

During 2020, the total agricultural output in Malta declined by 4.5 per cent while the related gross value added dropped by 12.9 per cent.

Economic Accounts for Agriculture: 2020

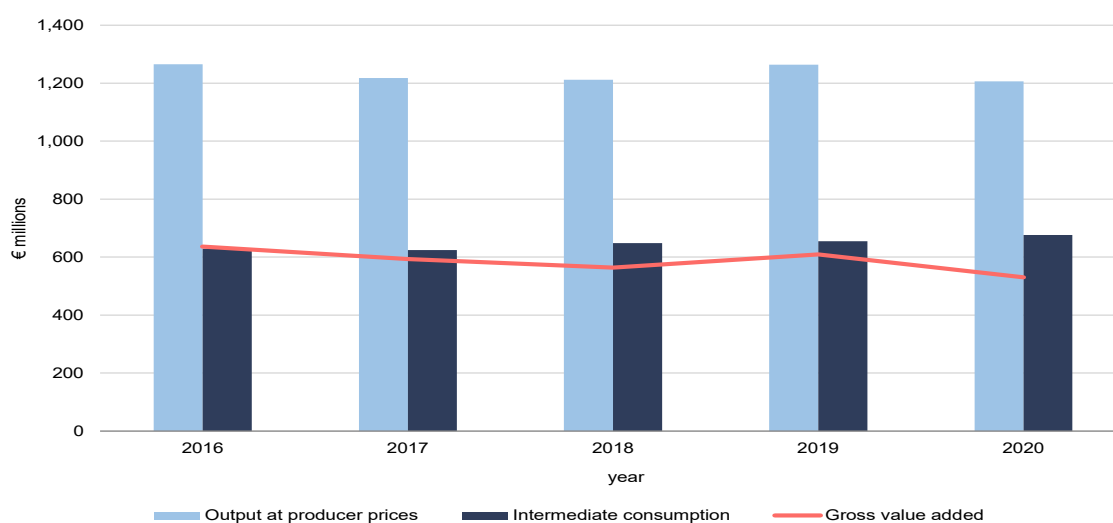
Provisional estimates for the year 2020 indicate that the total output of the agricultural sector in Malta decreased by 4.5 per cent to €120.7 million, whereas the gross value added generated by this economic activity fell by 12.9 per cent to €53.1 million. Indeed, it transpired that, during the year under review, the expenditure incurred by the agricultural sector rose by 3.2 per cent while the revenue emanating through the generated output fell, thus impinging adversely on the registered gross value added of the sector. Notwithstanding this, however, the costs associated with the depreciation of fixed capital declined by 1.2 per cent to a total of €6.7 million; whereas the total compensation paid to employees for their labour increased by 3.7 per cent to a total wage bill of €4.9 million.

During 2020, the sector was once again financially assisted by a range of EU-funded programmes which amounted to €26.2 million, a marginal increase of 0.6 per cent over the relative sum distributed in the preceding year. Nonetheless, this yearly provision was insufficient to sustain the net operating surplus recorded in recent years which fell by 10.3 per cent to €67.7 million. Upon adding up the latter surplus to the negative net property income of €1.0 million registered in 2020, the net entrepreneurial income attributable to the agricultural sector in Malta is estimated to have dropped by 10.4 per cent to €66.7 million (Table 1).

When viewed by the various activities, the agricultural sector registered decreases in crop cultivation, products derived from secondary activities as well as livestock meat products of 12.1 per cent, 2.7 per cent and 2.4 per cent respectively. An increase of 4.6 per cent was nevertheless recorded in the output of various animal products (Table 2).

Intermediate consumption, which measures specific expenses born by this economic activity, recorded increases in various overheads and livestock feeding stuffs of 4.7 per cent and 3.2 per cent respectively. Other increases were registered in energy and fuel costs and crop cultivation expenses of 1.9 per cent and 0.9 per cent respectively (Table 3) ■

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



Statistics in this News Release should be interpreted in the context of the COVID-19 situation.

Table 1. Production account of the agricultural sector by year

	€ 000					
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 ^P	Percentage change 2020/2019
Output	126,534	121,784	121,171	126,398	120,660	-4.5
<i>less</i> Intermediate consumption	62,924	62,423	64,798	65,499	67,605	3.2
Value added, gross	63,610	59,361	56,373	60,899	53,055	-12.9
<i>less</i> Consumption of fixed capital	7,098	6,378	6,815	6,750	6,670	-1.2
Value added, net	56,512	52,983	49,558	54,149	46,385	-14.3
<i>less</i> Compensation of employees	4,207	4,242	4,575	4,689	4,865	3.7
<i>less</i> Taxes on production	0	0	0	0	0	-
<i>add</i> Subsidies on production	6,081	5,531	29,806	26,065	26,222	0.6
Operating surplus, net	58,386	54,272	74,789	75,525	67,742	-10.3
<i>add</i> Net property income	(1,217)	(1,128)	(1,153)	(1,038)	(1,008)	-2.8
Entrepreneurial income, net	57,169	53,143	73,636	74,487	66,734	-10.4

