

INTRODUCTION

The Integrated Farm Survey was conducted during autumn 2020 on the basis of the amended EU legislation. It followed the system of structural surveys held in the Czech Republic since 2000. Its aim was to obtain detailed and comprehensive information on agricultural holdings in the Czech Republic: their size, structure and development, equipment, production specialisation, and other gainful activities. This survey also serves as a data source for updating of the Farm Register, which is a basis for annual surveys in agriculture.

Integrated Farm Surveys are conducted in all the European Union member countries following requirements of the EU/EC legislation. The most important legal act is the Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on integrated farm statistics and repealing Regulations (EC) No 1166/2008 and (EU) No 1337/2011. The implementing regulation for the above Regulation applicable for 2020 is Commission Regulation (EC) 2018/1874 of 29 November 2018.

Integrated Farm Surveys cover agricultural holdings¹ that meet at least one of the thresholds set by Regulation (EU) No 2018/1091 of the European Parliament and of the Council to ensure 98% coverage of total utilised agricultural area (excluding kitchen gardens) and 98% coverage of livestock units².

In the Integrated Survey 2020, the following thresholds were used for the Czech Republic:

- 5 ha of utilised agricultural area (own or rented), or
- 2 ha of arable land, or
- 0.5 ha of potatoes, or
- 0.5 ha of fresh vegetables and strawberries, or
- 2,000 m² of summed area of aromatic, medicinal and culinary plants, flowers and ornamental plants, seeds and seedlings, and nurseries, or
- 3,000 m² of summed area of orchards and other permanent crops
- 1,000 m² of vineyards, or
- 100 m² of areas under cover, or
- 100 m² of cultivated mushrooms, or
- 1.7 livestock units.

The publication presented consists of two autonomous parts that show possible ways of analytical classification and data utilisation.

The first part focuses on farm typology; it was elaborated by authors from the Institute of Agricultural Economics and Information. The classification of agricultural holdings by their type of farming, economic size, and by importance of their other gainful activities belongs among the most important results of the Integrated Farm Survey 2020. The farm typology [defined by Commission Implementation Regulation (EU) No 2015/220 of 3 February 2015 laying down rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1217/2009 setting up a network for the collection of accountancy data on the incomes and business operation of agricultural holdings in the European Union] in the Czech Republic is elaborated by the Institute of Agricultural Economics and Information (IAEI), responsible for the Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN), on the basis of detailed knowledge of microeconomic features of agricultural holdings based on the Integrated Farm Survey data.

¹ Agricultural holding means a single unit, both technically and economically, that has a single management and that undertakes economic activities in agriculture in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1893/2006 belonging to groups A.01.1, A.01.2, A.01.3, A.01.4, A.01.5 or to the 'maintenance of agricultural land in good agricultural and environmental condition' of group A.01.6 within the economic territory of the Union, either as its primary or secondary activity. Regarding activities of class A.01.49, only the activities 'Raising and breeding of semi-domesticated or other live animals' (with the exception of raising of insects) and 'Bee-keeping and production of honey and beeswax' are included.

² Livestock unit means a standard measurement unit that allows for the aggregation of the various categories of livestock in order for them to be compared; the coefficients for establishing the livestock units for individual livestock categories are listed in Annex I of Regulation (EU) 2018/1091.

For the farm typology analysis, data in the same form as sent to Eurostat were used. They differ from the data published by the CZSO in several aspects:

- According to the EU definition, hop is included in crops grown on arable land. In the Czech Republic, however, hop or hop-gardens are reported as permanent crops according to the Law No 252/1997 Coll., on agriculture, as amended.*
- According to the EU definition, nurseries are included in permanent crops. In the frame of the Areas under Crops Survey, nurseries are reported as crops grown on arable land.*
- According to the EU methodology, trees and bushes grown for use for energy production only are included in wooded area (of which short rotation coppices). In the Czech Republic, they are included in other permanent crops (of which short rotation coppices); i.e. they are a part of the utilised agricultural area.*

The second part of the publication describes changes in the Czech agricultural sector by comparison of outcomes of the Integrated Farm Survey 2020 and the Agricultural census 2000 (recalculated for the same thresholds), differences between regions reflected in the IFS 2020 results, and a newly elaborated analysis of agricultural holdings in quartiles. The chapter was written by authors from the Czech Statistical Office.