



18 June 2020

## Total Income from Farming in England, first estimate for 2019

This release presents the first estimate of Total Income from Farming (TIFF) for England for 2019. Estimates for earlier years have also been revised slightly due to the availability of additional or updated data. Details of the changes are provided in the revisions section of this document.

Total Income from Farming is the total profit from all UK farming businesses on a calendar year basis. It measures the return to all entrepreneurs for their management, inputs, labour and capital invested.

## **Key Messages**

2019 compared with 2018, in current prices i.e. not adjusted for inflation:

- Total Income from Farming in England rose by £534 million (15%) to £3,995 million.
- Agriculture contributed £8,106 million to the economy of England (Gross Value Added), an increase of £678 million (9%) on the year. Over ten years, on average, agriculture has added around 0.5% to England's GDP.
- Gross output rose by £572 million (3%) to £20,260 million, largely driven by the increase in crop production, in particular cereals. In general weather conditions were favourable, which helped boost yields. The value of total Livestock output rose by 1% to £9,685 million.
- The cost of goods and services consumed in the production process (intermediate consumption) fell by £106 million (-0.9%) to £12,154 million. In general, prices were higher and usage lower.

In 2019 the Total Income from Farming for the United Kingdom is £5,278 million. England is the largest contributor accounting for 75% of this total, Scotland 14%, Northern Ireland and Wales 5% each. Latest account information for the UK can be found at <u>United Kingdom: Total Income from Farming statistics</u>. For information on the devolved administration agricultural accounts go to section 3.1.

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## What you need to know about this release

#### **Contact details**

Responsible statistician: Helen Mason, Room 202 Foss House, Kings Pool, 1-2

Peasholme Green, York, YO1 7PX.

Telephone enquiries: 0208 026 6256.

Email: farmaccounts@defra.gov.uk.

Media enquiries: 0345 051 8486.

Public enquiries: 0845 601 3034.

#### **National Statistics Status**

National Statistics are produced to high professional standards. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference.

The statistics last underwent a full assessment in 2014 by the UK Statistics Authority's Assessment team. A copy of the full report can be found on the internet, <u>Assessment Report 271 Statistics on Agriculture</u>.

The continued designation of these statistics as National Statistics was confirmed in December 2017 following a compliance check by the UK Statistics Authority (now the Office for Statistics Regulation) against the <u>Code of Practice for Statistics</u>. The compliance check letter can be found on the <u>UK Statistics Authority website</u>.

Since the latest review by the Office for Statistics Regulation, we have continued to comply with the Code of Practice for Statistics and have enhanced data quality by reviewing methodologies and data sources.

For general enquiries about National Statistics, contact the National Statistics Public Enquiry Service:

Tel: 0845 601 3034

Email: info@statistics.gov.uk.

You can find National Statistics on the internet on the Gov.uk website.

#### **Key words**

**Agricultural industry** is all activities taking place within businesses that carry out any agricultural activities. These businesses include all farms and specialist agricultural contractors.

**Basic price** is the market price plus directly paid subsidies that are linked to the production of specific products. There have been no direct subsidies on product in England since 2013.

**Current price** or **contemporaneous price** is the value based on actual price during the reference year, i.e. which have not been adjusted for inflation.

Gross output is the total value of output by producing farm businesses.

**Real term** is the value adjusted for inflation.

**Intermediate consumption** is the goods and services used as inputs in the productive process, e.g. feed, energy and fertiliser.

**Gross Value Added (GVA)** is the value of gross output less the value of intermediate consumption; it is a measure of agriculture's contribution to the economy (GDP).

**Total Income from Farming (TIFF)** is the income to those with a business interest in the agricultural industry.

A comprehensive list of definitions can be found at section 4.

## Section 1 – Summary of long term trends

Values in this section are adjusted to take into account inflation, referred to as real term, to allow more meaningful comparisons between years over the longer term. These values are expressed in terms of purchasing power in 2019 (the base year).

The key drivers of agricultural income include the volume of production, commodity prices, and the cost of inputs. These are themselves driven by a range of factors such as the weather, exchange rates, oil price and global supply, and stocks of commodities. As a result, agricultural income tends to be volatile and fluctuate from year to year.

