

Livestock, 1 December 2020

8.2% more pigs, 2.6% more cattle and chickens each and more than one-tenth less sheep were held in Hungary on 1 December 2020 than a year earlier. The quantities of procured slaughter cattle and slaughter pigs were unchanged, however, those of procured slaughter chickens, milk and eggs rose. The procurement price of cattle was up by 3.7%, while those of pigs and chickens were slightly cut. Both the stock and the procured quantity of sheep became more than one-tenth lower, while their price was nearly 15% higher.

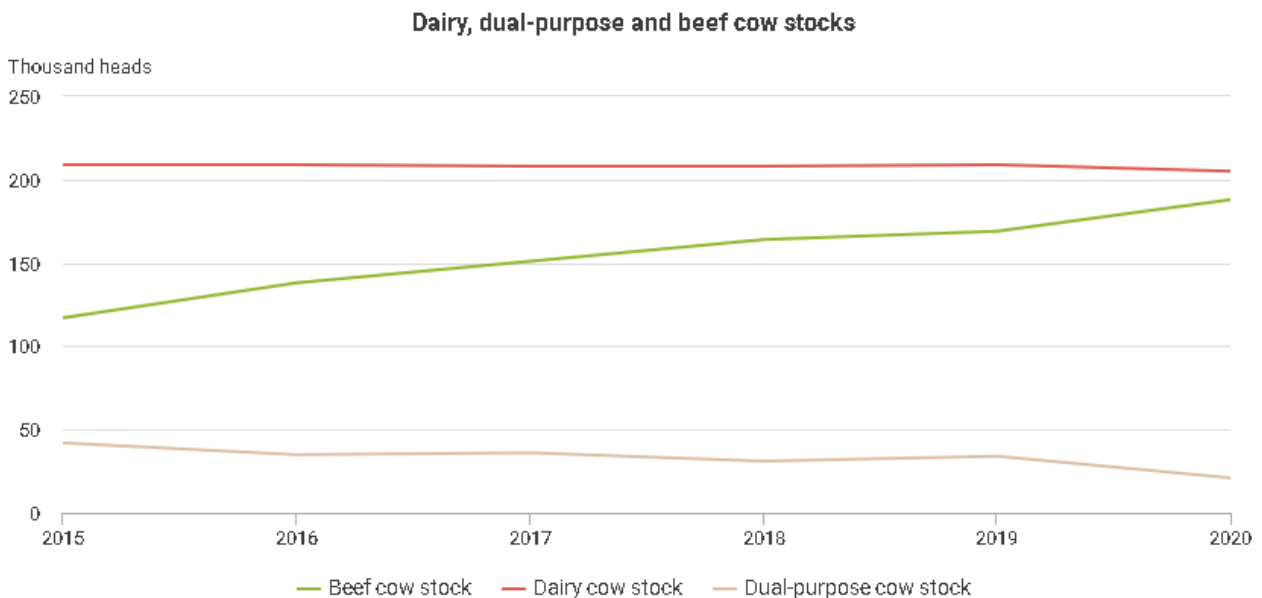
Because of the corona virus epidemic, the December 2020 agricultural survey was made only in part, so data on private holdings are based on estimation, in addition, they exclude data on households not reaching thresholds of a holding.

Cattle stock grows

The **cattle stock was 933 thousand on 1 December 2020**, increasing by 24 thousand over a year. The stock was up by 112 thousand (by 14%) in the last five years. The cow stock of 414 thousand grew by 2 thousand over a year and by a total 46 thousand over five years.

The **number of beef cows rose by 71 thousand (by 61%) in total in the past five years**, and that of heifers mated for the first time, aimed to replace the cow stock, has increased by 9.7% to 36 thousand since December 2019.

Figure 1



50 thousand slaughter cattle were procured in 2020, 2.3% less than one year earlier. The average procurement price of 429 forints per kilogram was 3.7% higher than in the previous year.

