

Agriculture and Food Processing



NATIONAL AGENCY
OF INVESTMENT
AND PRIVATIZATION
REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

CONTENTS

Infrastructure	3
Availability of reclaimed land	4
Production	6
Investment and Trade Share	6
Top export of Belarus	8
Top import of Belarus	8
Production	9
Productivity	9

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING

Agriculture of Belarus specializes in the cultivation of traditional crops for temperate latitudes. Cereals dominate in the plant growing of Belarus: mainly barley, rye, wheat, potatoes, and fodder crops. In connection with structural reforms and a focus on renewable energy sources, the volumes of legumes and oilseed cultivation are expanding in the country. Belarus holds about 16% of world flax crops, or more than 20% of its crops on the European continent. In animal husbandry, mainly cattle for milk and meat production, as well as pigs and poultry are grown.

Infrastructure

The territory of the Republic of Belarus, according to the State Property Committee of the Republic of Belarus, as of January 1, 2016 is 20 760 thousand hectares, of which 42% is forest land, 41% is agricultural land, 6% is surface water, including bogs, 11% is accounted for other lands.

Agricultural lands cover an area of 9 076 hectares, including arable lands of 5 548 hectares. 0.92 hectares of agricultural land is accounted for one inhabitant of Belarus, including arable land – 0.56 hectares.

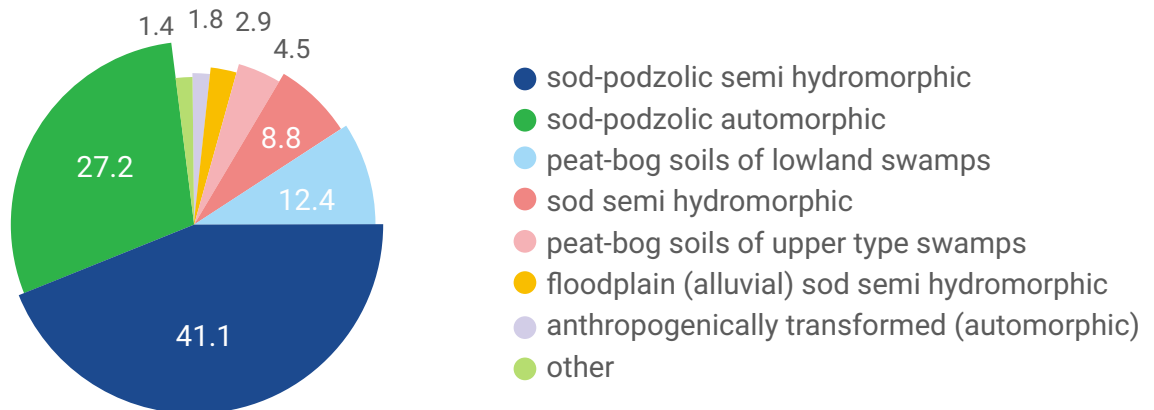
The level of arable land in Belarus is much higher than the average level (the average global rate is 0.15 hectares)

Agricultural land	41.3% of the territory or 8 582 thousand ha
Forest land	42.1% of the territory or 8 742 thousand ha (worldwide average value is 30%)
Land under swamps water bodies	6.2% of the territory or 1 826 thousand ha, water bodies accounts for 2.3%
Other	10.4% of the territory or 2 150 thousand ha

Agricultural development and tillage of the Belarusian land are much higher than in Russia (43.7% and 26.7% versus 12.9% and 6.9%, respectively).

Sod-podzolic, peat-bog and alluvial soils dominate in Belarus.

Structure of agricultural and forest lands of Belarus, %



For their agricultural use, regulation of water regime is often required. The country has no coastal areas, which may have risk of flooding due to climate warming, there is no permafrost, thawing, which threatens with unpredictable consequences, there is no significant threat of aridity (desertification) of land. The soil resources in Belarus should be appreciated also due to lack of significant deposits of mineral resources, except potassium salt. Thanks to systematic work on chemical amelioration in the country, the level of soil acidity has reduced, and the content of moving compounds of phosphorus and potassium has increased fourfold. Advances in soil improvement is reflected in the value of the effective fertility.

