

17 December 2014

## Survey on the Structure of Agricultural Holdings 2013

**The number of agricultural holdings decreases by 2.5% in the period comprised between 2009 and 2013**

**The average utilised agricultural area per holding stands at 24.67 hectares, with a 0.5% increase as compared to 2009**

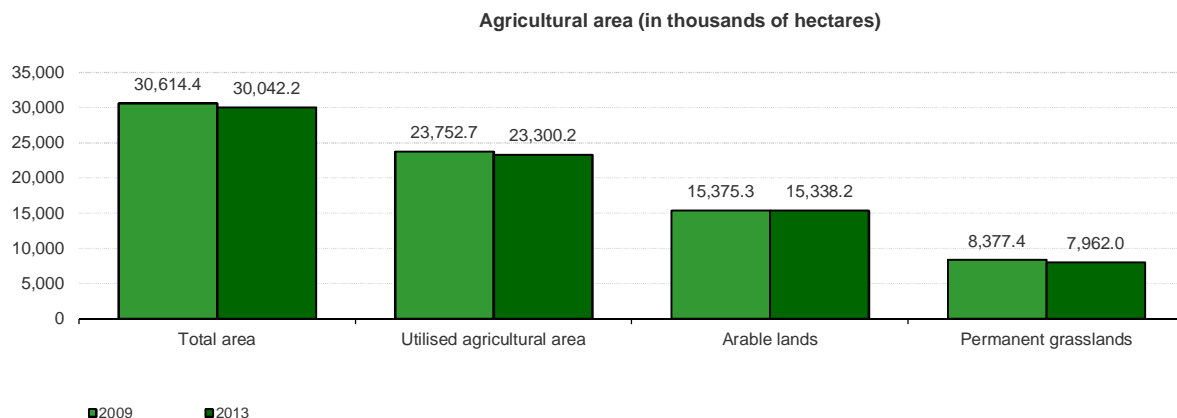
The number of agricultural holdings decreased by 2.5% in 2013 as compared to 2009, and the utilised agricultural area data (UAA) did so by 1.9%. This turned into a 0.5% increase in the average utilised agricultural area per holding, which passed from 24.56 hectares in 2009 to 24.67 in 2013.

In the period comprised between 2009 and 2013 the arable lands area decreased by 0.2%, and that of permanent grasslands did so by 5.0%.

### Number of holdings and agricultural area (in hectares)

	2009 census	2013 survey	% 2013/2009 variation
<b>Number of holdings</b>	<b>989,796</b>	<b>965,002</b>	-2.5
<b>Total área (TA)</b>	<b>30,614,351</b>	<b>30,042,209</b>	-1.9
<b>Used agricultural área (UAA)</b>	<b>23,752,688</b>	<b>23,300,221</b>	-1.9
Arable lands (CL)	15,375,299	15,338,183	-0.2
- Arable land <sup>1</sup>	11,289,057	11,295,826	0.1
- Fruit plantations	1,037,117	1,005,824	-3.0
- Olive plantations	2,153,727	2,194,434	1.9
- Vineyard	852,618	803,130	-5.8
- Other woody crops	42,780	38,969	-8.9
Permanent grasslands	8,377,389	7,962,038	-5.0

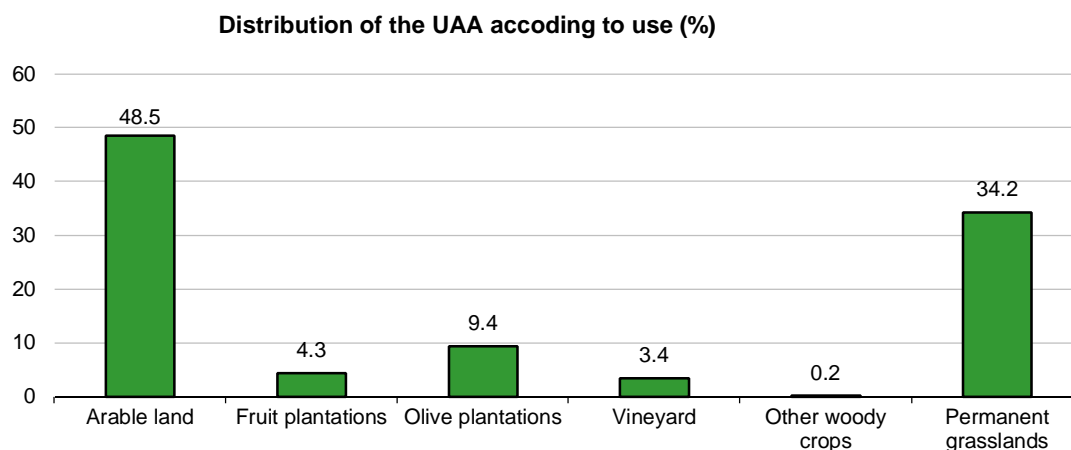
<sup>1</sup> It includes family vegetable patches



## Distribution of utilised agricultural area

The following chart shows the distribution of utilised agricultural area according to its use.

