

04 May 2022

## **Agricultural Census** Year 2020

### **Main results**

- In 2020, the number of farms was 914,871, 7.6% less than in the 2009 census.
- Total utilized agricultural area increased by 0.7% compared to 2009, up to 23.9 hectares.
- The average area per farm was 26.37 hectares, with an increase of 7.4%.
- Castilla y León recorded the highest average size per holding (63.02 hectares) and Canarias the lowest (4.81 hectares).
- The number of heads of cattle grew by 6.5% compared to the last census. The growth was more intense in the case of pigs, with 21.8%.
- The number of female farm managers increased by 22.0%.
- The workforce on farms decreased by 7.7% in 2020 compared to the previous census.

The number of farms fell by 7.6% in 2020 compared to the previous census, from 2009, to 914,871 farms. On the other hand, the estimated Utilized Agricultural Area (UAA) was 23.9 million hectares, with an increase of 0.7%.

As a result, the average UUA per farm grew by 7.4%, going from 24.56 hectares to 26.37.

The largest increase among UAA intended for outdoor crops corresponded to *Fruit trees*, *Other woody crops*<sup>1</sup> and *Olives* (23.8%, 19.8% and 14.4%, respectively). On the other hand, those of *Orchards* and *Permanent pastures* were reduced by 10.5% and 10.1%, respectively.

The greenhouse cultivation area grew by 42.1%, reaching almost 65 thousand hectares.

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<sup>1</sup> Other woody crops include nurseries, Christmas trees grown outdoors, mycorrhized trees for the production of truffles, carob trees, capers, pitas, osiers, esparto grass, reeds, cane, tea, coffee,...

## Number of agricultural holdings and Utilised Agricultural Area

Unit: Hectares

	2009	2020	% Variation
<b>Number of agricultural holdings</b>	<b>989,796</b>	<b>914,871</b>	<b>-7.6</b>
<b>Utilised Agricultural Area (UAA)</b>	<b>23,752,688</b>	<b>23,913,682</b>	<b>0.7</b>
<b>Average UAA per holding<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>24.56</b>	<b>26.37</b>	<b>7.4</b>
UAA outdoor	23,706,988	23,848,757	0.6
-Arable land	11,242,408	11,655,762	3.7
-Permanent grassland	8,377,389	7,533,082	-10.1
-Olives	2,153,727	2,464,420	14.4
-Fruits, berries and nuts	1,037,117	1,283,997	23.8
-Grapes	852,618	860,024	0.9
-Other permanent crops	40,679	48,741	19.8
-Kitchen gardens	3,050	2,731	-10.5
UAA under glass or high accessible cover	45,700	64,925	42.1

<sup>2</sup> For the calculation, holdings with UAA have been taken into account

## Distribution of farms by Technical Economic Orientation

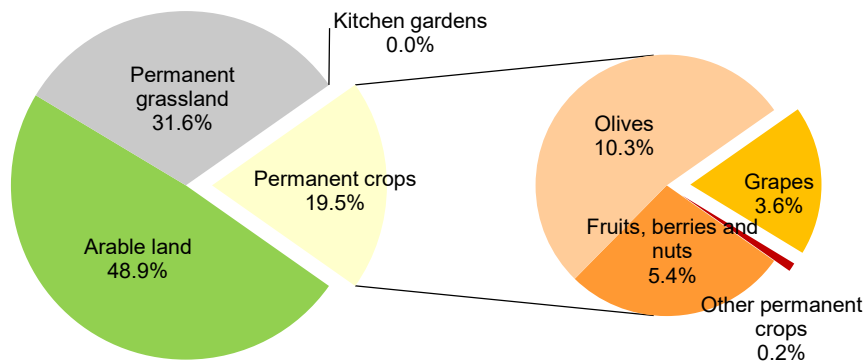
The Technical Economic Orientation (TEO) that concentrated the largest number of farms in 2020 was *Woody crops*, with 511,762 farms, or 55.9% of the total. It was followed by *General agriculture*, with 162,769 farms (17.8%).