Figure 2

Cattle stock and average procurement price* of slaughter cattle**

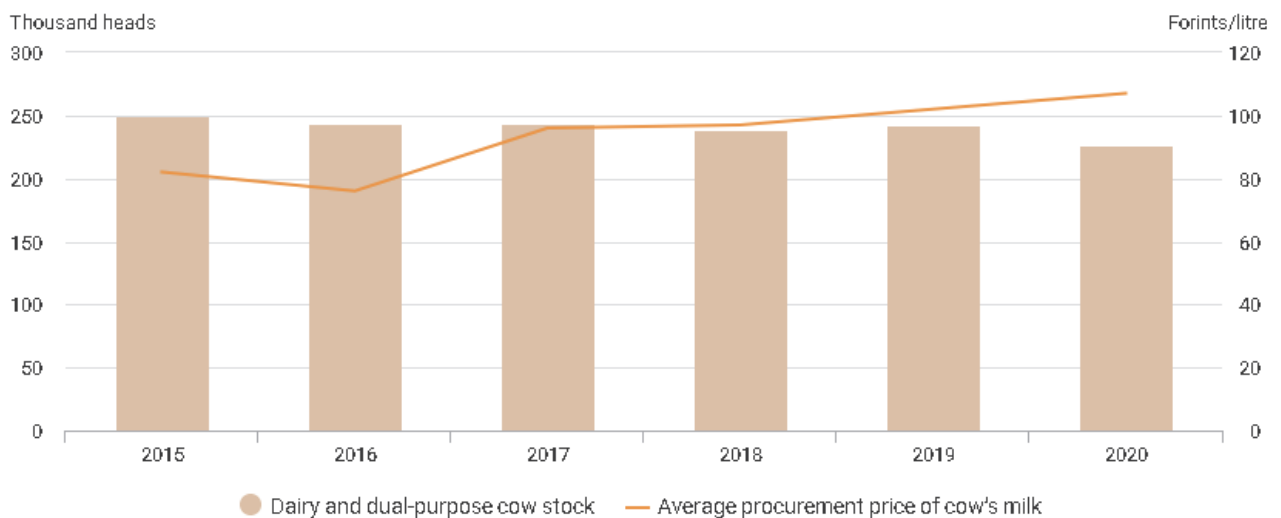


* Average procurement prices refer to the whole of a particular year.
** Including slaughter calves.

The procured quantity of **cow's milk** was 3.6% and **its price 4.1%** higher than a year earlier. 107 forints were paid on average for a litre of milk to producers, which was record high.

Figure 3

Dairy and dual-purpose cow stock and average procurement price* of cow's milk

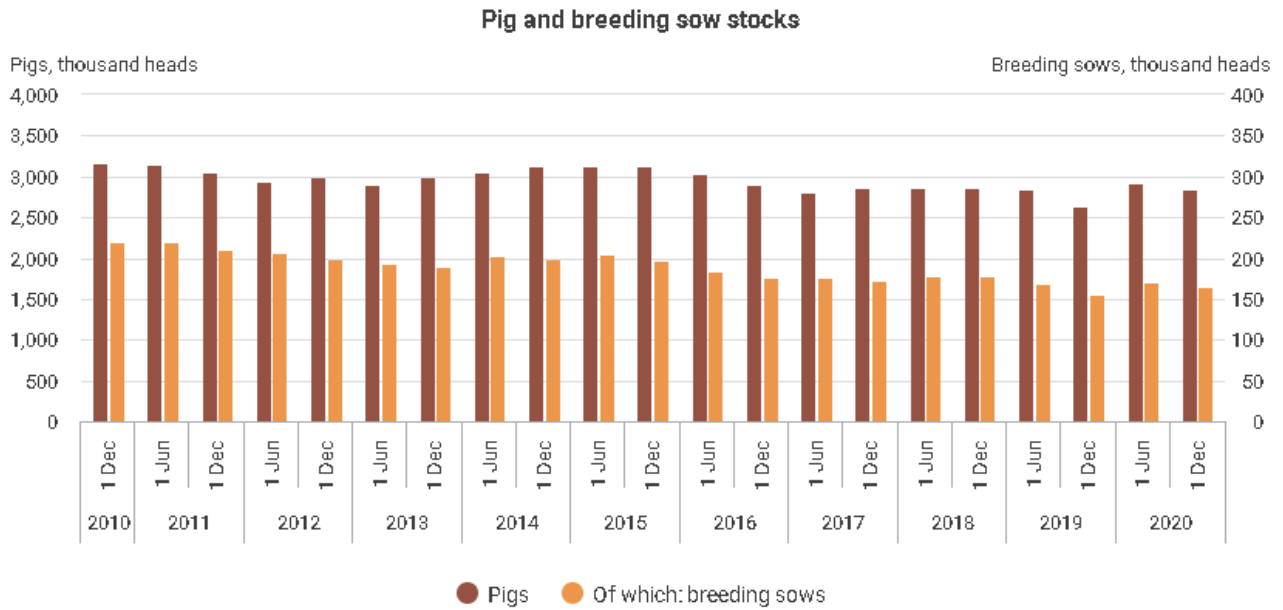


* Average procurement prices refer to the whole of a particular year.