In 2013, *Arable land* crops accounted for 48.5% of the total UAA. *Permanent grasslands* accounted for 34.2% of the total, and *Fruit plantations*, *Olive plantations*, *Vineyard* and *Other woody crops* did so for the remaining 17.3%.



## Average results per holding according to are and type of livestock

In 2013, the average utilised agricultural area per holding increased by 0.5%.

By type of livestock, the average number of pigs, poultry, cattle and sheep per holding increased by 31.8%, 26.4%, 11.1% and 3.7%, respectively, as compared to 2009.

### Average results per holding

	2009 census	2013 survey	% 2013/2009 variation
Average TA per holding (ha)	31.51	31.66	0.5
Average UAA per holding (ha) <sup>2</sup>	24.56	24.67	0.5
Average number of cattle per holding	52.23	58.02	11.1
Average number of sheep per holding	240.29	249.09	3.7
Average number of pig per holding	354.18	466.83	31.8
Average number of poultry <sup>3</sup> per holding	2,072.07	2,618.10	26.4

<sup>2</sup> Quotient between total UAA and total holdings with UAA

<sup>3</sup> It does not include ostriches

## Geographical distribution of utilised agricultural area

In 2013, the Autonomous Communities of Castilla y León and Aragón presented the largest average sizes per holding (with 58.90 and 46.38 hectares, respectively).

They were followed by Comunidad de Madrid, Extremadura, Comunidad Foral de Navarra and Castilla-La Mancha, all with values above the national average.

At the opposite extreme, the smallest average sizes per holding were recorded in Canarias (4.28 hectares), Comunitat Valenciana (5.44) and Galicia (8.44).

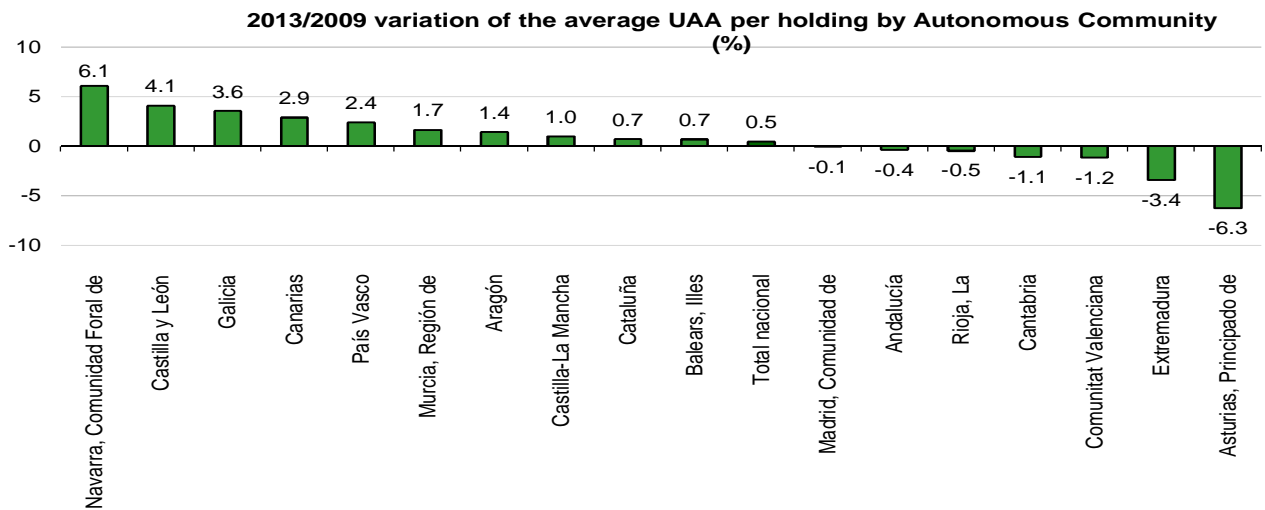
### Average utilised agricultural area per holding (in hectares)

