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Press Release

Agriculture Statistics, 2015

Tirana, 23 June 2016: *Agriculture and livestock statistics 2015 is based on administrative information collected by the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Water Administration. The legal basis for the collection of agricultural and livestock statistics is the Official Statistics Programme 2012-2016, implementing classifications and definitions according to the respective regulations of the EU.*

Agriculture

Field crops production is mainly influenced by cultures that are more representative on this sector such as vegetables, cereals and potatoes. Vegetable production in 2015 was 1,030,000 tonnes, increased by 8.4 % compared with the previous year and increased by 11.5 % compared with 2 years ago.
Potatoes production in 2015 was 245,000 tonnes, increased by 2.1 % compared with the previous year. The highest level of potatoes production was achieved in the prefectures of Korca with 65,439 tonnes, followed by Fier with 33,273 tonnes and Elbasan with 32,457 tonnes.

Tab.1 Agriculture production (in 000 tonnes)

Agriculture production	2013	2014	2015
Field crops			
Cereals	702,9	700,4	695,5
Vegetables	924,0	950,0	1,030,0
Potatoes	236,7	240,0	245,0
White beans	28,0	30,0	28,0
Industrial crops	4,6	5,4	4,7
Medicinal crops	7,0	17,4	10,8
Forage	6,048,0	6,100,0	6,000,0
Permanent crops			
Fruit trees	218,0	220,0	245,0
Olives	92,0	98,0	96,0
Citrus	20,0	21,0	30,0
Total grapes	204,0	203,7	205,0

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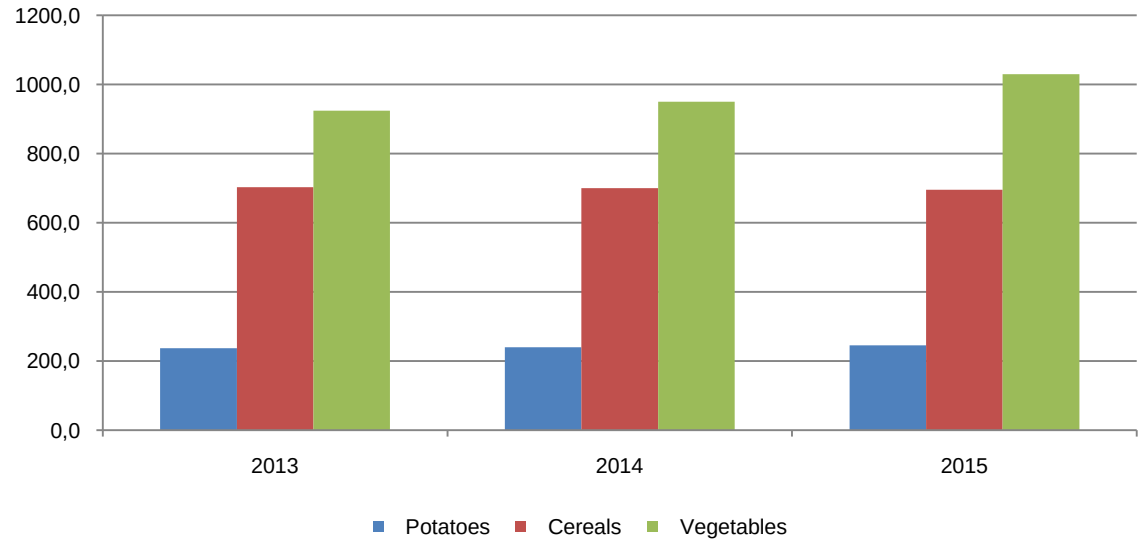
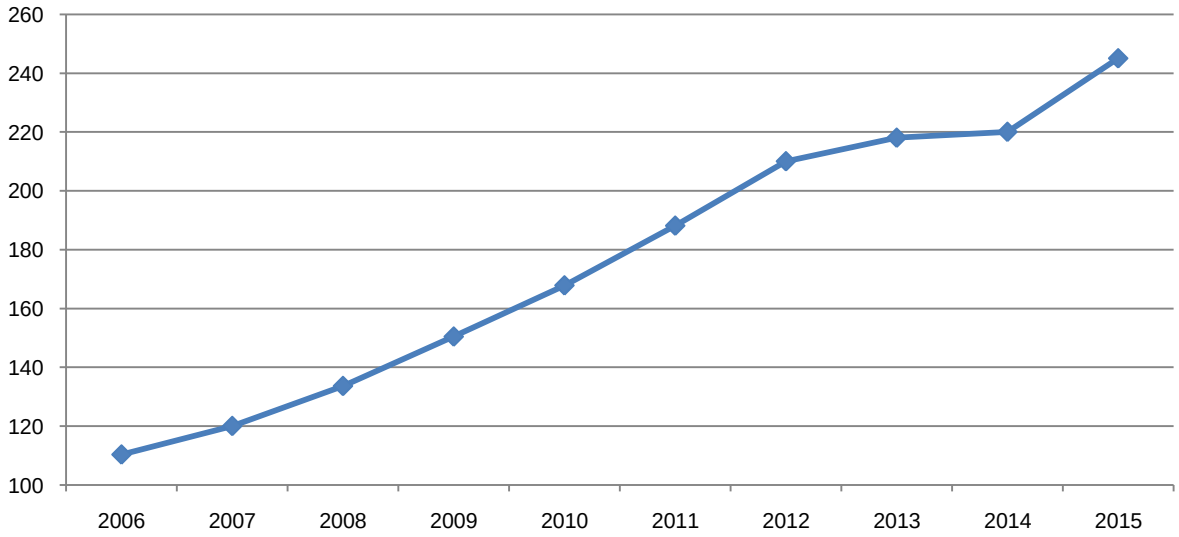
Fig. 1 Production of cereals, vegetables and potatoes (in 000 tonnes)



