A National Statistical Publication

Statistical Review of Northern Ireland Agriculture 2000

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Economics and Statistics Division

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A National Statistics publication

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CONTENTS

LIST OF TABLES

PREFACE

The *Statistical Review of Northern Ireland Agriculture* is the main compendium of statistics on agriculture in Northern Ireland. It contains a wide range of information on the industry at aggregate level. A companion publication, *Farm Incomes in Northern Ireland 1999/2000,* provides more detailed information on performance at farm business level.

There are two main changes to the contents of this year's edition of the *Statistical Review.* First, for this year only, a twenty year time series of the revised Aggregate Agricultural Account, first introduced two years ago, is presented in Tables 2.1 to 2.4. (Twenty year time series for some other Section 2 tables are available on request from Economics and Statistics Division and on the DARD website, at **www.dardni.gov.uk**.) Second, the time series given in other tables have been extended and standardised to six years, as far as possible, providing a five year time span rather than the four year span previously shown.

Following the launch of National Statistics on 7th June 2000, the *Statistical Review of Northern Ireland Agriculture* has been designated a National Statistics publication, denoting that its contents have been produced to best professional standards.

Details of other publications and statistical releases available from Economics and Statistics Division are given on page 68.

Readers may wish to know that the *Statistical Review*, as with other DARD statistical publications, is now available, free of charge, on the DARD website, at **www.dardni.gov.uk**.

Users' comments on the contents of the *Statistical Review* are always welcome; these may be made directly to me or to the Editor, Ivan Hunter, at the address given below.

T F STAINER
Chief Agricultural Economist
March 2001

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Economics and Statistics Division
Dundonald House
BELFAST
BT4 3SB

Tel. (028-) 90 524675
Fax (028-) 90 524676
E-mail ivan.hunter@dardni.gov.uk

KEY FACTS

	NI	UK	ROI	EU15
GROSS VALUE ADDED (GVA)				
Agriculture as % of total GVA	2.6[1]	0.8[1]	3.9[2]	2.1[3]
EMPLOYMENT*				
Agricultural employment ('000)	34[2]	434[2]	136[2]	7,167[3]
As % of total civil employment	5.0[2]	1.6[2]	8.5[2]	4.7[3]
**ILO definition – see note 2*				
LAND USE				
Agricultural area ('000 ha)	1061[1]	17,075[1]	4,418[2]	128,691[4]
As % of total area	78.2[1]	70.0[1]	62.9[2]	40.3[4]
LESS FAVOURED AREAS (LFA)				
LFA as % of agricultural area	69.9[1]	44.5[3]	66.8[4]	54.3[4]
FARMS				
Number ('000)	29.9[1]	240[2]	144[2]	6,989[4]
Average agricultural area (ha)	35.5[1]	66.6[2]	29.3[2]	18.4[4]
ENTERPRISES				
Average enterprise size:				
Dairy cows	54[1]	72[2]	33[4]	25[4]
Beef cows	19[1]	27[2]	12[4]	15[4]
Sheep	253[1]	510[2]	182[4]	138[4]
Pigs	512[1]	585[2]	694[4]	114[4]
Laying hens	1,836[1]	1,403[2]	128[4]	189[4]
Broilers	33,295[1]	50,789[2]	6,324[4]	595[4]
Cereals (ha)	10.2[1]	46.1[2]	16.3[4]	13.0[4]
Potatoes (ha)	5.9[1]	10.6[2]	2.1[4]	1.4[4]

1. 2000 2. 1999 3. 1998 4. 1997

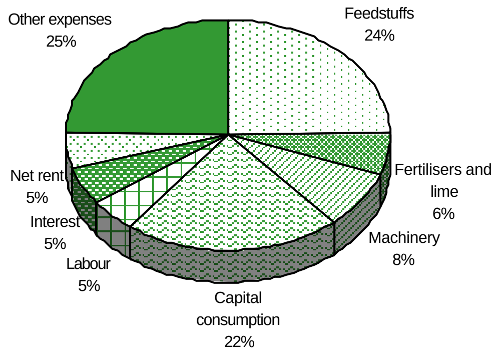
Note 1. NI = Northern Ireland; UK = United Kingdom; ROI = Republic of Ireland; EU15 = Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Republic of Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom.

Note 2. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) define sector of employment according to a person's main occupation. The figures relate to agriculture, forestry and fishing.

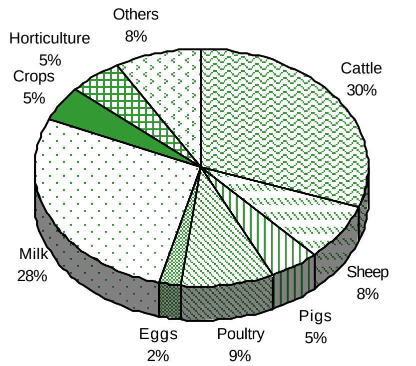
Note 3. In general, figures relate to the latest year for which statistics are available.

COMPARISONS OF NI AND UK AGRICULTURE

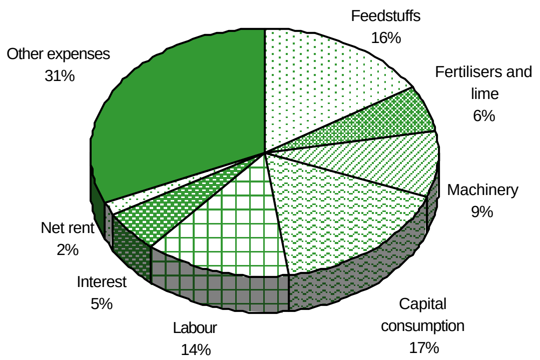
Total expenses of NI agriculture, 2000



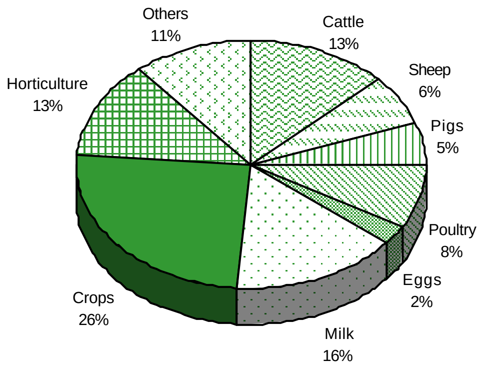
Gross output of NI agriculture, 2000



Total expenses of UK agriculture, 2000

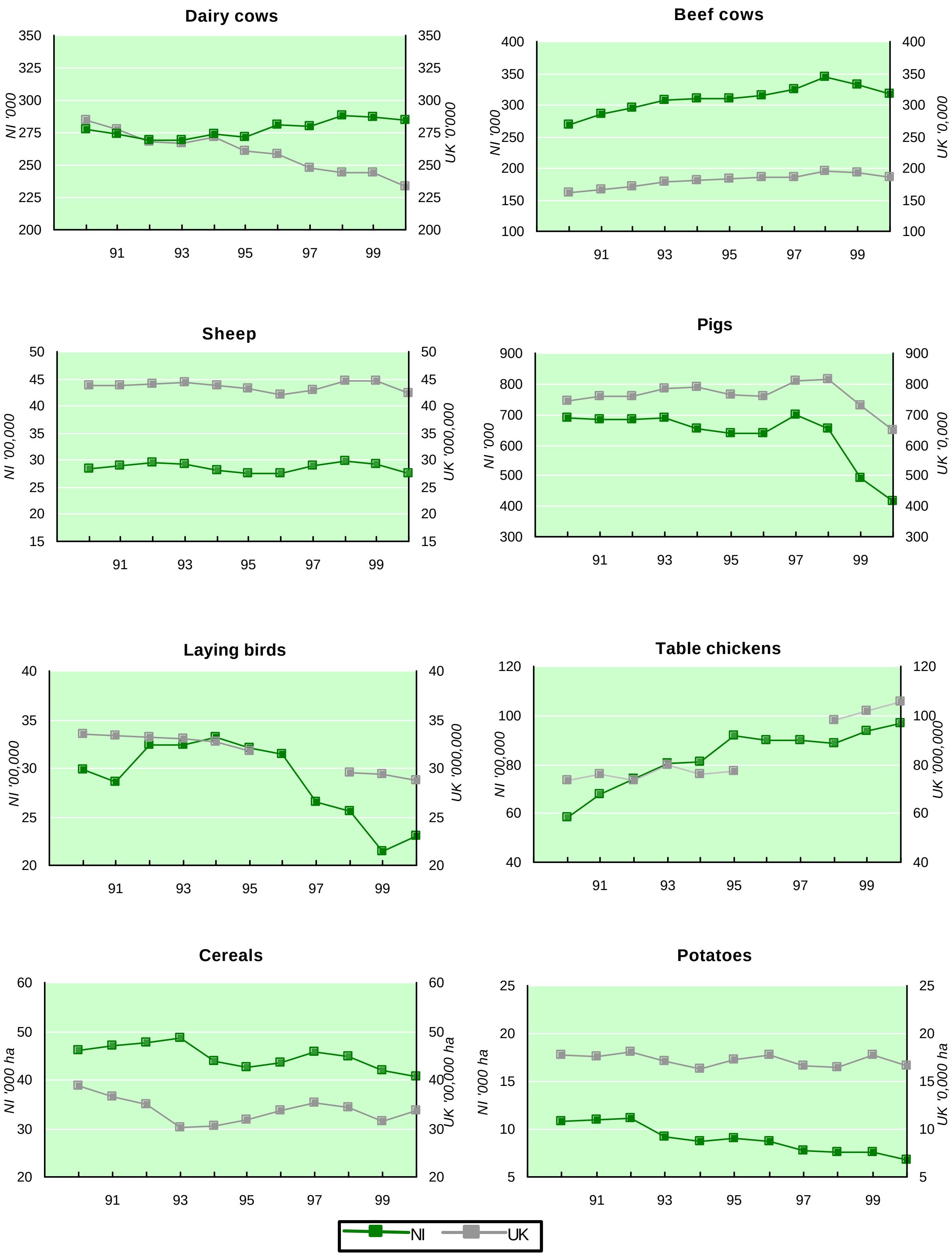


Gross output of UK agriculture, 2000



NI and UK Total Income from Farming in real terms (1995 = 100)

TRENDS IN NI AND UK LIVESTOCK NUMBERS AND CROP AREAS



1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Aggregate income (Tables 2.1 - 2.3)

- There was a slight increase in the income of Northern Ireland agriculture in 2000, the first since 1995.
- **Total income from farming (TIFF)** - which measures the return to farmers and all members of their families working on farms - rose by 6 per cent (3 per cent in real terms) to £98 million from a (revised) 1999 figure of £92 million.
- The increase in 2000 follows declines in income in each year from 1996 to 1999. TIFF in 1999 is estimated to have been at its lowest level in real terms since 1980.
- Farm incomes remain low across the United Kingdom because of low prices. The main reason for this is the relative strength of sterling against the euro and, in the beef sector, the continuing impact of the BSE problem. For some commodities, international markets remain weak.
- At United Kingdom level, TIFF fell by 25 per cent in 2000, with declines of 26, 13 and 105 per cent respectively in England, Scotland and Wales. In Wales, TIFF was negative in 2000.
- The main reason for the increase in income in Northern Ireland in 2000, when there were decreases in the other United Kingdom countries, is the relatively greater importance of livestock in its agricultural economy. The value of output of livestock was broadly maintained in 2000, whereas prices for potatoes, oilseed rape and linseed – all of minor importance in Northern Ireland - declined steeply.
- Other reasons for the better performance in Northern Ireland include a considerably smaller decline in its producer milk price, an increase in milk production (compared with a fall in Great Britain) and a reduction in expenditure on fertilisers compared with a significant rise in Great Britain.

Output, input and value added (Tables 2.1 - 2.3)

- **Gross output** of Northern Ireland agriculture declined by one per cent, to £1,093 million, because of declines of half a per cent in both the volume of output and the average producer return.
- **Gross input** decreased by 3 per cent, to £629 million, reflecting a 3½ per cent reduction in the volume of inputs used and a half per cent increase in unit costs.
- **Gross value added** rose by 2 per cent, to £464 million, in 2000. **Net value added** - gross value added less consumption of fixed capital (or ‘depreciation’) - increased by 5 per cent to £246 million, the result of a 6 per cent increase in the *volume* of net value added and a slight decrease in unit value.

Cash flow (Table 2.4)

- **Cash available to farm families from farming** declined by 2 per cent to £220 million, a reduction of 5 per cent in real terms. This was largely because of a much lower increase in borrowings in 2000 than in 1999.

Farm level incomes (Table 5.1)

- **Net farm incomes** in 2000/01 are forecast to have improved on farms of all types other than **cereals**. The average increase in income is expected to have been around £3,000 per farm and to have returned incomes on **general cropping**, **LFA cattle and sheep**, **pigs and poultry** and **mixed** farms to 'profit'. However, in the case of **lowland cattle and sheep** farms, despite some improvement, average income is expected to have remained negative in 2000/01.

Subsidies (Table 2.10)

- For the third year, there was little change in the value of **direct payments** to farmers. These totalled £200 million in 2000, compared with £201 million in 1999 and £206 million in 1998. Almost 80 per cent of payments related to cattle enterprises.

Labour (Table 2.14)

- At the time of the Agricultural Census in June 2000, there were 4 per cent fewer farmers (35,900) than in the previous year. The number of full-time workers declined by 1 per cent while the number of part-time workers increased by 10 per cent. The number of casual workers (8,800) remained unchanged. The total agricultural labour force declined, by 2 per cent, to 57,800 persons.

Livestock numbers (Table 3.3)

- Cattle numbers fell by 2 per cent, to 1.68 million in June 2000. There were 4 per cent fewer beef cows and 9 per cent fewer beef heifers in calf. The number of dairy cows declined by 1 per cent while dairy heifer numbers increased by 1 per cent. The numbers of non-breeding cattle also declined.
- There was a significant contraction in the sheep flock in 2000. Breeding ewe numbers decreased by 5 per cent, to 1.33 million ewes, while total sheep numbers fell by 6 per cent to 2.74 million head.
- The continuing problems in the pigs sector led to a 16 per cent fall in total pig numbers between June 1999 and 2000 and the pig herd, at 413,000 head, was the lowest recorded for over 50 years. The female breeding herd declined by 11 per cent, to 41,800 sows, while the number of farms with pigs fell over the year by 30 per cent to just over 800.
- The commercial laying flock increased by 7 per cent, to total 2.30 million birds in June 2000. The number of table fowl also rose, by 3 per cent, to 9.65 million birds.

Crops and grass areas (Table 3.2)

- The cereals area declined by 3 per cent, to 40,700 hectares, in June 2000. The area of spring barley decreased by 10 per cent, to 27,400 hectares, reversing the sharp rise in 1999 plantings. The areas of wheat and winter barley increased by 53 and 2 per cent respectively.
- The potato area fell by 10 per cent to 6,800 hectares.
- The area of woods and plantations on farms increased by 5 per cent to 8,600 hectares.

Contact: Ivan Hunter, Tel. (028-) 90 524675, E-mail. ivan.hunter@dardni.gov.uk

2. THE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY

A. AGGREGATE OUTPUT, INPUT AND INCOME

Methodological note

All of the figures quoted in this section are on the basis of the revised Aggregate Agricultural Account (AAA) introduced in 1998. A twenty year time series of the revised AAA is presented in Tables 2.1 to 2.4.

Summary

There was a small increase in the aggregate income of Northern Ireland agriculture in 2000, the first since 1995. **Total income from farming** is estimated to have risen by 6 per cent in money terms or by 3 per cent in real terms (see Tables 2.1-2.3). Despite this, income in 2000 is estimated to have been at its second lowest level in real terms since 1980.

Output

The value of **gross output** fell by 0.9 per cent to £1,093 million in 2000. This was the result of a 0.3 per cent decline in the volume of gross output and a 0.5 per cent fall in the average producer return.

Declines in the output values of some commodities were largely offset by increases in the values of others. Of the major commodities, the largest proportionate fall (43 per cent) was in the value of output of potatoes, followed by pigs (11 per cent). There were also smaller declines in the outputs of barley (4.5 per cent), mushrooms (3.9 per cent) and sheep (1.9 per cent). The value of cattle output, however, increased by 2.2 per cent, while those for eggs and vegetables rose by 19 and 30 per cent respectively. The value of milk output remained virtually unchanged, a 3.4 per cent fall the average producer price offsetting a similar increase in production. There was a 65 per cent reduction in revenue from quota leasing, largely on account of a fall in the leasing price, but increased revenues from agricultural contracting (8.3 per cent) and secondary activities (11 per cent). Details of trends in individual outputs and inputs are given in Section 2B.

Inputs (or 'intermediate consumption')

The value of **gross input** declined by 3.1 per cent in 2000 to £629 million, with a 3.6 per cent reduction in the volume used more than offsetting a 0.5 per cent increase in the unit cost. More than two-thirds of the fall in gross input was accounted for by a 5.3 per cent reduction, to £247 million, in expenditure on feedstuffs, largely resulting from the decline in pig numbers. Expenditure on fertilisers and lime also fell, by 6.8 per cent, with a 4.9 per cent decrease in the volume purchased and a 1.9 per cent fall in the unit price. The cost of leasing-in quota also fell sharply, by 65 per cent. However, there were increases in machinery expenses (6.8 per cent), especially fuel and oils, and agricultural contracting costs (8.3 per cent).

Gross and net value added

Gross value added - gross output less gross input - rose in 2000 by 2.4 per cent to £464 million, the volume increasing by 3.1 per cent and the unit value decreasing by 0.7 per cent. **Net value added** (at factor cost) - gross value added minus capital consumption plus subsidies (less taxes) not paid on products - rose by 5.4 per cent, to £246 million. This was because of a 6.1 per cent increase in volume and a 0.4 per cent fall in unit value.

Net value added is the sum of all 'incomes' arising in the industry, namely the earnings of paid labour, interest on borrowed capital, rent on 'conacre' land (taken from non-farming persons) and the residual 'total income from farming'. The cost of paid labour, interest payments and conacre rent paid to non-farmers all rose, by 5.3 per cent, 7.8 per cent and 1.3 per cent respectively.

Total income from farming

Total income from farming (TIFF) increased by 6.4 per cent in 2000 to £98.2 million, a rise of 3.4 per cent after allowing for inflation. This was the first increase in TIFF for 5 years and followed a 73 per cent fall in real terms from 1995 to 1999. Despite the slight increase, TIFF in 2000 was still at its second lowest real level for 20 years. Indeed, 1998, 1999 and 2000 represent the worst three year period in income terms since 1970.

Cash flow

TIFF measures the return to farmers, their spouses and other family workers, i.e. all those with an entrepreneurial interest in farming. It is calculated according to internationally agreed practices which require the inclusion of 'book' items such as stock change and capital formation and consumption. TIFF may not, therefore, realistically portray the cash available from farming. In the estimates shown in Table 2.4, TIFF is adjusted to remove these 'book' items and to take account of investment and change in borrowings. (The derivation is given in the footnotes to Table 2.4.) **Cash available to farm families from farming** is estimated to have declined by 2.4 per cent in 2000, to £220 million, a fall of 5.1 per cent in real terms. The figures indicate that farmers have continued to respond to low incomes by reducing capital investment but borrowings were reduced and the net effect was a fall in cash flow.

Subsidies

The value of **direct payments** to farmers was virtually unchanged in 2000. They totalled £200 million, just 0.5 per cent lower than in 1999 but 33 per cent higher than in 1995, mainly because of continuing BSE-related payments (particularly the Over Thirty Months Scheme), payment of agrimoney compensation and the introduction, under the Agenda 2000 CAP reforms, of a Cattle Slaughter Premium. Payments on cattle totalled £157 million, 79 per cent of the total, while subsidies on sheep and arable crops accounted for 13 and 4 per cent respectively. (Direct payments exclude the value of market support such as intervention purchases and export refunds.)

Investment

Gross annual capital investment fell in 2000 for the sixth consecutive year. There were declines in all categories except non-aided investment. Investment in buildings and works declined by 18 per cent, to £20.4 million, with a rise of 25 per cent to £19.3 million in non-aided investment insufficient to offset a reduction, from £9.5 million to just over £l million, in grant-aided investment. Purchases of plant, machinery and vehicles also declined, by 10 per cent, to £54.9 million. At £75.3 million, total investment in 2000 was 12 per cent less than in 1999 and almost two-thirds lower than in 1994, when investment peaked at over £205 million.

Revisions to previous years' figures

The figures for 1999 and earlier years have been revised from the provisional figures published a year ago, primarily to take account of more complete or up-to-date data but also to incorporate relatively minor improvements in methodology. Largely because of the former, the 1999 income figures have been revised substantially. (Income - which is the difference between two large aggregates - is currently sufficiently low that relatively small adjustments to either or both of these aggregates have a disproportionately large impact on the income estimate.) Net value added in 1999 (previously £210 million) is now estimated at £234 million, while total income from farming (previously £70.9 million) is now calculated at £92.3 million.

