

# Fact Sheet on Irish Agriculture – August 2010

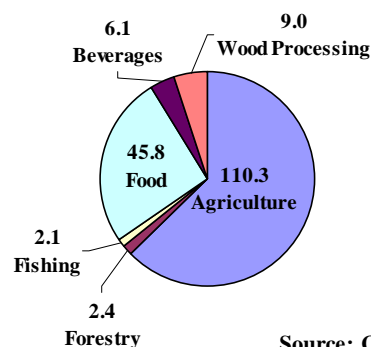
## Headline Developments Since Previous Version (December 2009)

CSO Output, Input and Income in Agriculture 2009 – Final Estimate (18/06/10).

### A: Role of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry and Food in the Irish Economy

Key Indicators for Primary and Agri-Food Sectors		
<i>Relevant Year in brackets.</i>	Primary Sector <sup>1</sup>	Agri-Food Sector <sup>2</sup>
% of GVA at factor cost (2008)	2.3%	6.1%
% of employment (2008-Q2)	5.43%	8.32%
% of exports (2008)	6.0%	10.0%
Notes: (1) Primary sector taken to comprise Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Primary production). (2) Taken to comprise primary production along with food & drinks and wood processing sectors (excludes tobacco). Source: CSO and DAFF. All data are estimates.		

Employment in the Agri-Food Sector (000s)



Source: CSO, QNHS  
Quarter 2, 2008

### B: Public Expenditure and Agriculture Related Payments

Total public expenditure on the agri-food sector by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was approximately €3.3 billion in 2009. DAFF payments in 2009 totalled over 2.4 billion (full details outlined in Table below).

Public Expenditure on Irish Agriculture, 2009		Agriculture Payments made by DAFF, 2009	
	(€m)		(€m)
<b>EU, of which...</b>	<b>1347.60</b>	Single Payment Scheme	1299.5
Single Farm Payment	1299.50	Area Based Compensatory Allowances	223.8
Premia/Arable Aid	0.60	REPS	341.1
Export Refunds	26.00	Sugar Beet Growers Compensation	0.5
Sugar Restructuring	0.50	Suckler Cow Scheme	33.2
Sundry Other Measures	8.40	Disease Eradication Schemes	51.6
Other Market Supports	12.60	Installation aid and others	7.7
<b>Voted Expenditure, of which...</b>	<b>1660.84</b>	<b>Direct Payments (CSO definition)</b>	<b>1957.4</b>
Rural Development	639.20	Plus forestry premia	71.6
Structural funds	344.70	<b>Total direct payments</b>	<b>2029.0</b>
Fisheries	21.05		
Food Safety and animal health	236.80		
State Bodies	221.50	Farm Waste Management Scheme	292.8
Forestry	119.10	Early Retirement Scheme	39.5
Research and Training	35.50	Forestry Planting & related grants	40.8
Other	42.99	Other farm grants	39.9
<b>Administration</b>	<b>276.96</b>	<b>Total Other Payments</b>	<b>413.0</b>
<b>Total Voted Expenditure</b>	<b>1937.80</b>		
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>3285.40</b>	<b>Total DAFF Payments</b>	<b>2442.0</b>

Source: DAFF

## C: Estimates of Aggregate Agricultural Output, Input and Income

- The CSO's final estimate of operating surplus in agriculture in 2009 is €1,611.6 million (full details outlined in Table below).
- In 2009, direct payments, net of levies, accounted for 115% of operating surplus.
- Beef and milk production currently account for 66% of agricultural output at producer prices (excluding forage).

Output, Input and Income in Agriculture, 2009					
Main Aggregates	Value €m		Main Commodities	Value €m	% of G/O
<b>Goods Output @ Producer Prices <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>4,767.60</b>		<b>Goods Output (excl forage)</b>	<b>3,915.90</b>	<b>100%</b>
+ Contract Work	268.7		<i>of which</i>		
+ Subsidies - Taxes (Products)	15.1		Cattle	1,467.70	37.5%
<b>Agricultural Output @ Basic Prices</b>	<b>5,051.40</b>		Milk	1,100.20	28.1%
- Intermediate Consumption	4,068.10		Pigs	306.7	7.8%
<b>Gross Value Added @ Basic Prices</b>	<b>983.30</b>		Sheep	157.5	4.0%
- Fixed Capital Consumption	779.1		Cereals	107.0	2.7%
+ Subsidies - Taxes (Production)	1,835.1		Others	776.80	19.8%
- Compensation of Employees	427.7		Forage Plants	851.7	
<b>Operating Surplus</b>	<b>1,611.60</b>		<b>Goods Output @ Producer Prices <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>4,767.60</b>	

Notes: (1) Including Forage  
Source: CSO Output, Input and Income in Agriculture-2009-Final Estimate (June 2010)

## D: Estimates of Family Farm and Farm Household Income

- The National Farm Survey (NFS) produced by Teagasc estimates **that average farm income (excluding off-farm income) decreased by 30% in 2009 to €11,968**. Full-time farms, as defined by Teagasc, had an **average farm income of €24,214 (down 35%)**, and part-time farms had an **average income of €6,611 (down 13%)**.
- The NFS also estimate that **79% of farmers and/or their spouses had an off-farm source of income** either from employment, pensions or social assistance. **On 52.6% of farms the holder had an off-farm job**.
- Special analysis of EU-SILC 2008 data shows that farm households have an average total income of **€61,053 or €53,484 (depending on whether a broad or narrow definition of "farm household" is utilised)**. These compare with a **state average of €60,579**.

