Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Statistical Review *of* Northern Ireland Agriculture 2001

A National Statistics publication

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Statistical Review of Northern Ireland Agriculture 2001

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Economics and Statistics Division

A National Statistics publication

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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 2000/01, provides more detailed information on performance at farm business level.

With the launch of National Statistics in June 2000, the *Statistical Review of Northern Ireland Agriculture* was designated a National Statistics publication, denoting that its contents are produced to best professional standards.

Details of other publications and statistical releases available from Economics and Statistics Division are given on page 64.

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.** This web-site also contains long-term time series of a selection of *Statistical Review* tables. These may also be obtained in hard copy form, on request, from Economics and Statistics Division.

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.

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March 2001

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KEY FACTS

	NI	UK	ROI	EU15
GROSS VALUE ADDED (GVA)				
Agriculture as % of total GVA	2.9[1]	0.7[1]	3.4[2]	1.8[3]
EMPLOYMENT*				
Agricultural employment ('000)	34[3]	424[3]	136[3]	6,898[3]
As % of total civil employment	5.0[3]	1.6[3]	8.5[3]	4.5[3]
**ILO definition – see note 2*				
LAND USE				
Agricultural area ('000 ha)	1068[1]	17,323[1]	4,418[3]	128,691[5]
As % of total area	78.7[1]	71.3[1]	62.9[3]	40.3[5]
LESS FAVOURED AREAS (LFA)				
LFA as % of agricultural area	70.0[1]	44.5[4]	66.8[5]	54.3[5]
FARMS				
Number ('000)	29.8[1]	240[3]	144[3]	6,989[5]
Average agricultural area (ha)	35.8[1]	70.6[3]	29.3[3]	18.4[5]
ENTERPRISES				
Average enterprise size:				
Dairy cows	58[1]	72[3]	33[5]	25[5]
Beef cows	19[1]	27[3]	12[5]	15[5]
Sheep	240[1]	510[3]	182[5]	138[5]
Pigs	568[1]	585[3]	694[5]	114[5]
Laying hens	1,727[1]	1,403[3]	128[5]	189[5]
Broilers	31,554[1]	50,789[3]	6,324[5]	595[5]
Cereals (ha)	10.2[1]	46.1[3]	16.3[5]	13.0[5]
Potatoes (ha)	6.3[1]	10.6[3]	2.1[5]	1.4[5]

1. 2001 2. 2000 3. 1999 4. 1998 5. 1997

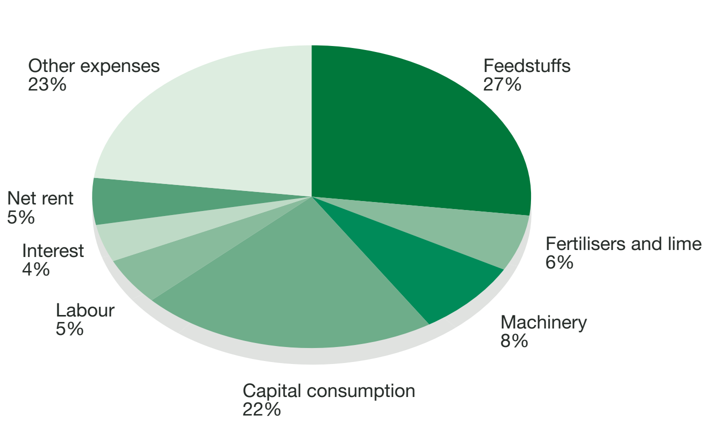
Note 1. NI = Northern Ireland; UK = United Kingdom; ROI = Republic of Ireland; EU15 = Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Republic of Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom.

Note 2. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) defines sector of employment according to a person's main occupation; their figures relate to agriculture, forestry and fishing. This source is used to provide consistency in comparisons across different countries. The figures for Northern Ireland differ slightly from those shown in Table 2.15.

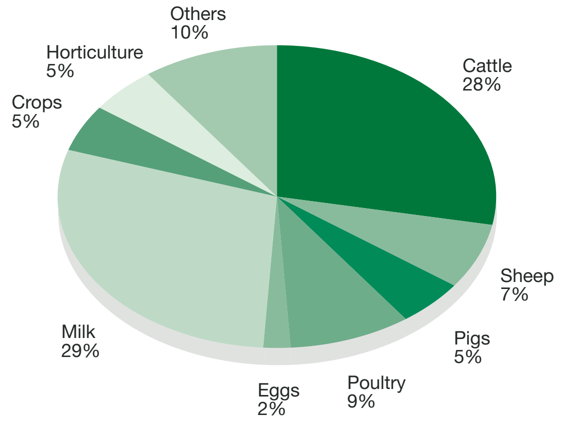
Note 3. In general, figures relate to the latest year for which statistics are available.

COMPARISONS OF NI AND UK AGRICULTURE

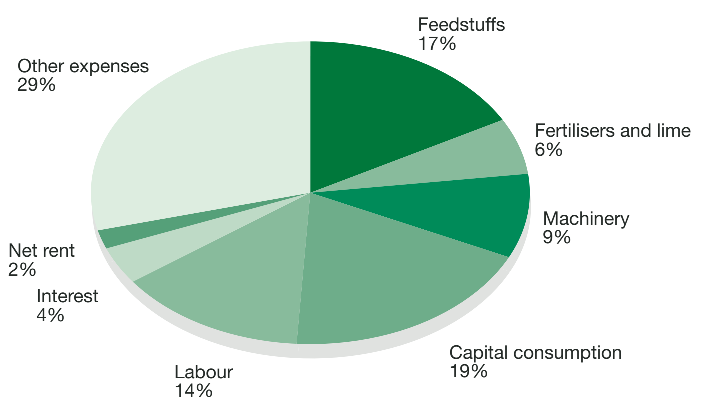
Total expenses of NI agriculture, 2001



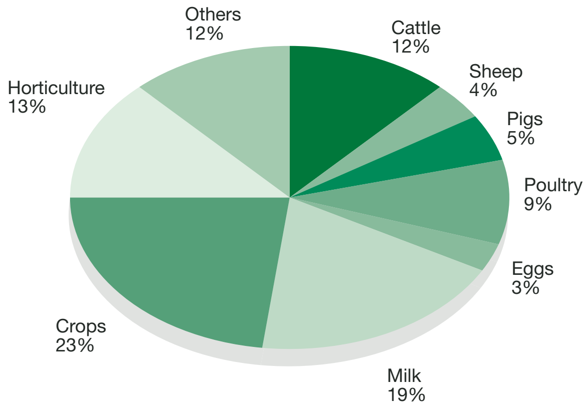
Gross output of NI agriculture, 2001



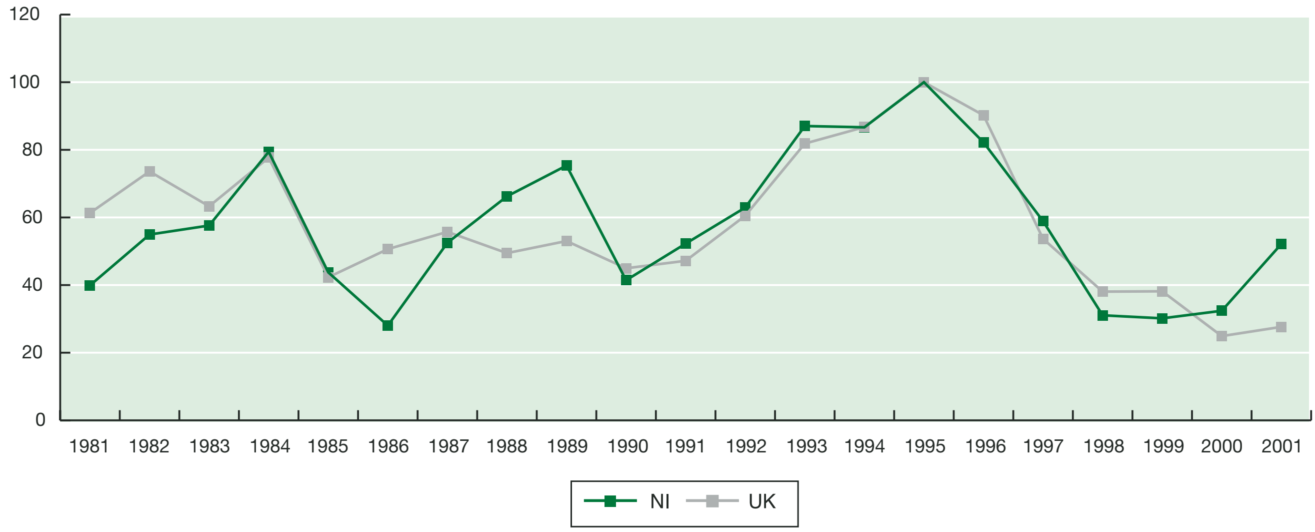
Total expenses of UK agriculture, 2001



Gross output of UK agriculture, 2001

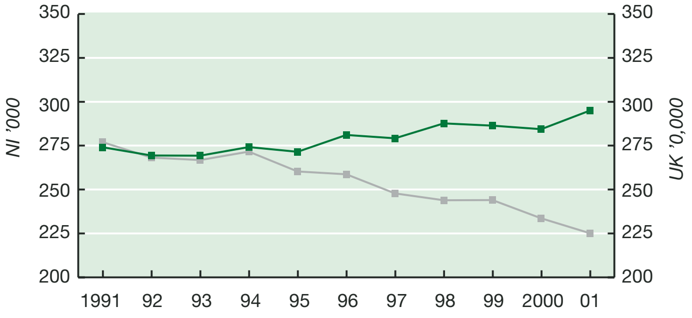


NI and UK Total Income from Farming in real terms (1995 = 100)

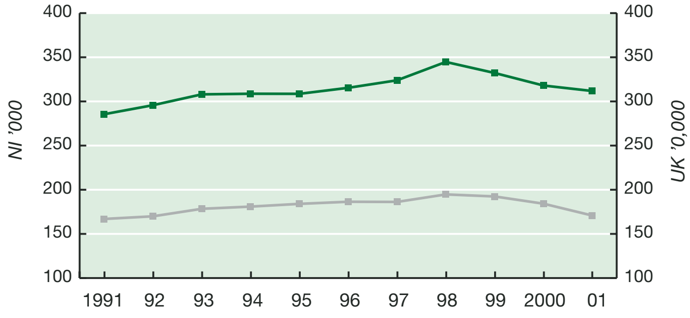


TRENDS IN NI AND UK LIVESTOCK NUMBERS AND CROP AREAS

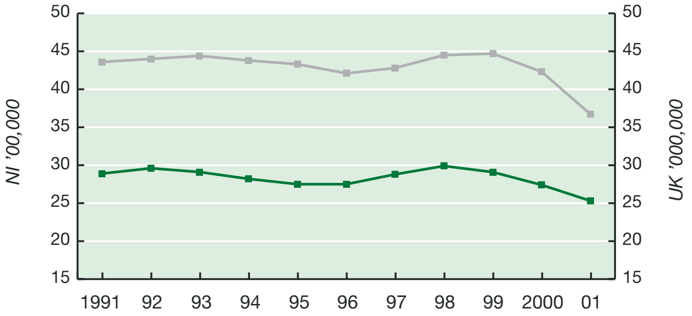
Dairy cows



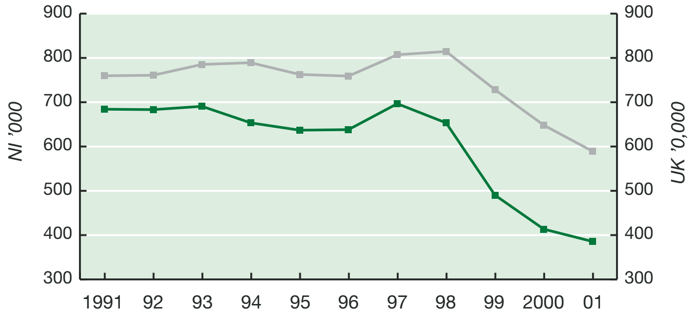
Beef cows



Sheep



Pigs



Laying birds

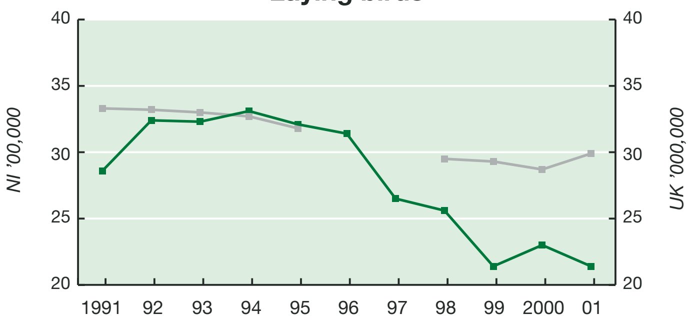
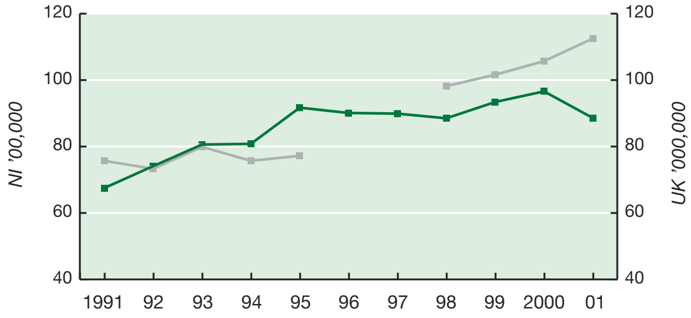
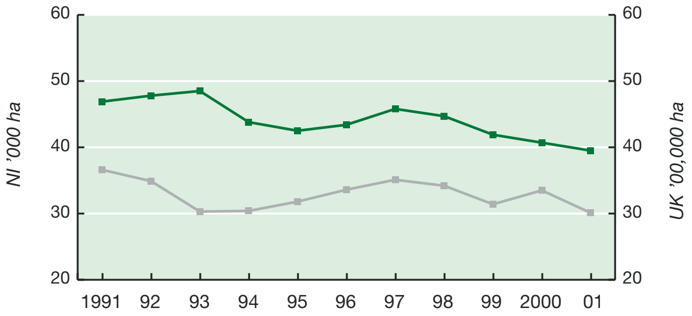


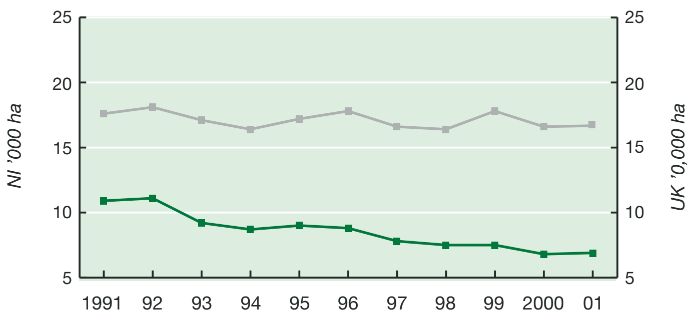
Table chickens



Cereals



Potatoes



NI UK

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Aggregate income (Tables 2.1 - 2.3)

- There was a very substantial increase in the income of Northern Ireland agriculture in 2001, the first significant rise since 1995 but from a low base.
- **Total income from farming (TIFF)** - which measures the return to farmers and all members of their families working on farms - rose by 64 per cent (61 per cent in real terms) to £190 million from a (revised) 2000 figure of £116 million.
- Although this increase – the second in consecutive years - is large, it follows a decline of 70% in real terms from 1995 to 1999. The increases in 2000 and 2001 have returned TIFF in real terms to its average level in the early 1990s but still just over half the 22 year peak reached in 1995.
- The rise in income in 2001 resulted mainly from increases in the values of several major outputs, the most notable being a rise of almost £50 million to £352 million in the value of milk output, but including significant increases in the output values of pigs, poultry and potatoes.
- At United Kingdom level, TIFF rose by 13 per cent, to £1.7 billion, an increase of 11 per cent in real terms. The much larger rise in income in Northern Ireland compared with Great Britain was due mainly to a combination of higher increases in Northern Ireland in the prices of some outputs, such as sheep, and reduced volumes of some outputs in Great Britain, notably cattle, sheep and pigs.
- In this respect, the much shorter and less severe outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in Northern Ireland was a significant contributory factor, requiring many fewer animals to be culled and also enabling exports to be resumed and higher prices to be achieved during the period when GB products were unavailable.

