

AGRICULTURAL REPORT 2016 COMPACT



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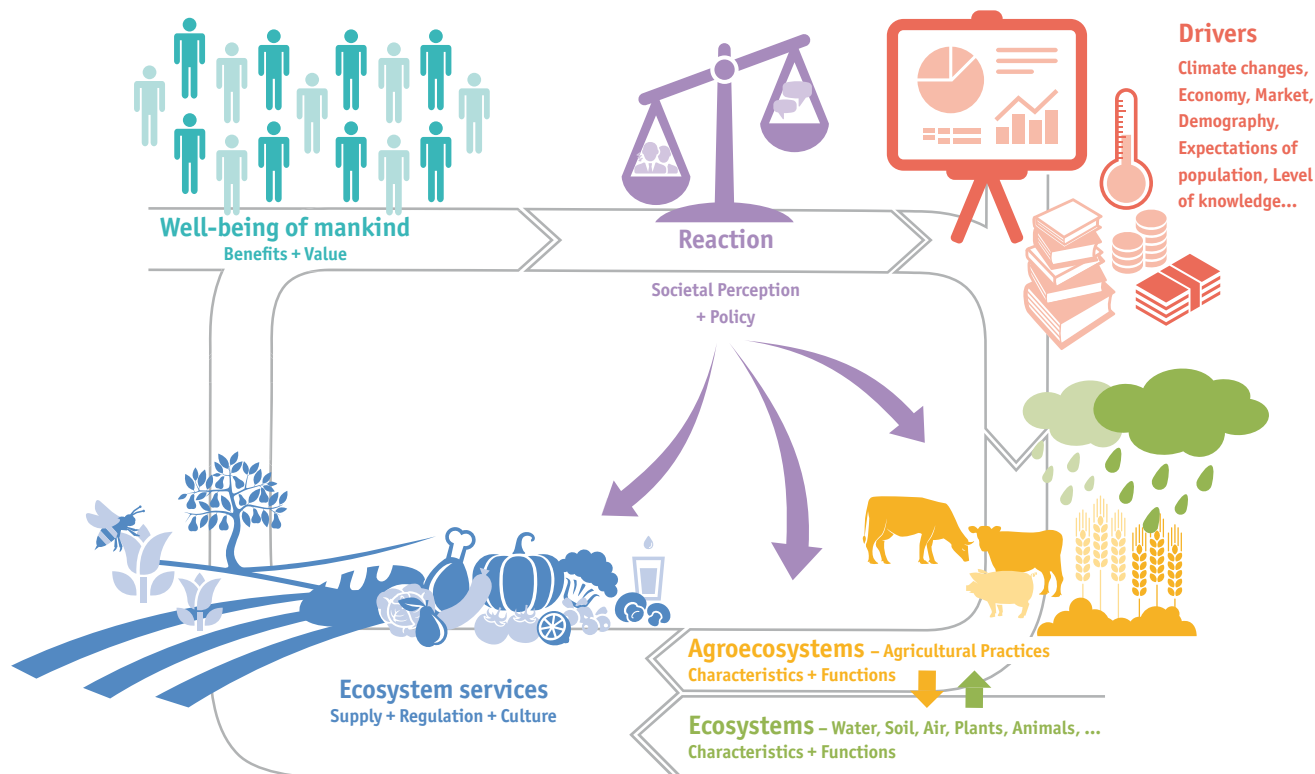
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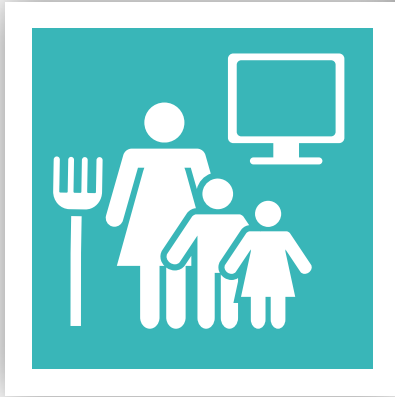
The agroecosystem at the service of mankind

People receive a variety of services from ecosystems that contribute to their well-being. Agroecosystems are a part of this and are used and protected by the stakeholders in agriculture. The services resulting from their work include the supply of food, valuable habitats to preserve biodiversity, fertile soil and cultivated landscapes. On the one hand agriculture uses the natural resources of ecosystems to provide crop and livestock products and on the other hand, farmers intervene in natural processes. Excessive intervention can have an adverse effect on ecosystems and reduce other services equally expected from society.

The goal is to avoid a one-sided increase in farming production at the expense of other, supporting, regulating and cultural services. Likewise, production output should be given its rightful place in the ecosystem.

The Agricultural Report 2016 gives an insight into the various areas of activity in Swiss agricultural policy which aim to maintain this balance for the well-being of society. The “Agricultural Report 2016 compact” illustrates a selection of topics.





Independent social security is important

Women and their livelihood security

A comprehensive analysis of the economic, legal and social security of women in the farming industry shows that there are basically no legislative gaps. Their livelihood security does not differ greatly from other women working in a family business, running a business (segment) independently or working outside the business.

The established deficit in „awareness-raising and information“ was tackled with a targeted campaign. This involved setting up a platform to discuss topics relating to social and legal questions and implementing a charter with a holistic approach to agricultural advice, which reached virtually all farming households with a special supplement „Female farmers have rights“. Special attention was also given to these topics at a congress of agricultural law and also at various specialist conferences.