Contact: Ivan Hunter, Tel. (028-) 90 524675, E-mail. ivan.hunter@dardni.gov.uk

Table 2.1 Aggregate Agricultural Account: estimated output, input, value added and income of agriculture (new series)[1]

£ million

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
OUTPUT[2]																				
Livestock and livestock products[3]																				
Finished cattle and calves[4]	199.8	204.8	220.9	262.5	265.1	237.5	237.3	284.5	310.8	277.2	314.3	304.0	403.6	404.7	418.7	420.1	380.9	326.1	325.1	332.2
Finished sheep and lambs[5]	29.9	33.1	39.4	41.3	46.8	49.9	58.1	65.7	72.2	78.0	91.4	99.9	104.1	101.4	108.1	108.2	99.5	95.7	85.5	83.9
Finished pigs[6]	81.5	94.2	96.1	96.4	92.3	89.6	86.8	83.0	97.2	98.8	87.8	96.6	91.9	93.0	104.0	126.5	102.7	68.8	59.6	53.0
Poultry[7]	35.0	37.2	40.7	41.7	41.1	43.5	49.1	50.9	48.7	57.4	65.4	73.0	78.4	87.5	91.1	109.3	111.2	107.3	98.5	98.2
Eggs[8]	32.8	27.7	27.0	30.8	27.4	24.9	28.8	22.4	21.3	30.0	26.1	25.7	30.2	27.7	27.7	34.0	24.1	21.8	20.6	24.5
Milk	155.5	187.1	208.2	197.4	199.8	202.8	209.8	210.2	246.8	223.9	234.4	255.9	291.1	299.0	350.7	352.3	319.3	297.0	301.5	301.4
Minor products[9]	4.9	4.9	5.3	5.7	6.7	6.7	7.5	8.3	8.8	8.8	7.1	7.1	5.8	7.6	7.4	7.0	7.7	7.3	7.3	8.0
Total livestock and livestock products	**539.3**	**589.1**	**637.5**	**675.9**	**679.2**	**654.9**	**677.4**	**725.1**	**805.8**	**774.2**	**826.4**	**862.1**	**1,005.2**	**1,020.9**	**1,107.9**	**1,157.3**	**1,045.5**	**924.0**	**898.1**	**901.1**
Field crops																				
Potatoes	21.0	34.4	29.2	41.2	17.7	27.5	30.4	23.8	29.5	31.3	26.1	26.9	15.7	33.2	49.1	24.5	16.7	25.4	33.0	18.7
Cereals[10]	19.6	23.8	26.2	29.3	21.2	25.1	26.6	26.7	24.7	25.8	26.9	28.5	27.5	29.9	35.7	36.0	30.7	26.6	25.3	25.8
of which: barley[10]	18.4	22.1	24.2	26.0	19.3	21.9	22.2	21.6	19.5	19.5	20.3	20.6	20.8	21.7	26.4	26.8	22.8	19.2	20.9	20.0
wheat[10]	0.3	0.7	1.1	2.5	1.4	2.4	3.4	3.9	3.9	4.9	5.1	6.7	5.4	6.8	7.6	7.6	6.3	5.9	2.7	4.1
oats[10]	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.5	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.7
Other crops[10,11]	4.0	4.0	4.3	5.2	7.1	9.3	5.4	4.7	5.4	6.6	6.0	5.8	7.0	8.3	9.5	7.2	4.8	7.2	8.1	8.0
Total field crops	**44.6**	**62.1**	**59.7**	**75.7**	**46.0**	**61.8**	**62.4**	**55.3**	**59.5**	**63.7**	**59.0**	**61.2**	**50.2**	**71.4**	**94.3**	**67.7**	**52.2**	**59.1**	**66.4**	**52.5**
Horticultural products																				
Fruit[12]	-2.4	3.0	2.9	3.7	4.8	2.4	3.3	5.0	5.3	5.2	5.5	6.9	6.1	5.8	7.1	6.1	9.8	6.0	5.4	5.4
Vegetables	4.2	4.3	4.7	5.2	3.9	5.0	6.5	7.2	6.3	6.1	5.6	5.8	5.5	10.6	8.8	10.1	10.2	10.8	10.1	13.2
Mushrooms	5.1	5.0	5.9	6.8	9.8	9.0	10.0	12.0	13.0	17.4	21.4	23.9	26.0	27.2	27.8	32.0	30.4	29.9	27.4	26.3
Flowers	4.1	4.5	4.9	5.4	5.8	6.0	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.6	6.5	6.7	8.0	8.5	8.2	8.6	10.1	11.3	12.3	12.6
Total horticultural products	**11.0**	**16.8**	**18.4**	**21.1**	**24.2**	**22.3**	**25.3**	**29.9**	**30.1**	**34.4**	**39.1**	**43.2**	**45.6**	**52.1**	**51.9**	**56.8**	**60.5**	**57.9**	**55.2**	**57.5**
Capital formation (breeding livestock)	24.9	21.2	35.3	29.6	26.3	25.8	36.8	47.4	54.8	52.2	50.0	60.5	60.4	56.6	56.6	49.5	80.0	40.9	31.2	32.7
Agricultural contract work[13]	7.1	7.6	8.3	9.1	9.9	11.0	12.3	12.4	14.0	15.3	17.2	19.9	20.8	23.1	25.2	28.6	30.2	30.0	33.9	36.7
Milk quota leasing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.8	2.3	4.0	5.3	3.1	5.1	13.1	11.3	10.9	12.9	10.0	8.7	9.3	3.3
Inseparable non-agricultural activities[14]	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.3	2.9	3.6	4.2	4.9	5.5	6.2	6.9	7.5	8.3	9.2
A Gross output	**627.9**	**697.7**	**760.4**	**812.6**	**787.1**	**778.3**	**816.7**	**874.1**	**970.2**	**947.4**	**997.7**	**1,055.7**	**1,199.6**	**1,240.2**	**1,352.3**	**1,379.1**	**1,285.3**	**1,128.1**	**1,102.3**	**1,092.8**
of which:																				
subsidies (less taxes) on products[15]	25.9	20.4	48.8	55.4	57.9	49.3	49.8	51.4	57.4	62.9	71.0	80.0	124.2	123.3	139.3	255.1	223.5	197.6	195.1	194.2

1. A description of the new series, first introduced in the 1998 *Statistical Review*, and the derivation of the main aggregates, is given in the Appendix.
2. Output represents the estimated value of home-produced sales, including the value of inter-farm transfers and on-farm use (see Appendix). It includes the value of subsidies on products, the sale value of store animals imported from the Republic of Ireland and Great Britain and finished in Northern Ireland and the value of produce used in farm households. Stock change estimates are included within the individual output and input items.
3. Includes finished, breeding and store animals exported to the Republic of Ireland and shipped to Great Britain. The value of imported animals has been deducted.
4. Includes Suckler Cow Premium, Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance, Beef Special Premium, Beef Deseasonalisation Premium, Extensification Supplement, Beef Marketing Payment Schemes (parts 1, 2 and 2a), Agrimoney Compensation, Slaughter Premium, Flagged Suckler Herd Payments, BSE related supplements, receipts from the Over Thirty Months Scheme and Calf Processing Aid Scheme.
5. Includes Sheep Annual Premium, Rural World (LFA) Supplement, Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance and Agrimoney Compensation.
6. Includes Pig Welfare Slaughter Scheme.
7. Includes shipments and exports of breeding and non-breeding birds, and eggs for hatching.
8. Includes eggs for processing and duck eggs.
9. Includes horses, wool, deer and minor livestock products.
10. Includes Arable Area Payments but excludes set-aside payments,which are included in 'other subsidies'.
11. Hay, straw, flax, linseed, oilseed rape, mixed corn, protein crops, lawn turf and associated Arable Area Payments.
12. A negative stock change exceeded market receipts in 1981.
13. Receipts to both farmer contractors and specialist contractors.
14. Receipts from non-agricultural activities which use farm resources.
15. See Table 2.10 for details of the individual items included within this item.

Table 2.1 contd.

£ million

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
A Gross output	**627.9**	**697.7**	**760.4**	**812.6**	**787.1**	**778.3**	**816.7**	**874.1**	**970.2**	**947.4**	**997.7**	**1,055.7**	**1,199.6**	**1,240.2**	**1,352.3**	**1,379.1**	**1,285.3**	**1,128.1**	**1,102.3**	**1,092.8**
INPUT (also known as 'intermediate consumption')																				
Expenditure																				
Feedstuffs[16]	198.2	216.0	245.0	229.5	230.4	232.0	214.5	211.7	213.1	226.4	239.1	254.5	288.2	291.3	308.1	344.5	308.4	275.0	261.0	247.2
Seeds[17]	8.8	12.5	9.5	15.4	10.4	10.5	11.6	10.5	9.4	11.4	8.9	10.4	9.0	10.7	13.2	13.3	9.0	8.4	9.5	7.2
Marketing expenses[18]	24.9	24.9	26.9	26.6	28.3	28.2	28.7	29.6	31.1	31.7	34.6	37.2	38.4	38.2	37.2	38.3	36.7	36.4	35.5	36.1
Fertilisers and lime	42.1	41.1	45.6	49.4	62.6	70.1	55.8	50.7	61.7	61.3	61.0	55.0	61.9	67.9	75.7	78.9	68.6	55.9	60.2	56.1
Total machinery expenses (excl. depreciation)	39.2	43.6	44.6	47.6	51.2	46.1	47.0	47.7	51.7	57.5	59.5	63.6	67.1	68.5	70.5	77.1	82.8	74.7	75.0	80.1
Farm maintenance	6.9	8.4	9.6	9.9	10.7	11.2	12.3	14.3	16.9	17.6	18.1	19.7	22.6	26.9	30.5	32.2	29.9	27.4	28.2	27.1
Veterinary expenses and medicines	9.0	10.5	11.0	11.3	12.1	12.2	13.2	14.9	16.2	17.9	18.9	20.0	23.0	26.6	28.3	31.3	32.8	30.7	28.9	28.2
Miscellaneous expenses	34.3	40.2	42.2	43.4	46.2	52.9	52.1	54.4	60.9	71.5	77.9	83.6	92.4	101.0	103.2	111.5	115.5	112.5	108.6	107.1
Agricultural contract work	7.1	7.6	8.3	9.1	9.9	11.0	12.3	12.4	14.0	15.3	17.2	19.9	20.8	23.1	25.2	28.6	30.2	30.0	33.9	36.7
Milk quota leasing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.8	2.4	4.1	5.5	3.1	5.2	13.4	10.9	14.9	15.5	10.3	8.5	8.5	2.9
B Gross input	**370.5**	**404.8**	**442.8**	**442.4**	**461.9**	**475.1**	**448.2**	**448.6**	**479.1**	**516.1**	**538.4**	**569.1**	**636.7**	**665.3**	**706.7**	**771.3**	**724.2**	**659.5**	**649.2**	**628.8**
C Gross value added (A-B)	**257.4**	**293.0**	**317.6**	**370.1**	**325.2**	**303.2**	**368.4**	**425.5**	**491.0**	**431.3**	**459.3**	**486.6**	**562.9**	**575.0**	**645.5**	**607.8**	**561.1**	**468.6**	**453.2**	**464.1**
Consumption of fixed capital																				
- livestock	22.8	23.8	26.9	27.8	27.0	26.9	30.3	34.6	37.8	36.7	44.7	43.3	51.2	52.6	44.7	39.9	49.1	44.0	43.3	43.1
- plant, machinery and vehicles	43.5	46.2	49.4	51.3	53.5	56.5	58.0	59.5	61.8	63.5	64.8	65.0	67.2	70.0	73.5	77.5	79.5	80.3	80.0	79.5
- buildings and works	46.0	46.7	49.1	53.7	58.6	63.6	66.5	73.8	83.3	89.7	83.0	74.5	75.0	78.1	87.1	92.5	91.2	92.9	95.4	93.5
D Total consumption of fixed capital	**112.3**	**116.6**	**125.4**	**132.7**	**139.1**	**147.0**	**154.8**	**167.9**	**182.9**	**189.9**	**192.5**	**182.8**	**193.4**	**200.7**	**205.3**	**210.0**	**219.8**	**217.2**	**218.7**	**216.1**
Other subsidies (not paid on products)[19]	0.9	2.6	2.4	1.1	1.2	4.3	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.1	1.3	2.9	3.9	3.4	5.2	4.9
Other taxes (not levied on products)[20]	2.3	2.7	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.5	3.7	3.6	3.6	4.1	4.5	4.7	5.0	5.6	5.7	5.9	6.4
E Other subsidies (less taxes)	-1.4	0.0	-0.7	-2.1	-2.1	1.2	-2.6	-2.8	-3.0	-2.8	-2.6	-2.7	-3.0	-3.3	-3.4	-2.2	-1.7	-2.3	-0.7	-1.5
F Net value added (at factor cost) (C-D+E)	**143.7**	**176.3**	**191.5**	**235.3**	**183.9**	**157.4**	**211.1**	**254.8**	**305.2**	**238.5**	**264.2**	**301.1**	**366.6**	**370.9**	**436.8**	**395.7**	**339.6**	**249.1**	**233.8**	**246.4**
G Paid labour	27.1	28.2	30.9	31.2	32.0	33.8	34.3	35.8	38.3	39.3	43.1	43.1	41.3	40.5	41.9	45.3	41.9	43.5	45.2	47.6
H Interest	30.3	28.7	26.8	29.1	37.7	38.2	35.4	37.6	48.5	53.2	46.0	39.1	29.0	31.2	38.1	40.2	47.9	55.2	46.9	50.6
I Net rent[21]	23.6	24.8	25.1	25.8	26.7	27.2	28.0	27.5	27.7	28.7	29.1	31.3	35.4	39.3	43.2	47.5	48.7	49.5	49.4	50.0
J Total income from farming[22] (F-G-H-I)	**62.8**	**94.6**	**108.8**	**149.2**	**87.4**	**58.2**	**113.3**	**153.9**	**190.6**	**117.4**	**145.8**	**187.5**	**260.9**	**259.9**	**313.6**	**262.7**	**201.1**	**100.8**	**92.3**	**98.2**

16. Includes home-fed cereals, proteins and stockfeed potatoes.

17. Includes home-saved seed.

18. Hired transport charges, auction fees, slaughter charges and inter farm expenses.

19. Includes set-aside payments and payments for the non-capital element of the Environmentally Sensitive Area Scheme, Newcastle Disease Compensation and other minor grants and subsidies.

20. Farm rates and vehicle road tax.

21. Conacre payments to non-producing landowners.

22. This estimate should be regarded only as an indicator of trend. The income estimate, being a residual, is subject to cumulative errors in the estimation of input and output items (see Appendix).

Table 2.2 Summary income indicators[1] at current prices and in real terms[2]

Indices: 1995 = 100

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Index at current prices																				
Net value added	32.9	40.4	43.9	53.9	42.1	36.0	48.3	58.3	69.9	54.6	60.5	68.9	83.9	84.9	100.0	90.6	77.8	57.0	53.5	56.4
Total income from farming	20.0	30.2	34.7	47.6	27.9	18.5	36.1	49.1	60.8	37.4	46.5	59.8	83.2	82.9	100.0	83.8	64.1	32.1	29.4	31.3
Index in real terms																				
Net value added	65.6	74.1	76.9	90.1	66.3	54.9	70.7	81.4	90.4	64.5	67.5	74.2	89.0	87.8	100.0	88.4	73.6	52.2	48.2	49.4
Total income from farming	39.9	55.4	60.9	79.5	43.9	28.3	52.9	68.4	78.6	44.2	51.9	64.4	88.2	85.7	100.0	81.8	60.7	29.4	26.5	27.4

1. For definitions see Appendix.
2. Deflated by the Retail Prices Index.

Table 2.3 Gross output, gross input, gross value added and net value added at constant 1995 prices[1]

Indices: 1995 = 100

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Gross output	78.2	81.1	84.2	88.3	87.0	84.7	86.3	87.6	89.5	90.9	94.4	94.9	96.0	98.2	100.0	101.2	101.9	101.0	98.7	98.4
Gross input	82.2	85.2	87.1	83.5	87.8	89.2	85.4	83.8	84.7	85.7	87.3	89.1	94.6	97.3	100.0	100.6	97.5	95.9	97.0	93.5
Gross value added	73.8	76.6	81.0	93.5	86.0	79.7	87.3	91.8	94.7	96.5	102.2	101.3	97.6	99.1	100.0	101.7	106.6	106.6	100.6	103.7
Net value added	66.3	69.9	76.4	92.7	80.6	71.1	82.3	89.6	94.3	97.5	104.6	103.9	97.9	98.8	100.0	101.1	110.2	107.8	99.3	105.4

1. Calculated by applying 1995 output and input prices to the volume of each item of output and input in every year. The resulting series, therefore, represent volume changes.

Table 2.4 Estimated cash flow for agriculture

£ million

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Total income from farming	**62.8**	**94.6**	**108.8**	**149.2**	**87.4**	**58.2**	**113.3**	**153.9**	**190.6**	**117.4**	**145.8**	**187.5**	**260.9**	**259.9**	**313.6**	**262.7**	**201.1**	**100.8**	**92.3**	**98.2**
Less:																				
output stock change	-13.0	+16.1	+2.9	+11.1	-9.6	+4.2	-19.4	+11.3	+5.8	-5.2	+11.7	-4.5	+6.1	+1.8	-4.3	-10.1	+2.3	-12.1	+0.8	-5.4
gross fixed capital formation (breeding livestock)	24.9	21.2	35.3	29.6	26.3	25.8	36.8	47.4	54.8	52.2	50.0	60.5	60.4	56.6	56.6	49.5	80.0	40.9	31.2	32.7
capital investment[1]	123.1	133.4	165.5	135.6	136.1	111.7	96.1	116.9	126.6	90.8	92.2	109.7	192.1	98.4	131.0	126.8	112.7	77.3	77.2	71.9
Plus:																				
input stock change	-0.4	+0.2	-0.4	-0.2	+0.7	+0.4	-0.5	-0.4	-0.7	+0.6	+0.2	+1.2	+1.6	-0.3	+1.7	-0.3	-0.4	+1.4	-1.9	+0.2
capital consumption	112.3	116.6	125.4	132.7	139.1	147.0	154.8	167.9	182.9	189.9	192.5	182.8	193.4	200.7	205.3	210.0	219.8	217.2	218.7	216.1
capital grants paid in year[2]	29.0	48.2	47.7	59.0	46.4	32.9	37.0	25.4	26.1	29.2	19.6	19.5	22.4	48.5	13.7	14.9	15.0	17.4	5.6	1.4
change in borrowings	12.0	5.3	13.4	19.9	19.6	26.8	5.3	5.8	1.6	8.8	15.3	-5.0	6.9	46.0	31.4	52.0	56.1	43.3	20.2	3.5
Cash available to farm families from farming	**80.6**	**94.4**	**91.1**	**184.4**	**140.4**	**123.4**	**196.4**	**177.0**	**213.2**	**208.1**	**219.6**	**220.4**	**226.5**	**398.0**	**382.5**	**373.1**	**296.6**	**274.0**	**225.6**	**220.2**

1. The capital investment figures used are those given in Table 2.12 but with a deduction made for the value of work done by principal farmers and spouses. The figures for buildings and works in Table 2.12 are estimated from grant statistics (with an addition for non grant-aided investment) and are shown in that table as investment in the year in which grant was paid. Since there is known to be a delay between work being done and grant being paid, the investment estimates have been included in the 'cash flow' one year earlier.
2. These estimates are entered in the year in which they are paid. The grants are mostly in respect of capital investments made in previous years.