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

- **Gross output** of Northern Ireland agriculture increased by 9 per cent, to £1,189 million, the result of a 5 per cent rise in the average producer return and a 3 per cent increase in the volume of output.
- **Gross input** (or 'intermediate consumption') increased by 5 per cent, to £664 million, reflecting a 4 per cent increase in the volume of inputs used and a 2 per cent rise in unit costs.
- **Gross value added** rose by 13 per cent, to £526 million, in 2001. **Net value added** – gross value added less consumption of fixed capital (or 'depreciation') – increased by 27 per cent, to £327 million.

Productivity

- The 3 per cent increase in the volume of output was achieved despite a 3 per cent fall in the input of labour, with the result that **labour productivity** is estimated to have risen in 2001 by 8 per cent. **Total factor productivity** – the productivity of all resources in the industry – rose by one per cent.

Cash flow (Table 2.4)

- **Cash available to farm families from farming** rose by 8 per cent to £244 million in 2001. This is a much lower increase than that recorded in TIFF, largely because of a much higher level of gross fixed capital formation, which is deducted in the calculation of cash flow, and a significant fall in the level of borrowings, the change in which is added on in the calculation.

Farm level incomes (Table 5.1)

- **Net farm incomes** in 2001/02 are forecast to have improved on **dairy** and **cattle and sheep** farms. However, for all other farm types, incomes are forecast to fall. Overall, the average net farm income across all farm types in 2001/02 is forecast to increase by £1,200 to £7,000 per farm.

Subsidies (Table 2.10)

- The value of **direct payments** to farmers rose to a total of £225 million in 2001, compared with £204 million in 2000. The main components of the increase were rises of over £10 million in agrimoney compensation and £7.7 million in the Cattle Slaughter Premium. In 2001, Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowances, paid on a headage basis to LFA cattle and sheep producers and worth £23.9 million in 2000, were replaced by a new area-based LFA Compensatory Allowance, worth £24.6 million in 2001.

Labour (Table 2.14)

- Between June 2000 and June 2001, the **total agricultural labour force** declined by 3 per cent, to 56,400 persons. The number of farmers (36,000) was virtually unchanged but the numbers in most other categories fell. Full-time workers declined by 7 per cent, part-time workers by 9 per cent, casual workers by 6 per cent and spouses by 7 per cent.

Livestock numbers (Table 3.3)

- Despite the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease, total **cattle** numbers remained remarkably stable at 1.68 million, with virtually no change between June 2000 and 2001. However, there were 4 per cent more dairy cows but 2 per cent fewer beef cows and 20 per cent more female cattle two years old and over for breeding but not in calf.

- There was a further significant contraction in the **sheep** flock in 2001. Total sheep numbers fell by 8 per cent to 2.53 million head while breeding ewe numbers also decreased by 8 per cent, to 1.23 million ewes.

- There was another reduction in the size of the **pig** herd between June 2000 and 2001, though it was less severe than in the previous year. At June 2001, the number of pigs totalled 386,000, 7 per cent lower than in 2000 and the lowest recorded for over 50 years. The female breeding herd declined by 3 per cent, to 40,600 sows, while the number of farms with pigs fell over the year by 16 per cent to below 700.

- The **commercial laying flock** decreased by 7 per cent, to 2.14 million birds in June 2001. The number of **table fowl** also fell, by 8 per cent, to 8.86 million birds.

Crops and grass areas (Table 3.2)

- At 54,000 hectares, there was little change in the total **cropped area** between June 2000 and 2001.

- The **cereals** area declined by 3 per cent, to 39,500 hectares. The area of winter barley and wheat decreased by 47 per cent and 18 per cent respectively, because of unfavourable conditions at time of planting, while the area of spring barley increased by 9 per cent.

- The **potato** area fell by 2 per cent to 6,700 hectares.

- The **set-aside** area increased by 14 per cent to 2,900 hectares.

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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 21 year time series of the revised AAA is available on the DARD website, at www.dardni.gov.uk.

Summary

There was a very substantial increase in the income of Northern Ireland agriculture in 2001, the first significant rise since 1995 albeit from a low base. **Total income from farming** is estimated to have risen by 64 per cent in money terms or by 61 per cent in real terms (see Tables 2.1-2.3). This improvement in income has returned income in real terms to its level in the early 1990s.

Output

The value of **gross output** rose by 8.6 per cent to £1,189 million in 2001. This was the result of a 3.4 per cent increase in the volume of gross output and a 5.1 per cent rise in the average producer return.

The most important contribution to the increase in the value of output was a rise of almost £50 million, to £352 million, in the output of milk, the result both of an increase in the volume of production (10 per cent) and in average price (5.9 per cent). There were increases in the values of other major commodities, including pigs (up 19 per cent), poultry (7.5 per cent) and potatoes (17 per cent). However, the value of output of eggs fell, by 8.0 per cent, and there were also declines in the values of output of barley (3.2 per cent) and wheat (24 per cent). There was virtually no change in the value of cattle output (down by 0.4%), while that of sheep increased by just 1.4 per cent. In the case of sheep, a 7.3 per cent fall in the volume of output was more than offset by an 8.2 per cent rise in the average return (price plus Sheep Annual Premium). There was a 26 per cent reduction in revenue from quota leasing, but a 60 per cent rise in estimated gross fixed capital formation, mostly as a result of a sharp increase in the average price of dairy cows. Details of trends in individual outputs and inputs are given in Section 2B.

Inputs (or 'intermediate consumption')

The value of **gross input** rose by 5.3 per cent in 2001, to £664 million, with a 3.5 per cent increase in the volume used and a 1.7 per cent rise in the unit cost. Most of the increase in the value of gross input was accounted for by a £21 million rise, to £270 million, in expenditure on feedstuffs, with both volume and unit cost rising, by 4.9 and 3.3 per cent respectively. Machinery, farm maintenance and miscellaneous expenses all increased, by around 5 per cent.

Gross and net value added

Gross value added – gross output less gross input – rose in 2001, by 13.1 per cent, to £526 million, the volume increasing by 3.3 per cent and the unit value by 9.5 per cent. **Net value added** (at factor cost) – gross value added minus capital consumption plus subsidies (less taxes) not paid on products – rose by 27.1 per cent, to £327 million.

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'. Paid labour costs (also known as 'compensation of employees') were virtually unchanged, at £48.5 million, while the decline in interest rates caused interest payments to fall quite sharply, by 14 per cent, to just under £40 million. Conacre rent paid to non-farmers rose, by 3.7 per cent, to £48 million.

Total income from farming

As a result of these changes, **total income from farming (TIFF)** increased by 64 per cent in 2001, to £190 million, a rise of 61 per cent after allowing for inflation. This was the first substantial increase in TIFF since 1995. It followed a 70 per cent fall in real terms from 1995 to 1999 and a modest rise of 7.4 per cent in 2000. Despite the increases in 2000 and 2001, in real terms TIFF in 2001 was still below its 20 year average.

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 increased in 2001 by 8.2 per cent, to £244 million. This increase is much lower than that in TIFF, mainly because (i) the cash flow figures exclude the sharp rise in gross fixed capital formation and (ii) they take account (as a deduction) of the very significant reduction in borrowings in 2001.

Subsidies

Direct payments to farmers increased in 2001 by £21.8 million, to over £225 million. The rise was mainly because of phased increases in direct payments for beef under the Agenda 2000 CAP reforms and also the payment of optional agrimoney compensation in response to Foot and Mouth Disease. Payments on cattle totalled £164 million, 73 per cent of the total, while subsidies on sheep, milk and arable crops accounted for 6, 4 and 3 per cent respectively. Under the Agenda 2000 reforms, there was also a switch in 2001 from headage-based Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowances, paid specifically on beef and sheep in the LFAs, to a new area-based LFA Compensatory Allowance. As a result, 'other direct payments', not attributable to particular enterprises, increased to over £30 million, or 14 per cent of the total. (Direct payments exclude the value of market support such as intervention purchases and export refunds.)

Investment

Estimated **gross annual capital investment** rose by 7.6 per cent to £93.7 million in 2001, with increases in all categories. Investment in plant and machinery rose by 8.4 per cent to £52.8 million and purchases of vehicles by 1.7 per cent to £17.9 million. Investment in buildings and works increased by 11 per cent, to £23.0 million, with rises in both grant-aided and non-aided investment. Despite the increase in 2001, following a smaller increase of 3.7 per cent in 2000 (on the basis of revised figures), total investment in 2001 was still less than half that of the atypical total of over £205 million recorded in 1994.

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

£ million

		1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
	OUTPUT[2]						
	Livestock and livestock products[3]						
	Finished cattle and calves[4]	420.4	380.8	326.0	325.0	332.6	331.2
	Finished sheep and lambs[5]	108.2	99.5	95.7	85.5	81.6	82.7
	Finished pigs[6]	126.5	102.7	68.8	59.5	52.3	62.0
	Poultry[7]	109.3	111.2	107.3	98.4	97.8	105.2
	Eggs[8]	34.0	24.1	21.8	20.6	24.5	22.5
	Milk	352.3	319.3	297.0	301.5	302.7	352.5
	Minor products[9]	7.4	8.0	7.6	7.7	8.5	8.9
	Total livestock and livestock products	**1,158.1**	**1,045.7**	**924.2**	**898.3**	**899.9**	**964.9**
	Field crops						
	Potatoes	24.5	16.7	25.4	33.0	18.5	21.5
	Cereals[10]	36.0	30.7	26.6	25.3	25.6	23.7
	of which: barley[10]	26.8	22.8	19.2	20.9	19.8	19.2
	wheat[10]	7.6	6.3	5.9	2.7	4.1	3.1
	oats[10]	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.4
	Other crops[10,11]	7.2	4.8	7.2	8.1	8.0	9.2
	Total field crops	**67.7**	**52.2**	**59.1**	**66.4**	**52.0**	**54.4**
	Horticultural products						
	Fruit	6.1	9.8	6.0	5.4	5.4	6.1
	Vegetables	10.1	10.2	10.8	10.1	14.6	15.1
	Mushrooms	32.0	30.4	30.5	30.0	27.6	27.6
	Ornamental and hardy nursery stock	8.6	10.1	11.3	12.3	12.6	12.6
	Total horticultural products	**56.8**	**60.5**	**58.5**	**57.8**	**60.3**	**61.4**
	Capital formation (breeding livestock)	47.2	69.4	41.8	35.6	38.0	60.8
	Agricultural contract work[12]	28.6	30.2	30.0	32.9	34.6	36.7
	Milk quota leasing	12.9	10.0	8.7	9.3	1.4	1.1
	Inseparable non-agricultural activities[13]	6.2	6.9	7.5	8.3	9.1	10.1
A	**Gross output**	**1,377.6**	**1,274.9**	**1,129.7**	**1,108.5**	**1,095.3**	**1,189.5**
	of which:						
	subsidies (less taxes) on products[14]	255.1	223.3	197.4	194.9	194.8	195.1

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, Calf Processing Aid Scheme and Foot and Mouth (non-capital) compensation payments. The LFA Compensatory Allowance, introduced in 2001, is included in 'other subsidies'.
5. Includes Sheep Annual Premium, Rural World (LFA) Supplement, Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance, Agrimoney Compensation and Foot and Mouth (non-capital) compensation payments. The LFA Compensatory Allowance, introduced in 2001, is included in 'other subsidies'.
6. Includes Pig Welfare Slaughter Scheme and Foot and Mouth (non-capital) compensation payments.
7. Includes shipments and exports of breeding and non-breeding birds, and eggs for hatching.

Table 2.1 contd.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
						£ million
A Gross output	**1,377.6**	**1,274.9**	**1,129.7**	**1,108.5**	**1,095.3**	**1,189.5**
INPUT (also known as 'intermediate consumption')						
Expenditure						
Feedstuffs[15]	344.5	308.4	275.0	261.0	249.0	269.8
Seeds[16]	13.3	9.0	8.4	9.5	7.0	7.6
Marketing expenses[17]	38.3	36.7	36.5	35.7	36.0	34.7
Fertilisers and lime	78.9	68.6	55.9	60.2	56.3	56.7
Total machinery expenses (excl. depreciation)	77.1	82.8	74.7	75.2	78.7	82.9
Farm maintenance	32.2	29.9	27.4	27.7	29.4	30.9
Veterinary expenses and medicines	31.3	32.8	30.7	28.8	28.8	29.5
Miscellaneous expenses	111.5	115.5	112.9	108.6	107.7	113.0
Agricultural contract work	28.6	30.2	30.0	32.9	34.6	36.7
Milk quota leasing	15.5	10.3	8.5	8.5	2.8	1.8
B Gross input	**771.3**	**724.2**	**660.0**	**648.1**	**630.3**	**663.6**
C Gross value added (A-B)	**606.3**	**550.7**	**469.8**	**460.4**	**465.0**	**525.9**
Consumption of fixed capital						
- livestock	39.1	47.3	42.6	40.8	35.2	50.2
- plant, machinery and vehicles	77.5	79.5	80.3	79.9	78.6	80.0
- buildings and works	92.5	91.2	92.9	95.4	94.1	93.1
D Total consumption of fixed capital	**209.1**	**218.0**	**215.8**	**216.0**	**208.0**	**223.3**
Other subsidies (not paid on products)[18]	2.9	3.9	3.4	5.2	6.2	30.5
Other taxes (not levied on products)[19]	5.0	5.6	5.7	5.9	6.0	6.0
E Other subsidies (less taxes)	-2.2	-1.7	-2.3	-0.7	0.2	24.5
F Net value added (at factor cost) (C-D+E)	**395.0**	**331.1**	**251.7**	**243.6**	**257.2**	**327.0**
G Paid labour	45.3	41.9	43.5	45.2	48.4	48.5
H Interest	37.8	45.1	52.1	44.0	46.0	39.8
I Net rent20	47.5	48.7	49.5	49.4	46.6	48.3
J Total income from farming[21] (F-G-H-I)	**264.4**	**195.3**	**106.5**	**105.1**	**116.1**	**190.4**

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. Receipts to both farmer contractors and specialist contractors.
13. Receipts from non-agricultural activities which use farm resources.
14. See Table 2.10 for details of the individual items included within this item.
15. Includes home-fed cereals, proteins and stockfeed potatoes.
16. Includes home-saved seed.
17. Hired transport charges, auction fees, slaughter charges and inter farm expenses.
18. Includes LFA Compensatory Allowance, 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.
19. Farm rates and vehicle road tax.
20. Conacre payments to non-producing landowners.
21. 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 at current prices and in real terms

Indices: 1995 = 100

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
Index at current prices						
Net value added[1]	90.9	76.2	57.9	56.1	59.2	75.3
Total income from farming[1]	84.2	62.2	33.9	33.5	37.0	60.7
Index in real terms[2]						
Net value added	88.7	72.1	53.0	50.5	51.8	64.7
Total income from farming	82.2	58.9	31.1	30.2	32.4	52.2

