

3 The orientation in agricultural production

In addition to the volume of agricultural production, it is also important to observe the changes in orientation of agricultural activity. We define a principal agricultural production this way: it is such a production that yields at least two thirds of the reporting unit's total revenue coming from the agricultural production.

Tab. 3 Structure of holdings: by principle agricultural production, 2005

Indicator	NACE	Reporting units, total	Holdings of natural persons		Holdings of legal persons				
			Total	Private farmers + agricultural entrepreneur	Total	incl.			
						Business companies & partnerships	incl.		Cooperatives
							Limited liability companies	Joint stock companies	
Number of reporting units									
Growing of crops; market gardening, horticulture	011	9 877	9 326	7 130	551	468	376	80	57
Farming of animals	012	4 466	4 286	2 623	180	141	84	52	35
Growing of crops combined with farming of animals	013	16 243	14 868	9 725	1 375	881	505	368	460
Specialised production:									
Growing of cereals and other crops	0111	849	783	699	66	60	51	5	5
Medicinal plants	01119	18	14	10	4	4	4	0	0
Growing of vegetables	01121	411	387	331	24	24	19	4	0
Fruit including vine and nuts	01131	4 410	4 286	2 551	124	108	91	15	11
Growing of other special crops	01122,01123								
	01132,01133	704	638	515	66	58	54	3	0
Farming of cattle, dairy farming	0121	1 593	1 435	1 158	158	146	116	27	11
Farming of pigs	0123	520	436	277	84	81	46	33	3
Farming of poultry	0125	329	236	194	93	89	64	25	1
Other special breedings: farming of sheep, goats and equidae, small livestock, fur animals, pets and animals for laboratory purposes	0122, 01251 01252, 01253								
	01255	2 832	2 724	2 013	108	94	83	10	1
Total		42 252	39 419	27 226	2 833	2 154	1 493	622	584
Percentage %									
Growing of crops; market gardening, horticulture	011	23.4	23.7	26.2	19.4	21.7	25.2	12.9	9.8
Farming of animals	012	10.6	10.9	9.6	6.4	6.5	5.6	8.4	6.0
Growing of crops combined with farming of animals	013	38.4	37.7	35.7	48.5	40.9	33.8	59.2	78.8
Specialised production:									
Growing of cereals and other crops	0111	2.0	2.0	2.6	2.3	2.8	3.4	0.8	0.9
Medicinal plants	01119	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0
Growing of vegetables	01121	1.0	1.0	1.2	0.8	1.1	1.3	0.6	0.0
Fruit including vine and nuts	01131	10.4	10.9	9.4	4.4	5.0	6.1	2.4	1.9
Growing of other special crops	01122,01123								
	01132,01133	1.7	1.6	1.9	2.3	2.7	3.6	0.5	0.0
Farming of cattle, dairy farming	0121	3.8	3.6	4.3	5.6	6.8	7.8	4.3	1.9
Farming of pigs	0123	1.2	1.1	1.0	3.0	3.8	3.1	5.3	0.5
Farming of poultry	0125	0.8	0.6	0.7	3.3	4.1	4.3	4.0	0.2
Other special breedings: farming of sheep, goats and equidae, small livestock, fur animals, pets and animals for laboratory purposes	0122, 01251 01252, 01253								
	01255	6.7	6.9	7.4	3.8	4.4	5.6	1.6	0.2
Total		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

38.4% of holdings – the largest group – are engaged in both growing crops and breeding animals. Such farms with combined production prevail in the Czech Republic. The orientation to combined production is most frequent among cooperatives (at almost 80%). Farms with combined production can cope better with income fluctuations caused by unfavourable natural conditions, sales difficulties and the instability of prices of agricultural commodities.

Holdings with crop production were the next most numerous group. The share of crop production has grown during the last five years. There are two reasons for it. Firstly, a real change of orientation of the agricultural activity towards crop production has occurred there and secondly, competitiveness of Czech farmers in livestock production has declined. It means that the increase is partially only relative. During the last five years (from 2000 to 2005) the share of holdings of legal persons with crop production has grown by 4.2 percentage points – the highest increase was recorded for the share of limited liability

companies (+ 4.4 percentage points). In the same time period the share of holdings of natural persons with crop production went up only by 1.0 percentage point.

Prevailing agricultural production of the holdings ranges from general (crop, livestock, combined production) to less common, or narrowly specialised. The narrowly specialised production occurs more often in holdings of natural persons who specialise in growing wine or fruits – almost 11% of the holdings of natural persons are devoted to wine or fruit production.