



Agriculture census in Georgia and statistics

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ABSTRACT

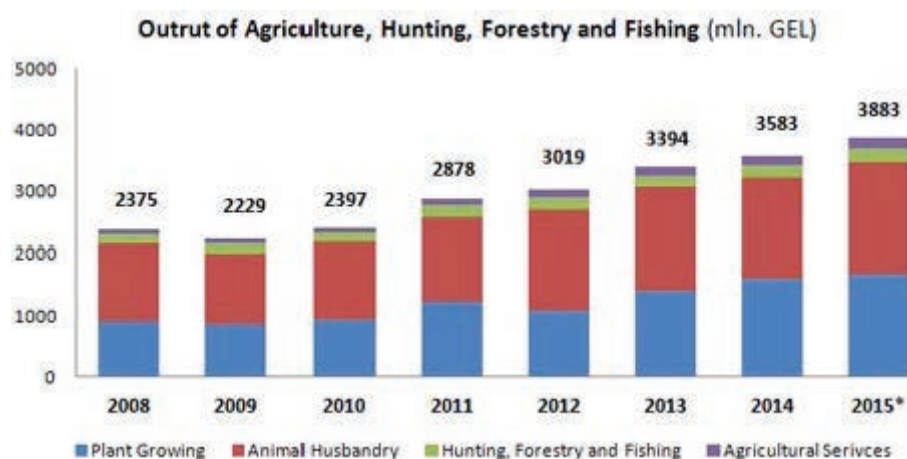
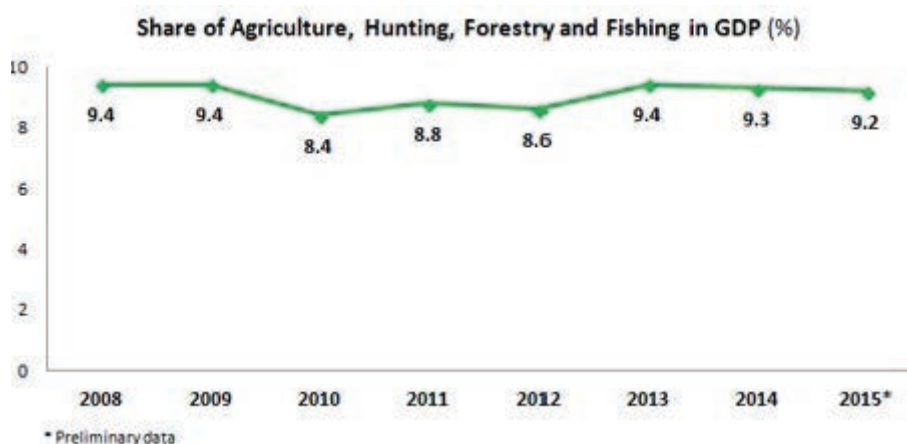
According to the recent census results in Georgia, as of October 1, 2014, there are 642.2 thousand holdings in the country: of which 640.0 thousand households and 2.2 thousand legal entities. 30.9% of holders are women. Among the regions, the largest number of holdings is observed in Imereti (19.6%), Kakheti (15.1%) and Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti (13.3%). The diagram below illustrates regional distribution of holding numbers.

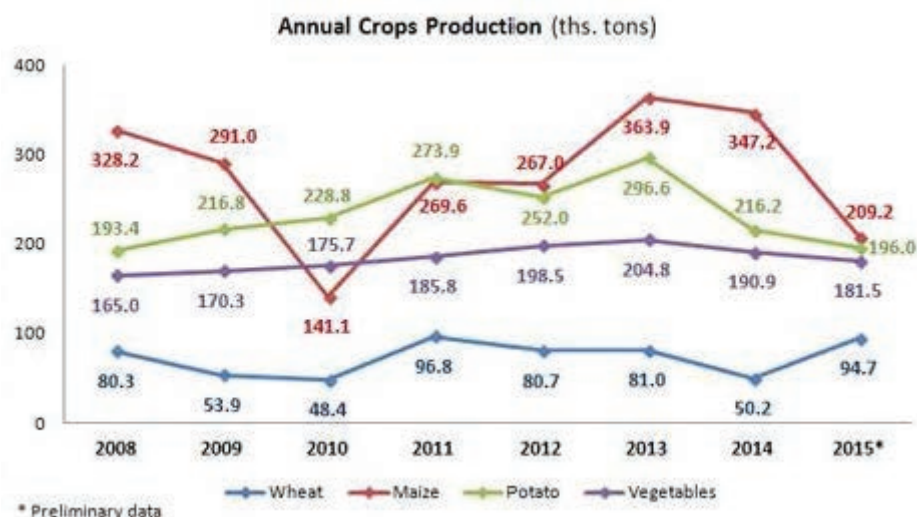
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PAPER

1. Agricultural Census Data in Georgia

Major portion of holdings are operating small-sized land. In particular, more than three fourth of holdings (77.1%) are operating agricultural land of size less than 1 ha and their total area constitute 21.5% of whole operated agricultural land. 40.1% of agricultural land operated by holdings are located in Kakheti, 15.5% - in Kvemo Kartli, and 9.7% - in Samtskhe-Javakheti. The census has covered all agricultural holdings in the country (on the territory controlled by the Government of Georgia) and it was done according to the methodology developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization.



