ... another major gainful activity       |                   | 5.0              | 3.0        | 1.9         | 61.3        | 38.7        |
| <b>Number of sole holdings</b>           | <b>(1000)</b>     | <b>11.0</b>      | <b>6.9</b> | <b>4.1</b>  | <b>62.4</b> | <b>37.6</b> |
| ... producing mainly for own consumption |                   | 3.6              | 3.2        | 0.5         | 87.5        | 12.5        |
| ... producing mainly for direct sales    |                   | 0.5              | 0.1        | 0.5         | 14.0        | 86.2        |
| SGM                                      | (1000 ESU)        | 47.2             | 1.4        | 45.7        | 3.1         | 96.9        |
| <b>Agricultural area</b>                 | <b>(1000 ha)</b>  | <b>10.3</b>      | <b>3.1</b> | <b>7.2</b>  | <b>30.1</b> | <b>69.9</b> |
| ... own farmed                           |                   | 2.0              | 0.7        | 1.3         | 36.4        | 63.6        |
| <b>Livestock</b>                         | <b>(1000 LSU)</b> | <b>49.6</b>      | <b>0.7</b> | <b>49.0</b> | <b>1.3</b>  | <b>98.7</b> |

\*LSU = Livestock Unit

## ► METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The survey on the structure of agricultural holdings was carried out in Malta in the autumn of 2007 on a sample basis. The previous full-scale agricultural census was conducted in 2001, and the last sample farm structure survey was in 2005. The reference period for the FSS 2007 was the crop year 2006/07 (ending on 31 August 2007), for livestock the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2007 and the period for labour force referred to the 12 months preceding the day of the survey.

The target population were the holdings, according to the national definition, whose area consists of land and/or buildings on which agricultural activities are carried out. No thresholds were used, and the initial population was composed of all the holdings included in the statistical farm register, which is updated continuously on a regular basis.

The population was stratified according to the type of farming (8 groups) and economic size (3 groups), as well as the regions. Certain typology and size classes were clustered in order to get a representative sample. All the holdings having at least 8 ESU were sampled surveyed exhaustively. In the other strata the optimum allocation method was used with random selection. Holdings in each sampled strata were chosen on the proportion of the total standard deviation of the SGM within the strata. Altogether 1332 holdings have been selected, which is 12% of the registered population.

The list of characteristics and their definitions were fully compliant with the EU requirements concerning the Farm Structure Survey 2007. However some characteristics were not surveyed due to their non-existence or insignificance in the country's agricultural structure, in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) N° 204/2006.

The data are checked at different levels. A first check is done at the collection stage, where the consistency

checks of the totals are carried out by the interviewer. The next quality control was a manual verification of the completeness of the surveys; farmers were then contacted by phone when clarification was needed. The data were also checked during the input phase using a specific application.

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

Each farm is classified in the community typology by its economic size and its type of farming, depending on the share of each enterprise in its economic size.

**Annual work unit** (AWU) is equivalent to a worker employed on a full time basis for one year. In Malta it is 1800 hours (225 working days of 8 working hours per day).

**Livestock Unit (LU)** is equivalent to a dairy cow. The number of animals (number of heads) is converted into LU using a set of coefficients reflecting the feed requirements of the different animal categories.

## ► REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

Farm Structure Survey 2007, News Release No. 109/2008 (17 June 2008), National Statistics Office, Malta.

Website of the National Statistical Office:  
<http://www.nso.gov.mt/>

National Methodological Report – FSS 2007 (available for request).

## Further information

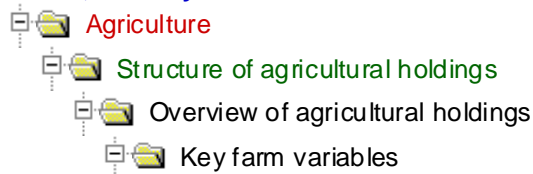
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