Over time, figure 1 shows, whilst there has been some fluctuation in incomes, since 2000 the picture is one of growth.

Figure 1: Total Income from Farming in England: 1995 to 2019, adjusted for inflation at 2019 prices

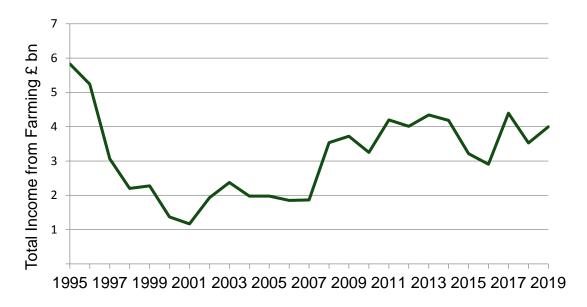


Figure 2 shows a more detailed breakdown of gross output, intermediate consumption, gross value added, and total income from farming in England since 2010. It shows that income was relatively stable between 2010 and 2014. However, in 2015 income fell sharply, pushed down by lower commodity prices and a less favourable exchange rate (strong pound compared to euro). This was in spite of production levels being high. In 2016 the exchange rate improved (pound weakened) but a poor harvest and continued low commodity prices kept income low.

In 2017, TIFF rebounded to the highest point since 1996 as a result of the positive combination of a weaker pound, strong commodity prices and high levels of production. By comparison incomes fell back in 2018. Strong commodity failed to offset the extreme weather conditions which led to poor yields and pushed up the price of key inputs, particularly energy and feed.

In 2019 Total Income from Farming rose equivalent to a 13% increase in real terms after adjustment for inflation. Weather conditions were generally more favourable, with high crop yields boosting production levels, particularly cereals, which helped offset lower commodity

prices. Goods and services consumed in the production process costs (intermediate consumption) fell by 3%, in general prices were higher and usage lower.

Figure 2: Gross output, intermediate consumption (int cons), gross value added (GVA) and total income from farming in England, in real terms at 2019 prices

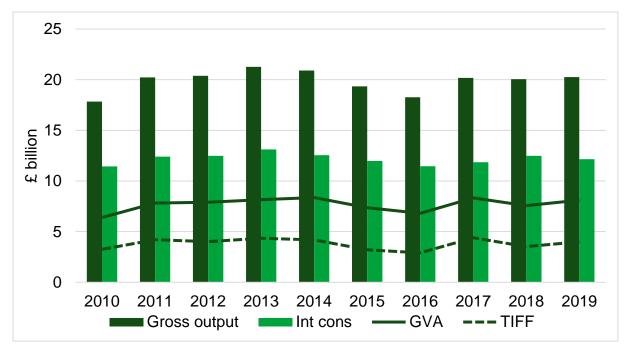


Table 1 shows a summary of production and income accounts for England adjusted to take into account inflation at 2019 prices. The values are adjusted for inflation using the <u>GDP</u> <u>deflator</u>, <u>series YBGB published by the Office of National Statistics.</u> The GDP deflator series used is that available at the time of publication.

Table 1: Aggregate Agricultural Accounts: Summary of production and income accounts for England, adjusted for inflation at 2019 prices

£ million calendar year				
	Average 2012 to 2016	2017	2018	2019
Total crop output	8,375	8,404	8,233	8,523
Total livestock output	9,763	9,805	9,761	9,685
10. Other agricultural activities	919	942	1,000	996
11. Inseparable non-agricultural activities	973	1,017	1,053	1,055
12. Output at market prices (sum 1-11)	20,031	20,168	20,047	20,260
14. Gross output at basic prices (12+13)	20,031	20,168	20,047	20,260
25. Total intermediate consumption (sum 15-24)	12,316	11,844	12,484	12,154
26. Gross value added at market prices (12-25)	7,716	8,324	7,563	8,106
27. Gross value added at basic prices (14-25)	7,716	8,324	7,563	8,106
28. Total consumption of fixed capital	3,258	3,176	3,294	3,364
29. Net value added at market prices (26-28)	4,457	5,148	4,269	4,742
30. Net value added at basic prices (27-28)	4,457	5,148	4,269	4,742
31. Other subsidies (less taxes) not linked to production	2,119	2,166	2,163	2,155
32. Net value added at factor cost (29+31)	6,576	7,315	6,432	6,897
33. Compensation of employees	2,085	2,115	2,110	2,125
34. Rents	494	499	482	467
35. Interest	266	309	315	310
36. Total Income from Farming (32-33-34-35)	3,731	4,392	3,525	3,995

