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Organic Farming, the CAP and small member states

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Malta

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Republic of Malta

- Located in Southern European
- Country consisting of an archipelago situated in the centre of the Mediterranean, 80 km (50 mi) south of Sicily, 284 km (176 mi) east of Tunisia and 333 km (207 mi) north of Libya, with Gibraltar 1,755 km (1,091 mi) to the west and Alexandria 1,508 km (937 mi) to the east.

Malta

- Malta covers just over 316 km² (122 sq mi) in land area, making it one of the world's smallest states. It is also one of the most densely populated countries worldwide.
- Malta is the most densely populated country in the EU and one of the most densely populated countries in the world, with about 1,265 inhabitants per square kilometre.
- Total population stands at circa 415,000



About MOAM

The primary aim of MOAM is to:

- Inform the public about Organic Agriculture, share and disseminate ideas and methods for Organic Agriculture,
- Organise the necessary training,
- Represent those who embrace organic principles both locally (in parliamentary circles, administration and policy making) as well as internationally,
- Follow closely the developments in this field, set up and update Organic Agriculture standards for Malta and co-ordinate product certification.

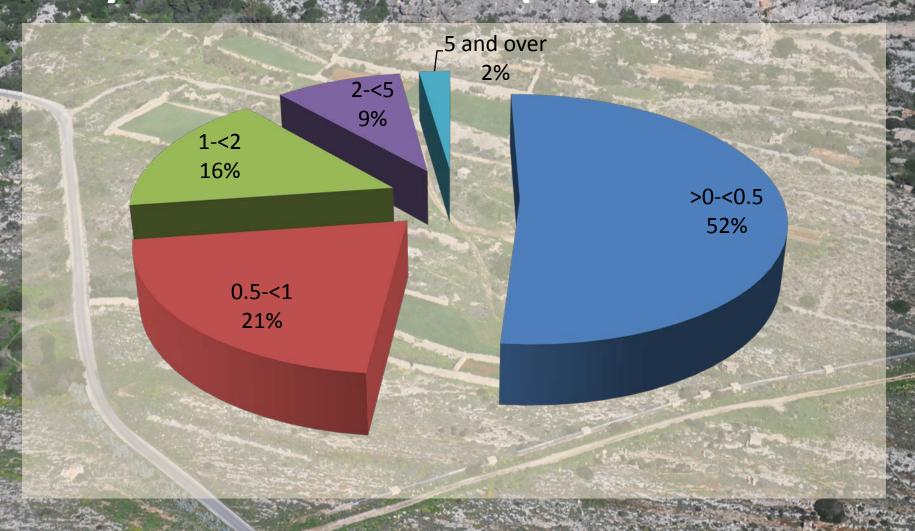
Utilised agricultural area (UAA)

 The total UAA amounted to 12,529 hectares. Agricultural holdings in Malta and Gozo are quite small, with nearly 9,203 agricultural holdings (73.5 per cent) having a UAA of less than 1.0 hectare each. Medium-sized agricultural holdings made up 24.4 per cent of the total; such holdings comprise between one and five hectares, while 2.2 per cent are considered large, each having a minimun of five hectares of UAA.

Distribution of agricultural holdings by size class of UAA (ha) by district

| - | class of (ha) | Maltese Islands | Malta | Southern Harbour | Northern Harbour | South Eastern | Western | Northern | Gozo and Comino |
|------|---|--------------------|-------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------|----------|--------------------|
| Core | otal utilised icultural area (ha) | 12,529 | 9,737 | 1,022 | 817 | 2,623 | 2,975 | 2,300 | 2,792 |
| | of which: | | | | | | | | |
| | 0 | 340 | 295 | 52 | 64 | 78 | 62 | 39 | 45 |
| > | 0-<0.5 | 6,291 | 4,785 | 553 | 433 | 1,424 | 1,390 | 985 | 1,506 |
| | 0.5-<1 | 2,572 | 2,045 | 207 | 169 | 583 | 643 | 443 | 527 |
| | 1-<2 | 1,931 | 1,519 | 135 | 99 | 347 | 510 | 428 | 412 |
| | 2-<5 | 1,120 | 896 | 68 | 45 | 165 | 315 | 303 | 224 |
| 5 a | and over | 275 | 197 | 7 | 7 | 26 | 55 | 102 | 78 |