## E: Farm Structures

Farm Structures Data for Ireland		
Relevant Year	Statistic	Relevant Data
2007	<b>Farm Holdings</b>	<b>128,200</b>
2007	<b>Average Farm Size</b>	<b>32.3 Hectares</b>
2007	<b>Family Farm Holders by Age</b>	<b>7% &lt; 35; 51% &gt; 55</b>
2008 <sup>1</sup>	<b>Employment in Agriculture, Forestry &amp; Fishing (CSO)</b>	<b>114,800</b>

Notes  
(1) Persons employed in agriculture is based on the CSO's Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS). It covers people who identified agriculture as their **primary** source of income in the week preceding the survey.  
Sources: CSO Farm Structure Survey 2007; CSO QNHS, Q2 2008

## F: Land Usage & Livestock Numbers

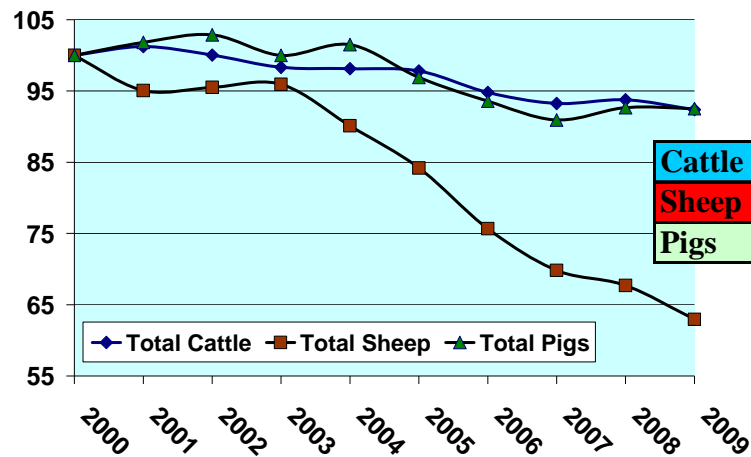
- The land area of Ireland is 6.9 million hectares; of which 4.2 million hectares is used for agriculture and a further 737,000 hectares for forestry, (see also area under crops in Table, right).
- Almost 80% of agricultural area is devoted to pasture, hay and grass silage (3.34 million hectares), 11% to rough grazing (0.45 million hectares) and 10% to crop production (0.42 million hectares).
- Average land prices in Ireland in 2009 were estimated to be €10,222 per acre. (Source: Farmers Journal Agricultural Land Price Report, 2009).

Area Under Certain Crops	
	000's Hectares
Cereals	293.3
<i>of which</i>	
Wheat	83.0
Oats	20.1
Barley	185.9
Potatoes	12.9

Source: CSO Crops and Livestock Survey, June 2009 Final.

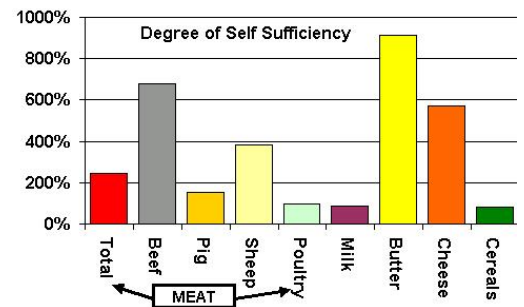
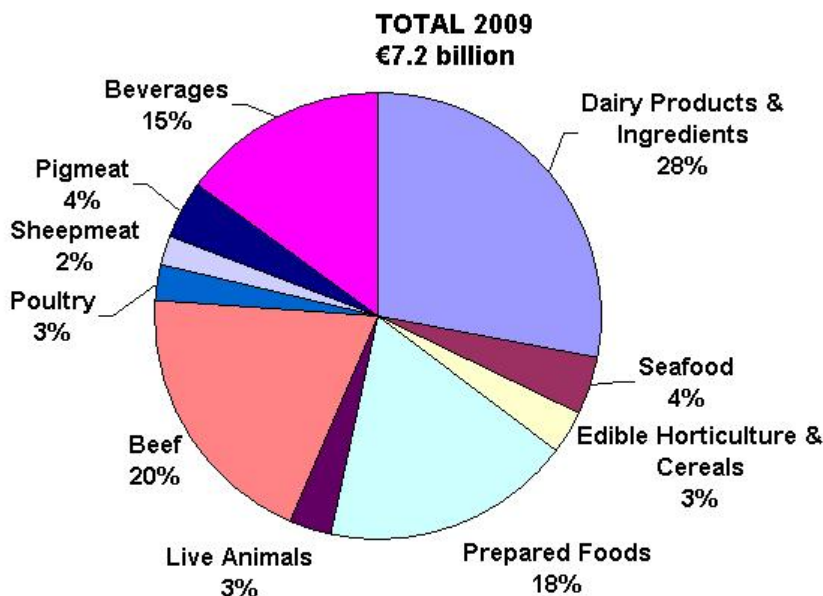
### Chart (Right): Livestock Trends 2000-2009: Livestock Numbers<sup>1</sup> and Index<sup>2</sup>

Chart Notes:  
 (1) Absolute figures denoted in thousands of heads for 2000 and 2009.  
 (2) Stock index (Base: 2000=100) can be read from left hand axis.  
 Source: CSO December Livestock Survey, 2000-2009.



## G: Self-Sufficiency and Exports

Ireland is self-sufficient across a range of agriculture produce (See chart right). In 2009 it is estimated that Ireland exported approximately €7.2 billion in agri-sector exports, detailed in charts below.



## H: Commodity Price Trends

