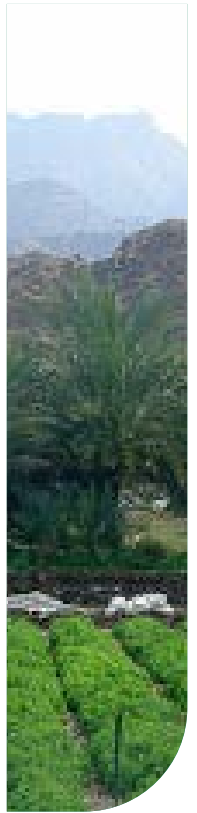




مركز الإحصاء
STATISTICS CENTRE



Agricultural land uses 2015

Statistical Report

Written by:

Agriculture & Environmental Statistics Department
Agriculture Section

Issued in August 2016

Introduction

Agriculture statistics provide data on plant production activity covering the changes that occur from one season to another, as well as providing information on the food security situation and the surplus or deficit in plant products. The Agricultural policy of Abu Dhabi aims to enhance the contribution of agriculture in economic development and to utilize the available resources technically, economically and environmentally in the best possible way to achieve sustainable development. This includes preserving and increasing agricultural areas to raise agricultural production which will support agro-industry and increase its contribution to the gross domestic product (GDP).

It is essential to study land uses in accordance with international recommendations. It provides a comprehensive picture on the available agricultural area in agricultural holdings and methods of use. Land uses are classified based on the activity carried out in the land. It represents the actual area of the plant holding.

Data related to land uses are collected from the holdings. Holdings are defined as economic units for agriculture production that should be run under a single management. This includes animals and land that is fully or partially used for agriculture production purposes regardless of ownership, legal form and size. According to international definitions, plant holding should include vegetables crops, field crops or fruit trees with a size of one donum or more or any area planted under greenhouses.

Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi (SCAD) is continuously providing a large number of statistical agricultural data, which reliably helps to study the changes that occur in the agricultural sector. These efforts are carried out in coordination with the relevant bodies aiming to create a complete database on the agricultural sector in line with the latest international recommendations.

Summary of indicators

The bulletin consists of a number of statistical tables that include detailed statistical data on the agricultural land uses for 2015. The hereunder are key indicators:

Indicator	Unit	Value
Area of agricultural holdings	donum	749,868
Number of agricultural holdings	holding	24,018
Area of working agricultural holdings	donum	700,939
Number of working agricultural holdings	holding	21,976
Crop area with fruit trees	donum	272,322
Crop area with field crops	donum	48,177
Crop area with vegetables (opened field)	donum	13,797
Crop area with vegetables (under protective cover)	donum	5,558

Plant Holdings

The number of plant holdings in the emirate of Abu Dhabi amounted to 24,018 holdings in 2015, with a total area of 749,868 donums, forming about 1% of the total area of the emirate of Abu Dhabi. The average area of each holding was 31 donums approximately.

The majority of plant holdings are located in Al Ain region with 11,921 holdings, making a total area of 452,503 donums or 60.3% of the total area of plant holdings in the emirate of Abu Dhabi. Al Gharbia region accommodates 8,492 plant holdings, making a total area of 207,686 donums or 27.7% of the total area of plant holdings in the emirate of Abu Dhabi. The number of plant holdings in Abu Dhabi region amounted to 3,605 holdings, making a total area of 89,679 donums or 12.0% of the total area of plant holdings in the emirate of Abu Dhabi.

Data shows that 82.3% of the plant holdings in Abu Dhabi region fall under the 30 - 39 donums category, making 9.8% of the total plant holdings area in the Emirate. The less than 20 donums category accounted for 10.6% of the total plant holdings area in Abu Dhabi region and 1.3% of the total plant holdings area in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. The remaining area was distributed among other categories.

In Al Ain region, 68.7% of the plant holdings fall under the 30 - 39 donums category, forming 41.5% of the total plant holdings area in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. The more than 60 donums category accounted for 18.4% of the total agricultural area in Al Ain region, and 11.1% of the total plant holdings area the emirate of Abu Dhabi. The remaining area was distributed among other categories.