Pig stock increases

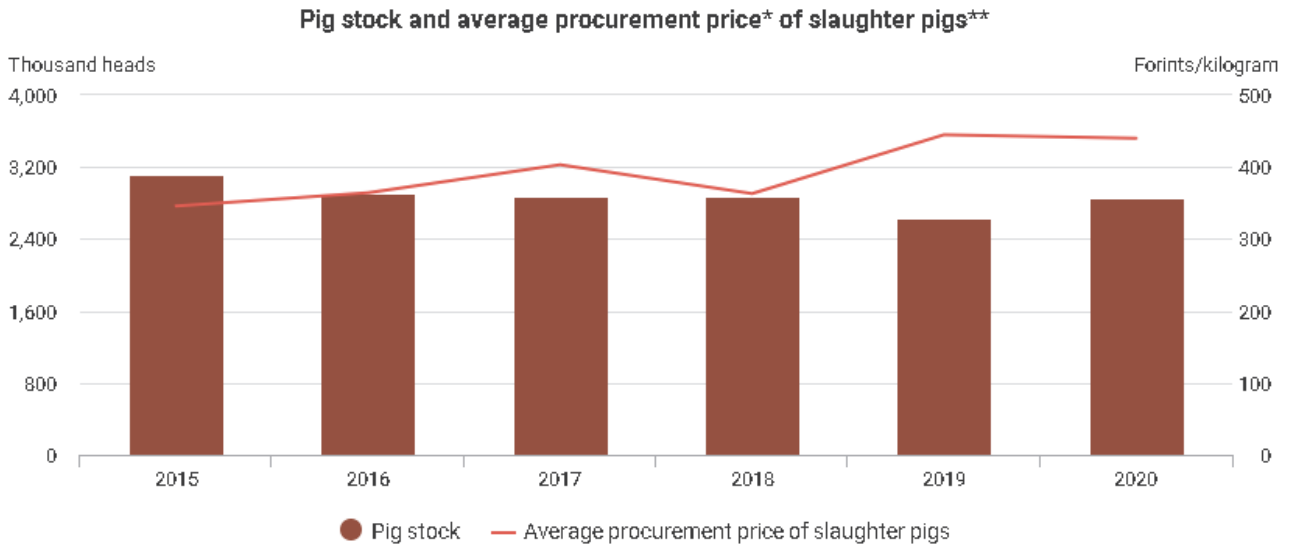
The **number of pigs** was 2.8 million on 1 December 2020, increasing by 8.2% compared to December 2019. The number of **breeding sows** within the stock grew by 5.4% over a year to 164 thousand, despite which there has been a trend of decrease in the period since 2010.

Figure 4



The average procurement price per kilogram of slaughter pigs was 440 forints in 2020, and the number of procured slaughter pigs (3.7 million) was unchanged compared to 2019. The average weight of procured slaughter pigs reached 117 kilograms.

Figure 5



* Average procurement prices refer to the whole of a particular year.

