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Output of the agricultural sector in 2018 increased by 0.2 per cent, while expenses incurred under intermediate consumption rose by 3.8 per cent.

## Economic Accounts for Agriculture: 2018

When compared to 2017, the gross value added of the agricultural sector registered a drop of 3.5 per cent to settle at a total of €57.3 million. Contributing to this was the combined result of having the total output of the sector advancing by 0.2 per cent to €122.1 million and intermediate consumption outlays rising by 3.8 per cent to €64.8 million. Moreover, consumption of fixed capital increased by 6.4 per cent to a total of €6.8 million; while compensation of employees rose by 7.9 per cent to a wage bill of €4.5 million.

Nevertheless, the sector was parallelly assisted through the delivery of a range of financial aid through EU-funded programmes. The latter, which amounted to €25.4 million, helped the net operating surplus of the sector to increase by 31.4 per cent to €71.4 million.

Ultimately, upon adding the latter surplus to the negative net property income of €1.1 million recorded in 2018, the net entrepreneurial income of the sector is estimated to have improved by 32.1 per cent to €70.3 million (Table 1).

The output in this sector has registered increases in the produce coming from secondary agricultural activities carried out by farmers on their agricultural holdings, animal products and livestock products of 7.3, 1.9 and 1.6 per cent respectively. These, however, were almost completely offset by decreases in crop production of 2.9 per cent (Table 2).

Intermediate consumption, which measures specific expenditure incurred during the production processes of the agricultural sector, was mainly marked by increases in livestock feeding expenses, energy and fuel costs by 5.7 and 2.9 per cent respectively (Table 3) ■

Chart 1. Agricultural sector's output, intermediate consumption and gross value added