In Al Gharbia region, 45.7% of the plant holding fall under the 40 - 49 donums category, forming 12.7% of the total plant holdings area in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. The 20 - 29 donums category accounted for 26.4% of the total agricultural area in Al Al Gharbia region, and 7.3% of the total plant holdings area the emirate of Abu Dhabi. The remaining area was distributed among other categories.

Number and area of plant holdings (farms) by region, 2005 to 2015*

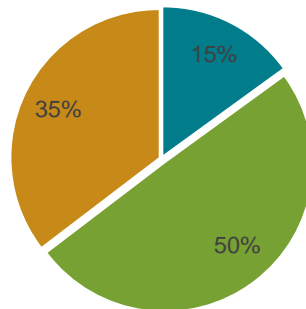
(Area in Donums)

Year	Total		Abu Dhabi		Al Ain		Al Gharbia	
	Number	Area	Number	Area	Number	Area	Number	Area
2005	23,704	739,686	4,793	111,452	11,529	438,820	7,382	189,414
2006	23,648	720,651	4,556	103,815	11,572	429,463	7,520	187,373
2007	23,198	703,748	4,072	98,314	11,701	423,083	7,425	182,351
2008	24,015	731,512	3,854	97,045	11,751	443,988	8,410	190,479
2009	24,097	737,957	3,814	94,380	11,782	436,656	8,501	206,921
2010	24,290	747,679	3,837	95,483	11,894	441,637	8,559	210,559
2011	24,394	752,839	3,837	95,483	11,985	446,898	8,572	210,458
2012	24,394	752,839	3,837	95,483	11,985	446,898	8,572	210,458
2013	24,394	752,839	3,837	95,483	11,985	446,898	8,572	210,458
2014	24,018	749,868	3,605	89,679	11,921	452,503	8,492	207,686
2015	24,018	749,868	3,605	89,679	11,921	452,503	8,492	207,686

* There is no change on the number and size of plant holdings during 2011 to 2013.
Source: Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority

Percentage distribution of number of plant holdings by region, 2015

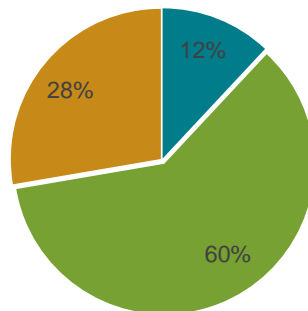
■ Abu Dhabi ■ Al Ain ■ Al Gharbia



Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority

Percentage distribution of area of plant holdings by region, 2015

■ Abu Dhabi ■ Al Ain ■ Al Gharbia



Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority

Land uses of plant holdings

Land uses of plant holdings in the emirate of Abu Dhabi were classified based on the activity carried out in part of the land area. It represents the actual size of the plant holding that can be exploited in accordance with international classifications recommended by international organizations.

Fruit trees occupy the largest proportion or 36.3% of the total plant holdings area. Palm trees are the most important type of fruit trees due to the conditions in the Emirate. The amount of dates produced in 2015 was 93,075 tons, decreased by 0.6% compared with 2014.

Crops occupy 6.4% of the total plant holdings area, a significant decrease of 18.6% compared with 2014. The quantity of field crops produced in the emirate in 2015 was 148,195 tons.

Vegetable crops grown in open fields and under greenhouses constituted 2.6% of the total plant holdings area. Cucumber accounted for 22.2% of the total area of vegetable crops, followed by Tomatoes at 19.1%. Cabbage, Onion, accounted for 10.0%, 6.8% respectively, meanwhile rest of the crops formed 41.9% of the total area of vegetable crops in 2015.

Forest trees and windbreaks occupied 2.2% of the total plant holdings area. The current fallow area represented 37.5% and buildings area represented 1.7%. Data shows that the potentially productive area accounted for 13.2% of the total plant holdings in 2015.