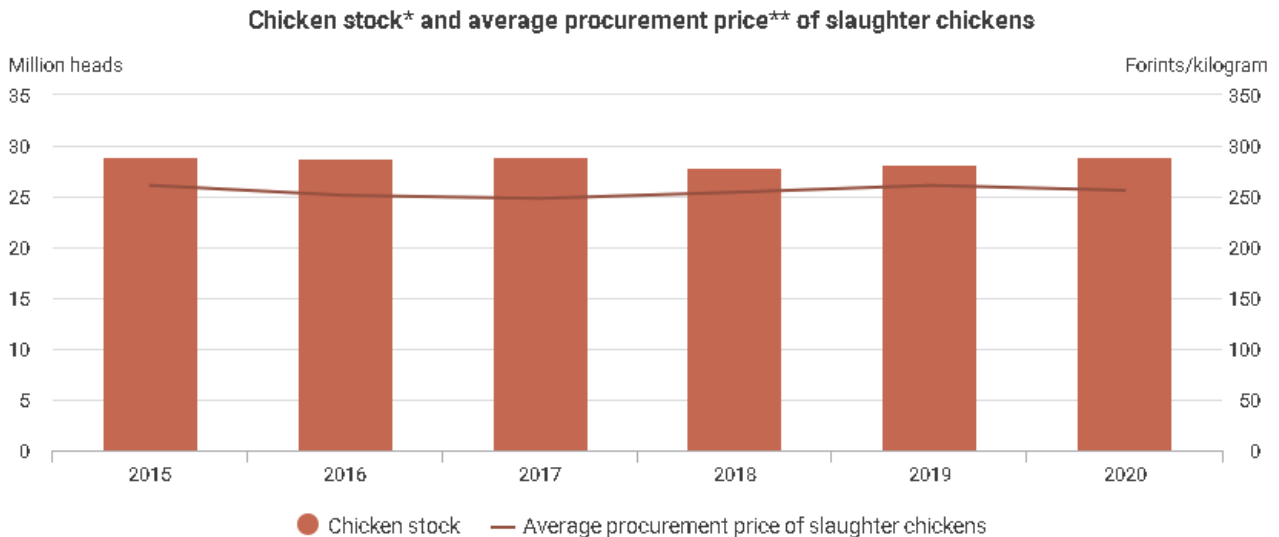
** Excluding slaughter piglets and young slaughter pigs.

Chicken and turkey stocks rise, while goose and duck stocks decrease

The number of chickens was 28.9 million on 1 December 2020, which rose by 2.6% over a year. The laying hen stock of 8.7 million decreased by 4.0% compared to December 2019. The average procurement price of slaughter chickens became somewhat (1.6%) lower in 2020 compared to

the previous year, coming to 256 forints per kilogram. The **procured quantity** of slaughter chickens (166 million heads) was 6.0% more than one year earlier.

Figure 6

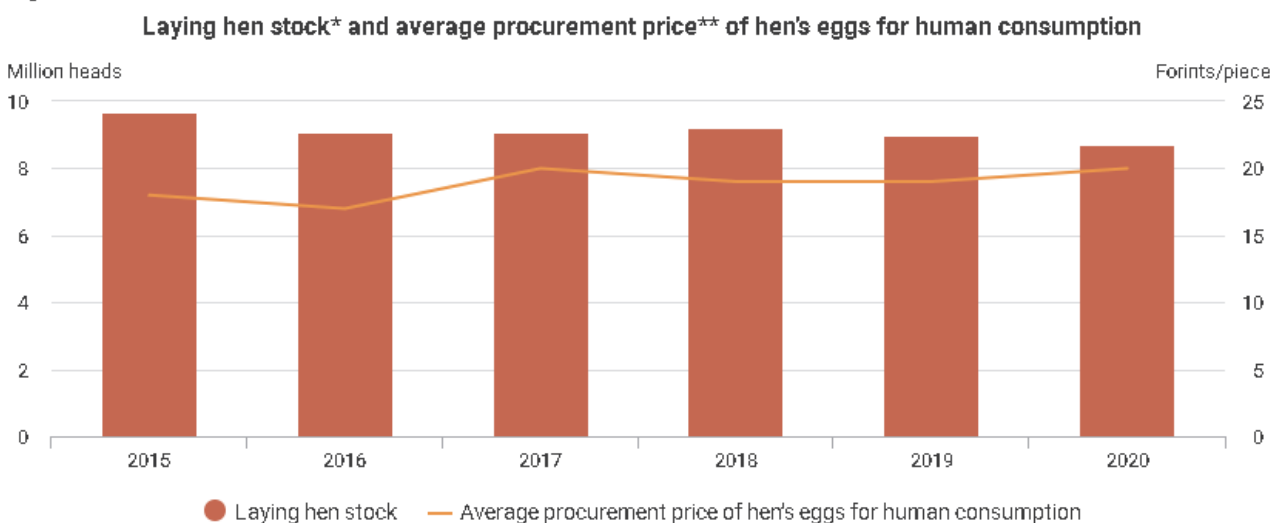


* Stock data exclude data on households not reaching the threshold of a holding.
 ** Average procurement prices refer to the whole of a particular year.

