



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

Food, agriculture, rural life, fisheries in facts

2017



The publication provides factual information about Estonian food industry, agriculture, rural life and fisheries. Factual data mainly reflect the situation in 2016. Comparison with earlier years has been based on the period since 2010.

Databases of Statistics Estonia, Ministry of Rural Affairs, Agricultural Registers and Information Board (ARIB), Agricultural Board and other authorities have been used as data sources. Comparison of European Union member states is based on Eurostat statistics.

The publication was compiled in June 2017.

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Designed by Ecoprint

Printed by AS Pajo

Published by the Ministry of Rural Affairs of the Republic of Estonia

ISSN 2346–5662 (print)

ISSN 2346–5670 (online)

Tallinn 2017



Dear reader

Estonia has close to one hectare of utilised agricultural area per inhabitant, a figure that places us among the top five countries in the European Union. Estonia is most self-sufficient in dairy and grain: as regards milk and cereals production per inhabitant, we also belong among the top six countries in the EU. About 70% of the output of the food sector is consumed in Estonia and 30% is exported. We are very proud of our local food.

This reference book provides a concise overview of statistical data on Estonian food production, agriculture and fisheries – the figures regarded as most important to characterise the areas of activity of the Ministry of Rural Affairs. These figures mostly characterize Estonian food production in the recent years leading up to 2017. Some comparison to other member states of the European Union is also included: the size of utilized agricultural area per capita and the production of main agricultural products (such as cereals, milk and meat) per capita are presented in graphs.

We have worked to present the data in a concrete, precise and comprehensive manner. Tables and graphs provide an overview of the trends of the last few years. When analysing and interpreting the data, it should be kept in mind that in 2016, remarkably unpropitious weather conditions had a strong negative influence on grain production. Livestock farming, especially pig farming, has significantly reduced since 2015 due to the spread of African swine fever (*pestis suum Africana*). Regardless of difficulties, however, our outlook is optimistic – Estonian agriculture and food sector is quite smart and flexible and able to recover.

We hope that the reference book will provide useful information and cause for reflection on the developments in Estonian food industry, international food trade, agriculture, rural life and fisheries.

Ministry of Rural Affairs

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General data on Estonia

Location: Northern Europe. Estonia shares a common boundary with the Republic of Latvia and the Russian Federation, and a maritime boundary with the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden.

Area: 45 339 km². Estonia has 1521 Baltic Sea islands, of which Saaremaa (2671 km²), Hiiumaa (989 km²) and Muhu (198 km²) are the biggest. There are about 1150 lakes in Estonia, of which Peipsi (3555 km² with the part belonging to Russia) and Võrtsjärv (271 km²) are the largest. Bogs make up about a quarter and forests roughly one half of Estonia's mainland.

Size of population: 1 315 635 (as of 1 January 2017); 32% of Estonia's population lives in rural areas.

Population density: 30 residents per km² (based on Estonia's mainland area).

Climate: Estonia lies in the northern part of the temperate climate zone and in the transition zone between maritime and continental climate. As Estonia is warmed by maritime air, it has considerably milder climate than the areas of continental climate located at the same latitude. The average annual temperature in 2016 was +6.7 °C (normal 6.0 °C), in January -7.7 °C (normal -3.5 °C) and in July +17.8 °C (normal 17.4 °C). Annual precipitation: 696 mm (2016; normal 672 mm).

Total utilised agricultural area: 1 003 505 ha (2016); covers 22% of the territory of the state.

Arable crops growing area: 690 208 ha (2016).

Share of agriculture, forest management and fishing in employment: 3.9% (2016).

GDP of all areas of activity in current prices: 20 916.4 million euros (2016). GDP per capita in current prices: 15 896 euros (2016).

Share of agriculture, forest management and fishing in GDP: 2.9% (2016).

Sources: Statistics Estonia, Estonian Weather Service

GENERAL DATA ON ESTONIA

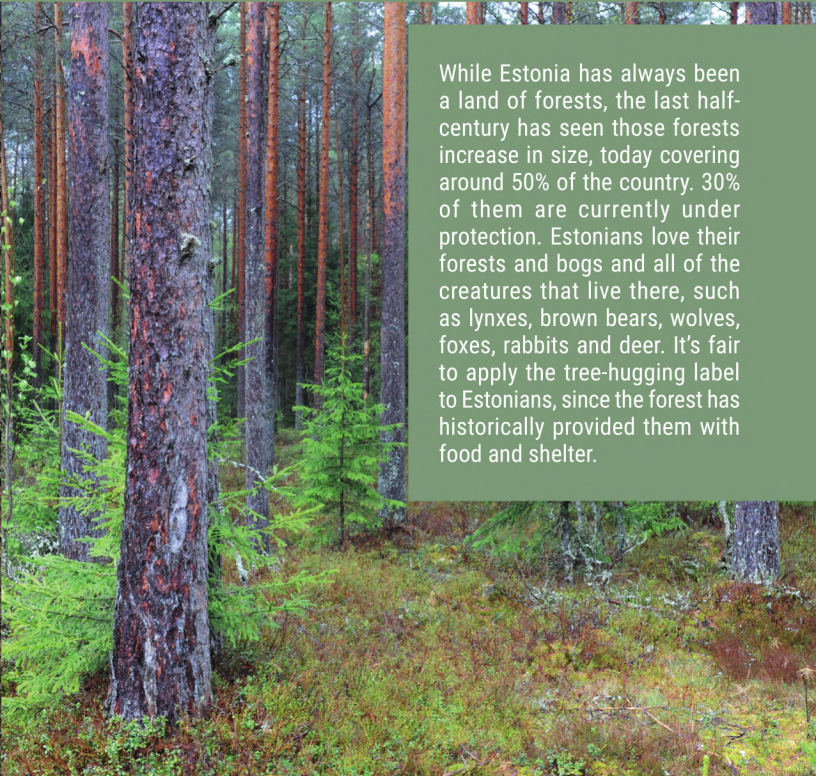
In May 1992, the chairman of the then Supreme Council of Estonia issued a decree enshrining limestone as the national stone of the country. Countless buildings of varying size and significance have been built from limestone over the centuries in this country. Tallinn's Old Town, which has survived largely intact since the Middle Ages, is a textbook example of the excellent building qualities of the stone.




Estonia's climate and natural environment are ideal for animal husbandry and grain-growing, and thus the country is most self-sufficient in dairy and grain farming. Its dairy sector is large, generating more than a quarter of Estonia's agricultural revenue. Milk is one of the country's primary export items and is considered to be Estonia's 'white gold'.



GENERAL DATA ON ESTONIA



While Estonia has always been a land of forests, the last half-century has seen those forests increase in size, today covering around 50% of the country. 30% of them are currently under protection. Estonians love their forests and bogs and all of the creatures that live there, such as lynxes, brown bears, wolves, foxes, rabbits and deer. It's fair to apply the tree-hugging label to Estonians, since the forest has historically provided them with food and shelter.



Estonia's forests offer up a fine selection of edible fungi in autumn. There are dozens of different species of *Russula*, *Boletus* and *Lactarius* mushrooms, all with their own textures and nuances of flavour. In the olden days it was mainly peasants from southern and eastern Estonia who ate mushrooms, but the habit became more universal just over a century ago.

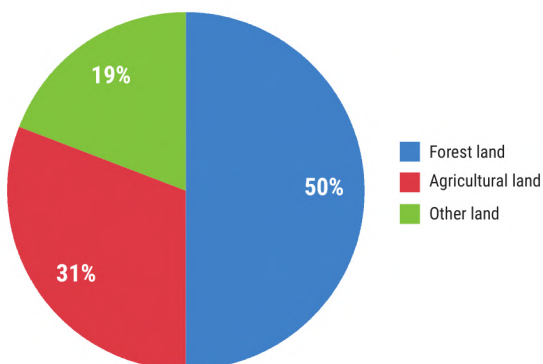


GENERAL DATA ON ESTONIA

Estonia is famous for its start-ups, and there are several of them in the field of agriculture: Click & Grow has developed smart pots that take care of plants automatically, with no external help needed; VitalFields is a digital agriculture company that offers an easy-to-use farm management system; Huntloc is a solution for hunters to increase hunting efficiency and safety; while Natufia enables you to grow healthy food for your whole family, in an automated but ecologically friendly way.



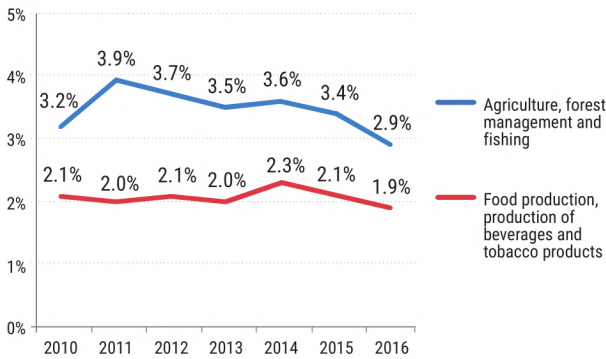
Structure of Estonian land use in 2017 (cadastral data)



Note: Data as of 30 April 2017.

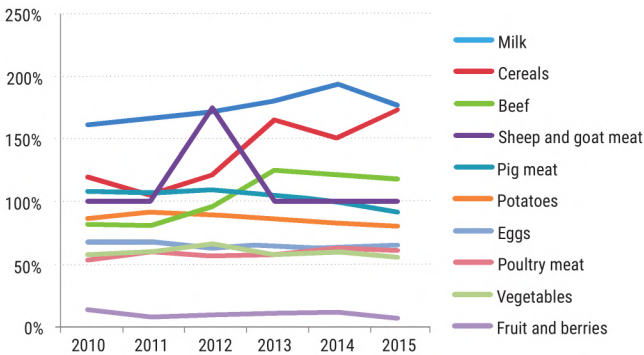
Source: Estonian Land Board, Land Cadastre

Relative importance of agriculture, forest management and fisheries and the food sector in the creation of value added in 2010–2016 (%)



Source: Statistics Estonia

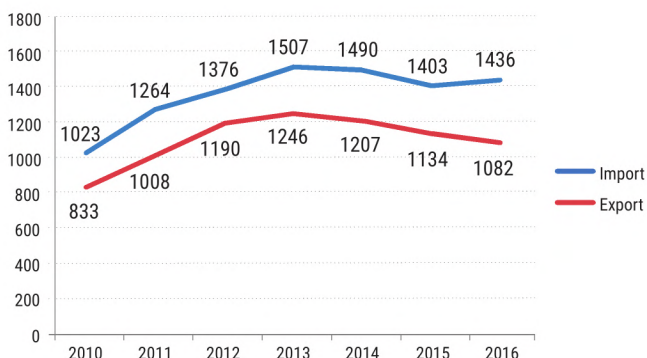
Self-sufficiency level in Estonia in 2010–2015 (%)



Source: Ministry of Rural Affairs

Foreign Trade

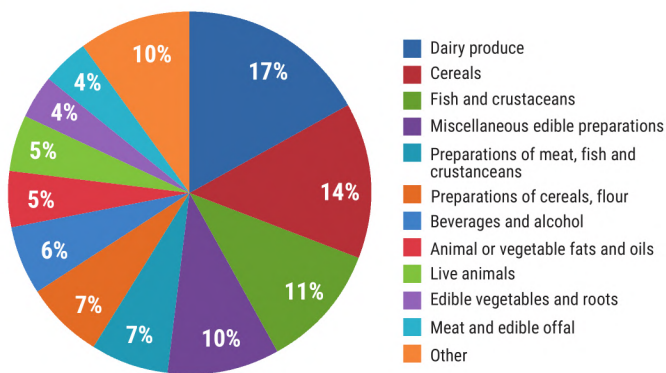
**Foreign trade in agricultural and food products
(Combined Nomenclature, Chapters 1–24) in 2010–2016
(million euros)**



Note: CN Chapter 1 – live animals; Chapter 2 – meat and edible meat offal; Chapter 3 – fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates; Chapter 4 – dairy produce; birds' eggs; natural honey; edible products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included; Chapter 5 – products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included; Chapter 6 – live trees and other plants; bulbs, roots and the like; cut flowers and ornamental foliage; Chapter 7 – edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers; Chapter 8 – edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons; Chapter 9 – coffee, tea, maté and spices; Chapter 10 – cereals; Chapter 11 – products of the milling industry; malt; starches; inulin; wheat gluten; Chapter 12 – oil seeds and oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruit; industrial or medicinal plants; straw and fodder; Chapter 13 – lac; gums, resins and other vegetable saps and extracts; Chapter 14 – vegetable plaiting materials; vegetable products not elsewhere specified or included; Chapter 15 – animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes; Chapter 16 – preparations of meat, of fish or of crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates; Chapter 17 – sugars and sugar confectionery; Chapter 18 – cocoa and cocoa preparations; Chapter 19 – preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; pastrycooks' products; Chapter 20 – preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants; Chapter 21 – miscellaneous edible preparations; Chapter 22 – beverages, spirits and vinegar; Chapter 23 – residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal fodder; Chapter 24 – tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes.