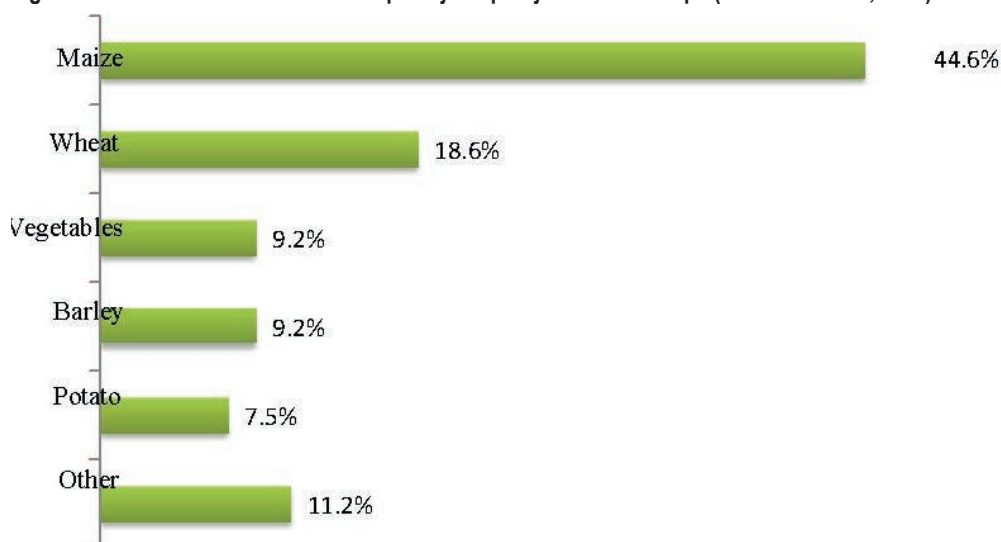


2. Food Security as challenge for Georgian Farmers

Georgian food producers, farmers and Agricultural Cooperatives should be in response of a growing number of outbreaks associated with consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables. All our efforts are on a development of the a science-based regulatory frameworks to address the production of all fruits and vegetables in organic manner according existing guidance documents and regulations; and, consistent with a mission to promote uniform food safety laws, rules and regulations.

Opportunities in Food microbiology research are the gateway to sustaining and improving agriculture and food production in Georgia, quality, and safety. Multidisciplinary research must be undertaken to capitalize on advances in different disciplines, such as genomics, nanotechnology, and computational biology. Research into the interactions of animal and plant hosts with pathogens and beneficial microbes is essential to preventing disease and encouraging mutuality interactions. On a more holistic scale, interactions occurring among organisms within a microbial community require study so that a healthy balance between the highly managed ecosystems of industrial agriculture and the unmanaged ecosystems of the Food Security can be achieved.

Figure 1 - Structure of Land under Temporary Crops by Particular Crops (as of October 1, 2014)



As of October 1, 2014, there is 377.4 thousand ha of arable land operated by holdings, of which 85.5% is operated by households and 14.5% - by legal entities. An average area of arable land operated by holdings is 0.7 ha. 86.9% of holdings are operating arable land of size less than 1 ha. 70.3% (265.4 thousand ha) of arable land area is covered by temporary crops¹. This indicator is 77.2% (249.2 thousand ha) for households and 29.5% (16.2 thousand ha) - for legal entities. 49.4 thousand holdings are operating the land under temporary crops of size 1 ha and more, 3.5 thousand holdings - 5 ha and more, and 1.6 thousand holdings - 10 ha and more. 44.6% of land under temporary crops is covered by maize, 18.6% - by wheat, 9.2% - by vegetables, and 9.2% - by barley. The diagram below shows the structure of land under temporary crops by particular crops.

Table 1: Livestock and Poultry Numbers and Average Values (as of October 1, 2014)

Indicator	Unit of measurement	Holdings of all categories	Households	Legal entities
Livestock and poultry numbers				
Cattle	Thousand heads	1,005.4	997.0	8.5
Sheep and goat	Thousand heads	989.3	962.0	27.3
Pig	Thousand heads	213.1	195.3	17.8
Poultry	Thousand heads	8,216.0	5,441.3	2,774.7
Number of holdings with livestock/poultry				
Cattle	Thousands	271.9	271.7	0.1
Sheep and goat	Thousands	23.7	23.7	0.0
Pig	Thousands	93.9	93.9	0.0
Poultry	Thousands	364.9	364.8	0.1
Average number per holding ²				
Cattle	Heads	3.7	3.7	60.4
Sheep and goat	Heads	41.7	40.6	700.7
Pig	Heads	2.3	2.1	424.1
Poultry	Heads	22.5	14.9	32,264.0

Tables: The highest number of cattle is observed in Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti (195.2 thousand heads), Imereti (168.8 thousand heads) and Kvemo Kartli (140.7 thousand heads). 14.1 thousand holdings have 10 and more cattle, while 0.5 thousand holdings have 50 and more. The diagram below shows regional distribution of cattle numbers.

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