Spotlight on

Modernisation of agricultural statistics

The Regulation on Statistics on Agricultural Input and Output (SAIO) was adopted by the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union on 23 November 2022 as Regulation (EU) 2022/2379. It establishes a new integrated framework for aggregated European statistics relating to the input and output of agricultural activities, as well as the intermediate use of such output within agriculture and its collection and processing. The data requirements for the five SAIO domains of animal production statistics, crop production statistics, agricultural price statistics, statistics on nutrients and statistics on plant protection products need to be specified in implementing acts. In addition, a sixth implementing act on quality reports is also required. The domain acts describe the respective data requirements, the variables to be provided, transmission deadlines, exemption thresholds and further technical requirements. Where appropriate, the acts also specify the transmission of regional and organic data.

After several rounds of discussions with stakeholders and with the written consent of DGAS, three draft SAIO implementing acts are now deemed ready to begin the legal process; these are the acts on crop production, agricultural prices, and plant protection products statistics. It is hoped that they can be approved at the European Statistical System Committee (ESSC) meeting on 25 May 2023, and then adopted by Commission in June 2023. In addition, it is hoped that the implementing regulation on animal production statistics will be approved at the ESSC meeting on 20 October 2023, and then adopted by the Commission in November 2023. This would leave enough time to allow those four acts to apply for the first possible SAIO reference year, 2025 (the implementing acts on nutrients and quality reports are planned to be brought forward for adoption in 2024).

In order for the Commission to support the transition to electronic records of the use of plant protection products by professional users at farm level, which are a key data source for SAIO, DG SANTE and the responsible comitology committee, the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed, approved an implementing regulation on Article 67 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 on 26 January 2023. It regulates the record-keeping required under that regulation in detail and ensures that those records will be available in electronic format from 1 January 2026 onwards at the latest. The act will soon be adopted by the Commission.

eurostat

Economic accounts for agriculture (EAA)

Agreement on regional economic accounts for agriculture (REAA) derogations

On 10 February, the European Statistical System Committee voted on an Implementing Decision granting derogations to Spain, Italy, Poland and Slovenia as regards the regional economic accounts for agriculture (REAA). These countries will submit the full set of REAA at NUTS-2 level by 30 September 2025 for the reference year 2023. Member States that did not request derogations and have regional NUTS-2 level breakdown are required to send REAA by 30 September 2023 for the reference year 2021.

EAA manual: report on meetings of the Discussion Group

The Discussion Group on the economic accounts for agriculture (EAA) methodological manual met on both 20 December 2022 and on 14/15 February 2023. The group is composed of representatives of Bulgaria, Czechia, Germany, France, Italy, Austria, Poland, Switzerland and Eurostat. The group agreed on a plan to have a close-to-final version ready by July 2023 with a view to publishing the new version of the manual at the end of 2023 or beginning of 2024. Work is progressing at high speed.

Eurostat reports on the progress of the discussions to the Agricultural Accounts and Prices Working Group after each meeting, making available the conclusions and a draft version of the manual. All countries are invited to comment at any stage. The group plans to meet again in April 2023 and June 2023.

Poultry statistics

In December 2022, for the first time since Eurostat has been in charge of collecting poultry statistics (especially under Regulation (EC) No 617/2008 or on eggs for consumption), Eurostat issued a specific article on poultry statistics. Together with collection on the metadata covering all these statistics (validation is still on-going), this step marks the integration of poultry statistics in the statistical system and supports their integration in the legislation for agricultural statistics. Based on the readers feedback, most probably you will learn something when reading it.

Price statistics

During 2022 Eurostat started publishing quarterly news items on agricultural price indices. This regular publication (see the section on Publications below) responds to a topic which is currently under the spotlight and close to user interests. Agricultural prices have increased substantially in 2022 as compared to 2021 for the main product categories and key agricultural inputs. This development stems from the disruption to global agricultural markets caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the widespread drought and other inflationary pressures such as the cost of energy.

Integrated Farm Statistics (IFS) Working Group meeting

The Farm Structure Working Group met physically in October 2022, for the first time since 2019. The key points were:

- The delegates discussed the IFS2023 handbook and suggested several improvements to the validation rules.