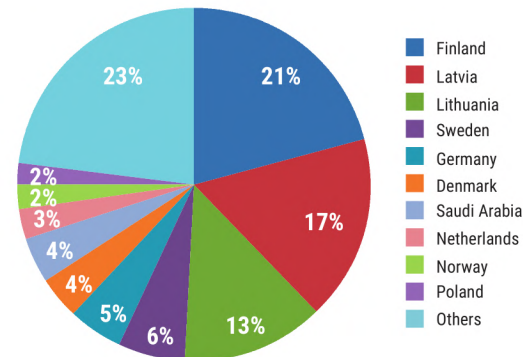
Source: Statistics Estonia

Structure of export of agricultural and food products
(CN Chapters 1–24) in 2016



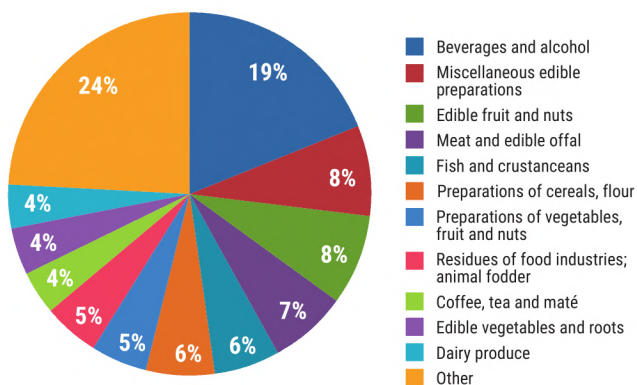
Source: Statistics Estonia

Major partner countries in agricultural and food products
export (CN Chapters 1–24) in 2016



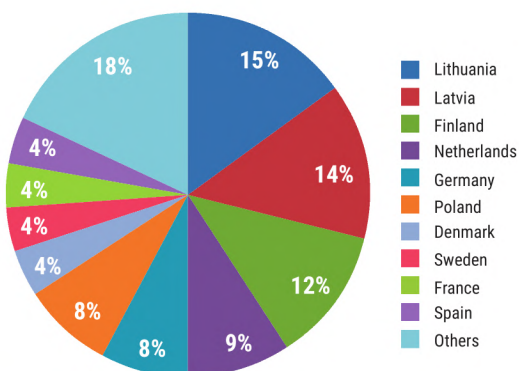
Source: Statistics Estonia

Structure of import of agricultural and food products (CN Chapters 1–24) in 2016



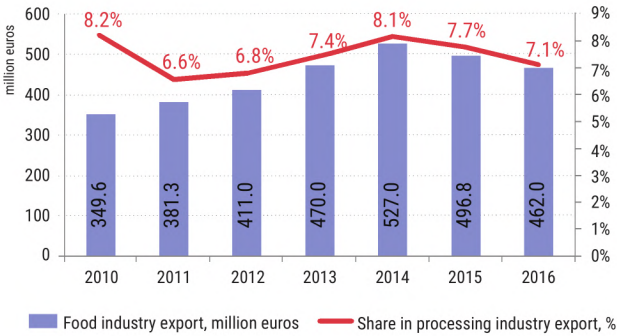
Source: Statistics Estonia

Major partner countries in agricultural and food products import (CN Chapters 1–24) in 2016



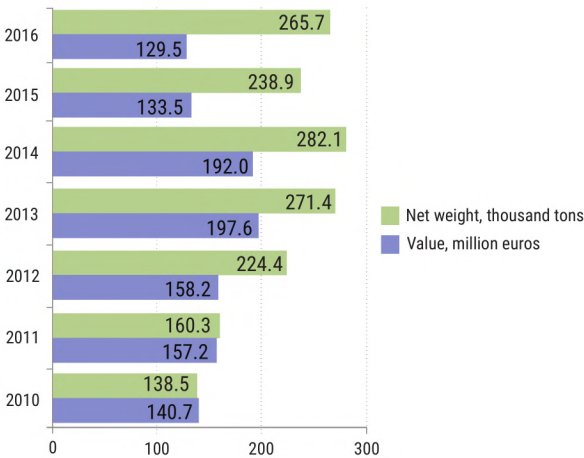
Source: Statistics Estonia

Food industry export (million euros) and the share of export in processing industry export (%) in 2010–2016



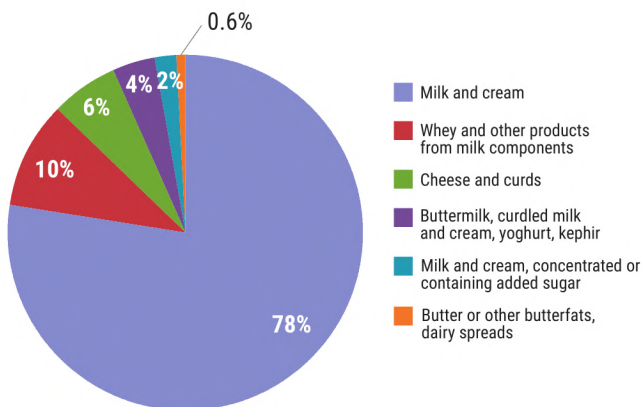
Source: Statistics Estonia

Milk and milk products export volume (thousand tons) and monetary value (million euros) in 2010–2016



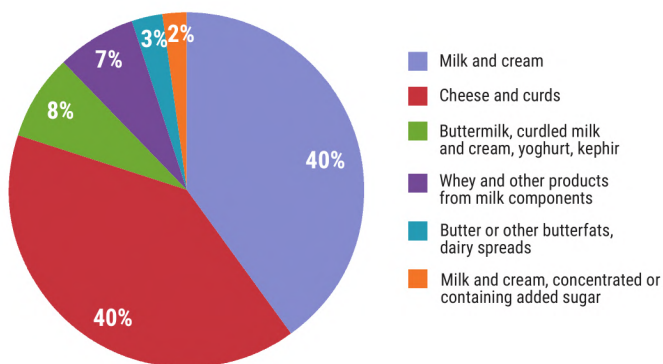
Source: Statistics Estonia

Structure of milk and milk products export (% of total volume) in 2016



Source: Statistics Estonia

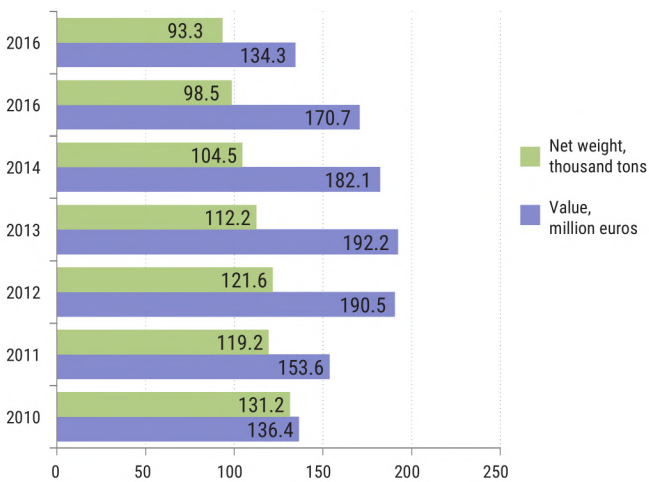
Structure of milk and milk products export (% of total monetary value) in 2016



Source: Statistics Estonia

FOREIGN TRADE

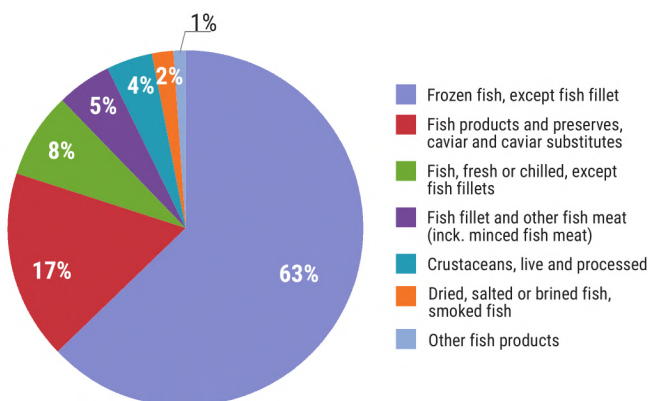
Fish and fish products export volume (thousand tons) and monetary value (million euros) in 2010–2016



Source: Statistics Estonia

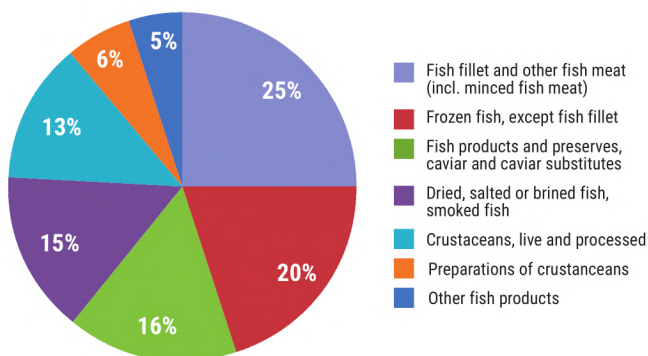


Structure of fish and fish products export (% of total volume) in 2016



Source: Statistics Estonia

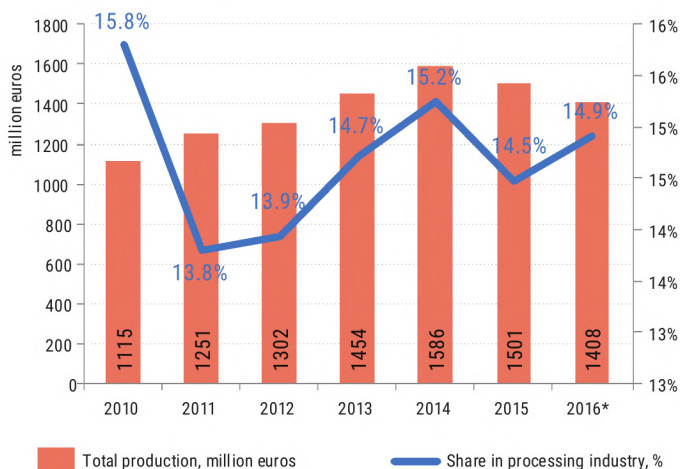
Structure of fish and fish products export (% of total monetary value) in 2016



Source: Statistics Estonia

Food and beverage industry

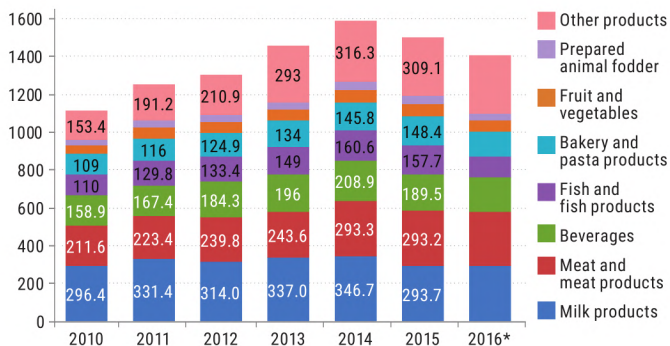
Total production of food and beverage industry in current prices (million euros) and its share in processing industry (%) in 2010–2016



Note: * initial data of 2016.

