

Average Farm Business Income (FBI): England 2017/18

These results are sourced from the 2017/18 Farm Business Survey (which covers the 2017 harvest and 2017 Basic Payment*). Figures are for March/February years with the most recent year shown ending February 2018. The data shown here are averages and within each year there is a wide range of incomes across farms.

* Across all farm types the Basic Payment was 13 percent higher than in 2016/17 due to the weaker pound at the end of September 2017 when the exchange rate was set.



Cereals

£64,200 per farm

49%



Crop output was higher due to increased yields and higher prices for wheat and barley

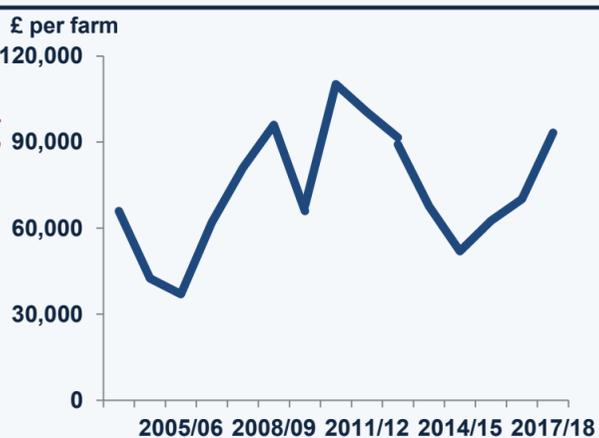
Variable costs rose by 4%, primarily driven by seed and contracting costs. Fixed costs rose by 1%.



General cropping

£93,300 per farm

33%



Output rose due to increased areas, yields and prices for wheat as well as increased oilseed rape and sugar beet production. This was partially offset by a fall in the value of the potato crop.

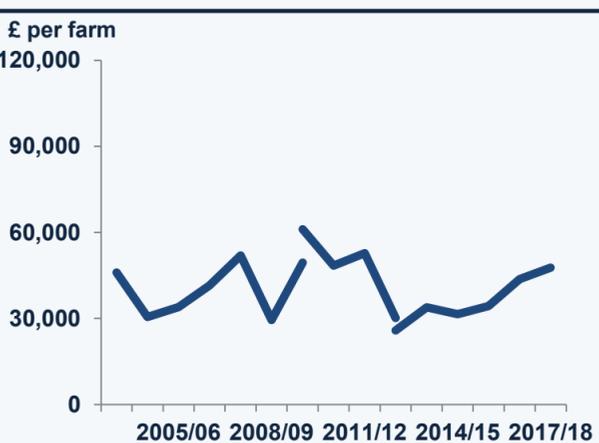
Costs also increased, notably for crop protection, labour and general farming costs.



Horticulture

£47,700 per farm

9%



Reduced output from potatoes, glasshouse flowers, bulbs and nursery stock and contract work on other farms offset increases from other crops. Diversified output increased, notably building rental and food processing/ retailing.

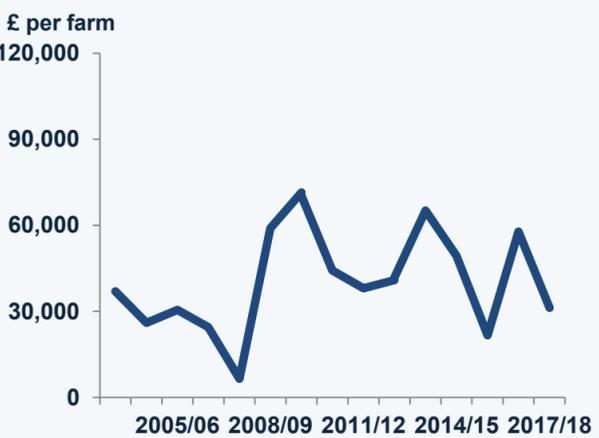
Costs also fell.



Pigs

£31,300 per farm

46%



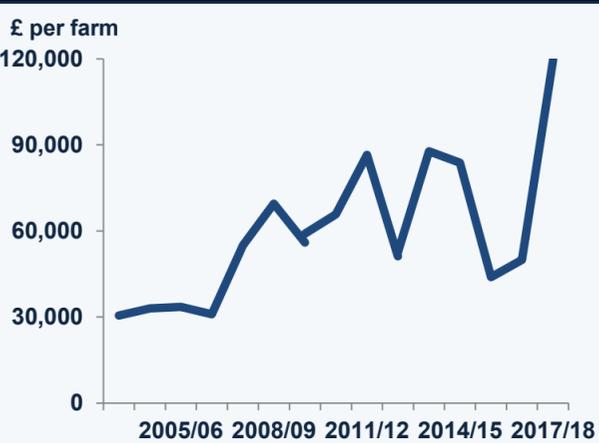
Crop output fell. Increased revenue from pigs was offset by a reduced closing valuation* due to lower prices at the year end. Input costs were higher (particularly for feed). Reduced Basic Payment reflecting smaller average farm size.