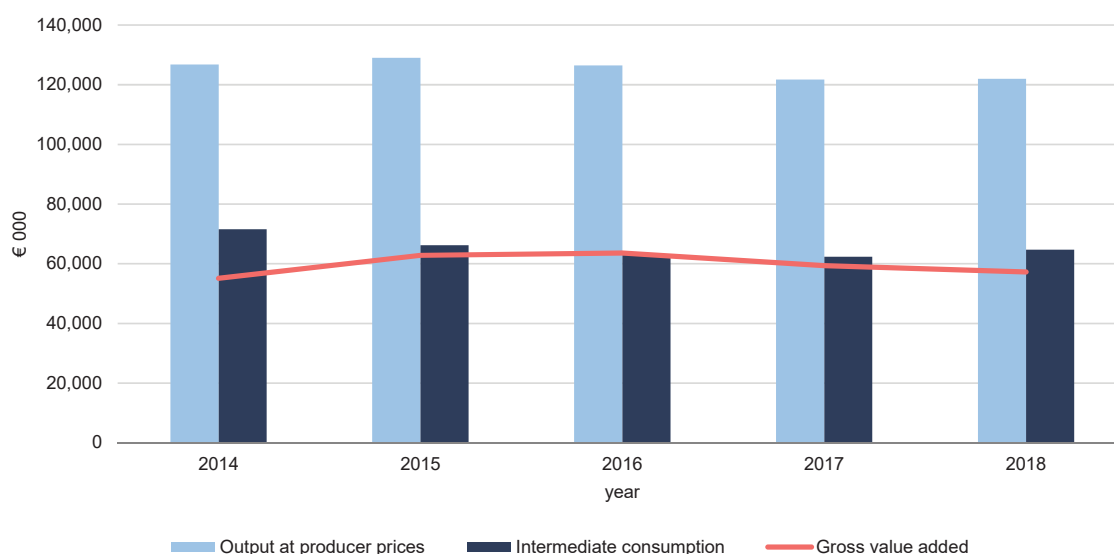


Table 1. Production account of the agricultural sector

|  | € 000          |                |                |                |                   |                             |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
|  | 2014           | 2015           | 2016           | 2017           | 2018 <sup>P</sup> | Percentage change 2018/2017 |
| <b>Output</b>                            | <b>126,753</b> | <b>129,031</b> | <b>126,534</b> | <b>121,784</b> | <b>122,060</b>    | <b>0.2</b>                  |
| <i>less</i> Intermediate consumption     | 71,613         | 66,217         | 62,924         | 62,423         | 64,798            | 3.8                         |
| <b>Value added, gross</b>                | <b>55,140</b>  | <b>62,813</b>  | <b>63,610</b>  | <b>59,361</b>  | <b>57,262</b>     | <b>-3.5</b>                 |
| <i>less</i> Consumption of fixed capital | 6,982          | 7,261          | 7,098          | 6,378          | 6,783             | 6.4                         |
| <b>Value added, net</b>                  | <b>48,158</b>  | <b>55,553</b>  | <b>56,512</b>  | <b>52,983</b>  | <b>50,479</b>     | <b>-4.7</b>                 |
| <i>less</i> Compensation of employees    | 4,009          | 3,804          | 4,094          | 4,129          | 4,457             | 7.9                         |
| <i>less</i> Taxes on production          | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0                 | -                           |
| <i>add</i> Subsidies on production       | 19,579         | 28,193         | 6,081          | 5,507          | 25,406            | 361.3                       |
| <b>Operating surplus, net</b>            | <b>63,727</b>  | <b>79,941</b>  | <b>58,499</b>  | <b>54,361</b>  | <b>71,428</b>     | <b>31.4</b>                 |
| <i>add</i> Net property income           | (1,261)        | (1,295)        | (1,217)        | (1,128)        | (1,085)           | -3.9                        |
| <b>Entrepreneurial income, net</b>       | <b>62,466</b>  | <b>78,646</b>  | <b>57,282</b>  | <b>53,233</b>  | <b>70,343</b>     | <b>32.1</b>                 |

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Chart 2. Net entrepreneurial income in the agricultural sector