Area of plant holdings by land use and region, 2011 to 2015

(Area in Donums)

Item	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	752,839	752,839	752,839	749,868	749,868
Fruit Trees	293,022	303,084	303,084	272,322	272,322
Field Crops	179,513	17,960	18,280	59,198	48,177
Vegetables in Opened Field	10,500	14,766	12,666	15,834	13,797
Vegetables Under Protective Cover	3,375	1,756	3,010	4,656	5,558
Current Fallow	139,404	262,189	262,715	269,145	281,300
Windbreaks	25,460	25,460	25,460	16,702	16,702
Building	15,306	15,980	15,980	12,725	12,725
Potentially Productive Area	86,260	111,644	111,644	99,287	99,287

Source: Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority

Area of plant holdings by land use and region, 2015

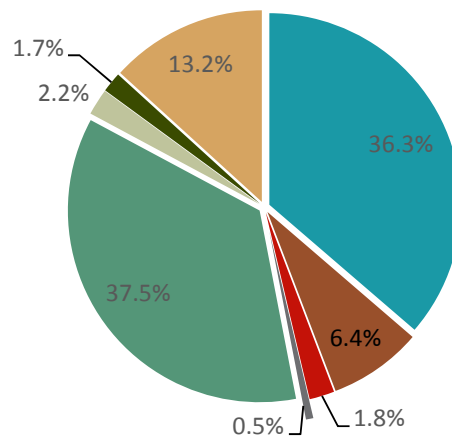
(Area in Donums)

Item	Total	Abu Dhabi	Al Ain	Al Gharbia
Total	749,868	89,679	452,503	207,686
Fruit Trees	272,322	23,175	145,779	103,368
Field Crops	48,177	3,540	38,270	6,367
Vegetables in Opened Field	13,797	3,496	6,429	3,872
Vegetables Under Protective Cover	5,558	699	3,455	1,403
Current Fallow	281,300	32,094	179,706	69,500
Windbreaks	16,702	4,664	4,762	7,275
Building	12,725	1,498	7,662	3,565
Potentially Productive Area	99,287	20,511	66,440	12,335

Source: Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority

Percentage distribution of agricultural area by land use, 2015

- Fruit Trees
- Field Crops
- Vegetables in Opened Field
- Vegetables Under Protective Cover
- Current Fallow
- Windbreaks
- Building
- Potentially Productive Area



Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority

Distribution of plant holdings (number – area categories)

The number of plant holdings in 2015 was 24,018 holdings, making 749,868 donums. Thus, the average area of a holding is 31 donums, however 40.7% of plant holdings fall under the 30 - 39 donums category. Holdings exceeding 60 donums formed 2.0% of total plant holdings.

The total area of agriculture holdings less than 30 donums accounted for 27.9% of the total plant holdings area, meanwhile plant holdings with area category 30 donums and above accounted for 72.1% of the total plant holdings area.

Number and area of agriculture holdings by Area Category and Region, 2015

Area: Donums

Area category	Total		Abu Dhabi		Al Ain		Al Gharbia	
	Number	Area	Number	Area	Number	Area	Number	Area
Total	24,018	749,868	3,605	89,679	11,921	452,503	8,492	207,686
Less than 20	4,490	49,476	592	9,528	636	8,697	3,262	31,251
20- 29	6,450	159,733	2,876	73,763	1,230	31,073	2,344	54,897
30- 39	9,774	327,690	73	2,496	9,286	311,082	415	14,112
40- 49	2,661	107,958	38	1,619	259	11,327	2,364	95,012
50- 59	172	9,424	7	380	129	7,069	36	1,975
60 and above	471	95,587	19	1,893	381	83,255	71	10,440

Source: Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority

Working Plant holdings

The working plant holdings in the emirate of Abu Dhabi totaled 700,939 donums in 2015. Data shows that 61.5% of the total working holdings in the Emirate are located in Al Ain region, followed by Al Gharbia region by 27.6% and Abu Dhabi region by 10.9% of the total working holdings in the Emirate in 2015.

