

Quality agro-food products (PDO, PGI and STG)

Year 2015

Italy confirmed its position as the country with the highest number of PDO, PGI and TSG certifications granted by the European Union. At 31 December 2015, Italy had 278 quality-certified products (9 more than in 2014); of these, 266 were active.

Between 2005 and 2015 PDO, PGI and TSG specialities certified by the EU passed from 154 to 278.

The sectors with the highest number of certifications were fruit, vegetables and cereals (106 products), cheese (51), extra virgin olive oils (43) and meat preparations (40). Fresh meat and other sectors had a total of 5 and 32 specialities respectively.

The regions with the most PDO and PGI products were Emilia-Romagna and Veneto, with 42 and 36 products respectively.

In 2015, there were 80,010 certified operators, up by 160 units (+0.2%) from 2014. Of these, 91.1% were exclusively involved in production activities and 5.7% in product transformation; the remaining 2.2% performed both activities.

In the certification system, new certified operators (6,602) were slightly higher than exits (6,458).

Most certified operators continued to be men, with 79.9% of producers and 85.6% of transformers being male.

Among producers (75,463 units) the cheese sector was particularly highly represented (26,042 units, equal to 34.5% of the total), along with olive oil (19,567 or 25.9%) and fruit, vegetables and cereals (17,061 or 22.6%).

Transformers (7,150 units) were also more frequent in the extra virgin olive oil (1,811 or 25.3% of the total), cheese (1,529 or 21.4%) and fruit, vegetables and cereals (1,350 or 18.9%) sectors.

In comparison to 2014, the number of livestock farms (39,307 farms) fell by 5.1% while the surface area covered (170,266 hectares) rose by 4.6%.

Over three quarters of producers (75.9%) were located in mountain and hill areas, the remaining 24.1% was located in plain areas.

Overall, between 2012 and 2013 the number of producers recorded a 1.2% rise, the result of a fall in Northern (-2.5%) and the rise in the South and Islands area (+4.7%) and in the Centre (+3.3%).

The rise in the number of transformers (+4.5) was due to both an increase in the North (+0.4%) and the more consistent rise registered in the South and Islands area (+8.6) and in the Centre (+7%).

TABLE 1. QUALITY PRODUCTS (PDO, PGI AND TSG) OPERATORS BY SECTOR – as of 31 December 2012 and 2013

SECTORS	PRODUCERS				TRANSFORMERS				TOTAL OPERATORS (a)			
	2014	2015	Absolute 2015/2014		2014	2015	Absolute 2015/2014		2015	2014	Absolute 2015/2014	
			changes	%			changes	%			changes	%
Fresh meat	8,039	8,701	662	8.2	868	897	29	3.3	8,907	9,496	589	6.6
Meat preparations	3,470	3,364	-102	-3.1	693	693	37	5.6	4,126	4,050	-76	-1.8
Cheese	26,454	26,042	412	-1.6	1,529	1,529	-26	-1.7	27,921	27,042	-879	-3.1
Other animal products	253	308	55	21.7	42	42	13	44.8	261	324	63	24.1
Fruit, vegetables and cereals	17,279	17,061	-218	-1.3	1,350	1,350	146	12.1	18,062	17,712	-350	-1.9
Extra virgin olive oil	18,734	19,567	833	4.4	1,811	1,811	15	0.8	19,655	20,327	672	3.4
Vinegars other than wine	182	182	-	-	624	624	56	9.9	651	705	54	8.3
Bread, pastry, confectionery	25	33	8	32.0	74	74	18	32.1	80	106	26	32.5
Spices	88	105	17	19.3	89	89	15	20.3	104	114	10	9.6
Essential oils	30	30	-	-	8	8	-	-	37	37	-	-
Fish products	10	64	54	540.0	7	7	-	-	13	68	55	423.1
Salt	7	6	-1	-14.3	3	3	-	-	10	6	-4	-40.0
Pasta	-	-	-	-	21	23	2	9.5	21	23	2	9.5
TOTAL (b)	74,571	75,463	892	1.2	6,845	7,150	305	4.5	79,848	80,010	162	0.2

(a) An operator may be both producer and transformer.

(b) An operator operating in two or more sectors is counted two or more times.

For more detailed information please refer to the Italian version

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