- DG AGRI informed the meeting about the latest developments and projects.

- The JRC presented the latest developments in the water modelling project (relevant for IFS2023) and the project on filling gaps in the gridded data on farm structure.

- As the Working Group is also responsible for organic statistics, it took note of the differences found between the data collection under annual organic statistics and the farm structure collection.

- Four countries (Spain, Hungary, Latvia and Italy) presented the challenges, innovations and lessons learnt in the collection, processing and dissemination of the Agricultural Census 2020 data. All four countries reported a reduced burden on farmers and were able to reduce the costs of the data collection, with an increase in the use of administrative data. They also shared their innovative methods of dissemination.

- The Working Group invited DG AGRI to include more statistical variables in the Integrated Administration and Control Systems (IACS) in Member States.

- Eurostat presented the work done on comparability using cross-domain validation and presented the dissemination plan for the agricultural census data.

- There was a lengthy discussion on the confidentiality of farm structure data. The Working Group supported the methodology for anonymisation of IFS microdata for the production of Scientific Use Files, supported the anonymisation for the gridded data and largely supported the confidentiality charter, but suggested it is sent for discussion with the Expert Group on Statistical Disclosure Control.

Integrated Farm Statistics (IFS)

Grants

The contracts and pre-financing of the countries for IFS2023 was finalised by December 2022.

Data dissemination

After the validation of the census data that had been transmitted by countries, the first tables began being updated in the last quarter of 2022. The first four tables on main farm land use (ef_lus_main), managers (ef_m_farmang), legal personality (ef_m_farmleg) and main classes of animals (ef_lsk_main) were made available in Eurobase.

Currently the data for NSNE2023 and ADM2023 are being post-validated and will soon be available in the ancillary data page on Eurostat's website.

Nutrient statistics

The Discussion Group on nutrients, which aims to clarify and detail technical aspects for the future SAIO framework, has held six technical meetings so far. The methodological work is advancing at a solid pace and the input from the participating countries will be taken into account in the next draft of the Implementing Regulation on Nutrients. Eurostat will contact the Member States for an Exchange of Views on the new draft in Q2 2023.

The new collection for the Gross Nutrient Balance data will be based on new templates. These will use the harmonised format of the E1 transmission files and are aligned to a large extent to the future SAIO requirements. The new data collection will also use automatic validation rules for the file structure and for data content, which will simplify the communication between Eurostat and the Member States.

The validation and publication of data for the collection of inorganic fertiliser statistics (reference year 2021) is ongoing. Data for 13 countries have already been published.

Pesticide statistics

The publication of Member States' data for the dataset 'Pesticide sales by categorisation of active substances' (reference years 2011-2020) is ongoing.

The 2021 data collection for pesticides sales statistics was launched in early December with a deadline for the end of December; the validation of the country files is ongoing. For the first time, the files were transmitted using validation rules for format and for data content, which streamlined the data processing to a large extent.

The second meeting of the Discussion Group on pesticides statistics took place on 22 September 2022 and addressed the topic of avoiding or dealing with the double-counting of areas and the conversion method(s) for microbiological active substances. The results of the consultations were presented in the Agri-Environmental Statistics Working Group in November 2022. The next meeting is scheduled for 9 March 2023 and will focus on the content of the first draft of the handbook on pesticides use.

A first draft of the handbook on pesticides sales was made available to the Member States during the Agri-Environmental Statistics Working Group in November 2022. Countries are warmly encouraged to submit comments to its content, with a view to having a final form of the document in Q2 2023.

Agri-Environmental Statistics (AES) Working Group meeting

The Agri-Environmental Statistics (AES) Working Group met virtually on 28-30 November 2022 to discuss pesticides and nutrients statistics. Eurostat presented the final version of SAIO Regulation and draft SAIO Implementing Regulations on plant protection products and on nutrients. DG AGRI presented the status of the work on IACS and FSDN as regards plant protection products records, and DG SANTE informed countries about the latest developments concerning Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 (Article 67) and the Sustainable Use Directive (EC) 128/2009. DG ENV presented the data needs related to nutrients statistics.