The **number of eggs placed in incubator for hatching** went up to 311 million (by 1.4%) in the case of **meat and dual-purpose chickens** in 2020 (compared to the previous year), as reported by hatcheries. In the same period, the volume of **day-old poultry utilisation** was unchanged at 269 million for dual-purpose chickens and those intended for meat production.

The 20-forint procurement price per piece of **hen's eggs for human consumption** was 4.8% higher than in 2019.

Figure 7



* Stock data exclude data on households not reaching the threshold of a holding. Laying hens include hens producing hen's eggs for human consumption or eggs for hatching.
 ** Average procurement prices refer to the whole of a particular year.

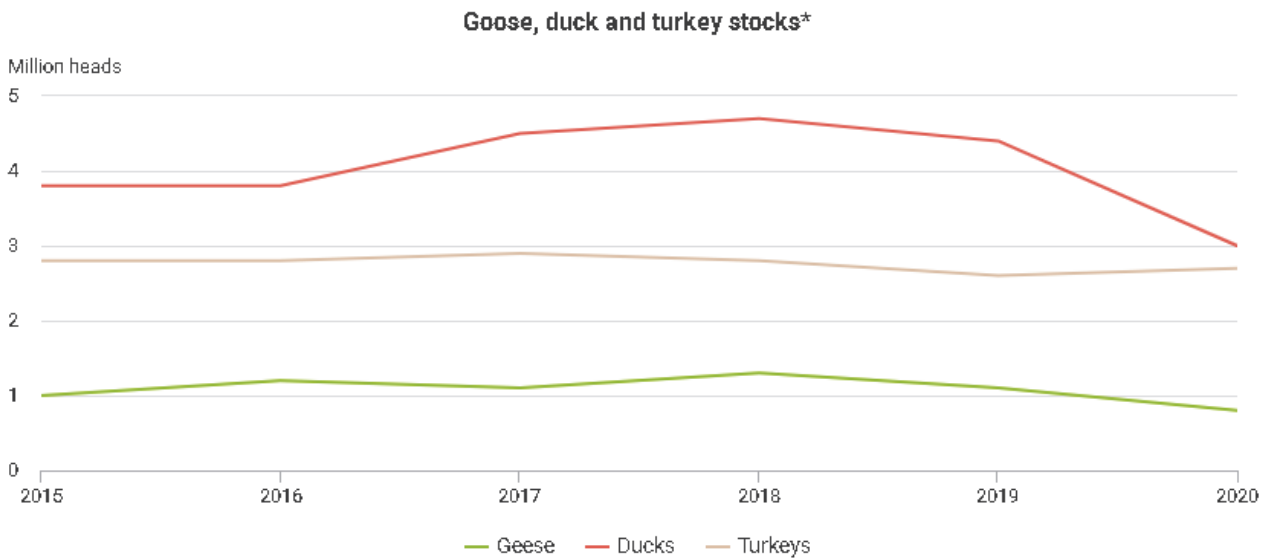
The bird flu emerged again in Hungary at the beginning of 2020, which mainly hit the stocks kept by those holding ducks or geese. As an effect, the **duck stock fell by 32%** compared to a year earlier, to less than 3.0 million, and the **goose stock by 29%** to 798 thousand.

The **turkey stock** was 2.7 million, which was a **growth of 3.7%** compared to December 2019.

The **number of eggs placed in incubator for hatching** was 48.2 million for ducks, 6.6 million for geese and 8.1 million for turkeys in 2020, which equalled decreases of 15%, 37% and 3.2%, respectively, compared to 2019.

The **utilisation of day-old poultry** for fattening was 29.9 million for ducks, 3.9 million for geese and 6.5 million for turkeys, which were decreases of 26%, 40% and 2.0%, respectively, over a year.

