

Farm Structure Survey

Year 2013

In 2013 the total number of farms showed a turndown of 9.2% with respect to the Agricultural Census held in 2010.

The decrease in terms of agricultural areas is lower if compared to the loss in terms of number of holdings (utilized agricultural area -3.3%, total area of -2.4% with respect to 2010). Thus the total mean size per farm increases from 7.9 to 8.4 hectares.

The most significant reductions in agricultural utilized area occur in the Centre (-6.3%) and North-West geographical areas (-5.7%).

The most remarkable decreases recorded for crops are: garden vegetables (-15.2%); hard wheat (-12.8%); fruit-bearing trees (-8.4%).

Within the livestock sector, a negative trend is observed for pigs (-7.8%) and cattle (-4.5%) while sheep /goats and poultry remain basically steady (+0.5%, -1.5% respectively).

The observed fall in the number of farms is reflected in the strong decrease of the family labor force units (-13.0% with respect to 2010), thus resulting into a similar downturn of the total agricultural labor force units (-8.1%).

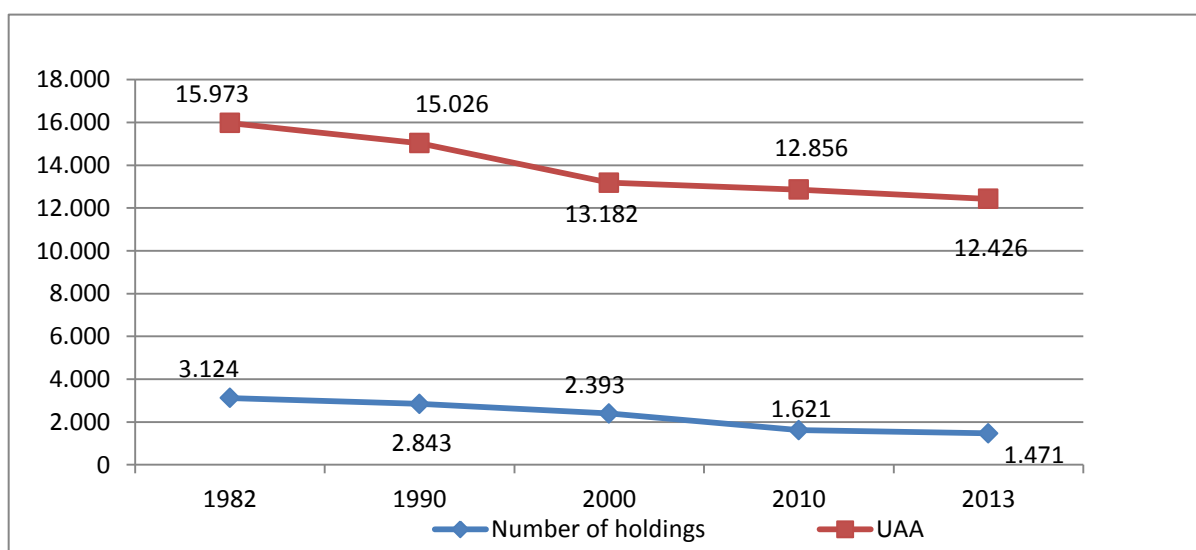
Thanks to the significant rise of units of the other labour force (+14.3%), the total working days keep roughly constant (+0.8% from 2010).

There is a growing number of holdings which carries out other gainful activities for the farm (+48.4%). This huge 3 years' rise is due mainly to farms that produce renewable energy (21 thousands), whose number approximately increase by six times, and to those that process their products whose number almost double.

The number of holdings that practice organic farming increase by 4.7% from 2010. The share of agricultural land dedicated to organic production rises from 6.1% in 2010 to 7.7% in 2013.

FIGURE 1 - NUMBER OF HOLDINGS AND UTILIZED AGRICULTURAL AREA (UAA)

Years 1982-2013, thousands number of holdings, thousands hectares



Source: Agricultural Census 1982, 1990, 2000 e 2010, FSS 2013 (Farm Structure Survey)

For more details please refer to the Italian version

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