The discussion around the two new Implementing Regulations was animated and countries appreciated the progress made in the clarity of the two legal acts.

Following the conclusions of the Working Group, Eurostat launched an Exchange of Views on the ways of reporting microbiological active substances. The results were integrated in the final draft of the Implementing Regulation on plant protection products, which was sent to the DGAS members in early January 2023 for consultation. The consultation demonstrated wide support for the final form of the legal act.

Organic production statistics

The new data collection for organic farming under the ESS Agreement on Organic Production Statistics has been completed. Currently, 32 countries have transmitted their data to Eurostat, using the new data templates and the new IT functionalities provided for content validation. Validation is still ongoing for some countries. Data for 25 countries have already been published.

A data comparison between the annual organic data collection and the IFS data collection was presented to the FSS Working Group in October 2022. The debates during the meeting showed the need of more coherence between the two statistical collections and more collaboration between responsible statistical bodies in some of the Member States.

Fisheries Statistics Working Group

The Fisheries Working Group took place on 22-23 November 2022. Eurostat presented a revised version of the European Fisheries and Aquaculture Statistics regulation (EFAS). The physical meeting took place in Luxembourg and representatives from DG MARE, JRC, FAO, OECD, ICES and the United Nations Global Compact attended the meeting and actively supported the discussion.

The proposed draft EFAS main act and the two related implementing regulations were presented and discussed with participants. The revision covered relevant points and took into account comments received.

The discussion with participants allowed Eurostat to collect relevant contributions that will be used to put forward a new proposal. Eurostat plans to have the Commission proposal adopted by Q4 2024.

The quality of the data reported for algae and the future trends in this evolving sector were also discussed. This was supplemented by a presentation from a representative of the United Nations Global Compact team on the challenges and opportunities of this sector.

DG MARE presented a new application that could enable a feasible method for collecting data on recreational fishing to be used.

A Finnish representative (from LUKE) presented the outcome of their data collection and analysis of recreational fishing.

Data sharing among international organisations was also discussed. This included specific presentations by the FAO and (remotely) by Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO, based in Canada).

Eurostat – DG MARE hearing

An official hearing took place on the 9th February 2023 between Eurostat and DG MARE, following a technical preparation meeting.

The virtual hearing allowed Eurostat Director Viveka PALM to meet the recently appointed director of MARE A, Delilah AL KHUDHAIR. It was also an occasion to strengthen the collaboration between the two DGs.

Eurostat – DG MARE- DG ENV meeting

The fisheries team had two physical meetings in Brussels, firstly with representatives of DG MARE and then representatives of DG ENV.

The meeting with DG MARE covered points on the revision of the EFAS regulation and technical aspects of the collaboration between the two DGs.

In the EFAS, Eurostat hopes to be able to use catch data from the Aggregated Catch Data Report (ACDR). This would substantially reduce the burden on reporting countries but would necessitate close collaboration between DG MARE and Eurostat. For this reason, quality issues between Eurostat data and the ACDR were discussed, Eurostat presenting some of the key differences in data aggregation that had been noted.

The meeting was fruitful and will have a direct impact on the upcoming activities on the EFAS.

Eurostat then met with DG ENV colleagues later that day.

A key objective was to relaunch collaboration efforts and to collect a list of possible needs from DG ENV on the proposed EFAS regulation.

As a consequence, DG ENV is now planning to send a list of proposed requirements to Eurostat.

Introduction of 2-Factor Authentication (2-FA) in EDAMIS

EDAMIS is used by most of you to regularly transmit agriculture data to Eurostat. Recently the introduction of 2-Factor Authentication (2-FA) in EDAMIS was dictated by the European Commission's new guidelines for authentication and access management. These guidelines foresee the mandatory usage of 2-FA on European Commission information systems exposed to external networks, with priority to those handling Sensitive Non Classified information..