Distribution of agricultural holdings by size class of UAA (ha) by district





The Name of the Lot

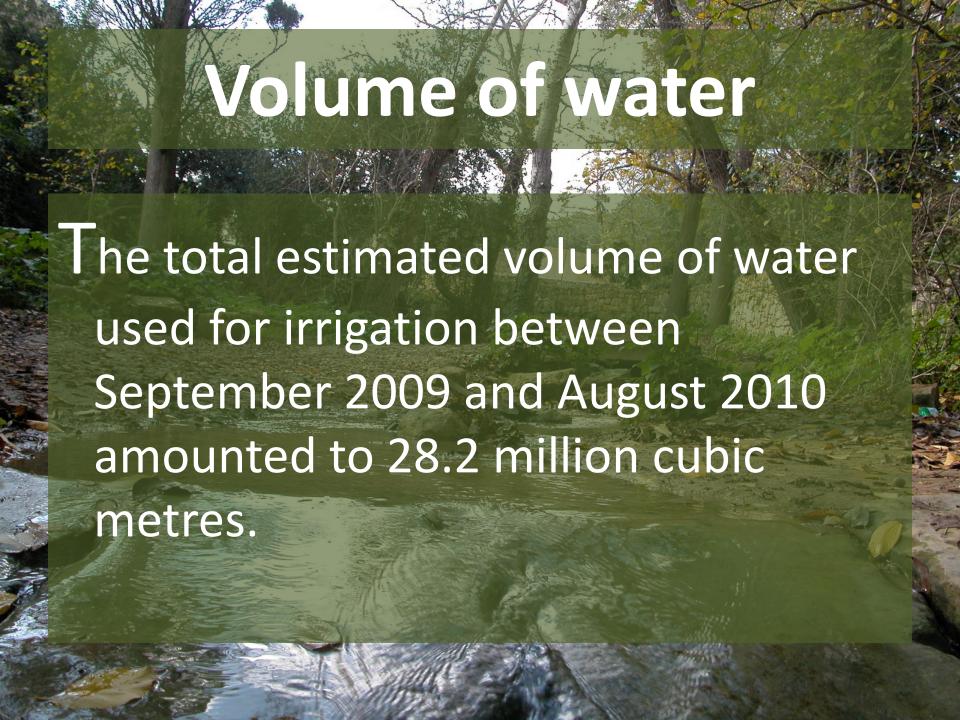
- Arable land accounted for 79.3 per cent of the total, while permanent crops and kitchen gardens made up the remaining 10.9 and 9.8 per cent respectively. The cultivation of forage crops (61.2 per cent) is predominant in the use of arable land.
- 1,251 hectares of UAA were devoted to plantations, of which 49.1 per cent was dedicated to vineyards.
- Fruit and berry plantations, mainly peaches, had a share of 29.7 per cent of total permanent crops, while citrus, olive and nurseries accounted for 8.9, 11.2 and 1.1 per cent respectively.

Distribution of organic area (ha) by type by district

| Type of Organic land (ha) | Maltese Islands | Malta | Gozo |
|---|-----------------|-------|------|
| Total Organic Land | 26 | 20 | 6 |
| Certified according to National rules | 7 | 2 | 5 |
| In the process of conversion to organic | 19 | 18 | 1 |
| NSO 03/01/2012 | | | |

Labour force

In 2010, the agricultural labour force comprised 18,539 persons or 4,862 annual work units. Parttime employment amounted to 17,238 persons (93.0 per cent), while 1,301 persons (7.0 per cent) worked on a fulltime basis. Males (78.7 per cent) predominated in the agricultural labour force. Of all sole-holder managers, 44.2 per cent reported that they practised a major gainful activity apart from agriculture, while 53.5 per cent stated that they had no other gainful activity. The majority of the latter were either totally engaged in agriculture or were pensioners





Equipment

• In the 2010 Census, 192 agricultural holdings, or 1.5 per cent of the total, used equipment for renewable energy generation. The Western district was ahead, with 60 holdings using renewable energy from wind and 13 holdings using solar energy.

Legal personality and management of the holding

Agricultural holdings in Malta are predominantly run by sole holders (98.0 per cent). Group holdings and companies accounted for 1.7 and 0.3 per cent of all agricultural holdings respectively. Sole holders also acted as farm managers in 95.4 per cent of all sole-holder agricultural holdings



- As at 31 August 2010, the total cattle population amounted to 15,688 heads, with 6,740, or 43.0 per cent, being dairy cows. The Census revealed that the pig population amounted to 70,593 heads.
- Sheep and goat stocks numbered 11,873 and 4,384 heads respectively.
- 1.2 million poultry heads was registered, of which 73.1 per cent were broilers. The remaining 26.0 per cent were laying hens.

Age Distribution

| AgeGroup | Total | Full-time | Part-time |
|-------------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| <25years | 668 | 88 | 580 |
| 25-34years | 1,391 | 167 | 1,224 |
| 35-44years | 2,509 | 234 | 2,275 |
| 45-54years | 4,714 | 374 | 4,340 |
| 55-64years | 5,252 | 341 | 4,911 |
| 65 and over | 4,005 | 97 | 3,908 |
| | 18,539 | 1,301 | 17,238 |



- We need a common agriculture policy for a Europe that is diverse in:
 - Culture
 - Environment
 - Climate
 - Economics
 - Political
 - diversification





Organic farming has always been a frontrunner in sustainable farm practices. This role has been recognised by EU policy makers since 1991 with the creation of the first EU regulation for organic food and farming. Now organic farming is an established part of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) Christopher Stopes, IFOAM EU Group President

"To progress towards a green future for our food systems, the overall CAP framework needs substantial change just as the CAP should provide possibilities to develop the market for green products. A foundation for real change is established when environmental sustainable farming becomes economical sustainable farming. Therefore CAP payments must be re-focused from the production of food to the production of public goods."

Evald Vestergaard, President of Organic Denmark



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MOAN

Malta Organic Agriculture Movement

Sustainable Agriculture In Harmony with Nature