Number of trees on permanent crops has increased in 2015 compared with the year 2014. Specificaly, the fruit trees increased with 1.2 %, olives 2.57 %, citrus 6.83 %, pergola 0.6 % and vineyards area with 0.5 %.

Fig.2 Production of fruit trees (in 000 tonnes)



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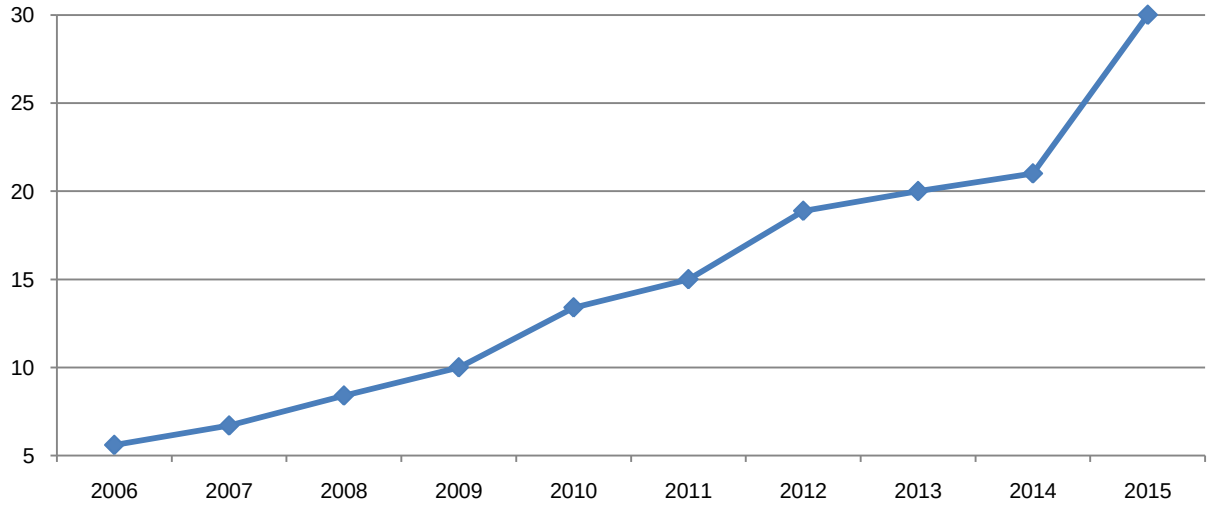
Citrus production in 2015 was 30,000 tonnes, with an increase of 42,8 % compared with the previous year. The highest level of citrus production was achieved in the prefecture of Vlora with 15,668 tonnes.