Prior to its activation for EDAMIS, the introduction of 2-FA was discussed for several months with the network of national Transmission Coordinators and agreed at various levels of the governance of the European Statistical System. A Transmission Coordinator is an NSI representative at the regular meetings organised by Eurostat to discuss data transmission related subjects.

In case this information has not reached you and you would need more information of the different methods available for 2-FA, the following guide can be consulted: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/cas/manuals/EU_Login_Tutorial.pdf

Please do not hesitate to contact EDAMIS support when you need more information on this subject: ESTAT-SUPPORT-EDAMIS@ec.europa.eu.

Publications

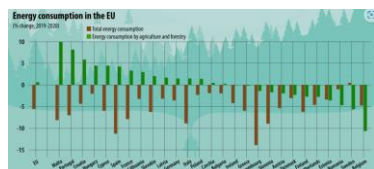### Key Figures on the European food chain
2022 edition
Released in December 2022

The Key Figures on the European food chain – 2022 edition was published on 7 December 2022, in time for the Agricultural Outlook conference in Brussels.

This publication built on the success of the first edition. It maintained the general structure from primary agricultural and fisheries production, through the processing stage of food and beverages, the trade in agricultural, fishery, food and beverage products, distribution, and wholesale services to the consumption stage. Again, it finished with a chapter concerning environmental issues related to various stages of the food chain.

There were a number of new ideas and data sources in this second edition, in part reflecting real-time issues:

- first data for from the Agricultural Census 2020;
- the bounce-back from COVID;
- information on food security;
- trade in agricultural goods with Ukraine and Russia;
- the cost of living crisis / food prices / expenditure on food and beverages.
- obesity levels;
- food poverty, and
- food waste.

Some new types of graphic were used, whilst keeping the spirit of visual enhancements and InfoGraphics. Take a look and let us know what you think! What else could be included.

Statistics Explained articles

In line with Eurostat's new dissemination policy, detailed analysis is provided in Statistics Explained articles. Furthermore, the process has begun to update these articles as close as possible to the release of datasets. In this way, a series of articles were developed to time simultaneously with the release of the Key Figures publication, the latest datasets of final estimates and News Items.

- 01/2023:   AEI: livestock patterns
                 AEI: cropping patterns

- 12/2022:   Performance of the agricultural sector (QR code in KF)
                 Poultry statistics
                 Agricultural land prices and rents

- 11/2022:   Milk and milk products (QR code in Key Figures (KF))
                 Agricultural production - crops (QR code in KF)
                 Agricultural production – livestock and meat (QR code in KF)
                 Farmers and the agricultural labour force
                 Farms and farmland in the EU
                 Aquaculture statistics (QR code in KF)
                 Fisheries – catches and landings (QR code in KF)

- 09/2022:   AEI: energy use

News Items: What's New? (since September 2022)

- 07/02/23:   [Save the date: webinar on the European food chain](#)

- 24/01/23:   [Ukraine and Russia: source of 1/3 of EU cereal imports](#)

- 12/01/23:   [Agricultural annual prices in 2022 – first estimates](#)

- 22/12/22:   [EU agricultural prices continued to rise in Q3 2022](#)

- 21/12/22:   [20-fold variation in arable land prices across the EU](#)

- 19/12/22:   [EU's agricultural labour productivity up by 13% in 2022](#)

- 08/12/22:   [It's farming season on episode 9 of Stats in a Wrap](#)

- 07/12/22:   [Farm to fork: key figures on the European food chain](#)

- 14/11/22:   [Stable raw milk production in 2021](#)

- 11/11/22:   [Value of agricultural output in the EU up 8% in 2021](#)

- 04/10/22:   [Statistics on the impact of the war in Ukraine](#)

- 30/09/22:   [EU agricultural prices continued to rise in Q2 2022](#)

- 29/09/22:   [Agriculture and forestry: energy use rose in 2020](#)

- 27/09/22:   [Reductions in pig and bovine populations in the EU](#)

Webinar

- 22/02/23:   [Key figures on the European food chain](#)
  (which had 1.3k views on Facebook after 48 hrs)

Podcast

- 08/12/22:   [What does the agricultural census tell us about European farms?](#)