Figure 8

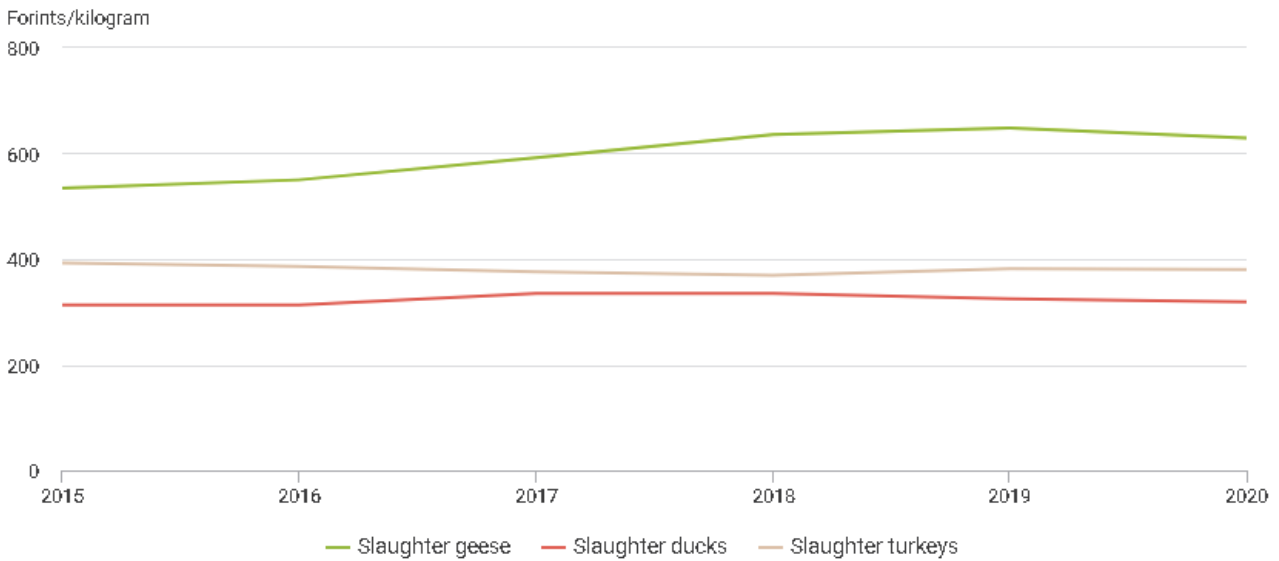


* Stock data exclude data on households not reaching the threshold of a holding.

The **average procurement price** of slaughter ducks was 319 forints per kilogram in 2020, which was 1.8% lower than in the previous year. The price of slaughter geese was reduced by 2.9% and that of slaughter turkeys by 0.7%. 5.5 million fewer (27% less) slaughter ducks and 913 thousand fewer (32% less) slaughter geese, while 68 thousand (1.2%) more slaughter turkeys were procured than one year earlier.

Figure 9

Average procurement price of slaughter geese, slaughter ducks and slaughter turkeys



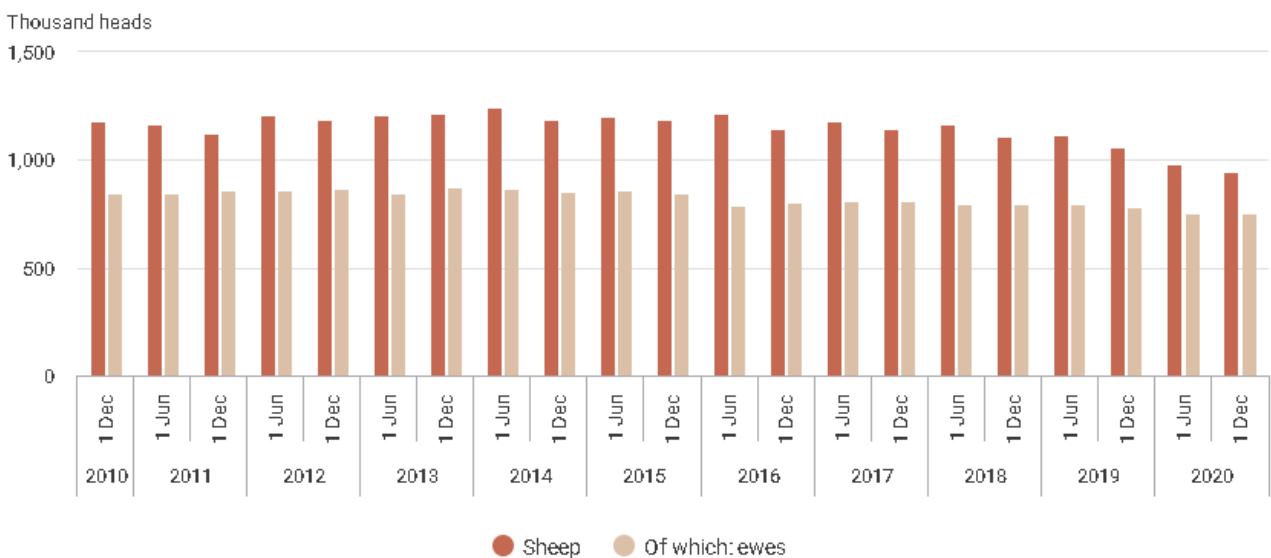
Lower numbers of sheep and ewes

The **sheep stock was 944 thousand and the stock of ewes 754 thousand** on 1 December 2020, the former being 11% and the latter 3.5% lower than a year earlier. Thus, the sheep stock sank to a decade-low.

