

Agricultural Holding Census 2015-2023

All Figures are shown rounded to the nearest whole number. The sum of individual items therefore may not equal the total.

Table 1- Summary - Agricultural Land, Livestock, Labour & Holdings

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Annual Change
Land Use (acres)										
Arable	10,100	8,949	8,853	8,527	8,369	8,540	8,295	9,125	9,139	0.2%
Grass	62,768	64,579	63,481	63,876	66,204	65,924	64,512	65,875	64,350	(2.3%)
Rough	26,905	26,831	24,315	26,938	24,369	24,703	24,028	25,372	23,824	(6.1%)
Total Land Use	99,773	100,359	96,649	99,341	98,941	99,167	96,835	100,372	97,313	(3.2%)
Livestock										
Cattle	29,442	29,774	28,140	27,651	25,533	27,625	26,740	26,546	26,280	(1.0%)
Sheep	132,426	124,961	127,791	125,024	128,298	123,774	123,090	123,936	119,556	(3.5%)
Pigs	2,254	1,793	1,777	1,837	1,816	2,053	1,628	1,992	1,946	(2.3%)
Poultry	13,098	12,924	13,529	14,556	14,781	15,479	15,342	13,701	11,271	(17.7%)
Goats	421	231	204	206	223	191	174	148	135	(8.8%)
Total Livestock	177,641	169,638	171,441	169,274	170,651	169,122	166,974	166,323	159,188	(4.3%)
Farm Labour										
Principal Farmers & Partners		492	478	441	461	460	473	475	463	(2.5%)
Spouse										
Paid Workers		142	160	148	165	141	160	154	136	(11.7%)
Other Workers		147	158	142	147	166	174	212	205	(3.3%)
Total Farm Labour		781	796	731	773	767	807	841	804	(4.4%)
Holdings (by size)										
Under 50 acres	95	93	66	59	63	59	63	63	63	0.0%
50 and over but less than 150 acres	124	121	112	112	115	112	113	117	117	0.0%
150 and over bt less than 300 acres	100	83	82	81	79	80	82	82	83	1.2%
300 acres and over	86	84	85	86	88	86	84	81	80	(1.2%)
Total number of holdings	405	381	345	338	345	337	342	343	343	0.0%

Notes

Shaded areas indicate figures were not collected for that category in the relevant period.

From 2009 land usage was assessed by **eligible** acreage rather than total acreage per field parcel.

Holding sizes are recorded by **total** land area.

Since 2016 Census data derived from eligible ADS claimants, the active farmer criteria has reduced the total number of holdings.

Table 2 - Arable Area (in acres)

		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Annual Change
Cereals	Winter Wheat	1,037	1,102	1,096	932	1,007	795	914	928	527	(43.2%)
	Spring Wheat	293	188	192	114	175	246	192	180	229	27.1%
	Winter Barley	791	591	727	575	951	752	720	991	754	(23.9%)
	Spring Barley	3,153	3,374	3,346	3,517	3,247	3,056	3,132	3,063	2,973	(2.9%)
	Oats	1,538	1,340	1,421	1,156	1,135	1,034	1,129	1,105	1,206	9.1%
	Maize	84	84	90	94	92	134	243	184	95	(48.4%)
	Triticale/Rye		6	12							
	Other Cereals - 2018 onwards all other crops	173	128	138	249	217	383	283	451	501	11.1%
	Total cereals	7,069	6,813	7,022	6,636	6,824	6,401	6,613	6,903	6,285	(9.0%)
Other Forage Crops	Forage Crops		739	977	708	419	567	464	891	935	4.8%
	Other Forage Crops		243	59	346	325	706	451	545	1,068	96.0%
	Total Other Forage Crops	1845	982*	1,036	1,054	744	1,272	915	1,437	2,003	39.4%
Pulses	For Combining					492	543	477	520	604	16.2%
	For Forage										
	Total Pulses	864	621	508	537	492	543	477	520	604	16.2%
Potatoes	1st and 2nd Earlies										
	Main Crop										
Total Potatoes	268	230	240	249	252	257	233	220	204	(7.7%)	
Horticulture	Vegetables	54	57	47	51	57	67	56	45	44	(3.7%)
	Small Fruit										
	Flowers										
	Nursery Stock										
	Bulbs										
	Flowers under glass										
	Vegetables under glass										
	Total Horticulture	54	57	47	51	57	67	56	45	44	(3.7%)
Total Arable Area	10,100	9,006	8,853	8,527	8,369	8,540	8,295	9,125	9,139	0.2%	