Leaflet

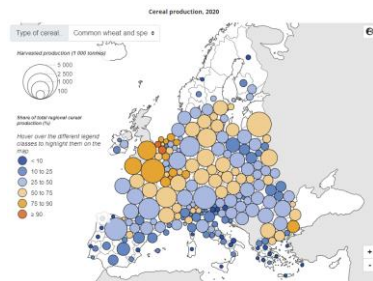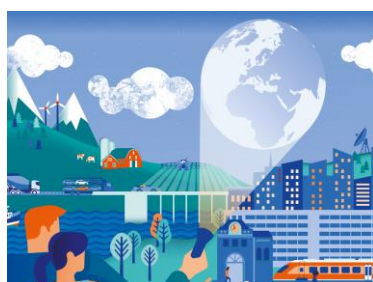- 08/12/22:   [Agricultural census 2020](#)

Regions in Europe: 2022 interactive edition
Released on 7ᵗʰ October 2022

The interactive regional yearbook was published in October 2022.

It featured a chapter on regional agricultural data and interactive graphics concerning livestock and harvested cereal production. It was a complement to the paper version of the same publication that also included analysis of regional data on bovine animals and milk.

Key Figures on the EU in the world
Released on 20ᵗʰ February 2023

This publication provides a statistical portrait of the European Union (EU) in relation to the rest of the world. It presents a broad range of indicators for the EU and non-EU members and is structured into three parts: people & society, economy & trade and environment & natural resources. It includes contributions we made for agriculture and fisheries.

Handbooks

A series of updated handbooks have been published and can be found in CIRCABC. :

- 07/02/23:   Annual crop statistics – 2023 edition
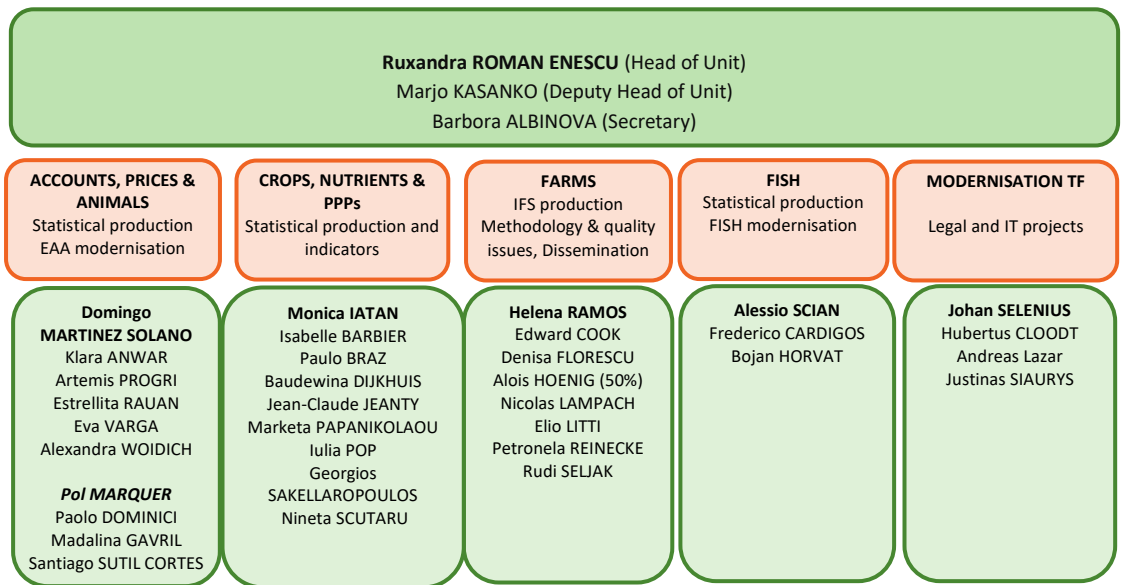
- 28/11/22:   Crop balances – 2022 edition

Data

Upcoming transmission deadlines (until 31 July 2023)