Table 2.5 Aggregate gross margin estimates for the main agricultural sectors[1]

1999 (Revised)

Form of production	Adjusted outputs[2]	Estimated specific costs[3]				Sector gross margins[4]	
		Feedstuffs	Fertilisers, seeds & sprays	Others	Total		
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	%
Dairy cows and followers	335.5	58.3	16.1	12.9	87.2	248.3	38.6
Beef cattle, rearing and fattening	322.1	60.2	31.2	21.6	112.9	209.1	32.5
Sheep and wool	88.0	13.3	11.8	5.5	30.6	57.4	8.9
Total grazing livestock	**745.6**	**131.8**	**59.0**	**40.0**	**230.7**	**514.8**	**80.0**
Pigs	60.3	49.2	-	1.4	50.5	9.8	1.5
Poultry	118.0	85.3	-	1.4	86.7	31.3	4.9
Total pigs and poultry	**178.3**	**134.5**	**-**	**2.8**	**137.2**	**41.1**	**6.4**
Cereals and oilseed rape	32.0	-	6.9	-	6.9	25.1	3.9
Potatoes	30.2	-	6.9	-	7.0	23.2	3.6
Total field crops	**62.2**	**-**	**13.8**	**0.1**	**13.9**	**48.3**	**7.5**
Horticulture[5]	51.3	-	17.1	2.1	19.2	32.1	5.0
Other items	10.3	2.7	0.4	-	3.1	7.2	1.1
Total	**1,047.7**	**268.9**	**90.4**	**45.0**	**404.3**	**643.4**	**100.0**

2000 (Provisional)

Form of production	Adjusted outputs[2]	Estimated specific costs[3]				Sector gross margins[4]	
		Feedstuffs	Fertilisers, seeds & sprays	Others	Total		
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	%
Dairy cows and followers	336.6	59.9	15.4	12.7	88.0	248.6	36.6
Beef cattle, rearing and fattening	333.1	57.4	29.4	22.4	109.2	223.9	32.9
Sheep and wool	87.3	12.3	10.1	5.4	27.9	59.5	8.7
Total grazing livestock	**757.1**	**129.6**	**54.9**	**40.6**	**225.1**	**532.0**	**78.2**
Pigs	57.8	36.1	-	1.4	37.5	20.3	3.0
Poultry	122.6	85.0	-	1.4	86.4	36.2	5.3
Total pigs and poultry	**180.4**	**121.1**	**-**	**2.8**	**123.9**	**56.5**	**8.3**
Cereals and oilseed rape	32.9	-	7.3	-	7.4	25.5	3.8
Potatoes	24.2	-	4.0	-	4.0	20.2	3.0
Total field crops	**57.1**	**-**	**11.3**	**0.1**	**11.4**	**45.7**	**6.7**
Horticulture[5]	58.0	-	15.3	2.5	17.7	40.2	5.9
Other items	8.4	2.3	0.4	-	2.7	5.6	0.8
Total	**1,060.9**	**253.0**	**81.9**	**46.0**	**380.9**	**680.0**	**100.0**

1. Owing to changes in methodology, these estimates are not comparable with those for years prior to 1999.
2. The items making up total gross output (as shown in Table 2.1) have been regrouped into the above enterprises and adjusted as follows:-
   (i) Outputs have been adjusted for changes in the beginning and end-of-year valuations. In the case of breeding livestock, stock appreciation has been excluded;
   (ii) Outputs include compensation payments.
3. Estimates of the costs of the inputs of seed, fertiliser, spray, purchased feedstuffs and home grown cereals have been allocated amongst the various enterprises on the basis of results obtained from analysis of the Farm Business Survey. Other variable costs have been allocated as appropriate. No attempt has been made to allocate fuel, machinery or other overhead expenses.
4. 'Sector gross margins' represent the value of products remaining after deducting most of the variable costs and give a useful measure of the contribution of each enterprise to the earnings of the agricultural industry.
5. Comprises fruit, vegetables, mushrooms, flowers and hardy nursery stock.

Table 2.6 Quantities of the main products in output[1]

	Units of quantity	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Livestock and livestock products							
Cattle and calves[2]	tonnes dcw	154,111	110,481	120,939	120,023	113,774	121,864
Over Thirty Months Scheme[3]	tonnes carcase wt	-	50,704	24,797	29,742	31,433	30,614
Sheep and lambs	tonnes dcw	36,602	36,258	32,548	36,348	36,138	33,812
Pigs[4]	,,	93,978	94,367	95,533	96,138	87,685	65,433
Cattle and calves[2]	'000 head	502	347	385	394	387	413
Calf Processing Aid Scheme	,,	-	28	54	67	36	-
Sheep and lambs	,,	1,679	1,669	1,526	1,761	1,766	1,606
Pigs[4]	,,	1,309	1,286	1,342	1,344	1,214	904
Poultry[5]	'000 tonnes lwt	141.4	158.4	158.8	163.2	161.2	160.8
Eggs[6]	m. doz	69.8	71.4	69.1	71.9	64.0	65.0
Milk	m. litres	1,381	1,445	1,501	1,510	1,573	1,627
Field crops							
Wheat	'000 tonnes	55.3	46.6	46.3	48.0	32.6	34.7
Barley	,,	168.0	179.1	176.6	168.0	159.3	175.7
Oats	,,	11.3	10.8	11.4	12.2	11.7	13.9
Potatoes	,,	296.1	298.3	293.5	276.9	270.7	299.3
Horticultural crops							
Fruit	'000 tonnes	41.8	40.2	31.4	28.0	26.2	48.1
Vegetables	,,	39.4	40.7	37.4	35.6	31.3	39.3
Mushrooms	,,	23.0	27.5	26.5	26.0	23.5	21.2

1. Estimated home-produced sales, on-farm use and household consumption. See Footnote 2 to Table 2.1.
2. Excludes cattle slaughtered under the Over Thirty Months Scheme and Calf Processing Aid Scheme.
3. Cattle processed under the Over Thirty Months Scheme are not dressed to a normal carcase specification. Therefore, care must be taken when comparing the weight of beef processed under this Scheme with the weight of beef sold for human consumption.
4. Includes pigs slaughtered under the 1998 Pig Welfare Slaughter Scheme and exports of store pigs.
5. Excludes shipments and exports of breeding and non-breeding birds and hatching eggs.
6. Includes eggs for processing and duck eggs.

Table 2.7 Average producer prices[1] of agricultural products

£ per unit

	Unit	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Finished steers, heifers and young bulls[2]	head	731	631	527	437	453	464
Finished steers, heifers and young bulls[2]	kg dwt	2.26	1.92	1.67	1.43	1.52	1.55
Calves slaughtered or exported[3]	head	157	89	69	62	47	98
Culled cows and bulls[2]	head	533	456	340	257	248	246
Culled cows and bulls[2]	kg dwt	1.82	1.67	1.37	1.15	1.11	1.03
Store cattle exported	head	538	465	430	334	347	381
Finished sheep and lambs	head	43.74	54.68	51.32	39.30	35.43	39.07
Finished sheep and lambs	kg dwt	2.09	2.61	2.51	1.99	1.80	1.93
Finished clean pigs[4]	head	79.83	96.23	74.68	51.40	50.57	59.55
Finished clean pigs[4]	kg dwt	1.12	1.33	1.05	0.73	0.71	0.83
Culled sows and boars	head	120	131	101	50	52	67
Milk[5]	litre	0.261	0.247	0.213	0.200	0.192	0.185
Eggs for consumption	dozen	0.397	0.476	0.349	0.303	0.322	0.377
Broilers	kg lwt	0.549	0.585	0.574	0.531	0.507	0.495
Potatoes:							
Ware maincrop[6]	tonne	176	77	63	112	123	72
Seed	tonne	213	157	69	102	167	66
Barley	tonne	119	113	90	83	83	76
Wheat	tonne	124	119	96	87	84	80
Mushrooms	tonne	1,210	1,165	1,146	1,150	1,165	1,243
Apples	tonne	138	158	214	248	102	112

1. Before deduction of marketing charges, commissions and levies, where applicable.
2. Includes cattle slaughtered under the Over Thirty Months Scheme.
3. Includes calves processed under the Calf Processing Aid Scheme.
4. Includes pigs slaughtered under the 1998 Pig Welfare Slaughter Scheme.
5. Before deduction of superlevy, if applicable.
6. Does not include early potatoes. Therefore, the price differs from that quoted in Table 2.26.

Table 2.8 Indices of producer prices[1] of agricultural output

Indices: 1995 = 100

	Weights[2]	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Finished steers and heifers[3]	256	100	85	74	63	67	68
Culled cows and bulls[3]	44	100	92	76	63	61	57
Store cattle exported	4	100	87	80	62	65	71
Finished sheep and lambs	58	100	125	120	95	86	92
Finished clean pigs	92	100	118	93	65	63	74
Culled sows and boars	2	100	107	80	42	45	58
Milk	316	100	95	82	76	73	71
Eggs for consumption	25	100	120	88	76	81	95
Broilers	60	100	107	105	97	92	90
Potatoes:							
Ware maincrop	30	100	43	36	63	70	41
Seed	11	100	74	32	48	78	31
Barley	18	100	95	76	70	70	64
Wheat	6	100	96	78	71	68	65
Mushrooms	25	100	96	95	95	96	103
Apples	5	100	115	155	180	74	81
Total products index[2]	**953**	**100**	**96**	**83**	**74**	**73**	**72**

1. The indices relate to prices from which marketing expenses have not been deducted.
2. The total products index is calculated by taking into account the significance of each item in the base period (1995). This is shown in the column of weights. Since only the main items of output are included, the total of their weights does not add to 1,000. Also, since the price index does not cover items such as production grants, compensation payments and gross fixed capital formation, it should not be regarded as a 'deflator' to be used in estimating the volume of output. (A volume series of gross output is given in Table 2.3).
3. Includes cattle slaughtered under the Over Thirty Months Scheme.

Table 2.9 Average market prices of breeding and store livestock[1]

£ per head

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
CATTLE						
Breeding cattle						
Dairy cows/heifers in milk	818	698	665	552	561	559
Dairy cows in calf	775	626	624	487	446	438
Dairy springing heifers				480	475	477
Beef cows/heifers with calf at foot	773	617	618	452	425	471
Beef cows in calf	663	534	558	357	328	334
Beef springing heifers				409	389	395
Store cattle						
150-300 kg steers	420	371	355	258	241	280
300-400 kg steers	509	437	418	329	326	358
400-500 kg steers	658	532	493	379	394	421
Over 500 kg steers				452	486	492
150-300 kg heifers	327	280	253	178	144	183
300-400 kg heifers	433	361	331	247	242	279
400-500 kg heifers	558	454	424	331	349	365
Over 500 kg heifers				419	433	447
Suckled calves						
Under 200 kg steers	371	280	281	174	175	202
Over 200 kg steers	496	393	381	272	297	329
Under 200 kg heifers	247	167	157	81	76	115
Over 200 kg heifers	347	242	240	146	151	201
Dropped calves						
For rearing	157	127	130	84	50	48
For Calf Processing Aid Scheme (dairy type)	-	-	-	67	40	-
For Calf Processing Aid Scheme (beef type)	-	-	-	66	39	-
Cull cows	464	427	360	291	275	281
SHEEP						
Breeding ewes/hoggets						
Blackface				32.63	26.87	38.23
Blackface Cross	26.92	37.26	35.92	41.41	29.81	43.74
Other breeds				45.37	34.48	41.78
Breeding ewe lambs						
Blackface				16.79	19.58	31.16
Blackface Cross	41.33	44.08	56.61	22.66	21.56	27.96
Other breeds				27.48	22.31	31.04
Breeding ewes/hoggets with lamb(s) at foot						
Blackface	-	-	-	38.82	35.47	25.67
Blackface Cross	-	-	-	43.45	13.81	47.00
Other breeds	-	-	-	59.67	50.59	53.14
Cull ewes						
Blackface				10.01	6.93	12.04
Blackface Cross	14.50	22.08	29.64	15.81	11.19	15.70
Other breeds				16.68	12.61	17.77
Cull rams	-	-	-	23.29	16.83	22.17
Store lambs	39.91	43.66	42.20	20.61	18.17	26.02
PIGS						
Breeding pigs						
Sows in pig	254	284	156	81	67	110
Springing gilts	254	263	172	100	53	120
Weaner/store pigs						
Under 15kg	27.78	31.98	22.68	10.18	11.51	15.75
15-30kg				15.82	15.70	19.93
30-45kg	46.70	52.87	40.73	22.21	23.16	26.74
Over 45kg				31.88	36.15	44.50
Cull sows	119.87	131.41	100.72	47.65	52.12	64.31
Cull boars	-	-	-	51.33	50.33	67.59

1. Average prices calculated from returns made by auction marts.

Table 2.10 Direct payments and levies included in the Aggregate Agricultural Account [1,2]

£ million [3]

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
DIRECT PAYMENTS [4]						
Cereals						
Arable Area Payments Scheme	7.5	8.2	8.8	8.3	7.1	7.7
Arable Area Payments Scheme Agrimoney Compensation [5]	-	-	-	-	1.1	0.6
Total cereals	**7.5**	**8.2**	**8.8**	**8.3**	**8.2**	**8.4**
Other crops [6]	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2
Cattle						
Beef Special Premium	36.4	40.3	39.1	37.3	34.0	34.3
Beef Special Premium - BSE Top-up	-	8.3	-	-	-	-
Beef Special Premium Agrimoney Compensation [5]	-	-	-	-	4.6	3.1
Suckler Cow Premium	38.7	43.5	42.7	41.4	37.8	36.7
Suckler Cow Premium - BSE Top-up	-	6.7	7.7	-	-	-
Suckler Cow Premium - Agrimoney Compensation [5]	-	-	13.2	8.6	5.3	3.5
Flagged Suckler Herd Payments	-	-	1.6	0.5	-	-
Extensification Supplement	16.4	18.3	21.3	21.2	19.2	20.4
Extensification Supplement Agrimoney Compensation [5]	-	-	-	-	2.3	2.0
Deseasonalisation Premium	-	-	6.0	5.6	2.6	-
Deseasonalisation Premium Agrimoney Compensation [5]	-	-	-	-	0.5	0.2
Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance	10.4	10.5	24.2	11.9	18.4	17.8
Beef Marketing Payment Schemes	-	9.4	-	-	-	-
Over Thirty Months Scheme [7]	-	84.2	30.7	31.3	31.9	28.6
Calf Processing Aid Scheme [7]	-	2.3	3.7	4.0	1.4	-
Slaughter Premium	-	-	-	-	-	11.0
Total cattle	**101.9**	**223.5**	**190.2**	**161.8**	**158.0**	**157.5**
Sheep						
Sheep Annual Premium [8]	36.0	24.0	20.9	25.9	22.5	18.6
Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance	3.5	3.7	3.7	3.8	5.9	5.8
Agrimoney Compensation [5]	-	-	0.9	2.3	0.8	2.0
Total sheep	**39.6**	**27.7**	**25.5**	**32.0**	**29.1**	**26.3**
Pigs						
Pig Welfare Slaughter Scheme	-	-	-	0.5	-	-
Total pigs	-	-	-	**0.5**	-	-
Milk						
Milk Agrimoney Compensation	-	-	-	-	-	2.4
Total milk	-	-	-	-	-	**2.4**
Other direct payments						
Set-aside (Arable Area Payments Scheme)	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.5
Environmentally Sensitive Areas (non-capital)	0.6	2.4	3.5	3.0	4.4	4.3
Others [9]	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total other direct payments	**1.3**	**2.9**	**3.9**	**3.4**	**5.2**	**4.9**
Total direct payments	**150.4**	**262.4**	**228.6**	**206.3**	**200.8**	**199.7**
LEVIES [10]						
Milk						
Superlevy	9.9	4.4	1.2	5.3	0.5	2.6
Total levies	**9.9**	**4.4**	**1.2**	**5.3**	**0.5**	**2.6**

1. Table 2.1
2. These data relate to monies due rather than monies actually received (ie. they are on an accruals basis).
3. Dashes (-) indicate payments of nil or less than £50,000.
4. Excludes expenditure on market regulation (such as intervention purchases and export refunds) by the UK Intervention Board Exe Agency.
5. Transitional and Definitive Agrimoney Compensation.
6. Includes Transitional and Definitive Agrimoney Compensation.
7. Gross producer receipts before marketing expenses.
8. Includes Rural World (LFA) Supplement.
9. Includes Sheep Compensation Scheme, Farm Woodlands Scheme and other miscellaneous payments.
10. Excludes non-government levies.

Table 2.11 Capital grants and other direct payments not included in the Aggregate Agricultural Account[1]

£ million[2]

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
CAPITAL GRANTS						
Farm and Conservation Grant Scheme	2.8	1.8	1.0	0.5	0.3	0.1
Agriculture Improvement Scheme	0.1	-	-	-	-	-
Sub-programme for Agricultural and Rural Development	10.0	11.5	16.1	3.7	0.2	-
Farm and Countryside Enhancement Scheme	-	-	4.4	-	-	-
Environmentally Sensitive Areas[3]	0.5	1.6	2.0	3.0	1.8	0.8
Miscellaneous grants	0.1	-	-	-	-	-
Total capital grants	**13.5**	**15.0**	**23.5**	**7.3**	**2.3**	**1.0**
OTHER DIRECT PAYMENTS						
Milk quota cut compensation	2.2	2.3	-	-	-	-
Cattle disease compensation[4]	2.5	2.5	5.5	7.0	13.0	16.0
Other animal disease compensation[5]	0.3	0.4	4.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Other miscellaneous payments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total other direct payments	**5.0**	**5.2**	**9.6**	**7.3**	**13.1**	**16.1**

1. These data relate to monies due rather than monies actually received (ie. they are on an accruals basis).
2. Dashes (-) indicate payments of nil or less than £50,000.
3. Non-capital element is included in the Aggregate Agricultural Account.
4. Comprises tuberculosis, brucellosis, and BSE reactor compensation payments.
5. Comprises salmonella and the capital element of Newcastle Disease payments.

Table 2.12 Estimated gross annual capital investment in fixed assets and equipment[1]

£ million

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Grant-aided Investment[2]	76.4	50.4	50.1	53.1	116.3	36.5	41.7	46.8	43.3	9.5	1.1
Non-aided investment	5.4	3.5	3.5	3.7	8.1	2.6	2.9	3.3	3.1	15.4	19.3
Total buildings and works[3]	**81.8**	**54.0**	**53.6**	**56.9**	**124.5**	**39.1**	**44.6**	**50.1**	**46.4**	**24.9**	**20.4**
Plant and machinery[4]	36.7	37.0	45.3	52.1	61.0	70.1	60.2	56.0	44.4	44.8	39.1
Vehicles[5,6]	14.0	10.8	16.7	25.4	20.2	23.2	24.4	19.2	15.6	16.1	15.8
Total plant, machinery and vehicles	**50.7**	**47.8**	**62.0**	**77.5**	**81.2**	**93.3**	**84.6**	**75.2**	**60.0**	**60.9**	**54.9**
Total investment	**132.5**	**101.8**	**115.7**	**134.4**	**205.6**	**132.4**	**129.2**	**125.3**	**106.4**	**85.8**	**75.3**

1. Excluding investment in forestry and arterial drainage.
2. Investment under the following schemes in various years: Agriculture and Horticulture Development, Agriculture Improvement, Farm and Conservation Enhancement, Farm and Conservation Schemes, Agricultural Development Operational Programme, Sub Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development
3. From 1999, estimated from the Farm Business Survey.
4. This item was previously shown as two separate items, tractors and equipment .
5. Estimated from the Farm Business Survey.
6. Vehicles shown at 'farm share'.

Table 2.13 Total quotas and other subsidy ceilings

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Milk quota (million litres):						
Owned[1]	1,344.9	1,397.8	1,448.4	1,510.7	1549.5	1,597.3
Leased[2]	-4.7	23.2	17.0	2.6	-5.4	-15.0
Total	1,340.2	1,421.0	1,465.4	1,513.0	1544.1	1,582.3
Suckler Cow Premium:						
Quota (no. of units)[3]	305,186	310,896	320,032	322,054	321,917	311,729
Premia paid (no. of cows)	289,847	300,350	307,616	315,725	310,701	311,729
Sheep Annual Premium:						
Quota (no. of units)[3]	1,347,622	1,361,561	1,321,306	1,425,965	1,425,965	1,425,965
Premia paid (no. of ewes)	1,336,706	1,314,807	1,303,136	1,326,275	1,345,899	1,283,679
Beef Special Premium:						
Reference herd (no. of steers)	234,683	234,683	236,507	234,683	234,683	234,683
Premia paid (no. of animals)						
steers: first age premium[4]	232,504	233,584	223,749	213,861	205,968	200,000
second age premium	191,490	199,382	216,827	215,443	203,406	210,000
bulls	-	-	9,869	10,845	17,598	34,000
Arable Area Payments:						
Base area (ha)	52,900	52,900	52,900	52,900	52,900	52,900
Area paid: crops (ha)	32,467	35,367	39,113	39,899	39,542	38,867
set-aside (ha)	1,727	1,493	1,078	1,316	2,473	2,498

1. Permanent wholesale and direct sale quota as at 31 March each year.
2. Quota leased-in to, less quota leased-out from Northern Ireland as at 31 March each year.
3. Quota shown is that allocated under the automatic entitlement process **plus** reserve allocations **less** quota siphoned off into the reserve or withdrawn under usage rules.
4. Figures for first age premium are based on number of premia paid after scale back for the regional ceiling being exceeded.

Table 2.14 Number of persons working on farms

number of persons

	1995 [1]	1996 [1]	1997	1998	1999	2000
AGRICULTURAL LABOUR FORCE						
Farmers and partners						
Full time	23,468	22,710	22,409	22,502	21,536	20,534
Part time	16,337	17,204	16,828	16,330	16,073	15,386
Total	**39,805**	**39,914**	**39,237**	**38,832**	**37,609**	**35,920**
Spouses of farmers	**6807**	**6810**	**7001**	**7042**	**7034**	**7034**
Other workers						
Full time	3554	3432	2981	2929	3030	3005
Part time	3223	3110	3088	2933	2793	3062
Casual/seasonal	9564	9228	9570	9360	8785	8802
Total other workers	16,341	15,770	15,639	15,222	14,608	14,869
Total agricultural labour force	**62,953**	**62,494**	**61,877**	**61,096**	**59,251**	**57,823**
Annual Work Units (AWUs)[3]	**38,333**	**37,593**	**36,625**	**36,435**	**35,294**	**34,075**

1. Revised estimates, see Appendix
2. Two changes were made to the labour section of census forms in 1997. Full-time work was more precisely defined as involving 30 hours per week or more and casual work as covering less than 20 weeks per year. Also the categories of workers changed from 'family' and 'hired' to 'paid' and 'unpaid'. Consequently trends in individual categories should be interpreted with care. For example, these changes are believed to have resulted in some workers previously returned as 'family' being recorded as partners in the new format.
3. An Annual Work Unit is equivalent to the time worked by one person employed full-time in agricultural activities over a whole year.