Dairy

£119,700 per farm

140%



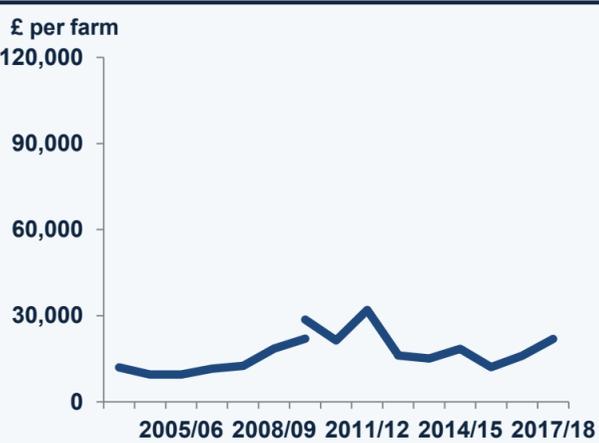
Increased output from milk (driven by rises in both production and price) was only partially offset by higher fixed and variable costs.



Grazing livestock (lowland)

£21,900 per farm

36%



Tighter supplies led to firmer prices for finished cattle, increasing output.

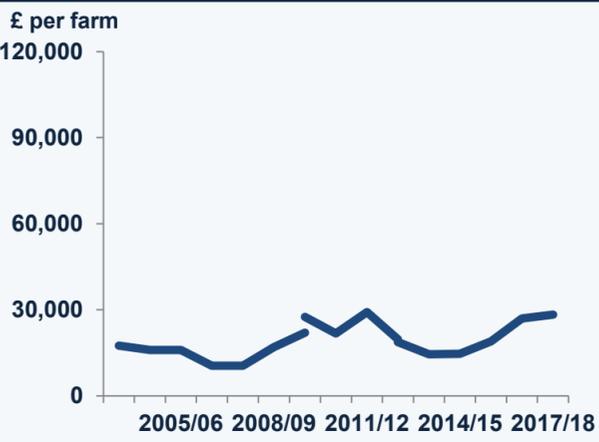
Small increase in costs with reductions in crop costs offsetting increased cost of feed. Increased income from diversified activities.



Grazing livestock (LFA)

£28,300 per farm

5%



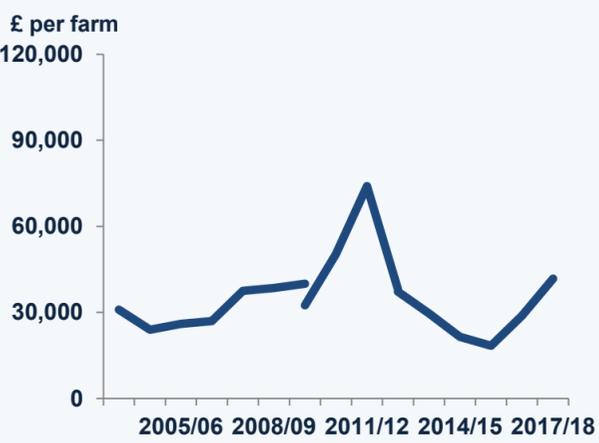
Increases to the Basic Payment and agri-environment payments together with a rise in output from sheep and cattle were offset by higher costs, particularly for feed and machinery.



Mixed

£41,800 per farm

45%



Higher output from crops, livestock, the Basic Payment and diversification were only partially offset by increased costs.

There are breaks in the series to farms shown in these charts in 2009/10 and 2012/13. These are due to changes in the method used to assign farms to specific farm types. For 2009/10 average income has been calculated using both methods for comparability. See our website for more information.

*Valuation change:

The difference between the livestock opening and closing valuations can have a considerable impact on incomes. In 2016/17, closing valuations for the pig herd were higher than opening valuations, thus increasing the enterprise output. This was reversed in 2017/18 as pig prices were lower than the year before, thus decreasing the valuation across the year and reducing enterprise output.

Source: Defra, Farm Business Survey For more information: FBS.queries@defra.gsi.gov.uk
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/farm-business-survey>

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