Agricultural income

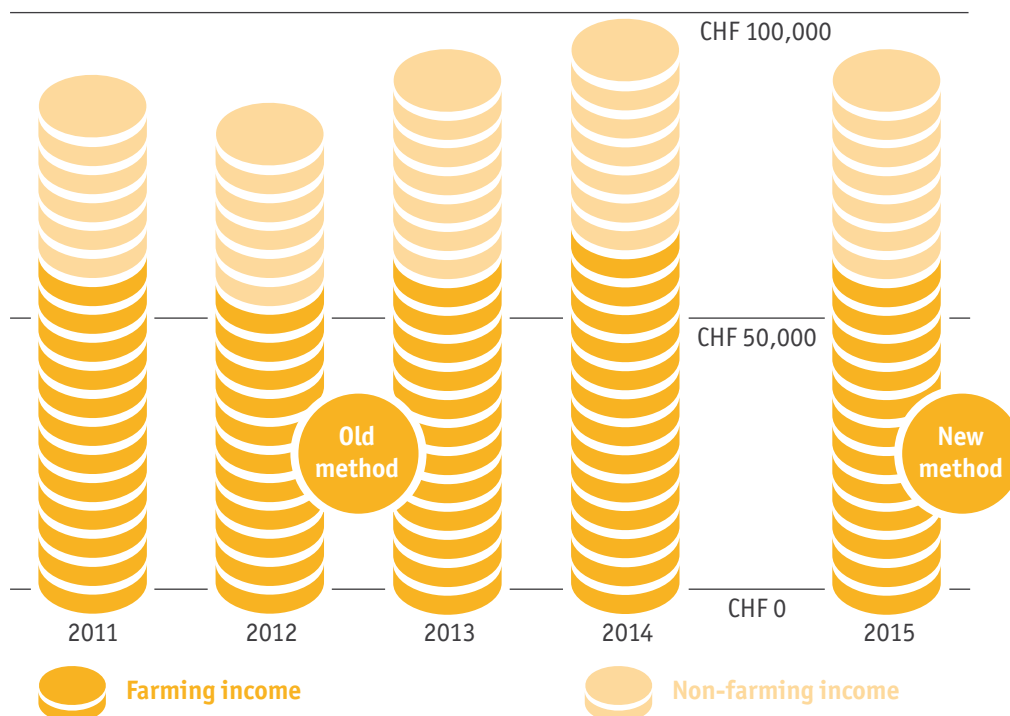
During the evaluation, the data from the individual farms is weighted so that the incomes of the Swiss farms can be depicted as accurately as possible.

For the first time the results of the 2015 agricultural income survey are based on a new sample, consisting of 2,200 randomly selected farms. It is therefore not possible to make a direct comparison with the 2014 income.

The 2015 agricultural income amounted to CHF 61,400 per farm on average.



