

Uses and Users of Basic Horticultural Statistics (UK)

1 Introduction

Basic Horticultural Statistics is an annual publication of key statistical information for around 50 key fruits and vegetables (excluding potatoes) covering area, home production marketed and farm-gate value of production from 1985 to 2013 and import and export statistics from 1988 to 2013. Historic data for ornamentals covering the period 1986 to 2004 are included along with value, import and export statistics up to 2013.

All statistics presented in Basic Horticulture Statistics are at United Kingdom level and for calendar years, with the exception of areas which are in crop years. For crops such as strawberries, raspberries and asparagus where the crops are grown, harvested and marketed in the same calendar year, this will in effect be the same as crop year. However it should be noted that for some crops which are marketed over more than one calendar year, the home production marketed figures reported for a particular calendar year will relate to marketing's from both the previous and current season's production, for example apples and carrots. For more detailed information on crop areas, multi cropping and crop marketings please refer to the publication's methodology section.

The information in this document is used by the UK government and the EU for assessing market conditions and evaluating agricultural and horticultural policy and to meet certain EU legislative requirements on crop area and production statistics (Regulation 543/2009). The value of production estimates are used in the estimation of farm income, annual aggregate account calculations and calculations for UK self-sufficiency in food. The annual report and datasets are published on the Defra [website](#).

2 Known users of the Horticulture Statistics

The figures are widely used by the UK government and the EU, the National Farmers Union, the Food and Drink Federation, the British Retail Consortium, the Horticultural Development Company of the Agricultural & Horticultural Development Board, growers, horticultural trade associations, academics, media and researchers and by the wider horticultural community. Information on crop area, production and a range of other statistics on agriculture and horticulture for the EU is available from the Eurostat [website](#).

- The data provided is important evidence to assist policy makers in UK policy development and profitability of different farming sectors
- Monitoring productivity and competitiveness, including supply and self-sufficiency
- Market information for growers and the trade
- Assessing the impact of disease outbreaks, e.g. E-coli

3 Feedback

We welcome feedback on the data from all users including how and why the data are used. This helps us to understand the value of the statistics to external users, and identifies any unmet needs.

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