# Section 2 – Detailed comparison between 2019 and 2018 using contemporaneous prices

This year on year comparison is made on the basis of contemporaneous (i.e. **current** for the year in question) prices, which have not been adjusted for inflation.

#### 2.1 Headline figures

In 2019 Total Income from Farming (TIFF) rose by £534 million to £3,995 million, a 15% increase on 2019. The main contributors to this increase are the rise in the value of output of wheat (+£306 million), potatoes (+£154 million), vegetable, horticulture and fruit (+£166 million combined). In addition some input costs fell, including plant protection (-£101 million), animal feed (-£72 million) and seeds (-£31 million).

Gross Value Added at basic price, which identifies agriculture's contribution to the economy (GDP), rose by 9% (£678 million) to £8,106 million.

#### 2.2 Crop Outputs

Overall output of crops value rose by £437 million or 5.4% to £8,523 million.

A key contributor to this increase was wheat, whose value rose by £306 million (+16%) to £2,281 million. This increase was due to a combination of a 3.6% higher planted area than in 2018, favourable weather conditions and higher yields resulting in a quality bumper harvest. The plentiful harvest lowered prices as the year progressed.

The value of barley rose by £15 million (+2.1%) to £693 million, with higher volumes more than offsetting lower prices. The increase in production is attributed to an increase in total area planted (+3.1%), a switch to higher yielding winter barley, and more favourable growing conditions.

Oilseed rape output fell in value by £66 million (-11%) to £544 million, driven by lower production. Planted area decreased by 9.7%, the lowest since 2004. Issues with pest control, particularly the cabbage stem flea beetle and generally poor growing conditions have discouraged farmers from growing Oilseed rape in favour of other crops.

The value of protein crops increased by £32 million (29%) to £142 million. The crop area of pulses in 2019 showed a decrease compared to 2018 with a decrease in the bean area (-11%) offsetting an increase in the pea area (+7.6%). The volume of bean production increased due to a higher yield leading to a reduction in price when ample supplies became available. The 2019 pea harvest can be split between those that were harvested before the summer rains that were of good quality, whilst those after were not, the majority of which went to the animal feed sector.

The value of sugar beet fell by £6 million (-2.9%) to £208 million. Reduced planted area, average yields and a difficult harvest due to the wet autumn contributed to a fall in production.

The value of vegetables increased by £50 million (+4.1%) to £1,259 million, driven by higher prices as volumes fell slightly. An early start to the year following a mild winter meant crops were well established by early summer, however, wet conditions in both June and then autumn meant some crops were left unharvested.

The value of potatoes rose by £154 million (+45%) to £496 million, mainly driven by price. Although there was an increase in planted area this year (+3.4%), overall production was adversely impacted by the wet autumn and winter that caused disruption to lifting of the crop.

The value of fruit rose by £73 million to £698 million, driven almost entirely by an increase in price, as production was little changed on the year.

Figure 3 shows the percentage contribution main arable crops add to the total value of crop outputs. Some crops are combined, e.g. industrial crops includes sugar beet and protein crops, other crop products includes seeds and straw.

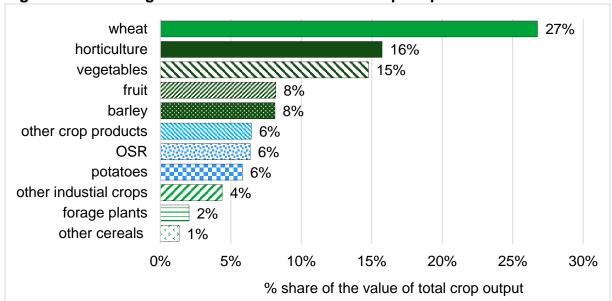


Figure 3: Percentage share of the value of total crop output in 2019

#### 2.3 Livestock Outputs

Overall the value of total livestock output (including livestock products) increased by £99 million (+1.0%) to £9,685 million.