Availability of reclaimed land

Total area of reclaimed land 3 434.1 thousand ha

Drained 3 403.6 thousand ha

Irrigated 30.5 thousand ha

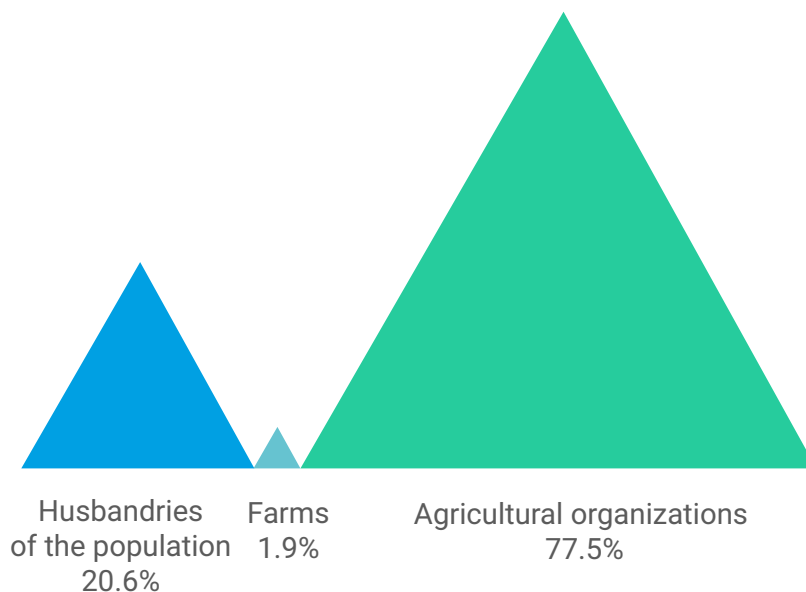
Thus, the yield of grain and leguminous crops increased from 33.3 centner/ha in 2009 to 36.5 centner/ha in 2015, flax fiber crops increased to 8.2 centner/ha, sugar beet crops increased to 443 centner/ha, rapeseed crops increased to 14.6 centner/ha, potato tuber crops increased to 207 centner/ha.

There were 1 469 agricultural enterprises and 2 500 farms in Belarus in 2015. At the beginning of 2015, the number of people employed in agriculture amounted to 314.3 thousand people

*8.0% of total employment in
the national economy*

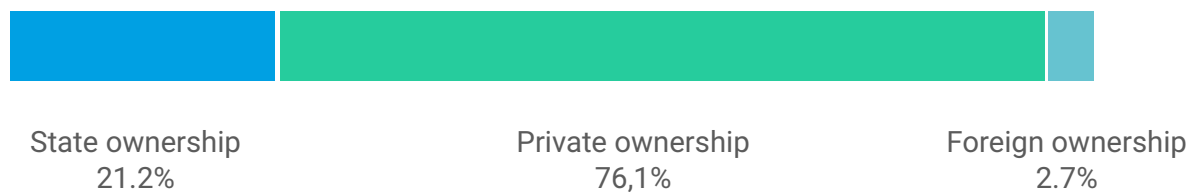
Agricultural organizations predominate in the structure of agricultural production (77.5% of total in 2015), followed by husbandries of the population (20.6%) and farmers (1.9%).

