

# Fact Sheet on Irish Agriculture – April 2012

## Updates Since Previous Version (June 2011)

*Employment, Exports, Input & Output, GVA data and Census of Agriculture 2010 release*

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

Key Indicators for Primary and Agri-Food Sectors			Employment in the Agri-Food Sector (000s)	
<i>Relevant Year in brackets.</i>	Primary Sector <sup>1</sup>	Agri-Food Sector <sup>2</sup>		
% of GVA at factor cost (2010)	2.5%	7.0%	<p>Based on the latest (Q4, 2011) CSO Quarterly National Household Survey data. The CSO has indicated that results of its Census of Agriculture 2010 will provide a more accurate picture of employment in the sector.</p>	
% of employment (2011-Q4)	4.5%	7.7%		
% of exports (2011)	7.0%	10.5%		
Notes: (1) Primary sector taken to comprise Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. (National Income & Expenditure A31 sectors AA and BB). (2) Taken to comprise primary production along with food & drinks and wood processing sectors. (NIE A31 sectors AA, BB, DA & DD). <b>Source:</b> CSO and DAFF. All data are estimates.				

### B: Public Expenditure and Agriculture Related Payments

Total public expenditure on the agri-food sector by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was approximately €2.8 billion in 2011. DAFF payments in 2011 totalled €2.1 billion, including Single Farm Payment, Rural Development, Structural and Forestry payments.

Expenditure on Irish Agriculture, 2011	
(Period 1 January to 31 December 2011)	€m
<b>EAGGF Guarantee direct expenditure</b>	<b>1,375.6</b>
Single Farm Payment	1,316.0
Grassland Sheep, Burren Life, Dairy Efficiency Schemes	22.5
Private Storage	3.2
Export Refunds	2.0
Other Market Supports & Recoveries	31.9
<b>Voted Expenditure (excluding Administration)</b>	<b>1,183.9</b>
Rural Development	538.5
Structural Measures	61.8
State Bodies	200.6
Horse and Greyhound Fund	57.3
Animal Health	124.3
Research and Training	35.2
Market Support Costs	13.1
Forestry and Bio-Fuels	116.5
Fisheries	11.8
Food Aid	9.9
Other	14.9
<b>Administration</b>	<b>237.4</b>
<b>Total Voted Expenditure</b>	<b>1,421.3</b>
<b>Total DAFM Expenditure</b>	<b>2,796.9</b>

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

- The CSO's Preliminary estimate of operating surplus in agriculture in 2011 is €2,462.5 million, an increase of 32.5% on 2010.
- In 2011, direct payments, net of levies, accounted for 75% of operating surplus.
- Beef and milk production currently account for almost 69% of agricultural output at producer prices (excluding forage).

Output, Input and Income in Agriculture, 2012					
Main Aggregates	Value €m		Main Commodities	Value €m	% of G/O
<b>Goods Output @ Producer Prices <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>6,241.90</b>		<b>Goods Output (excl forage)</b>	<b>5,243.60</b>	<b>100%</b>
+ Contract Work	280.70		<i>of which</i>		
+ Subsidies - Taxes (Products)	14.40		Cattle	1,787.50	34.1%
<b>Agricultural Output @ Basic Prices</b>	<b>6,537.00</b>		Milk	1,820.40	34.7%
- Intermediate Consumption	4,755.10		Pigs	392.90	7.5%
<b>Gross Value Added @ Basic Prices</b>	<b>1,781.90</b>		Sheep	186.60	3.6%
- Fixed Capital Consumption	730.90		Cereals	295.70	5.6%
+ Subsidies - Taxes (Production)	1,841.10		Others	760.50	14.5%
- Compensation of Employees	429.60		Forage Plants	998.30	
<b>Operating Surplus</b>	<b>2,462.50</b>		<b>Goods Output at Producer Prices <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>6,241.90</b>	
<sup>1</sup> Including Forage					
Source: CSO Output, Input and Income in Agriculture - 2011 Preliminary Estimate (February 2012)					

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

- The 2010 National Farm Survey (NFS) from Teagasc estimates **that average farm income (excluding off-farm income) increased by 46% in 2010 to €17,771**. Full-time farms, as defined by Teagasc, had an average farm income of **€41,624**, while the part-time equivalent was **€7,554**.
- The 2010 NFS also estimated that on **51% of farms the holder and/or spouse had an off-farm job, down from 54% in 2009. 79% (as in 2009) of farmers and/or their spouses had an off-farm source of income** either from employment, pensions or social assistance with the latter two compensating for the fall in jobs.
- Special analysis of EU-SILC 2008 data showed that farm households have an average total income of **€61,053 or €53,484 (depending on whether a broad or narrow definition of "farm household" is utilised)**. These compare with a **state average of €60,579**.