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

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
Gross output	101.3	100.7	101.3	99.7	97.9	101.2
Gross input	100.5	97.7	96.0	96.9	92.1	95.4
Gross value added	102.2	104.0	107.1	102.8	104.3	107.7
Net value added	102.0	106.9	109.2	103.7	108.5	114.3

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

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
Total income from farming	**264.4**	**195.3**	**106.5**	**105.1**	**116.1**	**190.4**
Less:						
output stock change	-10.1	+2.3	-12.1	+0.8	-7.5	-1.7
gross fixed capital formation (breeding livestock)	47.2	69.4	41.8	35.6	38.0	60.8
capital investment[1]	126.8	112.7	75.9	77.5	85.8	89.9
Plus:						
input stock change	-0.3	-0.4	+1.4	-1.9	+0.2	+0.4
capital consumption	209.1	218.0	215.8	216.0	208.0	223.3
capital grants paid in year[2]	14.9	15.0	17.4	5.6	2.8	2.0
change in borrowings	51.6	52.7	41.7	14.7	15.0	-22.9
Cash available to farm families from farming	**375.7**	**296.2**	**277.3**	**225.7**	**225.8**	**244.3**

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]

2000 (Revised)

Form of production	Adjusted outputs[2]	Estimated specific costs[3]: Feedstuffs	Fertilisers, seeds & sprays	Others	Total	Sector gross margins[4]	
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	%
Dairy cows and followers	333.4	59.7	15.3	12.8	87.8	245.6	35.7
Beef cattle, rearing and fattening	350.8	59.9	29.1	22.3	111.3	239.5	34.8
Sheep and wool	85.2	12.2	10.0	5.3	27.5	57.7	8.4
Total grazing livestock	**769.3**	**131.8**	**54.5**	**40.4**	**226.6**	**542.7**	**78.8**
Pigs	57.0	35.1	-	1.4	36.5	20.5	3.0
Poultry	122.3	85.5	-	1.4	86.9	35.3	5.1
Total pigs and poultry	**179.2**	**120.6**	**-**	**2.8**	**123.5**	**55.8**	**8.1**
Cereals and oilseed rape	32.8	-	7.3	-	7.3	25.4	3.7
Potatoes	18.5	-	4.0	-	4.0	14.5	2.1
Total field crops	**51.3**	**-**	**11.3**	**-**	**11.3**	**39.9**	**5.8**
Horticulture[5]	60.8	-	15.9	2.5	18.5	42.4	6.2
Other items	10.9	2.3	0.9	0.1	3.3	7.7	1.1
Total	**1,071.6**	**254.7**	**82.5**	**45.9**	**383.2**	**688.4**	**100.0**

2001 (Provisional)

Form of production	Adjusted outputs[2]	Estimated specific costs[3]: Feedstuffs	Fertilisers, seeds & sprays	Others	Total	Sector gross margins[4]	
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	%
Dairy cows and followers	390.2	69.8	15.6	12.1	97.5	292.6	40.1
Beef cattle, rearing and fattening	340.8	64.0	28.5	20.4	112.9	227.8	31.2
Sheep and wool	87.6	12.0	9.6	5.1	26.7	61.0	8.4
Total grazing livestock	**818.6**	**145.8**	**53.7**	**37.6**	**237.1**	**581.4**	**79.7**
Pigs	62.3	36.5	-	2.5	39.0	23.3	3.2
Poultry	127.8	91.1	-	3.6	94.6	33.1	4.5
Total pigs and poultry	**190.0**	**127.5**	**-**	**6.1**	**133.6**	**56.4**	**7.7**
Cereals and oilseed rape	31.6	-	6.5	-	6.5	25.1	3.4
Potatoes	21.7	-	4.7	-	4.8	16.9	2.3
Total field crops	**53.3**	**-**	**11.2**	**-**	**11.3**	**42.1**	**5.8**
Horticulture[5]	59.6	-	15.8	2.5	18.3	41.3	5.7
Other items	11.6	2.2	0.9	0.1	3.2	8.4	1.1
Total	**1,133.1**	**275.6**	**81.6**	**46.3**	**403.5**	**729.5**	**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	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
Livestock and livestock products							
Cattle and calves[2]	tonnes dcw	110,672	121,054	120,133	113,865	121,263	117,813
Over Thirty Months Scheme[3]	tonnes carcase wt	50,704	24,617	29,660	31,413	28,427	26,985
Sheep and lambs[4]	tonnes dcw	36,258	32,548	36,348	36,138	32,974	29,012
Pigs[5]	,,	94,367	95,533	96,138	87,650	65,050	68,872
Cattle and calves[2]	'000 head	347	386	395	387	409	383
Calf Processing Aid Scheme	,,	28	54	67	36	-	-
Sheep and lambs[4]	,,	1,669	1,526	1,761	1,766	1,567	1,381
Pigs[5]	,,	1,286	1,342	1,344	1,213	900	936
Poultry[6]	'000 tonnes lwt	158.4	158.8	163.2	160.7	158.5	159.7
Eggs[7]	m. doz	71.4	69.1	71.9	64.0	65.1	68.4
Milk	m. litres	1,445	1,501	1,510	1,573	1,635	1,798
Field crops							
Wheat	'000 tonnes	46.6	46.3	48.0	32.6	34.7	29.8
Barley	,,	179.1	176.6	168.0	159.3	176.4	169.1
Oats	,,	10.8	11.4	12.2	11.7	14.3	12.6
Potatoes	,,	298.3	293.5	276.9	270.7	294.2	252.9
Horticultural crops							
Fruit	'000 tonnes	40.2	31.4	28.0	26.2	45.9	50.5
Vegetables	,,	40.7	37.4	35.6	31.3	42.1	44.5
Mushrooms	,,	27.5	26.5	26.5	25.2	22.2	22.2

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, Calf Processing Aid Scheme and under Foot and Mouth Disease control measures.
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. Excludes sheep slaughtered under Foot and Mouth Disease control measures.
5. Includes pigs slaughtered under the 1998 and 2000 Pig Welfare Slaughter Schemes and exports of store pigs. Pigs slaughtered under Foot and Mouth Disease control measures are excluded.
6. Excludes shipments and exports of breeding and non-breeding birds and hatching eggs.
7. Includes eggs for processing and duck eggs.

Table 2.7 Average producer prices[1] of agricultural products

£ per unit

	Unit	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
Finished steers, heifers and young bulls[2]	head	631	526	437	453	466	478
Finished steers, heifers and young bulls[2]	kg dwt	1.92	1.67	1.43	1.52	1.55	1.55
Calves slaughtered or exported[3]	head	89	69	62	47	98	119
Culled cows and bulls[2]	head	457	340	255	247	246	270
Culled cows and bulls[2]	kg dwt	1.67	1.37	1.14	1.10	1.03	1.08
Store cattle exported	head	465	430	334	347	381	401
Finished sheep and lambs	head	54.68	51.32	39.30	35.43	39.09	51.51
Finished sheep and lambs	kg dwt	2.61	2.51	1.99	1.80	1.93	2.54
Finished clean pigs[4]	head	96.23	74.68	51.40	50.58	59.51	66.42
Finished clean pigs[4]	kg dwt	1.33	1.05	0.73	0.71	0.83	0.92
Culled sows and boars	head	131	101	50	52	67	84
Milk[5]	litre	0.247	0.213	0.200	0.192	0.185	0.190
Eggs for consumption	dozen	0.476	0.349	0.303	0.322	0.376	0.329
Broilers	kg lwt	0.585	0.574	0.531	0.507	0.496	0.516
Potatoes:							
Ware maincrop[6]	tonne	77	63	112	123	71	99
Seed	tonne	157	69	102	167	66	91
Barley	tonne	113	90	83	83	77	78
Wheat	tonne	119	96	87	84	81	86
Mushrooms	tonne	1,165	1,146	1,150	1,190	1,243	1,243
Apples	tonne	158	214	248	102	111	107

1. Before deduction of marketing charges, commissions and levies, where applicable. Animals slaughtered under Foot and Mouth Disease control measures are not included.
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]	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
Finished steers and heifers[3]	255	85	74	63	67	68	68
Culled cows and bulls[3]	44	92	76	63	61	57	60
Store cattle exported	4	87	80	62	65	71	75
Finished sheep and lambs	58	125	120	95	86	92	122
Finished clean pigs	92	118	93	65	63	74	82
Culled sows and boars	2	107	80	42	45	57	58
Milk	316	95	82	76	73	71	73
Eggs for consumption	25	120	88	76	81	95	83
Broilers	60	107	105	97	92	90	94
Potatoes:							
Ware maincrop	30	43	36	63	70	41	56
Seed	11	74	32	48	78	31	43
Barley	18	95	76	70	70	64	65
Wheat	6	96	78	71	68	65	69
Mushrooms	25	96	95	95	98	103	103
Apples	5	115	155	180	74	81	78
Total products index[2]	**953**	**96**	**83**	**74**	**73**	**72**	**76**

1. The indices relate to prices from which marketing expenses have not been deducted. Animals slaughtered under Foot and Mouth Disease control measures are not included.
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

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001[2]
CATTLE						
Breeding cattle						
Dairy cows/heifers in milk	698	665	552	561	559	761
Dairy cows in calf	626	624	487	446	438	617
Dairy springing heifers			480	475	477	693
Beef cows/heifers with calf at foot	617	618	452	425	471	521
Beef cows in calf	534	558	357	328	334	400
Beef springing heifers			409	389	395	469
Store cattle						
150-300 kg steers	371	355	258	241	280	314
300-400 kg steers	437	418	329	326	358	385
400-500 kg steers	532	493	379	394	421	445
Over 500 kg steers			452	486	492	515
150-300 kg heifers	280	253	178	144	183	207
300-400 kg heifers	361	331	247	242	279	297
400-500 kg heifers	454	424	331	349	365	372
Over 500 kg heifers			419	433	447	448
Suckled calves						
Under 200 kg steers	280	281	174	175	202	206
Over 200 kg steers	393	381	272	297	329	380
Under 200 kg heifers	167	157	81	76	115	143
Over 200 kg heifers	242	240	146	151	201	251
Dropped calves						
For rearing	127	130	84	50	48	63
For Calf Processing Aid Scheme (dairy type)	-	-	67	40	-	-
For Calf Processing Aid Scheme (beef type)	-	-	66	39	-	-
Cull cows	427	360	291	275	281	292
SHEEP						
Breeding ewes/hoggets						
Blackface			32.63	26.87	38.23	56.17
Blackface Cross	37.26	35.92	41.41	29.81	43.74	-
Other breeds			45.37	34.48	41.78	56.02
Breeding ewe lambs						
Blackface			16.79	19.58	31.16	36.94
Blackface Cross	44.08	56.61	22.66	21.56	27.96	43.31
Other breeds			27.48	22.31	31.04	50.01
Breeding ewes/hoggets with lamb(s) at foot						
Blackface	-	-	38.82	35.47	25.67	-
Blackface Cross	-	-	43.45	13.81	-	-
Other breeds	-	-	59.67	50.59	53.14	66.44
Cull ewes						
Blackface			10.01	6.93	12.04	15.80
Blackface Cross	22.08	29.64	15.81	11.19	15.70	22.96
Other breeds			16.68	12.61	17.77	29.19
Cull rams	-	-	23.29	16.83	22.17	32.01
Store lambs	43.66	42.20	20.61	18.17	26.02	36.31
PIGS						
Breeding pigs						
Sows in pig	284	156	81	67	110	134
Springing gilts	263	172	100	53	120	-
Weaner/store pigs						
Under 15kg	31.98	22.68	10.18	11.51	15.75	21.17
15-30kg			15.82	15.70	19.93	24.79
30-45kg	52.87	40.73	22.21	23.16	26.74	34.82
Over 45kg			31.88	36.15	44.50	51.78
Cull sows	131.41	100.72	47.65	52.12	64.31	72.50
Cull boars	-	-	51.33	50.33	67.59	69.47

1. Average prices calculated from returns made by auction marts.
2. Due to Foot and Mouth Disease, livestock markets were closed for the following periods in 2001: cattle 22 February to 1 September; sheep 22 February to 1 October. Pig prices have been unavailable since 22 February 2001.

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

£ million [3]

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 [4] (provisional)
DIRECT PAYMENTS [5]						
Cereals						
Arable Area Payments Scheme	8.2	8.8	8.3	7.1	7.3	7.2
Arable Area Payments Scheme Agrimoney Compensation[6]	-	-	-	1.1	0.6	0.2
Total cereals	**8.2**	**8.8**	**8.3**	**8.2**	**8.0**	**7.4**
Other crops[6]	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.4
Cattle						
Beef Special Premium	40.3	39.1	37.3	34.0	35.8	39.5
Beef Special Premium - BSE Top-up	8.3	-	-	-	-	-
Beef Special Premium Agrimoney Compensation[6]	-	-	-	4.6	3.0	5.0
Suckler Cow Premium	43.5	42.7	41.4	37.8	36.1	40.0
Suckler Cow Premium - BSE Top-up	6.7	7.7	-	-	-	-
Suckler Cow Premium - Agrimoney Compensation[6]	-	13.2	8.6	5.3	3.5	5.2
Flagged Suckler Herd Payments	-	1.6	0.5	-	-	-
Extensification Supplement	18.3	21.3	21.2	19.2	25.7	24.5
Extensification Supplement Agrimoney Compensation[6]	-	-	-	2.3	2.0	3.2
Deseasonalisation Premium	-	6.0	5.6	2.6	-	-
Deseasonalisation Premium Agrimoney Compensation[6]	-	-	-	0.5	0.2	0.1
Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance	10.5	24.2	11.9	18.4	18.1	-
Beef Marketing Payment Schemes	9.4	-	-	-	-	-
Over Thirty Months Scheme[7]	84.2	30.5	31.0	31.7	26.6	26.9
Calf Processing Aid Scheme[7]	2.3	3.7	4.0	1.4	-	-
Slaughter Premium	-	-	-	-	10.2	17.9
Foot and Mouth Disease compensation (non-capital)	-	-	-	-	-	1.5
Total cattle	**223.5**	**190.0**	**161.6**	**157.8**	**161.1**	**163.7**
Sheep						
Sheep Annual Premium [8]	24.0	20.9	25.9	22.5	17.9	11.7
Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance	3.7	3.7	3.8	5.9	5.8	-
Agrimoney Compensation[6]	-	0.9	2.3	0.8	2.0	1.4
Foot and Mouth Disease compensation (non-capital)	-	-	-	-	-	1.2
Total sheep	**27.7**	**25.5**	**32.0**	**29.1**	**25.7**	**14.3**
Pigs						
Pig Welfare Slaughter Scheme	-	-	0.5	-	-	-
Foot and Mouth Disease compensation (non-capital)	-	-	-	-	-	0.2
Total pigs	**-**	**-**	**0.5**	**-**	**-**	**0.2**
Milk						
Milk Agrimoney Compensation[6]	-	-	-	-	2.4	9.0
Total milk	-	-	-	-	**2.4**	**9.0**
Other direct payments						
Set-aside (Arable Area Payments Scheme)	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.6
Environmentally Sensitive Areas (non-capital)	2.4	3.5	3.0	4.4	4.9	4.7
LFA Compensatory Allowance	-	-	-	-	-	24.6
Others [9]	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.6
Total other direct payments	**2.9**	**3.9**	**3.4**	**5.2**	**6.2**	**30.5**
Total direct payments	**262.4**	**228.4**	**206.1**	**200.6**	**203.6**	**225.4**
LEVIES [10]						
Milk						
Superlevy	4.4	1.2	5.3	0.5	2.6	-
Total levies	**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. Payments after 'modulation' (i.e. reduction) of 2.5%, where applicable. Total modulation amounted to £3.7 million.
5. Excludes expenditure on market regulation (such as intervention purchases and export refunds) by the Rural Payments Agency.
6. Transitional, Definitive, Market Support and Premium Agrimoney Compensation, as applicable.
7. Gross producer receipts before marketing expenses.
8. Includes Rural World (LFA) Supplement.
9. Includes Sheep Compensation Scheme, Farm Woodlands Scheme, Organic Farming 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]