**The structure of agricultural production
by types of farms (as percentage of total)**



Source: National Statistical Committee

Distribution of agricultural organizations by type of ownership

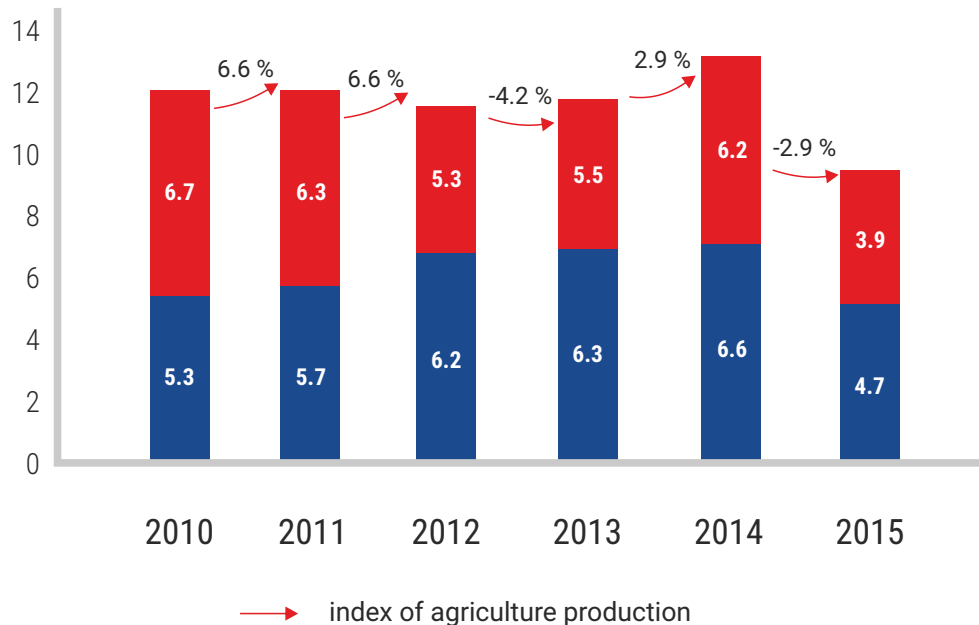


Source: National Statistical Committee

PRODUCTION

The Belarusian pharmaceutical market (in monetary terms) is always characterized by a high percentage of imported drugs. Thus, according to Intellix, import manufacturers occupied more than 76% of the market in 2010.

Agriculture production in Belarus, billion US dollars

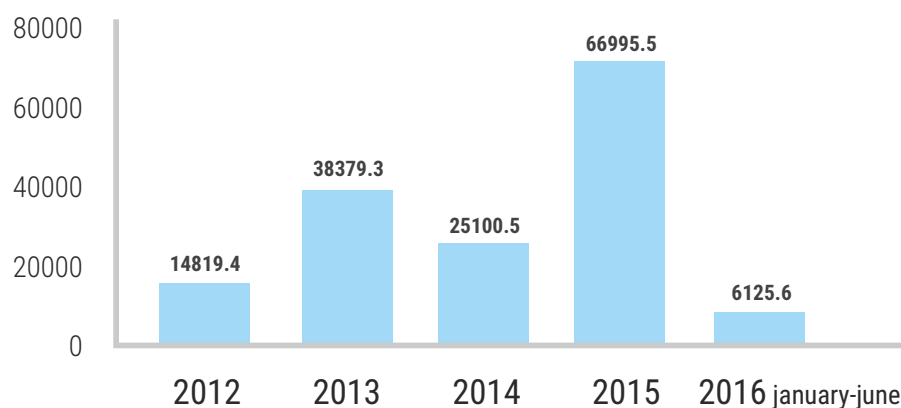


Source: National Statistical Committee

Crop production in Belarus is largely subordinated to the livestock needs, because agriculture specializes mainly in livestock production. Bioclimatic potential of the country complies with the requirements of high farming of the crop industry and provides sufficiently high crop yields, when following technological standards.