### Holdings by main technical economic orientation. Year 2020

	Number	% of total
<b>Total</b>	<b>914,871</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Permanet crops	511,762	55.9
General agriculture	162,769	17.8
Herbivores	109,874	12.0
Horticulture	40,497	4.4
Mixed cropping	39,311	4.3
Granívoros	20,574	2.3
Mixed crops - livestock	18,706	2.1
Mixed livestock	5,869	0.6
Non-classified holdings	5,508	0.6

## Distribution of the outdoor UAA

*Arable land* concentrated 48.9% of the total outdoor UAA in 2020. *Permanent pastures* accounted for 31.6% of the total and *Woody crops* 19.5%. *Olives* was the crop with the highest weight within the woody crops, with 10.3% of the total.



### Geographical distribution of the average UAA per farm

Castilla y León, Aragón and Extremadura were the communities with the largest average farm sizes in 2020, with 63.02, 53.75 and 43.73 hectares, respectively.

They were followed by Comunidad Foral de Navarra, Comunidad de Madrid, Castilla-La Mancha and Cantabria, all with values higher than the national average.

On the other hand, Canarias (4.81 hectares), Comunitat Valenciana (5.90) and Galicia (8.00) had the smallest average sizes per farm.

### Average UAA per holding

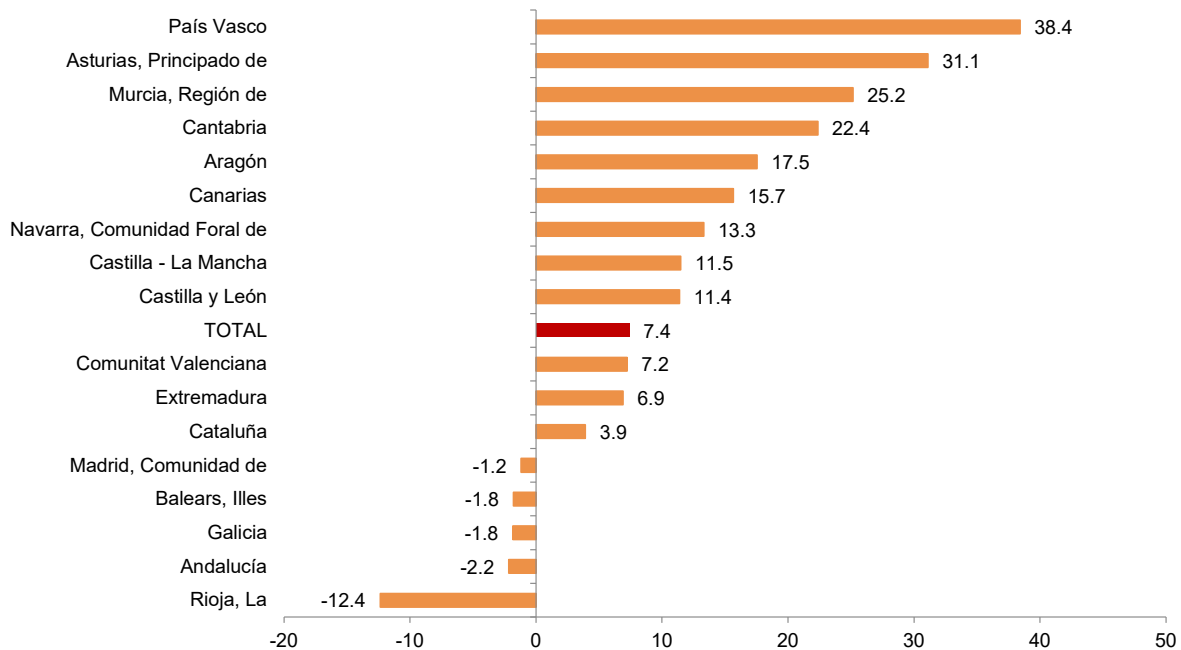
Unit: Hectares

	2009	2020	% Variation
Castilla y León	56.58	63.02	11.4
Aragón	45.73	53.75	17.5
Extremadura	40.91	43.73	6.9
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	35.42	40.14	13.3
Madrid, Comunidad de	39.78	39.31	-1.2
Castilla - La Mancha	33.93	37.83	11.5
Cantabria	24.48	29.96	22.4
<b>National total<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>24.56</b>	<b>26.37</b>	<b>7.4</b>
Asturias, Principado de	16.10	21.11	31.1
Cataluña	19.50	20.26	3.9
Rioja, La	23.03	20.18	-12.4
Andalucía	18.19	17.80	-2.2
Balears, Illes	17.22	16.91	-1.8
País Vasco	11.57	16.01	38.4
Murcia, Región de	12.38	15.49	25.2
Galicia	8.15	8.00	-1.8
Comunitat Valenciana	5.50	5.90	7.2
Canarias	4.16	4.81	15.7

<sup>3</sup> Includes Ceuta y Melilla

The average size of farms increased with greater intensity in País Vasco (38.4%), Principado de Asturias (31.1%) and Región de Murcia (25.2%). Conversely, the greatest decreases were registered in La Rioja (-12.4%), Andalucía (-2.2%) and Galicia (-1.8%)

## Variation of average UAA per holding compared to 2009 Percentage



## Population distribution by type of livestock

The number of farms with cattle stood at 169,576 in 2020, 30.1% less than in 2009. This reduction occurred across the board for farms dedicated to all types of livestock.

