

18 – 6th AGRICULTURAL CENSUS: FIRST RESULTS

Introduction

Between the months of October, 2010, and March, 2011, Istat carried out its 6th Agricultural Census, a precious opportunity to augment the available data regarding the world of agriculture. In fact, it is only on the occasion of a census that detailed data is collected on a wide range of phenomena (up to the municipal and sub-municipal levels), helping create a store-house of official statistical data for analysis, evaluation and policy guidance with a view to national and regional intervention as regards agriculture and rural development.

A survey of agricultural enterprises operating in Italy in 2010 was carried out through a census administered over the years 2010-2011; this period was strongly characterized by innovations on the methodological and organizational front, consenting timely checks on the quality of data and resulting in more rapid diffusion. In short, these new aspects were: the active participation of the Regions and autonomous Provinces in the planning and implementation of the Census¹, the use of administrative archives to create a list of enterprises to be interviewed, web-support in the various stages of the survey and the introduction of new information. All this consented increased punctuality in quality-control with regard to data and swifter distribution of variables; on July 5th 2011, in fact, Istat published (and much more quickly than in previous censuses) the provisional results of the 6th Census of Agriculture. It was the principal variables among those included in the questionnaire that were published, but it is envisaged that all the (principal and secondary) variables will be published as definitive data by April 2012. In particular, reference here is to information (referring to October 24th, 2011) regarding the size of agricultural enterprises in Italy, the relative surface areas per type of utilization of land (sowable, timber cultivation, etc.) and raising livestock. After the publication of provisional national data, followed by the presentation of the first data from the Census of the Regions and autonomous Provinces², it was possible to provide a picture of the national agricultural situation and begin thinking about the Regional “differences”. With this in mind the aim of the present chapter is to start sketching a profile of the Sicilian agricultural situation and to verify whether the changes applied in Sicily between one census and another are in line with the new scenario of Italian agriculture. This chapter is

¹ In the 6th Agricultural Census two organizational models for participation were introduced on the part of the Regions and autonomous Provinces: “high participation”, i.e. direct management of the survey and registration network and integrative participation (joint Region-autonomous Province management/Istat).

² The Regione Siciliana, together with Istat, on July 20th, 2011, published the provisional results of the 6th General Agricultural Census for Sicily. This is the third presentation of Regional data, following Bolzano and Umbria, implemented by a Region choosing high participation.

arranged in two parts: in the first section the principal structural and organizational features of Sicilian agricultural enterprises are illustrated and compared with those of other Italian Regions; in the second part the principal structural results are illustrated, with reference to the Sicilian Provinces.

Analysis of Regional data

With the 6th Agricultural Census an overall structural picture of Sicilian agriculture emerges showing evident transformations, which are the result of a long-term process of concentrating agricultural land and livestock farming, in a tangibly reduced number of enterprises.

Up to October 24th, 2010, in Sicily there were 219,581 operative agricultural and zootechnical enterprises (13.5% of the national figure), 14,881 of which raised livestock. Over all, these enterprises cover 1,545,977 hectares of SAT - Superficie Agricola Totale (i.e. total agricultural land) and 1,384,043 hectares of SAU - Superficie Agricola Utilizzata (i.e. agriculturally utilizable land); these account for 8.9% and 10.7% respectively of SAT and SAU in Italy. As for livestock, cattle account for 366,015 items (6.4% of the national figure), 49,277 pigs (0.5% of the national figure), 849,565 sheep and goats (11.2% of the national figure) and 5,100,000 birds (2.6% of the national figure). A comparison with 2000 reveals that, over the last ten years, there has been a reduction of about 120,000 enterprises (-37.1%), counterbalanced, however, by an 8% increase in SAU (+104,325 hectares) and a 6.2% increase in SAT (+90,521 hectares). For the enterprises this represents a figure in line with national trends (-32% enterprises in Italy), whereas, with regard to land the variations follow an opposing trend to Italy as a whole (-2.3% SAU, -8% SAT). As a result of this, Sicily has given up to Puglia (275,633 enterprises) its position as Region with the highest number of enterprises. These two are followed by Calabria (137,699 enterprises), Campania (136,867 enterprises) and Veneto (120,735 enterprises). However, Sicilian enterprises possess most extensive agriculturally utilizable land, along with Puglia (1,280,876 hectares), Sardinia (1,152,757 hectares), Emilia Romagna (1,066,773 hectares) and Piemonte (1,048,350 hectares), in all accounting for 46% of national SAU. It should be noted however that if the reduction in enterprises is viewed both in relation to market trends responsible for the disappearance of smaller enterprises and to the quality of administrative archives from which the pre-census list emerges, the increase in land can be interpreted as a result of the measures taken by the Politica Agricola Comunitaria – PAC (i.e. EU agricultural policy), which favoured the concentration of agricultural and zootechnical activity in units of larger size.

Average size of Enterprises

In Sicily the average size of enterprises has increased considerably over the last ten years, going from 3.7 hectares of SAU per enterprise to 6.3 hectares

(+72.2%). This is a higher increase than the national average (+44.4%) and that of the other Regions with a particular agricultural vocation: Puglia (+25.6), Calabria (+26.4), Campania (+60.4), Emilia Romagna (+37.4) and Piemonte (+57.4).