**2015:
CHF 61,400
per farm**



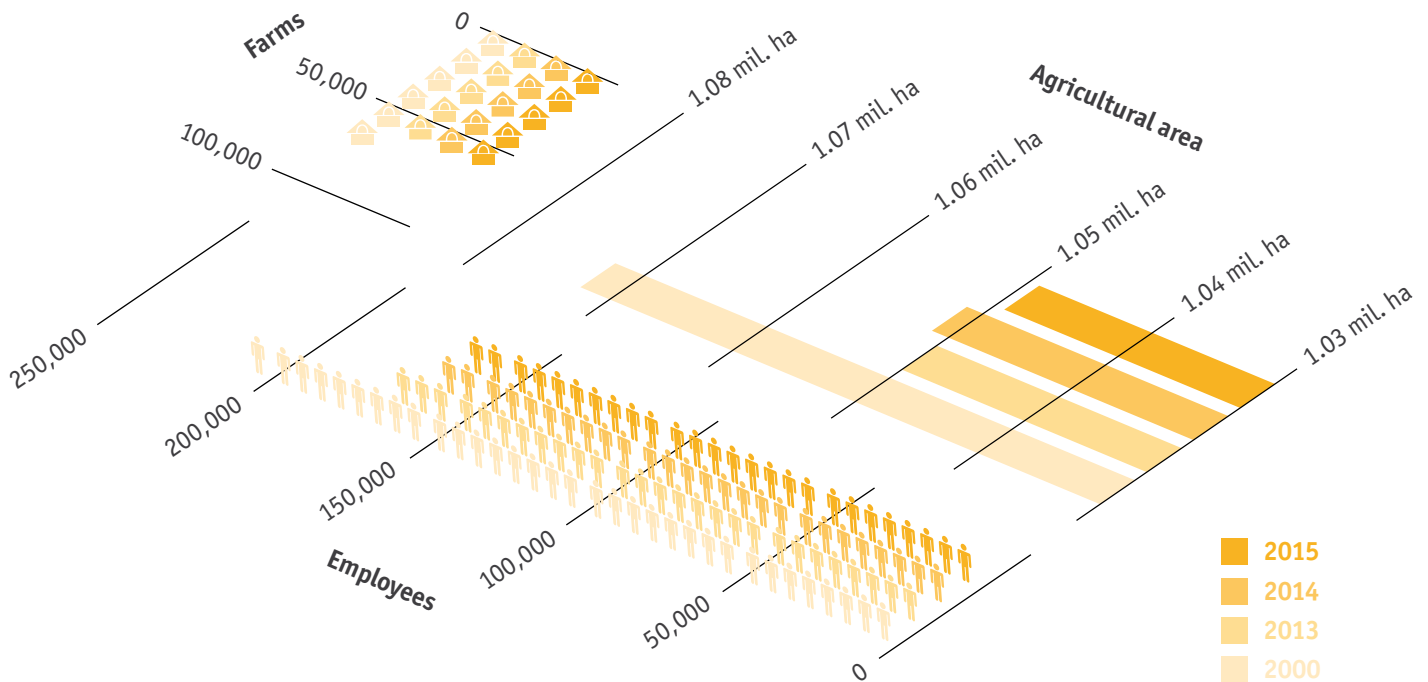


53,232 farms
155,184 employees
1,049,478 ha agricultural land

Structural change

There were around 53,000 farms in Switzerland in 2015. That is 1.5% less than the previous year. These farms managed agricultural land of 1.05 million hectares. One farm cultivated land of 19.7 hectares on average. Since the turn of the millennium, the number of farms has decreased by 17,300 units or by 1.9% annually.

In 2015, 155,200 people were working in the farming industry, 2.3% less than the previous year. Compared to the year 2000, there were around 48,600 fewer people working in the industry in 2015.

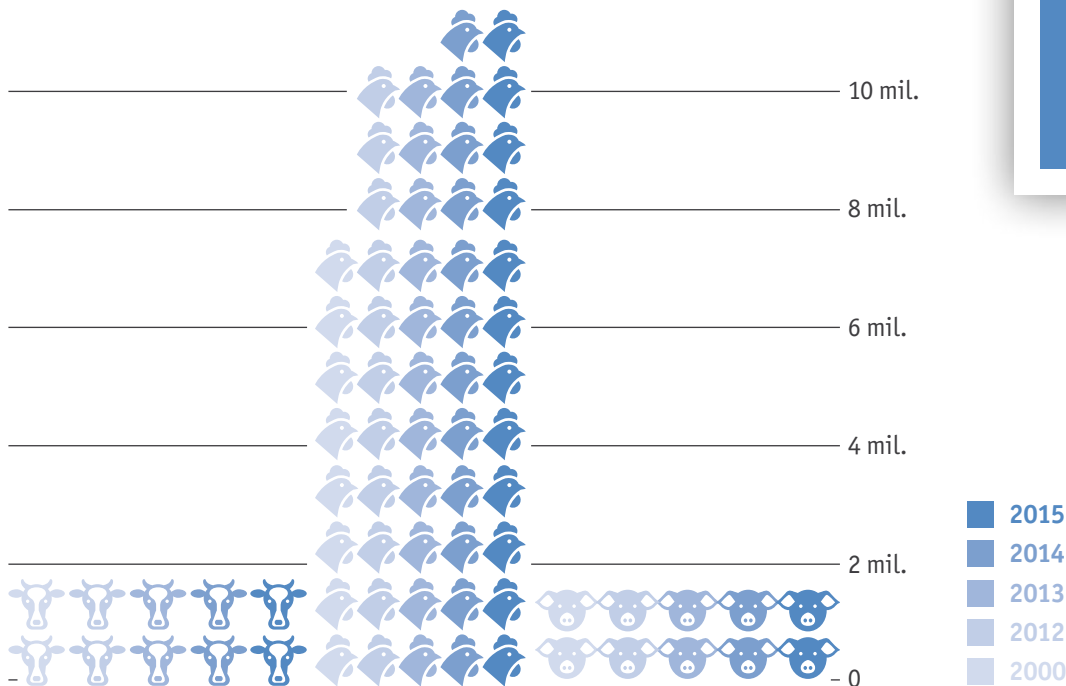


Source: Federal Statistical Office

Livestock farmers and livestock holdings

The number of livestock farmers has been on the decline for decades. In the year under review, more than 36,700 farms kept cattle, around 6,900 kept pigs and over 12,000 kept chickens.

Livestock holdings have developed in different ways in recent years. The cattle population has dropped slightly and numbers stood at 1.55 million in 2015. Pig stock also decreased slightly and numbered around 1.5 million animals in 2015. Poultry stock on the other hand has been growing for years and there were 10.75 million animals in 2015.