For its part, the number of heads of cattle increased in the case of *Pigs* (21.8%), *Cattle* (15.7%), *Goats* (12.9%) and *Poultry* (5.3%). Meanwhile, it decreased in the case of *Rabbits* (-29.2%) and *Sheep* (-3.4%).

### Number of holdings and heads by type of livestock. Year 2020

	Holdings	% Variation over 2009	Heads	% Variation over 2009
Bovine	90,557	-19.0	6,760,391	15.7
Sheep	61,131	-11.4	16,009,410	-3.4
Swine	34,673	-50.3	30,091,215	21.8
Goats	29,155	-2.4	2,668,891	12.9
Poultry	18,883	-80.5	211,580,762	5.3
Breeding rabbits females	2,808	-88.7	771,274	-29.2

## Geographic distribution by type of livestock

In 2020, the largest numbers of cattle were concentrated in Castilla y León (1.5 million heads), Galicia (995 thousand) and Extremadura (889 thousand).

In the case of sheep, Extremadura (3.8 million heads), Castilla y León (2.7 million) and Andalusia (2.6 million) showed the highest figures.

Andalucía was the Autonomous Community with the highest number of goats, at 1.1 million heads. It was followed by Castilla-La Mancha (392 thousand heads) and Extremadura (269 thousand).

## Main livestock species by Autonomous Community. Year 2020

Unit: Heads of livestock

	Bovine	Sheep	Goats	Swine	Poultry	Breeding rabbits females
<b>National total<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>6,760,391</b>	<b>16,009,410</b>	<b>2,668,891</b>	<b>30,091,215</b>	<b>211,580,762</b>	<b>771,274</b>
Andalucía	547,544	2,599,418	1,070,861	2,546,709	19,753,444	6,543
Aragón	408,211	1,654,786	52,899	4,117,058	23,248,246	83,005
Asturias, Principado de	409,918	40,084	32,332	7,319	157,527	1,193
Balears, Illes	28,559	285,736	12,469	85,739	286,546	550
Canarias	19,938	40,316	195,995	37,931	2,601,888	5,148
Cantabria	269,640	34,273	18,748	2,082	80,444	7,855
Castilla y León	1,494,053	2,664,103	144,976	4,425,015	22,847,225	189,548
Castilla - La Mancha	488,994	2,444,336	392,402	2,784,806	26,791,741	54,007
Cataluña	676,097	488,771	69,820	8,192,796	42,544,012	138,400
Comunitat Valenciana	53,712	275,034	79,455	1,381,783	19,368,256	99,676
Extremadura	889,072	3,834,066	268,935	1,682,085	8,595,072	3,129
Galicia	994,515	160,361	38,675	1,408,818	24,825,124	118,480
Madrid, Comunidad de	93,580	82,652	33,154	19,290	1,495,671	415
Murcia, Región de	78,133	612,592	211,410	2,366,928	7,317,427	9,662
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	124,536	466,650	11,632	827,530	6,944,276	23,107
País Vasco	140,567	222,642	24,101	29,664	1,491,974	20,163
Rioja, La	43,322	103,590	11,027	175,662	3,231,889	10,393