Table 2.15 Agricultural manpower [1]

number of persons

	1995 [2]	1996 [2]	1997 [2]	1998	1999	2000
MANPOWER STATISTICS[1]						
Self-employed						
Male	21,630	20,918	20,791	20,834	20,006	19,247
Female	1838	1792	1618	1668	1530	1287
Total	**23,468**	**22,710**	**22,409**	**22,502**	**21,536**	**20,534**
Employees						
Male	14,417	13,729	13,730	13,440	12,962	12,957
Female	1924	2041	1909	1782	1646	1912
Total	**16,341**	**15,770**	**15,639**	**15,222**	**14,608**	**14,869**
Total agricultural manpower	**39,809**	**38,480**	**38,048**	**37,724**	**36,144**	**35,403**

1. Agricultural manpower statistics refer to the count of employees and self-employed workers in agriculture, as used by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment in aggregate labour statistics. The count of self-employed includes farmers and partners who work full-time on their farms ; the count of employees includes all other workers except part-time farmers and partners and farmers' spouses.
2. Figures for 1997 and earlier years have been revised as a consequence of a change in the register used for the agricultural census (see Appendix).

Table 2.16 Estimated employment in the food and drinks processing and input supply sectors[1]

full-time equivalents

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999 (provisional)
Processing of products[2]							
Animal by-products	190	200	230	250	260	250	250
Bakeries	3,300	3,450	3,440	3,710	3,560	3,330	3,200
Beef and sheepmeat	2,790	2,850	2,630	2,440	2,210	2,250	2,200
Drinks	1,650	1,900	1,830	1,740	1,810	1,840	1,850
Eggs	440	460	390	390	330	360	350
Fish	1,000	1,010	970	1,010	980	1,120	1,100
Fruit and vegetables	1,190	1,120	1,050	1,190	1,280	1,310	1,300
Milk and milk products	3,190	3,190	3,100	2,800	2,620	2,620	2,600
Pigmeat	2,220	2,300	2,230	2,310	2,390	2,420	2,400
Poultrymeat	4,350	4,350	4,330	4,240	4,310	3,890	3,850
Total processing sector	**20,320**	**20,830**	**20,200**	**20,080**	**19,750**	**19,390**	**19,100**
Manufacture and supply of inputs[3]							
Animal feed	1,000	900	850	830	830	820	790
Fertilisers and lime	410	400	440	500	520	520	490
Other requisites (incl. medicines)	730	830	830	850	820	820	820
Farm machinery (incl. servicing)	880	950	950	920	920	920	900
Services[4]	1,280	1,310	1,570	1,600	1,520	1,530	1,520
Total supply sector	**4,300**	**4,390**	**4,640**	**4,700**	**4,610**	**4,610**	**4,520**
Total ancillary employment	**24,620**	**25,220**	**24,840**	**24,780**	**24,360**	**24,000**	**23,620**

1. Owing to changes in coverage, sources and methodology, these estimates are not comparable with those published in pre- 1993 issues of the *Statistical Review of Northern Ireland Agriculture* . All figures are rounded to the nearest ten employees.
2. For a description of how the data for processing have been estimated, see the publication *"Size and Performance of the Northern Ireland Food and Drinks Processing Sector"* , Economics and Statistics Division, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD). Figures for 1999 have been estimated by adjusting the 1998 baseline, largely on the basis of information available within DARD.
3. Estimated from the Census of Employment and other (mainly DARD) sources .
4. Includes contractors, veterinary surgeons, workers in auction marts, employees of farming and marketing associations and artificial insemination workers.

Table 2.17 External sales of the food and drinks processing sector[1]

£ million

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999 (provisional)
Animal by-products	13	13	16	17	18	20	20
Bakeries	16	21	26	24	26	31	30
Beef and sheepmeat	346	346	363	313	264	225	220
Drinks	65	62	58	64	74	51	50
Eggs	32	31	32	43	34	32	30
Fish	41	47	53	53	60	66	70
Fruit and vegetables	47	47	47	54	64	71	70
Milk and milk products	293	326	347	408	307	337	340
Pigmeat	103	109	106	132	140	127	110
Poultrymeat	147	159	163	222	211	173	165
Total processing sector	**1,103**	**1,160**	**1,212**	**1,330**	**1,198**	**1,133**	**1,105**

1. These figures are not comparable with the export statistics published in pre-1996 issues of the *Statistical Review of Northern Ireland Agriculture.* The term "external sales" refers to sales to Great Britain, foreign countries and intervention. For a description of how the data have been estimated, see the publication *Size and Performance of the Northern Ireland Food and Drinks Processing Sector,* Economics and Statistics Division, DARD. Figures for 1999 have been estimated by adjusting the 1998 baseline, largely on the basis of information available within DARD.

B. COMMODITIES AND INPUTS

Cattle and calves

Marketings of finished clean cattle increased by 5.4 per cent in 2000, to 399,000 head. Almost all of these animals were destined for human consumption, the remainder being destroyed under the Over Thirty Months Scheme (OTMS). The increase in marketings was the result of a 13 per cent rise in the number of heifers slaughtered and a 200 per cent rise in young bulls slaughtered. Slaughterings of steers decreased by 1 per cent. The average carcase weight increased slightly, by 0.9 per cent. In total, the volume of clean beef output increased by 6.3 per cent to 120,000 tonnes. The average deadweight price rose by 1.5 per cent, although it was still 7.5 per cent lower than the 1997 level. The overall effect of these changes was a rise of 7.9 per cent in the total sales value of finished clean cattle, to £185 million.

Disposals of culled cows and bulls decreased by 5.4 per cent in 2000 to 119,000 head. Ninety-six per cent of these animals were destroyed under the OTMS. The average carcase weight of animals going through the OTMS rose by 6.6 per cent while the price realised per kilogram deadweight declined by 7.9 per cent. Total receipts from cull cattle disposals decreased by 6.4 per cent to £29.2 million.

Sales of calves fell by 84 per cent in 2000, to 7,000 head, due to the ending of the Calf Processing Aid Scheme (CPAS) on 31 July 1999. The revenue generated fell by 65 per cent to £0.7 million.

Overall, the total sales value of cattle and calves in 2000 (including those sold into the OTMS) rose by 5.0 per cent to £215 million.

The total value of direct headage payments increased by 3.4 per cent to £129 million. This was due to the introduction, under the Agenda 2000 CAP reforms, of a Slaughter Premium worth £11.0 million. Beef Special Premium (BSP) payments increased by 1.0 per cent and Extensification Supplement payments by 6.0 per cent (to £34.3 million and £20.4 million respectively). Receipts from Suckler Cow Premium (SCP) payments declined by 3.1 per cent to £36.7 million. The amount of agrimoney compensation paid on various schemes declined in 2000 by 31 per cent to £8.7 million. Deseasonalisation Premium was not paid during 2000 while the value of Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance (HLCA) receipts decreased by 3.5 per cent to £17.8 million.

Combining the sales value of cattle sold for human consumption with the receipts from the OTMS, direct headage payments and year-end stock changes, less the cost of imported animals, returns from cattle production in 2000 totalled £332 million. This was an increase of 2.2 per cent on 1999 but a drop in real terms of 31 per cent compared with 1995 (the last year before the BSE crisis and sterling’s appreciation).

Milk

The annual average dairy cow population declined by 0.5 per cent in 2000 while the average gross milk yield per cow rose by 3.5 per cent to 5,850 litres.

Sales of milk off-farm continued to rise in 2000. An increase of 3.5 per cent brought total sales to 1,620 million litres, their highest level ever.

The average producer price for milk declined further in 2000, falling by 3.1 per cent compared with 1999. The ‘superlevy’ bill increased to £2.6 million in 2000 from £0.5 million in 1999. Agrimoney compensation paid in 2000 amounted to £2.4 million. Altogether, the value of milk output was virtually unchanged at £301 million.

Sheep and lambs

Marketings of clean sheep and lambs declined in 2000, falling to 1.41 million head, a 9.7 per cent decrease compared with 1999. Average dressed carcase weight increased in 2000 by 0.6 kilograms to 20.3 kilograms per head. The volume of clean sheepmeat produced fell by 7.2 per cent to 28,700 tonnes. However producer prices increased by 7.2 per cent to 193p/kg deadweight with the result that market returns from clean sheep and lambs were almost unchanged at £55.2 million.

In line with a reduction in the breeding flock, marketings of culled ewes and rams decreased by 3.8 per cent to 193,000 head. However, a rise of 40 per cent in price resulted in an increase in the overall value of market receipts of 35 per cent, to £3.1 million.

Total market returns from sheep production rose by 1.0 per cent to £58.4 million.

An increase in market prices throughout the European Union in 2000 caused a reduction in Sheep Annual Premium (SAP) payments of 12 per cent, to £20.5 million. HLCA receipts remained similar to 1999 levels at £5.8 million. Overall, total subsidies decreased by 9.6 per cent to £26.3 million. These represented 31 per cent of the total value of sheep output, which declined by 1.9 per cent to £83.9 million.

Pigs

As a result of a further reduction in the breeding herd, the number of clean pigs marketed during 2000 decreased by 26 per cent to 890,000 head. This decrease resulted in a decline of 25 per cent, to 65,000 tonnes, in the quantity of pigmeat produced. Average dressed carcase weight was virtually unchanged at 71.7kg. Although producer prices increased by 18 per cent to 83.0 pence per kilogram deadweight, overall market returns from clean pig production fell by 12 per cent to £52.9 million.

Reflecting the decrease in the breeding herd, the number of marketings of cull sows and boars declined by 21 per cent to 14,000 head. However, the average price per head increased by 29 per cent compared with 1999, causing market returns from cull sow and boar sales to rise by 1.9 per cent, to £0.9 million.

Overall, the value of pig output in 2000 (including a negative stock change of £0.8 million) fell by 11 per cent, to £53.0 million.

Poultry

The total volume of poultrymeat production, at 161,000 tonnes liveweight, was very similar to the 1999 level. Broiler chicken production increased by 1.6 per cent to 139,000 tonnes liveweight, but this was offset by decreases in other poultrymeats, especially duck (-36 per cent) and turkey (-10 per cent). Average producer prices decreased by 2.2 per cent, resulting in a decline in the value of poultrymeat output of 2.4 per cent to £78.3 million. The total value of poultry output (including the export of poultry and hatching eggs, net of imports, and a small negative stock change) was virtually unchanged on the 1999 level at £98.2 million. Within this total, the value of broiler chicken output fell by 0.8 per cent to £68.9 million.

Eggs

Packing station throughput of graded eggs in 2000 increased slightly to 62.1 million dozen eggs. The average producer price increased by 18 per cent from the low level in 1999, leading to a rise in the value of overall egg output of 19 per cent to £24.5 million (including eggs for processing, unrecorded sales for human consumption and duck eggs).

Potatoes

The area of potatoes planted in 2000 decreased by 10 per cent to 6,770 hectares but the average yield rose by 8.0 per cent. The total potential quantity of potatoes harvested therefore decreased by 3.1 per cent to 310,000 tonnes. However poor weather at harvest, resulting in a significant proportion of the crop still in the ground at 31 December, could cause a larger decline.

Marketings of ware potatoes in 2000 increased by 15 per cent to 233,000 tonnes. This comprised a year-on-year increase of 29 per cent in sales during the first half of the year and unchanged sales during the second half of the year. The volume of seed potato output for the year (including home-saved seed) fell by 14 per cent, to 32,300 tonnes. In total, the volume of potato output (including ware, seed and stockfeed potatoes) in 2000 increased by 11 per cent to 299,000 tonnes.

Producer prices differed markedly in the first and second halves of the year, with the average price per tonne from July to December being almost double that from January to June. Over the year as a whole, the average price decreased by 43 per cent compared with 1999. The increase in the volume of output and the fall in price resulted in the total value of potato output (including a negative stock change of £1.1 million) decreasing by 43 per cent to £18.7 million.

Cereals

There was a partial recovery in wheat plantings in 2000 compared with the very low level in 1999. Coupled with a 7.4 per cent increase in yield, this resulted in an increase of 65 per cent in production to 36,200 tonnes. The increase in barley production was caused by a rise in the yields of both spring and winter barley (by 14 per cent and 21 per cent respectively). Production of spring barley rose by 2.2 per cent and winter barley by 24 per cent, resulting in an overall increase in barley production of 5.9 per cent to 178,000 tonnes. The area of spring barley planted, however, fell by 10 per cent to 27,400 hectares, while that of winter barley rose by 2.4 per cent to 5,200 hectares. A 4.3 per cent increase in the yield of oats and a 5.7 per cent rise in the area planted resulted in a 10 per cent increase in the production of oats, to 13,500 tonnes.

In total, the production of cereals in 2000 increased by 13 per cent, to 228,000 tonnes.

The total volume of barley sold or used on-farm in 2000 increased by 10 per cent compared with the previous year, while the average producer price fell by 8.3 per cent. This resulted in a slight increase in total market returns, to £13.4 million. The value of Arable Area Payments, including agrimoney compensation declined in 2000 by 8.1 per cent to £6.4 million. Overall, the value of barley output declined by 4.3 per cent, to £20.0 million.

In 2000, the volume of wheat output increased by 6.4 per cent. Coupled with a 4.9 per cent fall in the average producer price, this resulted in total market returns remaining virtually unchanged at £2.8 million. The value of Arable Area Payments and agrimoney compensation was higher than in 1999, increasing by 50 per cent to £1.2 million. As a result, the total value of wheat output increased by 52 per cent to £4.1 million.

The volume of oats output rose by 18 per cent in 2000. However, the average producer price fell by 13 per cent, resulting in total market returns of £1.2 million, similar to 1999 levels. Arable Area Payments and agrimoney compensation rose by 17 per cent, to £466,000, resulting in the total value of oats output rising by 0.9 per cent, to £1.7 million.

Horticulture

The total value of horticultural output in 2000 increased by 4.1 per cent, to £57.5 million. Returns from sales of fruit (mainly apples) remained similar to 1999 levels at £5.4 million although the average price of apples increased by 9.8 per cent to £112 per tonne. The value of output of mushrooms decreased by 3.9 per cent to £26.3 million. Receipts from the sales of vegetables rose by 30 per cent to £13.2 million. The value of flowers and nursery stock increased by 3.0 per cent to £12.6 million.

Feedstuffs

The total volume of compound feedstuffs purchased during 2000 decreased by 4.8 per cent to 1.28 million tonnes, chiefly as a result of a 30 per cent reduction in purchases of pig compounds. Purchases of poultry and sheep compounds also fell, by 2.4 per cent and 14 per cent respectively. There was a rise of 1.8 per cent in the volume of cattle and calf compounds purchased.

Inputs of straights (including home-fed cereals) declined by 11 per cent, to 312,000 tonnes. In total, there was a 5.9 per cent decrease, to 1.62 million tonnes, in the total volume of feed purchased.

The average price of feedstuffs (compounds and home-fed cereals) remained almost unchanged in 2000. Overall, the cost of purchased feedstuffs (including a small stock change) fell by 5.3 per cent, to £247 million.

Fertilisers and lime

The quantity of fertilisers purchased in 2000 declined by 4.9 cent to 445,000 tonnes product weight. The average price remained at a similar level to last year. As a result the total value of fertiliser purchases fell by 6.8 per cent, to £54.6 million.

The total lime bill fell by 12 per cent to £1.5 million. This was due to a decrease in the volume of lime purchased, while the average price remained unchanged.

Marketing expenses

Marketing expenses increased in 2000 by 3.0 per cent to £20.8 million. Those for cattle increased by 8.9 per cent, while those for sheep, pigs and milk remained relatively unchanged.

Machinery expenses

Machinery expenses rose by 6.8 per cent in 2000, to £80.1 million. Within this total, expenditure on repairs increased by 4.2 per cent and that on fuel and oil by 12 per cent. Other machinery expenses rose by 2.9 per cent.

Interest

Bank advances for current farming purposes continued to rise slightly in 2000. However an increase in the rate of interest charged, by 0.6 percentage points to 9.0 per cent, was the main reason for a rise of 7.9 per cent, to £50.6 million, in the total interest bill.

Labour

In 2000, the volume of paid labour input fell by 5.0 per cent to 9.2 million hours. However, the average hourly labour cost rose by 9.9 per cent, resulting in an increase of 5.3 per cent, to £47.6 million, in the paid labour bill.

Contact: Mark McLean, Tel. (028-) 90 524342, E-mail. mark.mclean@dardni.gov.uk

Table 2.18 Output of cattle and calves

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Steers, heifers and young bulls						
Sales (inc. to the OTMS) ('000 head)	387.4	385.2	387.6	393.2	378.9	399.5
Average producer price (p per kg dwt)[1]	226.2	191.6	167.2	143.4	152.4	154.7
Average dressed carcase weight (kg)[2]	323.4	329.6	315.2	304.5	297.1	299.8
Quantity of output ('000 tonnes)[2]	125.3	127.0	122.2	119.7	112.6	119.7
Value of output (inc. sales to OTMS) (£m)	283.4	243.2	204.2	171.8	171.6	185.2
Cows and bulls						
Sales (inc. to the OTMS) ('000 head)	90.9	106.0	84.4	117.7	125.6	118.8
Average producer price (p per kg dwt)[1]	181.6	167.1	137.3	114.6	110.7	103.0
Average dressed carcase weight (kg)[2]	293.4	273.2	247.4	224.4	224.5	238.4
Quantity of output ('000 tonnes)[2]	26.7	29.0	20.9	26.4	28.2	28.3
Value of output (inc. sales to OTMS) (£m)	48.5	48.4	28.7	30.3	31.2	29.2
Calves						
Sales (inc. to the CPAS) ('000 head)	15.3	31.5	55.8	69.7	41.8	6.8
Average producer price (£ per head)[1]	157	89	69	62	47	98
Value of output (inc. sales to CPAS) (£m)	2.4	2.8	3.8	4.3	2.0	0.7
Store cattle sold outside Northern Ireland						
Marketings ('000 head)	8.4	3.6	1.7	3.3	5.7	5.9
Average producer price (£ per head)[1]	538	465	430	334	347	381
Value of output (£m)	4.5	1.7	0.7	1.1	2.0	2.2
Breeding cattle sold outside Northern Ireland						
Marketings ('000 head)	2.0	2.6	2.5	2.5	1.3	1.3
Average producer price (£ per head)	774	865	779	585	574	556
Value of output (£m)	1.6	2.3	2.0	1.4	0.8	0.7
Other receipts (£m)[3]	101.9	137.0	155.8	126.5	124.7	128.9
less **Imported cattle**						
Marketings ('000 head)	29.1	13.1	24.3	6.5	14.5	22.8
Average producer price (£ per head)	641	586	476	468	465	498
Value of output (£m)	18.6	7.7	11.6	3.1	6.7	11.4
Total value of output (inc. OTMS and CPAS) (£m)	**418.7**	**420.1**	**380.9**	**326.1**	**325.1**	**332.2**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	-4.9	-7.6	-2.8	-6.2	-0.4	-3.3
Net receipts from non-food outlets (included above)						
Over Thirty Months Scheme (£m)[4]	-	84.2	30.7	31.3	31.9	28.6
Calf Processing Aid Scheme (£m)	-	2.3	3.7	4.0	1.4	-

1. Average realised return gross of marketing expenses for cattle for human consumption and for destruction under the Over Thirty Months Scheme or Calf Processing Aid Scheme, if applicable.
2. Including animals sold under the Over Thirty Months Scheme.
3. Includes Suckler Cow Premium, Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance, Beef Special Premium, Beef Deseasonalisation Premium, Extensification Supplement, Beef Marketing Payment Schemes (parts 1, 2 and 2a), Agrimoney Compensation, Slaughter Premium, Flagged Suckler Herd Payments, BSE related supplements and receipts from the Over Thirty Months Scheme and Calf Processing Aid S
4. Excludes Slaughter Premium.

Table 2.19 Sources of home-fed finished cattle marketed[1]

per cent

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Cows and bulls	19	22	18	23	25	24
Steers and heifers originating from:						
- the dairy herd;	33	31	35	30	27	26
- the beef herd;	44	43	44	42	47	49
- calves and stores imported from the Republic of Ireland or shipped from Great Britain	4	5	2	4	1	2
Total[2]	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
Total number marketed ('000 head)	**478**	**492**	**474**	**511**	**505**	**518**

1. Includes cattle slaughtered under the Over Thirty Months Scheme and the BSE Selective Cull.

2. Individual items may not add to 100 due to roundings.

Table 2.20 Output of milk

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Annual average number of dairy cows ('000 head)[1]	272.1	278.2	279.9	286.3	285.7	284.3
Average gross yield per cow (to nearest 10 litres per annum)[1,2]	5,240	5,350	5,510	5,410	5,650	5,850
Total output of milk for human consumption (million litres)	1,381	1,445	1,501	1,510	1,573	1,627
of which:						
sales off farms	1,373	1,437	1,493	1,503	1,565	1,620
used in farm households	8	8	8	7	8	7
Average producer price (pence per litre)						
Gross Price[3]	25.39	24.38	21.21	19.61	19.12	18.37
Net Price[4]	25.42	24.03	20.63	19.32	18.54	17.96
Other receipts (£m)[5]	-	-	-	-	-	2.4
Value of output (£m)[3]	**350.7**	**352.3**	**319.3**	**297.0**	**301.5**	**301.4**

1. The average yield and population data for 1996 were probably affected by the backlog of cattle awaiting slaughter under the Over Thirty Months Scheme.
2. Comprising sales off farms, milk consumed in farm households and milk fed to other livestock.
3. After deduction of superlevy but not marketing expenses (transport costs).
4. After deduction of marketing expenses (transport costs) but not superlevy.
5. Comprising Milk Agrimoney Compensation.