Table 18. 1- Enterprises, SAU and SAT per Region- Years 2010 and 2010

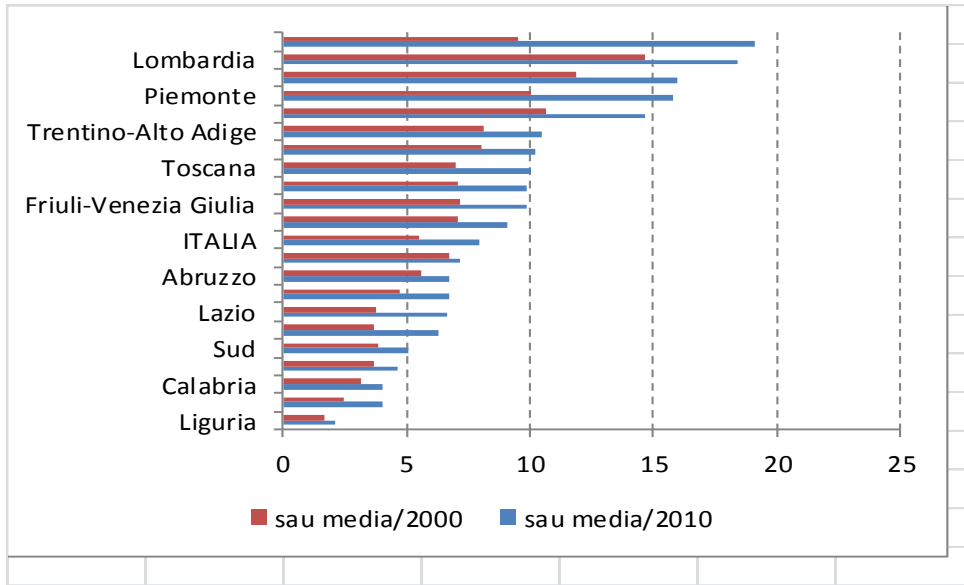
REGIONS	Enterprises			SAU			SAT		
	2010	2000	Var. %	2010	2000	Var. %	2010	2000	Var. %
Piemonte	66.930	106.969	-37,4	1.048.350,45	1.068.872,59	-1,9	1.364.088,61	1.459.224,20	-6,5
Valle d'Aosta	3.520	5.981	-41,2	55.384,41	71.120,32	-22,1	119.140,27	158.249,88	-24,7
Lombardia	54.107	71.350	-24,2	984.870,55	1.039.592,36	-5,3	1.228.274,57	1.350.853,87	-9,1
Liguria	20.121	37.340	-46,1	43.033,35	63.834,79	-32,6	97.130,21	161.704,11	-39,9
Trentino	36.666	51.456	-28,7	380.502,92	414.115,72	-8,1	897.826,17	981.324,21	-8,5
Veneto	120.735	178.404	-32,3	806.319,31	851.275,55	-5,3	1.021.968,76	1.169.204,97	-12,6
Friuli-	22.327	33.302	-33,0	219.909,72	237.969,86	-7,6	278.596,89	392.587,09	-29,0
Emilia-	73.441	106.363	-31,0	1.066.773,17	1.129.317,92	-5,5	1.364.698,74	1.462.984,91	-6,7
Romagna									
Toscana	75.459	122.409	-38,4	755.295,11	855.805,89	-11,7	1.377.113,60	1.558.103,17	-11,6
Umbria	36.201	52.035	-30,4	327.868,41	366.452,41	-10,5	537.144,00	627.415,82	-14,4
Marche	46.373	61.323	-24,4	473.063,85	492.595,95	-4,0	632.230,85	676.226,27	-6,5
Lazio	98.026	191.205	-48,7	648.472,52	721.051,18	-10,1	925.046,28	1.039.601,18	-11,0
Abruzzo	66.854	76.906	-13,1	449.988,65	431.081,32	4,4	684.047,90	649.973,93	5,2
Molise	27.427	31.667	-13,4	196.527,69	214.626,18	-8,4	254.360,83	284.753,86	-10,7
Campania	136.867	234.721	-41,7	547.464,53	586.059,65	-6,6	723.215,48	836.951,20	-13,6
Puglia	275.633	336.697	-18,1	1.280.875,86	1.247.577,83	2,7	1.395.655,14	1.369.252,15	1,9
Basilicata	51.772	76.034	-31,9	512.280,88	537.532,79	-4,7	654.957,90	700.385,89	-6,5
Calabria	137.699	174.693	-21,2	551.404,94	554.848,84	-0,6	707.215,08	842.457,74	-16,1
Sicily	219.581	349.134	-37,1	1.384.043,04	1.279.717,80	8,2	1.545.976,98	1.455.456,06	6,2
Sardegna	60.681	107.464	-43,5	1.152.756,54	1.019.957,81	13,0	1.468.334,71	1.598.560,15	-8,2
ITALY	1.630.420	2.405.453	-32,2	12.885.185,90	13.183.406,76	-2,3	17.277.022,97	18.775.270,66	-8,0
Sud	696.252	930.718	-25,2	3.538.542,55	3.571.726,61	-0,9	4.419.452,33	4.683.774,77	-5,6

Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010, 2000

Only Lazio and Sardegna present variations in the average size of enterprise greater than that of Sicilian enterprises (+75.9 and + 100.5 respectively) but it is solely in Sicily that this dynamic is emphasised as a result of the afore-mentioned diverging trend in the (falling) number of enterprises in relation to the (increasing) sizes of land-areas.

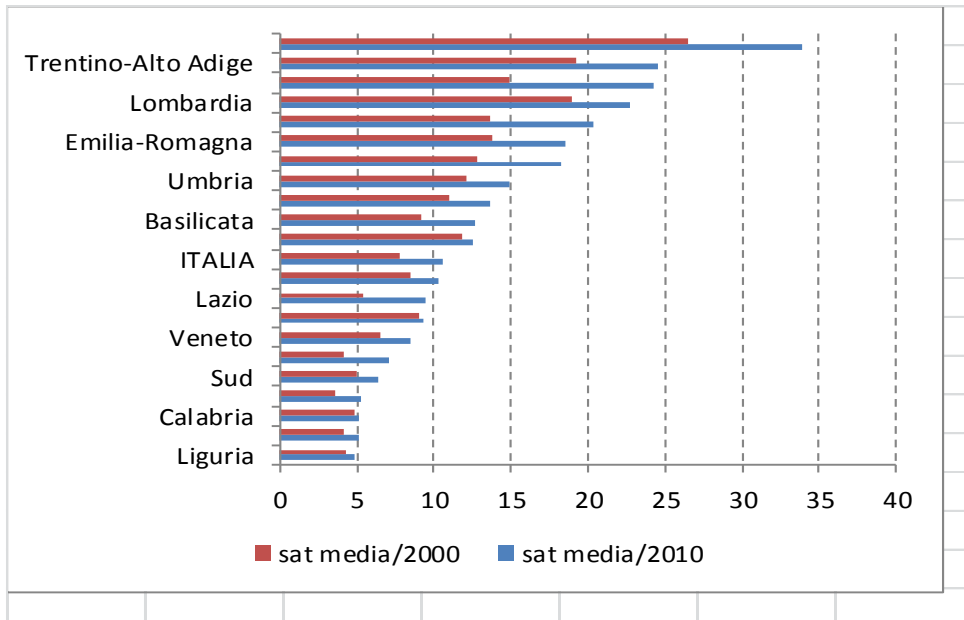
The average size of enterprises in terms of SAT is on the rise when compared with results from the 2000 Census, going from 4.17 to 7 hectares (+69.01), although this increase is lower than the one recorded by the SAU. In the graphs (below) (Figs. 18.1 and 18.2), the average size of Sicilian enterprises is shown, for both SAU and SAT, and compared with national figures and those for other Regions.