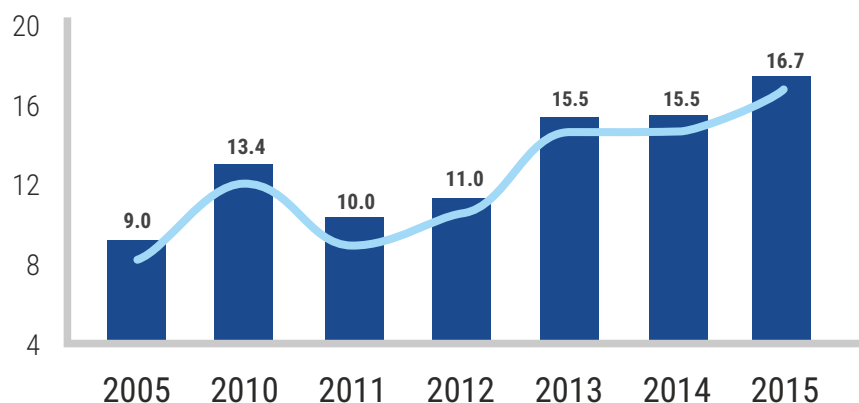
Investment and Trade Share

FDI in agriculture, thousand US dollars on net basis

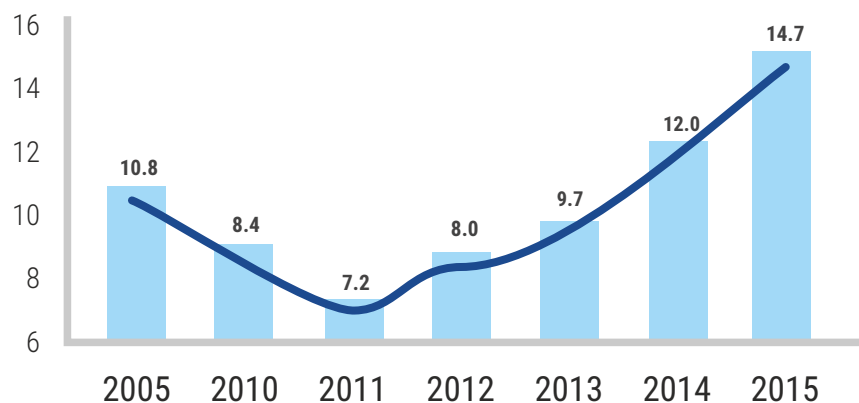


In 2015 agriculture accounted for 4.2 per cent of FDI on a net basis and 16.7 per cent of export volume.

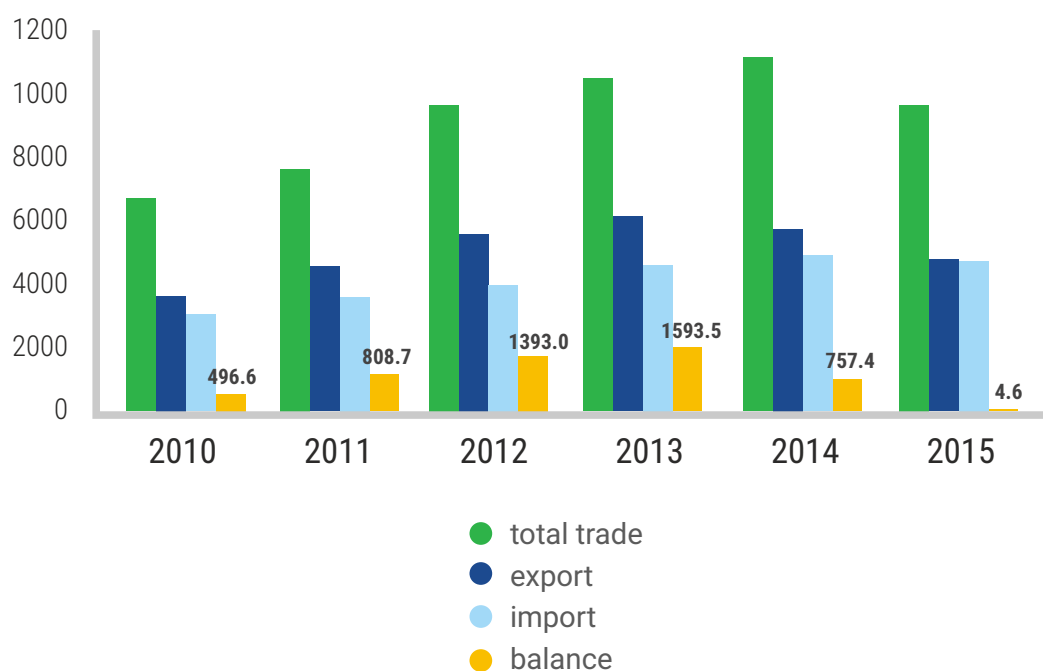
Export of agricultural and food products, trade share