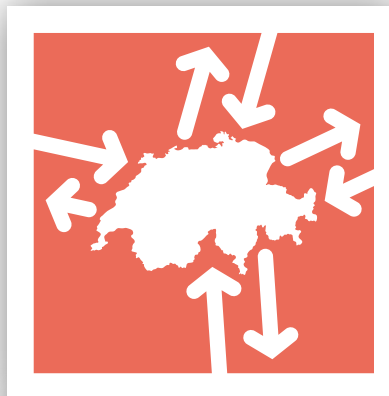
**2000 – 2015:
poultry stock
+ 55 %**



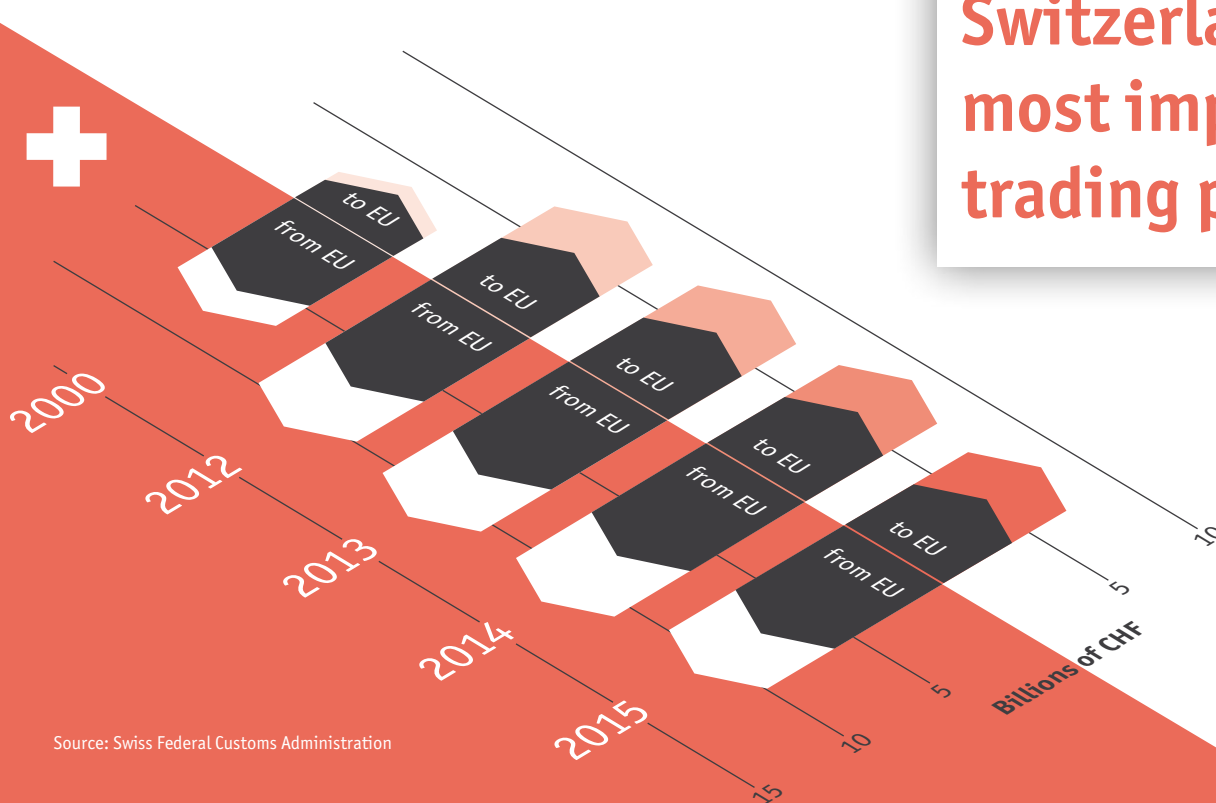
International trade in agriculture products

International trade in agricultural products recorded a slight decline in 2015. The value of imports was CHF 11.5 billion, that is CHF 0.6 billion less than in the previous year. Exports stood at CHF 8.5 billion which was CHF 0.3 billion less than in 2014. Compared to the year 2000, imports rose by CHF 3 billion to CHF 11.5 billion, exports rose by CHF 5 billion to CHF 8.5 billion.

In 2015, 72 % of imports of agricultural products came from the EU. In return, 57 % of exports went to the EU.



**The EU is
Switzerland's
most important
trading partner**



Source: Swiss Federal Customs Administration

Level of self-sufficiency

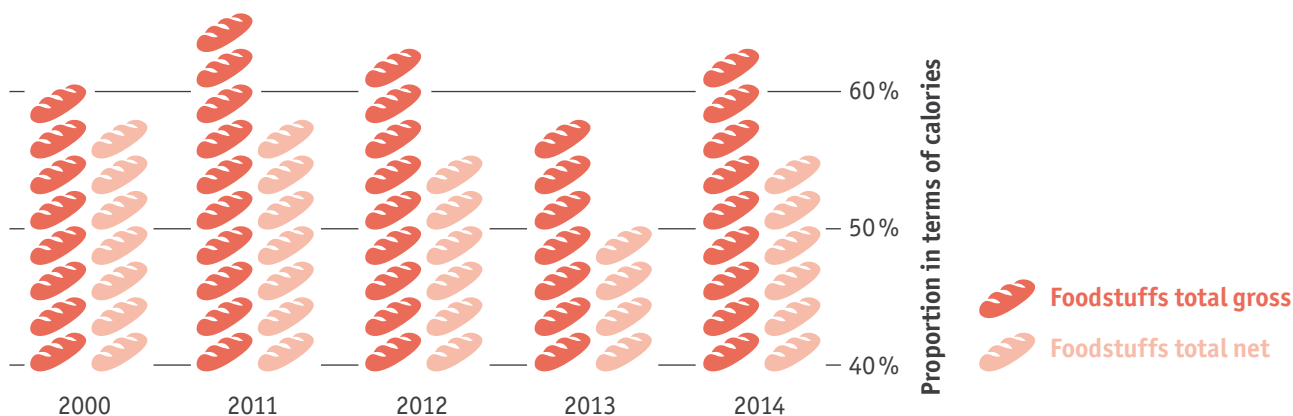
The degree of self-sufficiency is defined as the ratio of domestic production to domestic total consumption. A distinction is made between the gross and the net level of self-sufficiency. The net level of self-sufficiency takes into account that a part of domestic production relies on imported feeding stuffs. Consequently, when calculating the net level of self-sufficiency, the animal domestic production is reduced by that portion which is produced with imported feeding stuffs.