Fig. 3 Production of citrus (in 000 tonnes)



Livestock

Cattle: The number of cattle in the year 2015 was 504,169 heads, increased by +0.9 % in annual terms compared with 499,600 heads that was in the year 2014. The main category is dairy cow which represents 71 % of the total cattle herd. Regions where the breeding of cattle is more concentrated are: Fier with 14 %, Elbasan 13 %, Tirana and Shkodra with 10 % of the total number of heads. Gjirokastra is the region which has the lowest number of cattle by 4.7 % to the total number of heads.

Sheep: The number of sheep had no significant changes over the last years. In 2015 it was 1,918,000 head increased by +1.2 % compared with the year 2014. The main category is milked sheep which represents 74 % of the total herd. The regions where it is more concentrated the breeding of sheep are: Vlora with 18 %, Gjirokastra with 15 % and Fieri with 14 % of total number of heads. Lezha is the region which has the smallest number of sheep with 1.7 % of the total number of heads.

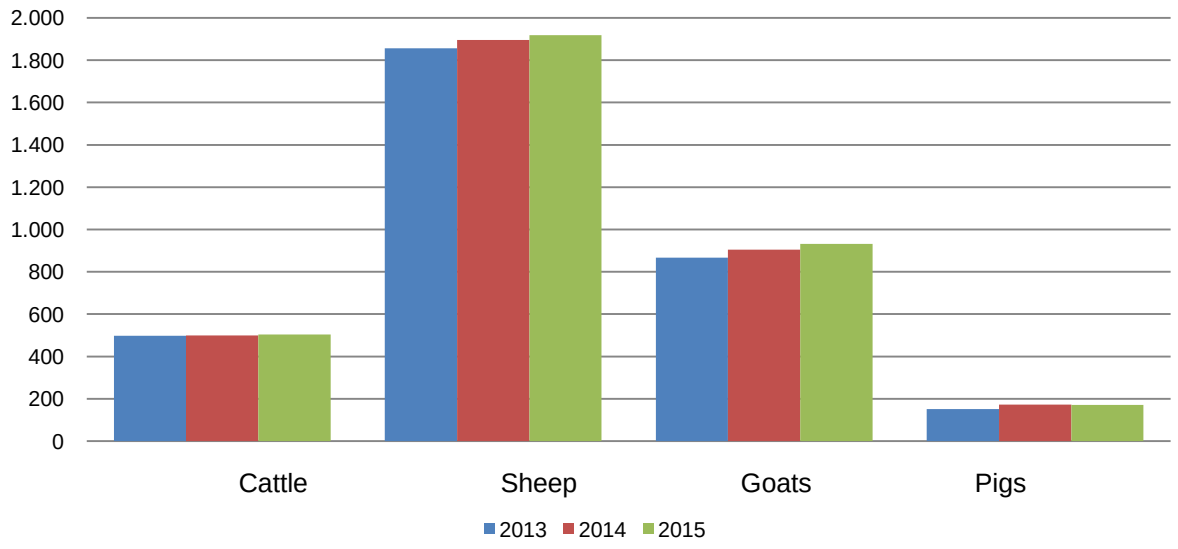
Goats: In the year 2015 the number of goats was 932,000 heads, increased by +3.1 % compared with 904,000 heads that has been in the year 2014. Main category is milked goats with 75 % of the total herd. The regions with the largest concentration of goats are: Gjirokastra with 15 %, Elbasan with 14.1 % and Vlora with 13.6 %. Durres is the region which has the smallest number of goats with 2.3 % of the total number of heads.