Table 2.21 Output of sheep

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Marketings ('000 head)[1]						
Finished sheep and lambs	1,462	1,460	1,323	1,544	1,566	1,414
Culled ewes and rams	217.0	209.3	203.2	216.4	200.0	192.5
Average price (p per kg deadweight)[2]						
Finished sheep and lambs	208.5	261.1	250.6	198.5	179.6	192.6
Average dressed carcase weight (kg)						
Finished sheep and lambs	21.0	20.9	20.5	19.8	19.7	20.3
Output of all sheep and lambs						
Quantity ('000 tonnes)	36.6	36.3	32.5	36.3	36.1	33.8
Market value (£m)	68.0	84.9	72.5	64.2	57.8	58.4
Other receipts (£m)[3]	39.6	27.7	25.5	32.0	29.1	26.3
Value of output (£m)[4]	**108.1**	**108.2**	**99.5**	**95.7**	**85.5**	**83.9**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	+1.6	-3.0	+2.7	+0.3	-0.7	+0.2

1. Estimated home-produced marketings, including unrecorded exports.
2. Average realised return gross of marketing expenses.
3. Comprising Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance, Sheep Annual Premium, Rural World (LFA) Supplement and Agrimoney Compensation.
4. Includes breeding and store sheep exported less all sheep imported.

Table 2.22 Output of pigs

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Marketings ('000 head)[1]						
Finished clean pigs	1,282.7	1,259.0	1,285.4	1,313.7	1,192.9	887.7
Culled sows and boars	21.9	22.7	24.6	22.4	17.7	14.1
Average price (p per kg deadweight)[2]						
Finished clean pigs[3]	112.37	132.61	104.80	72.52	70.60	83.02
Culled sows and boars	95.36	102.12	76.46	39.62	42.60	54.85
Average dressed carcase weight (kg)						
Finished clean pigs[3]	71.1	72.6	71.3	70.9	71.6	71.7
Quantity of output ('000 tonnes)	94.0	94.4	95.5	96.1	87.7	65.4
Value of output (£m)[4]	**104.0**	**126.5**	**102.7**	**68.8**	**59.6**	**53.0**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	-1.8	+0.5	+0.7	-0.6	-2.0	-0.8

1. Estimated home-produced marketings, including unrecorded exports and pigs slaughtered under the 1998 Pig Welfare Slaughter Scheme.
2. Average realised return gross of marketing expenses, including receipts from the 1998 Pig Welfare Slaughter Scheme.
3. Clean pig producer prices and carcase weights changed from a UK to an EU carcase dressing specification from 1997. This change increased the average price per kilogram by approximately 1.6% and reduced the average carcase weight by a similar amount.
4. Includes breeding and store pigs exported less all pigs imported.

Table 2.23 Output of poultry

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Poultrymeat production ('000 tonnes liveweight)						
All poultrymeat (including broilers)	141.4	158.4	158.8	163.2	161.2	160.8
Broilers	121.4	134.7	132.2	134.6	137.0	139.2
Average producer price (p per kg liveweight)						
All poultrymeat (including broilers)	55.1	58.7	58.1	53.7	49.8	48.7
Broilers	54.9	58.5	57.4	53.1	50.7	49.5
Value of output (£m)[1]						
All poultry (including broilers)	**91.1**	**109.3**	**111.2**	**107.3**	**98.5**	**98.2**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	+0.3	+0.4	-0.3	-0.1	-0.1	-0.3
Broilers	66.7	78.8	75.9	71.4	69.5	68.9

1. Includes shipments and exports of breeding and non-breeding birds and eggs for hatching, less imports of birds and hatching eggs.

Table 2.24 Output of eggs

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Graded packing station throughput (million dozen)	67.6	69.0	66.7	69.7	61.7	62.1
Average producer price (p per dozen)[1]	39.96	47.93	35.09	30.43	32.43	38.28
Value of output (£m)[2]	**27.7**	**34.0**	**24.1**	**21.8**	**20.6**	**24.5**

1. Relates to graded eggs sold through packing stations.
2. Includes eggs for processing, duck eggs and unrecorded sales.

Table 2.25 Crop production

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
						harvest years
Potatoes[1]						
Area ('000 hectares)	9.0	8.8	7.8	7.5	7.5	6.8
Harvestable yield (tonnes per hectare)	36.5	36.6	39.8	37.1	42.4	45.8
Production ('000 tonnes)	328.1	321.0	309.3	279.0	319.7	309.8
of which:						
saleable potatoes	284.8	287.6	275.4	250.8	287.6	274.8
chats[2] and waste	43.3	33.4	33.9	28.2	32.1	35.1
Barley[3,4]						
Area ('000 hectares)	33.5	34.2	36.5	34.8	35.7	32.6
Yield (tonnes per hectare)	5.16	5.27	4.88	4.41	4.70	5.45
Production ('000 tonnes)	173.0	180.6	178.0	153.5	168.0	178.0
Wheat[4]						
Area ('000 hectares)	6.6	6.9	6.9	7.1	3.3	5.0
Yield (tonnes per hectare)	7.78	7.54	7.02	6.94	6.76	7.26
Production ('000 tonnes)	51.2	51.7	48.5	49.6	22.0	36.2
Oats[3,4]						
Area ('000 hectares)	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.8	2.9
Yield (tonnes per hectare)	4.84	4.86	5.16	4.53	4.41	4.60
Production ('000 tonnes)	11.0	10.8	12.3	11.8	12.3	13.5
Oilseed rape[5]						
Area ('000 hectares)	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.1
Yield (tonnes per hectare)	2.93	2.96	3.13	2.84	2.96	2.86
Production ('000 tonnes)	1.0	0.8	1.6	2.5	1.5	0.4
Hay						
Area ('000 hectares)	39.5	37.3	31.4	13.9	20.3	25.7
Yield (tonnes per hectare)	7.10	7.18	7.42	6.79	6.98	6.77
Production ('000 tonnes)	280.0	267.6	233.2	94.4	141.9	174.4
Grass silage						
Area ('000 hectares)	265.2	283.7	277.8	289.6	285.6	287.1
Yield (tonnes per hectare)	29.9	30.1	29.5	27.1	29.3	26.3
Production ('000 tonnes)	7,922	8,529	8,186	7,837	8,374	7,557

1. Includes early, maincrop ware and seed crops.
2. Under 40 mm.
3. Comprises spring and winter varieties.
4. Yield and production estimates are standardised to 15% moisture content.
5. Area and production estimates include industrial-use oilseed rape grown on set-aside land. Areas are taken from the Arable Area Payments Scheme. Yield and production estimates are standardised to 9% moisture content.

Table 2.26 Output[1] of potatoes, barley and wheat

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
POTATOES[2]						
Quantity of output ('000 tonnes)						
Ware	202.9	210.3	203.7	201.7	203.3	233.2
Seed	59.3	50.1	55.4	44.4	37.8	32.3
Stockfeed	33.9	38.0	34.4	30.8	29.7	33.8
Total	**296.1**	**298.3**	**293.5**	**276.9**	**270.7**	**299.3**
Average producer price (£ per tonne)						
Ware	174.92	77.73	63.94	114.46	121.86	74.95
Seed	213.11	156.93	69.01	101.75	167.26	66.41
Value of output (£m)						
Ware	35.5	16.3	13.0	23.1	24.8	17.5
Seed	12.6	7.9	3.8	4.5	6.3	2.1
Stockfeed	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total	**49.1**	**24.5**	**16.7**	**25.4**	**33.0**	**18.7**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	+0.7	-0.1	-0.4	-2.4	+1.7	-1.1
BARLEY[3,4]						
Quantity of output ('000 tonnes)	168.0	179.1	176.6	168.0	159.3	175.7
Average producer price (£ per tonne)	118.98	113.02	90.33	83.24	83.25	76.36
Value of output (£m)	**26.4**	**26.8**	**22.8**	**19.2**	**20.9**	**20.0**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	+0.6	+0.2	+0.1	-1.2	+0.7	+0.2
WHEAT[3,4]						
Quantity of output ('000 tonnes)	55.3	46.6	46.3	48.0	32.6	34.7
Average producer price (£ per tonne)	123.8	118.86	96.18	87.48	84.29	80.19
Value of output (£m)	**7.6**	**7.6**	**6.3**	**5.9**	**2.7**	**4.1**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	-0.5	+0.6	+0.2	+0.1	-0.9	+0.1

1. Output data are for calendar years and reflect the influence of two crop years.
2. Includes ware consumed in farm households and seed retentions.
3. Includes cereals retained on the farm of origin or sold farm-to-farm.
4. Includes Arable Area Payments but excludes set-aside payments.

Table 2.27 Output of apples and mushrooms

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
APPLES[1]						
Quantity of output ('000 tonnes)	41.3	39.7	31.0	27.6	25.8	47.7
Average producer price (£ per tonne)	138	158	214	248	102	112
Value of output (£m)	**6.1**	**5.2**	**9.0**	**5.2**	**4.5**	**4.4**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	+0.4	-1.1	+2.3	-1.7	+1.8	-1.0
MUSHROOMS						
Quantity of output ('000 tonnes)	23.0	27.5	26.5	26.0	23.5	21.2
Average producer price (£ per tonne)	1,210	1,165	1,146	1,150	1,165	1,243
Value of output (£m)	**27.8**	**32.0**	**30.4**	**29.9**	**27.4**	**26.3**

1. Output data are for calendar years and reflect the influences of two crop years.

Table 2.28 Quantity and cost of the main items of expenditure (including interest and labour)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
FEEDSTUFFS[1]						
Quantity purchased ('000 tonnes concentrate equivalent)	1,753	1,799	1,715	1,669	1,717	1,616
Average cost (£ per tonne concentrate equivalent)	175	192	180	164	153	153
Value of feed consumed (£m)	**308.1**	**344.5**	**308.4**	**275.0**	**261.0**	**247.2**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	+1.5	-0.3	-0.3	+1.5	-1.7	0.0
FERTILISERS						
Quantity purchased ('000 tonnes product)	512	485	445	446	468	445
Nutrient content ('000 tonnes)	191	182	164	158	172	162
of which:						
Nitrogen	127	122	112	110	121	114
Phosphate	29	27	23	22	24	22
Potash	34	33	29	26	28	27
Average cost (£ per tonne of nutrient)	385	421	403	347	340	337
Value of purchases (£m)	**73.3**	**76.7**	**66.3**	**54.8**	**58.6**	**54.6**
LIME						
Quantity purchased ('000 tonnes)	214	167	172	78	118	110
Average cost (£ per tonne)	11.35	13.33	13.50	14.00	14.00	14.00
Value of purchases (£m)	**2.4**	**2.2**	**2.3**	**1.1**	**1.7**	**1.5**
MARKETING EXPENSES[2]						
cattle	7.0	8.3	7.9	8.8	7.9	8.6
sheep	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7
pigs	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.2
milk	9.4	9.5	9.8	9.5	9.5	9.3
Total	**19.2**	**20.8**	**20.6**	**21.2**	**20.2**	**20.8**
INTEREST						
Bank base lending rate (%)	6.7	6.0	6.6	7.2	5.4	6.0
Total interest charges (£m)[3]	**38.1**	**40.2**	**47.9**	**55.2**	**46.9**	**50.6**
LABOUR						
Average weekly hours of full-time paid male workers	43.67	45.26	42.05	43.05	40.65	41.11
Average earnings of full-time paid male workers (£ per hour)[4]	3.80	4.21	4.27	4.43	4.67	5.13
Average earnings of full-time paid male workers (£ per week)[4]	166.07	190.69	179.52	190.75	189.84	210.89
Volume of paid labour (million hours)[5]	10.78	10.61	9.84	9.81	9.64	9.16
Value of paid labour (£m)[5]	**41.9**	**45.3**	**41.9**	**43.5**	**45.2**	**47.6**

1. Includes home-fed cereals, proteins and stockfeed potatoes.
2. Includes hired transport costs, auction fees, slaughter charges and interfarm expenses.
3. Includes interest on hire purchase and leasing agreements and trade credit.
4. Gross wage before deduction of tax and national insurance, and including the value of perks.
5. Excludes labour used on capital projects.

3. CROP AREAS AND LIVESTOCK NUMBERS

Land use

Around 80 per cent of the Northern Ireland land area of 1.35 million hectares is used for agriculture, including common rough grazing, and a further 6 per cent for forestry (Table 3.1). The greater part of the forested area (82,000 hectares) is managed by the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (see *Forest Service Annual Report, 1999/2000*).

Most farmland is under grass. In 2000, only 5,300 farms (18 per cent) had arable crops. These crops occupied 54,100 hectares and made up only 5 per cent of the area of farms. Barley (32,600 hectares) was the main crop grown, followed by potatoes with 6,800 hectares. The cropped area also included 3,300 hectares of horticultural crops, mainly apple orchards (1,600 hectares) and vegetables (1,500 hectares). The areas of both cereals and potatoes were lower in 2000, by 3 and 11 per cent respectively. Over the 10 year period since 1990, cereals have declined by 11 per cent and potatoes by 37 per cent, resulting in an overall decline in the cropped area of 15 per cent.

Grazing livestock

In 2000, all but 7 per cent of Northern Ireland farms had cattle or sheep. Cattle were found on 25,200 farms (84 per cent), sheep on 10,800 farms (36 per cent) and cattle and/or sheep on 27,800 farms (93 per cent).

The total number of cattle recorded in the June 2000 census (1.68 million) was 2 per cent less than in 1999. At June 2000, there were 284,400 dairy cows and 318,000 beef cows, representing reductions of one and 4 per cent respectively. Over the last 10 years, the numbers of cattle, dairy cows and beef cows have increased by 3, 2 and 18 per cent respectively.

With 1.33 million ewes in 2000, the sheep breeding flock was 5 per cent smaller than in 1999. Including lambs and other sheep, the flock totalled 2.74 million. There were 3 per cent fewer ewes in 2000 than in 1990.

Intensive livestock

Pigs and/or poultry are found on 9 per cent of Northern Ireland's farms. This proportion falls to 5 per cent if farms with fewer than 50 birds are excluded.

The number of pigs in Northern Ireland at June 2000 was estimated at 413,500, 16 per cent fewer than in the previous June, while the number of pig herds fell by 30 per cent to 808. Numbers of sows and breeding herds fell by 11 and 29 per cent respectively.

From 72,200 sows at June 1997, the highest level since 1988, numbers fell to 66,900 at June 1998, 47,100 at June 1999 and 41,800 at June 2000.

With 15.4 million birds in June 2000, the Northern Ireland poultry flock was 2 per cent larger than in 1999. The numbers of laying birds (2.3 million) and broiler chickens (9.7 million) were 7 and 3 per cent, respectively, higher in 2000.

Total numbers of poultry at June 2000 were 37 per cent higher than 10 years previously. During this period the commercial laying flock contracted by 23 per cent, while there were increases of around 65 and 110 per cent in the broiler chicken and breeding flocks respectively.

Less Favoured Areas

The term **Less Favoured Areas (LFA)** is used to describe those parts of the country which, because of their relatively poor agricultural conditions, have been so designated under EU legislation. These areas, which include developed land as well as that used for agriculture and forestry, extend to 826,000 hectares. Further details are given in the Appendix.

Farms classed as **LFA farms** occupy 70 per cent of farmed land in Northern Ireland (Table 3.4). Crops are grown mainly on **lowland farms,** on which they occupy 13 per cent of farm land compared with 2 per cent elsewhere. There are also significant differences in the patterns of livestock farming. Beef cows (258,000) predominate on **LFA farms**, where they are more important than dairy cows (142,000), whereas, on **lowland farms**, there were 60,000 beef cows and 142,000 dairy cows in 2000. **LFA farms** account for 41 and 51 per cent of the region's pigs and poultry respectively.

Contact: Sheila Magee, Tel. (028-) 90 524427, E-mail. sheila.magee@dardni.gov.uk

Table 3.1 Land use, 2000

thousand hectares

	Crops	Grass and roug grazing	Woodland	Other land	Total land area
Farms	54	986	9	12	**1,060**
Common grazing	-	37	-	-	**37**
NI Forest Service[1]	-	-	61	12	**73**
Other areas	-	-	13	174	**187**
All land[2]	**54**	**1,023**	**83**	**198**	**1,358**

1. Excludes 2,700 ha let to farmers; these areas are included in the area of agricultural holdings.
2. Land area, excluding significant areas of inland water.

Table 3.2 Areas of crops, grass, rough grazing and other land, June 1996 - 2000

thousand hectares

	1996 [1]	1997	1998	1999	2000
Oats	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.8	2.9
Wheat	6.9	6.9	7.1	3.3	5.0
Barley: Winter	7.3	7.7	7.7	5.1	5.2
Spring	26.9	28.7	27.1	30.6	27.4
Mixed corn	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Potatoes	8.8	7.8	7.5	7.5	6.8
Arable crop silage	1.6	1.7	2.0	2.4	2.2
Other field crops	1.1	1.2	1.7	1.3	1.1
Total agricultural crops	**55.0**	**56.6**	**55.9**	**53.2**	**50.8**
Fruit	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6
Vegetables	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5
Other horticultural crops	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Total horticultural crops	**3.2**	**3.1**	**3.2**	**3.3**	**3.3**
Grass: Under 5 years old	190.6	181.9	155.6	140.9	141.6
5 years old and over	628.7	643.1	675.0	697.2	687.9
Total grass	**819.3**	**825.1**	**830.6**	**838.1**	**829.4**
Total crops and grass	**877.5**	**884.8**	**889.8**	**894.6**	**883.5**
Rough grazing[2]	169.0	164.1	159.1	158.7	156.5
Woods and plantations	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.6
Other land[3]	12.9	11.8	11.3	11.5	11.8
Total area of farms	**1,067.6**	**1,068.9**	**1,068.4**	**1,073.0**	**1,060.5**

1. Revised estimates; see Appendix.
2. Excludes common rough grazing (37,400 ha).
3. Includes set aside.

Table 3.3 Livestock numbers, June 1996 - 2000

thousand head

	1996 [1]	1997	1998	1999	2000
CATTLE					
Dairy cows					
In milk	260.1	259.4	266.8	267.1	265.7
In calf	21.0	19.8	20.8	19.3	18.6
Total dairy cows	**281.1**	**279.2**	**287.7**	**286.4**	**284.4**
Dairy heifers in calf	62.1	62.6	60.9	60.0	60.9
Beef cows					
In milk	266.9	272.1	287.1	274.2	262.2
In calf	48.5	51.8	57.6	58.0	55.8
Total beef cows	**315.4**	**323.9**	**344.7**	**332.2**	**318.0**
Beef heifers in calf	35.4	46.5	40.9	34.6	31.5
Total cows	**596.5**	**603.1**	**632.4**	**618.6**	**602.3**
Total heifers in calf	**97.5**	**109.1**	**101.8**	**94.6**	**92.4**
Bulls for service	15.6	16.5	17.1	16.9	16.3
Other cattle					
Over 2 years	151.3	101.2	108.6	105.7	106.8
1-2 years	402.2	417.3	409.6	402.1	387.8
Under 1 year	496.2	483.8	497.8	480.7	470.9
Total cattle	**1,759.4**	**1,731.0**	**1,767.3**	**1,718.6**	**1,676.5**
SHEEP					
Breeding ewes	1,341.6	1,384.1	1,449.8	1,404.9	1,332.6
Other sheep	1,411.6	1,496.0	1,536.8	1,504.0	1,408.0
Total sheep	**2,753.1**	**2,880.1**	**2,986.6**	**2,908.9**	**2,740.6**
PIGS [2]					
Sows and gilts	68.8	72.2	66.9	47.1	41.8
Other pigs	569.3	624.5	586.5	443.1	371.7
Total pigs	**638.1**	**696.7**	**653.4**	**490.2**	**413.5**
POULTRY					
Laying birds	3,136.4	2,648.9	2,562.1	2,140.1	2,300.0
Growing pullets	1,240.9	1,266.2	845.7	781.3	798.3
Breeding flock	1,968.5	2,138.2	2,334.5	2,266.1	2,196.3
Table chickens	9,006.2	8,994.9	8,854.1	9,342.0	9,655.4
Total ordinary fowl	**15,352.0**	**15,048.2**	**14,596.4**	**14,529.5**	**14,950.0**
Turkeys, geese and ducks	547.4	559.6	574.2	518.4	425.9
Total poultry	**15,899.5**	**15,607.8**	**15,170.6**	**15,047.9**	**15,375.9**
HORSES & PONIES	**9.8**	**9.9**	**9.8**	**9.9**	**9.5**
GOATS	**3.6**	**3.5**	**3.6**	**3.5**	**3.4**

1. Revised estimates; see Appendix.
2. Revised estimates for 1996-1997; see Appendix.

Table 3.4 Areas of crops, grass, rough grazing and other land by Less Favoured Area (LFA) category[1] of farm, June 2000

thousand hectares

	Areas on farms wholly or mainly in:				
	Severely Disadvantaged Area (SDA)	Disadvantaged Area (DA)	Total LFA	Non LFA	LFA as % NI
Cereals	2	7	9	32	23
Potatoes	0	1	2	5	27
Other agricultural crops	1	1	2	2	52
Horticultural crops	0	1	1	3	20
Total crops	**3**	**10**	**13**	**41**	**25**
Grass: Under 5 years old	44	42	86	56	60
5 years and over	276	206	483	205	70
Total grass	**320**	**248**	**568**	**261**	**69**
Rough grazing[2]	134	15	148	8	95
Woods/other land	7	5	12	9	57
Total area	**464**	**277**	**742**	**319**	**70**

1. For statistical purposes, farms classified as LFA farms have all or most of their land (after adjustment for conacre) within the LFA and are further classified as SDA or DA according to where the greater part of their LFA land lies. Lowland farms have most or all of their land outside the LFA.
2. Excludes common rough grazing.

