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During 2021, the total agricultural output increased by 0.3 per cent while the corresponding gross value added fell by 8.3 per cent over the previous year.

## Economic Accounts for Agriculture: 2021

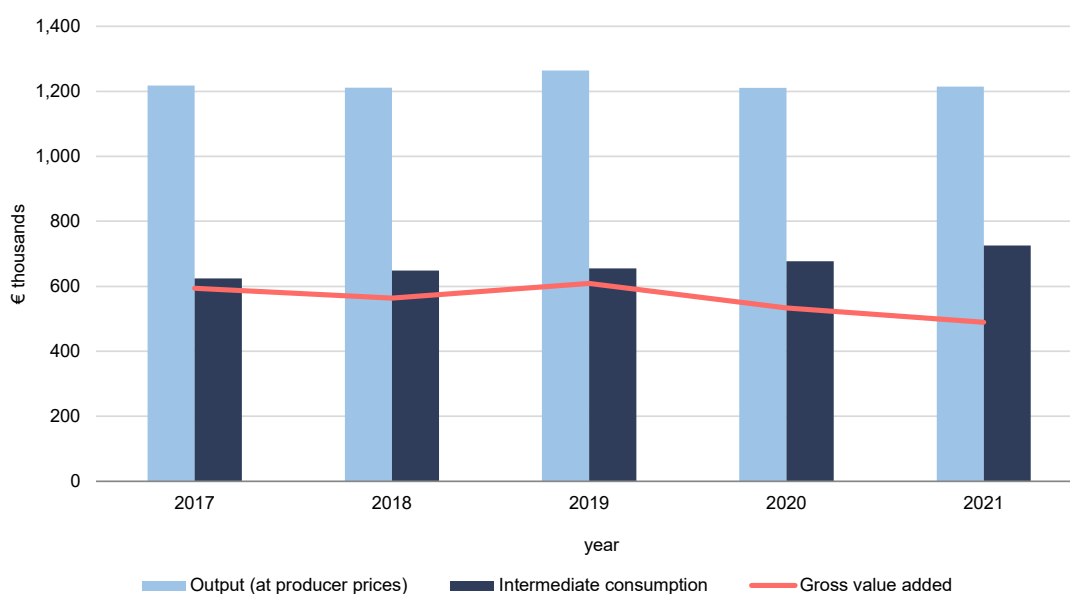
When compared to the previous year, provisional annual estimates for 2021 indicate that the output generated by the agricultural sector registered an increase of 0.3 per cent to a total of €121.5 million. On account of an increase in the intermediate consumption of 7.2 per cent that was higher than the increase in output, the gross value added fell by 8.3 per cent to €48.9 million. The expenditure associated with the depreciation of fixed capital used by the sector decreased by 5.9 per cent to a total of €6.9 million, whereas the total wage bill paid by the agricultural holdings to their workers for their labour input increased by 3.7 per cent to €5.4 million (Table 1).

During 2021, financial assistance received by the sector decreased by 4.8 per cent when compared to the amount distributed during the preceding year. In total, support coming through EU-funded programmes and COVID-19 related Government assistance amounted to €28.1 million. Accordingly, the net operating surplus of the sector declined by 8.0 per cent to €64.7 million. Moreover, when considering the negative net property income of €1.0 million recorded by the same holdings during 2021, the resulting net entrepreneurial income attributable to this sector decreased by 8.0 per cent to €63.7 million (Table 1).

The decreases in agricultural output arose from a decline in both the secondary agricultural activities as well as livestock meat products of 3.3 and 2.7 per cent respectively. On the contrary, the output generated through animal-derived products increased by 5.7 per cent, whereas the output of crop products remained relatively unchanged (Table 2).

Intermediate consumption, which adds up the specific expenses recorded by the sector registered increases in livestock feeding stuffs, crop cultivation costs and various other expenses of 13.4, 4.7 and 2.4 per cent respectively. These were, however, partially offset by a decline in the energy and fuel costs of 2.7 per cent (Table 3) ■