Figure 18. 1- Average size of enterprises (ha) in Sicily and other Regions in Italy, for SAU – years 2000 and 2010



Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

Figure 18. 2- Average size of enterprises (ha) in Sicily and other Regions in Italy, for SAT- years 2000 and 2010

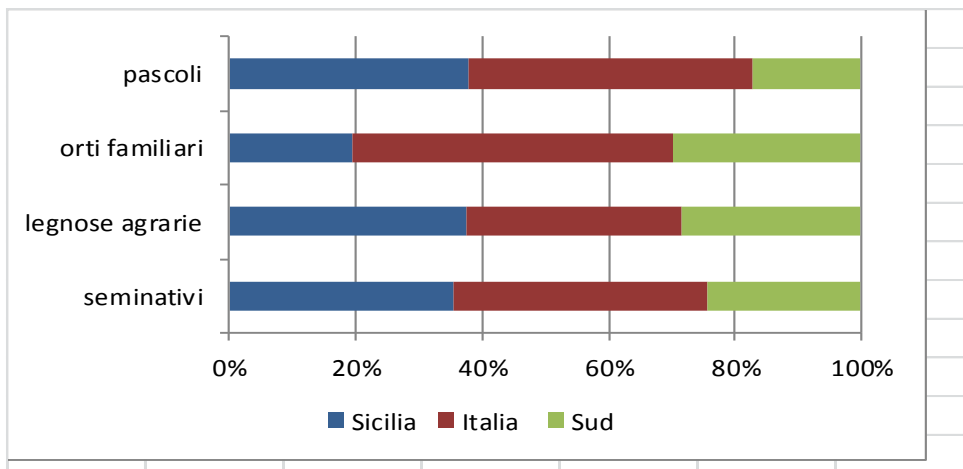


Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

Principal cultivation on agricultural land.

The 2010 Census reveals that although the distribution of SAU among the principal types of agrarian cultivation (seed crops, timber, family vegetable gardens and permanent meadows for grazing) at the national level does not show significant variations compared to 2000, in Sicily it highlights different aspects to those of the 2000 Census, as well as opposing trends. More exactly, seed crops in 2000 cover almost 50% of Sicilian SAU and present an increase of 5.4% over 2000. On the other hand, wooded plants cover 27.5% of land utilized and have recorded a 4.3% fall, to which there is a corresponding 9.5% reduction in land for vineyards and a 3.5% increase for olive-groves. The considerable increase over 2000 of “permanent meadows for grazing”, which went from 236,000 hectares to 320,000 hectares (+33.5%), can be linked to specific measures by the PAC providing incentives for more sustainable livestock breeding; at the same time family vegetable gardens fell by 13%³.

Figure 18. 3- Agricultural enterprises by agricultural cultivation in Sicily, Italy and the southern sub-division – year 2010.



Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

Comparison with other Regions highlights several excellent results for Sicily; it is the second Region as regards wooded plants (179,000 enterprises and 381,000 hectares) after Puglia (248,000 enterprises, 521,000 hectares of land utilized) and is placed first with regard to enterprises with permanent meadows for grazing (31,000 enterprises). Moreover, seed crop cultivation, along with that of Emilia Romagna (14.7 hectares), Lombardia (20.4 hectares)

³ Small plots of land, not larger than 20 ares, usually beside residential buildings, and whose production is destined solely for consumption by the farmer and his family.

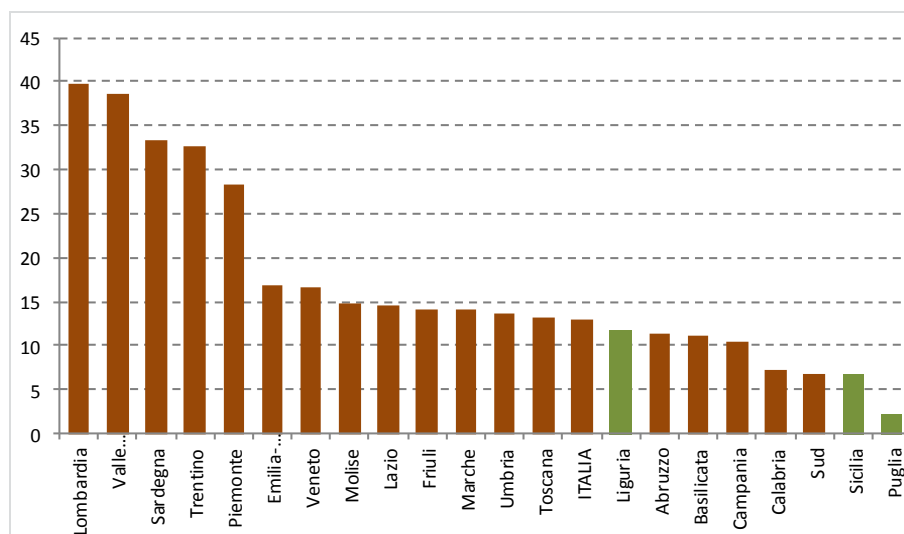
and Puglia (7.1 hectares), goes towards making up 41% of land used for seed crops in Italy as a whole.

Average size of farms

The number of farms in Sicily fell by 18.7%, going from 18,306 in 2000 to 14,881 in 2010. With regard to the zootechnical sector, provisional data indicates a tendency (which is also national) towards concentration, with the number of head of all types of livestock on the increase, except for goats. Avicultural farms have increased considerably in the last ten years, going from 1.6 million in 2000 to 5.1 million in 2010.⁴

Despite this, provisional data confirmed specific Regional aspects already noted in the past, i.e. that Sicily, along with Puglia and Calabria, are the Regions where raising livestock is least widespread; the incidence of zootechnical enterprises against the total number of agricultural enterprises is among the lowest in the country (Figure 18. 3).