<sup>4</sup> Includes Ceuta y Melilla

As for pigs, Cataluña (8.2 million head), Castilla y León (4.4 million) and Aragón (4.1 million) stood out.

In poultry, Cataluña (42.5 million heads), Castilla-La Mancha (26.8 million) and Galicia (24.8 million) were the communities with the highest number of heads registered.

Finally, the highest numbers of rabbits were concentrated in Castilla y León (190,000 head), Cataluña (138,000) and Galicia (118,000).

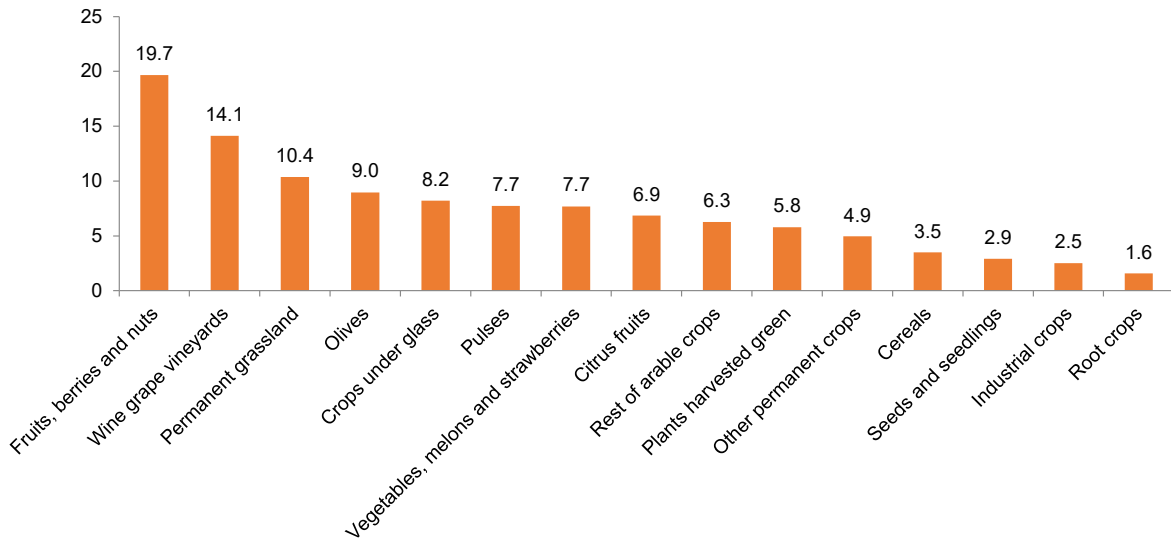
## Organic farming

Organic farming is an agricultural system whose objective is to obtain the highest quality of food, while respecting the environment and conserving soil fertility through the optimal use of natural resources.

In 2020, the organic UAA represented 7.8% of the total UAA.