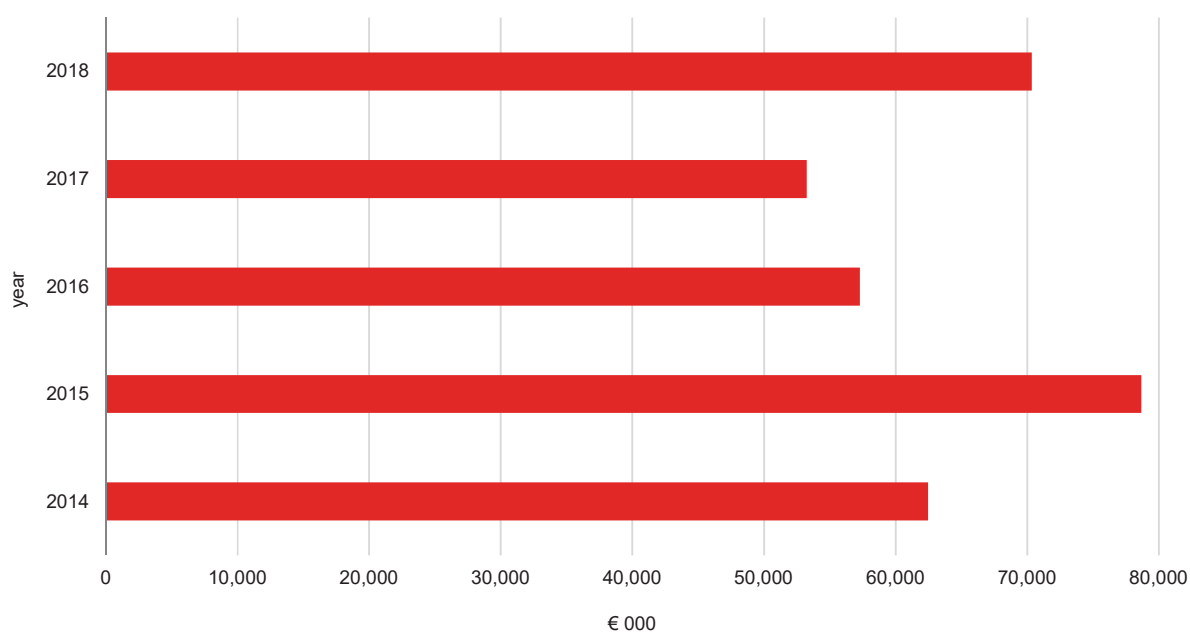


Table 2. Agricultural output by type of produce

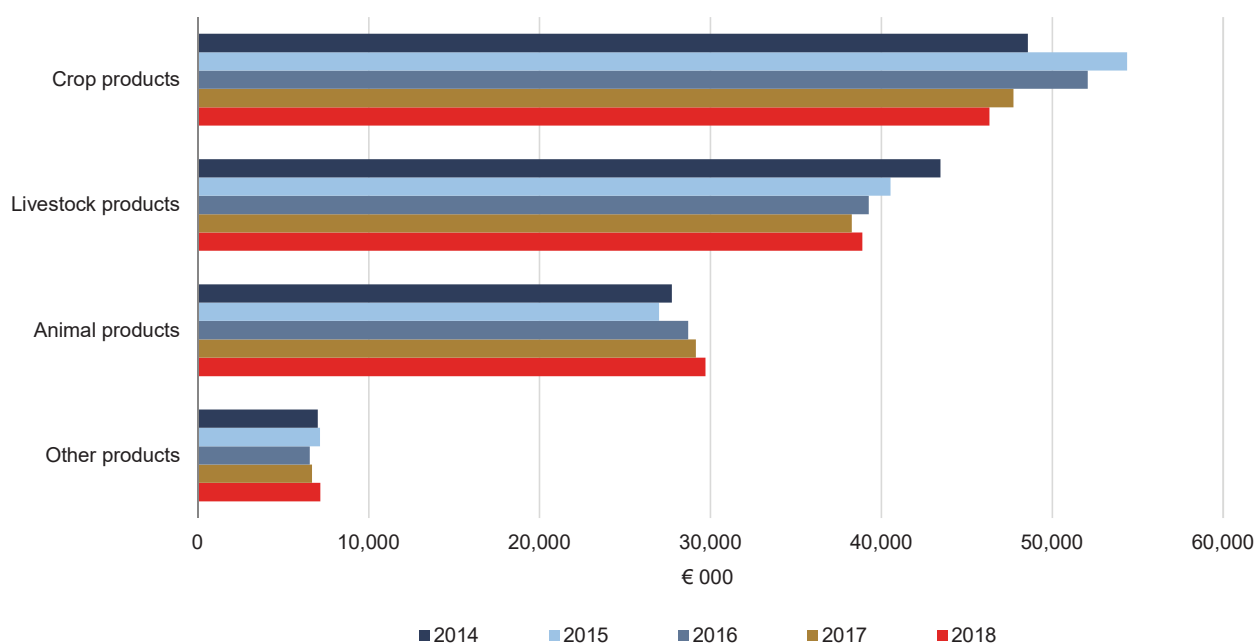
|   | € 000          |                |                |                |                   | Percentage change 2018/2017 |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
|   | 2014           | 2015           | 2016           | 2017           | 2018 <sup>P</sup> |                             |
| <b>Output</b>   | <b>126,753</b> | <b>129,031</b> | <b>126,534</b> | <b>121,784</b> | <b>122,060</b>    | <b>0.2</b>                  |
| <b>Livestock products</b>   | <b>43,448</b>  | <b>40,527</b>  | <b>39,250</b>  | <b>38,257</b>  | <b>38,885</b>     | <b>1.6</b>                  |
| Beef  | 3,191          | 2,934          | 3,123          | 3,069          | 3,057             | -0.4                        |
| Pork  | 14,583         | 12,388         | 10,845         | 10,267         | 9,623             | -6.3                        |
| Sheep and goats   | 349            | 368            | 378            | 388            | 426               | 9.9                         |
| Poultry   | 6,874          | 6,660          | 6,575          | 6,299          | 6,604             | 4.8                         |
| Rabbits   | 18,451         | 18,177         | 18,329         | 18,234         | 19,175            | 5.2                         |
| <b>Animal products</b>  | <b>27,726</b>  | <b>26,985</b>  | <b>28,689</b>  | <b>29,143</b>  | <b>29,701</b>     | <b>1.9</b>                  |
| Milk  | 20,131         | 19,504         | 19,782         | 19,754         | 20,143            | 2.0                         |
| Eggs  | 7,371          | 7,261          | 8,680          | 9,168          | 9,307             | 1.5                         |
| Other animal products   | 224            | 220            | 227            | 221            | 251               | 13.7                        |
| <b>Crop products</b>  | <b>48,574</b>  | <b>54,378</b>  | <b>52,061</b>  | <b>47,719</b>  | <b>46,325</b>     | <b>-2.9</b>                 |
| Forage  | 4,354          | 3,933          | 2,742          | 3,978          | 4,255             | 7.0                         |
| Vegetables  | 29,604         | 35,690         | 36,288         | 30,280         | 27,598            | -8.9                        |
| Potatoes  | 4,945          | 3,871          | 3,612          | 4,403          | 4,628             | 5.1                         |
| Fruits  | 6,823          | 7,119          | 5,966          | 6,127          | 6,922             | 13.0                        |
| Flowers and seeds   | 2,849          | 3,766          | 3,453          | 2,932          | 2,923             | -0.3                        |
| <b>Other products coming from secondary activities <sup>1</sup></b> | <b>7,006</b>   | <b>7,141</b>   | <b>6,534</b>   | <b>6,665</b>   | <b>7,149</b>      | <b>7.3</b>                  |
| Wine  | 2,590          | 2,467          | 1,743          | 1,754          | 1,760             | 0.3                         |
| Cheese  | 4,416          | 4,673          | 4,791          | 4,911          | 5,389             | 9.7                         |