Figure 18. 4- Zootechnical enterprises per Region - year 2010

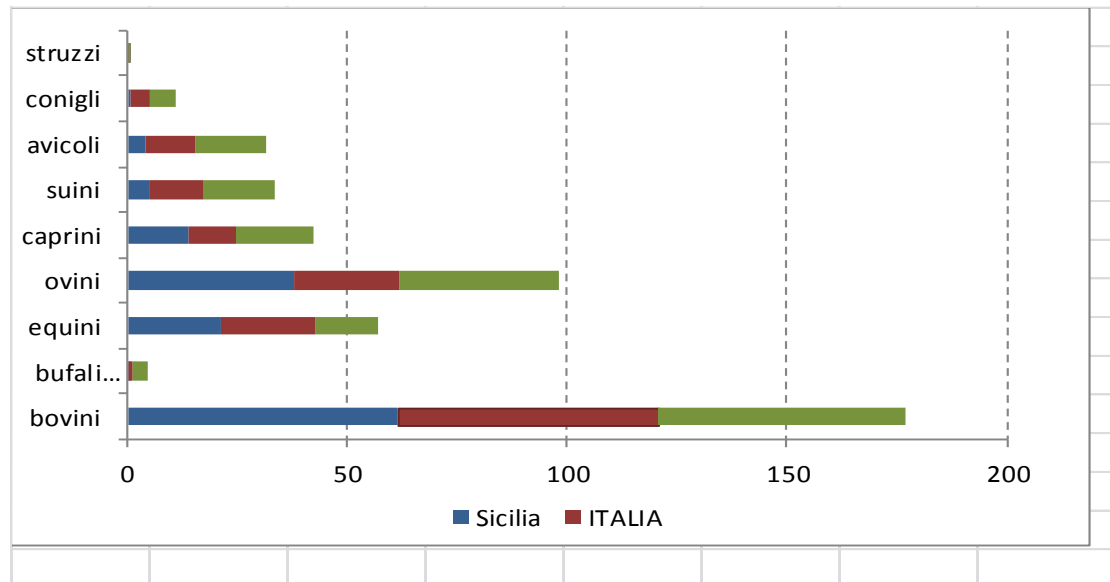


Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010

⁴ A coherent comparison with data from 2000 is at present only possible for cattle, buffalo and horse-rearing. For the other species in question the data for 2000 includes the number of head of livestock bred for auto-consumption, something which was not taken into consideration in 2010.

Cattle-rearing was confirmed as the driving force in the zootechnical sector, with 9,151 enterprises (61.5% of total zootechnical enterprises in Sicily), followed by the 5,628 enterprises raising sheep (37.8% of total zootechnical enterprises) and those raising goats, which, in the 2010 Census, numbered 2.070 (13.9% of total zootechnical enterprises). The figures for cattle position Sicily above both the national average and the average for southern Italy (59.2% and 56.5% respectively), as do the figures for sheep (Italy 24.3; southern Italy 36.1). On the other hand the percentage of enterprises raising goats is higher than the national average (10.7%) but does not match the figure for the south of Italy (17.6%).

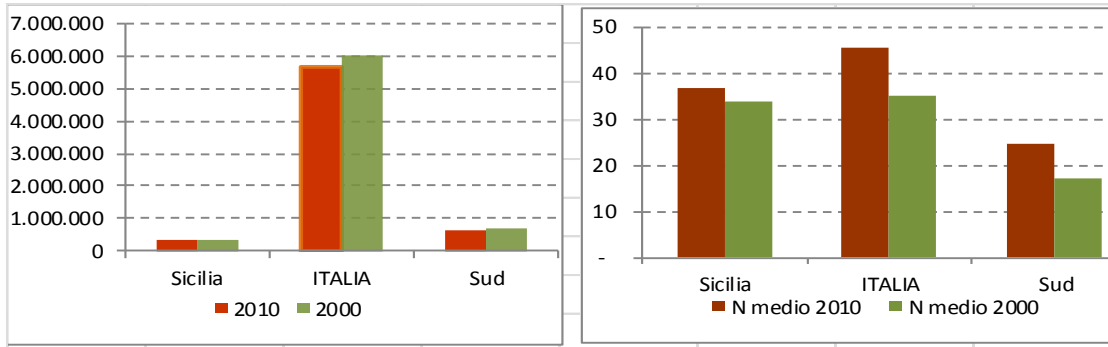
Figure 18. 5- Zootechnical enterprises by type of breeding in Sicily, Italy and the south of Italy - year 2010



Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010

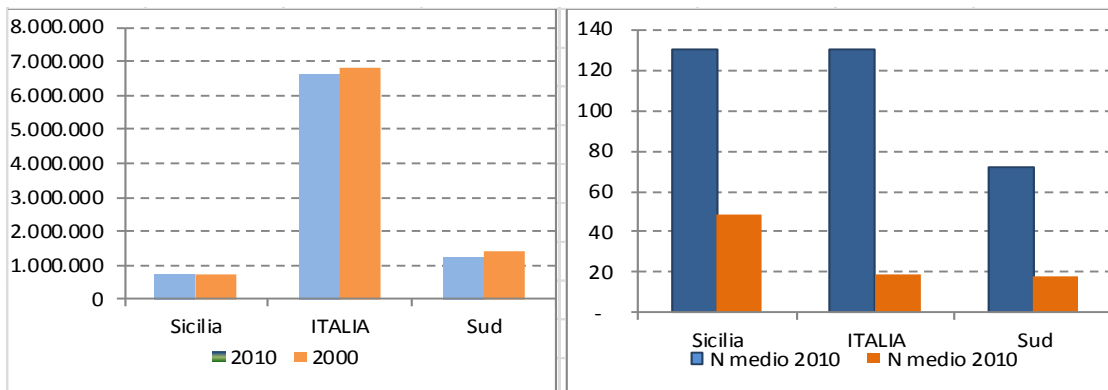
The graphs below show the numbers of head of livestock and the average number of head per enterprise with regard to the types of livestock reared in Sicily, in comparison to Italy as a whole and the south of the country (geographical division SUD).