The gross level of self-sufficiency was 63 % in 2014. That is 5 percentage points more than in the previous year. Taken over a longer period, the gross level of self-sufficiency has remained at about 60 %.

The net level of self-sufficiency reached 55 % in 2014 and was therefore, like the gross level of self-sufficiency, around 5 percentage points higher than the previous year.



Gross level of self-sufficiency 63 % in 2014



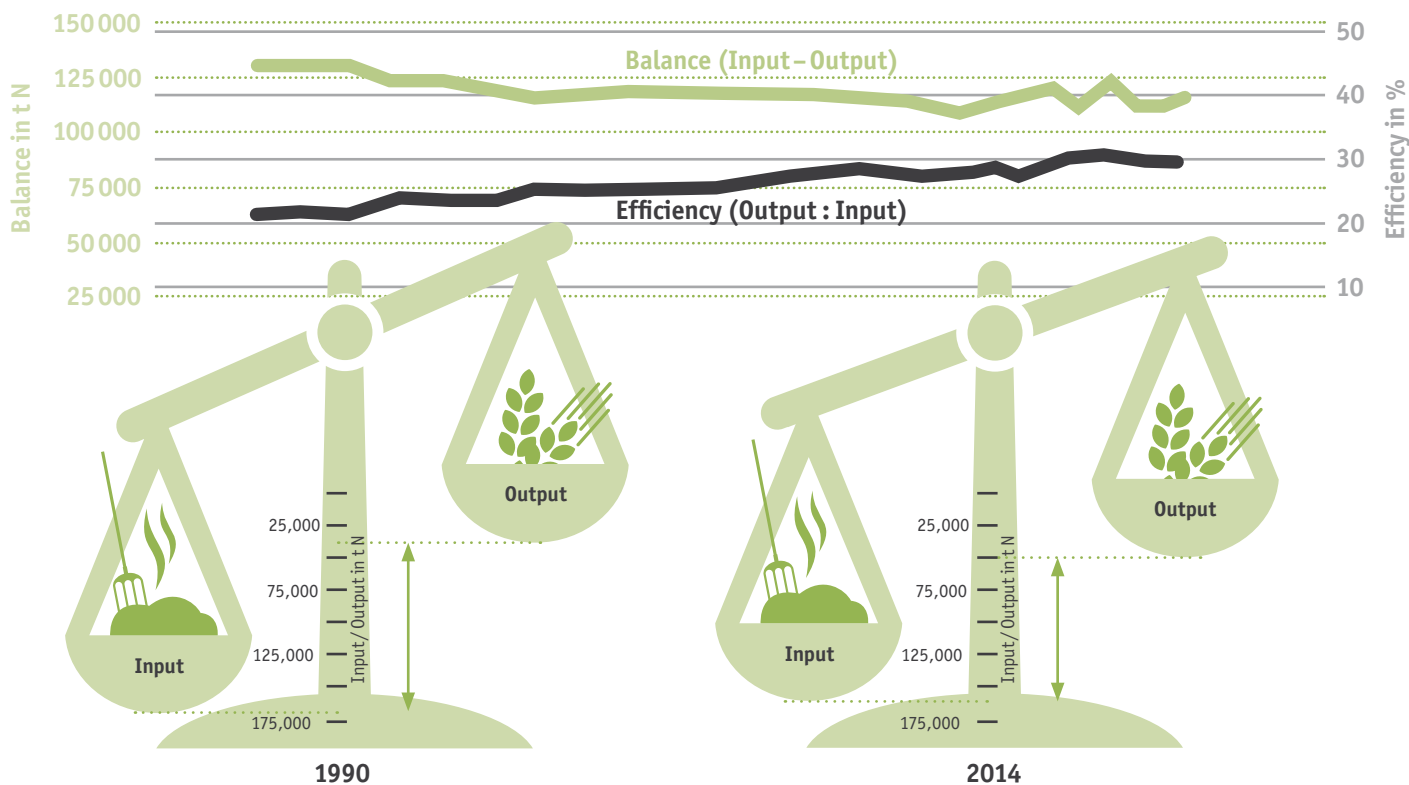
Nitrogen balance and efficiency

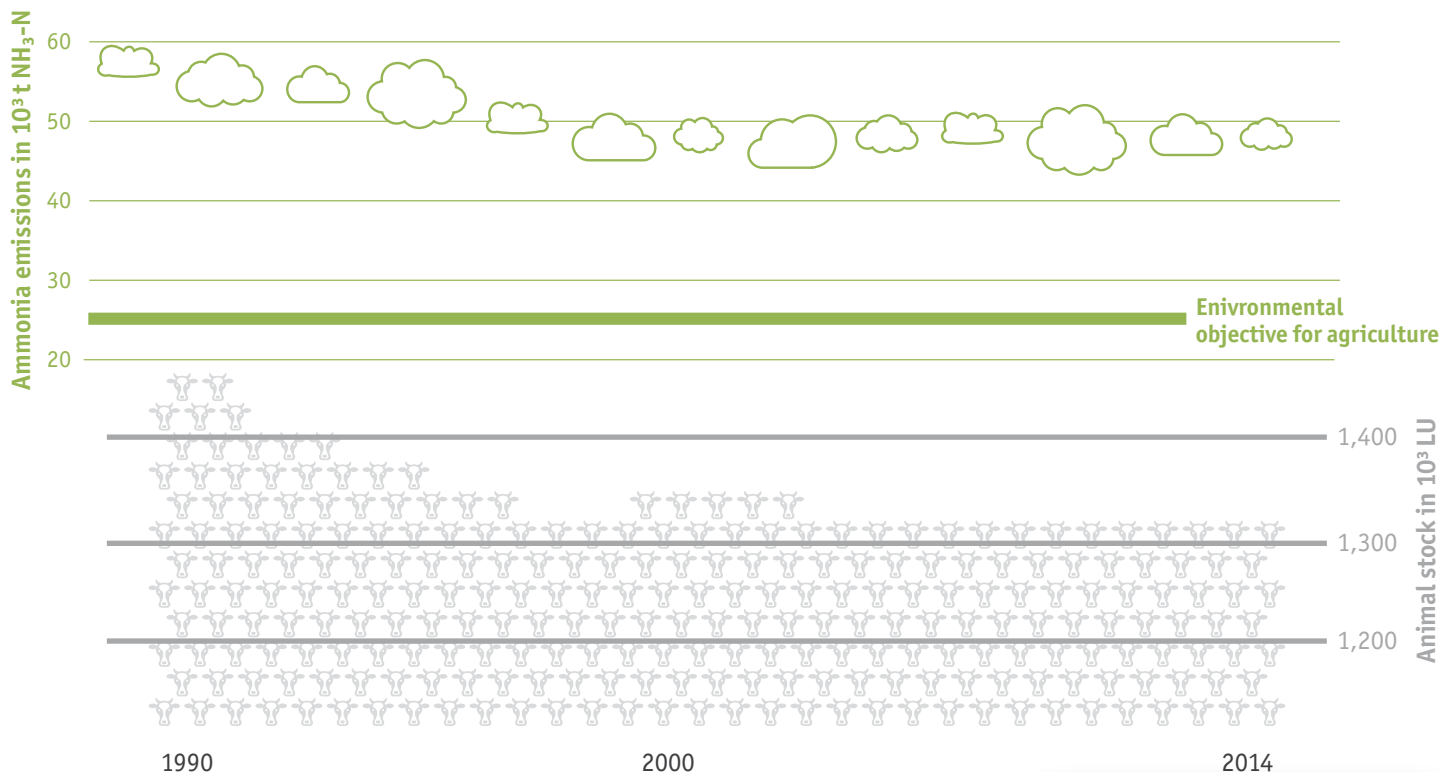
The national nitrogen balance shows that the output of nitrogen in the form of crop and animal products increased by around 30% in the period 1990–2014 although nitrogen input in the form of mineral fertilizers, imported feed, biological nitrogen fixation and atmospheric deposition decreased by 5% in total.

Nitrogen efficiency, that is the nitrogen output that the Swiss farming industry produces with one unit of nitrogen input, has risen continuously between 1990/1992 and 2012/2014 from 22% to 30%.



Nitrogen efficiency 1990 – 2014: + 8 %

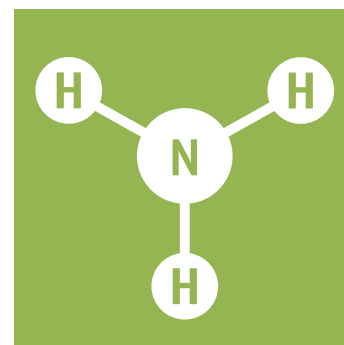




Ammonia emissions from farming

Ammonia emissions from farming have decreased throughout Switzerland by 16 % since 1990/92. The greatest decline took place between 1990 and 2000. Livestock levels in Switzerland were also in decline at this time. Since then ammonia emissions have remained stable at a high level.