Source: Statistics Estonia

Structure of the value of food and beverage production in 2010–2016 (million euros)



Note: * initial data of 2016.

Source: Statistics Estonia

FOOD AND BEVERAGE INDUSTRY

The four distinct seasons wield the greatest influence on Estonia's culinary culture. Seasonal food is highly valued in Estonian restaurants and homes. Everything fresh and pure is available within a radius of 200 kilometres.



Since 2016, specific culinary regions of Estonia have been selected so as to promote the diversity of the country's food culture. Throughout the year, greater attention is turned to the local food and culinary culture from that particular region. Alongside a suitably grand title, the region in question is also presented with a special fork measuring 1.5 metres in length. The focus in 2017 is on the Lake Peipus area.



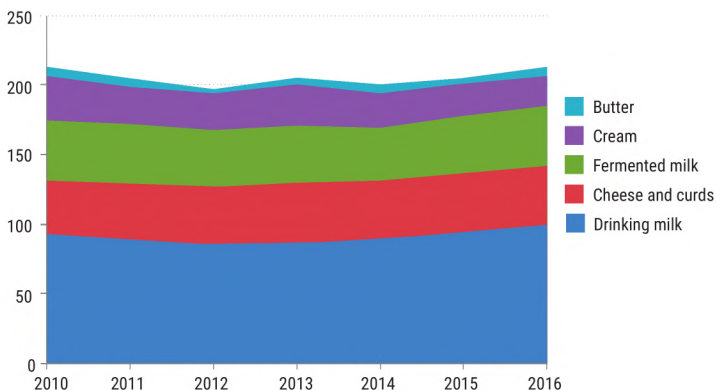
Production of milk products in 2010–2016 (thousand tons)

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Drinking milk	93.9	89.3	85.6	87.6	90.7	95.5	99.4
Cheese and curds	38.4	40.6	42.6	43.8	40.5	43.1	43.6
Fermented milk	42.3	41.9	39.1	38.8	37.3	38.1	40.6
Cream	32.6	27.5	26.9	31.7	26.7	23.6	24.8
Butter*	6.0	6.5	4.0	3.5	4.5	5.0	5.7
Skimmed milk powder	4.1	**	**	**	5.5	3.5	2.7
Total	217.3	205.8	198.2	205.4	205.2	208.8	216.8

Notes: * butter and other yellow fat dairy products (in 82% butter equivalent);
 ** data not available.

Source: Statistics Estonia

Production of milk products in 2010–2016 (thousand tons)



Source: Statistics Estonia

FOOD AND BEVERAGE INDUSTRY

One of the most popular sweet snacks in the country is called a *kohuke*. Made from sweetened curds, it is often coated in a chocolate or some other glaze and can come with a filling or be mixed with other ingredients.



In the old days, when animals were slaughtered on farms everything had to be used for food or fodder, Estonians were highly skilled in making dishes from blood. Even today, the Christmas spread of every respectable Estonian includes blood sausages cooked until black and served with a tart lingonberry sauce to give them that extra-special taste.



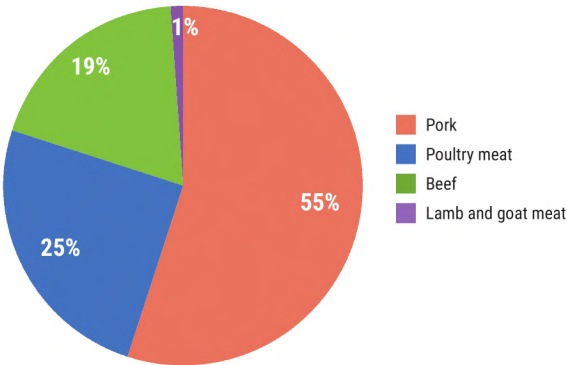
Production of meat products in 2010–2016 (thousand tons)

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016*
Total production of meat (slaughter weight)	75.4	80.6	78.4	79.8	80.7	85.6	77.9
Meat production	45.5	43.1	**	**	**	**	**
Sausage products	36.7	36.5	34.5	33.5	31.9	30.0	29.8
Thermally untreated natural prepared meat products	32.9	34.5	29.5	31.6	30.0	29.1	**
Thermally treated meat products	7.6	8.4	8.1	8.9	10.4	9.9	**
Smoked meat products, dried and salted meat products	9.9	10.3	9.6	9.9	10.0	10.2	**
Dumplings	3.5	5.9	3.8	3.5	3.3	3.5	**
Patê	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	2.1	1.0	**
Meat preserves	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.5	0.7	**

Notes: * initial data of 2016; ** data not available.

Source: Statistics Estonia

Structure of meat production (% of slaughter weight) by meat categories in 2016



Source: Statistics Estonia

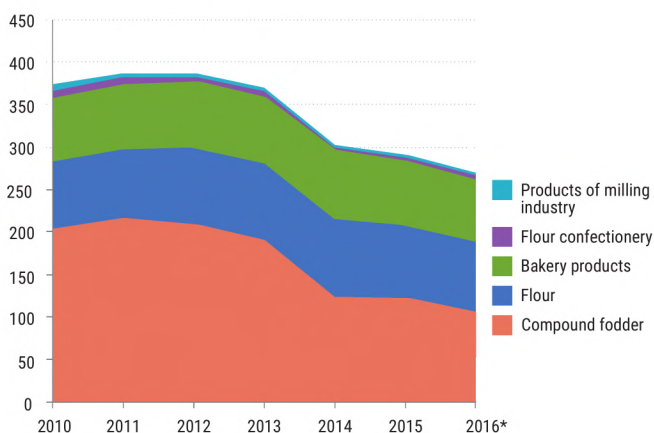
Production of cereal products in 2010–2016 (thousand tons)

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016*
Compound fodder	204.5	216.2	198.8	161.9	124.3	123.0	108.5
Flour	78.7	81.2	89.4	88.4	92.0	85.0	79.4
Bakery products	75.5	77.0	77.7	79.2	80.8	75.9	75.2
Flour confectionery	8.4	9.5	8.1	8.7	3.9	4.7	5.0
Products of milling industry	7.5	2.5	2.5	3.0	2.4	2.5	2.4

Note: * initial data of 2016.

Source: Statistics Estonia

Production of cereal products in 2010–2016 (thousand tons)



Note: * initial data of 2016.

Source: Statistics Estonia



One thing that most Estonians eat every day is black bread, which is made primarily from rye flour. It is generally denser than white bread made from wheat flour, and is higher in fibre. As its name suggests, it is also much darker than white bread, but also healthier, and has a stronger taste. Many Estonians maintain the centuries-old tradition of making their own bread at home.



Kama is a traditional Estonian food prepared from a blend of finely milled grains. It is traditionally mixed with sour milk to make a nutritious bellyful. Today, it is also added to whipped cream or curds to produce a fancy dessert – *kama* mousse.

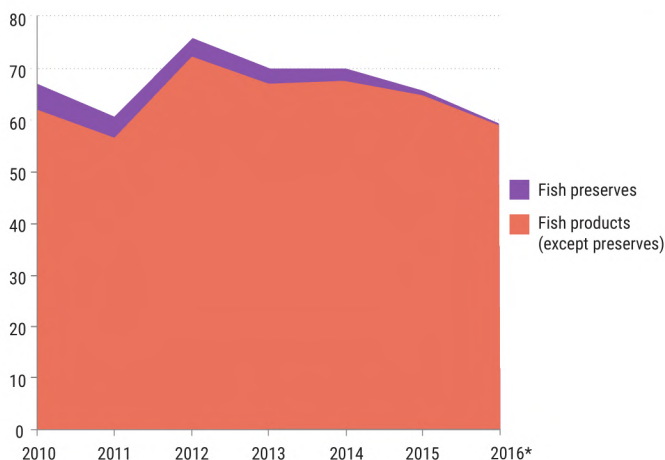
Production of fish processing industry in 2010–2016 (thousand tons)

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016*
Fish products (except preserves), incl.:	62.1	56.8	72.4	67.2	67.7	64.9	59.0
fresh and chilled fish meat, fillet, minced fish meat	3.7	2.5	2.6	3.2	**	**	**
frozen fish	35.5	32.8	44.0	40.4	**	**	**
smoked fish	1.4	1.9	2.3	2.3	**	**	**
salted, spiced and dried fish, deep-frozen and breaded fish	19.8	16.5	17.3	14.4	**	**	**
culinary fish products in oil, marinated, dressed	1.5	1.3	4.7	4.3	**	**	**
Fish preserves	5.1	3.8	3.7	3.3	2.2	0.9	0.5

Notes: * initial data of 2016; ** data not available.

Source: Statistics Estonia


Production of fish processing industry in 2010–2016 (thousand tons)



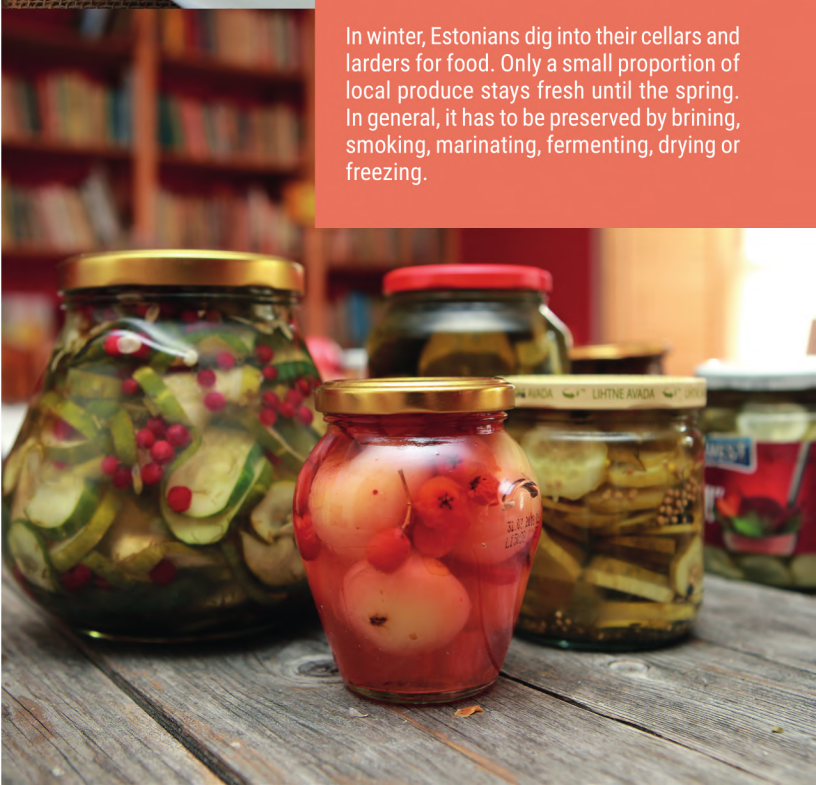
Notes: * initial data of 2016

Source: Statistics Estonia

FOOD AND BEVERAGE INDUSTRY



Fish have always been held in high regard in Estonia. Angling is a sport for many; for others a way of spending time with friends or a meditative solitary activity in scenic surroundings. An open-faced sandwich with spiced sprats, hard-boiled egg and spring onions has become an iconic dish on buffet tables for festive occasions.



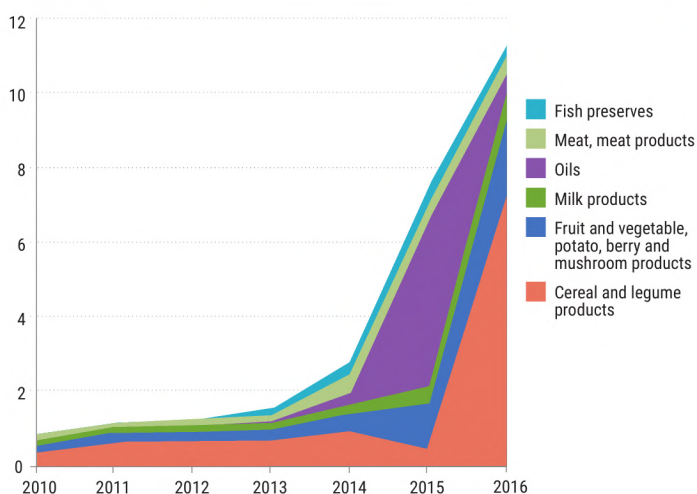
In winter, Estonians dig into their cellars and larders for food. Only a small proportion of local produce stays fresh until the spring. In general, it has to be preserved by brining, smoking, marinating, fermenting, drying or freezing.