^P Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Chart 2. Net entrepreneurial income in the agricultural sector by year

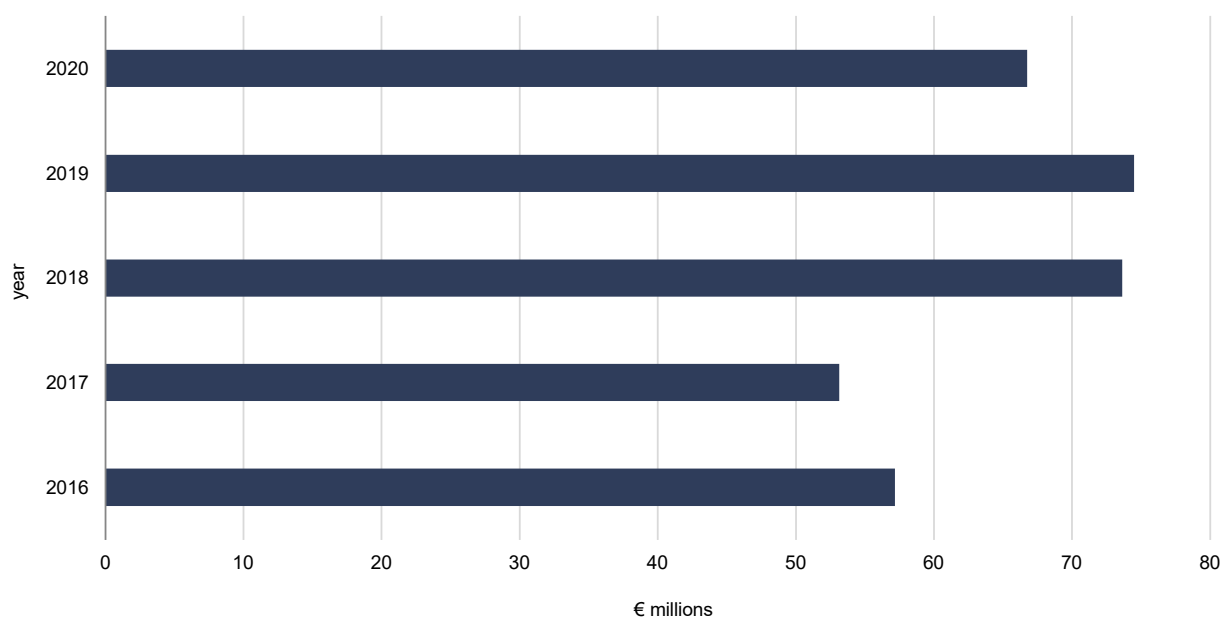


Table 2. Agricultural output by year and type of produce

Type of produce	€ 000					Percentage change 2020/2019
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 ^P	
Output	126,534	121,784	121,171	126,398	120,660	-4.5
Livestock products	39,250	38,257	38,885	41,029	40,047	-2.4
Beef	3,123	3,069	3,057	3,135	3,413	8.9
Pork	10,845	10,267	9,623	9,612	9,953	3.5
Sheep and goats	378	388	426	430	429	-0.3
Poultry	6,575	6,299	6,604	6,846	7,390	7.9
Rabbits	18,329	18,234	19,175	21,006	18,862	-10.2
Animal products	28,689	29,143	29,701	29,314	30,677	4.6
Milk	19,782	19,754	20,143	20,390	21,419	5.0
Eggs	8,680	9,168	9,307	8,661	9,020	4.1
Other animal products	227	221	251	263	238	-9.3
Crop products	52,061	47,719	45,436	49,047	43,118	-12.1
Forage	2,742	3,978	4,255	4,198	3,846	-8.4
Vegetables	36,288	30,280	27,598	31,824	27,978	-12.1
Potatoes	3,612	4,403	4,628	4,787	3,731	-22.1
Fruits	5,966	6,127	6,922	5,939	5,669	-4.6
Flowers and seeds	3,453	2,932	2,034	2,299	1,895	-17.6
Other products coming from secondary activities ¹	6,534	6,665	7,149	7,008	6,819	-2.7
Wine	1,743	1,754	1,760	1,565	1,397	-10.8
Cheese	4,791	4,911	5,389	5,443	5,422	-0.4