	2009 census	2013 survey	% 2013/2009 variation
Castilla y León	56.58	58.90	4.1
Aragón	45.73	46.38	1.4
Madrid, Comunidad de	39.78	39.76	-0.1
Extremadura	40.91	39.51	-3.4
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	35.42	37.58	6.1
Castilla-La Mancha	33.93	34.27	1.0
<b>TOTAL NATIONAL<sup>4</sup></b>	24.56	24.67	0.5
Cantabria	24.48	24.21	-1.1
Rioja, La	23.03	22.92	-0.5
Cataluña	19.50	19.64	0.7
Andalucía	18.19	18.12	-0.4
Balears, Illes	17.22	17.34	0.7
Asturias, Principado de	16.10	15.09	-6.3
Murcia, Región de	12.38	12.58	1.7
País Vasco	11.57	11.85	2.4
Galicia	8.15	8.44	3.6
Comunitat Valenciana	5.50	5.44	-1.2
Canarias	4.16	4.28	2.9

<sup>4</sup> It includes Ceuta and Melilla

Comunidad Foral de Navarra (6.1%), Castilla y León (4.1%) and Galicia (3.6%) were the Autonomous Communities registering the greatest average UAA per holding increases in the period between 2009 and 2013.

Conversely, Principado de Asturias (-6.3%), Extremadura (-3.4%) and Comunitat Valenciana (-1.2%) recorded the greatest decreases.



### Geographical distribution of livestock

If we analyse livestock species in 2013, the largest number of cattle was concentrated in Castilla y León (with nearly 1.2 million heads), Galicia (928,312) and Extremadura (711,208).

In terms of sheep, Castilla y León (with nearly 3.4 million heads), Extremadura (with almost 3.2 million) and Castilla-La Mancha (with about 2.6 million) presented the highest figures.

Cataluña was the leading Community in the number of pigs, with more than 6.7 million heads. It was followed by Aragón, with more than 5.3 million.

Regarding the number of poultry, worth noting were Cataluña (with over 44.7 million heads), Andalucía (over 26.1million) and Castilla-La Mancha (around 25.5 million).

### Main livestock species, number of holdings and heads of livestock. Year 2013

	Cattle		Sheep		Pig		Poultry <sup>2</sup>	
	Hold.	Head	Hold.	Head	Hold.	Head	Hold.	Head <sup>4</sup>
Total nacional <sup>3</sup>	99,550	5,776,381	64,043	15,952,621	51,767	24,166,539	78,615	205,822
Andalucía	5,370	517,324	7,999	1,984,518	4,752	1,993,153	4,132	26,107
Aragón	2,631	349,429	3,450	1,826,496	2,371	5,329,665	1,043	23,128
Asturias, Principado de	13,729	381,293	2,604	44,033	2,066	12,720	6,137	271
Balears, Illes	484	31,378	2,872	270,108	1,229	62,512	2,313	696
Canarias	578	14,422	1,007	65,189	358	54,532	940	2,702
Cantabria	6,441	278,964	1,886	52,125	579	2,363	2,854	170
Castilla y León	13,124	1,199,541	8,356	3,353,597	5,363	3,055,924	4,777	22,045
Castilla-La Mancha	2,286	342,819	5,347	2,595,868	942	1,346,642	1,673	25,470
Cataluña	4,106	545,350	2,158	579,825	4,321	6,705,208	2,965	44,735
Comunitat Valenciana	447	49,131	998	326,900	653	1,061,039	652	17,925
Extremadura	7,582	711,208	8,842	3,162,378	5,956	1,013,876	2,753	5,540
Galicia	34,311	928,312	10,566	168,416	21,232	1,109,710	40,533	20,528
Madrid, Comunidad de	1,163	87,135	297	82,423	47	20,781	271	2,028
Murcia, Región de	247	59,777	985	470,077	759	1,596,297	468	5,014
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	1,461	112,053	1,881	583,995	483	671,026	719	4,319
País Vasco	5,286	128,111	4,534	259,593	561	18,982	6,255	1,575
Rioja, La	305	40,095	258	127,065	96	112,110	128	3,569

<sup>2</sup> It does not include ostriches

<sup>3</sup> It includes Ceuta and Melilla

<sup>4</sup> in thousands of heads

## Methodological note

### Background

The Survey on the Structure of Agricultural Holdings is conducted in all member countries of the European Union, in accordance with the Regulation (EC) No. 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and the Council and with the Regulations (EC) No. 1200/2009 and No. 1242/2008 of the European Commission.

The first community survey was carried out in the member States in 1966/67. Subsequently, surveys were conducted in the years 1970/71, 1975, 1979/80, 1983 and 1985.

Spain participated for the first time in this community programme with the sample survey in 1987. Subsequently, censuses were carried out in 1989, 1999 and 2009, and sample surveys in 1993, 1995, 1997, 2003, 2005 and 2007.