Organic products processing volumes in 2010–2016 (tons)

Food group	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016*
Milk products	145	152	149	157	203	420	569
Meat, meat products	177	103	172	168	555	537	494
Cereal and legume products	370	617	702	679	919	470	7541
Bakery and pasta products	96	114	112	144	156	154	92
Herbal teas, herbs, spices	3	5	3	4	4	4	40
Fruit and vegetable, potato, berry and mushroom products	162	269	225	314	487	1206	1942
Oils	2	7	8	73	342	4465	551
Fish products		11	31	156	260	477	272
Beverages (thousand litres)			183	106	281	698	600
Other products (hemp flour, coffee, yeast, soy products, honey with added ingredients, prepared foods)	0.3	6	42	45	63	196	163

Source: Organic Farming Register

Processing volumes of main organic products in 2010–2016 (tons)



Source: Organic Farming Register

Agriculture and rural life



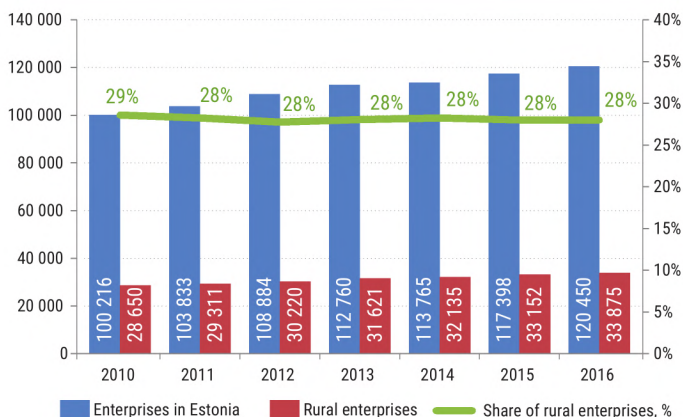
Appreciation for country life has risen among Estonians by 10% in the last two years. 61% of the population take a positive view of rural life, while 71% would recommend to friends and family that they form a connection with it. People's awareness of European and LEADER grants and the development plan for rural life is high: 83% of respondents are familiar with them.

There are few things Estonians like more than having a sauna, an inseparable part of which for them is what is known as 'whisking' – beating yourself (or someone else) rather enthusiastically with a tightly bunched bouquet of birch twigs, leaf-on. Whisking opens up the pores of the body more effectively to the hot air, while the twigs and leaves yield useful substances that are good for your health. The twigs are soaked or boiled in water before being bunched together. Not that the twigs have to be birch – you will also find 'whisks' made of juniper, oak or even nettles.



Rural enterprise and employment

Number of enterprises included in statistical profile and the relative importance of rural enterprises (%) in 2010–2016



Note: *Rural enterprises* are enterprises that are active in rural areas.

Rural area comprises rural municipalities (excl. municipalities around the capital city Tallinn), cities without municipal status and small cities with a population of up to 4000 inhabitants.

Sources: Statistics Estonia, Ministry of Rural Affairs

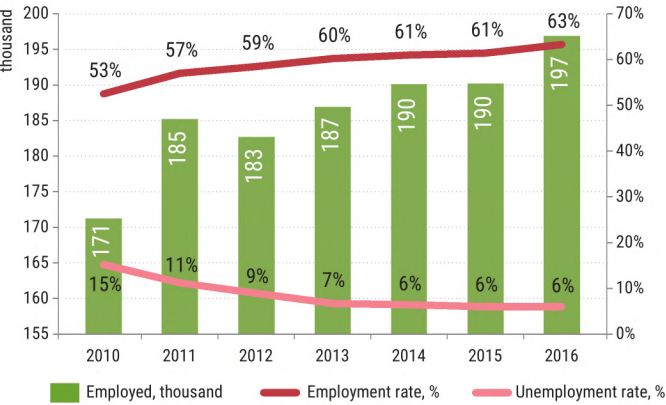
Employment in rural settlements in 2010–2016

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Labour force, thousand:	201.8	208.6	200.7	200.3	202.6	202.2	209.5
employed, thousand	171.2	185.2	182.7	186.9	189.6	190.2	196.9
unemployed, thousand	30.6	23.4	17.9	13.4	13.0	12.1	12.6
Aged 15–74 (total), thousand	325.8	325.1	312.6	310.3	310.8	309.7	311.2
Labour force participation rate, %	61.9	64.2	64.2	64.5	65.2	65.3	67.3
Employment rate, %	52.5	57.0	58.5	60.2	61	61.4	63.3
Unemployment rate, %	15.2	11.2	8.9	6.7	6.4	6.0	6.0

Notes: *Rural settlements* – small towns and villages. *Employed* is a person who during the reference period worked and was paid as a wage earner, entrepreneur or a freelancer; worked without direct payment in a family enterprise or on his / her own farm; was temporarily absent from work. **Labour force participation rate** (activity rate) is the share of labour force in the working-age population. **Employment rate** is the share of the employed in the working-age (aged 15–74) population. **Unemployment rate** is the share of unemployed persons in labour force.

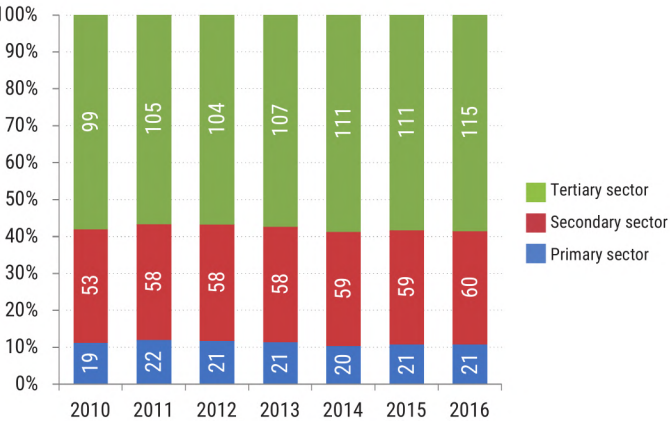
Source: Statistics Estonia

Employment and unemployment in rural settlements in 2010–2016 (%)



Source: Statistics Estonia

Structure of employment by sectors of the economy in rural settlements in 2010–2016 (thousand employed)



Notes: Primary sector – agriculture, hunting, forest management, fisheries.
Secondary sector – mining industry, processing industry, electric power, gas and water supply, construction.
Tertiary sector – trade, service, etc.

Source: Statistics Estonia

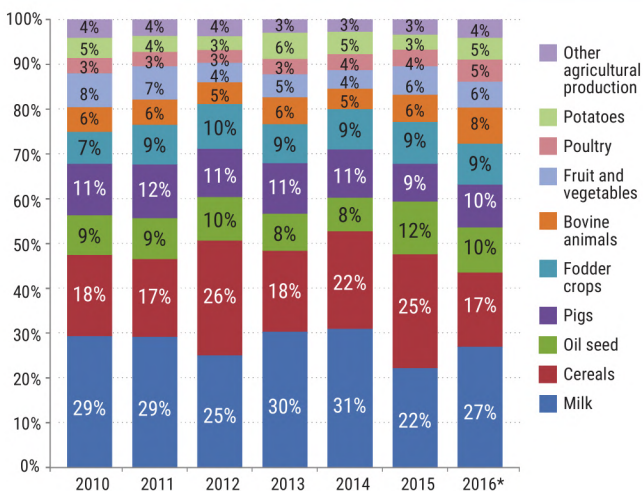
Agricultural economic indicators

Share of agriculture in value added and employment in 2010–2016

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Value added in agriculture, forest management and fishing in current prices (million euros)	411	567	573	582	615	592	526
share in value added (%)	3.2	3.9	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.4	2.9
Employed in agriculture, forest management and fishing (thousand)	23.9	26.6	27.6	26.5	24.1	25.0	25.0
share in employment (%)	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.3	3.9	3.9	3.9
Employed in agriculture and hunting (thousand)	17.2	19.3	19.3	17.7	16.2	16.6	17.7
share in employment (%)	3.0	3.2	3.1	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.7

Source: Statistics Estonia

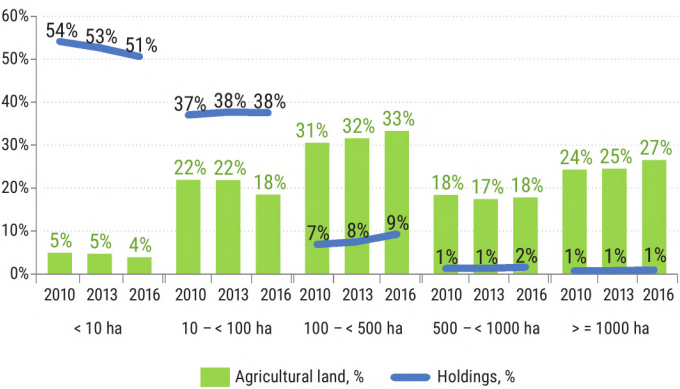
Structure of the value of agricultural production in 2010–2016 (%)



Note: * initial data of 2016.

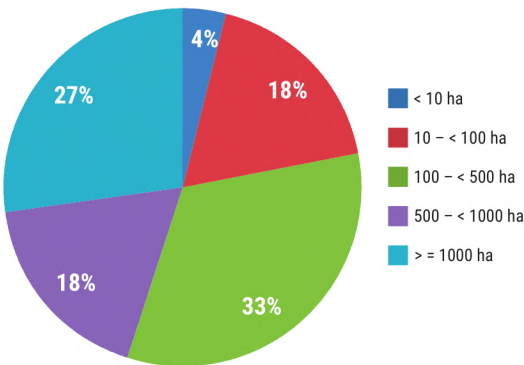
Source: Statistics Estonia

Agricultural holdings and their agricultural land use by different size groups of agricultural land in 2010, 2013 and 2016 (%)



Source: Statistics Estonia

Structure of agricultural land in 2016 by size of agricultural holding



Source: Statistics Estonia

Crop farming

Agricultural land use in 2011–2016 (hectares)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Utilised agricultural area, total	945 992	955 916	965 907	974 820	993 595	1 003 505
Arable land	632 399	620 483	632 100	648 120	669 665	690 208
Orchards (excl. strawberries)	6 442	6 255	6 065	6 002	5 866	5 839
Nurseries	553	553	201	201	201	229
Natural (permanent) grassland	162 812	191 529	218 605	197 579	192 295	269 835
Christmas tree plantation	*	*	515	515	515	476
Land not used in agricultural production, maintained in good agricultural and environmental condition	143 786	137 096	108 421	122 403	125 053	36 918

Notes: * data not available.

Utilised agricultural area includes the land used in agricultural production and maintained in good agricultural and environmental condition.

Arable land includes the growing area of crops grown in fruit and vegetable gardens (kitchen gardens).

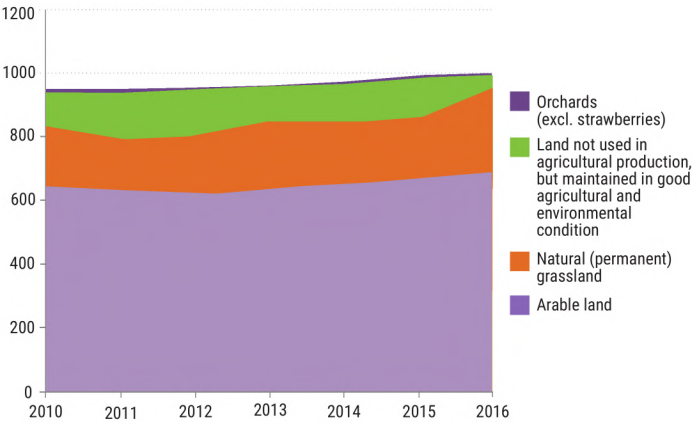
Orchards include the growing area of fruit trees and berries grown in fruit and vegetable gardens (kitchen gardens) and nurseries; the growing area of strawberry has been included in arable land.