Figure 18. 6 Number of head of cattle and average number of head of cattle, Sicily, Italy and the southern sub-division - years 2000, 2010



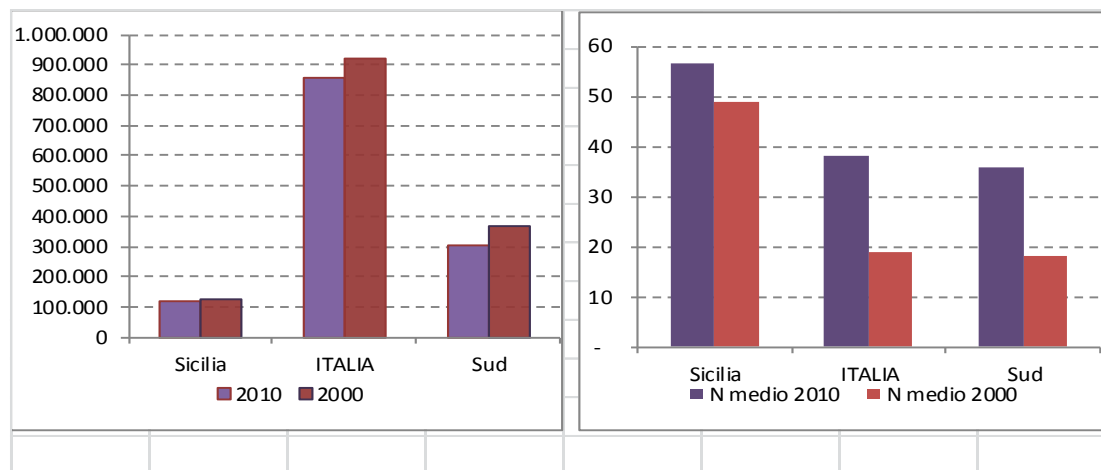
Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

Figure 18. 7 Number of head of sheep and average number of head of sheep, Sicily, Italy and the southern sub-division - years 2000, 2010



Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

Figure 18. 8 Number of head of goats and average number of head of goats, Sicily, Italy and the southern sub-division - years 2000, 2010



Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

Land structure and forms of management of enterprise

The agricultural and zootechnical structure in Sicily continues to base itself predominantly on enterprise-units of an individual or family type in which it is the owner who actually runs the farm directly (92.2% of enterprises). Compared to the previous Census this figure is down by about 1.5%; as a consequence the percentage of enterprises with salaried managers has increased (from 6.2% to 7%).

Table 18. 2- Enterprises and SAU utilized, by form of management, Sicily – years 2010 and 2000.

	Enterprises 2010	Enterprises 2000	% enterprises 2010	% enterprises 2000	SAU 2010	SAU 2000	% SAU 2010	% SAU 2000
Direct management	202.087	327.226	92,2	93,7	1.130.397	1.121.475	81,8	87,6
Salaried managers	15.281	21.726	7,0	6,2	231.746	156.619	16,8	12,2
Other forms of management	1.727	182	0,8	0,1	19.475	1.624	1,4	0,1
Total	219.095	349.134	100,0	100,0	1.381.617	1.279.718	100,0	100,0

Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

The comparison in terms of surface area is even more significant, given that enterprises with salaried managers accounted for 16.8% of the SAU in 2010, against 12.2% in 2000. Moreover, the land structuring is more flexible than in the past, because of the greater recourse to diversified forms of land possession; there is an ever greater tendency towards the use of rented land or rent-free land. Rented SAU has increased considerably, from 46,000 to 172,000 hectares (+272%) when compared to 2000; rent-free land has increased from

18,000 to about 61,000 hectares (+227%). These increases are much greater than the national averages (52.4% and 76.6% respectively), and are explained by the creation of new enterprises following PAC's introduction of specific incentives..

Table 18. 3 - Enterprises per category of possession, Sicily- years 2010 and 2000

CATEGORY OF POSSESSION	Enterprises		Absolute variations	Variations %
	2010	2000		
Only property	175.589	327.874	-152.285	-46,5
Only rented	9.838	2.843	6.995	246,0
Only free use	8.500	3.425	5.075	148,2
Property and rent	10.438	4.301	6.137	142,7
Property and free use	12.544	9.661	2.883	29,8
Rent and free use	525	116	409	352,6
Property, rent and free use	1.262	464	798	172,0
Total	218.696	348.684	-129.988	-37,3

Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

Table 18. 4- Enterprises per category of possession, totals for Regions and high-participation Provinces (a)⁵

CATEGORY OF POSSESSION	Enterprises		Absolute variations	Variations %
	2010	2000		
Only property	783.187	1.422.903	-639.716	-45,0
Only rented	59.330	43.051	16.279	37,8
Only free use	35.556	23.762	11.794	49,6
Property and rent	117.606	112.209	5.397	4,8
Property and free use	60.913	57.572	3.341	5,8
Rent and free use	4.998	2.556	2.442	95,5
Property, rent and free use	15.797	10.799	4.998	46,3
Total	1.077.387	1.672.852	-595.465	-35,6

ce: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

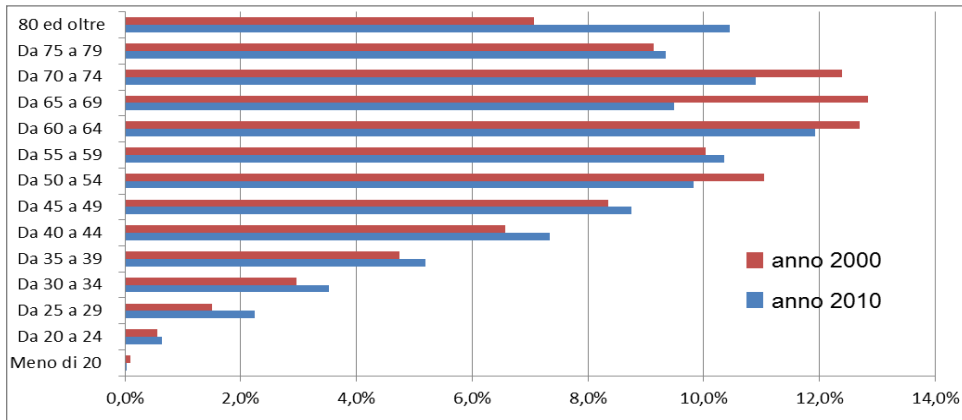
(a) The data refers to 16 Regions and high-participation autonomous Provinces

⁵ In the case of Piemonte, Val D'Aosta, Lombardia, Bolzano, Trento, Friuli Venezia Giulia, Emilia Romagna, Liguria, Umbria, Lazio, Abruzzo, Campania, Basilicata, Calabria, Sicilia and Sardegna, further provisional data was published, when compared to other Regions.