Deadline	Dataset	Description
01 March 2023	ANI_SLAUGHT_M	Slaughterings in slaughterhouses - Monthly [Dec 2022]
01 March 2023	PRAG_IND2015_A_GR	Agricultural Prices - Indices [2022]
01 March 2023	PRAG_PRICES_A_GR	Agricultural Prices - Absolute [2022]
17 March 2023	MILK_TABLEA_M	Milk collection - Table A [Jan 2023]
28 March 2023	ANI_HATACTI_M	Activity of Hatcheries [Feb 2023]
28 March 2023	ANI_TRADCHI_M	Trade of Chicks [Feb 2023]
31 March 2023	PEST_SALENEQ_A	National quality report - Pesticide sales statistics [2021]
31 March 2023	ANI_SLAUOTH_M	Slaughterings other than in slaughterhouses [Nov 2022]
31 March 2023	CROPROD_ARA_A	Crop Production from Arable Land (Crops - AR/PR/HU - Prov.) [2022]
31 March 2023	CROPROD_ARAPER_A	Permanent Crops (Non citrus - Final) [2022]
31 March 2023	CROPROD_ARAVEG_A	Vegetables, melons and strawberries (Final) [2022]
31 March 2023	COSAEA_AGR2_A	Economic Accounts for Agriculture - Second Estimates - Annual
01 April 2023	ANI_SLAUGHT_M	Slaughterings in slaughterhouses - Monthly [Jan 2023]
14 April 2023	MILK_TABLEA_M	Milk collection - Table A [Feb 2023]
28 April 2023	ANI_HATACTI_M	Activity of Hatcheries [Mar 2023]
28 April 2023	ANI_TRADCHI_M	Trade of Chicks [Mar 2023]
29 April 2023	ANI_SLAUGHT_M	Slaughterings in slaughterhouses - Monthly [Feb 2023]
30 April 2023	ANI_SLAUOTH_M	Slaughterings other than in slaughterhouses [Dec 2022]
30 April 2023	CROPROD_ARA_A	Crop Production from Arable Land (Cereals - AR - Prov.) [2023]
15 May 2023	ANI_LSCATND_A	Livestock Survey - Bovine - November/December (Final) [2022]
15 May 2023	ANI_LSCATR_A	Livestock survey - Cattle - Regional (Final) [2022]
15 May 2023	ANI_LSPIGND_A	Livestock Survey - Pigs - November/December (Final) [2022]
15 May 2023	ANI_LSPIGR_A	Livestock survey - Pigs - Regional (Final) [2022]
15 May 2023	ANI_LSSHGND_A	Livestock Survey - Sheep & Goats - November/December (Final) [2022]
15 May 2023	ANI_LSSHGOR_A	Livestock survey - Sheep & goats - Regional (Final) [2022]
15 May 2023	MILK_TABLEA_M	Milk collection - Table A [Mar 2023]
15 May 2023	PRAG_IND2015_Q_GR	Agricultural Prices - Indices [Q1 2023]
28 May 2023	ANI_HATACTI_M	Activity of Hatcheries [Apr 2023]
28 May 2023	ANI_TRADCHI_M	Trade of Chicks [Apr 2023]
30 May 2023	ANI_SLAUGHT_M	Slaughterings in slaughterhouses - Monthly [Mar 2023]
31 May 2023	ANI_SLAUOTH_M	Slaughterings other than in slaughterhouses [Jan 2023]
31 May 2023	CROPROD_ARA_A	Crop Production from Arable Land (Crops - AR - Prov.) [2023]
31 May 2023	CROPROD_ARAPER_A	Permanent Crops (AR - Prov.) [2023]
31 May 2023	CROPROD_ARAVEG_A	Vegetables, melons and strawberries (Tomatoes - AR - Prov.) [2023]
31 May 2023	FISH_C21A_A	Catches in North-West Atlantic (Area 21 - Prov.) [2022]
14 June 2023	MILK_TABLEA_M	Milk collection - Table A [Apr 2023]
28 June 2023	ANI_HATACTI_M	Activity of Hatcheries [May 2023]
28 June 2023	ANI_TRADCHI_M	Trade of Chicks [May 2023]
29 June 2023	ANI_SLAUGHT_M	Slaughterings in slaughterhouses - Monthly [Apr 2023]

