



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency
Access to Information Team
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www.gov.uk/apha

Our Ref: ATIC2680

[REDACTED]

{By Email}

07 March 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about statistics on ducks, which APHA received on 11 February 2022. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

The information you requested and the response is detailed below:

“Please can you confirm for 2019, 2020 and 2021 the following:

- The total number of ducks killed in the UK
- The total number of geese killed in the UK
- The population of breeding ducks in the UK (for meat)”

APHA wrote to you to seek clarity on your request and received a response on the 14 February 2022 as follows:

“Yes I can confirm that I would like to know the industry numbers for commercial duck and geese slaughterers. The number wanted would be for meat birds, not duck/geese eggs.

To confirm:

- a/ The total number of commercial ducks killed in 2021 for meat
- b/ The total number of commercial geese killed in 2021 for meat

And the third request was for the population number of ducks being used for eggs, if this is known.”

APHA do not hold information on the number of ducks or geese killed for meat.

APHA register poultry and take average numbers at point of registration. The average number of ducks using the following filters currently is:

Animal Species:

Duck

Animal Purpose in:

Breeding for egg laying; (123,325)

Breeding for egg laying-grandparent stock; (29)

Breeding for egg laying-great grandparent stock; (24,053)

Breeding for egg laying-parent stock; (18,262)

Egg layers (360,981)

With a total of 526,650.

APHA register keepers of animal and poultry for disease control purposes. The information we do hold is the average numbers passed to the APHA when a premises is initially registered or when the record is updated. APHA do not hold historical information and any stock numbers only show what they are on the day the report was run.

For example please be aware that registration of poultry is only required when populations are above 50.

To find out more about the registration of birds visit the GOV.Uk website for information here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/poultry-including-game-birds-registration-rules-and-forms>

To find at what type of information is requested by APHA including production, husbandry and farm management system at the time of registration please consult the registration document here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/981417/IRA81.pdf

Information disclosed in response to this FOI request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOI and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on GOV.UK, together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

An Annex is attached which explains the copyright that applies to the information being released to you and contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact the Access to Information Team at the email address below or postal address at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

ACCESS TO INFORMATION TEAM

Email: enquiries@apha.gov.uk

Annex

Copyright

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Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request, you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to the Access to Information Manager at the address at the top of this letter or email enquiries@apha.gov.uk and the team will arrange for an internal review of your case.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted APHA's own complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Coronavirus

If you need to contact the ICO during the Coronavirus pandemic, it's best to do so online. Please click [here](#) for contact details. You can also call them on 0303 123 1113.