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
CAPITAL GRANTS						
Farm and Conservation Grant Scheme	1.8	1.0	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.7
Sub-programme for Agricultural and Rural Development	11.5	16.1	3.7	0.2	-	-
Farm and Countryside Enhancement Scheme	-	4.4	-	-	-	-
Environmentally Sensitive Areas[3]	1.6	2.0	3.0	1.8	1.1	0.5
Miscellaneous grants	-	-	-	-	1.4	0.7
Total capital grants	**15.0**	**23.5**	**7.3**	**2.3**	**2.7**	**1.9**
OTHER DIRECT PAYMENTS						
Milk quota cut compensation	2.3	-	-	-	-	-
Foot and Mouth compensation (capital)	-	-	-	-	-	4.4
Other cattle disease compensation[4]	2.5	5.5	7.0	13.0	15.6	16.4
Other animal disease compensation[5]	0.4	4.1	0.2	0.1	-	-
Total other direct payments	**5.2**	**9.6**	**7.3**	**13.1**	**15.6**	**20.8**

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

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
Grant-aided Investment[2]	50.4	50.1	53.1	116.3	36.5	41.7	46.8	43.3	9.5	1.4	2.5
Non-aided investment	3.5	3.5	3.7	8.1	2.6	2.9	3.3	3.1	14.0	19.4	20.5
Total buildings and works[3]	**54.0**	**53.6**	**56.9**	**124.5**	**39.1**	**44.6**	**50.1**	**46.4**	**23.4**	**20.8**	**23.0**
Plant and machinery	37.0	45.3	52.1	61.0	70.1	60.2	56.0	44.4	44.1	48.7	52.8
Vehicles[4,5]	10.8	16.7	25.4	20.2	23.2	24.4	19.2	15.6	16.5	17.6	17.9
Total plant, machinery and vehicles	**47.8**	**62.0**	**77.5**	**81.2**	**93.3**	**84.6**	**75.2**	**60.0**	**60.6**	**66.3**	**70.7**
Total investment	**101.8**	**115.7**	**134.4**	**205.6**	**132.4**	**129.2**	**125.3**	**106.4**	**84.0**	**87.1**	**93.7**

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. Estimated from the Farm Business Survey.
5. Vehicles shown at 'farm share'.

Table 2.13 Total quotas and other subsidy ceilings

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
Milk quota (million litres):						
Owned[1]	1,397.8	1,448.4	1,510.7	1549.5	1,597.3	1621.5
Leased[2]	23.2	17.0	2.6	-5.4	-15.0	60.2
Total	1,421.0	1,465.4	1,513.0	1544.1	1,582.3	1681.7
Suckler Cow Premium:						
Quota (no. of units)[3]	310,896	320,032	322,054	321,917	311,729	311,729
Premia paid (no. of cows)	300,350	307,616	315,725	310,701	304,835	...
Sheep Annual Premium:						
Quota (no. of units)[3]	1,361,561	1,321,306	1,425,965	1,425,965	1,425,965	1,425,965
Premia paid (no. of ewes)	1,314,807	1,303,136	1,326,275	1,345,899	1,283,961	1,177,767
Beef Special Premium:						
Reference herd (no. of steers)	234,683	236,507	234,683	234,683	234,683	...[4]
Premia paid (no. of animals)						
steers: first age premium[5]	233,584	223,749	213,861	205,968	210,881	...
second age premium	199,382	216,827	215,443	203,406	216,261	...
bulls	-	9,869	10,845	17,598	41,865	...
Arable Area Payments:						
Base area (ha)	52,900	52,900	52,900	52,900	52,900	52,900
Area paid: crops (ha)	35,367	39,113	39,899	39,542	38,867	39,376
set-aside (ha)	1,493	1,078	1,316	2,473	2,498	3,096

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. The Northern Ireland regional reference herd has been replaced by a UK wide ceiling.
5. 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

	1996 [1]	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
AGRICULTURAL LABOUR FORCE [2]						
Farmers and partners						
Full time	22,710	22,409	22,502	21,536	20,534	20,169
Part time	17,204	16,828	16,330	16,073	15,386	15,786
Total	**39,914**	**39,237**	**38,832**	**37,609**	**35,920**	**35,955**
Spouses of farmers	**6,810**	**7,001**	**7,042**	**7,034**	**7,034**	**6,520**
Other workers						
Full time	3,432	2,981	2,929	3,030	3,005	2,797
Part time	3,110	3,088	2,933	2,793	3,062	2,782
Casual/seasonal	9,228	9,570	9,360	8,785	8,802	8,308
Total other workers	15,770	15,639	15,222	14,608	14,869	13,887
Total agricultural labour force	**62,494**	**61,877**	**61,096**	**59,251**	**57,823**	**56,362**
Annual Work Units (AWUs) [3]	**37,593**	**36,625**	**36,435**	**34,973**	**33,557**	**32,590**

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

	1996 [2]	1997 [2]	1998	1999	2000	2001
MANPOWER STATISTICS [1]						
Self-employed						
Male	20,918	20,791	20,834	20,006	19,247	18,768
Female	1,792	1,618	1,668	1,530	1,287	1,401
Total	**22,710**	**22,409**	**22,502**	**21,536**	**20,534**	**20,169**
Employees						
Male	13,729	13,730	13,440	12,962	12,957	12,245
Female	2,041	1,909	1,782	1,646	1,912	1,551
Total	**15,770**	**15,639**	**15,222**	**14,608**	**14,869**	**13,796**
Total agricultural manpower	**38,480**	**38,048**	**37,724**	**36,144**	**35,403**	**33,965**

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

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Processing of products[2]						
Animal by-products	230	250	260	250	280	250
Bakeries	3,440	3,710	3,560	3330	3,320	3,100
Beef and sheepmeat	2,630	2,440	2,210	2250	2,500	2,500
Drinks	1,830	1,740	1,810	1840	1,820	1,800
Eggs	390	390	330	390	330	350
Fish	970	1,010	980	1120	970	950
Fruit and vegetables	1,050	1,190	1,280	1300	1,360	1,400
Milk and milk products	3,100	2,800	2,620	2590	2,480	2,400
Pigmeat	2,230	2,310	2,390	2360	1,990	2,000
Poultrymeat	4,330	4,240	4,310	3970	3,780	3,750
Total processing sector	20,200	20,080	19,750	19,400	18,830	18,500
Manufacture and supply of inputs[3]						
Animal feed	850	830	830	820	790	820
Fertilisers and lime	440	500	520	520	490	500
Other requisites (incl. medicines)	830	850	820	820	820	830
Farm machinery (incl. servicing)	950	920	920	920	900	880
Services[4]	1,570	1,600	1,520	1,530	1,520	1,500
Total supply sector	**4,640**	**4,700**	**4,610**	**4,610**	**4,520**	**4,530**
Total ancillary employment	**24,840**	**24,780**	**24,360**	**24,010**	**23,350**	**23,030**

1. 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 2000 have been estimated by adjusting the 1999 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[1] of the food and drinks processing sector[2,3]

£ million

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 (provisional)
Animal by-products	16	17	18	20	19	20
Bakeries	26	24	26	30	36	30
Beef and sheepmeat	363	313	264	225	222	220
Drinks	58	64	74	51	51	50
Eggs	32	43	34	35	30	30
Fish	53	53	60	66	62	60
Fruit and vegetables	47	54	64	70	67	65
Milk and milk products	347	408	307	352	335	330
Pigmeat	106	132	140	125	112	110
Poultrymeat	163	222	211	170	173	170
Total processing sector	**1,212**	**1,330**	**1,198**	**1,143**	**1,107**	**1,085**

1. The term 'external sales' refers to sales to Great Britain, RoI, foreign countries and intervention.
2. 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 2000 have been estimated by adjusting the 1999 baseline, largely on the basis of information available within DARD.
3. These figures are not comparable with the export statistics published in pre-1996 issues of the *Statistical Review of Northern Ireland Agriculture.*

B. COMMODITIES AND INPUTS

Cattle and calves

Marketings of finished clean cattle decreased by 3.7 per cent in 2001, to 383,000 head. Almost all of these animals were destined for human consumption, the remainder being destroyed under the Over Thirty Months Scheme (OTMS). The decrease in marketings was the result of a 12 per cent decline in the number of heifers slaughtered and a 9.0 per cent decline in steers slaughtered. Slaughterings of young bulls continued to rise in 2001, to total 45,000 head, an increase of 122 per cent on 2000 levels. The average carcase weight was 2.6 per cent higher in 2001 compared with the previous year. In total, the volume of clean beef output decreased by 1.2 per cent to 118,000 tonnes. The average deadweight price was unchanged from 2000 levels. The overall effect of these changes was a decline of 1.0 per cent in the total sales value of finished clean cattle, to £183 million.

Disposals of culled cows and bulls decreased by 13 per cent in 2001 to 95,000 head. The average carcase weight of these animals rose by 4.7 per cent while the price realised per kilogram deadweight increased by 5.0 per cent. Ninety-seven per cent of cull cows and bulls were destroyed under the OTMS. Total receipts from cull cattle disposals decreased by 4.1 per cent to £25.6 million.

Since the ending of the Calf Processing Aid Scheme (CPAS) on 31 July 1999, calf sales have declined to a very low level. Under 3,000 were sold in 2001, a decrease of 60% on the 2000 figure. The revenue generated fell by 57 per cent to £0.3 million.

Overall, the total sales value of cattle and calves in 2001 (including those sold into the OTMS) fell by 2.7 per cent to £210 million.

The total value of direct headage payments on cattle increased by 1.7 per cent to £137 million. This figure does not include Less Favoured Areas Compensatory Allowance (LFACA) which replaced Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance (HLCA) in 2001. Receipts from the HLCA scheme in 2000 totalled £18.1 million. Beef Special Premium (BSP) payments increased by 10 per cent and Suckler Cow Premium (SCP) payments by 11 per cent (to £39.5 million and £40.0 million respectively). Receipts from Extensification Supplement declined by 4.4 per cent to £24.5 million. The amount of agrimoney compensation paid on various cattle schemes increased in 2001 by 57 per cent to £13.5 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 2001 totalled £331 million. This was a decrease of 0.4 per cent on 2000 and a drop in real terms of 32 per cent compared with 1995 (the last year before the BSE crisis and sterling's appreciation).

Milk

The annual average dairy cow population increased by 3.3 per cent in 2001 while the average gross milk yield per cow rose by 6.5 per cent to 6220 litres.

Sales of milk off-farm continued to rise substantially in 2001. An increase of 10 per cent brought total sales to 1,798 million litres, their highest level ever. Milk sales are now 24 per cent above 1996 levels, reflecting purchases and increased leasing of milk quota from Great Britain.

The average producer price for milk increased in 2001, by 3.1 per cent. This was the first yearly rise since 1995. Agrimoney compensation paid in 2001 amounted to £9.0 million compared with £2.4 million in 2000. Altogether, the value of milk output was 16 per cent higher at £353 million.

Sheep and lambs

Marketings of clean sheep and lambs continued to decline in 2001, falling to 1.27 million head, an 8.3 per cent decrease compared with 2000. Average dressed carcase weight was unchanged in 2001 at 20.3 kilograms per head. The volume of clean sheepmeat produced fell by 8.2 per cent to 25,700 tonnes. However producer prices increased by 32 per cent to 254 pence per kilogram deadweight with the result that market returns from clean sheep and lambs rose by 21 per cent to £65.2 million.

Marketings of culled ewes and rams decreased by 38 per cent to 115,000 head. Although there was a 25 per cent rise in price, the overall value of market receipts fell by 23 per cent, to £2.3 million. This does not include animals slaughtered as a result of Foot and Mouth Disease.

Total market returns from sheep production rose by 19 per cent to £67.6 million.

An increase in market prices throughout the European Union in 2001 caused a reduction in Sheep Annual Premium (SAP) payments of 35 per cent, to £11.7 million. In 2001 the HLCA was replaced by Less Favoured Areas Compensatory Allowance (LFACA). As it is paid on an area basis, LFACA is not regarded as a subsidy specifically on sheep and is therefore not included in the value of sheep output. Receipts from the HLCA scheme in 2000 amounted to £5.8 million. Overall, total subsidies decreased by 44 per cent to £14.3 million. These represented 17 per cent of the total value of sheep output, which increased by 1.3 per cent to £82.7 million.

Pigs

The number of clean pigs marketed during 2001 increased by 4.1 per cent to 921,000 head. This increase resulted in a rise of 5.8 per cent, to 69,000 tonnes, in the quantity of pigmeat produced. Average dressed carcase weight increased slightly to 72.4kg. Producer prices also rose by 11 per cent to 91.8 pence per kilogram deadweight, resulting in overall market returns from clean pig production increasing by 16 per cent to £61.1 million.

Marketings of cull sows and boars increased by 14 per cent to 15,000 head. The average price per head also increased, by 26 per cent, causing market returns from cull sow and boar sales to rise by 44 per cent, to £1.3 million.

Overall, the value of pig output in 2001 increased by 19 per cent, to £62.0 million.

Poultry

The total volume of poultrymeat production, at 160,000 tonnes liveweight, was similar to the 2000 level. Broiler chicken production increased slightly to 136,000 tonnes liveweight and turkey production by 5.1 per cent to 14,700 tonnes liveweight. Average producer prices increased by 3.3 per cent, resulting in a rise in the value of poultrymeat output of 4.2 per cent to £80.7 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 7.6 per cent higher than the 2000 level at £105 million. Within this total, the value of broiler chicken output rose by 4.5 per cent to £70.2 million.

Eggs

Packing station throughput of graded eggs in 2001 increased to 65.8 million dozen eggs. However the average producer price decreased by 13 per cent from the 2000 level, leading to a fall in the value of overall egg output of 8.2 per cent, to £22.5 million (including eggs for processing, unrecorded sales for human consumption and duck eggs).

Potatoes

The area of potatoes planted in 2001 decreased by 1.6 per cent to 6,660 hectares and the average yield fell by 8.8 per cent. The total potential quantity of potatoes harvested therefore decreased by 10 per cent to 264,000 tonnes.
Marketings of ware potatoes in 2001 declined by 18 per cent to 189,000 tonnes. This comprised a year-on-year reduction of 19 per cent in sales during the first half of the year and 16 per cent reduction during the second half of the year. The volume of seed potato output for the year (including home-saved seed) rose by 9.2 per cent, to 34,000 tonnes. In total, the volume of potato output (including ware, seed and stockfeed potatoes) in 2001 decreased by 14 per cent to 253,000 tonnes.

The average price for ware potatoes in 2001 was £101 per tonne, an increase of 35 per cent compared with 2000. The decrease in the volume of output and the rise in price resulted in the total value of potato output (including a negative stock change of £0.8 million) increasing by 16 per cent to £21.5 million.