**Chart 1. Output, intermediate consumption and gross value added in agricultural activities by year**



**Table 1. Production account of the agricultural sector by year**

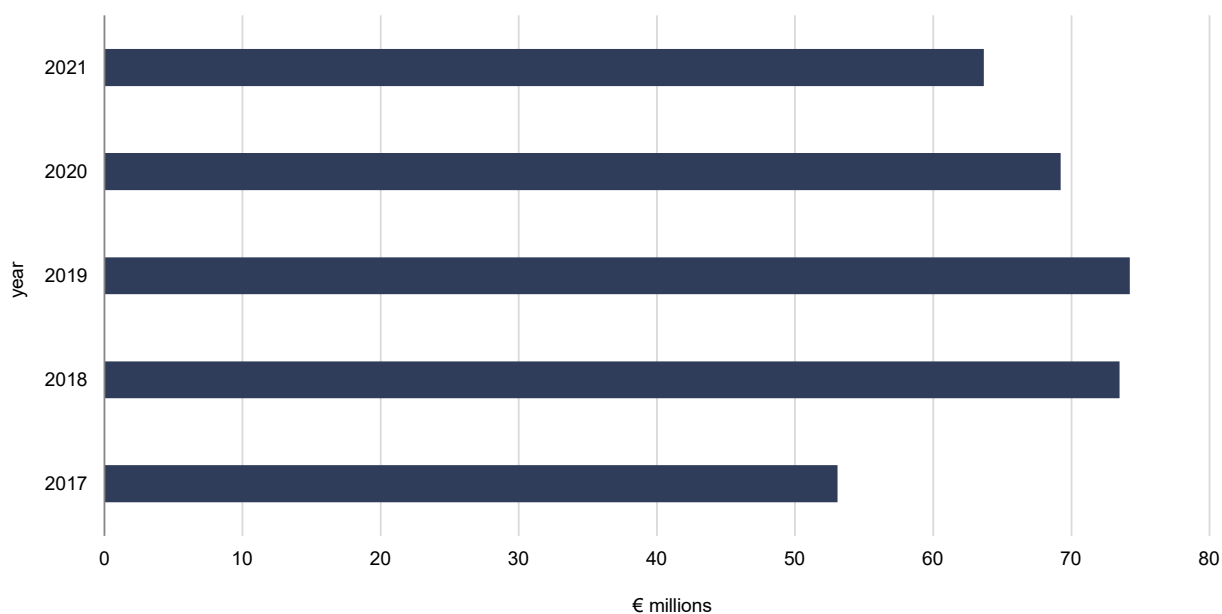
€ 000

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 <sup>P</sup>	Percentage change 2021/2020
<b>Output</b>	<b>121,784</b>	<b>121,171</b>	<b>126,398</b>	<b>121,088</b>	<b>121,510</b>	<b>0.3</b>
<i>less</i> Intermediate consumption	62,423	64,798	65,499	67,705	72,578	7.2
<b>Value added, gross</b>	<b>59,361</b>	<b>56,373</b>	<b>60,899</b>	<b>53,383</b>	<b>48,931</b>	<b>-8.3</b>
<i>less</i> Consumption of fixed capital	6,378	6,815	6,750	7,356	6,925	-5.9
<b>Value added, net</b>	<b>52,983</b>	<b>49,558</b>	<b>54,149</b>	<b>46,027</b>	<b>42,007</b>	<b>-8.7</b>
<i>less</i> Compensation of employees	4,307	4,729	4,940	5,254	5,449	3.7
<i>less</i> Taxes on production	0	0	0	0	0	-
<i>add</i> Subsidies on production	5,531	29,806	26,065	29,510	28,103	-4.8
<b>Operating surplus, net</b>	<b>54,207</b>	<b>74,635</b>	<b>75,274</b>	<b>70,283</b>	<b>64,661</b>	<b>-8.0</b>
<i>add</i> Net property income	(1,128)	(1,153)	(1,038)	(1,061)	(1,003)	-5.4
<b>Entrepreneurial income, net</b>	<b>53,078</b>	<b>73,482</b>	<b>74,236</b>	<b>69,222</b>	<b>63,657</b>	<b>-8.0</b>

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Chart 2. Net entrepreneurial income of the agricultural sector by year**