## E: Farm Structures

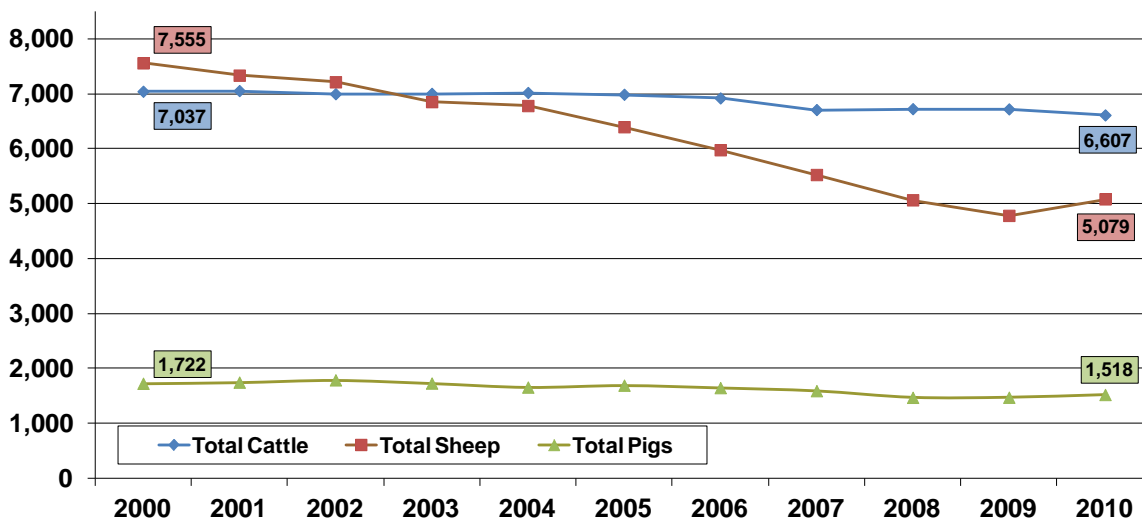
Farm Structures Data for Ireland		
Relevant Year	Statistic	Relevant Data
2010	Farm Holdings	139,829
2010	Average Farm Size	32.7 Hectares
2007	Family Farm Holders by Age	7% < 35; 51% > 55
2011 <sup>(1)</sup>	Employment in Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing (CSO)	80,400
<sup>1</sup> Persons employed in agriculture is based on the CSO's Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS). It covers people who identified agriculture as their <b>primary</b> source of income in the week preceding the survey.		
Sources: Census of Agriculture 2010 Preliminary Results; CSO Farm Structure Survey 2007; CSO QNHS, Q4 2011		

## F: Land Usage & Livestock Numbers

- The land area of Ireland is 6.9 million hectares; of which 4.6 million hectares is used for agriculture and a further 745,000 hectares for forestry, (see also area under crops in Table, right).
- Almost 80% of agricultural area is devoted to pasture, hay and grass silage (3.34 million hectares), 11% to rough grazing (0.45 million hectares) and 10% to crop production (0.42 million hectares).
- Average land prices in Ireland in 2011 were estimated to be €8,708 per acre. (Source: Farmers Journal Agricultural Land Price Report, 2011).

Area Under Certain Crops	
	000's Hectares
Cereals	273.9
<i>of which</i>	
Wheat	77.8
Oats	19.7
Barley	174.8
Potatoes	12.2
Source: Census of Agriculture 2010 Preliminary Results	

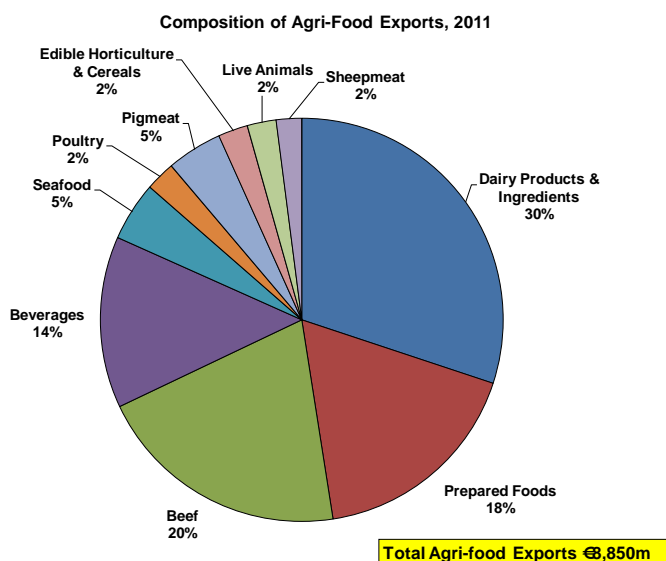
Livestock Numbers (000s), 2000-2010



Source: CSO June Livestock Surveys and Census of Agriculture 2010 Preliminary Results

## G: Self-Sufficiency and Exports

Bord Bia estimated that in 2011 Ireland exported approximately €8.9 billion in agri-sector exports, a result in large measure of Ireland's high level of self sufficiency in many products.



Source: Bord Bia