Cereals

Wheat plantings in 2001 decreased by 18 per cent compared with the previous year. Coupled with a 14 per cent drop in yield, this resulted in a decrease of 29 per cent in production, to 25,600 tonnes. Yields of spring and winter barley fell by 4.0 per cent and 8.3 per cent respectively. The area of spring barley planted, however, rose by 9.4 per cent to 30,000 hectares, while that of winter barley fell by 47 per cent to 2,800 hectares. Therefore production of spring barley increased by 4.9 per cent and winter barley fell by 51 per cent, resulting in an overall decrease in barley production of 6.3 per cent to 168,000 tonnes. A 9.4 per cent increase in the yield of oats combined with a 17 per cent drop in the area planted resulted in a 9.9 per cent decrease in the production of oats, to 12,800 tonnes.

In total, the production of cereals in 2001 decreased by 10 per cent, to 206,000 tonnes.

The total volume of barley sold or used on-farm in 2001 decreased by 4.1 per cent compared with the previous year, while the average producer price increased by 1.6 per cent. This resulted in a slight decrease in total market returns, to £13.2 million. The value of Arable Area Payments, including agrimoney compensation, totalled £6.1 million. Overall, the value of barley output declined by 3.0 per cent, to £19.2 million.

In 2001, the average producer price for wheat rose by 6.7 per cent. However the volume of wheat output decreased by 14 per cent which resulted in a drop of total market returns of 8.1 per cent to £2.6 million. The value of Arable Area Payments and agrimoney compensation fell by 21 per cent on 2000 levels to £0.9 million. As a result, the total value of wheat output (including a small negative stock change) decreased by 24 per cent, to £3.1 million.

The volume of oats output decreased by 12 per cent in 2001. The average producer price also fell, by 9.7 per cent, resulting in total market returns of £1.0 million, a decline of 20 per cent on 2000 levels. Arable Area Payments and agrimoney compensation decreased by 9.0 per cent, to £393,000. Overall the total value of oats output declined by 17 per cent, to £1.4 million.

Horticulture

The total value of horticultural output in 2001 increased by 1.8 per cent, to £61.4 million. Returns from sales of fruit (mainly apples) increased by 13 per cent to £6.1 million although the average price of apples decreased by 3.6 per cent to £107 per tonne. The value of output of mushrooms remained similar to the previous year's level at £27.6 million. Receipts from the sales of vegetables rose by 3.4 per cent to £15.1 million.

Feedstuffs

The total volume of compound feedstuffs purchased during 2001 increased by 6.7 per cent to 1.36 million tonnes, chiefly as a result of a 11 per cent rise in purchases of cattle compounds. Purchases of poultry and calf compounds also rose, by 6.3 per cent and 10 per cent respectively. In contrast, purchases of pig and sheep compounds fell by 8.7 per cent and 4.6 per cent respectively.

Inputs of straights (including home-fed cereals) declined by 4.6 per cent, to 325,000 tonnes. In total, there was a 4.9 per cent increase, to 1.72 million tonnes, in the total volume of feed purchased.

The average price of feedstuffs (compounds and home-fed cereals) increased in 2001 by 3.3 per cent, to £157 per tonne. Overall, the cost of purchased feedstuffs (including a small stock change) rose by 8.4 per cent, to £270 million.

Fertilisers and lime

The quantity of fertilisers purchased in 2001 declined by 7.0 cent to 414,000 tonnes product weight. However the average price increased by 8.8 per cent to £133 per tonne. As a result, the total value of fertiliser purchases rose by 1.1 per cent, to £55.2 million.

The total lime bill fell by 14 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 marginally in 2001, to £21.0 million. Those for pigs increased significantly, to £2.3 million, while those for cattle, sheep and milk showed small declines.

Machinery expenses

Machinery expenses rose by 5.3 per cent in 2001, to £82.9 million. Within this total, expenditure on repairs increased by 4.2 per cent and that on fuel and oil by 3.0 per cent. Other machinery expenses rose by 11 per cent.

Interest

Bank advances for current farming purposes showed a decline in 2001. Coupled with a decrease in the rate of interest charged, of 0.8 percentage points to 7.6 per cent, the total interest bill fell by 14 per cent to £39.8 million.

Labour

In 2001, the volume of paid labour input was almost unchanged on 2000 levels at 9.2 million hours. The average hourly labour cost rose by 1.5 per cent, resulting in a small increase in the paid labour bill, to £48.5 million.

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Table 2.18 Output of cattle and calves

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
Steers, heifers and young bulls[1]						
Sales (inc. to the OTMS) ('000 head)	385.2	387.6	393.2	379.1	397.4	382.8
Average producer price (p per kg dwt)[2]	191.6	167.2	143.4	152.4	154.6	154.8
Average dressed carcase weight (kg)[3]	329.6	314.8	304.5	297.1	301.1	308.9
Quantity of output ('000 tonnes)[3]	127.0	122.0	119.7	112.6	119.7	118.3
Value of output (inc. sales to OTMS) (£m)	243.2	204.0	171.7	171.7	185.0	183.1
Cows and bulls[1]						
Sales (inc. to the OTMS) ('000 head)	106.6	84.8	118.1	125.8	108.4	94.8
Average producer price (p per kg dwt)[2]	167.1	137.1	113.0	110.1	103.2	108.4
Average dressed carcase weight (kg)[3]	273.5	247.6	224.0	224.4	238.2	249.3
Quantity of output ('000 tonnes)[3]	29.2	21.0	26.5	28.2	25.8	23.6
Value of output (inc. sales to OTMS) (£m)	48.7	28.8	29.9	31.1	26.7	25.6
Calves						
Sales (inc. to the CPAS) ('000 head)	31.5	55.8	69.7	41.8	6.8	2.7
Average producer price (£ per head)[2]	89	69	62	47	98	119
Value of output (inc. sales to CPAS) (£m)	2.8	3.8	4.3	2.0	0.7	0.3
Store cattle sold outside Northern Ireland						
Marketings ('000 head)	3.6	1.7	3.3	5.7	5.9	1.1
Average producer price (£ per head)[2]	465	430	334	347	381	401
Value of output (£m)	1.7	0.7	1.1	2.0	2.2	0.4
Breeding cattle sold outside Northern Ireland						
Marketings ('000 head)	2.6	2.5	2.5	1.3	1.3	0.1
Average producer price (£ per head)	865	779	585	574	558	1222
Value of output (£m)	2.3	2.0	1.4	0.8	0.7	0.1
Other receipts (£m)[4]	137.0	155.8	126.5	124.7	134.5	136.8
***less* Imported cattle**						
Marketings ('000 head)	13.1	24.3	6.5	14.5	22.8	25.6
Average producer price (£ per head)	586	476	468	465	497	501
Value of output (£m)	7.7	11.6	3.1	6.7	11.3	12.8
Total value of output (inc. OTMS and CPAS) (£m)	**420.4**	**380.8**	**326.0**	**325.0**	**332.6**	**331.2**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	-7.6	-2.8	-6.2	-0.4	-5.8	-2.3
Net receipts from non-food outlets (included above)						
Over Thirty Months Scheme (£m)[5]	84.2	30.5	31.0	31.7	26.6	26.4
Calf Processing Aid Scheme (£m)	2.3	3.7	4.0	1.4	-	-

1. Excludes animals slaughtered under Foot and Mouth Disease control measures.
2. 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.
3. Including animals sold under the Over Thirty Months Scheme.
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 and Foot and Mouth Disease compensation (non-capital) payments. The LFA Compensatory Allowance is included with 'other subsidies'.
5. Excludes Slaughter Premium.

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

per cent

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
Cows and bulls	22	18	23	25	21	21
Steers and heifers originating from:						
- the dairy herd;	31	35	30	27	27	30
- the beef herd;	43	44	42	47	50	47
- calves and stores imported from the Republic of Ireland or shipped from Great Britain	5	2	4	1	2	2
Total[2]	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
Total number marketed ('000 head)	**492**	**474**	**511**	**505**	**506**	**506**

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

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
Annual average number of dairy cows ('000 head)[1]	278.2	279.9	286.3	285.7	286.1	295.5
Average gross yield per cow (to nearest 10 litres per annum)[1,2]	5,350	5,510	5,410	5,650	5,840	6,220
Total output of milk for human consumption (million litres)	1,445	1,501	1,510	1,573	1,635	1,798
of which:						
sales off farms	1,437	1,493	1,503	1,565	1,627	1,791
used in farm households	8	8	7	8	7	7
Average producer price (pence per litre)						
Gross price[3]	24.38	21.21	19.61	19.12	18.37	19.02
Net price[4]	24.03	20.63	19.32	18.54	17.96	18.51
Other receipts (£m)[5]	-	-	-	-	2.4	9.0
Value of output (£m)[3]	**352.3**	**319.3**	**297.0**	**301.5**	**302.7**	**352.5**

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

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
Marketings ('000 head)[1]						
Finished sheep and lambs	1,460	1,323	1,544	1,566	1,381	1,267
Culled ewes and rams	209.3	203.2	216.4	200.0	185.4	114.8
Average price (p per kg deadweight)[2]						
Finished sheep and lambs	261.1	250.6	198.5	179.6	192.6	253.5
Average dressed carcase weight (kg)						
Finished sheep and lambs	20.9	20.5	19.8	19.7	20.3	20.3
Output of all sheep and lambs						
Quantity ('000 tonnes)	36.3	32.5	36.3	36.1	33.0	29.0
Market value (£m)	84.9	72.5	64.2	57.8	57.0	67.6
Other receipts (£m)[3]	27.7	25.5	32.0	29.1	25.7	14.3
Value of output (£m)[4]	**108.2**	**99.5**	**95.7**	**85.5**	**81.6**	**82.7**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	-3.0	+2.7	+0.3	-0.7	-0.2	+0.7

1. Estimated home-produced marketings, including unrecorded exports but excluding animals slaughtered under Foot and Mouth Disease control measures.
2. Average realised return gross of marketing expenses.
3. Comprising Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance, Sheep Annual Premium, Rural World (LFA) Supplement, Agrimoney Compensation and Foot and Mouth Disease Compensation (non-capital) payments. The LFA Compensatory Allowance is included with 'other subsidies'.
4. Includes breeding and store sheep exported less all sheep imported.

Table 2.22 Output of pigs

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
Marketings ('000 head)[1]						
Finished clean pigs	1,259.0	1,285.4	1,313.7	1,192.4	884.6	920.5
Culled sows and boars	22.7	24.6	22.4	17.7	13.1	14.8
Average price (p per kg deadweight)[2]						
Finished clean pigs[3]	132.61	104.80	72.52	70.60	83.02	91.78
Culled sows and boars	102.12	76.46	39.62	42.57	54.79	55.72
Average dressed carcase weight (kg)						
Finished clean pigs[3]	72.6	71.3	70.9	71.6	71.7	72.4
Quantity of output ('000 tonnes)	94.4	95.5	96.1	87.7	65.1	68.9
Value of output (£m)[4]	**126.5**	**102.7**	**68.8**	**59.5**	**52.3**	**62.0**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	+0.5	+0.7	-0.6	-2.0	-1.2	0.0

1. Estimated home-produced marketings, including unrecorded exports and pigs slaughtered under the 1998 and 2000 Pig Welfare Slaughter Schemes. Excludes animals slaughtered under Foot and Mouth Disease control measures.
2. Average realised return gross of marketing expenses, including receipts from the 1998 and 2000 Pig Welfare Slaughter Schemes.
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. Also includes receipts from 1998 and 2000 Pig Welfare Slaughter Schemes and Foot and Mouth Disease Compensation (non-capital) payments.

Table 2.23 Output of poultry

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
Poultrymeat production ('000 tonnes liveweight)						
All poultrymeat (including broilers)	158.4	158.8	163.2	160.7	158.5	159.7
Broilers	134.7	132.2	134.6	135.9	135.4	135.9
Average producer price (p per kg liveweight)						
All poultrymeat (including broilers)	58.7	58.1	53.7	49.8	48.9	50.5
Broilers	58.5	57.4	53.1	50.7	49.6	51.6
Value of output (£m)[1]						
All poultry (including broilers)	**109.3**	**111.2**	**107.3**	**98.4**	**97.8**	**105.2**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	+0.4	-0.3	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	+0.6
Broilers	78.8	75.9	71.4	69.0	67.2	70.2

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

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
Graded packing station throughput (million dozen)	69.0	66.7	69.7	61.7	62.2	65.8
Average producer price (p per dozen)[1]	47.93	35.09	30.43	32.43	38.14	33.17
Value of output (£m)[2]	**34.0**	**24.1**	**21.8**	**20.6**	**24.5**	**22.5**

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

Table 2.25 Crop production

harvest years

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
Potatoes[1]						
Area ('000 hectares)	8.8	7.8	7.5	7.5	6.8	6.7
Harvestable yield (tonnes per hectare)	36.6	39.8	37.1	42.4	43.4	39.6
Production ('000 tonnes)	321.0	309.3	279.0	319.7	294.0	263.8
of which:						
saleable potatoes	287.6	275.4	250.8	287.6	258.9	236.9
chats[2] and waste	33.4	33.9	28.2	32.1	35.1	26.9
Barley[3,4]						
Area ('000 hectares)	34.2	36.5	34.8	35.7	32.6	32.8
Yield (tonnes per hectare)	5.27	4.88	4.41	4.70	5.49	5.12
Production ('000 tonnes)	180.6	178.0	153.5	168.0	179.1	167.9
Wheat[4]						
Area ('000 hectares)	6.9	6.9	7.1	3.3	5.0	4.1
Yield (tonnes per hectare)	7.54	7.02	6.94	6.76	7.26	6.23
Production ('000 tonnes)	51.7	48.5	49.6	22.0	36.2	25.6
Oats[3,4]						
Area ('000 hectares)	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.4
Yield (tonnes per hectare)	4.86	5.16	4.53	4.41	4.81	5.26
Production ('000 tonnes)	10.8	12.3	11.8	12.3	14.2	12.8
Oilseed rape[5]						
Area ('000 hectares)	0.3	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.2	0.1
Yield (tonnes per hectare)	2.96	3.13	2.84	2.96	2.86	2.60
Production ('000 tonnes)	0.8	1.6	2.5	1.5	0.5	0.3
Hay						
Area ('000 hectares)	37.3	31.4	13.9	20.3	25.7	22.2
Yield (tonnes per hectare)	7.18	7.42	6.79	6.98	6.77	8.43
Production ('000 tonnes)	267.6	233.2	94.4	141.9	174.4	186.8
Grass silage						
Area ('000 hectares)	283.7	277.8	289.6	285.6	287.1	299.1
Yield (tonnes per hectare)	30.1	29.5	27.1	29.3	26.3	27.6
Production ('000 tonnes)	8,529	8,186	7,837	8,374	7,557	8,260

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

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
POTATOES[2]						
Quantity of output ('000 tonnes)						
Ware	210.3	203.7	201.7	203.3	229.4	189.2
Seed	50.1	55.4	44.4	37.8	31.2	34.0
Stockfeed	38.0	34.4	30.8	29.7	33.7	29.7
Total	**298.3**	**293.5**	**276.9**	**270.7**	**294.2**	**252.9**
Average producer price (£ per tonne)						
Ware	77.73	63.94	114.46	121.86	74.58	100.64
Seed	156.93	69.01	101.75	167.26	66.35	91.15
Value of output (£m)						
Ware	16.3	13.0	23.1	24.8	17.1	19.0
Seed	7.9	3.8	4.5	6.3	2.1	3.1
Stockfeed	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total	**24.5**	**16.7**	**25.4**	**33.0**	**18.5**	**21.5**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	-0.1	-0.4	-2.4	+1.7	-0.9	-0.8
BARLEY[3,4]						
Quantity of output ('000 tonnes)	179.1	176.6	168.0	159.3	176.4	169.1
Average producer price (£ per tonne)	113.02	90.33	83.24	83.25	76.58	77.79
Value of output (£m)	**26.8**	**22.8**	**19.2**	**20.9**	**19.8**	**19.2**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	+0.2	+0.1	-1.2	+0.7	+0.2	-0.1
WHEAT[3,4]						
Quantity of output ('000 tonnes)	46.6	46.3	48.0	32.6	34.7	29.8
Average producer price (£ per tonne)	118.86	96.18	87.48	84.29	80.52	85.95
Value of output (£m)	**7.6**	**6.3**	**5.9**	**2.7**	**4.1**	**3.1**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	+0.6	+0.2	+0.1	-0.9	+0.1	-0.4