^P Provisional

¹ 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 by year

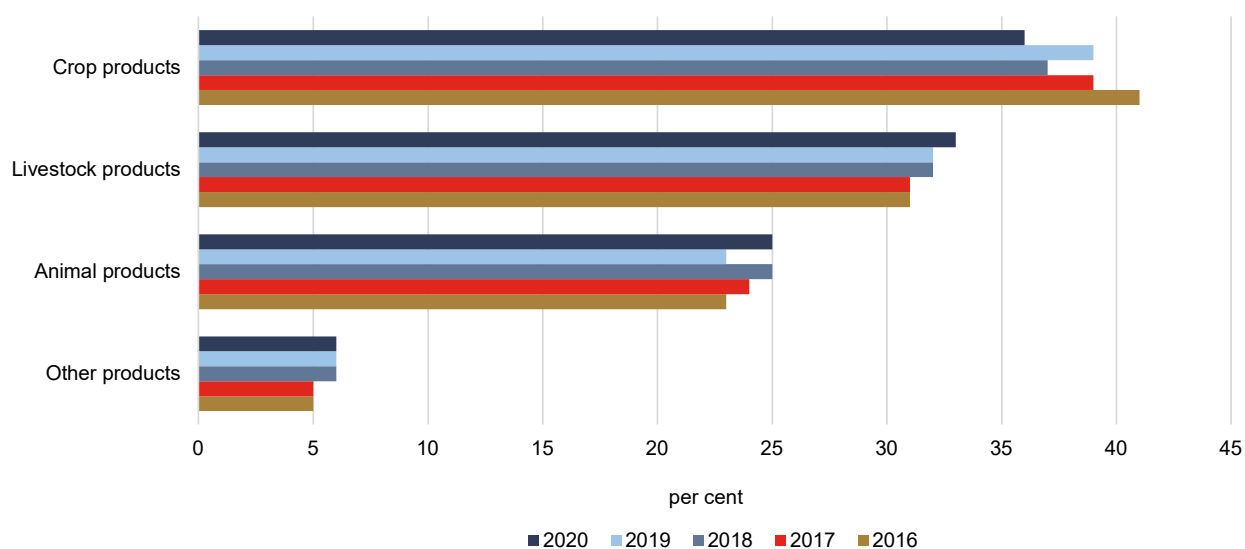


Table 3. Agricultural intermediate consumption by year and type of expense

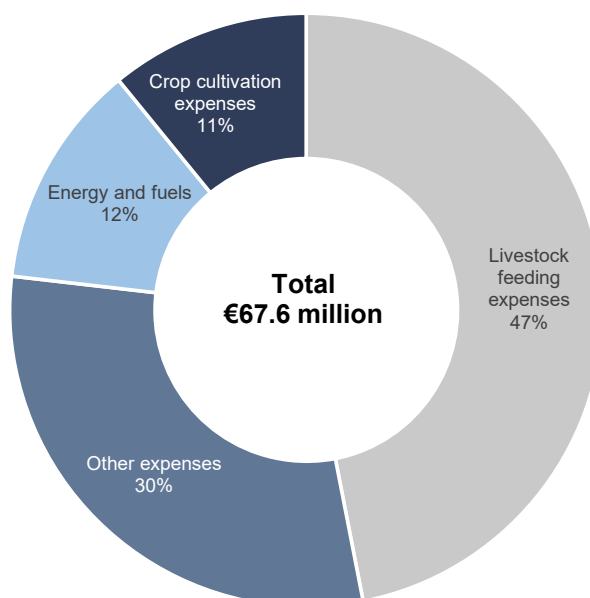
€ 000

Type of expense	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 ^P	Percentage change 2020/2019
Intermediate consumption	62,924	62,423	64,798	65,499	67,605	3.2
Crop cultivation expenses	6,853	6,847	6,963	7,311	7,375	0.9
Seeds and planting stock	4,265	4,236	4,331	4,657	4,682	0.5
Fertilisers and soil improvers	2,025	2,026	2,036	2,055	2,086	1.5
Plant protection products and pesticides	563	585	596	598	607	1.5
Livestock feeding expenses	28,393	28,834	30,491	30,757	31,735	3.2
Energy and fuels	7,795	7,666	7,891	8,135	8,291	1.9
Electricity	1,010	968	991	982	1,025	4.4
Other fuels and propellants	6,785	6,698	6,900	7,153	7,266	1.6
Other expenses	19,883	19,076	19,453	19,296	20,204	4.7
Maintenance expenses	7,331	6,981	7,176	6,982	7,099	1.7
Maintenance of buildings	2,314	2,210	2,166	2,305	2,417	4.8
Veterinary services	1,250	1,206	1,248	1,474	1,668	13.2
Other agricultural expenses	8,989	8,678	8,863	8,536	9,021	5.7

^P Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Chart 4. Agricultural intermediate consumption by relative share of expense: 2020



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, and makes use also of other available data sources for the estimation of 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

Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/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

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&code=sdg_12_10_10)

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