Fall in NH_3 emissions have remained stable since 2000



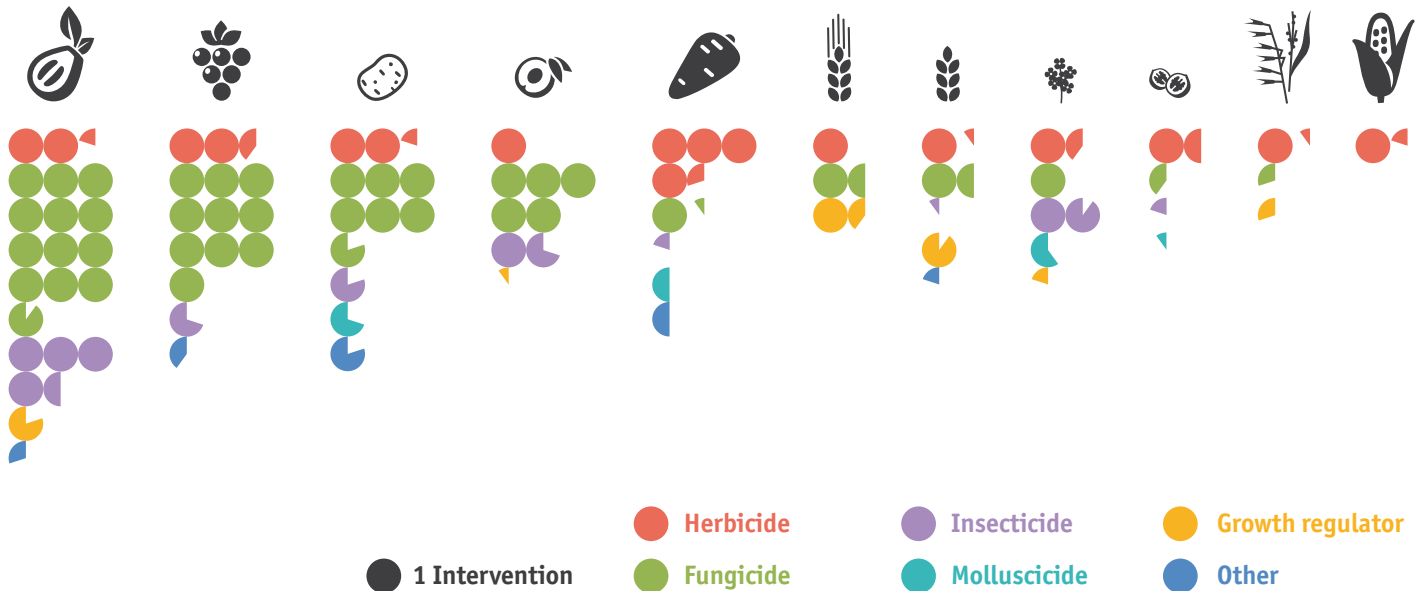
The data basis is getting better...



Use of crop protection products

Around 2,200 tons of crop protection agents are sold annually in Switzerland. The amounts sold remained fairly stable in the period 2007 – 2014. Fungicides and herbicides account for the largest share with around 40% and 30% and these are used to combat fungal diseases or control weeds. Around 16% of the amount sold are insecticides to combat insect pests.

Fruit, grapevines, potatoes and sugar beet are the crops most frequently treated. Fungicides and herbicides are used most frequently, insecticides mainly on pomes, stone fruits and rape-seed. In order to be able to make quantitative statements on risk, risk-indicators are currently being formulated.



Source: Agroscope

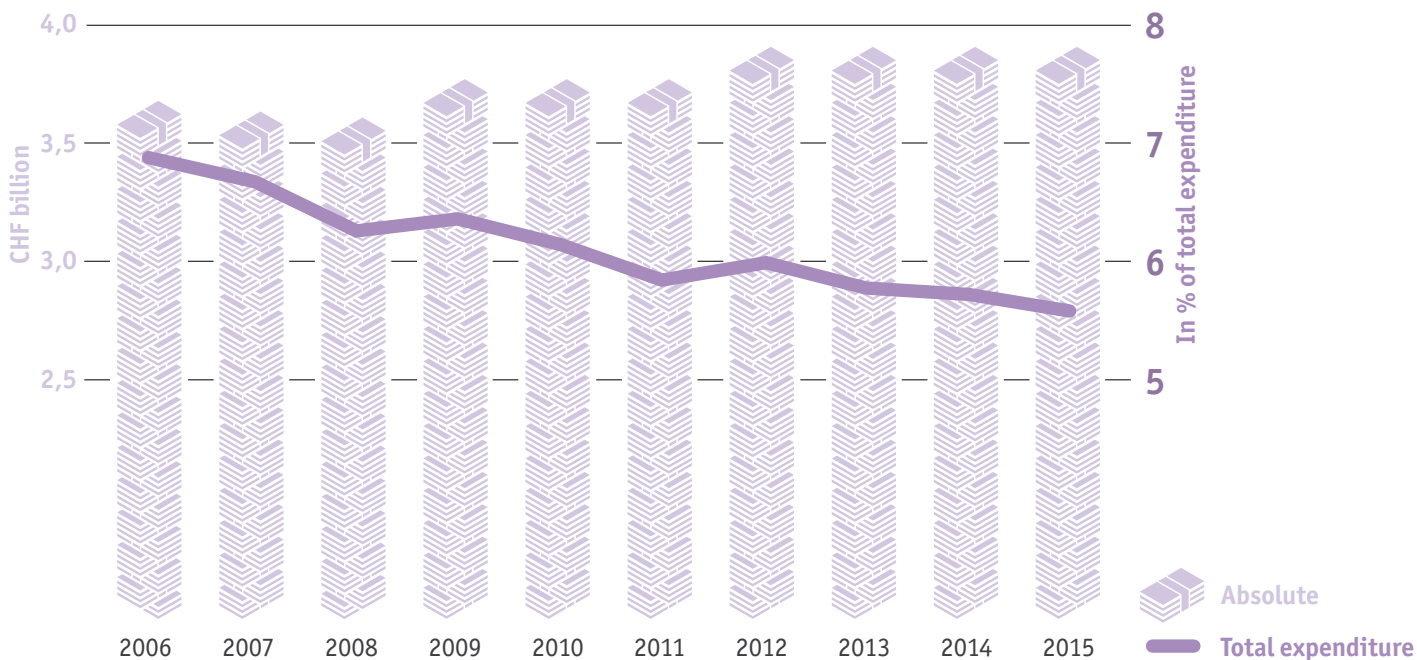


Expenditure on agriculture and food

The Federation spent around CHF 3.7 billion on agriculture and food in 2015. The expenditure on agriculture and food is therefore ranked sixth after social services (CHF 22.0 billion), finance and taxes (CHF 9.5 billion), transport (CHF 8.3 billion), education and research (CHF 7.0 billion) and national defence (CHF 4.5 billion).