Permanent grassland over five years old, established on cultivated area, is included in **natural grassland**.

Source: Statistics Estonia

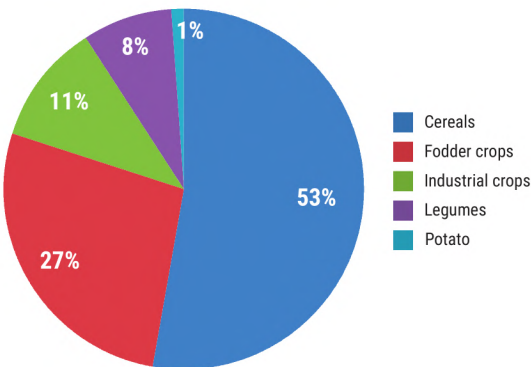


Structure of agricultural land use in 2010–2016
(thousand hectares)



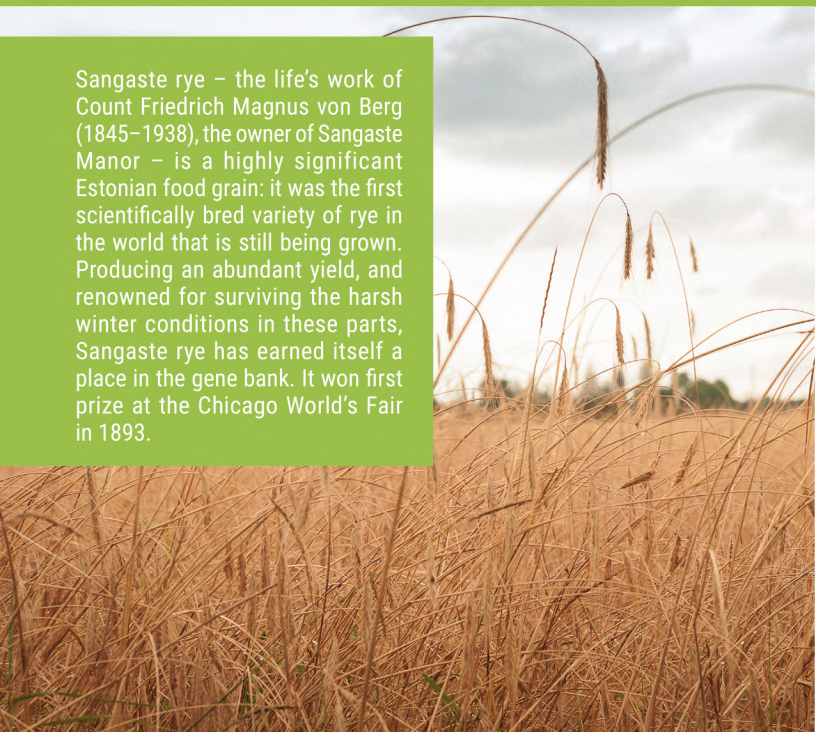
Source: Statistics Estonia

Structure of arable crops growing area in 2016

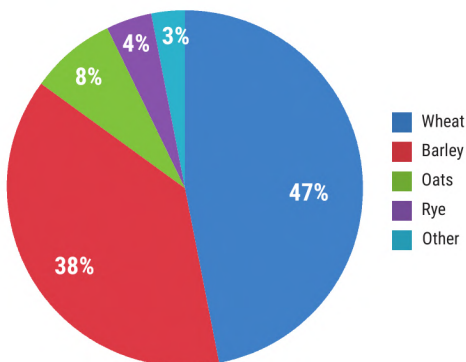


Source: Statistics Estonia

Sangaste rye – the life's work of Count Friedrich Magnus von Berg (1845–1938), the owner of Sangaste Manor – is a highly significant Estonian food grain: it was the first scientifically bred variety of rye in the world that is still being grown. Producing an abundant yield, and renowned for surviving the harsh winter conditions in these parts, Sangaste rye has earned itself a place in the gene bank. It won first prize at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893.

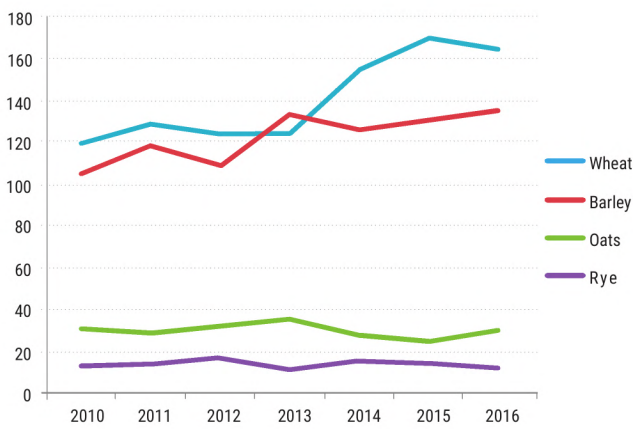


Structure of cereals growing area in 2016



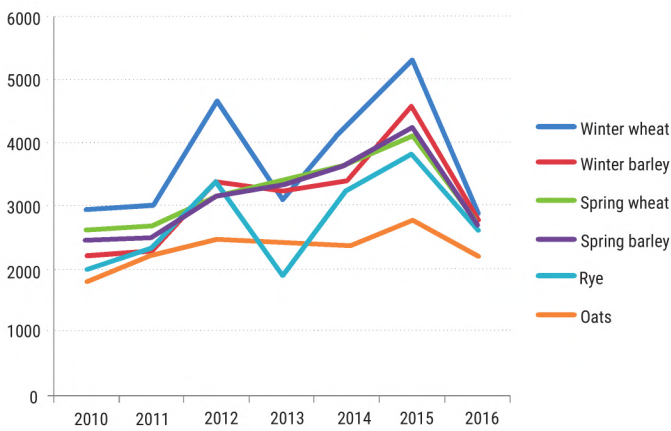
Source: Statistics Estonia

Growing area of main cereals in 2010–2016
(thousand hectares)



Source: Statistics Estonia

Yield of main cereals in 2010–2016 (kg/ha)



Source: Statistics Estonia

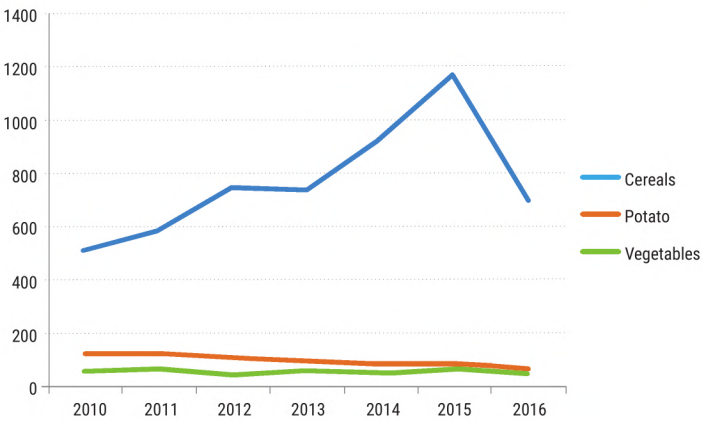
Production of main crop products in 2014–2016

Crop	2014			2015			2016		
	growing area	harvest	yield	growing area	harvest	yield	growing area	harvest	yield
	(thousand hectares)	(thousand tons)	(kg/ha)	(thousand hectares)	(thousand tons)	(kg/ha)	(thousand hectares)	(thousand tons)	(kg/ha)
Total cereals, incl.	332.9	1 221.6	3 669	350.4	1 535.3	4 382	351.4	934.1	2 658
rye	15.4	49.6	3 211	14.3	54.7	3 823	12.4	32.4	2 616
winter wheat	81.0	347.8	4 295	97.8	518.5	5 302	90.7	259.1	2 857
spring wheat	73.4	267.7	3 648	71.9	294.1	4 090	73.8	196.4	2 660
spring barley	125.6	457.5	3 641	130.3	551.5	4 232	133.6	352.6	2 639
oats	27.3	65.0	2 384	24.4	67.8	2 781	29.3	64.5	2 201
Legumes	19.1	39.5	2 070	31.3	86.2	2 756	55.4	109.5	1 975
Industrial crops	81.0	*	*	72.6	*	*	75.3	*	*
Vegetables	*	66.4	*	*	85.9	*	*	62.4	*
Potatoes	6.4	117.3	18 472	5.8	117.2	20 138	5.6	89.8	15 920
Annual forage crops	12.8	248.7	19 352	12.0	272.0	22 679	19.7	334.7	16 950
Total arable crops	608.4			614.0			672.9		

Note: * data not available.

Source: Statistics Estonia

Production of crop products per capita in 2010–2016 (kilograms)



Source: Statistics Estonia

Livestock farming



The record-breaking cow Missy set an all-time Estonian high when her second lactation cycle, which started in April 2015, produced a total of 19 767 kilograms of milk over 305 days of lactation. An Estonian Holstein, Missy had already produced an impressive 15 277 kilograms of milk during her first lactation cycle.

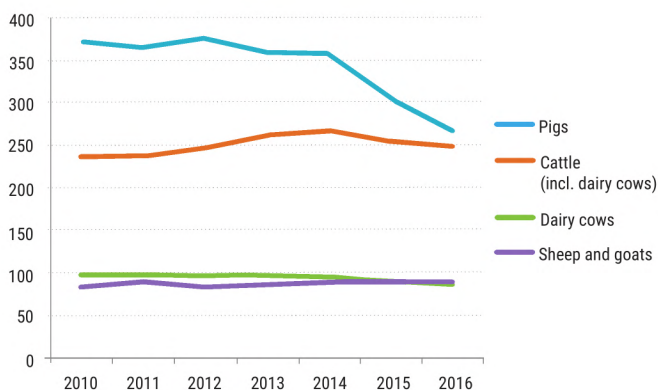
Production of animal products in 2010–2016

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Live weight of slaughtered animals*, thousand tons	111.7	118.5	115.5	117.1	118.5	126.8	116.9
Meat, slaughter weight*, thousand tons	75.4	80.6	78.4	79.8	80.7	85.6	77.9
Milk, thousand tons	676.0	693.0	721.2	772.0	805.2	783.2	783.2
Eggs, million pieces	181.9	183.8	179.5	189.9	199.4	204.4	199.0
Wool, tons	154.2	125.7	138.0	166.8	134.3	108.3	129.0
Honey, tons	681.5	693.8	957.0	978.7	1154.8	1116.5	1097.0
Beeswax, tons	29	28	39	40	48	35	32

Note: * livestock sold alive to abattoirs (incl. export) and slaughtered in the farm (incl. slaughtered in abattoirs as service and meat restituted to the farm).

Source: Statistics Estonia

Number of animals as of 31 December in 2010–2016 (thousand)



Source: Statistics Estonia

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LIFE

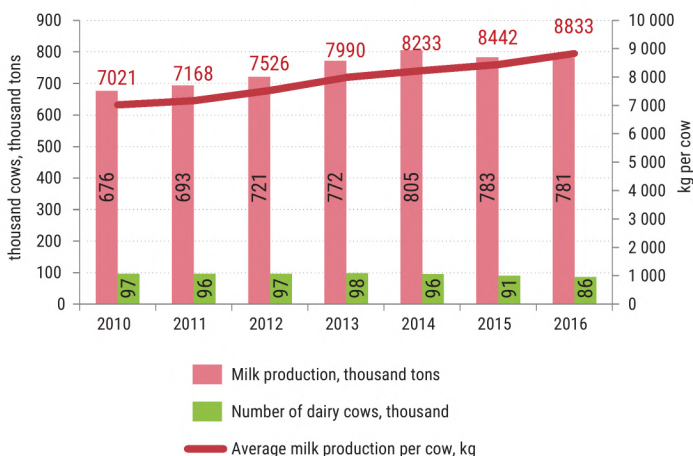
There is only one example of locally bred poultry in the country: the Estonian quail. It was confirmed as a separate breed of the species in 1988. It was bred from the Egyptian goose and Japanese quails for its meat and eggs, and added to the international list of bird and animal species in need of protection in 1993.