The **average procurement price of slaughter sheep**, at 958 forints per kilogram, rose by 15%, while their **procured quantity** – which was 249 thousand – decreased by 13% in 2020 compared to the previous year.

Figure 10

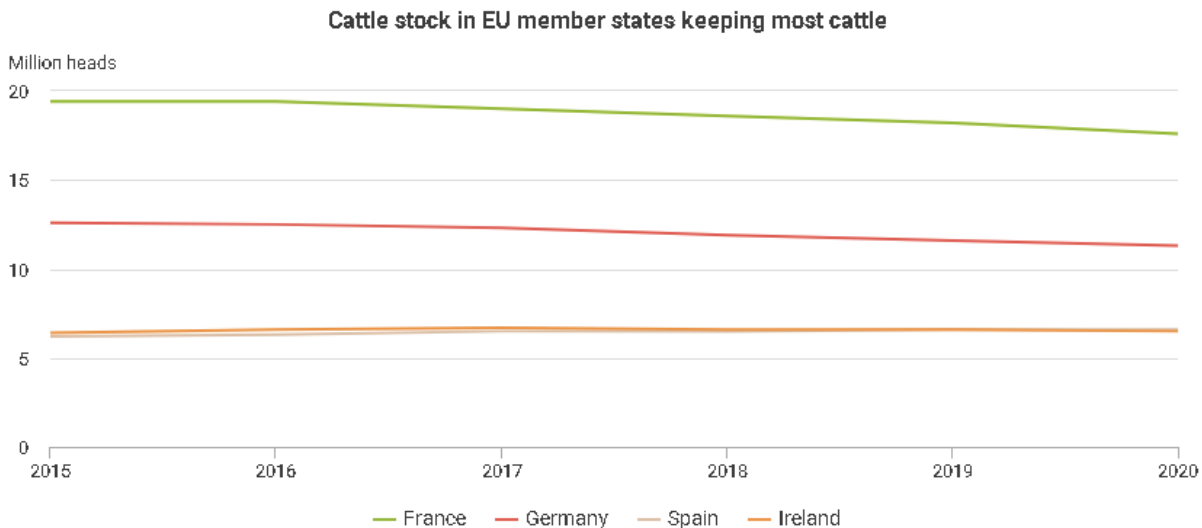
Sheep and ewe stocks



EU's cattle stock at multi-decade low

The number of cattle held in EU member states was 76.2 million at the end of 2020, which was 916 thousand fewer (1.2% less) than one year earlier. The stock has been reduced since 2016, this was the lowest total number following the turn of the millennium. More than 1.5 million cattle were held in each of 12 of the 27 member states, and these countries accounted for 89% of the EU's stock. France was outstanding with its stock of 17.6 million, in addition to which the other country where more than 10 million cattle were kept was Germany. The number of cattle was 3.2% smaller in the former and 2.9% lower in the latter than a year earlier, and, at the same time, the largest decreases occurred in these two countries. According to data referring to the end of 2020, the number of cattle was higher in 12 countries than in 2019. The number of cattle went up typically in countries having a stock of below one million, with Bulgaria ranked first, where 12% more, 589 thousand cattle were kept. The third largest growth (of 2.6%) in the stock was recorded for Hungary. Among member states, Hungary is the only one where the number of cattle has risen every year since 2010.