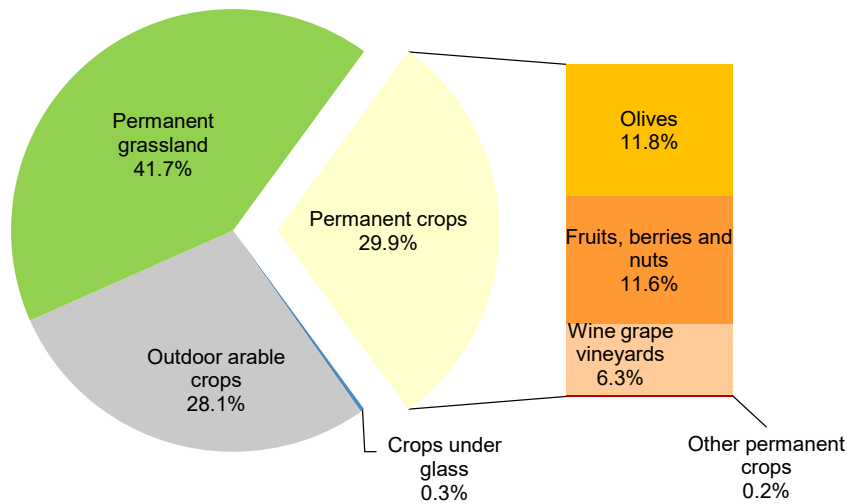
The crops with the highest percentage of organic UAA with compared to the total UAA were *Fruit trees and berries* (19.7%) and *Wine grape vineyards* (14.1%). And those with the lowest percentage were *Roots and tubers* (1.6%) and *Industrial crops* (2.5%).

Percentage of organic UAA of total UAA by crop type



In 2020, *Permanent pastures* represented 41.7% of the organic UAA, *Woody crops* 29.9%, *Herbaceous crops* 28.1% and *Greenhouse crops* 0.3%.

Within the woody crops, *Olives* (11.8%) and *Fruit trees* (11.6%) had the greatest weight in the organic UAA.

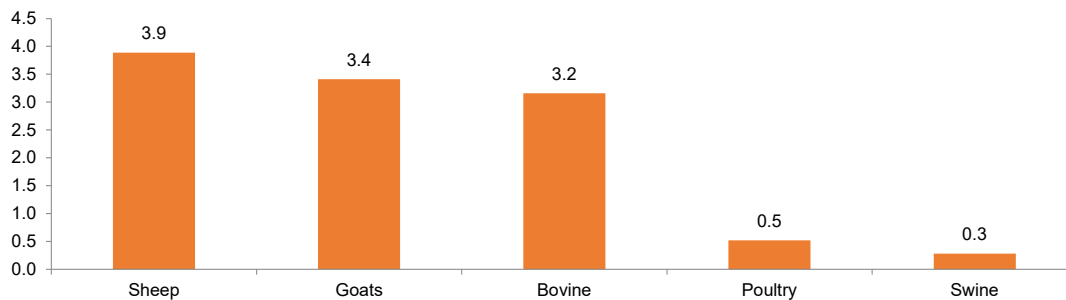


### Organic livestock

Organic farming is a livestock system that seeks to provide the consumer with quality fresh food, through the optimal and rational resource use, while respecting the environment and animal welfare and avoiding use of synthetic chemical substances.

In 2020, the highest percentages of organic livestock with respect to total livestock corresponded to Sheep (3.9%) and Goats (3.4%).

## Percentage of organic livestock to total livestock by livestock type



## Geographic distribution of livestock housing, by type

Stabled livestock is defined as having a shelter or stall within a livestock facility.

The autonomous community with the highest number of cattle stalls in 2020 was Castilla y León (1.8 million). Cataluña had the largest number of stalls for pigs (10.1 million) and Castilla-La Mancha for laying hens (15.8 million).