**Table 2. Agricultural output by year and type of produce**

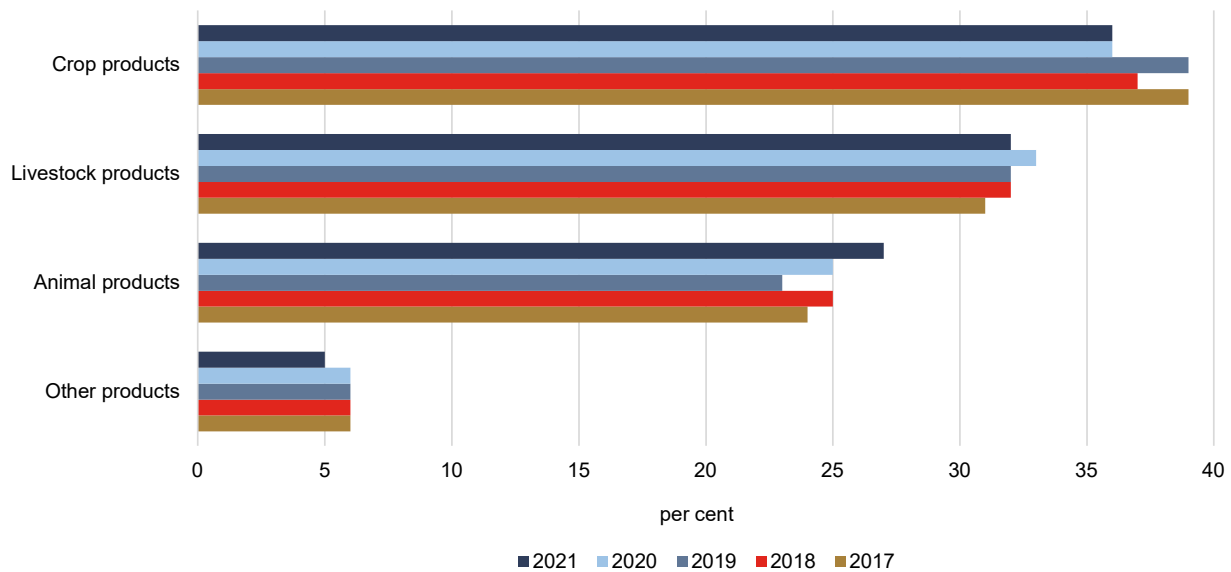
	€ 000					Percentage change 2021/2020
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 <sup>P</sup>	
<b>Output - by type of produce</b>	<b>121,784</b>	<b>121,171</b>	<b>126,398</b>	<b>121,088</b>	<b>121,510</b>	<b>0.3</b>
<b>Livestock products</b>	<b>38,257</b>	<b>38,885</b>	<b>41,029</b>	<b>40,047</b>	<b>38,964</b>	<b>-2.7</b>
Beef	3,069	3,057	3,135	3,413	3,228	-5.4
Pork	10,267	9,623	9,612	9,953	10,496	5.5
Sheep and goats	388	426	430	429	420	-2.1
Poultry	6,299	6,604	6,846	7,390	7,235	-2.1
Rabbits	18,234	19,175	21,006	18,862	17,585	-6.8
<b>Animal products</b>	<b>29,143</b>	<b>29,701</b>	<b>29,314</b>	<b>30,677</b>	<b>32,423</b>	<b>5.7</b>
Milk	19,754	20,143	20,390	21,419	22,741	6.2
Eggs	9,168	9,307	8,661	9,020	9,456	4.8
Other animal products	221	251	263	238	226	-5.0
<b>Crop products</b>	<b>47,719</b>	<b>45,436</b>	<b>49,047</b>	<b>43,545</b>	<b>43,527</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Forage	3,978	4,255	4,198	3,945	3,893	-1.3
Vegetables	30,280	27,598	31,824	27,978	28,049	0.3
Potatoes	4,403	4,628	4,787	3,731	3,480	-6.7
Fruits	6,127	6,922	5,939	5,669	5,926	4.5
Flowers and seeds	2,932	2,034	2,299	2,223	2,179	-2.0
<b>Other products coming from secondary activities <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>6,665</b>	<b>7,149</b>	<b>7,008</b>	<b>6,819</b>	<b>6,596</b>	<b>-3.3</b>
Wine	1,754	1,760	1,565	1,397	1,279	-8.4
Cheese	4,911	5,389	5,443	5,422	5,317	-1.9

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

<sup>1</sup> Refers to activities carried out directly by farmers on their agricultural holdings.

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Chart 3. Percentage share of output in the agricultural sector by category of produce and year**



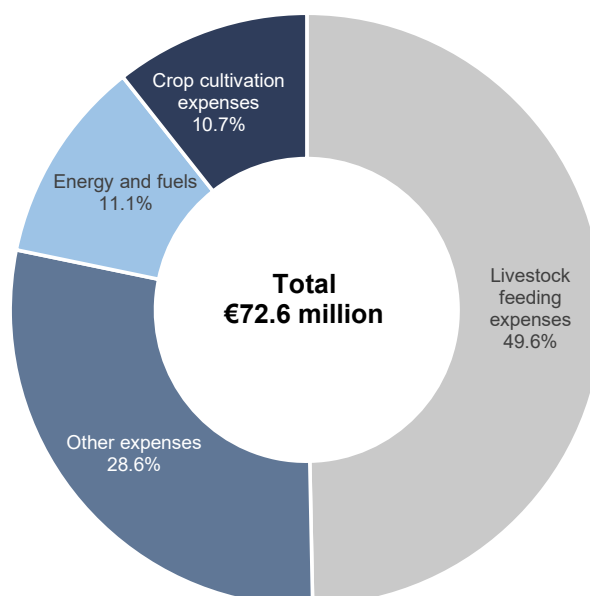
**Table 3. Agricultural intermediate consumption by year and type of expense**