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 but excludes in-store losses.
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

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
APPLES[1]						
Quantity of output ('000 tonnes)	39.7	31.0	27.6	25.8	45.5	50.2
Average producer price (£ per tonne)	158	214	248	102	111	107
Value of output (£m)	**5.2**	**9.0**	**5.2**	**4.5**	**4.5**	**5.3**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	-1.1	+2.3	-1.7	+1.8	-0.6	0.0
MUSHROOMS						
Quantity of output ('000 tonnes)	27.5	26.5	26.5	25.2	22.2	22.2
Average producer price (£ per tonne)	1,165	1,146	1,150	1,190	1,243	1,243
Value of output (£m)	**32.0**	**30.4**	**30.5**	**30.0**	**27.6**	**27.6**

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

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

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001 (provisional)
FEEDSTUFFS[1]						
Quantity purchased ('000 tonnes concentrate equivalent)	1,799	1,715	1,669	1,717	1,641	1,721
Average cost (£ per tonne concentrate equivalent)	192	180	164	153	152	157
Value of feed consumed (£m)	**344.5**	**308.4**	**275.0**	**261.0**	**249.0**	**269.8**
of which:						
stock change due to volume	-0.3	-0.3	+1.5	-1.7	-0.1	0.0
FERTILISERS						
Quantity purchased ('000 tonnes product)	485	445	446	468	445	414
Nutrient content ('000 tonnes)	182	164	158	172	162	147
of which:						
Nitrogen	122	112	110	121	114	102
Phosphate	27	23	22	24	22	20
Potash	33	29	26	28	27	25
Average cost (£ per tonne of nutrient)	421	403	347	340	337	375
Value of purchases (£m)	**76.7**	**66.3**	**54.8**	**58.6**	**54.6**	**55.2**
LIME						
Quantity purchased ('000 tonnes)	167	172	78	118	122	105
Average cost (£ per tonne)	13.33	13.50	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
Value of purchases (£m)	**2.2**	**2.3**	**1.1**	**1.7**	**1.7**	**1.5**
MARKETING EXPENSES[2]						
cattle	8.3	7.9	8.9	8.1	8.4	8.1
sheep	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.5
pigs	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.2	2.3
milk	9.5	9.8	9.5	9.5	9.4	9.1
Total	**20.9**	**20.6**	**21.3**	**20.4**	**20.6**	**21.0**
INTEREST						
Bank base lending rate (%)	6.0	6.6	7.2	5.4	6.0	5.1
Total interest charges (£m)[3]	**37.8**	**45.1**	**52.1**	**44.0**	**46.0**	**39.8**
LABOUR						
Average weekly hours of full-time paid male workers	45.26	42.05	43.05	40.65	41.46	42.73
Average earnings of full-time paid male workers (£ per hour)[4]	4.21	4.27	4.43	4.67	5.17	5.25
Average earnings of full-time paid male workers (£ per week)[4]	190.69	179.52	190.75	189.84	214.35	224.33
Volume of paid labour (million hours)[5]	10.61	9.84	9.81	9.65	9.23	9.20
Value of paid labour (£m)[5]	**45.3**	**41.9**	**43.5**	**45.2**	**48.4**	**48.5**

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 7 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, 2000/2001*[1]).

Most farmland is under grass. Only 5,000 farms (17 per cent) have arable or horticultural crops. These crops occupy 54,100 hectares and make up only 5 per cent of the area of farms. Barley (32,800 hectares) is the main crop grown followed by potatoes with 6,700 hectares. In 2001, the cropped area also included 3,100 hectares of horticultural crops, mainly apple orchards (1,500 hectares) and vegetables (1,500 hectares). The areas of both cereals and potatoes were lower in 2001, by 3 and 2 per cent respectively. Over the 10 year period since 1991, cereals have declined by 16 per cent and potatoes by 39 per cent resulting in an overall decline in the cropped area of 16 per cent.

Grazing livestock

All but 8 per cent of Northern Ireland farms have cattle or sheep. In 2001, cattle were found on 24,900 farms (83 per cent), sheep on 10,500 farms (35 per cent) and cattle and/or sheep on 27,500 farms (92 per cent).

The total number of cattle recorded in the June 2001 census (1.68 million) was little different than in 2000. At June 2001, there were 295,000 dairy cows, 4 per cent more than in 2000, and 311,800 beef cows, 2 per cent fewer. Over the last 10 years, the numbers of cattle, dairy cows and beef cows have increased by 1, 8 and 9 per cent respectively.

With 1.23 million ewes in 2001, the sheep breeding flock was 8 per cent smaller than in 2000; including lambs and other sheep, the flock totalled 2.53 million. There are now 12 per cent fewer ewes than in 1991.

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 2001 was estimated at 385,600, 7 per cent fewer than in the previous June, while the number of pig herds fell by 16 per cent to 679. Numbers of sows and breeding herds fell by 3 and 13 per cent respectively.

A 3 per cent fall in sow numbers, to 40,600 in the June 2001 census, represented some slowing down in the rate of decline, sow numbers having fallen from 72,200 in 1997 to 66,900 in 1998, 47,100 in 1999 and 41,800 in 2000. Between 1997 and 2001 the number of breeding herds fell from 1,805 to 601.

With 14.3 million birds in June 2001, the Northern Ireland poultry flock was 7 per cent smaller than in 2000. The number of laying birds (2.1 million) and broilers (8.9 million) were, respectively, 7 and 8 per cent fewer than in 2000.

Total numbers of poultry at June 2001 were 19 per cent higher than 10 years previously. During this period, the commercial laying flock contracted by 25 per cent, while there were increases of around 31 and 95 per cent for broilers and the breeding flock respectively.

[1] Available on the DARD website.

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 (252,000) predominate on **LFA farms**, where they are more important than dairy cows (147,000), whereas, on **lowland farms**, there were 60,000 beef cows and 148,000 dairy cows in 2001. **LFA farms** account for 41 and 54 per cent of the Province's pigs and poultry respectively.

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Table 3.1 Land use, 2001

thousand hectares

	Crops	Grass and rough grazing	Woodland	Other land	Total land area
Farms	54	994	8	12	**1,068**
Common grazing	-	41	-	-	**41**
NI Forest Service[1]	-	-	61	14	**75**
Other areas	-	-	14	160	**174**
All land[2]	**54**	**1,035**	**83**	**186**	**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 1997 - 2001

thousand hectares

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Oats	2.4	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.4
Wheat	6.9	7.1	3.3	5.0	4.1
Barley: Winter	7.7	7.7	5.1	5.2	2.8
Spring	28.7	27.1	30.6	27.4	30.0
Mixed corn	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Potatoes	7.8	7.5	7.5	6.8	6.7
Arable crop silage	1.7	2.0	2.4	2.2	2.3
Other field crops	1.2	1.7	1.3	1.1	2.4
Total agricultural crops	**56.6**	**55.9**	**53.2**	**50.8**	**50.9**
Fruit	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.5
Vegetables	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5
Other horticultural crops	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total horticultural crops	**3.1**	**3.2**	**3.3**	**3.3**	**3.1**
Grass: Under 5 years old	181.9	155.6	140.9	141.6	140.2
5 years old and over	643.1	675.0	697.2	687.9	699.9
Total grass	**825.1**	**830.6**	**838.1**	**829.4**	**840.1**
Total crops and grass	**884.8**	**889.8**	**894.6**	**883.5**	**894.1**
Rough grazing[1]	164.1	159.1	158.7	156.5	154.1
Woods and plantations	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.6	8.2
Other land[2]	11.8	11.3	11.5	11.8	11.8
Total area of farms	**1,068.9**	**1,068.4**	**1,073.0**	**1,060.5**	**1,068.2**

1. Excludes common rough grazing (40,900 ha).
2. Includes set aside and land not used for agriculture.

Table 3.3 Livestock numbers, June 1997 - 2001

thousand head

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
CATTLE					
Dairy cows					
In milk	259.4	266.8	267.1	265.7	275.4
In calf	19.8	20.8	19.3	18.6	19.6
Total dairy cows	**279.2**	**287.7**	**286.4**	**284.4**	**295.0**
Dairy heifers in calf	62.6	60.9	60.0	60.9	60.7
Beef cows					
In milk	272.1	287.1	274.2	262.2	260.2
In calf	51.8	57.6	58.0	55.8	51.6
Total beef cows	**323.9**	**344.7**	**332.2**	**318.0**	**311.8**
Beef heifers in calf	46.5	40.9	34.6	31.5	33.1
Total cows	**603.1**	**632.4**	**618.6**	**602.3**	**606.8**
Total heifers in calf	**109.1**	**101.8**	**94.6**	**92.4**	**93.7**
Bulls for service	16.5	17.1	16.9	16.3	16.7
Other cattle					
Over 2 years	101.2	108.6	105.7	106.8	110.3
1-2 years	417.3	409.6	402.1	387.8	380.3
Under 1 year	483.8	497.8	480.7	470.9	471.3
Total cattle	**1,731.0**	**1,767.3**	**1,718.6**	**1,676.5**	**1,679.1**
SHEEP					
Breeding ewes	1,384.1	1,449.8	1,404.9	1,332.6	1,232.3
Other sheep	1,496.0	1,536.8	1,504.0	1,408.0	1,293.3
Total sheep	**2,880.1**	**2,986.6**	**2,908.9**	**2,740.6**	**2,525.6**
PIGS[1]					
Sows and gilts	72.2	66.9	47.1	41.8	40.6
Other pigs	624.5	586.5	443.1	371.7	345.0
Total pigs	**696.7**	**653.4**	**490.2**	**413.5**	**385.6**
POULTRY					
Laying birds	2,648.9	2,562.1	2,140.1	2,300.0	2,142.6
Growing pullets	1,266.2	845.7	781.3	798.3	735.1
Breeding flock	2,138.2	2,334.5	2,266.1	2,196.3	2,145.2
Table chickens	8,994.9	8,854.1	9,342.0	9,655.4	8,863.6
Total ordinary fowl	**15,048.2**	**14,596.4**	**14,529.5**	**14,950.0**	**13,886.5**
Turkeys, geese and ducks	559.6	574.2	518.4	425.9	461.0
Total poultry	**15,607.8**	**15,170.6**	**15,047.9**	**15,375.9**	**14,347.5**
HORSES & PONIES	**9.9**	**9.8**	**9.9**	**9.5**	**10.1**
GOATS	**3.5**	**3.6**	**3.5**	**3.4**	**3.4**

1. Revised estimates for 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 2001

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	31	23
Potatoes	0	1	2	5	25
Other agricultural crops	1	1	2	3	44
Horticultural crops	0	1	1	3	19
Total crops	**3**	**10**	**13**	**41**	**25**
Grass: Under 5 years old	44	40	84	56	60
5 years and over	282	210	492	208	70
Total grass	**326**	**250**	**576**	**264**	**69**
Rough grazing[2]	134	14	148	7	96
Woods/other land	6	5	11	9	55
Total area	**469**	**279**	**748**	**320**	**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 2001

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	50	98	147	148	50
Beef cows	163	88	252	60	81
Heifers in calf	24	28	53	41	56
Bulls for service	7	5	12	5	69
Other cattle					
Over 2 years	21	38	59	51	54
1-2 years	98	128	226	154	59
Under 1 year	172	144	316	155	67
Total cattle	**534**	**529**	**1064**	**615**	**63**
SHEEP					
Breeding ewes	672	297	968	264	79
Other sheep	687	326	1,013	281	78
Total sheep	**1,359**	**622**	**1,981**	**544**	**78**
PIGS					
Sows and gilts	6	11	17	23	43
Other pigs	49	93	142	203	41
Total pigs	**55**	**105**	**160**	**226**	**41**
POULTRY					
Laying birds	565	773	1,338	804	62
Table fowl	1,095	3,731	4,825	4,038	54
Other poultry	460	1,067	1,527	1,815	46
Total poultry	**2,120**	**5,570**	**7,690**	**6,657**	**54**
HORSES AND PONIES	**2**	**3**	**5**	**5**	**48**
GOATS	**1**	**1**	**2**	**1**	**69**

1. See Note 1, Table 3.4.

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.

Farms[1]

The number of active farm businesses included in the June 2001 census was 29,818, just 73 fewer than in 2000. It is believed that during 2001 the Foot & Mouth Disease outbreak may have delayed structural adjustments in the industry. Also some newly established businesses may not have been identified in time for the 2000 census but were covered by that in 2001. The number of active farms fell by an average of 1.8% per year over the past 5 years and by 1.5% per year over the past 10 years. Over a quarter of all farms have less than 10 hectares of crops and grass while just over 1,100 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).

An increasing proportion of farm businesses in Northern Ireland, 54 per cent in 2001, are classified as **very small**. In 2001, there were 15,153 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 25 per cent of the farmed area (Table 4.15). Their main activities are cattle rearing and fattening and they have 24 per cent of beef cows and 29 per cent of fattening cattle over one year old. Around 22,500 persons are engaged in the work of these farms (Table 4.13).

There are 9,381 **small** farms, generally involving one person full-time with, in some cases, part-time or seasonal help. These farms make important contributions to all sectors, from 22 per cent of pigs to 56 per cent of sheep and 58 per cent of beef cows; they cover 44 per cent of the agricultural area and involve 43 per cent of the full-time agricultural labour force (Table 4.15).

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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.

The 3,832 **medium** and **large** farms (together representing 13 per cent of the total number) contribute 55 per cent of the total SGM but farm under a third of the land area (Table 4.15). They are particularly dominant in the dairy, pigs and poultry sectors with, respectively, 81, 75 and 57 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, 537 (2 per cent) being classed as **cereals** farms, 311 (1 per cent) as **general cropping** and 331 (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 (1,397). Specialist **pigs and poultry** farms (523) and **mixed** farms (1,067) 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 (7 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 2001 having each enterprise and the distribution of enterprise sizes. They show that, in 2001, 5,091 farms (17 per cent) had dairy cows, 16,433 (55 per cent) had beef cows and 24,945 (84 per cent) had cattle of some type. The average number of dairy cows per herd, 58, was 4 more than in 2000 and compares with an average herd size for beef breeding herds of 19 cows. Over 35 per cent of dairy cows are in herds of 100 or more cows, compared with under 10 per cent of beef cows.

Almost 10,400 farms had breeding sheep, with an average of 119 ewes per flock. There are relatively few large flocks in Northern Ireland, only 53 having 1,000 ewes or more.

Pigs were recorded on 679 farms, 26 per cent fewer than in 2000. Most of the pig herds (601 in 2001) had sows, averaging 67.5 sows per herd. Around a quarter (154) had fewer than 5 sows and 118 had 100 or more. The 2001 figures reflect major changes since 1998; the number of pig herds fell from 2,139 in 1998 to 1,151 in 1999 to 808 in 2000 and 689 in 2001, a fall of over two-thirds in three years.

Although 1,241 farms recorded laying hens on their June census return, for the most part these were very small flocks. Only 106 farms had 1,000 or more birds (Table 4.21). A similar situation occurs with broiler flocks, where over three-quarters of the birds were in 111 farm businesses (Table 4.21).