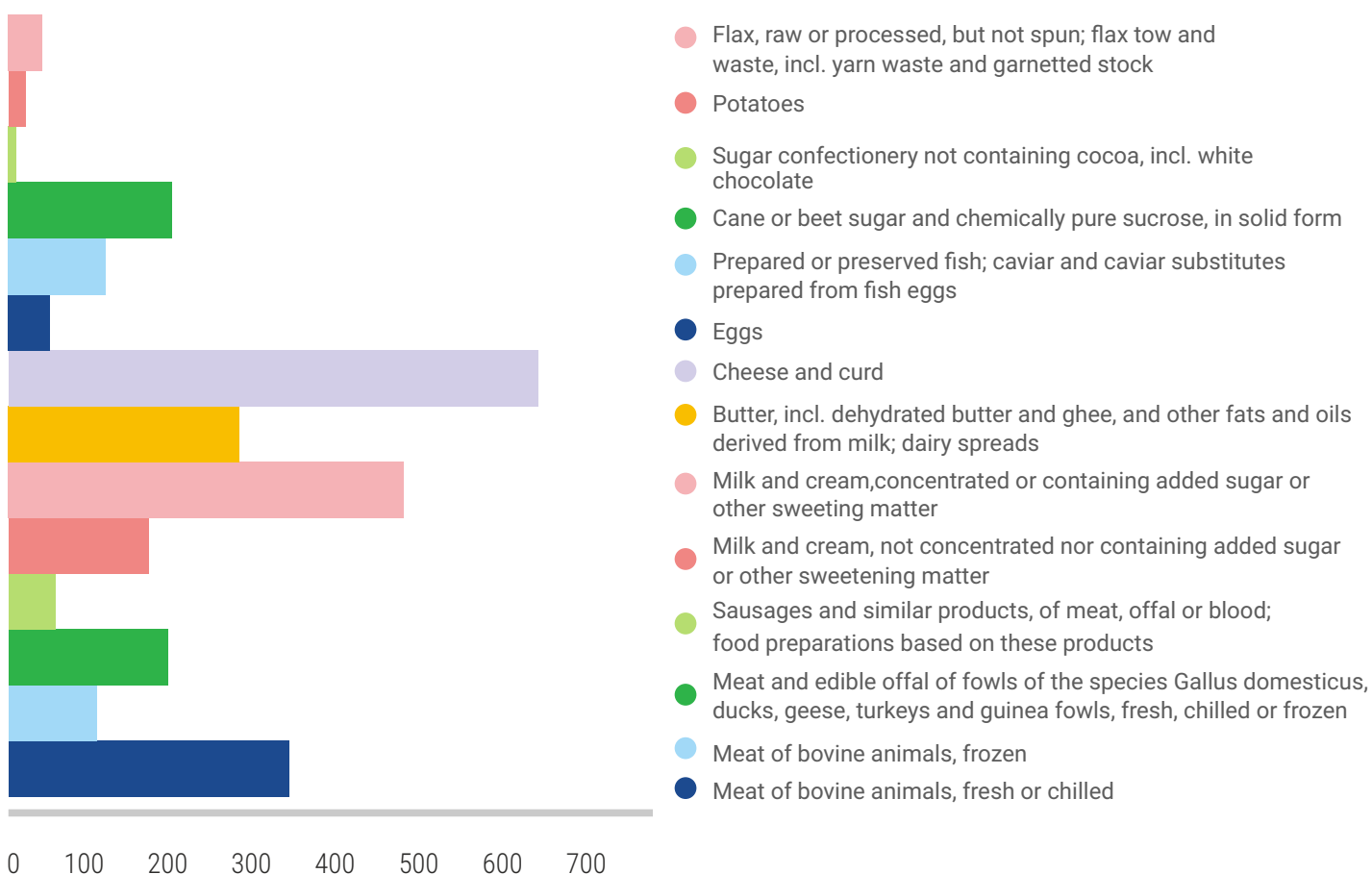
Import of agricultural and food products, trade share