Deadline	Dataset	Description
30 June 2023	ANI_EGGCON1_A	Production of eggs for human consumption (Egg producers) [2022]
30 June 2023	ANI_EGGCON2_A	Production of eggs for human consumption (Packing centres) [2022]
30 June 2023	ANI_MTNEQ_3	National quality report - Livestock and meat statistics (Main) [2022]
30 June 2023	ANI_MTNnEQ_3	National quality report - Livestock and meat statistics (SPn) [2022], with n from 1 -8
30 June 2023	ANI_SLAUOTH_A	Slaughterings other than in slaughterhouses - Annual [2022]
30 June 2023	ANI_SLAUOTH_M	Slaughterings other than in slaughterhouses [Feb 2023]
30 June 2023	CROPROD_ARA_A	Crop Production from Arable Land (Crops - AR - Prov.) [2023]
30 June 2023	FISH_C27_A	Catches in North-East Atlantic (Area 27) [2022]
30 June 2023	FISH_C34TO51_A	Catches in certain areas other than North Atlantic (Areas 34, 37, 41, 47, 51) [2022]
30 June 2023	FISH_LANDG_A	Landings of fishery products [2022]
30 June 2023	MILK_MKNEQ_A	Milk annual report [2022]
30 June 2023	MILK_TABLEB_A	Milk products production - Tables B and H [2022]
30 June 2023	ORG_PROD_A	Organic farming statistics [2022]
15 July 2023	FISH_LDNEQ_3	National quality report [2022]
15 July 2023	MILK_TABLEA_M	Milk collection - Table A [May 2023]
28 July 2023	ANI_HATACTI_M	Activity of Hatcheries [Jun 2023]
28 July 2023	ANI_TRADCHI_M	Trade of Chicks [Jun 2023]
30 July 2023	ANI_SLAUGHT_M	Slaughterings in slaughterhouses - Monthly [May 2023]
31 July 2023	ANI_SLAUOTH_M	Slaughterings other than in slaughterhouses [Mar 2023]

People

Organisation chart of Eurostat's Unit E1 "Agriculture and fisheries" on 01.04.2023

Ruxandra ROMAN ENESCU (Head of Unit)
Marjo KASANKO (Deputy Head of Unit)
Barbora ALBINOVA (Secretary)

ACCOUNTS, PRICES & ANIMALS Statistical production EAA modernisation	**CROPS, NUTRIENTS & PPPs** Statistical production and indicators	**FARMS** IFS production Methodology & quality issues, Dissemination	**FISH** Statistical production FISH modernisation	**MODERNISATION TF** Legal and IT projects
Domingo MARTINEZ SOLANO Klara ANWAR Artemis PROGRI Estrellita RAUAN Eva VARGA Alexandra WOIDICH *Pol MARQUER* Paolo DOMINICI Madalina GAVRIL Santiago SUTIL CORTES	**Monica IATAN** Isabelle BARBIER Paulo BRAZ Baudewina DIJKHUIS Jean-Claude JEANTY Marketa PAPANIKOLAOU Iulia POP Georgios SAKELLAROPOULOS Nineta SCUTARU	**Helena RAMOS** Edward COOK Denisa FLORESCU Alois HOENIG (50%) Nicolas LAMPACH Elio LITTI Petronela REINECKE Rudi SELJAK	**Alessio SCIAN** Frederico CARDIGOS Bojan HORVAT	**Johan SELENIUS** Hubertus CLOODT Andreas Lazar Justinas SIAURYS

Events

Key upcoming events

Mar.	28-29	Animal Production Statistics Working Group (physical)
Jun.	05-07	Directors' Group on Agricultural Statistics (DGAS) (physical, Krakow, PL)
Oct.	11-12	Fisheries Statistics Working Group (virtual)
	25-26	Agro-environmental Statistics Working Group (nutrients) (physical)
Nov.	15-16	Structure of Agricultural Holdings Working Group (IFS) (virtual)

Contact / suggestions

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