REGIONE DEL VENETO

YEAR 12 - SPECIAL AUGUST 2012

STATISTICHE Flash

Figures and graphs to analyse the Veneto region

6th AGRICULTURE CENSUS: FINAL DATA

The final data of the 6th Agriculture Census, referring to the year 2010 is essential for providing a conclusive and more comprehensive picture of the agricultural landscape, showing, in detail, the transformation which have affected the agricultural sector over the course of the last 10 years, a very complex period for the Italian agriculture also hit by the economic crisis, the volatility of agricultural commodity prices, changes in the CAP and not least the new challenges linked to environmental sustainability.

It essentially confirmed what has already been shown by preliminary data: throughout Italy, compared to 2000, agricultural and livestock businesses recorded a decline (-32.4%), even the utilised agricultural area fell, but considerably less (UAA: -2.5%), with a subsequent increase of the average UAA (+44.2%).

This situation is confirmed for all regions with regards to the number of farms, however the situation regarding UAA is actually more differentiated: in fact, the regions with the most marginal UAA at an Italian level lose the largest share, whereas the regions which rank first in terms of agricultural area have seeing an increase in UAA.

Veneto shows not only the same Italian trend, but also the trend which has been going on for decades of a concentration of land and breeders, a significant reduction in the number of farms and days of work, due to a drop of UAA never exceeding 5% between one census and another, equal to a loss of cultivatable land of about 103,000 hectares in the last 30 years. For Veneto, this led to an increase of average UAA to 6.8 hectares, one hectare less than the national data and well below the trend of the Northern regions: let's think that in Lombardy, the average UAA exceeds 18 hectares, in Piedmont over 15, in Emilia Romagna over 14 and in Friuli almost 10 hectares.

[1] The preliminary census data were recalculated according to the EU rules in force in 2010 in order to make it possible to compare them with the current results.

NUMBER OF FARMS, UAA, TAA AND WORKING DAYS AND % VAR. COMPARED TO 2000. VENETO AND ITALY. YEAR 2010.

	Number of farms		UAA		TAA		Days of work	
	Italy	Veneto	Italy	Veneto	Italy	Veneto	Italy	Veneto
2010	1,620,884	119,384	12,856,047.82	811,439.97	17,081,099.00	1,008,178.91	250,806,040	19,509,883
2010/00 Var. %	-32.4	-32.4	-2.5	-4.6	-9.0	-13.7	-23.4	-25.9

UAA (UTILISED AGRICULTURAL AREA) BY REGION: % VAR. COMPARED TO 2000 AND % SHARE OF ITALY. YEAR 2010

% VAR. NUMBER OF FARMS, UAA, DAYS OF WORK AND AVERAGE UAA VENETO – YEARS 1982:2010

Source: processing by the Veneto Region – Directorate Regional Statistical System on Istat data

WEB Flash

ALSO AVAILABLE:
- Statistical Report 2012: Veneto reports and compares itself
- The Education Quality in Veneto
- Economic Scenario, conjuncture indicators – June 2012

http://www.regione.veneto.it/statistica

THE STRUCTURE OF FARMS

By exploring what is leading to current changes in Veneto, we note that, as was the case for previous censuses, it is the small and very small farms which are suffering from the most consistent decline: let's think that the farms under one hectare of surface area, which were present in 2000, after more than half a decade, are gone. The decline gets smaller as the class of agricultural area goes up, up to farms from 20 to 30 hectares of UAA, which recorded a growth of 7.1% and even those between 50 and 100 hectares, which increased by a third. However, the farms without UAA increased threefold. And yet, Veneto maintains those typical characteristics of pulverization: the farms with less than 5 hectares are almost three quarters of the total and occupy less than 20% of the regional UAA, whereas the farms above 50 hectares represent less than 2% of the total and yet have almost a third of the 800 thousand hectares recorded in 2010.

Both types of farms however, defend their specificity: the smaller farms maintain a very important role of supervision throughout the territory, which is necessary to stem the depopulation of the most disadvantaged mountain and rural areas, to protect the landscape and curb hydro-geological instability. Larger and more structured farms have the primary role of guaranteeing the supply of the food chain for the needs of domestic consumption, for the valuable export of 'made in Veneto' products and not least for the employment impact that they guarantee.

At the municipal level, it is the foothill areas which suffered the most drastic decline of farms, while some municipalities of the province of Verona and many of the province of Belluno showed a positive variation.