Table 3.5 Livestock numbers by Less Favoured Area (LFA) category[1] of farm, June 2000

thousand head

	Numbers on farms wholly or mainly in:				
	Severely Disadvantaged Area (SDA)	Disadvantaged Area (DA)	Total LFA	Non LFA	LFA as % NI
CATTLE					
Dairy cows	47	95	142	142	50
Beef cows	169	89	258	60	81
Heifers in calf	23	28	51	41	56
Bulls for service	7	5	11	5	71
Other cattle					
Over 2 years	20	37	57	50	53
1-2 years	95	131	226	162	58
Under 1 year	175	142	316	154	67
Total cattle	**535**	**527**	**1,062**	**614**	**63**
SHEEP					
Breeding ewes	737	312	1,049	284	79
Other sheep	757	349	1,106	302	79
Total sheep	**1,493**	**662**	**2,155**	**586**	**79**
PIGS					
Sows and gilts	6	12	18	24	43
Other pigs	49	103	152	220	41
Total pigs	**55**	**115**	**170**	**243**	**41**
POULTRY					
Laying birds	785	729	1,514	786	66
Table fowl	1,088	3,876	4,964	4,691	51
Other poultry	459	934	1,393	2,028	41
Total poultry	**2,332**	**5,539**	**7,871**	**7,505**	**51**
HORSES AND PONIES	**2**	**3**	**5**	**5**	**48**
GOATS	**1**	**1**	**2**	**1**	**72**

1. See Note 1, Table 3.4.

Table 3.6 Distribution of beef cows and ewes by breed, December 1988 - 2000 [1]

per cent

	1988	1991	1994	1997	2000
Beef cows					
Aberdeen Angus	27	23	21	18	17
Friesian	18	11	4	2	1
Hereford	20	16	12	9	7
Shorthorn	8	6	4	3	3
Simmental	17	23	29	29	25
Charolais	...	7	9	12	13
Limousin	...	12	16	20	25
Others	10	2	5	7	9
Total beef cows	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
Ewes					
Blackface or Cheviot	50	48	46	44	42
Others	50	52	54	56	58
Total ewes	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**

1. Numbers of cows of each breed are collected every third year but annual data for sheep are available.

4. FARM STRUCTURE

Methodological notes

In the agricultural census, the statistical definition of a farm[1] is the same as that applied under the Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS), i.e it is based on the concept of separate businesses. Until 1997, the definition was based on land ownership. The current definition is in keeping with that adopted for European Union surveys on the structure of agricultural holdings, according to which a farm is:

> *'a single unit, both technically and economically, which has a single management and which produces agricultural products',*

but it differs from that used elsewhere in the UK.

The agricultural census in Northern Ireland covers all active farm businesses having one hectare or more of farmed land, whether owned, leased or taken in conacre, and those with under one hectare having any cattle, sheep or pigs or with significant poultry or horticultural activity.

Because of the change introduced in 1997, the numbers and types of farms and of individual enterprises from 1997 onwards are not comparable with those for earlier years. Unlike the statistics for crop areas and numbers of livestock presented in Section 3, statistics for the numbers of farms in earlier years have not been revised; they are presented in Tables 4.2, 4.4 and 4.7 to give general indications of trends. Full details of the change in the definition of a farm are given in the Appendix.

Farms[1]

The number of farms at June 2000 was 29,891, a fall of 4 per cent compared with 1999. The average size of farm in 2000 was 35.5 hectares (Table 4.2). Over a quarter of all farms have less than 10 hectares of crops and grass while just over 1,000 farms (4 per cent) have 100 hectares or more; these latter occupy 17 per cent of the crops and grass area.

Business size

Since quite large businesses can be operated on small areas (e.g. those with intensive livestock or horticultural crops), area alone does not accurately reflect the level of business activity. Standard Gross Margins (SGM) are used throughout the EU to measure farm business size. This concept has been adapted for use in the UK where, for statistical purposes, farms are classed as **very small, small, medium** or **large** according to their total SGM (see Appendix).

Over half of all farm businesses in Northern Ireland are classified as **very small**. In 2000 there were 15,500 farms in this category (Table 4.3), almost half of which had less than 10 hectares. These farms are unlikely to provide full-time employment or an adequate income solely from farming activities. They contribute 10 per cent of the industry's total SGM but account for 22 per cent of the farmed area (Table 4.15). Their main activities are cattle rearing and fattening and they have 23 per cent of beef cows and 27 per cent of fattening cattle over one year old. Around 22,500 persons are engaged in the work of these farms (Table 4.13).

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[1] In UK agricultural statistics publications, the terms 'holding' and 'farm' are used synonymously. However, in Northern Ireland, where the owners of a significant proportion of holdings let out all of their land and take no part in agriculture, the former term refers to the areas under single ownership and the latter to the areas farmed in separate units, i.e. after adjustment for land let out or taken in conacre. This definition of 'farm' excludes holdings on which there is no farming activity.

There are 10,500 **small** farms, generally involving one person full-time with, in some cases, part-time or seasonal help. These farms make important contributions to all enterprises, from 24 per cent of pigs to 57 per cent of sheep; they cover 46 per cent of the agricultural area and involve 45 per cent of the full-time agricultural labour force (Table 4.15).

The 3,800 **medium** and **large** farms (together representing 13 per cent of the total) contribute 54 per cent of the total SGM but from under a third of the land area (Table 4.15). They are particularly dominant in the dairy, pigs and poultry sectors with, respectively, 78, 74 and 55 per cent shares of the livestock numbers.

Over 70 per cent of the **very small** and **small** farms are mainly in the LFA whereas, for **medium** and **large** farms, the proportions are 55 and 35 per cent respectively (Table 4.5).

Farm type

Eighty-six per cent of Northern Ireland farms derive two-thirds or more of their total SGM from cattle and/or sheep (Table 4.6), including 16 per cent classified as **dairy** farms and 70 per cent as **cattle and sheep**. Relatively few farms depend predominantly on cropping, 510 (2 per cent) being classed as **cereals** farms, 322 (1 per cent) as **general cropping** and 346 (1 per cent) as **horticulture**. These exclude specialist mushroom growers who, for statistical purposes, are included along with specialists in horses or goats, in the **other types** category. Specialist **pigs and poultry** farms (540) and **mixed** farms (1,148) make up 2 and 4 per cent of the total respectively.

Farm tenure

Around half of the farms in Northern Ireland are based entirely on owned land, the other half having a mixture of owned and rented land (45 per cent) or solely rented land (6 per cent) (Table 4.9). Much of the rented land is taken under the conacre system of short-term lettings, which is a particular feature of land tenure throughout Ireland. By renting conacre land, farmers may expand their businesses to grow more crops or keep more stock than would be possible on the area they own. Landowners who are unable or unwilling to farm all or part of their land may let it in conacre, i.e. on a seasonal basis, (nominally for 11 months or 364 days) without entering into a long-term commitment.

Enterprises

Tables 4.16 to 4.24 show the numbers of farms in 2000 having each enterprise and the distribution of enterprise sizes. They show that, in 2000, 5,275 farms (18 per cent) had dairy cows, 16,642 (56 per cent) had beef cows and 25,194 (84 per cent) had cattle of some type. The average number of dairy cows per herd was 53.9 compared with an average herd size for beef breeding herds of 19.1 cows. Almost 40 per cent of beef cow herds had fewer than 10 cows.

Over 10,700 farms had breeding sheep, with an average of 124 ewes per flock. There are relatively few large flocks in Northern Ireland, only 62 having 1,000 ewes or more.

Pigs were recorded on 808 farms, 30 per cent fewer than in 1999. Most of the pig herds (689 in 2000) had sows, averaging 60.7 sows per herd. Almost a quarter (211) had fewer than 5 sows while 121 had 100 or more. The 2000 figures reflect major changes since 1998; the number of pig herds fell from 2,139 in 1998 to 1,151 in 1999 and 808 in 2000, a fall of 62 per cent in two years.

Although 1,253 farms recorded laying hens on their June census return, for the most part these were very small flocks. Only 129 farms had 1000 or more birds (Table 4.21). A similar situation occurs with broiler chicken flocks, where over three-quarters of the birds were in 121 farm businesses (Table 4.21).

The number of farms growing cereals in 2000 was 3,985, the average cereal enterprise consisting of 10.2 hectares. While almost half (1,790) the farms with cereals had under 5 hectares, the 107 farms which grew 50 hectares or more accounted for over a fifth of the cereals area. Some 1,157 farms, 4 per cent of the total, grew potatoes in 2000; of these, 180 had 10 hectares or more of the crop.

Contact: Sheila Magee, Tel. (028-) 90 524427, E-mail. sheila.magee@dardni.gov.uk

Table 4.1 Number and area of farms by area farmed[1], June 2000

Size group (hectares)	By crops and grass area Farms	By crops and grass area Hectares	By total area Farms	By total area Hectares
Nil	453	-	61	-
0.1 - 9.9	7,456	41,558	6,596	36,860
10.0 - 19.9	7,110	103,301	6,714	98,460
20.0 - 29.9	4,632	113,650	4,608	113,744
30.0 - 49.9	5,154	198,755	5,473	211,730
50.0 - 99.9	4,008	271,987	4,724	323,110
100.0 - 199.9	962	123,247	1,430	187,808
200.0 +	116	31,049	285	88,792
Total	**29,891**	**883,546**	**29,891**	**1,060,504**

1. The area farmed is after adjustment for conacre taken or let.

Table 4.2 Number of farms, average area and distribution of area by area farmed, June 1996 - 2000

	Old series 1996	New series[1] 1997	1998	1999	2000
Number of farms	27,547	32,118	31,817	31,132	29,891
Average area per farm (ha):					
Crops and grass	29.6	27.5	28.0	28.7	29.6
Total area	36.3	33.3	33.6	34.5	35.5
Per cent of crops and grass area farmed in units of : (hectares)					
0.1 - 9.9	4.5	5.5	5.3	5.1	4.7
10.0 - 19.9	12.4	12.5	12.1	12.0	11.7
20.0 - 29.9	13.6	13.6	13.5	13.3	12.9
30.0 - 49.9	23.2	22.9	23.0	22.4	22.5
50.0 - 99.9	30.6	30.0	30.0	30.6	30.8
100.0 +	15.7	15.6	16.1	16.6	17.5
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

1. See page 39.

Table 4.3 Number of farms by business size and area farmed, June 2000

number

Area of crops and grass farmed (hectares)	Business size[1]				
	Very small	Small	Medium	Large	All Sizes
Under 10	7,189	599	93	28	7,909
10.0 - 19.9	5,526	1,515	61	8	7,110
20.0 - 29.9	1,889	2,594	143	6	4,632
30.0 - 49.9	765	3,482	888	19	5,154
50.0 - 99.9	155	2,090	1,518	245	4,008
100.0 +	11	267	450	350	1,078
Total	**15,535**	**10,547**	**3,153**	**656**	**29,891**

1. For a description of how business size is measured, see Appendix.

Table 4.4 Number of farms by business size, June 1996 - 2000

number

Business size[1]	Old series 1996	New series[2] 1997	1998	1999	2000
Very small	13,435	16,859	16,470	16,493	15,535
Small	10,359	11,386	11,362	10,766	10,547
Medium	3,215	3,322	3,377	3,257	3,153
Large	538	551	608	616	656
Total	**27,547**	**32,118**	**31,817**	**31,132**	**29,891**

1. See Note 1, Table 4.3.
2. See page 39 .

Table 4.5 Number of farms by business size and Less Favoured Area (LFA) category[1], June 2000

number

Business size[2]	Severely Disadvantaged Area (SDA)	Disadvantaged Area (DA)	Total LFA	Non LFA	LFA as % NI
Very small	6,120	5,091	11,211	4,324	72
Small	4,539	3,151	7,690	2,857	73
Medium	735	994	1,729	1,424	55
Large	60	167	227	429	35
Total	**11,454**	**9,403**	**20,857**	**9,034**	**70**

1. For statistical purposes, farms classified as LFA farms have all or most of their land (after adjustment for conacre) within the LFA and are further classified as SDA or DA according to where the greater part of their LFA land lies. Lowland farms have most or all of their land outside the LFA.
2. See Note 1, Table 4.3.

Table 4.6 Number of farms by business size and type, June 2000

number

Business type[1]	Business size[1] Very small	Small	Medium	Large	All sizes
Cereals	309	165	30	6	510
General cropping	85	153	60	24	322
Horticulture	125	151	47	23	346
Pigs & poultry	220	232	63	25	540
Dairy	97	2,133	2,134	491	4,855
Cattle & sheep (LFA)[2]	10,124	5,561	463	35	16,183
Cattle & sheep (lowland)[2]	3,159	1,437	107	6	4,709
Mixed	380	575	161	32	1,148
Others	1,036	140	88	14	1,278
All types	**15,535**	**10,547**	**3,153**	**656**	**29,891**

1. For a description of how business size and type are measured, see Appendix.
2. See Note 1, Table 4.5.

Table 4.7 Number of farms by business type, June 1996 - 2000

number

Business type[1]	Old series 1996	New series[2] 1997	1998	1999	2000
Cereals	484	544	517	631	510
General cropping	499	443	389	372	322
Horticulture	398	402	389	370	346
Pigs & poultry	598	846	940	591	540
Dairy	5,343	5,233	4,121	5,039	4,855
Cattle & sheep (LFA)[3]	14,018	16,955	16,983	16,891	16,183
Cattle & sheep (lowland)[3]	3,823	4,860	4,942	4,985	4,709
Mixed	1,429	1,567	1,524	1,305	1,148
Others	955	1,268	1,012	1,048	1,278
All types	**27,547**	**32,118**	**31,817**	**31,132**	**29,891**

1. See Note 1, Table 4.6 .
2. See page 39.
3. See Note 1, Table 4.5.

Table 4.8 Number of farms by business type and Less Favoured Area (LFA) category[1], June 2000

number

Business type[2]	Severely Disadvantaged Area (SDA)	Disadvantaged Area (DA)	Total LFA	Non LFA	LFA as % NI
Cereals	20	104	124	386	24
General cropping	11	82	93	229	29
Horticulture	14	87	101	245	29
Pigs & poultry	107	163	270	270	50
Dairy	1,148	1,770	2,918	1,937	60
Cattle & sheep	9,738	6,445	16,183	4,709	77
Mixed	101	327	428	720	37
Others	315	425	740	538	58
All types	**11,454**	**9,403**	**20,857**	**9,034**	**70**

1. See Note 1, Table 4.5 .
2. See Note 1, Table 4.6.

Table 4.9 Number of farms by business size and proportion of area owner occupied, June 2000

farms

Owned land as percentage of farmed area	Business size[1]				
	Very small	Small	Medium	Large	All sizes
All owner occupied	10,060	3,689	658	108	14,515
50-<100%	2,584	4,260	1,785	380	9,009
>0-<50%	1,532	2,110	679	163	4,484
None owner occupied	1,359	488	31	5	1,883
All farms	**15,535**	**10,547**	**3,153**	**656**	**29,891**
Av. percentage of owned land	**78**	**69**	**67**	**64**	**70**

1. For a description of how business size is measured, see Appendix.

Table 4.10 Average conacre rents by type of use, 1995-1999

£/hectare

Use	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Grass	195	211	212	201	196
Potatoes	517	524	472	453	479
Cereals	228	299	257	242	211
Rough grazing	30	42	46	59	51
All uses	**195**	**217**	**210**	**205**	**196**

Source: Farm Business Survey.

Table 4.11 Distribution of sales of agricultural land by price paid per hectare, 1999

	Under £2,500	£2,500 - £4,999	£5,000 - £7,499	£7,500 - £9,999	£10,000 & over	All Sales
Number of sales	10	23	35	31	64	163
Area (hectares)	169	266	383	306	549	1,672
Percentage of area	31	49	70	56	100	100
Value (£ '000)	282	1,048	2,382	2,662	7,450	13,825
Percentage of value	4	14	32	36	100	100

Source: Valuation and Lands Agency.

Table 4.12 Number of sales and average price of agricultural land by area sold, 1994 - 1999

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Number of sales	420	355	223	257	223	163
Area (hectares)	4,605	4,050	3,425	2,912	2,151	1,672
Value (£ '000)	23,285	24,097	18,561	22,879	18,813	13,825
Average price (£ per ha) by hectare size group						
2 - 9.9	5,474	6,339	8,516	9,369	9,640	9,397
10 - 19.9	4,957	7,389	8,407	7,464	8,918	9,104
20 and over	4,791	5,081	3,468	7,019	7,702	6,165
All sizes (unweighted)	5,056	5,950	5,419	7,858	8,746	8,267

Source: Valuation and Lands Agency.

Notes:
1. Figures have been revised to exclude land sold as development or building land.
2. The figures are lagged by three months to reflect the delay between the date at which the sale is agreed and the date at which it is included in the analysis.
3. Land sales of less than two hectares are not included in this return.

Table 4.13 Distribution of the farm labour force by business size, June 2000

number of persons

Labour item	Business size[1]				
	Very small	Small	Medium	Large	All farms
Farmers and partners					
Full time	5,503	9,713	4,246	1,072	20,534
Part time	11,328	3,256	665	137	15,386
Total	**16,831**	**12,969**	**4,911**	**1,209**	**35,920**
Spouses of farmers	**2,580**	**2,914**	**1,230**	**310**	**7,034**
Other workers					
Full time	269	931	825	980	3,005
Part time	767	1,343	698	254	3,062
Casual/seasonal	2,112	4,060	2,087	543	8,802
Total other workers	**3,148**	**6,334**	**3,610**	**1,777**	**14,869**
Total agricultural labour force	**22,559**	**22,217**	**9,751**	**3,296**	**57,823**

1. For a description of how business size is measured, see Appendix.

Table 4.14 Distribution of the farm labour force by Less Favoured Area (LFA) category[1], June 2000

number of persons

Labour item	Severely Disadvantaged Area (SDA)	Disadvantaged Area (DA)	Total LFA	Non LFA	LFA as % NI
Farmers and partners					
Full time	7,321	6,379	13,700	6,834	67
Part time	5,951	4,944	10,895	4,491	71
Total	**13,272**	**11,323**	**24,595**	**11,325**	**68**
Spouses of farmers	**2,350**	**2,195**	**4,545**	**2,489**	**65**
Other workers					
Full time	746	719	1,465	1,540	49
Part time	1,072	887	1,959	1,103	64
Casual/seasonal	2,729	2,624	5,353	3,449	61
Total other workers	**4,547**	**4,230**	**8,777**	**6,092**	**59**
Total agricultural labour force	**20,169**	**17,748**	**37,917**	**19,906**	**66**

1. See Note 1, Table 4.5 .

Table 4.15 Distribution of numbers of livestock, hectares of crops, full-time labour and output by business size, June 2000

A. Number of farms having the item

B. Total for each item ('000)

C. Percentage of Northern Ireland total of each item

Item	Very small			Small			Medium			Large			All farms		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Cattle															
Total	12,103	288	*17*	9,524	726	*43*	2,972	477	*28*	595	186	*11*	25,194	1,676	*100*
Dairy cows	133	1	*0*	2,341	62	*22*	2,267	148	*52*	534	75	*26*	5,275	284	*100*
Beef cows	8,266	73	*23*	7,123	189	*60*	1,117	48	*15*	136	8	*2*	16,642	318	*100*
Slaughter cattle >1year	8,232	114	*27*	7,126	198	*47*	2,169	85	*20*	391	22	*5*	17,918	420	*100*
Sheep															
Total	4,280	435	*16*	5,231	1,575	*57*	1,157	599	*22*	180	132	*5*	10,848	2,741	*100*
Ewes	4,195	210	*16*	5,209	767	*58*	1,147	293	*22*	176	63	*5*	10,727	1,333	*100*
Pigs															
Total	239	10	*3*	348	99	*24*	173	152	*37*	48	152	*37*	808	413	*100*
Sows	195	1	*3*	299	10	*25*	153	15	*36*	42	15	*36*	689	42	*100*
Other pigs over 20 kg	99	6	*2*	240	65	*24*	153	100	*37*	43	98	*36*	535	268	*100*
Poultry															
Total	975	523	*3*	847	6,531	*42*	261	4,845	*32*	42	3,476	*23*	2,125	15,376	*100*
Layers	697	154	*7*	454	857	*37*	87	475	*21*	15	814	*35*	1,253	2,300	*100*
Crops															
Oats	154	0	*12*	265	1	*42*	114	1	*31*	34	0	*15*	567	3	*100*
Wheat	41	0	*2*	205	1	*25*	188	2	*37*	110	2	*35*	544	5	*100*
Barley	809	3	*10*	1,690	14	*42*	859	10	*32*	255	5	*16*	3,613	33	*100*
Potatoes	249	0	*3*	598	2	*30*	231	2	*33*	79	2	*34*	1,157	7	*100*
Crops & grass	15,216	202	*23*	10,439	395	*45*	3,138	210	*24*	645	77	*9*	29,438	884	*100*
Rough grazing	3,274	29	*18*	3,650	83	*53*	921	37	*24*	165	7	*5*	8,010	157	*100*
Total area	15,535	236	*22*	10,547	486	*46*	3,153	252	*24*	656	87	*8*	29,891	1,061	*100*
Labour															
Full-time labour force[2]	5,341	6	*24*	8,873	12	*45*	3,100	6	*22*	646	2	*9*	17,960	26	*100*
Output															
SGM[3]	15,535	61	*10*	10,547	238	*37*	3,153	229	*36*	656	112	*18*	29,891	640	*100*

Business size[1] spans all column groups.