### Geographical distribution of livestock stabling by type. Year 2020

	Bovine		Swine		Laying hens	
	Holdings	Places	Holdings	Places	Holdings	Places
<b>National total<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>93,751</b>	<b>7,691,536</b>	<b>47,926</b>	<b>37,109,978</b>	<b>22,290</b>	<b>62,188,574</b>
Andalucía	5,695	549,192	7,123	4,190,898	1,303	2,866,710
Aragón	2,738	498,285	1,529	5,016,073	221	8,223,374
Asturias, Principado de	13,144	443,317	2,170	13,165	2,545	141,055
Balears, Illes	1,052	46,121	1,626	97,546	1,141	377,455
Canarias	613	26,228	303	51,468	345	1,439,562
Cantabria	6,212	398,334	1,057	8,100	941	84,766
Castilla y León	13,923	1,812,141	7,141	5,956,249	1,280	8,683,396
Castilla - La Mancha	2,497	480,271	1,526	2,768,261	441	15,752,624
Cataluña	4,436	802,708	4,826	10,115,316	1,489	7,549,586
Comunitat Valenciana	612	98,507	867	1,690,286	154	5,391,032
Extremadura	7,610	850,406	7,826	1,694,808	1,129	1,774,229
Galicia	27,596	1,120,465	10,227	2,062,894	9,048	3,624,697
Madrid, Comunidad de	1,181	111,225	60	20,215	131	1,318,452
Murcia, Región de	257	91,587	600	2,451,115	25	1,512,582
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	1,289	128,389	676	770,096	316	1,575,736
País Vasco	4,597	180,873	297	32,677	1,748	1,274,564
Rioja, La	300	53,486	70	170,810	32	598,754

<sup>5</sup> Includes Ceuta y Melilla

## Manure Application

In 2020, a total of 89,043 farms with livestock used manure application techniques on agricultural land.

There are different manure application techniques, and the same farm may use different techniques. The most used technique was diffusion application without incorporation or 24 hours after diffusion, with a total of 50,085 farms.

**Holdings which apply manure according to application technique. Year 2020**

<b>Total</b>	89,043
Broadcast, no incorporation	50,085
Broadcast, incorporation within 4 hours	18,034
Broadcast, incorporation after 4 hours	16,626
Band spread, trailing hose	7,064
Band spread, trailing shoe	6,518
Inyection, shallow/open-slit	2,245
Inyection, deep/closed-slit	1,478

**Farm owner**

The farm owner is the natural or legal person, owner or lessee, who assumes legal and economic responsibility for the farm and makes decisions.

The farm manager is the natural person responsible for the current and daily financial and production activities of the farm. In general, this is the same as the owner, when they are a natural person. If they do not coincide, the farm manager may be a member of the owner's family or another person.

In 2020, the total number of farm managers decreased by 7.6%. Between 2009 and 2020, the number of women farm managers increased by 22.0%, representing 28.6% of the total. In turn, the number of male farm managers decreased by 15.8%.

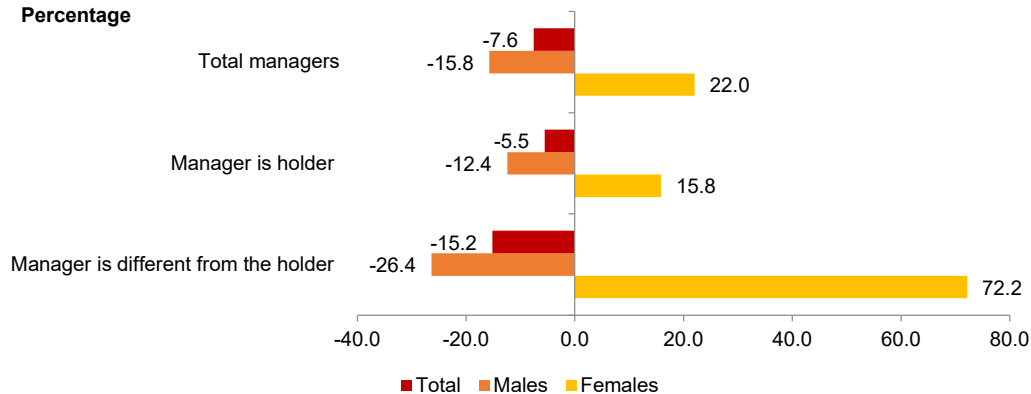
On the other hand, when the owner is different from the manager, the number of women managers increased by 72.2%, while that of men decreased by 26.4%.