Figure 11



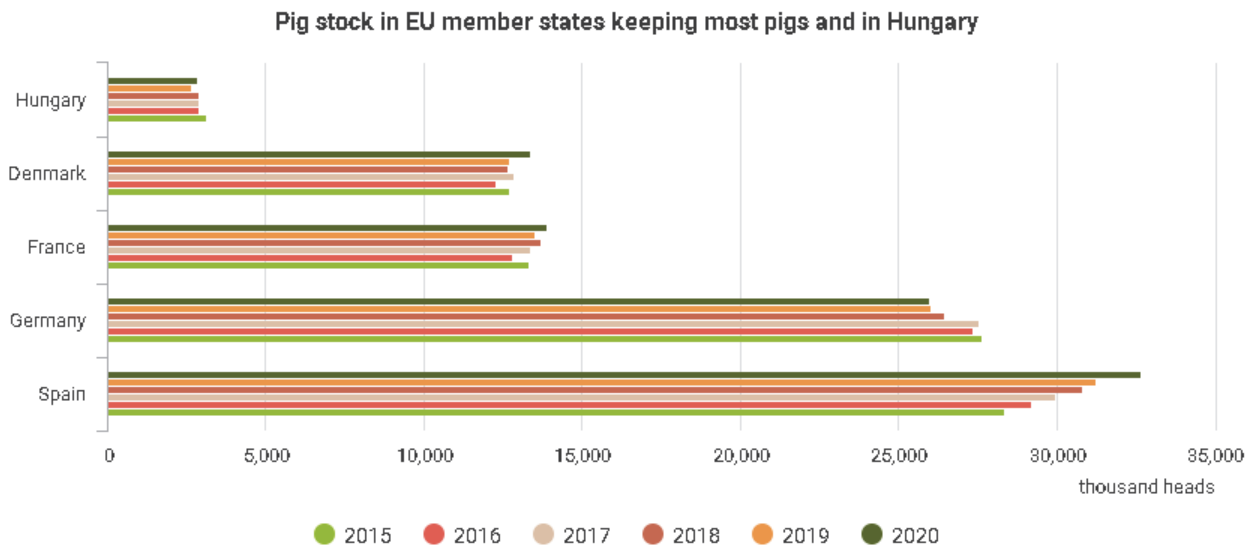
Source: Eurostat.

Most pigs kept in 2020 in previous decade in the European Union

The number of pigs in the European Union was 146.1 million in December 2020, which was 3.0 million (2.1%) more than one year earlier. The stock fluctuated between 2015 and 2020, and the number of pigs at the end of 2020 was the largest value in the last decade. The primary reason for the current marked rise was that the stock grew by 1.4 million (by 4.6%) in Spain over a year. The demand for Spanish pigs increased substantially in 2020, the quantity of pigs exported from Spain to China nearly tripled compared to 2019. (The sharp increase in the demand from China was also due to the introduction of import bans in China on German pigs because of the emergence of African swine fever in Germany.) The growth of the stock in Spain was noteworthy not only in the past one but also in the last five years: the number of pigs became 15% or 4.3 million larger there compared to 2015. Its counterpole was Romania, where 1.2 million fewer (24% less) pigs were kept compared to 2015. The number of pigs exceeded three million in nine of the 27 member states, which has been unchanged since 2016. In total, these nine countries accounted for 87% of the EU-27's stock. The number of pigs went up in 18 countries over a year according to the survey

at the end of 2020. The pace of growth was the second highest (8.2%) in Hungary after Bulgaria (20%). The number of pigs rose substantially, by 663 thousand (by 5.2%) in Denmark as well. The largest decrease (of 383 thousand) in the number of pigs occurred in Poland in 2020. With the exception of Poland and the Netherlands, the order of the top pig-keeping countries was unchanged in the last year: Spain held its leading position ahead of Germany for the sixth year in a row, they were followed by France and Denmark, while Poland and the Netherlands changed position in 2020.

Figure 12



Source: Eurostat.

Further data and information

Methodology

Summary tables (STADAT)

[4.1.2 Distribution of cattle stock by age and sex and by legal form of enterprise](#)

[4.1.3 Composition of pig stock by age and sex](#)

[4.1.27 Livestock, December \(1995–\)](#)

[6.4.1.1 Cattle stock](#)

[6.4.1.2 Pig stock](#)

[6.4.1.3 Sheep stock](#)

[6.4.1.4 Chicken, hen and cock stock](#)

[6.4.1.22 Cattle stock, 1 December \(2000–\)](#)

[6.4.1.23 Pig stock, 1 December \(2000–\)](#)

[6.4.1.24 Sheep stock, 1 December \(2000–\)](#)

[6.4.1.25 Chickens, hens and cocks, 1 December \(2000–\)](#)

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