The value of livestock primarily for meat was little changed at £5,443 million. Whilst pigs, sheep and poultry all delivered gains, the value of cattle output fell.

Pig meat showed the largest annual percentage increase with a rise in value of £37 million (+3.7%) to £1,027 million a result of both increased production and slightly higher price. The value of sheep meat rose to £695 million (+3.3%) driven by higher production levels. Poultry meat continued its upward trend in 2019, rising in value by £25 million (+1.1%) to £2,197 million, the highest recorded value. Cattle meat showed the only fall of £94 million (-6.6%) to £1,321 million.

The value of milk, the largest individual contributor to the value of all livestock outputs, increased by £22 million (+0.8%) to £2,857 million, higher production outweighed any fall in price

The value of eggs rose by £19 million (5.1%) to £399 million. An increase in volumes more than offset the price reduction.

Figure 4 shows the percentage share livestock categories contribute to the total livestock outputs.

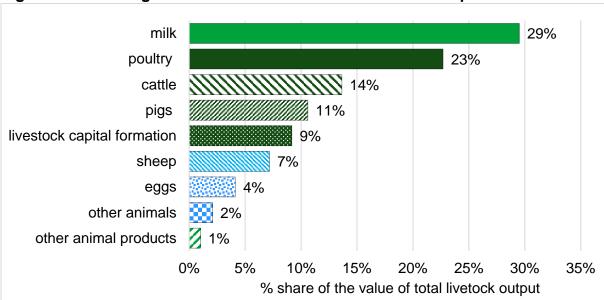


Figure 4: Percentage share of the value of total livestock output in 2019

#### 2.4 Intermediate Consumption

The total cost of intermediate consumption fell by £106 million to £12,154 million. In general, prices were higher and usage lower, with falls in costs of plant protection products, animal feed and seeds more than offsetting any increases in other input costs.

The cost of animal feed, the largest contributor to the value of inputs, fell by £72 million to £3,606 million. Good grass growth and lower livestock numbers led to decreased demand, coupled with lower feed and forage prices that further reduced feed costs.

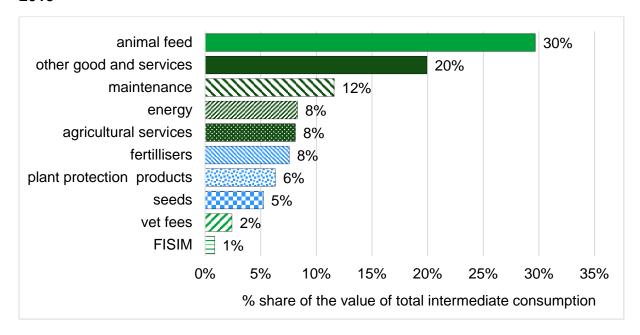
Plant protection product costs fell by £101 million to £767 million. The dry spring led to relatively low weed pressure and dry soils that required no herbicide application on established crops. The wet autumn weather also reduced applications because it was not possible to get onto the land at the appropriate time.

The total cost of seeds fell by £31 million to £637 million, as the wet weather led to difficult conditions for drilling in the autumn.

Energy costs rose by £8 million to £1,008 million, reflecting increases in oil prices, although use was down. Likewise fertiliser costs, which are also closely linked to oil prices, rose by £11 million to £919 million.

Figure 5 shows the percentage share breakdown of the total value of intermediate consumption costs in 2019.

Figure 5: Percentage share of the total value of intermediate consumption costs in 2019



#### 2.5 Compensation of employees

The total value of compensation to employees was £2,125 million, a rise of £53 million. In line with the national living wage increase, average labour costs were higher whilst labour volume was slightly down on the previous year. In 2019, 1.1% of people in work in England were employed in agriculture.