The number of farms growing cereals in 2001 was 3,858, the average cereal enterprise consisting of 10.2 hectares. While almost half (1,730) the farms with cereals had under 5 hectares, the 95 farms which grew 50 hectares or more accounted for over a fifth of the cereals area. Some 1,057 farms, 4 per cent of the total, grew potatoes in 2001; of these, 179 with 10 hectares or more of the crop contributed over two-thirds of the total area.

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Table 4.1 Number and area of farms by area farmed[1], June 2001

Size group (hectares)	By crops and grass area		By total area	
	Farms	Hectares	Farms	Hectares
Nil	388	-	39	-
0.1 - 9.9	7,384	41,295	6,543	36,594
10.0 - 19.9	7,039	102,145	6,684	97,852
20.0 - 29.9	4,652	113,945	4,570	112,736
30.0 - 49.9	5,198	200,574	5,523	213,848
50.0 - 99.9	4,040	275,074	4,725	323,611
100.0 - 199.9	993	127,756	1,433	188,208
200.0 +	124	33,375	301	95,385
Total	**29,818**	**894,164**	**29,818**	**1,068,234**

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 1997 - 2001

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Number of farms	32,118	31,817	31,132	29,891	29,818
Average area per farm (ha):					
Crops and grass	27.5	28.0	28.7	29.6	30.0
Total area	33.3	33.6	34.5	35.5	35.8
Per cent of crops and grass area farmed in units of :					
(hectares)					
0.1 - 9.9	5.5	5.3	5.1	4.7	4.6
10.0 - 19.9	12.5	12.1	12.0	11.7	11.4
20.0 - 29.9	13.6	13.5	13.3	12.9	12.7
30.0 - 49.9	22.9	23.0	22.4	22.5	22.4
50.0 - 99.9	30.0	30.0	30.6	30.8	30.8
100.0 +	15.6	16.1	16.6	17.5	18.0
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

Table 4.3 Number of farms by business size and area farmed, June 2001

number

Area of crops and grass farmed (hectares)	Business size[1]				
	Very small	Small	Medium	Large	All Sizes
Under 10	7,187	487	79	19	7,772
10.0 - 19.9	5,670	1,301	63	5	7,039
20.0 - 29.9	2,111	2,373	162	6	4,652
30.0 - 49.9	955	3,307	912	24	5,198
50.0 - 99.9	208	2,084	1,446	302	4,040
100.0 +	22	281	441	373	1,117
Total	**16,153**	**9,833**	**3,103**	**729**	**29,818**

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

Table 4.4 Number of farms by business size, June 1997 - 2001

number

Business size[1]	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Very small	16,859	16,470	16,493	15,535	16,153
Small	11,386	11,362	10,766	10,547	9,833
Medium	3,322	3,377	3,257	3,153	3,103
Large	551	608	616	656	729
Total	**32,118**	**31,817**	**31,132**	**29,891**	**29,818**

1. See Note 1, Table 4.3.

Table 4.5 Number of farms by business size and Less Favoured Area (LFA) category[1], June 2001

number

Business size[2]	Severely Disadvantaged Area (SDA)	Disadvantaged Area (DA)	Total LFA	Non LFA	LFA as % NI
Very small	6,394	5,215	11,609	4,544	72
Small	4,214	2,990	7,204	2,629	73
Medium	719	994	1,713	1,390	55
Large	72	182	254	475	35
Total	**11,399**	**9,381**	**20,780**	**9,038**	**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 2001

number

Business type[1]	Business size[1] Very small	Small	Medium	Large	All sizes
Cereals	338	168	27	4	537
General cropping	85	142	58	26	311
Horticulture	130	139	44	18	331
Pigs & poultry	205	219	76	23	523
Dairy	84	1,922	2,154	581	4,741
Cattle & sheep (LFA)[2]	10,348	5,248	430	35	16,061
Cattle & sheep (lowland)[2]	3,377	1,368	102	3	4,850
Mixed	384	515	141	27	1,067
Others	1,202	112	71	12	1,397
All types	**16,153**	**9,833**	**3,103**	**729**	**29,818**

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 1997 - 2001

number

Business type[1]	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Cereals	544	517	631	510	537
General cropping	443	389	372	322	311
Horticulture	402	389	370	346	331
Pigs & poultry	846	940	591	540	523
Dairy	5,233	5,121	5,039	4,855	4,741
Cattle & sheep (LFA) [2]	16,955	16,983	16,891	16,183	16,061
Cattle & sheep (lowland) [2]	4,860	4,942	4,985	4,709	4,850
Mixed	1,567	1,524	1,305	1,148	1,067
Others	1,268	1,012	1,048	1,278	1,397
All types	**32,118**	**31,817**	**31,132**	**29,891**	**29,818**

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

Table 4.8 Number of farms by business type and Less Favoured Area (LFA) category[1], June 2001

number

Business type[2]	Severely Disadvantaged Area (SDA)	Disadvantaged Area (DA)	Total LFA	Non LFA	LFA as % NI
Cereals	21	106	127	410	24
General cropping	10	78	88	223	28
Horticulture	14	83	97	234	29
Pigs & poultry	95	178	273	250	52
Dairy	1,124	1,724	2,848	1,893	60
Cattle & sheep	9,590	6,471	16,061	4,850	77
Mixed	103	305	408	659	38
Others	442	436	878	519	63
All types	**11,399**	**9,381**	**20,780**	**9,038**	**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 2001

farms

Owned land as percentage of farmed area	Business size[1]				
	Very small	Small	Medium	Large	All sizes
All owner occupied	10,144	3,344	642	103	14,233
50-<100%	2,785	3,905	1,724	438	8,852
>0-<50%	1,677	2,072	696	184	4,629
None owner occupied	1,547	512	41	4	2,104
All farms	**16,153**	**9,833**	**3,103**	**729**	**29,818**
Av. percentage of owned land	**77□**	**68□**	**66□**	**63□**	**69**

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

Table 4.10 Average conacre rents by type of use, 1996 - 2000

£/hectare

Use	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Grass	211	212	201	196	189
Potatoes	524	472	453	479	482
Cereals	299	257	242	211	213
Rough grazing	42	46	59	51	51
All uses	**217**	**210**	**205**	**196**	**182**

Source: Farm Business Survey.

Table 4.11 Distribution of sales of agricultural land by price paid per hectare, 2000

	Under £5,000	£5,000 - £7,499	£7,500 - £9,999	£10,000 - £14,999	£15,000 & over	All sales
Number of sales	30	24	34	54	32	174
Area (hectares)	352	298	249	476	239	1,614
Percentage of area	22	18	15	29	15	100
Value (£ '000)	1,062	1,881	2,221	5,491	4,891	15,545
Percentage of value	7	12	14	35	31	100

Source: Valuation and Lands Agency.

Table 4.12 Number of sales and average price of agricultural land by area sold, 1995 - 2000

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Number of sales	355	223	257	223	163	174
Area (hectares)	4,050	3,425	2,912	2,151	1,672	1,614
Value (£ '000)	24,097	18,561	22,879	18,813	13,825	15,545
Average price (£ per ha) by hectare size group						
2 - 9.9	6,339	8,516	9,369	9,640	9,397	11,749
10 - 19.9	7,389	8,407	7,464	8,918	9,104	7,380
20 and over	5,081	3,468	7,019	7,702	6,165	8,722
All sizes (unweighted)	5,950	5,419	7,858	8,746	8,268	9,634

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 2001

number of persons

Labour item	Business size[1]				
	Very small	Small	Medium	Large	All farms
Farmers and partners					
Full time	5,753	9,143	4,104	1,169	20,169
Part time	11,887	3,048	679	172	15,786
Total	**17,640**	**12,191**	**4,783**	**1,341**	**35,955**
Spouses of farmers	**2,511**	**2,555**	**1,123**	**331**	**6,520**
Other workers					
Full time	266	753	768	1,010	2,797
Part time	823	1,144	584	231	2,782
Casual/seasonal	2,277	3,650	1,762	619	8,308
Total other workers	**3,366**	**5,547**	**3,114**	**1,860**	**13,887**
Total agricultural labour force	**23,517**	**20,293**	**9,020**	**3,532**	**56,362**

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 2001

number of persons

Labour iten	Severely Disadvantaged Area (SDA)	Disadvantaged Area (DA)	Total LFA	Non LFA	LFA as % NI
Farmers and partners					
Full time	7,192	6,292	13,484	6,685	67
Part time	6,120	5,061	11,181	4,605	71
Total	**13,312**	**11,353**	**24,665**	**11,290**	**69**
Spouses of farmers	**2,201**	**2,020**	**4,221**	**2,299**	**65**
Other workers					
Full time	641	643	1,284	1,513	46
Part time	942	861	1,803	979	65
Casual/seasonal	2,716	2,394	5,110	3,198	62
Total other workers	**4,299**	**3,898**	**8,197**	**5,690**	**59**
Total agricultural labour force	**19,812**	**17,271**	**37,083**	**19,279**	**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 2001

A. Number of farms having the item
B. Total for each item ('000)
C. Percentage of Northern Ireland total of each item

Item	Business size[1]														
	Very small			Small			Medium			Large			All farms		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Cattle															
Total	12,462	300	*18*	8,894	695	*41*	2,914	472	*28*	675	213	*13*	24,945	1,679	*100*
Dairy cows	125	1	*0*	2,091	56	*19*	2,262	150	*51*	613	88	*30*	5,091	295	*100*
Beef cows	8,467	75	*24*	6,763	182	*58*	1,067	47	*15*	136	8	*2*	16,433	312	*100*
Slaughter cattle >1year	8,704	120	*29*	6,865	189	*46*	2,136	82	*20*	439	23	*6*	18,144	414	*100*
Sheep															
Total	4,436	443	*18*	4,825	1,425	*56*	1,064	526	*21*	192	131	*5*	10,517	2,526	*100*
Ewes	4,348	215	*17*	4,796	697	*57*	1,051	255	*21*	191	65	*5*	10,386	1,232	*100*
Pigs															
Total	212	9	*2*	282	86	*22*	137	143	*37*	48	148	*38*	679	386	*100*
Sows	178	1	*3*	252	9	*22*	126	15	*37*	45	15	*38*	601	41	*100*
Other pigs over 20 kg	112	5	*2*	218	54	*22*	126	91	*37*	46	97	*39*	502	247	*100*
Poultry															
Total	994	579	*4*	772	5,580	*39*	226	4,827	*34*	50	3,361	*23*	2,082	14,347	*100*
Layers	715	112	*5*	413	631	*29*	97	655	*31*	16	745	*35*	1,241	2,143	*100*
Crops															
Oats	146	0	*13*	216	1	*38*	106	1	*33*	32	0	*17*	500	2	*100*
Wheat	43	0	*3*	160	1	*22*	160	1	*36*	118	2	*39*	481	4	*100*
Barley	856	4	*11*	1,559	13	*40*	809	10	*31*	282	6	*17*	3,506	33	*100*
Potatoes	250	0	*3*	521	2	*27*	214	2	*33*	72	2	*36*	1,057	7	*100*
Crops & grass	15,869	2,217	*25*	9,754	3,825	*43*	3,086	2,041	*23*	721	858	*10*	29,430	8,942	*100*
Rough grazing	3,381	35	*23*	3,289	78	*50*	849	34	*22*	165	7	*4*	7,684	154	*100*
Total area	16,153	262	*25*	9,833	467	*44*	3,103	244	*23*	729	95	*9*	29,818	1,068	*100*
Labour															
Full-time labour force[2]	5,567	7	*26*	8,299	11	*43*	3,045	6	*22*	724	2	*9*	17,635	25	*100*
Output															
SGM[3]	16,153	63	*10*	9,833	221	*35*	3,103	226	*36*	729	125	*20*	29,818	636	*100*

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 2001

	Dairy cows				Beef cows			
	Numbers of		Percentages of		Numbers of		Percentages of	
Number per farm	Farms	Cows	Farms	Cows	Farms	Cows	Farms	Cows
1 - 2	48	70	0.9	0.0	1,597	2,449	9.7	0.8
3 - 4	29	104	0.6	0.0	1,404	4,920	8.5	1.6
5 - 9	120	862	2.4	0.3	3,434	23,634	20.9	7.6
10 - 14	231	2,743	4.5	0.9	2,692	31,600	16.4	10.1
15 - 19	281	4,794	5.5	1.6	1,805	30,257	11.0	9.7
20 - 29	658	16,010	12.9	5.4	2,427	57,444	14.8	18.4
30 - 39	653	22,368	12.8	7.6	1,241	41,786	7.6	13.4
40 - 49	647	28,578	12.7	9.7	696	30,585	4.2	9.8
50 - 59	526	28,354	10.3	9.6	390	20,931	2.4	6.7
60 - 69	398	25,503	7.8	8.6	231	14,691	1.4	4.7
70 - 99	746	61,264	14.7	20.8	318	25,904	1.9	8.3
100 - 199	676	86,281	13.3	29.2	181	23,353	1.1	7.5
200 & over	78	18,073	1.5	6.1	17	4,265	0.1	1.4
Total 2001	**5,091**	**295,004**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**16,433**	**311,819**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 2000	***5,275***	***284,385***			***16,642***	***317,959***		
Average 2001		**57.9**				**19.0**		
Average 2000		***53.9***				***19.1***		

Table 4.17 Distribution of (a) slaughter cattle one year-old and over and (b) total cattle by herd size, June 2001

	Cattle one year old and over, intended for slaughter				Total cattle			
	Numbers of		Percentages of		Numbers of		Percentages of	
Number per farm	Farms	Cattle	Farms	Cattle	Farms	Cattle	Farms	Cattle
1 - 4	3,593	8,485	19.8	2.0	1,017	2,867	4.1	0.2
5 - 9	3,323	22,766	18.3	5.5	1,817	12,664	7.3	0.8
10 - 19	4,337	60,508	23.9	14.6	3,673	52,636	14.7	3.1
20 - 29	2,426	58,112	13.4	14.0	3,037	73,557	12.2	4.4
30 - 39	1,441	48,847	7.9	11.8	2,384	81,698	9.6	4.9
40 - 49	951	41,737	5.2	10.1	2,019	89,286	8.1	5.3
50 - 69	1,021	59,376	5.6	14.3	2,861	168,018	11.5	10.0
70 - 99	605	49,693	3.3	12.0	2,814	233,833	11.3	13.9
100 - 199	402	52,460	2.2	12.7	3,814	524,480	15.3	31.2
200 - 299	37	8,562	0.2	2.1	1,032	247,426	4.1	14.7
300 & over	8	3,645	0.0	0.9	477	192,667	1.9	11.5
Total 2001	**18,144**	**414,191**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**24,945**	**1,679,132**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 2000	***17,918***	***419,787***			***25,194***	***1,676,479***		
Average 2001		**22.8**				**67.3**		
Average 2000		***23.4***				***66.5***		

Table 4.18 Distribution of (a) ewes and (b) total sheep by flock size, June 2001

	Ewes				Total sheep			
Number	Numbers of		Percentages of		Numbers of		Percentages of	
per farm	Farms	Ewes	Farms	Ewes	Farms	Sheep	Farms	Sheep
1 - 24	1,668	24,394	16.1	2.0	793	10,948	7.5	0.4
25 - 49	2,045	75,222	19.7	6.1	1,157	42,610	11.0	1.7
50 - 99	2,684	189,809	25.8	15.4	1,986	146,385	18.9	5.8
100 - 199	2,309	318,613	22.2	25.9	2,577	369,265	24.5	14.6
200 - 299	857	205,547	8.3	16.7	1,483	364,852	14.1	14.4
300 - 399	376	127,418	3.6	10.3	783	270,333	7.4	10.7
400 - 499	175	77,440	1.7	6.3	506	224,966	4.8	8.9
500 - 699	145	83,754	1.4	6.8	573	334,215	5.4	13.2
700 - 999	74	59,216	0.7	4.8	368	303,785	3.5	12.0
1,000 - 1,499	42	49,617	0.4	4.0	184	219,854	1.7	8.7
1,500 & over	11	21,264	0.1	1.7	107	238,343	1.0	9.4
Total 2001	**10,386**	**1,232,294**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**10,517**	**2,525,556**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 2000	***10,727***	***1,332,615***			***10,848***	***2,740,586***		
Average 2001		**118.6**				**240.1**		
Average2000		***124.2***				***252.6***		