**Managers of the holding by gender**

	2020	% Variation over 2009	% of total
<b>Total</b>	<b>914,871</b>	<b>-7.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>
-Males	653,237	-15.8	71.4
-Females	261,634	22.0	28.6
<b>Manager is holder</b>	<b>738,206</b>	<b>-5.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>
-Males	517,343	-12.4	70.1
-Females	220,863	15.8	29.9
<b>Manager is different from the holder</b>	<b>176,665</b>	<b>-15.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>
-Males	135,894	-26.4	76.9
-Females	40,771	72.2	23.1



**Variation in the number of managers by gender and type compared to 2009**  
Percentage



**Agricultural work on the farm**

The workforce on farms decreased by 7.7% in 2020 compared to the previous agricultural census. The owner’s workforce fell by 3.7% and work by relatives of the owner by 49.8%.

On the other hand, contract labour increased by 16.3%, and subcontracted labour by 13.9%.

**Farm labour force**

Unit: Total Annual Work Unit (AWU)

	2009	2020	% Variation
<b>Total</b>	<b>922,026</b>	<b>851,405</b>	<b>-7.7</b>
Holder	330,909	318,520	-3.7
Family labour force	232,774	116,828	-49.8
Contracted labour force	325,286	378,392	16.3
Subcontracted labour force	33,057	37,665	13.9

**Rural development**

As for rural development measures, 37.6% of the aid granted in 2020 corresponded to *Areas with natural limitations*. These are payments to compensate farmers for all or part of the additional costs and income lost as a result of limitations on agricultural production in the area concerned.

A total of 31.5% of aid corresponded to *Agro-environment and climate* and 11.4% to *Organic farming*.

The Agro-environment and climate measure is aimed at both maintaining and promoting the changes needed in agricultural practices in order to contribute positively to the environment and climate.

**Data Review and Update**

The data published today are final. All results are available on INEBase.

## Methodological note

The 2020 Agrarian Census has been carried out in response to Regulation 2018/1091 of the European Parliament and of the Council of July 18, 2018, regarding integrated statistics on agricultural holdings. It establishes the framework for analysis of the main structural characteristics of agricultural holdings and the integration of this information with information related to agricultural production and aspects related to agro-environmental development.

The Agrarian Census is a priority both for the European Statistical System and for Spain. The previous edition was held in 2009.

Compared to previous censuses, the 2020 Agrarian Census is an innovative census, as it is based on the massive use of administrative records. This allows for incorporation of significant improvements compared to previous censuses: preparation of a higher quality census directory, reduction of the response burden of the informant units, reduction of the cost of the statistical operation, and the possibility of having annual information available in the future for farms requesting aid from the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

The data refer to the agricultural year 2020, i. e. the season from 01 October 2019 to 30 September 2020, except for livestock breeding, for which the reference date is 30 September 2020.

The 2020 Agrarian Census is structured in two blocks: one main census detailing the primary characteristics to be collected as a census, and another complementary block of modular variables to be collected by sampling, on labour, rural development, housing and manure management.

For the preparation of the 2020 Agrarian Census, the INE extends its thanks for the invaluable collaboration of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPA), especially the Spanish Agricultural Guarantee Fund (FEGA) and the Subdirectorate for Analysis, Coordination and Statistics. Thanks is also given for the support received from the Departments of Agriculture of the autonomous communities and the company Tragsatec.

In País Vasco, the operation was been carried out in collaboration with the Euskal Estatistika-Erakundea/Basque Statistics Institute, in accordance with an agreement signed between the Basque Statistics Institute and the INE.

For more information on the methodology and the standardised methodological report:

[https://www.ine.es/daco/daco42/agricultura/meto\\_CA20.pdf](https://www.ine.es/daco/daco42/agricultura/meto_CA20.pdf)

<https://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/es/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=30042>

INE statistics are produced in accordance with the Code of Good Practice for European Statistics, which is the basis for the institution's quality policy and strategy. For more information see the section Quality at INE and the Code of Best Practices on the INE website.

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