*2016 other forage crops now exclude hay and silage

Table 3 - Grass and Other Agricultural Land (in acres)

		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Annual Change
Grass	Temporary Grass (Under 10 years)										
	Permanent Grass (10 years & over)										
	Total Grass	62,768	64,579	63,481	63,876	66,204	65,924	64,512	65,875	64,350	(2.3%)
Other Agricultural La	Rough Mountain Heath or Moorland	26,905	24,623	24,315	26,938	24,369	24,703	24,028	25,372	23,824	(6.1%)
	Total Grass and Other Agricultural La	89,673	89,203	87,796	90,814	90,573	90,627	88,540	91,247	88,174	(3.4%)

Table 4 - Cattle

		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Annual Change
Dairy Cows & Heifer	Cows & Heifers that have calved	3,768	4,117	4,195	4,257	4,273	4,329	4,232	4,267	4,292	0.6%
	Replacement Heifers in first calf	960	980	1,008	832	831	687	668	811	770	(5.1%)
	Heifers over 1yr to be put to bull	565	912	711	798	749	920	901	1,024	906	(11.5%)
	Total Dairy Cows & Heifers	5,293	6,009	5,914	5,887	5,853	5,936	5,801	6,102	5,968	(2.2%)
Beef Cows & Heifers	Cows & Heifers that have calved	7,147	7,208	6,566	6,476	6,018	5,958	5,730	5,421	5,302	(2.2%)
	Replacement Heifers in first calf	513	392	447	352	335	338	326	320	236	(26.3%)
	Heifers over 1yr to be put to the bull	1,142	1,155	975	972	1,053	859	786	690	694	0.6%
	Total Beef Cows & Heifers	8,802	8,755	7,988	7,800	7,406	7,155	6,842	6,431	6,232	(3.1%)
Bulls	Total Bulls	412	416	407	405	374	384	357	362	337	(6.9%)
Other Cattle	1 year and over:										
	Heifers for finishing or sale	3,204	2,945	2,624	2,674	2,718	2,957	2,721	2,642	3,198	21.0%
	Young Bulls for finishing or sale	719	610	321	378	416	396	288	132	97	(26.5%)
	Steer for finishing or sale	2,916	3,227	3,216	3,157	2,823	3,106	3,213	3,055	3,321	8.7%
	Cattle 2 years old and over										
Under 1 year:											
Cattle Under 1 year	8,096	7,812	7,670	7,350	7,265	7,691	7,518	7,822	7,127	(8.9%)	
Steers/Bulls											
Female											
Replacement Dairy Calves											
Replacement Beef Calves											
Total Other Cattle	14,935	14,594	13,831	13,559	13,222	14,150	13,740	13,651	13,743	0.7%	
Total Cattle	29,442	29,774	28,140	27,651	26,855	27,625	26,740	26,546	26,280	(1.0%)	

Table 5 - Sheep

		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Annual Change
Sheep	Ewes retained for breeding this season	51,317	48,835	50,186	48,191	49,008	47,487	47,330	47,946	46,679	(2.6%)
	Replacement Shearling Ewes (for tugging)	11,358	10,618	9,532	9,916	8,341	8,991	9,424	9,956	8,943	(10.2%)
	Rams Kept for Service	2,254	2,226	2,136	1,924	1,963	1,913	1,830	1,829	1,708	(6.6%)
	Replacement ram lambs	879	762	766	683	629	679	661	810	984	21.5%
	Replacement Ewe Lambs	9,512	7,959	8,947	8,698	8,498	8,904	9,541	9,039	9,400	4.0%
	Total	75,320	70,400	71,567	69,412	68,439	67,974	68,786	69,580	67,714	(2.7%)
	Other sheep and lambs	50,621	48,797	54,018	50,139	53,965	53,857	51,012	51,496	48,637	(5.6%)
	Total sheep	125,941	119,197	125,585	119,551	122,404	121,831	119,798	121,076	116,351	(3.9%)
Loaghtans	Ewes retained for breeding	2,802	2,875	2,619	2,542	2,683	1,573	2,547	2,321	1,501	(35.3%)
	Replacement Shearling Ewes (for tugging)	430	563	445	358	378	133	315	314	215	(31.5%)
	Rams Kept for Service	72	78	70	75	90	65	106	72	55	(23.6%)
	Sheep and lambs under 1 year old	791	848	851	822	984	11	16	31	4	(87.1%)
	Other Sheep and Lambs	2,390	1,400	1,521	1,676	1,187	161	308	122	74	(39.3%)
	Total Loaghtans	6,485	5,764	5,506	5,473	5,322	1,943	3,292	2,860	1,849	(35.3%)