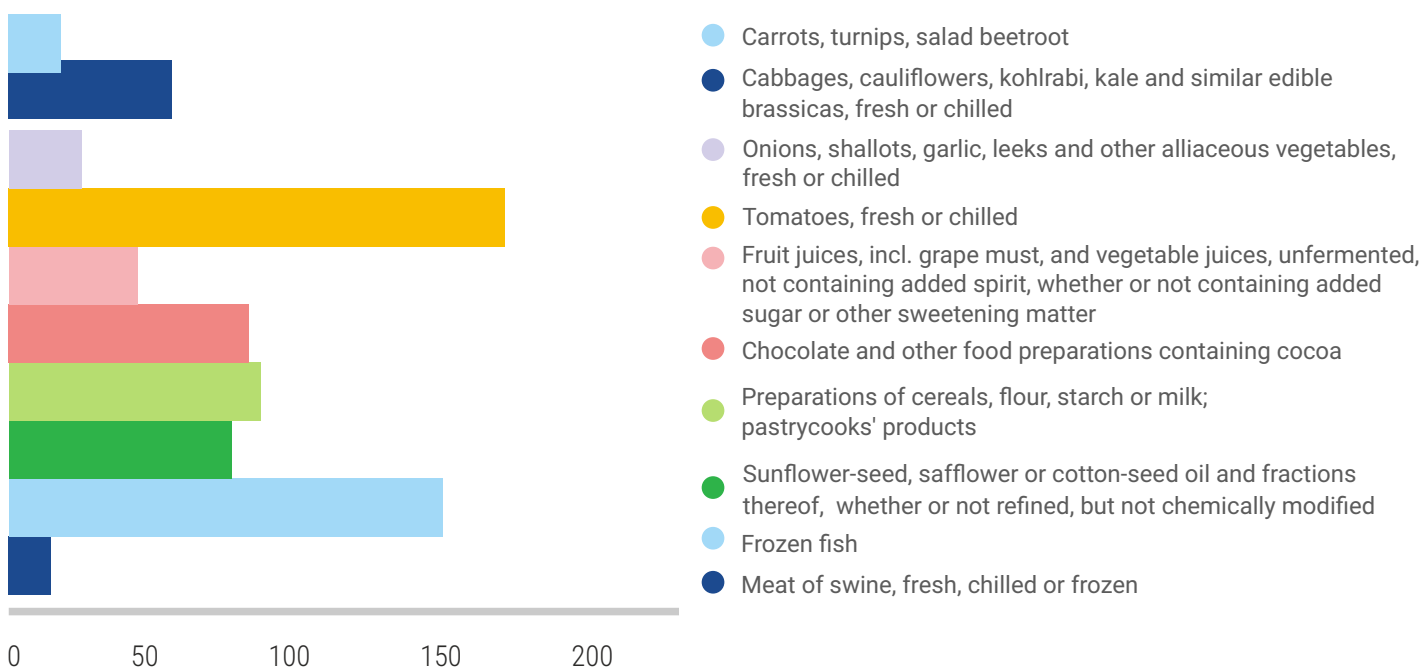
Trade in agricultural and food products, thousand US dollars



Top export of Belarus



Top import to Belarus



PRODUCTION

Per capita production of cereals and leguminous crops (kg)

Ukraine 1400
Kazakhstan 1064
Belarus 912
Russia 714
Moldova 618

Per capita production of eggs (pieces)

Belarus 402
Ukraine 392
Russia 290
Kazakhstan 269

Per capita production of livestock (kg)

Belarus 113
Russia 62
Ukraine 55
Kazakhstan 52

Per capita production of potatoes (kg)

Belarus 632
Ukraine 486
Armenia 256
Kyrgyzstan 238
Armenia 230

PRODUCTIVITY

Yield of cereals and leguminous crops

(center per ha)
Ukraine 41.0
Belarus 36.5
Armenia 31.8
Moldova 31.2
Azerbaijan 30.7
Kyrgyzstan 28.6
Russia 23.6

Per capita production of sugar beet (kg)

Belarus 348
Ukraine 240
Russia 235
Moldova 151
Kazakhstan 10

Per capita production of milk (kg)

Belarus 743
Kazakhstan 293
Ukraine 249
Armenia 242
Russia 210

Per capita production of vegetables (kg)

Armenia 349
Ukraine 215
Kazakhstan 203
Belarus 178
Moldova 69

Yield of potatoes (center per ha)

Armenia 230
Belarus 194
Kazakhstan 186
Kyrgyzstan 165
Ukraine 161
Russia 159



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