One local animal which has been added to the endangered species list of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations is the Estonian horse. It stands out for its relative speed and strength as a draught horse, as well as for its endurance, but also for being fairly undemanding and economical – needing less feed to work just as hard as other horses. In terms of temperament the Estonian horse is lively and energetic but also mellow and matter-of-fact.



Main milk production indicators in 2010–2016



Source: Statistics Estonia

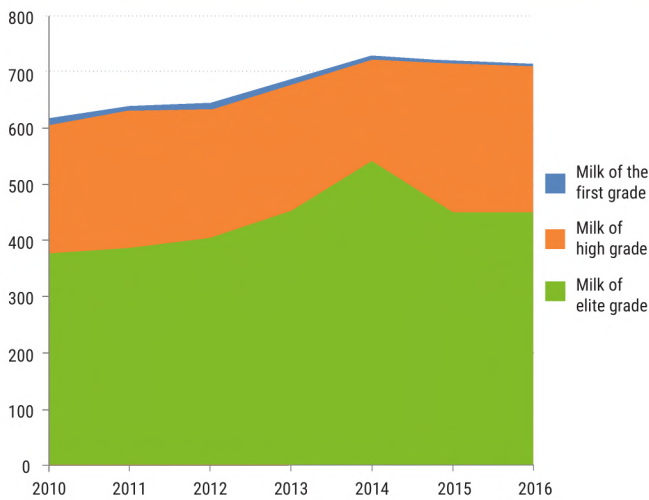
Purchase of milk in 2010–2016

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Milk in natural weight, thousand tons, incl.:	621.1	642.3	649.1	688.8	730.0	720.4	714.7
milk of elite grade, thousand tons	379.9	387.8	407.3	454.8	542.1	452.6	450.4
milk of high grade, thousand tons	227.2	245.6	228.0	221.6	181.9	264.4	261.2
milk of the first grade, thousand tons	12	6.8	11.9	10.9	4.9	2.6	2.3
Fat content, %	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.0
Protein content, %	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4
Average price per ton, euros	277.13	322.73	299.97	338.11	327.98	236.93	236.72

Note: Milk purchased from Estonian agricultural producers. Data providers are first buyers of milk from Estonian agricultural producers and milk processing establishments approved by the Veterinary and Food Board.

Source: Statistics Estonia

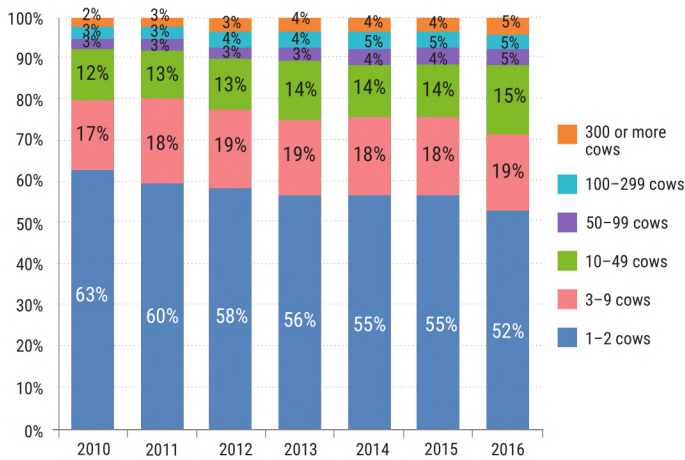
Quality indicators of purchased milk in 2010–2016
(thousand tons)



Note: Milk purchased from Estonian agricultural producers.

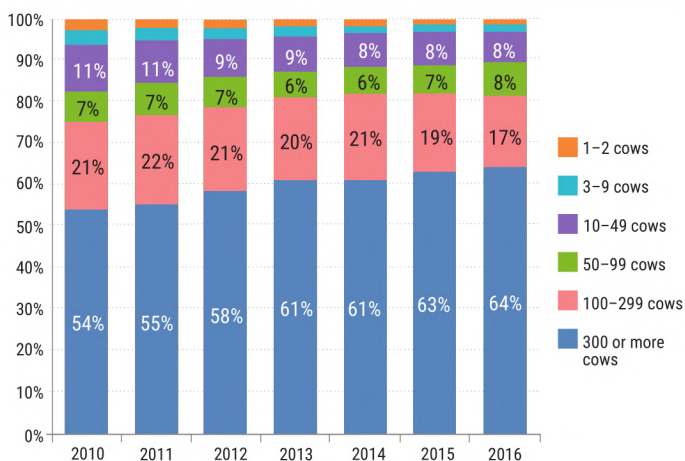
Source: Statistics Estonia

Division of dairy cow owners by size groups in 2010–2016



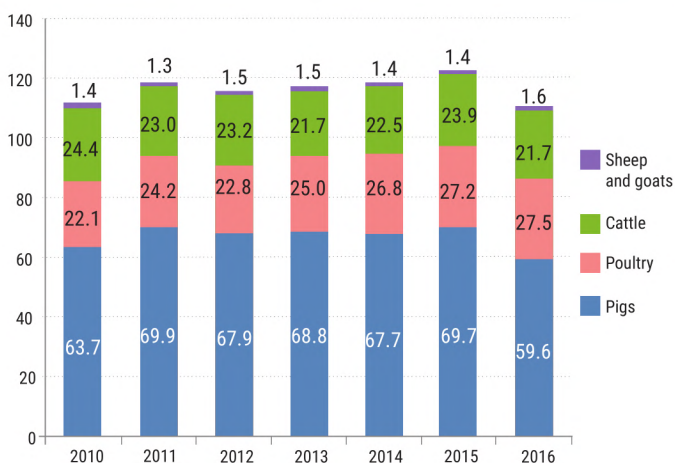
Source: ARIB Register of Farm Animals

Division of the total number of dairy cows by size groups in 2010–2016



Source: ARIB Register of Farm Animals

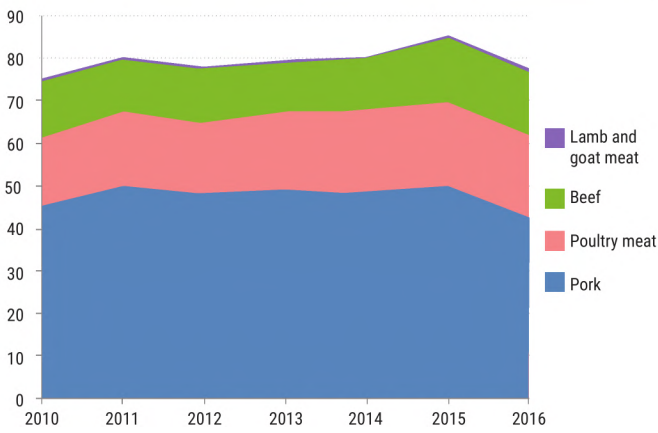
Live weight of slaughtered animals and poultry in 2010–2016 (thousand tons)



Note: Livestock sold alive to abattoirs (incl. export) and slaughtered in the farm (incl. slaughtered in abattoirs as service and meat restituted to the farm).

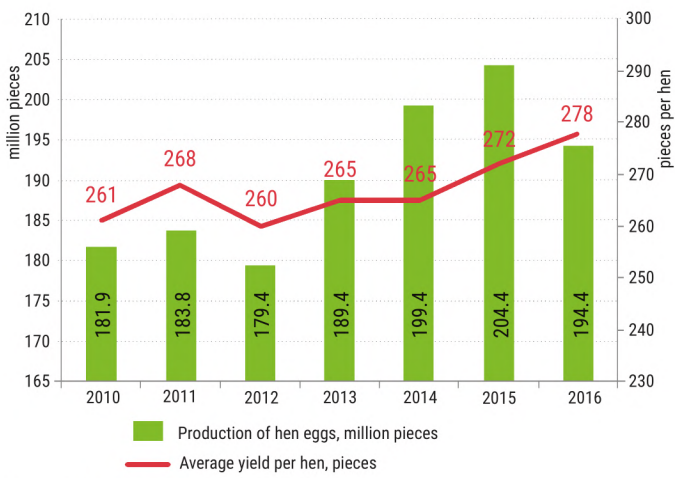
Source: Statistics Estonia

Meat production in 2010–2016
(slaughter weight, thousand tons)



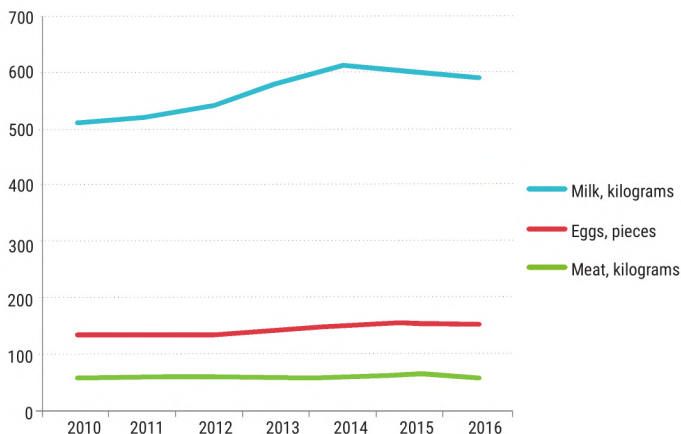
Source: Statistics Estonia

Production of hen eggs in 2010–2016



Source: Statistics Estonia

Production of animal products per capita in 2010–2016



Source: Statistics Estonia

Organic farming



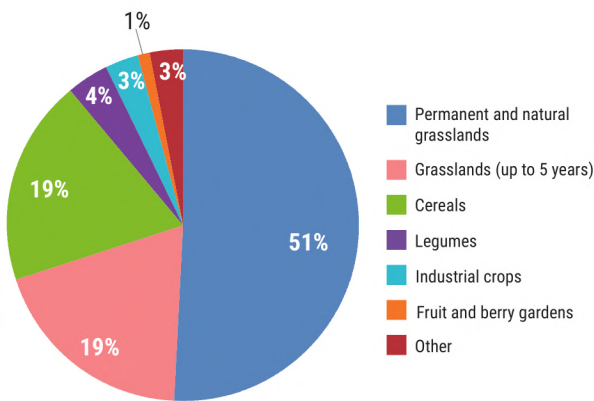
The amount of organic farmland in Estonia has grown by 2.5 times in the last 10 years, accounting for more than 184 000 hectares or 18% of all agricultural land in 2016. As such, the country ranks among the three highest in Europe (alongside Austria and Sweden) for its proportion of organic land.