## 2.6 Other subsidies on production

The value of direct payments on production, consisting of Basic Payment Scheme and Agrienvironment scheme payments, was little changed on the year at £2,155 million a result of the stable exchange rate. Payments made to UK farmers under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) are set in euros and converted to sterling using the exchange rate set by the European Central Bank in September. In 2019, €1=89.1 pence compared to €1=89.3 pence in 2018.

Table 2: Aggregate Agricultural Accounts: Production and income account for England in current price terms

£ million					endar years	
		2018	2019	Change 2018 & 19 £ million	% Change 2018 & 19	
Output at mark	ket prices					
1. Cereals	·	2,749	3,088	339	12%	
of which:	wheat	1,975	2,281	306	16%	
	barley	679	693	15	2%	
2. Industrial crops		964	917	- 47	-5%	
of which:	oilseed rape	609	544	- 66	-11%	
	protein crops	111	142	32	29%	
	sugar beet	214	208	- 6	-3%	
3. Forage plan	ts	176	174	- 2	-1%	
4. Vegetables	and horticultural products	2,507	2,600	93	4%	
of which:	fresh vegetables	1,209	1,259	50	4%	
	plants and flowers	1,299	1,341	42	3%	
5. Potatoes (in	cluding seeds)	342	496	154	45%	
6. Fruit		625	698	73	12%	
7. Output of other crop products including seeds		723	550	- 173	-24%	
Total crop ou	tput (sum 1 to 7)	8,086	8,523	437	5%	
8. Livestock		6,276	6,331	55	1%	
primarily for m	eat	5,449	5,443	- 6	0%	
of which:	cattle	1,415	1,321	- 94	-7%	
	pigs	990	1,027	37	4%	
	sheep	673	695	22	3%	
	poultry	2,173	2,197	25	1%	
gross fixed capital formation		828	888	61	7%	
of which:	cattle	473	490	16	3%	
	pigs	4	5	1	35%	
	sheep	136	194	58	43%	
	poultry	215	199	- 16	-7%	
9. Livestock pr	oducts	3,310	3,354	45	1%	
of which:	milk	2,835	2,857	22	1%	
	eggs	380	399	19	5%	
Total livestock output (8 + 9)		9,586	9,685	99	1%	
10. Other agricultural activities		982	996	15	2%	
11. Inseparable non-agricultural activities		1,034	1,055	21	2%	
12. Output at	market prices (sum 1 to 11)	19,688	20,260	572	3%	
•	13. Total subsidies (less taxes) on product					
-	idies (less taxes) on product	-	-	-	-	

continued

Table 2: Aggregate Agricultural Accounts: Production and income accounts in England in current price terms (continued)

Final Calond

£ million			Calend	lar years
			Change	%
	2018	2019	2018 &	Change
			19 £ million	2018 & 19
15. Seeds and planting stock	668	637	- 31	-5%
16. Energy	1,000	1,008	8	1%
17. Fertilisers	907	919	11	1%
18. Plant protection products	867	767	- 101	-12%
19. Veterinary expenses	277	293	17	6%
20. Animal feed	3,678	3,606	- 72	-2%
21. Total maintenance	1,393	1,408	15	1%
22. Agricultural services	972	986	15	1%
23. FISIM	84	105	21	24%
24. Other goods and services		2,424	12	0%
25. Total intermediate consumption (sum 15 to 24)		12,154	- 106	-1%
26. Gross value added at market prices (12 - 25)		8,106	678	9%
27. Gross value added at basic prices (14 - 25)		8,106	678	9%
28. Total consumption of fixed capital		3,364	128	4%
of which: equipment	1,555	1,597	42	3%
buildings	741	763	22	3%
livestock	939	1,003	64	7%
29. Net value added at market prices (26 - 28)		4,742	550	13%
30. Net value added at basic prices (27 - 28)		4,742	550	13%
31. Other subsidies (less taxes) not linked to		2,155	31	1%
production	2,124			
32. Net value added at factor cost (29 + 31)	<b>6,316</b> 2,072	6,897	581	9%
33. Compensation of employees		2,125	53	3%
34. Rents		467	- 6	-1%
35. Interest	310 <b>3,461</b>	310	0	0%
36. Total Income from Farming (32 - 33 - 34 - 35)		3,995	534	15%