1. For a description of how business size is measured, see Appendix.
2. The full-time labour force includes full-time farmers, partners, spouses and other full-time workers.
3. Figures in Column B are in million euros; for a definition of Standard Gross Margins, see Appendix.

Table 4.16 Distribution of (a) dairy cows and (b) beef cows by herd size, June 2000

Number per farm	Dairy cows: Numbers of Farms	Dairy cows: Numbers of Cows	Dairy cows: Percentages of Farms	Dairy cows: Percentages of Cows	Beef cows: Numbers of Farms	Beef cows: Numbers of Cows	Beef cows: Percentages of Farms	Beef cows: Percentages of Cows
1 - 2	43	65	0.8	0.0	1,517	2,342	9.1	0.7
3 - 4	34	115	0.6	0.0	1,415	4,947	8.5	1.6
5 - 9	147	1,062	2.8	0.4	3,470	23,851	20.9	7.5
10 - 14	287	3,456	5.4	1.2	2,759	32,405	16.6	10.2
15 - 19	316	5,377	6.0	1.9	1,842	30,804	11.1	9.7
20 - 29	721	17,386	13.7	6.1	2,471	58,538	14.8	18.4
30 - 39	723	24,764	13.7	8.7	1,298	43,717	7.8	13.7
40 - 49	695	30,533	13.2	10.7	705	30,866	4.2	9.7
50 - 59	506	27,186	9.6	9.6	413	22,047	2.5	6.9
60 - 69	410	26,147	7.8	9.2	239	15,176	1.4	4.8
70 - 99	777	63,602	14.7	22.4	308	24,861	1.9	7.8
100 - 199	564	72,462	10.7	25.5	184	23,253	1.1	7.3
200 & over	52	12,230	1.0	4.3	21	5,152	0.1	1.6
Total 2000	**5,275**	**284,385**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**16,642**	**317,959**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 1999	***5,503***	***286,350***			***17,598***	***332,162***		
Average 2000		**53.9**				**19.1**		
Average 1999		***52.0***				***18.9***		

Table 4.17 Distribution of (a) slaughter cattle one year-old and over and (b) total cattle by herd size, June 2000

Number per farm	Cattle one year old and over, intended for slaughter: Numbers of Farms	Numbers of Cattle	Percentages of Farms	Percentages of Cattle	Total cattle: Numbers of Farms	Numbers of Cattle	Percentages of Farms	Percentages of Cattle
1 - 4	3,527	8,373	19.7	2.0	969	2,846	3.8	0.2
5 - 9	3,234	22,227	18.0	5.3	1,758	12,324	7.0	0.7
10 - 19	4,207	58,509	23.5	13.9	3,668	52,444	14.6	3.1
20 - 29	2,437	58,443	13.6	13.9	3,181	77,261	12.6	4.6
30 - 39	1,429	48,430	8.0	11.5	2,428	83,103	9.6	5.0
40 - 49	891	39,055	5.0	9.3	2,041	90,453	8.1	5.4
50 - 69	1,068	61,722	6.0	14.7	3,008	176,897	11.9	10.6
70 - 99	637	52,011	3.6	12.4	2,897	240,939	11.5	14.4
100 - 199	436	57,024	2.4	13.6	3,791	521,797	15.0	31.1
200 - 299	41	9,354	0.2	2.2	1,011	240,250	4.0	14.3
300 & over	11	4,639	0.1	1.1	442	178,165	1.8	10.6
Total 2000	**17,918**	**419,787**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**25,194**	**1,676,479**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 1999	***18,822***	***425,555***			***26,429***	***1,718,535***		
Average 2000		**23.4**				**66.5**		
Average 1999		***22.6***				***65.0***		

Table 4.18 Distribution of (a) ewes and (b) total sheep by flock size, June 2000

	Ewes				Total sheep			
Number	Numbers of		Percentages of		Numbers of		Percentages of	
per farm	Farms	Ewes	Farms	Ewes	Farms	Sheep	Farms	Sheep
1 - 24	1,569	22,917	14.6	1.7	728	10,084	6.7	0.4
25 - 49	2,005	72,473	18.7	5.4	1,152	42,296	10.6	1.5
50 - 99	2,792	195,437	26.0	14.7	1,947	143,263	17.9	5.2
100 - 199	2,497	343,595	23.3	25.8	2,626	376,684	24.2	13.7
200 - 299	909	216,841	8.5	16.3	1,575	387,092	14.5	14.1
300 - 399	444	150,184	4.1	11.3	898	308,745	8.3	11.3
400 - 499	192	83,744	1.8	6.3	554	246,355	5.1	9.0
500 - 699	180	103,590	1.7	7.8	628	368,629	5.8	13.5
700 - 999	77	61,433	0.7	4.6	406	334,311	3.7	12.2
1,000 - 1,499	49	57,820	0.5	4.3	211	251,936	1.9	9.2
1,500 & over	13	24,581	0.1	1.8	123	271,191	1.1	9.9
Total 2000	**10,727**	**1,332,615**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**10,848**	**2,740,586**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 1999	***11,355***	***1,404,862***			***11,480***	***2,908,878***		
Average 2000		**124.2**				**252.6**		
Average 1999		***123.7***				***253.4***		

Table 4.19 Distribution of breeding sows by herd size, June 2000

	Sows (including gilts)			
Number	Numbers of		Percentages of	
per farm	Farms	Sows	Farms	Sows
1 - 4	211	456	30.6	1.1
5 - 9	89	583	12.9	1.4
10 - 19	90	1,228	13.1	2.9
20 - 29	33	793	4.8	1.9
30 - 49	50	1,889	7.3	4.5
50 - 99	95	6,674	13.8	16.0
100 - 199	71	9,895	10.3	23.7
200 - 299	21	4,958	3.0	11.9
300 & over	29	15,326	4.2	36.7
Total 2000	**689**	**41,802**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 1999	***964***	***47,113***	***100.0***	***100.0***
Average 2000		**60.7**		
Average 1999		***48.9***		

Table 4.20 Distribution of (a) fattening pigs 20kg and over and (b) total pigs by herd size, June 2000

	Fattening pigs 20kg & over				Total pigs			
Number	Numbers of		Percentages of		Numbers of		Percentages of	
per farm	Farms	Pigs	Farms	Pigs	Farms	Pigs	Farms	Pigs
1 - 9	56	226	10.5	0.1	190	586	23.5	0.1
10 - 19	48	625	9.0	0.2	63	882	7.8	0.2
20 - 49	61	1,910	11.4	0.7	103	3,289	12.7	0.8
50 - 99	53	3,675	9.9	1.4	77	5,385	9.5	1.3
100 - 199	70	9,845	13.1	3.7	76	11,031	9.4	2.7
200 - 399	68	19,377	12.7	7.2	71	20,204	8.8	4.9
400 - 999	114	72,939	21.3	27.2	108	70,272	13.4	17.0
1,000 - 1,999	37	52,975	6.9	19.8	71	93,108	8.8	22.5
2,000 & over	28	106,169	5.2	39.7	49	208,723	6.1	50.5
Total 2000	**535**	**267,741**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**808**	**413,480**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 1999	***777***	***313,868***			***1,151***	***490,274***		
Average 2000		**500.5**				**511.7**		
Average 1999		***403.9***				***426.0***		

Table 4.21 Distribution of (a) laying hens and (b) broilers by flock size, June 2000

Number per farm	Laying hens: Numbers of Farms	Laying hens: Numbers of Hens ('000)	Laying hens: Percentages of Farms	Laying hens: Percentages of Hens	Broilers: Numbers of Farms	Broilers: Numbers of Broilers ('000)	Broilers: Percentages of Farms	Broilers: Percentages of Broilers
1 - 999	1,124	21	89.7	0.9	36	1	12.4	0.0
1,000 - 4,999	33	98	2.6	4.2	7	16	2.4	0.2
5,000 - 9,999	41	270	3.3	11.7	16	109	5.5	1.1
10,000 - 19,999	29	398	2.3	17.3	58	865	20.0	9.0
20,000 - 29,999	8	178	0.6	7.7	52	1,134	17.9	11.7
30,000 - 49,999	12	432	1.0	18.8	66	2,542	22.8	26.3
50,000 & over	6	904	0.5	39.3	55	4,988	19.0	51.7
Total 2000	**1,253**	**2,300**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**290**	**9,655**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 1999	***1,354***	***2,140***			***309***	***9,342***		
Average 2000		**1,836**				**33,295**		
Average 1999		***1,581***				***30,233***		

Table 4.22 Distribution of total poultry by flock size, June 2000

Number per farm	Total poultry: Numbers of Farms	Total poultry: Numbers of Birds ('000)	Total poultry: Percentages of Farms	Total poultry: Percentages of Birds
1 - 999	1,490	45	62.7	0.3
1,000 - 4,999	108	335	4.5	2.1
5,000 - 9,999	169	1,143	7.1	7.3
10,000 - 19,999	146	2,078	6.1	13.3
20,000 - 29,999	63	1,389	2.6	8.9
30,000 - 49,999	81	3,066	3.4	19.6
50,000 & over	68	7,321	2.9	46.9
Total 2000	**2,125**	**15,376**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 1999	***2,260***	***15,048***		
Average 2000		**7,236**		
Average 1999		***6,658***		

Table 4.23 Distribution of (a) barley and (b) wheat by area of crop, June 2000

Area per farm (ha)	Barley				Wheat			
	Number of Farms	Area of Barley (ha)	Percentages of Farms	Percentages of Barley	Number of Farms	Area of Wheat (ha)	Percentages of Farms	Percentages of Wheat
under 1	102	70	2.8	0.2	26	19	4.8	0.4
1 - 4.9	1,551	4,316	42.9	13.2	247	683	45.4	13.7
5 - 9.9	956	6,730	26.5	20.6	144	985	26.5	19.7
10 - 19.9	672	9,385	18.6	28.8	71	922	13.1	18.5
20 - 29.9	167	3,957	4.6	12.1	22	541	4.0	10.8
30 - 39.9	71	2,405	2.0	7.4	9	303	1.7	6.1
40 - 49.9	32	1,410	0.9	4.3	9	413	1.7	8.3
50 & over	62	4,368	1.7	13.4	16	1,124	2.9	22.5
Total 2000	**3,613**	**32,641**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**544**	**4,990**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 1999	***3,960***	***35,712***			***461***	***3,252***		
Average 2000		**9.0**				**9.2**		
Average 1999		***9.0***				***7.1***		

Table 4.24 Distribution of total cereals by area of crop, June 2000

Area per farm (ha)	Total cereals			
	Number of Farms	Area of Cereals (ha)	Percentages of Farms	Percentages of Cereals
under 1	125	82	3.1	0.2
1 - 4.9	1,665	4,611	41.8	11.3
5 - 9.9	981	6,874	24.6	16.9
10 - 19.9	794	11,160	19.9	27.4
20 - 29.9	190	4,568	4.8	11.2
30 - 39.9	81	2,751	2.0	6.8
40 - 49.9	42	1,864	1.1	4.6
50 & over	107	8,817	2.7	21.6
Total 2000	**3,985**	**40,726**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 1999	***4,318***	***41,942***		
Average 2000		**10.2**		
Average 1999		***9.7***		

Table 4.25 Distribution of potatoes by area of crop, June 2000

Area per farm (ha)	Potatoes			
	Number of Farms	Area of Potatoes (ha)	Percentages of Farms	Percentages of Potatoes
under 1	331	144	28.6	2.1
1 - 4.9	489	1,160	42.3	17.1
5 - 9.9	157	1,087	13.6	16.0
10 - 19.9	113	1,557	9.8	23.0
20 - 29.9	28	674	2.4	9.9
30 - 39.9	16	541	1.4	8.0
40 - 49.9	8	356	0.7	5.3
50 & over	15	1,255	1.3	18.5
Total 2000	**1,157**	**6,772**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 1999	***1,303***	***7,541***		
Average 2000		**5.9**		
Average 1999		***5.8***		

5. INCOMES AT FARM LEVEL

Methodological notes

This section contains information, collected in the Farm Business Survey (FBS), on average incomes for the main types and sizes of farm business in Northern Ireland. A full analysis of FBS results is published in 'Farm Incomes in Northern Ireland 1999/00'.

Farms in the FBS are classified by type and size according to the EU farm classification system. Details of the typology system are set out in the Commission Decision 86/377/EEC and an abbreviated description appears in the Appendix.

The accounting concepts and practices used in compiling income data from FBS information differ from those on which the Aggregate Agricultural Account, presented in Section 2, are based. The income measures derived from the two sources are not, therefore, directly comparable. It should be noted that the latest year for which FBS data are available is 1999/00, i.e. broadly equivalent to the 1999 calendar year. However, provisional income estimates are also presented below for the 2000/01 year.

Income measures

The main farm level income indicator is **net farm income**, in which all farms are treated as though they were tenanted. This enables comparisons to be made among farms of different tenure across the United Kingdom.

Trends in net farm income since 1995/96 are presented in Table 5.1 and show the deterioration which has occurred in farm incomes since 1995/96. The net farm incomes presented in Table 5.2 are for farms which were in the FBS sample in both the 1998/99 and 1999/00 account years. These constitute an identical sample of 348 farm businesses of 8 ESUs and over; they are representative of 98 per cent of the farms of this size in Northern Ireland. The only significant type of farm business excluded from the FBS in Northern Ireland is horticulture.

Income changes by farm type in 1999/00

In 1999/00, the average net farm income across all farm types fell by almost 30 per cent. This was the fourth consecutive year that the average net income for all farm types in the FBS had declined. In real terms, farm income in 1999/00 fell to 10 per cent of its 1995/96 level. Incomes fell on each farm type other than **cereals** and negative net farm incomes were recorded on five farm types, namely **LFA cattle and sheep**, **lowland cattle and sheep, mixed, pigs and poultry** and **general cropping**.

In 1999/00, the average value of farm output was virtually unchanged relative to 1998/99. Although the average value of cattle output rose, by almost 9 per cent, this gain was cancelled out by declines in the output values of potatoes, pigs and sheep. Total costs across all farm types increased by less than 2 per cent. Increased expenditure on fertilisers and machinery running costs more than offset a reduction in feed expenditure and lower machinery depreciation provisions.

Provisional estimates of income in 2000/01

In 2000/01, it is anticipated that net farm incomes will have improved for each farm type other than **cereals**. In absolute terms, the improvements in income will have been modest except in the case of **general cropping** farms, where a substantial uplift is expected. In the cases of **LFA cattle and sheep, mixed, pigs and poultry** and **general cropping** farms, average incomes are expected to have returned from 'loss' to 'profit'. However, for **lowland cattle and sheep** farms, average income is expected to have remained negative, despite some improvement.

The improvements in incomes are due in the main to increased producer prices for milk (+3 per cent), lambs (+10 per cent), pigs (+25 per cent) and potatoes (+ 50 per cent). Direct payments in the form of Suckler Cow Premium, Beef Special Premium and Sheep Annual Premium are expected to have declined slightly, although cattle producers have benefited from the introduction of a Cattle Slaughter Premium under the Agenda 2000 reforms. Apart from a substantial increase in the price of machinery fuel, diesel prices having doubled during the year, little change is expected in either the price or volume of inputs. Capital expenditure is expected to have remained at very low levels, reflecting the continuing lack of producer confidence.

The income estimates described above relate to an account year which is broadly equivalent to the 2000 calendar year. These estimates were prepared in mid-January 2001. They are based on the most recent information on prices, animal populations and marketings, and crop areas and yields. They should be regarded only as broad indications of the levels of income in 2000/01, as a small change between the expected and actual out-turn for either output or input value can lead to a large change in income.

Contact: Andrew Crawford, Tel. (028-) 905 24682, E-mail. andrew.crawford@dardni.gov.uk

Table 5.1 Indices of average net farm income in real terms by farm type, 1995/96 to 2000/01

Indices: 1989/90 - 1991/92 = 100

Business type	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01 (provisional)
Cereals	194	66	-52	-6	12	10
General cropping	499	-120	317	1218	-971	270
Pigs and poultry	58	52	21	-129	-3	35
Dairy	169	107	59	41	39	60
Cattle and sheep (LFA)	145	145	72	7	-32	10
Cattle and sheep (lowland)	-31	-39	-93	-126	-53	-30
Mixed	117	62	-26	-6	-6	20

Table 5.2 Net farm income by business size and farm type, 1998/99 and 1999/2000

£'000 per farm[1]

Business type	Small (8-39.9 ESU)		Medium (40-99.9 ESU)		Large (100-999.9 ESU)		All sizes (8-999.9 ESU)	
	1998/99	1999/00	1998/99	1999/00	1998/99	1999/00	1998/99	1999/00
Cereals	2.9	4.8	-1.7	3.4	…	…	2.3	4.6
General cropping	..	..	50.8	1.2	… …	… …	21.3	-17.2
Pigs and poultry	-20.8	1.0	…	…	… …	… …	-24.1	-0.6
Dairy	-1.0	-1.6	11.2	11.4	28.5	28.0	7.2	7.0
Cattle and sheep (LFA)	-0.9	-1.7	-0.9	0.6	…	…	-0.7	-1.6
Cattle and sheep (lowland)	-6.9	-1.5	…	…	… …	… …	-4.6	-2.0
Mixed	-6.0	-3.9	7.3	-7.0	… …	… …	0.8	-1.2

1. Where there are less than 3 farms in any particular cell, income figures are not published. However, where available, such income are used to compile average 'all sizes' incomes.

Table 5.3 Distribution of farms by net farm income and by farm type, 1999/2000

per cent

	Dairy	Cattle and sheep (LFA)	Mixed	All types
Net farm income (£'s)				
Less than 0	33	54	43	46
1 - 2,499	5	11	13	9
2,500 - 4,999	6	12	9	10
5,000 - 7,499	13	8	13	9
7,500 - 9,999	3	8	-	6
10,000 - 14,999	12	2	14	7
15,000 - 19,999	6	3	2	4
20,000 - 29,999	10	1	2	4
> 30,000	12	1	4	5
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
Number of farms in sample	155	120	23	348

Table 5.4 Average tenant's capital by farm type, 1999/2000

£'000 per farm

	Cereals	General cropping	Pigs and poultry	Dairy	Cattle and sheep (LFA)	Cattle and sheep (lowland)	Mixed
Farm size (ESU)	24.6	50.9	24.8	51.7	22.1	20.1	34.8
Total farm area (ha)	68.5	73.7	22.1	53.8	91.4	55.7	77.0
Net farm income	4.6	-17.2	-0.6	7.0	-1.6	-2.0	-1.2
Total tenant's capital	**56.7**	**71.6**	**67.3**	**73.9**	**49.7**	**59.1**	**79.0**
of which:							
Short term (working) capital							
trading livestock	14.7	7.3	38.4	12.3	14.3	25.2	31.9
crops	9.1	4.6	3.9	4.2	2.6	3.5	9.8
other	0.8	1.4	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.5	1.1
Medium term capital							
breeding livestock	2.3	1.0	6.5	34.0	18.7	15.8	11.8
machinery	29.8	57.2	17.7	23.0	13.6	14.2	24.3

Table 5.5 Average closing valuations by farm type, 1998/99 and 1999/2000

£'000 per farm[1]

	Dairy		Cattle and sheep (LFA)		Mixed	
	1998/99	1999/00	1998/99	1999/00	1998/99	1999/00
ASSETS						
Total fixed assets	432.7	437.9	300.2	298.6	395.8	394.2
of which:						
land and buildings	373.8	381.7	261.8	262.8	353.6	354.0
other fixed assets	58.9	56.2	38.4	35.8	42.2	40.2
Total current assets	23.7	21.8	24.3	26.7	48.7	52.0
of which:						
trading livestock	17.6	16.4	17.2	17.6	42.4	43.5
debtors/other short term lending	6.0	5.4	7.1	9.0	6.4	8.6
cash in hand and at bank	0.1	-	-	-	-	-
A Total assets	**456.4**	**459.7**	**324.5**	**325.3**	**444.5**	**446.2**
LIABILITIES						
Total long/medium term loans	21.4	22.2	4.2	3.7	5.6	4.9
of which:						
bank/other institutional	19.1	20.4	4.2	3.7	5.6	4.9
Total short term loans	13.9	14.6	8.2	8.5	14.9	15.6
of which:						
bank overdraft	10.1	10.1	6.9	7.3	12.3	13.3
B Total external liabilities	**35.3**	**36.8**	**12.4**	**12.2**	**20.5**	**20.5**
NET WORTH (A-B)	**421.1**	**423.0**	**312.0**	**313.1**	**424.0**	**425.7**

1. Data are averages within each farm type.

APPENDIX

STATISTICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

AGGREGATE AGRICULTURAL ACCOUNT - NEW SERIES

Major revisions were made in 1998 to the **Aggregate Agricultural Account (AAA)** from which agriculture's output, input, value added and income are obtained. These changes were necessary to bring the AAA into line with the new United Nations *System of National Accounts 1993,* the subsequent *European System of Accounts 1995* and the revised *EU Manual on the Economic Accounts for Agriculture 1997,* introduced throughout the UK in 1998.
The main changes to the AAA are as follows:

(i) Dropping the 'national farm' concept under which direct inter-farm sales and on-farm use of finished products such as cereals were excluded. Such transactions are now included as both additional output and input, in most cases leaving gross and net product and total income from farming unchanged.