Pigs: In 2015 the number of pigs was 171,400 heads, from 172,500 heads that was in 2014 with a decrease of -0.6 % in annual terms. The largest concentration of the number of pig heads is in: Lezhe with 38 % and Shkodra with 28 % of the total number of heads. The regions with the lowest representative number of pigs are: Gjirokaster with 0.7 % and Kukes with 1.7 % of the total pig heads.

Tab.2 Number of livestock (in 000 head's)

Description	2013	2014	2015
Cattle	**498**	**500**	**504**
Cows	356	358	357
Sheep and goats	**2,723**	**2,804**	**2,850**
-Sheep	**1,856**	**1,896**	**1,918**
Milked sheep	1,413	1,419	1,417
-Goats	**867**	**904**	**932**
Milked goats	656	695	700
Pigs	**152**	**172**	**171**
-Sows	12	12	11
Equidae	**93**	**91**	**91**
-Horses	35	32	31
Poultry	**8,928**	**9,493**	**8,558**
-Laying hens	5,934	6,645	5,323
Beehives	**246**	**261**	**271**

Fig. 4 Number of livestock (in 000 head's)

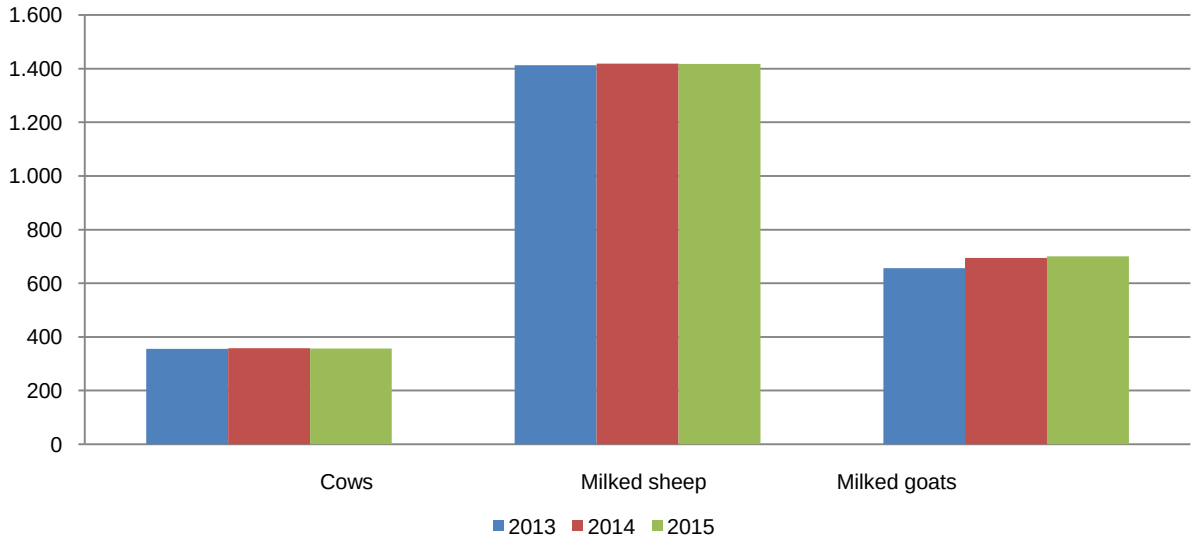


During the year 2015, livestock productions didn't have significant changes compared with the year 2014. In annual terms, total milk production in 2015 decreased by 0.2 %, total meat live weight production increased by 1.9 % and the eggs production decreased by 0.6 % compared with the year 2014.

Tab.3 Number of dairy females (in 000 head's)