% VARIATION OF FARMS AND UAA COMPARED TO 2000 BY UAA CLASS. VENETO – YEAR 2010

% DISTRIBUTION OF FARMS BY UAA CLASS. VENETO – YEAR 2010

% VARIATION OF FARMS BY MUNICIPALITY COMPARED TO 2000. VENETO – YEAR 2010

Source: processing by the Veneto Region – Directorate Regional Statistical System on Istat data

THE MAIN CHARACTERISTICS

As in 2000, the direct management by the farmer remains the most frequent farm management form in Veneto, with a good 85.4% of the total, and the individual company is the most prevalent legal form (93.1%)

As for the title of ownership of the land, the vast majority of farms (69.2%) work on land of exclusive ownership although this is the category which over the last 10 years has suffered the most heavy losses (43% for Veneto, in line with the national situation). Interesting, however, is the notable increase of the "free use only" (+263.6%), almost three times more compared to Italy, and even the mixed situations which comprise it, such as "rent and free use" (136.7%).

It is mainly men who run farms in Veneto, with almost 75% farm managers, even though compared to 2000 there was an increase of women.

The regeneration of farm managers is still slow in terms of age and qualification: the average age in fact shows that over half of farm managers are over 60 years old and 7.2% are less than 40 years old.

This phenomenon goes hand in hand with qualification: over two thirds of farm managers have at least secondary school education, but among these a good 41.9% stopped after primary school. The 1% share of graduates with a degree in agriculture is hardly reached. The running of farms remains the prerogative of Italians in almost all cases.

% DISTRIBUTION OF FARMS BY TITLE OF OWNERSHIP OF THE UAA. VENETO - YEAR 2010

% VARIATION OF THE NUMBER OF FARMS BY TITLE OF OWNERHSIP OF THE LAND. VENETO AND ITALY. YEARS 2010/00

NUMBER OF FARM MANAGERS BY AGE CLASS. VENETO – YEAR 2010

	n	%
Up to 40 years old	8,557	7.2
From 40 to 60 years old	44,993	37.7
From 60 to 70 years old	28,801	24.1
Over 70 years old	37,033	31.0

NUMBER OF FARM MANAGERS BY QUALIFICATION

Source: processing by the Veneto Region – Directorate Regional Statistical System on Istat data

STATISTICHE *Flash*

Veneto farms are characterised by a complete framework of other activities secondary to agriculture, according to their size, specialisation and mechanisation.
The most farms with this type of activity carry out contract work, but also prevalent are the farming, processing and transformation of agricultural products. By comparing within the region, the province of Belluno shows a greater differentiation in the number of activities, such as agri-tourism farms, contract agricultural work, processing of animal products and forestry. Other provinces are less prevalent, with Padua presenting the lowest number of other activities because of the more industrialised farms.

THE EXTRA-AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The percentage of computerised farms is higher than the Italian average and equal to 5.4%. These have a diverse distribution compared to those non-computerised due to certain characteristics of the managers: leading them we find younger male managers, with higher qualifications. The few foreigners who run a farm in Italy use more computing resources than Italians. Among these, more than a half have a website (43.2%), 10.8% sell their products on-line and 16% use the internet for company purchases.
As in other sectors, also for farms a considerable development is expected with regards to renewable energy production, because at the moment only 1.4% use these systems. The province of Treviso obtained the best data: here almost one third of the Veneto installations are localised; followed shortly by Padua and Verona. Most of the renewable energy comes from solar power and represent 79.3% of farm installations of this type.

% DISTRIBUTION OF FARMS WHICH USE SYSTEMS FOR PRODUCING RENEWABLE ENERGY. VENETO - YEAR 2010

% DISTRIBUTION OF COMPUTERISED FARMS BY TYPE OF MANAGER. VENETO – YEAR 2010

	Computerised farms %	Non-computerised farms %
Farms	5.4	94.6
Manager gender		
Female	14.4	25.9
Male	85.6	74.1
Age class of managers		
Up to 25 years old	1.5	0.4
From 24 to 45 years old	34.7	12.0
From 45 to 65 years old	52.4	43.4
Over 65 years old	11.4	44.2
Qualification of manager		
None	0.2	2.0
Primary school	8.6	43.8
Secondary school	33.7	33.3
Professional agricultural school	5.3	1.3
Professional non agricultural school	5.4	5.2
High school related to agriculture	15.1	2.3
High school related to agriculture	20.3	9.1
Degree in an agricultural sector	4.6	0.4
Degree in a non agricultural sector	6.8	2.4

RANKING OF EXTRA-AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES RELATED TO AGRICULTURE. VENETO – YEAR 2010

Source: processing by the Veneto Region – Directorate Regional Statistical System on Istat data

- Department of agriculture
- Regional Secretariat for the Budget – Special Commissioner for rural development
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