Area of organic land, incl. land in conversion (thousand hectares), and the number of organic producers (holdings) in 2010–2016



Source: Organic Farming Register

Use of organic land, incl. land in conversion, in 2016



Source: Organic Farming Register

Number of organic animals, incl. animals in conversion, in 2011–2016

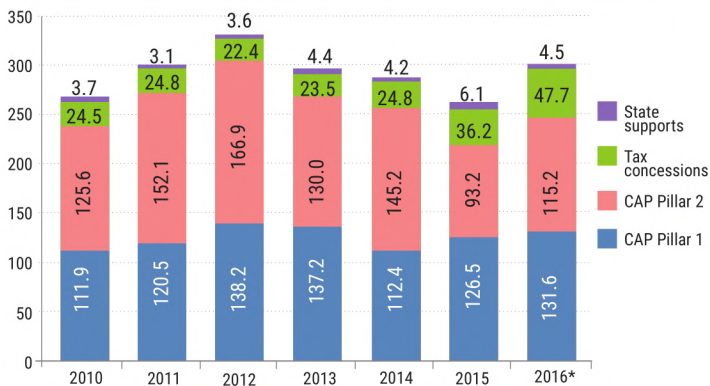
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Bovine animals, incl.:	28 701	31 431	35 582	37 491	41 744	44 675
dairy cows	3 255	2 937	2 609	2 138	1 966	1 881
beef animals' suckler cows	7 734	9 532	10 882	12 217	14 271	16 045
Sheep	46 496	48 314	47 566	50 545	54 470	51 999
Goats	940	1 108	1 245	1 431	1 566	1 629
Horses	1 987	2 068	2 136	2 121	2 021	1 952
Pigs	1 327	1 139	890	1 475	818	681
Poultry, incl.:	12 864	30 648	28 582	42 107	33 799	33 992
laying hens	7 759	9 051	16 820	16 476	23 036	19 008
Rabbits	1 208	436	1 524	2 180	2 639	2 930
Bees (number of colonies)	632	864	1 510	1 737	1 996	2 717

Source: Organic Farming Register



Agricultural and rural supports

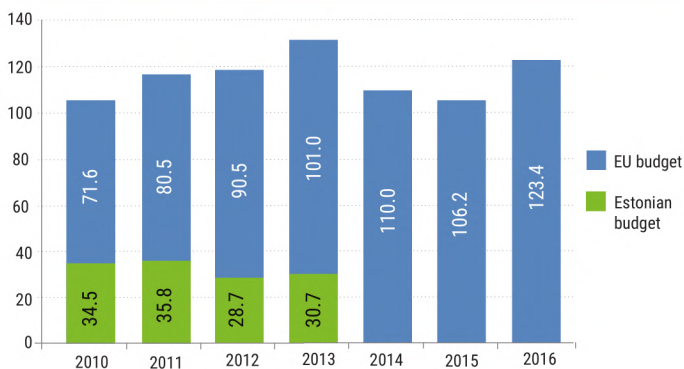
Supports for agricultural producers, processors and for the development of rural life in 2010–2016 (million euros)



Notes: * CAP Pillar 2 includes finance instrument 16.6 million euros in 2016. Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union (CAP) **Pillar 1** includes direct support and market organisation measures. CAP **Pillar 2** includes supports for development of Estonian agriculture and rural life according to the Rural Development Plan. **State support** includes support for replacement of agricultural producer, agricultural insurance support, training support, market development support etc. **Tax concessions** – the excise tax exemption is meant for agricultural producers using diesel fuel marked with fiscal marker in the machinery used in the agricultural production process. The amount of the excise tax exemption for agriculture is based on expert valuation and is calculated taking into account the difference between the normal excise tax rate and the reduced rate and the utilized agricultural area in 2008–2014. The actual figure 2015–2016 is based on Tax and Customs Board data. Payments as of 31 December of the corresponding year.

Source: Ministry of Rural Affairs

Direct payments and complementary direct payments in 2010–2016 (million euros)



Note: Payments as of 31 December of the corresponding year. **Source:** ARIB

Financial plan of the Estonian Rural Development Plan 2014–2020 by priorities

Priority	Public sector		
	Total public sector, euros	EAFRD co-financing rate, %	EAFRD total amount, euros
Priority 2: Enhancing farm viability and competitiveness of all types of agriculture in all regions and promoting innovative farm technologies, and sustainable management of forests	283 524 000	82.3	233 284 000
Priority 3: Promoting food chain organisation, including processing and marketing of agricultural products, animal welfare and risk management in agriculture	105 025 000	87.7	92 073 950
Priority 4: Restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems related to agriculture and forestry	365 563 000	78.5	287 001 500
Priority 5: Promoting resource efficiency and supporting the shift towards a low carbon and climate resilient economy in agriculture, food and forestry sectors	23 780 000	86.2	20 489 000
Priority 6: Promoting social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas	176 000 000	92.3	162 410 000
Technical assistance	38 913 513	72.2	28 083 108
Total	992 805 513	82.9	823 341 558

Note: EAFRD – European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.

Source: Ministry of Rural Affairs



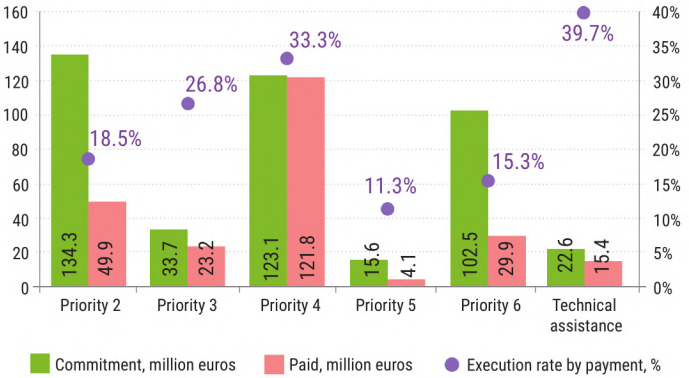
Financial plan of the Estonian Rural Development Plan 2014–2020 by measures

Measure	Public sector		
	Total public sector, euros	EAFRD co-financing rate, %	EAFRD total amount, euros
M01 – Knowledge transfer and information actions	12 000 000	89.0%	10 680 000
M02 – Advisory services, farm management and farm relief services	8 600 000	85.9%	7 385 000
M03 – Quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs	1 000 000	84.0%	840 000
M04 – Investments in physical assets	289 500 000	84.5%	244 755 000
M06 – Farm and business development	122 124 000	85.4%	104 249 000
M08 – Investments in forest area development and improvement of the viability of forests	10 000 000	86.5%	8 650 000
M09 – Setting-up of producer groups and organisations	6 000 000	89.0%	5 340 000
M10 – Agri-environment-climate	244 927 000	79.4%	194 378 500
M11 – Organic farming	77 700 000	76.4%	59 400 000
M12 – Natura 2000 and Water Framework Directive payments	32 666 000	75.0%	24 499 500
M14 – Animal Welfare	40 675 000	92.0%	37 438 450
M16 – Co-operation	18 700 000	89.0%	16 643 000
M19 – Support for LEADER local development (CLLD – community-led local development)	90 000 000	90.0%	81 000 000
M20 – Technical assistance	38 913 513	72.2%	28 083 108
Total	992 805 513	82.9%	823 341 558

Note: EAFRD – European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.

Source: Ministry of Rural Affairs

Execution of the Estonian Rural Development Plan
2014–2020 funds as of 31 May 2017



Note: Execution rate represents share of payments in total amount.

Source: ARIB, Ministry of Rural Affairs



Fisheries

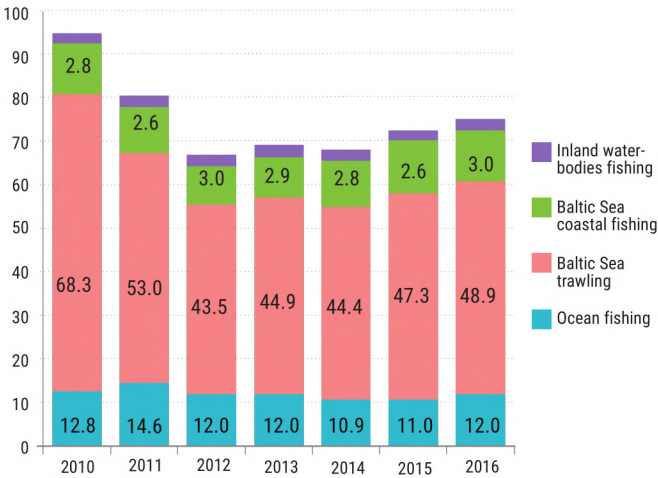


Estonian fishermen have become the first in Europe to be able to submit their mandatory catch details via PERK – a mobile app that was created to simplify the submission of data and bring down accompanying costs.

The red algae *Furcellaria lumbricalis* is the only species of its kind in Europe, and can be found growing in Kassari Bay in Estonia. The carrageenan produced here from the algae has been used to date in the food-processing industry in the production of e.g. jelly and marshmallow, but recent studies have shown that valuable protein pigments for biochemical research (phycoerythrin and phycocyanin) can also be extracted from the species.

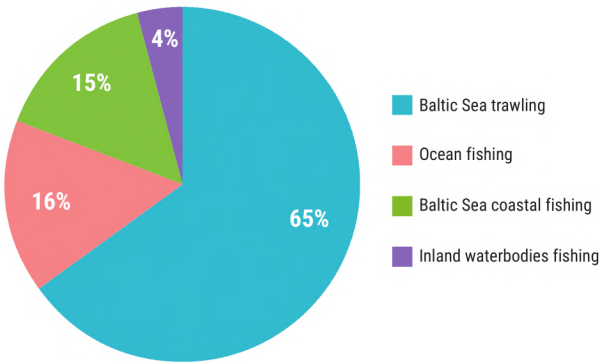


Commercial fishing in 2010–2016
(live weight, thousand tons)



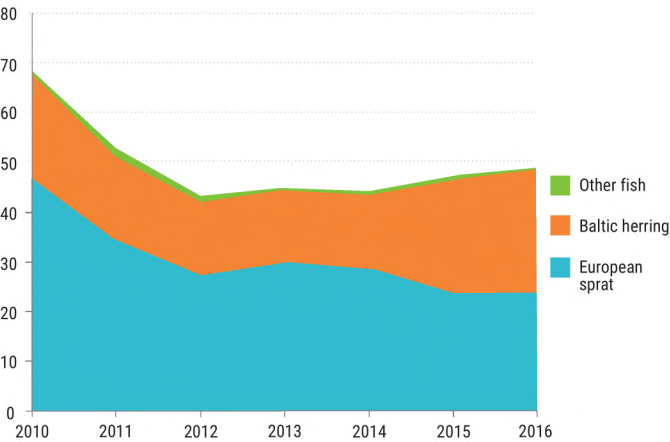
Source: Statistics Estonia

Structure of commercial fishing (% of the total volume)
in 2016



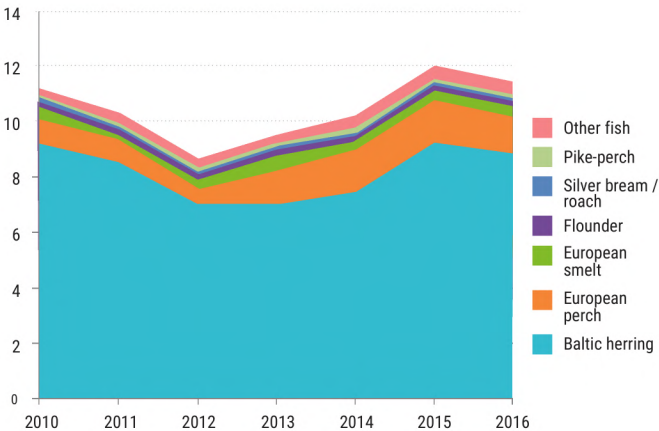
Source: Statistics Estonia

Baltic Sea commercial trawling by fish species in 2010–2016 (live weight, thousand tons)



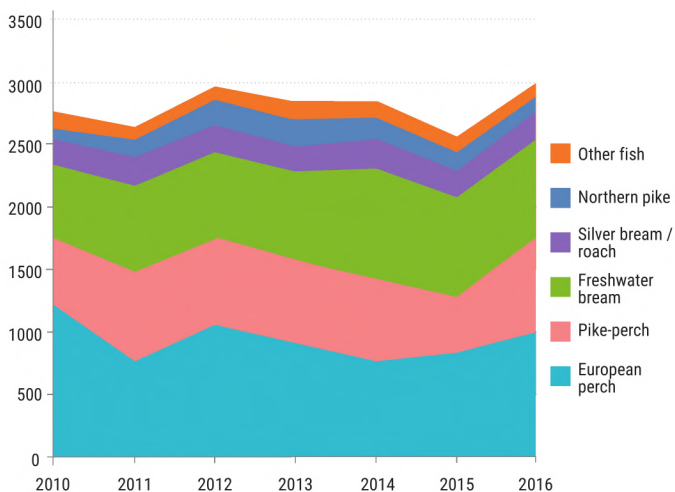
Source: Statistics Estonia

Baltic Sea commercial coastal fishing by fish species in 2010–2016 (live weight, thousand tons)



Source: Statistics Estonia

Commercial fishing on inland waterbodies by fish species in 2010–2016 (live weight, tons)



Source: Statistics Estonia

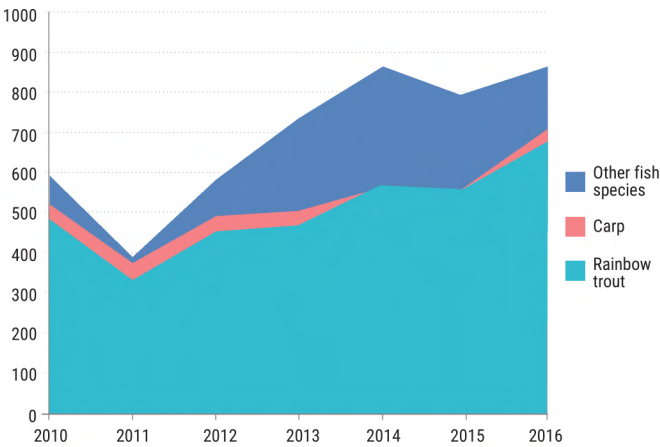
Annual aquaculture sales volumes in 2010–2016 (tons)

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Rainbow trout	487.5	333.8	455.3	465.5	569.6	559.0	680.4
Carp	39.4	37.5	38.2	43.7	*	*	33.8
European eel	20.3	2.0	*	*	127.0	*	*
Crayfish	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.7
Other fish species	50.9	18.7	87.2	223.5	172.1	238.7	152.9
Total fish	598.5	392.6	580.8	733.2	868.9	798.3	867.7
Caviar	4.5	0.1	4.1	5.0	3.1	7.3	4.9

Note: * data are confidential; included in the category "Other fish species".