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 <sup>P</sup>	Percentage change 2021/2020
<b>Intermediate consumption - by type of expense</b>	<b>62,423</b>	<b>64,798</b>	<b>65,499</b>	<b>67,705</b>	<b>72,578</b>	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Crop cultivation expenses</b>	<b>6,847</b>	<b>6,963</b>	<b>7,311</b>	<b>7,375</b>	<b>7,722</b>	<b>4.7</b>
Seeds and planting stock	4,236	4,331	4,657	4,682	4,808	2.7
Fertilisers and soil improvers	2,026	2,036	2,055	2,086	2,287	9.6
Plant protection products and pesticides	585	596	598	607	628	3.5
<b>Livestock feeding expenses</b>	<b>28,834</b>	<b>30,491</b>	<b>30,757</b>	<b>31,834</b>	<b>36,088</b>	<b>13.4</b>
<b>Energy and fuels</b>	<b>7,666</b>	<b>7,891</b>	<b>8,135</b>	<b>8,291</b>	<b>8,070</b>	<b>-2.7</b>
Electricity	968	991	982	1,025	1,018	-0.8
Other fuels and propellants	6,698	6,900	7,153	7,266	7,052	-2.9
<b>Other expenses</b>	<b>19,076</b>	<b>19,453</b>	<b>19,296</b>	<b>20,204</b>	<b>20,698</b>	<b>2.4</b>
Maintenance expenses (other than buildings)	6,981	7,176	6,982	7,099	7,273	2.5
Maintenance of buildings	2,210	2,166	2,305	2,417	2,500	3.4
Veterinary services	1,206	1,248	1,474	1,668	1,728	3.6
Other agricultural expenses	8,678	8,863	8,536	9,021	9,197	2.0

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Chart 4. Agricultural intermediate consumption by relative share of expense: 2021**



## Methodological notes:

1. The data published in this release is based on the methodologies for the Economic Accounts for Agriculture and Forestry (EAA/EAF 97, Rev. 1.1).
2. Data on the generated output of agriculture is collected from a number of sources. The civil abattoir provides monthly slaughtering statistics by type of animal, while the private slaughterhouses supply data on the volume and value of slaughtered poultry. The principal fruit and vegetable markets provide data on the volume and wholesale value of the produce harvested by the farmer, the Rural Development Department provides administrative data on the activity of wineries, whereas the Agriculture and Rural Payment Agency provides data on subsidies. Separately, the NSO collects statistical data through an annual survey on the quantity and value of tomatoes picked for processing, while it also makes use of other available data sources for the estimation of some other specific variables in this release.
3. Data on intermediate consumption is based on compilations whose sources are administrative records and input price indices that are collected on a quarterly basis from the retail businesses that cater for the agricultural sector.
4. The Economic Accounts and the other economic indicators published in this release refer to a complete calendar year.
5. The data in this release is provisional and subject to revision. Updates are carried out annually in respect of a rolling two-year period.
6. **Definitions:**
  - **Output** represents the total value of agricultural produce generated through agricultural activity over an entire calendar year period.
  - **Intermediate consumption** represents the value of specifically-classified goods and services used as inputs in agricultural production processes, with the exception of some specific items which, by methodology, are classified elsewhere.
  - **Gross value added** of the agricultural activity is the value of output less intermediate consumption by all the agricultural holdings before deducting any incurred gross fixed capital consumption (i.e. depreciation of fixed assets).
  - **Net entrepreneurial income** measures the net operating surplus of the agricultural holding with the addition of any net property income (i.e. after adding and deducting any transactions such as rents and interest).

7. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Sources and Methods:

[https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources\\_and\\_Methods/Unit\\_B3/Environment\\_Energy\\_Transport\\_and\\_Agriculture\\_Statistics/Pages/Economic-Accounts-for-Agriculture.aspx](https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_B3/Environment_Energy_Transport_and_Agriculture_Statistics/Pages/Economic-Accounts-for-Agriculture.aspx)

Statistical Concepts: <https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/concepts.aspx>

8. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
9. A detailed news release calendar is available on:  
[https://nso.gov.mt/en/News\\_Releases/Release\\_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx](https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx)

### European statistics comparable to data in this news release are available at:

[EUROSTAT Website/Homepage/Statistics Database](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/tgm/table.do?tab=table&init=1&language=en)

Data Navigation Tree

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