#### Section 3 - About these statistics

#### 3.1 Methodology

Total Income from Farming is income generated by production within the agriculture industry including subsidies and represents business profits and remuneration for work done by owners and other unpaid workers. It excludes changes in the values of assets, including stocks, due to price changes but includes non-agricultural activities such as further processing or tourist activities where these cannot be separated from the agricultural business. It is the preferred measure of aggregate income for the agricultural industry conforming to internationally-agreed national accounting principles required by the UK National Accounts.

Values for England are derived by subtracting similar accounts for Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland from the United Kingdom agricultural production and income account. Latest account information for the UK can be found at <a href="United Kingdom: Total Income from Farming statistics">United Kingdom: Total Income from Farming statistics</a>. Similar information for devolved administrations are available at <a href="Scotland: Total Income from Farming statistics">Scotland: Total Income from Farming statistics</a>, <a href="Wales: Aggregate agricultural output and income statistics">Wales: Aggregate agricultural output and income statistics</a> and Northern Ireland: Aggregate agricultural account statistics.

The estimates contained in this release are based on figures available for all countries as at April 2020. Where data are not available estimates are used based on the nearest available years, industry intelligence and national level information. See <a href="Section 3.3 Covid 19">Section 3.3 Covid 19</a> disruption and the production of these statistics for further details about the production of the 2019 statistics published in this release.

Data for England and the other countries of the United Kingdom are comparable because they use the same methodologies in accordance with the European System of Accounts 2010 (ESA 2010). The structure of the ESA 2010 is consistent with the worldwide guidelines on national accounting set out in the System of National Accounts 2008 (2008 SNA).

**Total Income from Farming** is designed to show the performance of the whole of the agricultural industry. **Farm Business Income** is a measure of individual farm incomes designed to compare performance across different types of farming. The latest 'Farm Accounts in England 2018/2019' can be viewed on the gov.uk website.

Regional and sub-regional statistics for England, based on these results, are available at <u>Total Income from Farming for the regions of England</u>. These statistics are available for NUTS1, NUTS2 and NUTS3 (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) regions of England. NUTS 1 region covers the main sub regions of England, NUTS 2 region covers the administration regions and NUTS 3 covers local enterprise partnerships (LEPs). The estimates are provided in both real and current terms for all regionals.

The first estimate statistics for 2019 are published on 18 June 2020.

#### 3.2 Revisions

Data revisions are planned, are typically small and increase the precision as more survey data becomes available. These statistics are preliminary estimates and a further update is planned in January 2021 where estimates, in particular input cost data, will be revised and forecasts replaced. More detailed information on revisions made to the latest United Kingdom account can be found at <u>UK account</u> on gov.uk website.

For further details on revisions to the other UK countries accounts can be found on the <u>Scotland</u>, <u>Wales</u> and <u>Northern Ireland</u> government websites.

#### 3.3 Covid-19 disruption and the production of these statistics

Data used for the calculation of this account and that of the UK is supplied by statisticians in the Devolved Administrations. Due to the unusual situation this year (2020) caused by Covid-19, some data for Scotland are not yet available. Three options to impute these missing data were assessed using historic data and the most accurate one was applied to estimate the required data to allow the calculation of the England and UK accounts. Scottish forecast data published in January 2019 are used where appropriate. Imputation was used for some 2019 data where these are missing (e.g. for intermediate consumption). A detailed report is available on request from the Responsible Statistician (contact details above). The next revision of these statistics will incorporate the published data from Scotland in place of these imputed values.

#### 3.4 Summary quality report

A summary quality report for this statistical release can be found on the GOV.UK website.

This is an overview note which is not release specific and was last updated in March 2019. It pulls together key qualitative information on the various dimensions of quality as well as providing a summary of methods used to compile the output. It relates to estimates of Total Income from Farming and aims to provide users with information on usability and fitness for purpose of these estimates.