Source: Statistics Estonia

Sales of aquaculture products in 2010–2016 (tons)



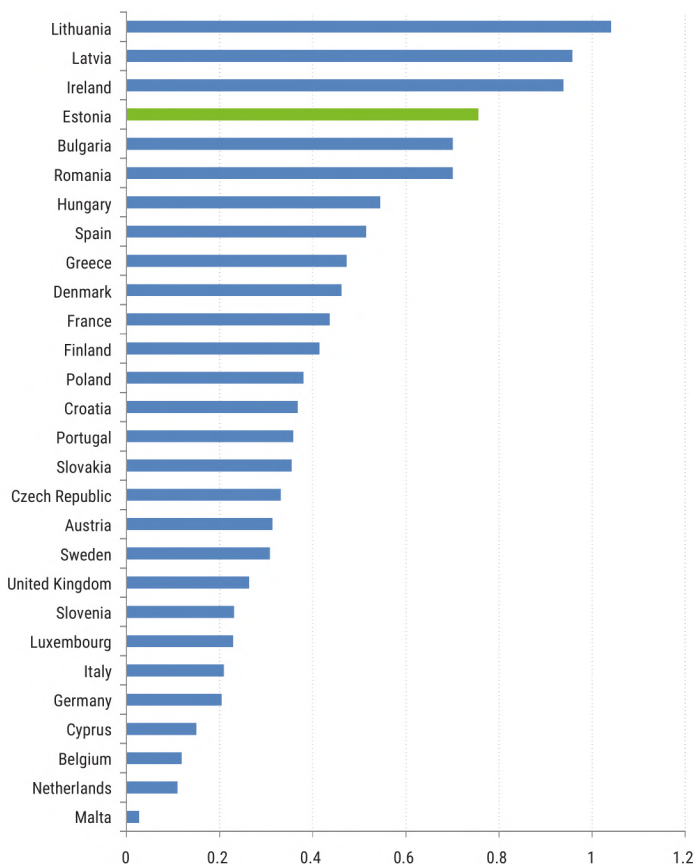
Note: In 2014 and 2015, carp is included in the category “Other fish species”.

Source: Statistics Estonia



Production of main agricultural products in the member states of the European Union

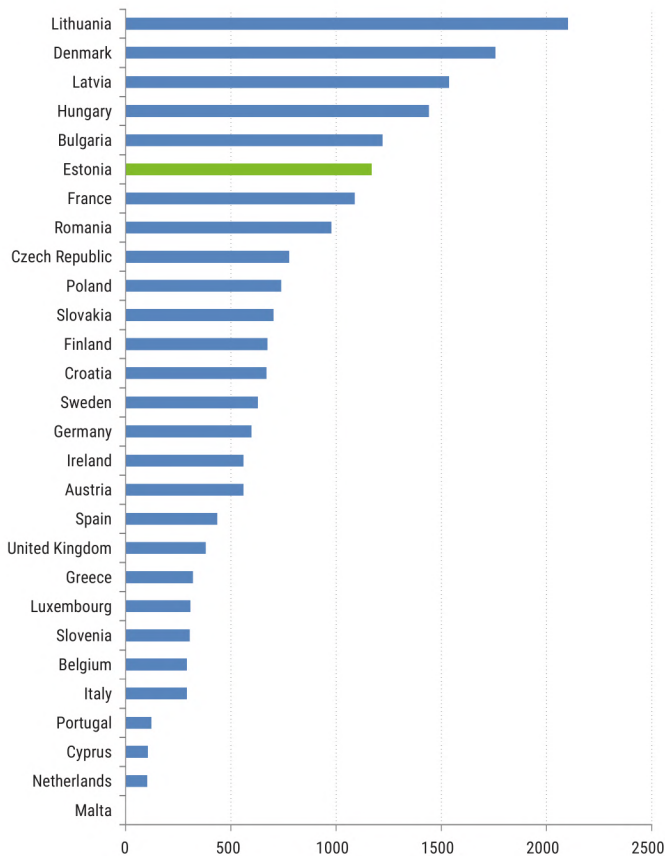
Utilised agricultural area per capita in EU member states in 2015 (hectares)



Note: Population as of 1 January 2016.

Source: Eurostat; compiler's calculations

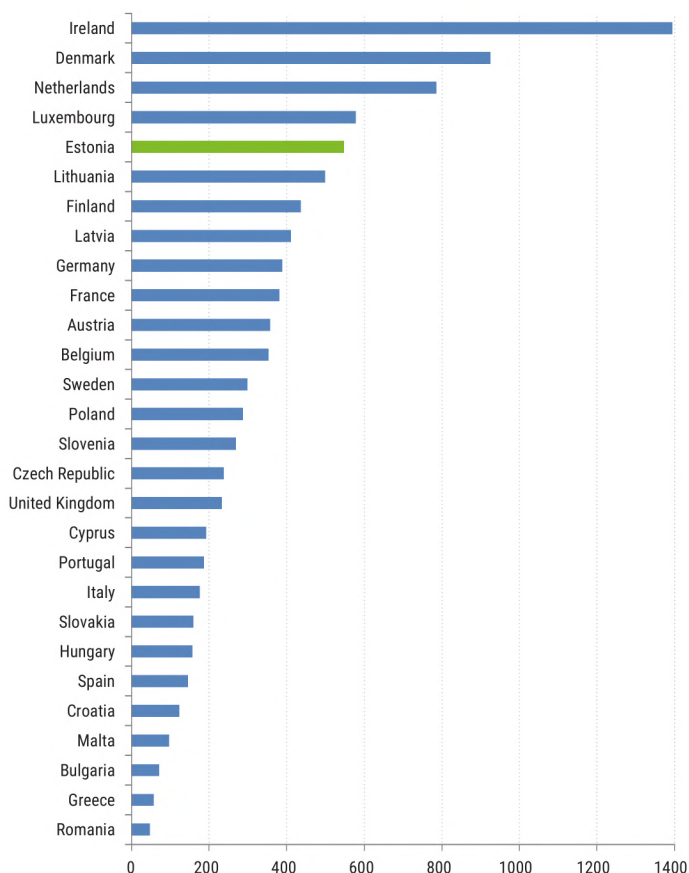
Production of cereals per capita in EU member states in 2015 (kilograms)



Notes: Production of cereals reflects harvested production (excluding losses incurred in harvesting). Cereals include: wheat, barley, maize and other cereals. Population as of 1 January 2016.

Source: Eurostat; compiler's calculations

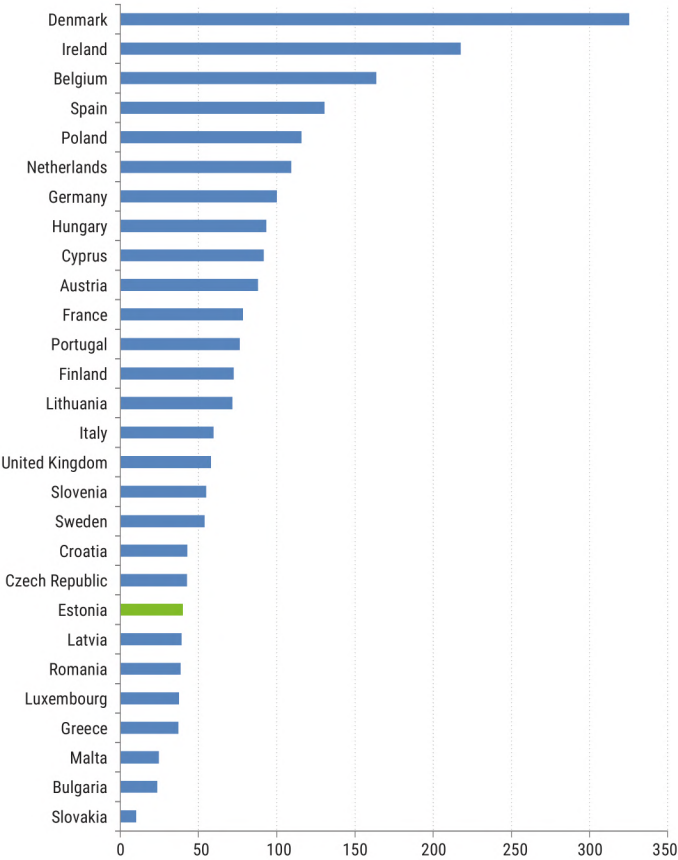
Production of milk per capita in EU member states in 2015 (kilograms)



Notes: Data covers cow's milk collected in farms by approved dairies.
Population as of 1 January 2016.

Source: Eurostat; compiler's calculations

Production of meat per capita in EU member states in 2015 (kilograms)



Notes: Data covers carcass weight of bovine animals, sheep and goats, pigs and poultry slaughtered in slaughterhouses and on the farm, whose meat is declared fit for human consumption.
Population as of 1 January 2016.

Source: Eurostat; compiler's calculations



In the second half of July Estonia celebrates Open Farm Day – a hugely popular event that has doubled its number of participating farms (from 148 to 280) and visitors (from 45 000 to 120 000) in three years. On 23 July 2017, almost 280 farms will open their gates to visitors. Many smaller events have sprung from Open Farm Day – for example, the first Open Fishing Harbour Day was held this year.





Maamess, the biggest agricultural fair in the Baltic States, is held in Estonia each spring. The 2017 edition of the trade fair was the 25th in the series. It was attended by 500 exponents and more than 43 000 visitors representing 10 countries. One of the events held as part of the fair is a 'beauty pageant' for young vealers, with blue ribbons being awarded to the loveliest young lady and most handsome young gentleman among the four-legged contestants.



Boards, centres, offices and museums within the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Rural Affairs

Agricultural Registers and Information Board (ARIB)

Tähe 4, 51010 Tartu, Estonia
+372 737 1200
pria@pria.ee
www.pria.ee

Veterinary and Food Board

Väike-Paala 3, 11415 Tallinn
Estonia
+372 605 1710
vet@vet.agri.ee
www.vet.agri.ee

Agricultural Board

Teaduse 2, Saku
75501 Harjumaa, Estonia
+372 671 2602
pma@pma.agri.ee
www.pma.agri.ee

Agricultural Research Centre

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75501 Harjumaa, Estonia
+372 672 9137
info@pmk.agri.ee
http://pmk.agri.ee

Veterinary and Food Laboratory

Kreutzwaldi 30, 51006 Tartu
Estonia
+372 738 6100
info@vetlab.ee
www.vetlab.ee

Rural Economy Research Centre

Jänedä, Tapa vald
73602 Lääne-Virumaa
Estonia
+372 384 9700
info@maainfo.ee
www.maainfo.ee

Estonian Crop Research Institute

J. Aamisepa 1, Jõgeva
48309 Jõgevamaa, Estonia
+372 776 6901
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www.etki.ee

Estonian Agricultural Museum

Pargi 4, Ülenurme vald
61714 Tartumaa, Estonia
+372 738 3810
epm@epm.ee
http://epm.ee

Estonian Dairy Museum

H. Rebase 1, Imavere
72401 Järvamaa, Estonia
+372 389 7533
info@piimandusmuuseum.ee
www.piimandusmuuseum.ee

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