

Food Standards Agency: Information released under the Freedom of Information Act

Date released: 27 December 2017

Request

I am a vet undertaking a PhD in dairy goat health and production and am currently trying to obtain up to date figures for commercial dairy goat farms in the UK (i.e. farms producing milk for sale for human consumption). I am interested in the numbers dairy goat farms in the UK and the sizes of these farms in terms of numbers of goats.

Response

You referred to a previous FOI from March 2016 providing the same information. The FSA has therefore released this information in the same format using the same parameters.

The list provided on the following page provides the numbers of all dairy goat farms in England and Wales only, which were registered with FSA to sell to consumers as of December 18th 2017. The list has 123 separate registered establishments; I have also included the number of goats on the farms as requested. For information please note that such establishments register with and are inspected by the FSA. However, any sampling is in arrangement with the Local Authorities. In preparing this information, the FSA has identified registered dairy establishments, which have goats and how many goats they have. You will note that there are some zeros which is presumed relate to farms registered to produce goat milk but not yet in possession of any goats.

As stated above the list provided covers England and Wales. I understand you have requested information for UK however we have not been able to provide you with this as we do not hold this information.

I would recommend that if you require similar figures and/or information for Scotland and Northern Ireland you contact the appropriate respective bodies separately.

Please be aware that any dairy related matters in Scotland are the responsibility of the Local Authorities. For further information, I would recommend you therefore contact the Scottish Local Authorities. For information relating to goat dairy farming in Northern Ireland I would suggest you initially contact DAERA at <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/contact>.

1	8
2	8
3	50
4	12
5	84
6	25
7	50
8	1400
9	40
10	60
11	500
12	112
13	500
14	0
15	120
16	50
17	2
18	9
19	14
20	20
21	200
22	28
23	17
24	25
25	140
26	100
27	100
28	100
29	60
30	500
31	50
32	800
33	2
34	100
35	6
36	24
37	1000
38	21
39	0
40	200
41	9
42	350
43	1500

44	100
45	2
46	380
47	114
48	500
49	450
50	60
51	25
52	10
53	1000
54	8
55	600
56	2
57	240
58	1750
59	32
60	550
61	850
62	100
63	1100
64	1000
65	140
66	743
67	170
68	200
69	60
70	4
71	750
72	300
73	196
74	60
75	700
76	5
77	2000
78	37
79	450
80	720
81	400
82	750
83	600
84	170

85	4
86	200
87	800
88	275
89	220
90	85
91	2200
92	1000
93	1450
94	1250
95	19
96	340
97	8
98	6
99	415
100	420
101	50
102	120
103	650
104	640
105	1450
106	52
107	700
108	4
109	21
110	7
111	80
112	175
113	40
114	800
115	400
116	700
117	800
118	1200
119	2200
120	180
121	50
122	10
123	36
Total	44781