The Loughtan figures are also included in the Total Sheep figure

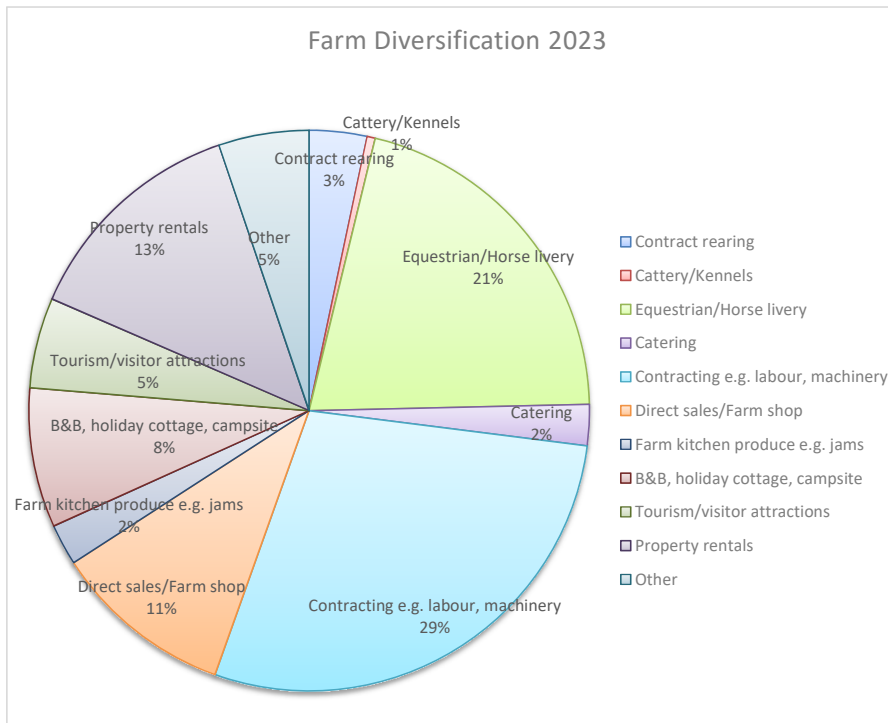
Table 6 - Pigs

		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Annual Change
Pigs	Sows in Pig	173	145	122	107	109	102	124	147	99	(32.7%)
	Gilts in Pig	31	24	35	35	10	39	20	29	13	(55.2%)
	Other Breeding Sows	70	64	47	55	56	58	51	38	64	68.4%
	Boars	19	30	13	18	39	18	20	20	22	10.0%
	Total	293	263	217	215	214	217	215	234	198	(15.4%)
Other Pigs	Other Pigs intended for slaughter or sale 2 months and over	1,961	1,530	1,560	1,622	1,602	1,836	1,413	1,758	1,748	(0.6%)
	Under 2 months										
	Total	1,961	1,530	1,560	1,622	1,602	1,836	1,413	1,758	1,748	(0.6%)
	Total Pigs	2,254	1,793	1,777	1,837	1,816	2,053	1,628	1,992	1,946	(2.3%)

Table 7 - Poultry and Other Livestock

		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Annual Change
Poultry	Free Range	12959	12834	13382	14502	14,636	15,260	15,033	13,570	11,098	(18.2%)
	Battery Hens										
	Other	139	90	40	34	141	206	309	131	173	32.1%
	Broiler (Table chicken)	0	0	10	20	28	13	-	-	-	
	Total Poultry	13,098	12,924	13,529	14,556	14,805	15,479	15,342	13,701	11,271	(17.7%)
Goats	Milk Goats	21	29	9	20	47	60	63	60	54	(10.0%)
	Other Goats										
	Other Goats over 6 months old	400	202	195	186	176	131	111	88	81	(8.0%)
	Total Goats	231	204	206	206	223	191	174	148	135	(8.8%)

Table 8 - Farm Diversification



Year	Number of holdings which diversify	Total Number of initiatives	Total Census applications returned	Percentage of those which diversify
2018	114	168	346	33%
2019	116	170	352	33%
2020	102	161	331	31%
2021	112	172	324	35%
2022	128	182	328	39%
2023	133	211	343	39%