(ii) Changing the AAA from a 'branch' towards a 'sector' basis. Previously, the AAA covered all agricultural products irrespective of the nature of the establishments in which they are produced and ignored other, non-agricultural activity taking place on farms. Now, agricultural activity includes other inseparable 'non-agricultural secondary activities', such as pony trekking, which are conducted on-farm and for which the inputs cannot be separated from farming inputs.

(iii) Changing the treatment of subsidy payments from a cash to an accruals basis, i.e. from 'as paid' to 'as due'. This means that subsidies such as the Suckler Cow Premium and Arable Area Payments are counted in the year in which they are due rather than in the year when they are paid. (The detailed allocation of subsidies is documented in footnotes to Table 2.1.)

(iv) Including rent paid on 'conacre' (short-term lettings) to non-farming persons. Conacre rent was previously omitted from the AAA because short-term renting was deemed to be a transfer within the agricultural branch.

(v) Including capital formation in, and depreciation of, breeding livestock. Previously only net volume changes were included.

This edition of the *Statistical Review* presents a 20-year series of the AAA on the new basis in Table 2.1.

Income indicators

The main indicator of the return to all of the factors of production, i.e. land, labour, capital and 'enterprise', is **net value added** (strictly, net value added at factor cost). This is defined as gross output less expenditure on material and service inputs purchased from outside the sector, less consumption of fixed capital (or depreciation) plus subsidies not paid on products. Hence:

Gross output – gross input (also known as 'intermediate consumption')
= **gross value added**
Gross value added – consumption of fixed capital + subsidies not paid on products
= **net value added (at factor cost)**

The income of farm families is given by **total income from farming (TIFF)**. This includes returns to farmers, their spouses and family workers for their labour and 'enterprise' and on their own capital invested; it therefore represents the income of all those with an entrepreneurial involvement in farming. It is the preferred income measure, conforming to national and international accounting practice and forming the basis of a Eurostat indicator used for income comparisons across the EU. The derivation of TIFF is:

Net value added (at factor cost)

less paid labour (also known as ‘compensation of employees’)
interest
net rent

= Total income from farming (TIFF)

A 20-year series of net value added and TIFF, as indices in current prices and in 'real' terms, i.e. after allowing for inflation, is presented in Table 2.2 of this edition.

Cash flow

A 20-year series of **cash flow** is shown in Table 2.4. Cash flow omits the effects of stock changes, but takes into account receipts of capital grants, expenditure on capital investment and changes in borrowings. It is a useful indicator of cash available to farm families from farming, but should not be considered as an alternative measure of income.

Sensitivity of estimates

Since agricultural income measures are 'residuals' between two large aggregates, they are sensitive to quite small changes in either aggregate. For example, total income from farming in 2000 would change by $^{\pm}$18 per cent if there were one per cent changes (in opposing directions) in gross output and gross input. The degree of sensitivity rises as the level of income falls.

Provisional estimates

‘Provisional' figures for 2000 presented in this *Review* are based on data available in December 2000/January 2001, in most cases covering the first 9-11 months of the year. However, for some items less information was available. For example, information on some input costs will be obtained only when Farm Business Survey results for 2000/01 are produced. Provisional figures are therefore subject to revision when complete information becomes available. Revised figures will be published in next year’s *Review*.

Revisions to income series

The 1999 figures have been revised as more complete information has become available. Net value added in 1999 is now estimated at £234 million (previously £210 million) while total income from farming is now estimated at £92.3 million (previously £70.9 million). Further methodological changes were introduced in 2000. These involved treating imported livestock as a reduction in gross output (previously included as an item in gross input) and marketing expenses as an input cost (previously included as a reduction in gross output). As a result of this and the methodological changes introduced in 1998 (see above), the income series for 1999 and earlier years have been revised substantially from those published in previous editions. A 20-year consistent series on the new basis is presented in Table 2.1.

CENSUS

Statistics on employment on farms (Tables 2.14 and 2.15), crop areas and livestock numbers (Section 3) and farm structure (Section 4) are derived from the June agricultural census. This is an annual statistical survey which reverted to a full census in 2000 having, in 1998 and 1999, been conducted by means of a sample survey in which forms were issued to all the larger businesses but to only half of those classified as 'Very Small'.

The records which were aggregated to provide the published results include 2000 returns from those which returned their forms and the latest available returns from those who did not. For new farms from which a 2000 return was not obtained, estimates were based on the information available in the Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS) and other administrative systems. Owners of pig herds and the major poultry flocks who failed to make a return in 2000 were contacted by telephone to obtain up to date information.

Revised coverage

The statistical definition of a farm, which was changed in 1997, is based on separate business status as applied under the Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS), having previously been based on land ownership. The census now covers **all active farm businesses having one hectare or more of farmed land, whether owned, leased or taken in conacre, and those with under one hectare having any cattle, sheep or pigs or with significant poultry or horticultural activity.** Each year special efforts are made to improve the coverage of a particular sector; in 2000 mushroom production was targeted and around 100 mushroom businesses which had not previously been surveyed were identified and added to the list of businesses covered.

Over the past 50 years, the following criteria have been used to determine the coverage of the agricultural census in Northern Ireland:

Years	**Census methods and coverage**
Until 1954	Census information was collected by police enumerators who identified and visited all farms, including any under one acre (0.4 hectares), and recorded in special books information given to them orally by the farmer.
1954-1972	A postal census was introduced in 1954. This used the list of farmers which had been identified in the 1953 census, but included only those of **one acre or more.** From this time onwards a distinction was made between **'main'** holdings which were included in the census and **'minor'** holdings which were surveyed on a sample basis using simplified questions. Estimates were made for their total crop areas and livestock numbers but these holdings were not included in the count of farms.
1973-1980	In 1973, in conformity with a similar change in the rest of the United Kingdom, an alteration was made in the scope of the census in Northern Ireland. From then until 1980, the main census covered all holdings which had **at least 10 acres (4 hectares)** of land with the addition of any below that size which had any full-time agricultural workers or whose stock and cropping amounted to an annual estimated labour requirement of more than 40 man-days. This definition of a 'main' holding removed some 7,700 holdings from the old register but, at the same time, brought back a number of 'minor' holdings of less than one acre. The net reduction in the number of 'main' holdings arising from these adjustments was some 5,500.

1981-1996	A further change was made between 1980 and 1981 when, with the introduction of a new system of farm classification, and with changes to the minimum threshold in other parts of the UK, the threshold for inclusion in the 'main' census in Northern Ireland was raised. This new threshold restricted the census to holdings which had (a) a total land area (owned or taken on long-term lease) of 6 hectares or more or (b) any full-time workers other than the farmer or (c) a farm business size of 1,000 ECUs of Standard Gross Margin. This change resulted in the exclusion of a further 6,690 'minor' holdings from the main census between 1980 and 1981.
1997	The basis of the agricultural census was changed in 1997 from a 'census register' to a central register of all of the Department's 'clients'. The change was made possible as a result of the introduction of IACS and of work undertaken in DANI to streamline administrative functions. This resulted in a common means of identification across all schemes, with each farmer who is in contact with DANI being allocated a unique Client Reference Number and each "Client" being linked to a Business Identifier. The population surveyed in 1997 consisted of one 'Client' in each business for which a census return with crops and/or livestock was obtained in the preceding year or which had received a subsidy in respect of crops or livestock during the preceding 15 months. Also included were those with a milk quota and those known by DANI to be engaged in the production of pigs, poultry, potatoes or horticultural crops. The distinction between 'main' and 'minor' holdings was discontinued.
1998-1999	A further 166 pig farms with no owned land were added to the population in 1998 and sampling was introduced. Census forms were issued only to half of the **'very small'** farms.
2000	A full census was conducted.

Revised data

From 1997 onwards all census data are based on the new register. Crop areas (Table 3.2), livestock numbers (Table 3.3) and the numbers of agricultural workers (Table 2.14), shown for years before 1997 were revised on a provisional basis. Proportional changes, between 1996 and 1997, for farms, which appeared on both the old and new registers, were used to establish a link to the previous series. Thus, the figures shown for 1996 in Tables 2.14, 3.2 and 3.3 are, as far as possible, on a consistent basis. No revisions have been made to the numbers of farms for the years prior to 1997, either in total or with particular enterprises. Therefore, in Section 4, where numbers of farms are shown for 1996, these are on the old basis and are not comparable with the figures shown for 1997 to 2000. They have been shown to give general indications of trends.

Farm business size

Farm business size is determined by calculating each farm's total Standard Gross Margin (SGM). The gross margin of an enterprise is its total output less the variable costs which are directly attributable to it. Standards or norms have been calculated for all major enterprises. The total SGM for each farm is calculated by multiplying its crop areas and livestock numbers by the appropriate SGM coefficients and then summing the result for all enterprises on the farm.

To show year-to-year changes in business size, the enterprise SGM coefficients are held constant for a number of years. The current series (introduced in 1993) is based on the average prices during the period 1987-89. For a list of these values, see '*The Agricultural Census in Northern Ireland: Results for 1998*'. Because the system of classifying business size was developed for use within the EU statistical network, SGMs are measured in euros.

In UK agricultural statistics, business size is described in terms of five SGM size bands. These are:

Term	1987-1989 SGM (euro*)	European Size Units
Very small	<9,600	less than 8
Small	9,600-<48,000	8-<40
Medium	48,000-<120,000	40-<100
Large	120,000-<240,000	100-<200
Very large	240,000 or more	200 or more

*1 euro = 1 ECU (was = £0.68 in 1987-1989).

Since there are few farms in the **very large** size range in Northern Ireland, these are included in the **large** category.

In broad terms, **very small** farms are not big enough to provide full-time employment for one person, **small** farms are generally 1-2 person businesses, **medium** are 2-3 and **large** farms involve 3 or more persons.

Farm business type

The EU system of classifying farms according to farm type (on which the UK system is based) is set out in Commission Decision 85/377/EEC. Although 75 different types are recognised by the EU, for UK statistical purposes these are grouped into 9 robust categories, which have particular relevance to UK conditions. These are:

Type	Definition
Cereals	Farms with more than 2/3 of their total SGM in cereals, oilseeds and set aside.
General cropping	Farms which do not qualify as cereals farms but have more **cropping** than 2/3 on their total SGM in arable (not horticultural) crops or in a mixture of arable and horticultural crops and where arable crops account for more than 1/3 of total SGM.
Horticulture	Farms with more than 2/3 of their total SGM in horticultural crops (excluding specialist mushroom growers).
Pigs & poultry	Farms with more than 2/3 of their total SGM in pigs and/or poultry.
Dairy	Farms with more than 2/3 of their total SGM in dairying (including associated young stock).
Cattle & sheep (LFA)	Farms wholly or mainly in the Less Favoured Areas which do not qualify as dairy farms but have more than 2/3 of their total SGM in cattle and sheep.
Cattle & sheep (lowland)	Farms entirely or mainly outside the Less Favoured Areas, which do not qualify as dairy farms but have more than 2/3 their total SGM in cattle and sheep.
Mixed	Farms which have no dominant enterprise and do not fit into the above types.
Other types	Farms which specialise in enterprises which do not fit in well with mainstream agriculture, eg specialist mushrooms, goat or horse farms; also farms which have no crops or stock at June (but which made hay/silage or intended to restock at a later date).

A fuller description of the system is given in '*Farm Incomes in the United Kingdom'* 1991/92 Edition (HMSO, 1993) and in '*The Digest of Agricultural Census Statistics, UK 1993*' (HMSO, 1994).

Less Favoured Areas

The term **Less Favoured Areas (LFA)** is used to describe those parts of the country which, because of the relatively poor agricultural conditions which prevail there, have been so designated under EU legislation. This recognition allows those who farm in such areas to apply for special support, such as Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowances (HLCAs).

The LFA is composed of a **Severely Disadvantaged Area (SDA)**, which is the original LFA as designated in 1975 (487,000 hectares), and the **Disadvantaged Area (DA)** which was designated following reviews in 1984 (335,000 hectares) and 1990 (3,700 hectares). (The areas designated include some non-agricultural land).

FARM BUSINESS SURVEY (FBS)

The annual FBS is based on a sample of about 400 individual farms which keep detailed financial records, enabling outputs, inputs and incomes on farms to be analysed by farming type and business size. Trends in farm incomes from the FBS are produced by comparing results from identical samples of farms participating in the survey in successive years. Indices showing trends in net farm incomes are derived by linking the results of identical samples from successive pairs of years (Table 5.1).

Although most farms in Northern Ireland are owner occupied, FBS results are analysed according to conventions used throughout the UK to determine **net farm income**. This measure of income represents the return to the farmer and spouse for their manual and managerial effort and on the tenant-type assets of the farm business. The latter include livestock, crops and machinery but not land and buildings. Hence, an imputed rent for owned land is included in fixed costs as well as the actual cost of any rented land. This enables the trends in net farm income for Northern Ireland farming types to be compared directly with similar data for other countries and regions of the UK.

Differences between FBS and AAA

The coverage and methodology of the FBS differ in several important respects from the Aggregate Agricultural Account (AAA) presented in Section 2. The FBS does not cover **very small** farms or **horticultural** businesses; FBS account years end between October and May, with an average account ending date of mid-February, while the AAA relates to calendar years; net farm income is calculated before deduction of interest on farming loans, while total income from farming in the AAA is net of interest on borrowings; except in the case of breeding livestock appreciation, net farm income includes changes in both the volume and price of crops and livestock, whereas the AAA includes volume changes only; and net farm income is net of an imputed rent on all owner-occupied land, while in the AAA only actual rent paid to non-farming persons is deducted. For these reasons no direct comparison between the FBS and AAA income series can be made.

GENERAL NOTES TO TABLES

Symbols:

-	means nil, or an insignificant quantity.
...	means not available, or not collected.

Rounding:
Most figures have been rounded individually and the totals shown may therefore differ slightly from the sum of the constituent items.

Metric units:
Metric units are used throughout this publication. Conversion factors from metric to imperial units, correct to 4 significant figures, are given below:

1 hectare (ha)	=	2.471 acres
1 kilogram (kg)	=	2.205 pounds
1 tonne (t)	=	0.9842 tons
1 litre (l)	=	0.2200 gallons

Abbreviations:

dcw	-	dressed carcase weight
dwt	-	deadweight
lwt	-	liveweight

NORTHERN IRELAND CODE OF PRACTICE ON CONFIDENTIALITY

Practices followed by Government Statistical Service (GSS) in the handling of information obtained from statistical inquiries throughout Government departments are set out in the White Paper. *'The Government Statistical Service Code of Practice on the Handling of Data obtained from Statistical Inquiries'* (Cmnd 9270). Government departments in NI also subscribe to this code.

Under the Statistics of Trade and Employment (Northern Ireland) Order 1988, however, legislation relating to the disclosure of data obtained from statistical inquiries is now different in Northern Ireland, to the extent that information obtained under the provisions of this Order, or the Statistics of Trade Act (Northern Ireland) 1949, may be released to public bodies and consultants appointed by a Government department or public body under directions given by the Head of the Northern Ireland department in possession of the information. Since these disclosure provisions do not apply to corresponding legislation for Great Britain, the opportunity is being taken to supplement the GSS code of practice in relation to the handling of information obtained by Northern Ireland departments under the Order and the Act.

The code set out below also ensures that disclosure rules applied to voluntary inquiries by Government departments in Northern Ireland are at least as strict as those for statutory inquiries conducted under the Order or the Act.

The Agricultural Returns Act (Northern Ireland) 1939, which governs the conduct of the Agricultural Census in Northern Ireland, is even more restrictive than either the Statistics of Trade and Employment (Northern Ireland) Order 1988 or the Northern Ireland Code of Practice. Under it, no such disclosure of individual information is permitted.

The Northern Ireland Code of Practice which supplements the GSS code is as follows:

- Information about undertakings collected in inquiries by Northern Ireland departments under the Statistics of Trade and Employment (Northern Ireland) Order 1988 or under the Statistics of Trade Act (Northern Ireland) 1949 may, provided the Head of the department which obtained the information so directs, be made available under Article 7(1)(a) for statistical purposes to other Government departments, a Community institution or to public bodies or consultants appointed by Government departments or public bodies.

- Information on the name and address of individual undertakings, the nature of their business, opening date and the number of persons employed by them collected in inquiries under the Order or the Act may, subject to directions given by the Head of the department which obtained the information, be used for non-statistical purposes within the department. Such information, provided the Head of the department so directs, may also be made available under 7(1)(a) of the order to other Government departments and public bodies who require it for carrying out their functions and to consultants appointed by Government departments and public bodies.

- No other disclosure of information about individual undertakings obtained under the Order or the Act will take place without the prior written consent of the person carrying on the undertaking.

- Information about individual undertakings collected in voluntary statistical inquiries will not be used for non-statistical purposes by the Department which collected it, or made available to any other body for statistical or non-statistical purposes by the Department which collected it, or made available to any other body for statistical or non-statistical purposes unless the respondent was informed that this might happen when the information was requested or has subsequently given consent in writing.

- In the case of bona fide researchers outside Government departments, information about individual undertakings collected in voluntary statistical inquiries will not be released under any circumstances for non-statisitical purposes, and will only be released for statistical purposes if the respondent was informed of this when the information was requested or has subsequently given consent in writing.

- Further restrictions apply where specific commitments have been given to respondents to statutory and voluntary statistical inquiries, e.g. that access to the information will be restricted to those involved with processing the data.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The following Economics and Statistics Division publications are available on request using the order form below. The year of issue is given in brackets after each publication.

Diversification on Northern Ireland Farms 1989. (1990) £2.00
A Statistical Review of the Agriculturally Less Favoured Areas of Northern Ireland. (1990) £5.00
The Structure of Production and Marketing of Hardy Nursery Stock in Northern Ireland. (1990) £5.00
A Study of the Economic Performance of the Principal Systems of Mushroom Production in Northern Ireland. (1992) £10.00
Dairy Farming in Northern Ireland 1973 to 1993. (1994) £13.00
The Economics of Potato Production in Northern Ireland, 1991/92 and 1992/93 Crops. (1995) £7.50
Economic Performance of the Northern Ireland Fishing Fleet in 1994. (1996) £15.00
EU Structure Survey 1995: Northern Ireland Agricultural Labour Force and Machinery Statistics. (1996) £4.00
Size and Performance of the Northern Ireland Food and Drinks Processing Sector 1994. (1996) £20.00
An Economic Analysis of Ewe Flock Performance in Northern Ireland. (1997) £10.00
Northern Ireland Agricultural Statistics 1984-1995. (1997) £10.00
EU Structure Survey 1997: Northern Ireland Labour Force Statistics. (1998) £4.00
National Food Survey Northern Ireland 1999. (2000) £6.00
Size and Performance of the Northern Ireland Food and Drinks Processing Sector 1997, Subsector Statistics. (1999) £6.00
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Farm Incomes in Northern Ireland. 1999/00. (2000) £14.00
Sea-Fish Marketing Channels in Northern Ireland. (2000) £7.50

Statistical Series (details available on request)
The Agricultural Census in Northern Ireland Results for June 2000. (2000) £5.00
Agricultural Market Report, Weekly and Quarterly. (Continuous) £40.00 and £15.00 per annum respectively
Animal Feedstuffs Statistics, Monthly, Quarterly and Annual. (Continuous) £28.00, £15.00 and £10.00 per annum respectively
Fertiliser Statistics, Quarterly and Annual. (Continuous) £15.00 per annum
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Utilisation of Raw Milk in Northern Ireland, Monthly and Annual. (Continuous) £28.00 and £10.00 per annum respectively

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