<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. Output in the agricultural sector by type of produce



**Table 3. Intermediate consumption by type of expense**

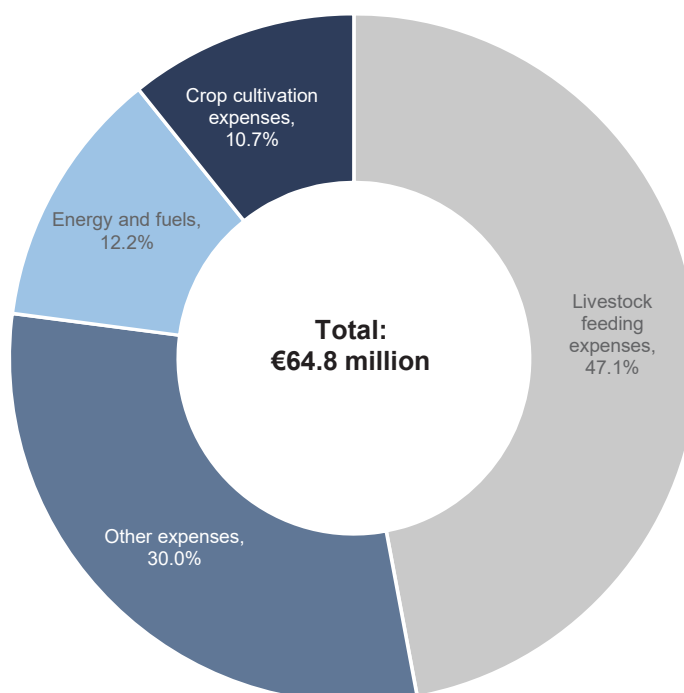
€ 000

|  | 2014          | 2015          | 2016          | 2017          | 2018 <sup>P</sup> | Percentage change 2018/2017 |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Intermediate consumption</b>          | <b>71,613</b> | <b>66,217</b> | <b>62,924</b> | <b>62,423</b> | <b>64,798</b>     | <b>3.8</b>                  |
| <b>Crop cultivation expenses</b>         | <b>6,287</b>  | <b>6,214</b>  | <b>6,853</b>  | <b>6,847</b>  | <b>6,963</b>      | <b>1.7</b>                  |
| Seeds and planting stock                 | 3,781         | 3,840         | 4,265         | 4,236         | 4,331             | 2.3                         |
| Fertilisers and soil improvers           | 1,995         | 1,860         | 2,025         | 2,026         | 2,036             | 0.5                         |
| Plant protection products and pesticides | 511           | 514           | 563           | 585           | 596               | 1.9                         |
| <b>Livestock feeding expenses</b>        | <b>35,553</b> | <b>31,159</b> | <b>28,393</b> | <b>28,834</b> | <b>30,491</b>     | <b>5.7</b>                  |
| <b>Energy and fuels</b>                  | <b>9,848</b>  | <b>8,561</b>  | <b>7,795</b>  | <b>7,666</b>  | <b>7,891</b>      | <b>2.9</b>                  |
| Electricity                              | 1,579         | 1,052         | 1,010         | 968           | 991               | 2.4                         |
| Other fuels and propellants              | 8,269         | 7,509         | 6,785         | 6,698         | 6,900             | 3.0                         |
| <b>Other expenses</b>                    | <b>19,926</b> | <b>20,283</b> | <b>19,883</b> | <b>19,076</b> | <b>19,453</b>     | <b>2.0</b>                  |
| Maintenance expenses                     | 7,249         | 7,552         | 7,331         | 6,981         | 7,176             | 2.8                         |
| Maintenance of buildings                 | 2,382         | 2,365         | 2,314         | 2,210         | 2,166             | -2.0                        |
| Veterinary services                      | 1,303         | 1,292         | 1,250         | 1,206         | 1,248             | 3.5                         |
| Other agricultural services              | 8,991         | 9,075         | 8,989         | 8,678         | 8,863             | 2.1                         |

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

**Chart 4. Intermediate consumption by relative share of expense: 2018**



## 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 and rabbits. 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.
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 sector 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: <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:  
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### European statistics comparable to data in this news release are available at:

<EUROSTAT Website/Homepage/Statistics Database>

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