Table 4.19 Distribution of breeding sows by herd size, June 2001

	Sows (including gilts)			
Number	Numbers of		Percentages of	
per farm	Farms	Sows	Farms	Sows
1 - 4	154	328	25.6	0.8
5 - 9	83	547	13.8	1.3
10 - 19	74	981	12.3	2.4
20 - 29	41	955	6.8	2.4
30 - 49	48	1,812	8.0	4.5
50 - 99	83	5,944	13.8	14.6
100 - 199	65	9,069	10.8	22.3
200 - 299	26	6,194	4.3	15.3
300 & over	27	14,761	4.5	36.4
Total 2001	**601**	**40,591**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 2000	***689***	***41,802***		
Average 2001		**67.5**		
Average 2000		***60.7***		

Table 4.20 Distribution of (a) fattening pigs 20kg and over and (b) total pigs by herd size, June 2001

	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	51	219	10.2	0.1	125	443	18.4	0.1
10 - 19	43	546	8.6	0.2	52	710	7.7	0.2
20 - 49	71	2,180	14.1	0.9	92	3,050	13.5	0.8
50 - 99	58	3,977	11.6	1.6	75	5,111	11.0	1.3
100 - 199	58	8,038	11.6	3.2	66	9,689	9.7	2.5
200 - 399	55	15,914	11.0	6.4	61	17,208	9.0	4.5
400 - 999	95	60,529	18.9	24.5	96	64,183	14.1	16.6
1,000 - 1,999	45	60,347	9.0	24.4	65	91,745	9.6	23.8
2,000 & over	26	95,703	5.2	38.7	47	193,420	6.9	50.2
Total 2001	**502**	**247,453**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**679**	**385,559**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 2000	***535***	***267,741***			***808***	***413,480***		
Average 2001		**492.9**				**567.8**		
Average 2000		***500.5***				***511.7***		

Table 4.21 Distribution of (a) laying hens and (b) broilers by flock size, June 2001

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	1,135	22	91.5	1.0	38	1	13.5	0.0
1,000 - 4,999	24	76	1.9	3.5	7	21	2.5	0.2
5,000 - 9,999	31	200	2.5	9.3	22	162	7.8	1.8
10,000 - 19,999	26	344	2.1	16.1	54	817	19.2	9.2
20,000 - 29,999	9	199	0.7	9.3	49	1,069	17.4	12.1
30,000 - 49,999	7	245	0.6	11.4	57	2,225	20.3	25.1
50,000 & over	9	1,057	0.7	49.3	54	4,569	19.2	51.5
Total 2001	**1,241**	**2,143**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**281**	**8,864**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 2000	***1,253***	***2,300***			***290***	***9,655***		
Average 2001		**1,727**				**31,543**		
Average 2000		***1,836***				***33,295***		

Table 4.22 Distribution of total poultry by flock size, June 2001

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	1,492	43	62.7	0.3
1,000 - 4,999	89	287	3.7	1.8
5,000 - 9,999	160	1,104	6.7	7.1
10,000 - 19,999	140	1,961	5.9	12.6
20,000 - 29,999	64	1,411	2.7	9.0
30,000 - 49,999	68	2,609	2.9	16.7
50,000 & over	69	6,932	2.9	44.4
Total 2001	**2,082**	**14,347**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 2000	***2,125***	***15,376***		
Average 2001		**6,891**		
Average 2000		***7,236***		

Table 4.23 Distribution of (a) barley and (b) wheat by area of crop, June 2001

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	96	64	2.7	0.2	33	23	6.9	0.6
1 - 4.9	1,488	4,151	42.4	12.7	213	583	44.3	14.2
5 - 9.9	902	6,323	25.7	19.3	127	864	26.4	21.0
10 - 19.9	692	9,663	19.7	29.5	62	821	12.9	20.0
20 - 29.9	151	3,544	4.3	10.8	24	575	5.0	14.0
30 - 39.9	67	2,271	1.9	6.9	6	200	1.2	4.9
40 - 49.9	42	1,885	1.2	5.7	6	266	1.2	6.5
50 & over	68	4897	1.9	14.9	10	780	2.1	19.0
Total 2001	**3,506**	**32,798**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**481**	**4,112**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 2000	***3,613***	***32,641***			***544***	***4,990***		
Average 2001		**9.4**				**8.5**		
Average 2000		***9.0***				***9.2***		

Table 4.24 Distribution of total cereals by area of crop, June 2001

Area per farm (ha)	Total cereals			
	Number of Farms	Area of Cereals (ha)	Percentages of Farms	Percentages of Cereals
under 1	115	77	3.0	0.2
1 - 4.9	1,615	4,503	41.9	11.4
5 - 9.9	947	6,650	24.5	16.8
10 - 19.9	785	11,035	20.3	27.9
20 - 29.9	168	3,987	4.4	10.1
30 - 39.9	88	3,008	2.3	7.6
40 - 49.9	45	2,013	1.2	5.1
50 & over	95	8,254	2.5	20.9
Total 2001	**3,858**	**39,526**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 2000	***3,985***	***40,726***		
Average 2001		**10.2**		
Average 2000		***10.2***		

Table 4.25 Distribution of potatoes by area of crop, June 2001

Area per farm (ha)	Potatoes			
	Number of Farms	Area of Potatoes (ha)	Percentages of Farms	Percentages of Potatoes
under 1	299	128	28.3	1.9
1 - 4.9	449	1,053	42.5	15.8
5 - 9.9	130	910	12.3	13.7
10 - 19.9	109	1,452	10.3	21.8
20 - 29.9	26	627	2.5	9.4
30 - 39.9	18	611	1.7	9.2
40 - 49.9	8	362	0.8	5.4
50 & over	18	1,521	1.7	22.8
Total 2001	**1,057**	**6,663**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total 2000	***1,157***	***6,772***		
Average 2001		**6.3**		
Average 2000		***5.9***		

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 2000/01'.

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 Commission Decision 86/377/EEC and an abbreviated description appears in the Appendix to this publication.

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, is 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 2000/01, i.e. broadly equivalent to the 2000 calendar year. However, provisional income estimates are also presented below for the 2001/02 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 1996/97 are presented in Table 5.1. The net farm incomes presented in Table 5.2 are for farms which were in the FBS sample in both the 1999/2000 and 2000/01 account years. These constitute an identical sample of 321 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 is horticulture.

Foot and Mouth Disease

Northern Ireland escaped the worst effects of the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak which affected large parts of Great Britain in 2001. The timing and distribution of the disease outbreak was such that farm incomes in 2000/01 were unaffected and it is anticipated that the impact on 2001/02 farm incomes in Northern Ireland will also be minimal.

Income changes by farm type in 2000/01

In 2000/01, the average net farm income across all farm types increased from £1,954 to £5,800. This was the first improvement recorded in average farm incomes since 1995/96. Incomes improved on each farm type other than **cereals**. However, only on **general cropping** and **dairy** farms did the improvement in income exceed the average increase and two farm types, **cereals** and **lowland cattle and sheep**, recorded negative incomes.

The average value of farm output rose by 9 per cent In 2000/01 relative to 1999/2000. The main contributors to this improvement were potatoes (+17 per cent), cattle (+10 per cent) and milk (+8 per cent). Total costs across all farm types increased by just over 1 per cent. With the exception of labour and machinery running costs, which increased by 9 per cent and 6 per cent respectively, most input costs were marginally lower than in 1999/00.

Provisional estimates of income in 2001/02

A further improvement in average farm income is expected in 2001/02. Net farm income is forecast to increase by £1,200 (20 per cent) to £7,000. Incomes for **dairy** and **cattle and sheep** farms, both **LFA** and **lowland,** are forecast to increase. However, for all other farm types, incomes are forecast to fall.

The forecast improvement in **dairy** farm income is largely attributable to an increase in the value of milk output, the result of higher yields, a small increase in milk price and some further expansion in cow numbers. **Cattle and sheep** farms have benefited from a significant improvement in the average market prices for clean sheep and culled ewes and average beef cattle prices are also expected to have improved marginally. Direct payments to cattle producers, commonly accounting for between a third and half of the value of cattle output on many farms, are expected to have shown some further increase. However, the value of Sheep Annual Premium has fallen substantially, reflecting the improvement in average EU market prices. Crop enterprises have experienced a disappointing year. The wet autumn of 2000 delayed or prevented the sowing of winter cereals and yields of all cereal crops in 2001 were disappointing. Potato yields were also lower than the previous year and prices have also declined.

The value of inputs is expected to increase marginally, higher prices for concentrate feedstuffs and increased usage, particularly on **dairy** farms, being largely responsible. Levels of capital expenditure have continued at historically low levels.

The income estimates described above were prepared in mid-January 2002 and relate to an account year which is broadly equivalent to the 2001 calendar year. 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 values of either output or input can lead to a large change in income.

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Table 5.1 Indices of average net farm income in real terms by farm type, 1996/97 to 2001/02

Indices: 1994/95 - 1996/97 = 100

	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02 (provisional)
Cereals	51	-40	-5	97	-40	-62
General cropping	-28	73	282	-224	106	-247
Pigs and poultry	113	44	-278	-7	66	4
Dairy	80	44	31	29	51	61
Cattle and sheep (LFA)	105	52	5	-3	1	4
Cattle and sheep (lowland)[1]	…	…	…	…	…	…
Mixed	63	-26	-13	-10	50	31

1. Turnover in the sample together with a period of negative incomes mean that the calculated indices are unreliable; consequently publication has been withheld.

Table 5.2 Net farm income by business size and farm type, 1999/2000 and 2000/01

£'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)	
	1999/2000	2000/01	1999/2000	2000/01	1999/2000	2000/01	1999/2000	2000/01
Cereals	-1.5	-4.3	4.8	10.1	…	…	-0.5	-2.1
General cropping	…	…	…	…	…	…	-17.8	8.7
Pigs and poultry	-0.2	1.5	…	…	…	…	-0.2	1.5
Dairy	-1.4	1.6	12.0	20.2	32.2	46.1	8.1	14.6
Cattle and sheep (LFA)	-1.7	0.1	2.7	8.0	-30.2	16.4	-1.5	0.7
Cattle and sheep (lowland)[1]	-0.9	-0.1	…	…	…	…	-1.3	0.1
Mixed	0.2	2.0	-6.2	19.6	…	…	2.6	6.1

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

Table 5.3 Distribution of farms by net farm income and by farm type, 2000/01

per cent

	Dairy	Cattle and sheep (LFA)	Mixed	All types
Net farm income (£'s)				
Less than 0	21	47	42	36
1 - 2,499	4	15	2	10
2,500 - 4,999	4	7	7	6
5,000 - 7,499	7	6	-	7
7,500 - 9,999	7	7	10	7
10,000 - 14,999	13	8	19	10
15,000 - 19,999	12	4	8	8
20,000 - 29,999	14	4	-	8
> 30,000	18	2	12	8
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
Number of farms in sample	142	118	20	321

Table 5.4 Average tenant's capital by farm type, 2000/01

£'000 per farm

	Cereals	General cropping	Pigs and poultry	Dairy	Cattle and sheep (LFA)	Cattle and sheep (lowland)	Mixed
Farm size (ESU)	24.9	66.3	21.5	53.5	21.7	19.5	37.0
Total farm area (ha)	60.6	85.1	17.7	55.9	101.3	57.6	78.1
Net farm income	-2.1	8.7	1.5	14.6	0.7	-	6.1
Total tenant's capital	**49.1**	**113.7**	**47.8**	**75.8**	**51.1**	**62.9**	**83.7**
of which:							
Short term (working) capital							
trading livestock	9.6	10.7	28.4	13.0	14.8	32.2	30.4
crops	9.4	7.9	1.3	4.8	3.1	3.7	14.5
other	0.8	2.0	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.9
Medium term capital							
breeding livestock	3.0	2.2	4.9	35.4	19.1	12.8	12.8
machinery	26.3	90.9	12.6	22.1	13.7	13.7	25.1

Table 5.5 Average closing valuations by farm type, 1999/2000 and 2000/01

£'000 per farm[1]

	Dairy		Cattle and Sheep (LFA)		Mixed	
	1999/2000	2000/01	1999/2000	2000/01	1999/2000	2000/01
ASSETS						
Total fixed assets	449.6	430.3	301.4	299.2	392.1	390.4
of which:						
land and buildings	392.2	372.2	264.1	262.5	350.0	350.0
other fixed assets	57.4	58.0	37.2	36.7	42.5	40.4
Total current assets	22.8	25.1	26.8	26.9	54.0	55.8
of which:						
trading livestock	17.4	19.2	17.5	19.0	44.7	46.8
debtors/other short term lending	5.4	5.9	9.2	7.9	9.3	9.0
cash in hand and at bank	-	-	-	-	-	-
A Total assets	**472.4**	**455.4**	**328.2**	**326.1**	**446.1**	**446.2**
LIABILITIES						
Total long/medium term loans	25.7	30.3	3.3	4.5	5.6	6.1
of which:						
bank/other institutional	22.2	27.2	3.3	4.5	5.6	6.1
Total short term loans	14.5	16.2	8.9	9.1	16.6	16.3
of which:						
bank overdraft	9.4	10.4	7.7	7.9	14.7	15.0
B Total external liabilities	**40.2**	**46.5**	**12.2**	**13.6**	**22.2**	**22.4**
NET WORTH (A-B)	**432.2**	**408.9**	**316.0**	**312.5**	**423.9**	**423.8**

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.

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)

Series of net value added and TIFF, as indices in current prices and in 'real' terms, i.e. after allowing for inflation, are presented in Table 2.2 of this edition.

Cash flow

A 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 2001 would change by ±10 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 2001 presented in this *Review* are based on data available in December 2001/January 2002, 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 2001/02 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 2000 figures have been revised as more complete information has become available. Net value added in 2000 is now estimated at £257 million (previously £246 million) while total income from farming is now estimated at £116 million (previously £98 million). 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 these 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 21-year consistent series on the new basis is available on the DARD web-site at **www.dardni.gov.uk.**

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 in 2001 reverted to a sample survey following a full census in 2000. In 2001 forms were issued to all the larger businesses but to only half those classified as 'Very Small'.

The records which were aggregated to provide the published results include 2001 returns from those which returned their forms and the latest available returns from those who did not. For new farms from which a 2001 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, mushroom enterprises and the major poultry flocks who failed to make a return in 2001 were contacted by telephone to obtain up to date information.

Census 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.**

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. 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.
2001	A sample survey was carried out on the same basis as that conducted in 1999. Farms on which animals had been slaughtered due to Foot and Mouth outbreaks were not surveyed. Estimates were made for the crop areas, livestock and labour numbers for these farms.

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 2001*'. 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 = 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.
Other types	Farms which specialise in enterprises which do not fit in well with mainstream agriculture, such as specialist mushrooms, specialist goat and specialist horse farms; also farms which have are unclassified because they 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 LFA Compensatory Allowance (LFACA) and for additional benefits under various capital grant and forestry schemes.

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.

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