Managers by age-class

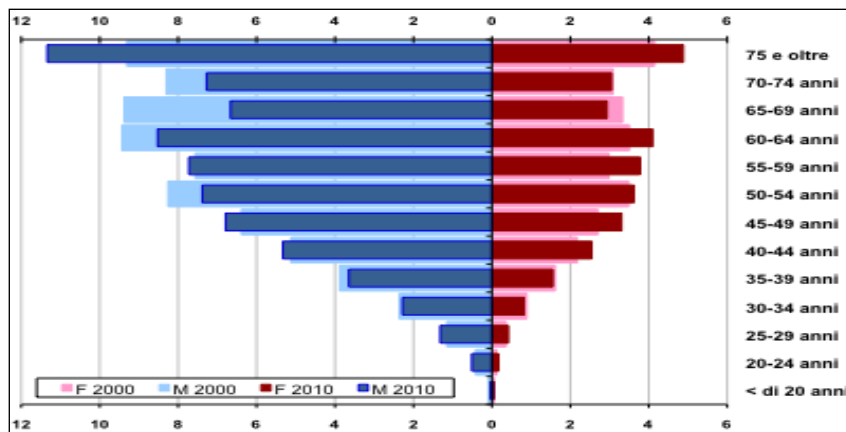
The distribution of agricultural and zootechnical enterprises by age of farm-managers reveals certain interesting changes emerging between the two Censuses of 2000 and 2010; in fact the incidence of age-class increases up to the age of 49 (from 24.8% to 27.7% of managers) and decreases for the over-50 age-class.

Figure 18. 9- Enterprises by age-class of managers- years 2010 and 2000



Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

Figure 18. 10 Enterprises by age-class and gender of managers - years 2010 and 2000⁶



Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

⁶ Also in this case the elaboration and diffusion of provisional data refers to the Regions and high-participation autonomous Provinces.

This dynamic is in line with the national one (more specifically with the dynamic for the Regions and autonomous Provinces), which records a slight increase in the number of enterprise managers aged under 30 (2.5% in 2010, 2.1% in 2000) and a lowering of the average-age category. More specifically, the latter comprised the 60-64 year-old category in 2000 and the 55-59 year-old category in 2010.

Provincial data

Among the Provinces, Palermo has the most extensive surface area; when compared to 2000, Enna, Palermo and Catania have witnessed the greatest percentage growth of SAU and SAT. On the other hand, the relevant negative variations for 2010, in terms of surface area, in Agrigento and Ragusa are explained to a certain extent by the re-attribution of several enterprises surveyed in 2000 to adjacent Provinces.

Table 18.5 – Enterprises, SAU and SAT per Province- years 2010 and 2000

	ENTERPRISES			SAU			SAT		
	2010	2000	Var. %	2010	2000	Var. %	2010	2000	Var. %
Trapani	29.318	35.209	-16,7	134.535	130.440	3,1	144.457	140.751	2,6
Palermo	38.880	52.158	-25,5	265.894	236.764	12,3	293.941	259.845	13,1
Messina	26.089	57.933	-55	161.963	144.514	12,1	192.185	183.240	4,9
Agrigento	33.837	52.415	-35,4	151.138	163.806	-7,7	170.198	182.358	-6,7
Caltanissetta	18.113	28.202	-35,8	116.920	108.947	7,3	130.200	119.160	9,3
Enna	17.309	25.836	-33	182.603	150.659	21,2	196.587	159.595	23,2
Catania	28.583	48.466	-41	169.142	146.213	15,7	195.592	178.737	9,4
Ragusa	12.772	24.084	-47	90.776	98.685	-8	101.646	115.520	-12
Siracusa	14.680	24.831	-40,9	111.072	99.690	11,4	121.172	116.249	4,2
SICILY	219.581	349.134	-37,1	1.384.043	1.279.718	8,2	1.545.977	1.455.456	6,2
ITALY	1.630.420	2.405.453	-32,2	12.885.186	13.183.407	-2,3	17.277.023	18.775.271	-8

Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

Because of the mainly extensive nature of its farm-land, Enna is the Province with the largest average size of SAU (10.56 ha), whilst Messina had the highest percentage increase for this indicator.

Table 18. 6 – Average size of enterprise per SAU and SAT per Province. Years 2000 e 2010 – (hectares)

	Average SAU			Average SAT		
	2010	2000	Var. %	2010	2000	Var. %
Trapani	4,6	3,71	23,99	4,94	4	23,5
Palermo	6,86	4,54	51,1	7,58	4,99	51,9
Messina	6,23	2,5	149,2	7,38	3,17	132,81
Agrigento	4,47	3,13	42,81	5,03	3,48	44,54
Caltanissetta	6,47	3,87	67,18	7,19	4,23	69,98
Enna	10,56	5,83	81,13	11,37	6,18	83,98
Catania	5,95	3,03	96,37	6,87	3,7	85,68
Ragusa	7,12	4,1	73,66	7,97	4,8	66,04
Siracusa	7,58	4,02	88,56	8,27	4,68	76,71
SICILY	6,32	3,67	72,21	7,05	4,17	69,06
ITALY	7,93	5,49	44,44	10,61	7,81	35,85

Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

Enterprises with seed crops are on the decrease in all the Provinces, but only in the Provinces of Agrigento, Messina and Ragusa, does a reduction in agricultural land utilized correspond to the decrease. The Province of Messina in particular, when compared to 2000, has lost 75% of its enterprises and 32% of its SAU to seed crops. On the other hand, the Province of Catania, with a 36.1% reduction in the number of enterprises to seed crops, recorded a 23.3% increase in SAU employed.

Table 18. 7 - Enterprises and relative area utilised with regard to principal agricultural cultivation.

	Seed crops				Wooded plants			
	Enterprises		Hectares		Enterprises		Hectares	
	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000
Trapani	12.988	15.721	45.657,78	41.538,16	26.308	31.143	80.991,71	78.192,81
Palermo	19.188	24.250	152.422,64	134.023,81	30.994	41.685	48.447,28	49.682,66
Messina	3.672	14.666	15.436,88	22.836,75	23.806	52.979	39.829,78	48.566,57
Agrigento	16.685	28.657	78.253,44	82.577,09	28.677	37.688	60.798,83	66.239,43
Caltanissetta	12.510	18.476	88.594,40	81.966,98	11.881	18.227	21.499,60	23.478,69
Enna	10.807	15.553	113.076,95	102.778,57	13.145	18.458	19.619,53	17.223,46
Catania	9.023	14.115	82.967,52	67.285,29	24.090	38.879	54.692,03	54.599,51
Ragusa	8.743	16.182	58.257,60	65.948,57	7.576	17.142	18.100,66	22.438,52
Siracusa	5.526	8.964	46.032,37	46.038,68	12.186	20.765	36.900,40	36.226,60
SICILY	99.142	156.584	680.699,58	644.993,90	178.663	276.966	380.879,82	396.648,25
SOUTH	429.562	657.818	2.788.842,64	2.842.857,04	818.405	1.126.775	1.528.083,81	1.551.724,41
ITALY	834.650	1.273.567	7.014.891,55	7.284.408,27	1.197.076	1.760.058	2.370.559,65	2.444.276,72

Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

There has been a widespread slump in enterprises with relative surface area devoted to wooded plants; the Provinces that have registered the largest

downswing over the last ten years are Ragusa (-55.8% enterprises, -19.3% SAU) and Messina (-55.1% and -18%). As regards land used for growing vines, Messina and Enna have witnessed the greatest negative variation; enterprises have closed down, vines been pulled up and planting rights have been sold. On the other hand, in the Province of Ragusa, in spite of a reduction in the number of enterprises (-53.4%), there has been a very slight increase in the amount of land given over to vines (+3%).

