

**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**General Agricultural Census 2010**  
**- definitive data -**

**For a correct interpretation of the results, refer to the Methodological notes on page 5 of this press release**

According to the EC Regulation No. 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and the Council of November 19, 2008, on farm structure surveys and the survey on agricultural production methods, Romania conducted over the period December 2010 – January 2011, the General Agricultural Census 2010, an exhaustive statistical survey of the agricultural holdings on the whole territory of the country, both in the rural area and urban areas.

The objective of the general agricultural census was to obtain statistical data on the number and structure of the agricultural holdings, the size of the utilised agricultural areas, livestock, agricultural machinery and equipment, irrigated area, aspects related to the organic farming and rural development.

The main results of the General Agricultural Census 2010 are the following:

- **The number of agricultural holdings was 3859043, about 14% less than that registered by the General Agricultural Census 2002**
  - number of agricultural holdings without legal status was of 3828345, 14.2% less than in 2002;
  - number of agricultural holdings with legal status was of 30698, 34.8% more than in 2002.

The lower number of agricultural holdings was mainly due to the merging of certain agricultural holdings without legal status.

- **The utilised agricultural area of the agricultural holdings was almost 4.5% lower than that registered at the General Agricultural Census 2002**

The comparative situation of the agricultural area used, by main categories of use, in 2002 and 2010 is the following:

Indicators	M.U.	Total agricultural holdings		Agricultural holdings without legal status		Agricultural holdings with legal status	
		2002	2010	2002	2010	2002	2010
Number of agricultural holdings	thou	4485	3859	4462	3828	23	31
Utilised agricultural area (UAA)	thou ha	13931	13306	7709	7450	6222	5856
- arable land	thou ha	8774	8306	5437	4725	3337	3581
- pastures and meadows	thou ha	4644	4506	1878	2307	2766	2199
- permanent crops	thou ha	344	312	225	236	119	76
- kitchen gardens	thou ha	169	182	169	182	-	-
Average utilised agricultural area per agricultural holding*)	ha	3,11	3,45	1,73	1,95	274,43	190,78

\*)it was calculated of the following measurement units: hectare and number

- **The average utilised agricultural area per agricultural holding did not significantly change**

The average utilised agricultural area, in 2010, per agricultural holding was of 3.45 ha, compared to 3.11 ha in 2002.

By category of agricultural holdings:

- the average utilised agricultural area per agricultural holding without legal status was of 1.95 ha, compared to 1.73 ha in 2002;
- the average utilised agricultural area per agricultural holding with legal status was of 190.78 ha, compared to 274.43 ha in 2002.

- **The number of agricultural holdings with a utilised agricultural area of under 1 ha is decreasing, while the number of the big-sized ones is increasing**

The number of small-sized agricultural holdings, with an utilised agricultural area of under 1 ha, decreased in 2010 against 2002 by around 150 thousand holdings (6.9%), while continuing to hold a very important weight of about 54% in the total agricultural holdings with utilised agricultural area. The agricultural holdings with an utilised agricultural area of under 0.1 ha, holding a weight of about 19% were a major contributor to the decrease in the number of small-sized agricultural holdings.

in 2010, the number of agricultural holdings having an utilised agricultural holding of under 50 ha, registered a significant growth of about 51% in comparison with 2002.

The data registered in 2010, with reference to the utilised agricultural area, by size class, show that the phenomena noticed for the number of agricultural holdings are also present for the utilised agricultural areas, by the same size class, so that:

- an important fall was registered by the utilised agricultural areas used of under 0.1 ha;
- the utilised agricultural area used of up to 1 ha decreased by 6.7%;
- the utilised agricultural area of minimum 50 ha increased by over 3%, accounting for a very large weight of 52.8%.

- **Over 60% of the utilised agricultural area is owned by the agricultural holdings**

In 2010, as regards the tenure types, 60.1% of the utilised agricultural area was owned by agricultural holdings and 27.4% rented, compared to 2002, when 69.5% was owned by the agricultural holdings and 14.7% was rented. The remaining areas, which were used under concession, share farming free of charge or other type of tenure, had a weight of about 12% in 2010, compared to about 16% in 2002.

In 2010, the utilised agricultural area owned by the agricultural holdings without legal status represented 42.7% of the entire utilised agricultural area, and 17.7% for the agricultural holdings with legal status.

- **Non-utilised agricultural area**

The non-utilised agricultural area, registered by the General Agricultural Census 2010, including that of the units not meeting the requirements to be considered agricultural holdings, was of 896 thou ha, while the set-aside agricultural area in repose was of 953 thou ha.

- **Agricultural holdings with utilised agricultural area used and utilised agricultural area used by macro-region and development region, in 2010**

Indicators	M.U.	Macro-region 1		Macro-region 2		Macro-region 3		Macro-region 4	
		North - West	Center	North - East	South - East	Bucharest - Ilfov	South Muntenia	South - West Oltenia	West
Agricultural holdings with UAA	thou	521	375	775	444	29	761	555	264
Utilised agricultural area	thou ha	1808	1627	1940	2195	62	2334	1608	1732

From the data presented it results that, both the number of agricultural holdings with utilised agricultural area, and the utilised agricultural area are distributed according to the specificity of each zone.

Macro-region 2 stands out with the highest weights, both as regards the total number of agricultural holdings (32.7%), and the utilised agricultural area (31.1%), whereas the regions North-East and South Muntenia.