Pursuant to the 1166/2008 Regulation, the 2009 Agrarian Census has been prepared, and there are to surveys to be made in 2013 and in 2016.

### Collaborations

Data of the 2013 Survey on the Structure of Agricultural Holdings was obtained in collaboration with the Basque Statistics Institute and the Cataluña Statistics Institute, within the territorial scope of their Communities, and in accordance with the agreements signed between the INE and the respective Statistics Institutes.

### Scope of application

The research was carried out throughout the national territory, using a mixed method with three different stages along six months:

#### Stage 1: Postal stage with phone assistance and refinement

Delivery of questionnaires by post to the owners of the selected holdings. They would be able to fill in the questionnaire in paper and send it by post in the attached prepaid postage envelope. The questionnaire can be also filled in online (CAWI).

The duration of this stage is three months and a half, from 15 September to 31 December 2013.

#### Stage two: Telephone interviews (CATI)

Information collection via phone callings (CATI) to the owners of the first stage for whom there were an available phone number and who did not send the filled in questionnaire in stage 1.

Owners of this stage from whom there was no answer obtained passed on to a face-to-face interview in stage 3.

The duration of this second stage was two months, from 1 November to 31 December 2013.

#### Stage 3: Computer-assisted Face-to-face Interviews (CAPI)

Information collection via personal visit to the residences of owners from whom there has been no filled in questionnaire received in stages 1 and 2.

The duration of this third stage was two months, from 8 January to 15 March 2014.

The data refer to agricultural year 2013, that is, the campaign between 1 October 2012 and 30 September 2013, with the exception of livestock breeding, for which the reference date is 30 September 2013.

The research units are those agricultural operations that fulfil some of the following conditions: have at least 1 ha of Utilised Agricultural Area (UAA); have at least 0.2 ha utilised for fruits, vegetables and flowers, greenhouse cultivation, irrigated or hard greenhouse fruit trees; have at least 0.5 ha utilised for tobacco, hop and cotton; have a certain economic importance, if they are livestock breeders.

For the 2013 Survey and for the one that will take place in 2016, a panel has been designed, which through the establishment of affiliation rules, may be utilised to assign a probability of selection to the operations that have appeared since the 2009 Agrarian Census. This has allowed for the conception of a single-stage sample design, with a stratification of the operations, by technical-economic orientation and size, researching approximately 65,000 operations.

## **Definitions**

### *Agricultural holding*

An agricultural holding is the technical-economic unit from which agricultural products are obtained under the responsibility of an owner. Said unit is characterised by the common use of labour and means of production: machinery, land, buildings, fertilisers...

### *Owner of the holding*

The owner of the holding is defined as the individual or legal entity that, acting freely and autonomously, takes on the risk of an agricultural holding, managing it themselves or through another. Specifically, the owner of the operation is considered to be the owner who directly manages his or her land, the lessee, the share farmer and anyone who takes on the risk of an operation, regardless of the tenancy regime of the land.

### *Holding manager*

The holding manager is the person responsible for the current and daily management of the agricultural holding. In general, this coincides with the owner, although it may be a family member of the owner, or another wage-earning person.

Every holding has a single operation manager.

### *Total area*

The total holding area is made up of the area of all the plots included in the holding: the area owned by the owner, the area rented out for working and the area worked and governed by other types of tenancy agreement. Areas owned by the owner, but granted to third persons, are excluded.

The total holding area is comprised of the utilised agricultural area and the other land that, forming a part of the holding, is not productive or not capable of substantial vegetable exploitation, such as waste land, threshing floors, stony ground, roads, waters and forest land.

*Utilised agricultural area*

The utilised agricultural area is the whole of the arable lands and permanent grasslands. The cultivated land includes arable crops, fallow lands, kitchen gardens and land for woody crops.

**Main characteristics studied**

The characteristics studied refer to the size of the operation, legal nature of the operation, tenancy regime of the land, cultivation areas, crops for the production of renewable energies and genetically modified crops, mushroom, greenhouse, machinery and equipment for energy production, head of livestock, labour, rural development, ecological agriculture and production destination.

---

For further information see **INEbase-[www.ine.es](http://www.ine.es)** All press releases at: **[www.ine.es/prensa/prensa\\_en.htm](http://www.ine.es/prensa/prensa_en.htm)**

**Press office:** Telephone numbers: 91 583 93 63 / 94 08 – Fax: 91 583 90 87 - **[gprensa@ine.es](mailto:gprensa@ine.es)**

**Information area:** Telephone: 91 583 91 00 – Fax: 91 583 91 58 – **[www.ine.es/infoine](http://www.ine.es/infoine)**

---