#### 3.5 Quality assurance

Defra has in place quality assurance processes to check the accuracy and reliability of the aggregate agricultural accounts that includes:

- Ongoing review of methods employed in the calculation of the accounts.
- Assessment of the quality of the estimates of components of the accounts with internal experts.
- Discussion of components of the accounts with external experts.
- Quality assessments made by Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union.

#### 3.6 Development areas

Defra statisticians carry out a continuous review of methods employed in making estimates of the production and income accounts. This may lead to revisions to data series owing to improvements in methods in addition to the use of later information.

#### 3.7 Main users and uses of the aggregate agricultural accounts

The aggregate agricultural accounts are used in conjunction with other economic information to:

- Monitor the productivity and competitiveness of the farming industry.
- Inform policy decisions and to help monitor and evaluate current policies relating to agriculture in the UK by Government and in the European Union by the European Commission.
- Inform stakeholders of the performance of the agricultural industry.
- Inform research into the economic performance of the agricultural industry.
- Total Income from Farming sets the context when looking at a number of policies; the agricultural industry, on average, contributes around £9 billion to the UK economy and accounts for about 0.5% of national Gross Domestic Product. It is most relevant to policies relating to Common Agricultural Policy reform and the competitiveness of farming.

#### 3.8 User engagement

As part of our ongoing commitment to compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics (code of practice), we wish to strengthen our engagement with users of these statistics and better understand the use made of them and the types of decisions that they inform. Consequently, we invite users to make themselves known, to advise us of the use they do, or might, make of these statistics, and what their wishes are in terms of engagement. Feedback on this notice and enquiries about these statistics are also welcome.

#### 3.9 Future publications

These estimates will be updated in January 2021 and forecasts replaced, for example intermediate consumption and other costs data forecast this time will be replaced by Farm Business Survey (FBS) data, following publication of FBS results in October 2020.

To find out when these statistics will be next released go to <u>research and statistics</u> on the Gov.uk website and click on statistics (up-coming).

## **Section 4 – Glossary**

Table 4 provides an alphabetical listing of definitions for terms, acronyms and abbreviations used in this statistical notice.

**Table 4 Glossary of Total Income from Farming terms** 

Agricultural industry	All activities taking place within businesses that carry out any agricultural activities. These businesses include all
	farms and specialist agricultural contractors.
Basic price	Market price plus directly paid subsidies that are linked to production of a specific product. There have been no direct subsidies in England since 2013.
Compensation of employees	The full costs of employees to the business including national insurance contributions
Consumption of fixed capital	The reduction in value (at current prices) of capital assets used in the production process, e.g. buildings, plant, machinery, vehicles and livestock. Otherwise known as depreciation of 'assets'.
contemporaneous price or current price	The value based on prices during the reference year
Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) in livestock	The production of animals that will be used as the means of production, e.g. breeding animals. Otherwise known as appreciation of 'assets'.
Gross Value Added (GVA)	Gross output less intermediate consumption.
Inseparable non- agricultural activities	Non-agricultural activities that are included within the business level accounts and are inseparable, e.g. tourism and recreation facilities.
Intermediate consumption (Int Cons)	Goods and services consumed or used as inputs in the productive process e.g. feed, seeds, fertiliser, and pesticides.
Net Value Added	Gross Value Added at basic prices less consumption of fixed capital.
Net Value Added at factor cost	Net Value Added at basic prices plus other subsidies (less taxes) on production.
Other agricultural activities	Agricultural activities that do not result in sales of final product, e.g. quota leasing, contract work
Other subsidies (less taxes) not linked to production	Subsidies and taxes not linked to production of a specific product, e.g. Single Payment Scheme, agri-environment payments, animal disease compensation.
Output at market price	Output excluding subsidies. The output of the agricultural industry includes some non-agricultural activities and transactions within the industry.
Real term price	Prices adjusted for account of inflation
Subsidies (less taxes) on product	Subsidies and taxes linked to the production of a specific agricultural product. All subsidies are recorded on an 'as due' basis.
Total Income from Farming (TIFF)	Income to those with an entrepreneurial interest in the agricultural industry, e.g. farmers, partners, spouses and most other family workers.