The percentage of the total federal expenditure allotted to agriculture and food was 5.6% in 2015.

**2015:
CHF 3.667 billion**



Source: Federal Accounts

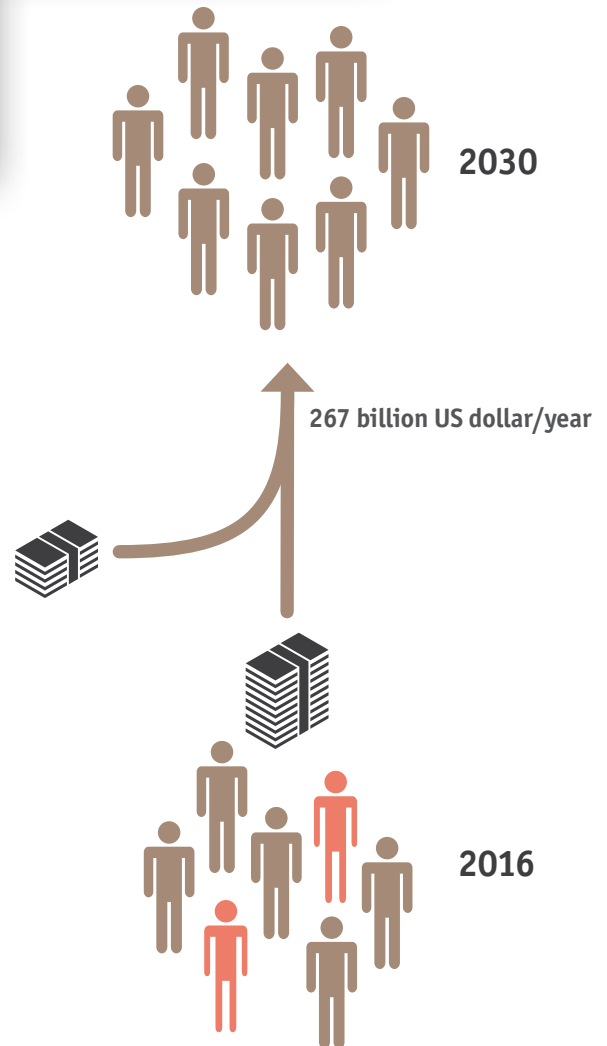
267 billion US dollars a year for a world without hunger in 2030

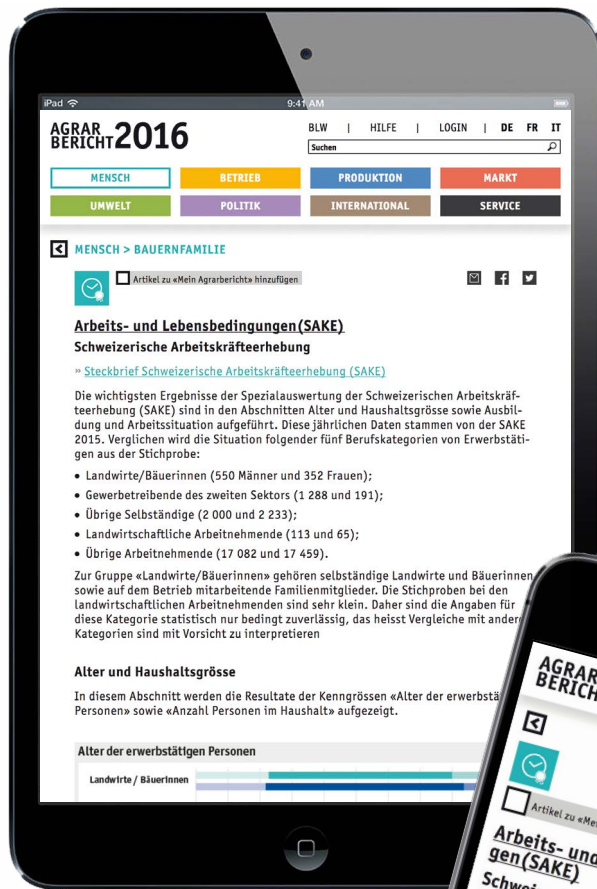


Responsible investments for a world without hunger

Around 800 million people still suffer from hunger worldwide and 2.5 billion suffer from undernourishment or malnourishment. One of the reasons for hunger is that there is a regionally uneven distribution of access to food, production resources and research and development. Another reason is the high level of food waste and crop failures.

The vision of the Sustainable Development Goal 2 of the United Nations 2030 Agenda is clear and ambitious: By 2030, everyone should have reliable access to a safe, efficient and nutritious diet. According to FAO estimates, this requires sustainable and responsible investments of around USD 267 billion a year. It is important to use the globally available investment budget in accordance with the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFS-RAI).





Agricultural report 2016

The Agricultural Report is available online so that you can use it quickly, more easily and in line with your individual requirements. The clear and uncomplicated structure means you will be able to find the information you are looking for quickly, even if you are out and about.

With the help of the tool, „My Agricultural Report“, you can easily compile your own personal copy by selecting the topics you are interested in and tailoring them to your own requirements.

At www.agrarbericht.ch you can find out exactly what is important. We hope you enjoy reading it.