Cont. Table 18. 7 - Enterprises and relative area utilised with regard to principal agricultural cultivation.

	Vines			
	Enterprises		Hectares	
	2010	2000	2010	2000
Trapani	16.301	21.358	59.133,25	59.507,31
Palermo	4.821	12.418	14.141,64	16.843,58
Messina	2.480	11.383	839,06	2.688,43
Agrigento	8.454	14.746	20.508,15	22.966,55
Caltanissetta	2.729	5.073	5.450,35	7.073,97
Enna	490	1.985	310,1	660,88
Catania	3.594	8.928	5.433,17	7.054,88
Ragusa	1.100	2.361	3.505,20	3.391,57
Siracusa	642	1.351	1.378,17	1.608,98
SICILY	40.611	79.603	110.699,09	121.796,15
SOUTH	196.252	395.493	296.657,76	352.002,47
ITALY	383.645	791.091	632.140,01	717.333,78

Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

One aspect to be highlighted is the increase, in almost all the Provinces of Sicily, in land given over to permanent meadows and pasture, with the Provinces of Enna and Siracusa witnessing the greatest increases. In Siracusa this upswing might be explained by the present utilisation of marginal agricultural land that has not been cultivated for years and has been given over to grazing.

cont. **Table 18. 7 - Enterprises and relative area utilised with regard to principal agricultural cultivation. - Years 2000 and 2010**

	Family vegetable gardens				Permanent grazing meadows			
	Enterprises		Hectares		Enterprises		Hectares	
	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000
Trapani	2.920	2.923	316,30	287,76	2.168	3.880	7.569,24	10.421,55
Palermo	4.635	5.980	572,36	578,20	7.800	8.931	64.451,61	52.479,33
Messina	3.638	10.575	305,47	587,20	6.369	12.608	106.391,01	72.523,75
Agrigento	2.456	3.588	305,80	396,57	3.021	5.101	11.779,88	14.592,80
Caltanissetta	1.410	1.766	165,52	157,14	1.526	1.023	6.660,65	3.344,21
Enna	1.234	1.929	133,90	118,59	4.423	5.647	49.772,97	30.538,20
Catania	1.993	1.244	227,01	87,90	2.043	4.968	31.255,19	24.239,94
Ragusa	956	3.679	92,63	224,90	1.773	3.295	14.324,82	10.072,87
Siracusa	689	988	60,61	59,77	2.258	2.953	28.078,67	17.364,97
SICILY	19.931	32.672	2.179,60	2.498,03	31.381	48.406	320.284,04	235.577,62
SOUTH	167.153	251.052	15.980,89	19.839,92	116.662	180.121	1.742.434,79	1.456.980,85
ITALY	390.752	640.266	30.071,25	39.508,86	275.757	506.636	3.469.663,45	3.415.212,91

Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

The Province of Ragusa boasts the largest number of head of cattle and the greatest average size of land per cattle-rearing enterprise (q.v. also Tab.9), although the Province recording the greatest increase in beef-production since 2000 is the Province of Catania (+51% head), followed by the Provinces of Palermo (+34.3% head) and Siracusa (+28.3% head). The greatest reduction with regard to cattle-rearing is recorded in the Province of Messina (-21%), with a corresponding loss of 130 enterprises (-6.3% compared to 2000).

Table 18. 8 - Enterprises with livestock and relative number of head for the main species of livestock per Province – years 2000 and 2010.

	Livestock-farms		Beef, veal		Beef, veal	
	Enterprises		Enterprises		Head	
	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000
Trapani	625	683	219	206	4.285	4.232
Palermo	3.743	3.194	2.156	1.845	71.683	53.362
Messina	2.938	6.330	1.932	2.062	53.072	66.564
Agrigento	1.020	879	357	382	8.894	8.984
Caltanissetta	560	518	215	245	9.043	7.452
Enna	1.973	2.578	1.304	1.339	49.630	51.573
Catania	1.095	943	589	420	27.211	18.064
Ragusa	1.824	2.138	1.527	1.767	76.378	69.734
Siracusa	1.103	1.043	852	779	35.819	27.911
SICILY	14.881	18.306	9.151	9.045	336.015	307.876
SOUTH	82.771	229.994	43.877	57.273	1.250.006	1.241.366
ITALY	209.996	661.771	124.341	171.994	5.677.953	6.049.252

Source: Istat, 6th and 5th general Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

cont. **Table 18. 8 - Enterprises with livestock and relative number of head for the main species of livestock per Province – years 2000 and 2010.**

	Buffalo				Horse			
	Enterprises		Head		Enterprises		Head	
	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000
Trapani	1		4		100	48	384	154
Palermo					1.139	630	4.931	2.240
Messina	2	2	32	190	547	801	2.796	2.196
Agrigento	4	1	30	220	258	114	1.005	532
Caltanissetta	1	2	34	85	75	61	433	301
Enna	2		234		337	435	1.927	1.181
Catania	2		78		273	100	1.613	493
Ragusa	3	1	625	11	251	225	1.679	716
Siracusa	6	3	63	57	175	161	1.066	640
SICILY	21	9	1.100	563	3.155	2.575	15.834	8.453
SOUTH	1.563	1.412	274.060	139.146	13.602	16.876	70.802	57.092
ITALY	2.462	2.246	358.341	181.951	45.484	48.689	220.871	184.838

Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

The Provinces of Palermo and Enna boast the highest number of sheep and an average size of land per sheep-rearing enterprise that is among the highest in Sicily (Tab.18.9). Messina is the Province with the largest-sized enterprises and the highest number of head of goats (q.v. Tab.9) despite undergoing the greatest reduction in terms of enterprises and goats since the year 2000 (-34.2% enterprises, -13.0% goats).

cont. **Table 18. 8 - Enterprises with livestock and relative number of head for the main species of livestock per Province – years 2000 and 2010.**