Number and area of working plant holdings by region, 2011 to 2015

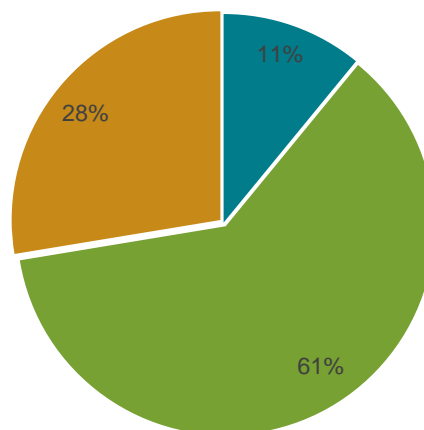
(Area in Donums)

Region	Unit	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	Number	22,315	23,705	23,683	21,976	21,976
	Area	704,761	736,939	739,064	700,939	700,939
Abu Dhabi	Number	3,290	3,859	3,837	3,017	3,017
	Area	84,970	93,358	95,483	76,636	76,636
Al Ain	Number	11,549	11,964	11,964	11,273	11,273
	Area	429,883	442,977	442,977	430,800	430,800
Al Gharbia	Number	7,476	7,882	7,882	7,686	7,686
	Area	189,908	200,604	200,604	193,503	193,503

Source: Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority

Percentage distribution of area of working plant holdings by region, 2015

■ Abu Dhabi ■ Al Ain ■ Al Gharbia



Source: Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority

Explanatory notes

Definitions and classifications

- **Agriculture Holding:** An agricultural holding is an economic unit of agricultural production under single management comprising all livestock kept and all land used wholly or partly for agricultural production purposes. The holding's land may consist of one or more parcels, located in one or more separate areas or in one or more territorial or administrative divisions, providing the parcels share the same production means, such as labour, farm buildings, machinery or draught animals.
- **Agricultural Land Uses:** Land uses refer to the activities carried out on the land or part of the land. It represents the actual size of the holding that be exploited in agriculture. It also includes buildings used for agriculture purposes.
- **Land under Temporary Crops (Exposed):** It refers to all exposed land used for crops of less than one-year growing cycle, which must be newly sown or planted for further production after the harvest. It includes field crops, vegetables and cut flowers.
- **Land under Temporary Crops (Covered):** The area covered with protective glass, fiberglass or plastic or any other material in order to protect plants from external factors, so that internal weather factors are controlled. Irrigation method and amount of water used in agriculture are also accurately controlled. In this type of agriculture, technical be distributed on a regular basis, and tracking methods in determining the times of technology and periodic agricultural production during the year, and this method is often used in the cultivation of vegetables and cut flowers protected.
- **Land under Permanent Crops:** The area devoted to crops that do not need to be replanted annually such as fruit trees.
- **Land under Temporary Crops:** The area used for crops of less than five-year growing cycle, it is used for animal feed.
- **Forest Land:** The area that contains heavily wooded trees, found by nature or human-induced. It is used to produce wood or as windbreaks.
- **Nursery (Plantation):** A part of the holding used to produce seedlings. The seedlings might be vegetables such as tomato or field crops such as tobacco or trees. Forest trees nurseries are excluded.
- **Fallow Land (for rest):** Fallow land refers to the area that is usually exploited for agricultural production within the agricultural cycle, which is left without cultivation to rest. This should be done under specific conditions.
- **Potentially Productive Area:** The land left without exploitation for more than three agricultural seasons, it needs reclamation to be able to production.
- **Other Types of Land:** This includes all other types of land in the holding that is not mentioned elsewhere. This type might be productive or non-productive, and it also includes the unexploited land.

Data sources

The report data was sourced from Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority. SCAD thereafter subjected the data to further checking and research.

Notes on tables

- The term plant holding in this bulletin means plant farm.
- Some figures have been rounded to the nearest final digit shown. Consequently, discrepancies may exist within a table between totals and sums of constituent items.

More information

For more information about agricultural land uses and agricultural statistics, please visit the statistics link on the SCAD website at <http://www.scad.ae>

The next release is expected in August 2017 for 2016 data

w w w . s c a d . a e

Tel: +971 2 8100000 - Fax: +971 2 8100800

P.O. Box: 6036, Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.