- **In 2010, the cattle and pig livestock decreased by 30.7 % and respectively by 35.3%, while the sheep and goat livestock increased by 16.2% and by 66.8% respectively against the figures registered by the General Agricultural Census 2002**

The comparative situation of livestock by main species and poultry, on December 1, in 2010 and 2002 is as follows:

Indicators	M.U.	Total agricultural holdings		Agricultural holdings without legal status		Agricultural holdings with legal status	
		2002	2010	2002	2010	2002	2010
Cattle	thou heads	2871	1990	2737	1817	134	173
Sheep	thou heads	7238	8412	7009	8172	229	240
Goats	thou heads	744	1241	739	1212	5	29
Pigs	thou heads	8260	5345	7000	3516	1260	1829
Poultry	thou heads	82407	79191	59658	48877	22749	30314
Bees	thou	777	1301	767	1286	10	15

The average livestock by main species and poultry, on December 1, 2010, was the following:

- *per 100 agricultural holdings*
  - 52 cattle heads, compared to 64 heads in 2002;
  - 139 pig heads, compared to 184 heads in 2002;
  - 250 heads of sheep and goat heads, compared by 178 heads in 2002;
  - 2.052 poultry, compared to 1.837 poultry in 2002.

- *per 100 hectares of land* (see Methodological notes)
- 16 cattle heads, compared to 21 heads in 2002;
- 75 sheep and goat heads, compared by 59 heads in 2002;
- 64 pig heads, compared to 94 heads in 2002 .

- **Cattle, pig and sheep livestock by macro-region and development region**

In 2010, the distribution of cattle, pig and sheep livestock, at territorial level, by macro-region and development region, is the following:

	thou heads		
	<b>Cattle</b>	<b>Pigs</b>	<b>Sheep</b>
<b>Macro-region 1</b>	<b>667</b>	<b>1208</b>	<b>3163</b>
North - West	347	680	1338
Center	320	528	1825
<b>Macro-region 2</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>1452</b>	<b>2504</b>
North - East	501	557	1217
South - East	232	895	1287
<b>Macro-region 3</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>1077</b>	<b>826</b>
Bucharest - Ilfov	7	137	26
South Muntenia	237	940	800
<b>Macro-region 4</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>1608</b>	<b>1919</b>
South - West	196	687	602
Oltenia	150	921	1317
West	150	921	1317

The data presented point out to the following aspects:

- the cattle livestock concentrates in the North-East development (25.2%), followed by the North-West development region (17.4%) and the Centre (16.1%);
  - the analysis of pig livestock shows that the South Muntenia (17.6%) and West (17.2%) development regions have the highest pig livestock but also the South-East development region (16.7%) where, there a large pig livestock is concentrated;
  - sheep livestock prevails in the development regions, from macro-regions 1 and 2, the Centre with 21.7%, the North-West with 15.9%, the South-East with 15.3% and the North-East with 14.5%.
- **The volume of work in the agricultural holdings, expressed in annual work units (AWU), registered a decrease of 41.7% against that registered by the General Agricultural Census 2002**

In 2010, the volume of work, within the agricultural holdings without legal status was of 1.515 thou AWU, and of 96 thou AWUs within agricultural holdings with legal status.

Both for the agricultural holdings without legal status and for those with legal status, AWU decreased by approximately 42% against that registered by the General Agricultural Census 2002.

## Methodological notes

**Agricultural holding** - self-reliant techno-economic unit, with a single management carrying out agricultural activities by using agricultural areas and/or animal breeding or activities of maintaining the agricultural areas in good agricultural and environment conditions, either as a main or a secondary activity.

**Utilised agricultural area (UUA)** – agricultural land area used by a census-taking unit, which is obtained by summing up the areas of arable land, kitchen gardens, pastures and meadows and permanent crops.

**Arable land** - area which is ploughed each year or at longer time intervals, according to a crop rotation system of crops, in order to cultivate annual or perennial plants. The arable land also includes the land left uncultivated because of flood, clogging, other temporary calamities or other causes. This category also includes the land under greenhouses, protective cover, strawberry plantations, as well as pastures and meadows fallowed and sown with annual or perennial plants etc.

**Kitchen gardens** – area meant to obtain agricultural products, mainly for own consumption of agricultural holding members without legal status. It can comprise both arable land and permanent crops. It has an area of under 15 ares.

**Pastures and meadows** – lands covered with herbaceous plants by naturally-grown or regenerated by sowing and meant for animal grazing and/ or hay making.

**Permanent crops** – areas under crops for a longer period of time and of from which several productions on end are obtained, crops to which no rotation system is applied which differ from permanent pastures. The permanent crops include areas under fruit tree plantations, fruit trees, wine plantations, fruit tree nurseries, wine and forestry nurseries. There are registered both nurseries (except non-commercial forestry ones, included in wooded areas), and the weaving plants.

**The number of animals per 100 ha of land** was calculated as follows:

- for cattle, sheep and goats by relating the livestock numbers to the area of arable land, pastures and meadows;
- for pigs by relating the livestock numbers to the arable land area.

**Work annual unit (WAU)** represents the volume of work carried out within agricultural holding by one person, in equivalent full time of work, during 245 working days per year, 8 hours a day.

### **To find out more...**

Detailed data on the land use, livestock, irrigations, aspects related to organic farming and rural development, persons who carried out agricultural activities (labour force), etc are available :

- ❖ *In the five volumes issued and printed by the National Institute of Statistics in December 2012, as follows*
  - *Volume I „General Agricultural Census 2010 – Results at national level”*
  - *Volume II „General Agricultural Census 2010 – Macro-region 1, North-West and Center development regions”*
  - *Volume III „General Agricultural Census 2010 – Macro-region 2, North-East and South-East development regions”*
  - *Volume IV „General Agricultural Census 2010 – Macro-region 3, South-Muntenia and Bucharest-Ilfov development regions”*
  - *Volume V „General Agricultural Census 2010 – Macro-region 4, South-West Oltenia and West development regions”.*

In the volumes II – V, the data are presented at macro-region, development region and county level.

**The volumes will be accompanied by a CD.**