	Sheep				Goat			
	Enterprises		Head		Enterprises		Head	
	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000
Trapani	379	420	77.029	85.177	109	110	1.915	1.427
Palermo	1.419	1.344	154.293	123.841	379	457	16.146	20.600
Messina	1.044	1.892	90.091	146.381	777	1.181	64.886	74.584
Agrigento	573	522	100.869	81.361	178	162	5.592	3.911
Caltanissetta	350	242	59.295	44.307	101	86	5.928	3.228
Enna	992	1.239	127.382	125.720	181	211	8.951	8.709
Catania	399	295	76.672	63.840	170	117	6.842	4.537
Ragusa	304	363	19.791	12.720	67	64	2.720	1.478
Siracusa	168	155	26.954	24.814	108	105	4.209	3.671
SICILY	5.628	6.472	732.376	708.161	2.070	2.493	117.189	122.145
South	35.446	59.296	4.978.217	4.929.474	13.056	25.736	654.898	695.784
ITALY	51.032	96.828	6.625.793	6.809.959	22.541	48.491	857.318	923.504

Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

Table 18. 9 –Average number of head per enterprise, per species and Province. Years 2000 and 2010

	Cattle		Buffalo		Horse		Sheep		Goat	
	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000
Trapani	19,57	20,54	4		3,84	3,21	203,2	202,8	17,57	12,97
Palermo	33,25	28,92			4,33	3,56	108,7	92,14	42,6	45,08
Messina	27,47	32,28	16	95	5,11	2,74	86,29	77,37	83,51	63,15
Agrigento	24,91	23,52	7,5	220	3,9	4,67	176	155,9	31,42	24,14
Caltanissetta	42,06	30,42	34	42,5	5,77	4,93	169,4	183,1	58,69	37,53
Enna	38,06	38,52	117		5,72	2,71	128,4	101,5	49,45	41,27
Catania	46,2	43,01	39		5,91	4,93	192,2	216,4	40,25	38,78
Ragusa	50,02	39,46	208,3	11	6,69	3,18	65,1	35,04	40,6	23,09
Siracusa	42,04	35,83	10,5	19	6,09	3,98	160,4	160,1	38,97	34,96
SICILY	36,72	34,04	52,38	62,56	5,02	3,28	130,1	109,4	56,61	49
South	28,49	21,67	175,34	98,55	5,21	3,38	140,45	83,13	50,16	27,04
ITALY	45,66	35,17	145,55	81,01	4,86	3,80	129,84	70,33	38,03	19,04

Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

cont. **Table 18. 9 - Average number of head per enterprise, per species and Province. Years 2000 and 2010**

	Pig		Bird		Rabbit		Ostrich	
	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000
Trapani	29,44	171,13	851,93	655,52	6	94,06	2	17,83
Palermo	131,83	24,24	5.597,67	199,59	3.133,96	11,63		10,4
Messina	49,39	7,36	907,89	48,21	260,26	25,9	13	16,43
Agrigento	190,82	43,93	962,19	252,84	1.060,56	106,56		31
Caltanissetta	23,38	21,73	790,94	369,82	680	166,68	9	15,5
Enna	157,23	10,23	364,25	32,8	178,43	33,24		19,33
Catania	107,98	30,97	8.188,89	1.496,34	66,8	61,97	3,67	25,25
Ragusa	33,67	36,25	43.552,07	1.454,74	5.071,38	39,63	12	9,67
Siracusa	56,82	17,55	1.001,16	849,88	3.045,00	864,02	6	60
SICILY	66,41	17,36	8.777,85	250,72	1.354,26	63,85	7,64	19,19
South	44,23	6,71	3239,49	122,53	396,34	36,73	36,95	21,59
ITALY	369,47	44,63	8144,21	336,11	795,59	50,99	30,32	24,63

Source: Istat, 6th and 5th Agricultural Census-years 2010 and 2000

Explanatory notes

The provisional data published refers to the Community field of observation as laid down by EC Regulation no. 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and Council. This field of observation is different in part from the

one used in 2000. In order to render the comparisons between the two Censuses homogeneous, with regard to the Tables reported in this publication, the EU field of observation 2000 has been re-calculated by ISTAT in accordance with the EU regulations in force in 2010;

UE field of observation of 2010 Census	UE field of observation of 2000 Census
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enterprises \geq on the SAU Regional threshold of inclusion (from 20 to 40 ares) • Enterprises with any land for fruit and vegetables, ornamental flowers/plants and vines or at least one animal destined for the market. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enterprises \geq 1 ha of SAU • enterprises with SAU between 0 and 1 hectare and sale value \geq 4 million lire • enterprises with SAU = 0, and sale value \geq 4 million lire

13,459 data-collectors carried out the survey throughout Italy. 2,136,745 units were surveyed, of which 2,047,824 were present in the pre-Census list put together by Istat on the basis of numerous administrative sources, whilst 88,920 (4.1%) were new agricultural enterprises singled out by the data-collectors. 61,226 enterprises (2.9%) compiled the questionnaire directly via the web; of the enterprises surveyed 1,705,991 (79.8%) were agricultural enterprises.

In Sicily there were 1,335 data-collectors carrying out the survey. 272,418 units (12.7% of the total for the whole of Italy) were surveyed, of which 261,788 were present in the pre-Census list put together by Istat (on the basis of numerous administrative sources) and 10,630 (3.9%) were new agricultural enterprises singled out by the data-collectors. There were 4,813 enterprises (1.8%) that compiled the questionnaire directly via the web; of the enterprises surveyed 224,979 (82.6%) were agricultural enterprises.

With regard to the zootechnical sector, at this moment the comparison with data from the previous Census is only possible for livestock farms raising cattle, buffalo and horses. In fact, for the other species, the comparison between the provisional results for 2010 and the definitive results from 2000 is somewhat inopportune, since head of livestock destined for family auto-consumption are not included within the field of observation of the 6th General Agricultural Census.

The provisional data published refers to the Region or the autonomous Province in which the enterprise is situated, regardless of the residence of the manager and the Census Office carrying out the survey on that enterprise.

Exclusively forestal enterprises were not assessed in the 2010 Census, and therefore the forested areas in the 2010 Census, in line with EU guidelines, refer to exclusively wooded areas that neighbour on agricultural enterprises.

The publication of provisional data regards the principal variables (among those included in the Census questionnaire) whereas it is envisaged that definitive data regarding all the main and secondary variables will be published by April 2012, at the end of the on-going processes of data-processing.