Year	Cow	Sheep	Goat
2013	356	1,413	656
2014	358	1,419	695
2015	357	1,417	700

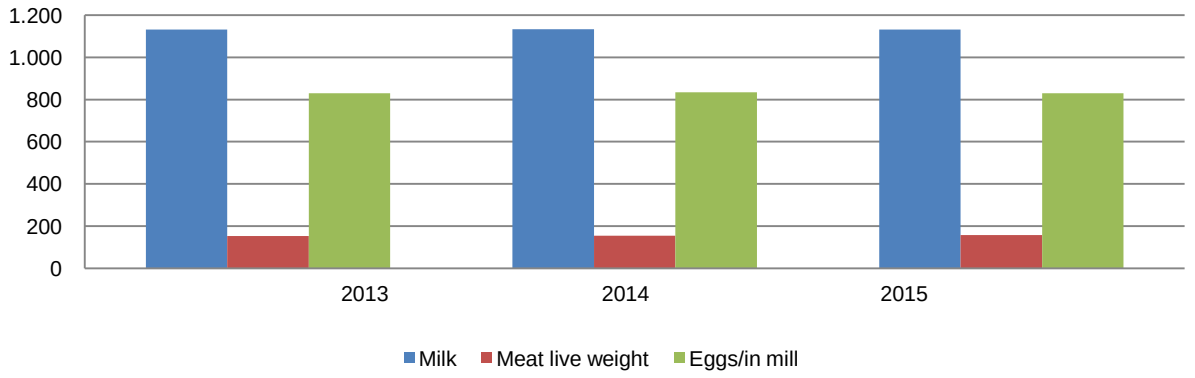
Fig. 5 Number of dairy females (in 000 head's)



Tab.4 Livestock productions (in 000 tonnes)

Description	2013	2014	2015
Milk	1,131	1,133	1,131
Meat live weight	153	155	158
Eggs/in mill	830	835	830

Fig. 6 Livestock productions (in 000 tonnes)



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Methodology

Information is collected in field by experts of extension services in all country. These experts collect data directly from farmers. Harvested production means production including on-holding losses and wastage, quantities consumed directly on the farm and marketed quantities. Crop statistics represented by annual data as: area under cultivation, harvested production and yield.

Livestock data are collected for the number of animals for breeding from the farmers and livestock productions. Experts of extensions collect the data and compare them with the data from the veterinary service which conducts the matriculation and vaccination of animals (process is ongoing). Veterinary service in the moment of vaccination conducts the animal inventory in commune level. Specialists of extension also collaborate with private veterinarians. These veterinarians provide different services at the farmers such as (disease control, death and births of animals, slaughtering, vaccinations etc). In the end the specialists of extension compare the data from the three sources. Data for the agricultural and livestock products produced by the farmers are also collected from the specialists of extension. For the yields of productions the information is collected from the most representative farms in commune level. The data collected are sent to the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Water Administration, where the specialists of crop and livestock production do the estimations comparing the data collected from the field with the data of the farms during the previous years.

The Ministry of Agriculture uses three sources of information for the data collection:

1. Experts of extension which are part of the Agricultural Directory in regions
2. Veterinarian Service in regions
3. Private Veterinarians

Definition

"Agricultural Holding" is a single unit, both technically and economically, not necessary continuous parcels of agriculture and livestock production which has a single management by one person or group of persons and which undertakes agricultural activities, for crop and animal production.

Arable land

Arable land is (ploughed or tilled) regularly, generally under a system of crop rotation. The area cultivated with field plants is the area planted with field plants in a given agricultural year. Here we speak of an area with main crops (primary). The main crops are wheat, spring cultures like the grain maize, potatoes, the legume, industrial plants, the alfalfa, etc.

Permanent crops

Area with permanent crops is area with fruit trees (seed fruit, stone fruits, subtropical, nuts, etc) olives, citrus, pergola and vineyards.

The terms "livestock" and "poultry": covers all domestic animals irrespective of their age and location or the purpose of their breeding. Non-domestic animals are excluded from the terms unless they are kept or raised in captivity, in or outside agricultural holdings, including holdings without land.

Classification

Classification of field crops is done by group of cultures (cereals, vegetables, industrial plants, fodder, oilseeds, potatoes, beans) in the open field and greenhouses, main crops and secondary crops.

Classification of fruit trees done by: fruit trees, olives, citrus, pergola and grapes in total number of trees, trees in production, production and yields.

Classification of animals made by: species (cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, horses), by age, sex and economic destination.

The term "poultry" covers domestic fowls, guinea fowl, ducks, geese and turkeys.