

6

AGRICULTURE

- In both parts of Ireland, livestock and livestock products accounted for about 90% of the total value of agricultural output in each of the years 1997 to 2001. Crops, fruit and horticulture account for the remaining 10% of the total value.
- Between 1997 and 2001 the nominal value of livestock and livestock products increased by 3% in the Republic of Ireland and fell by 8% in Northern Ireland.
- Cattle and milk products account for almost three quarters of the total value of livestock and livestock products in the Republic of Ireland and for over two thirds of the total value in Northern Ireland. Sheep and poultry account for a higher proportion of the total value of Northern Ireland's output for livestock and livestock products (19% compared with 12% for the Republic of Ireland).
- Cattle numbers in the Republic of Ireland increased by around 10% between 1994 and 1998 compared with an increase of 5% in Northern Ireland. However, in 1999, total cattle numbers fell by around 3% in both parts of Ireland. The number of pigs in the Republic of Ireland increased by around 17% between 1994 and 1999 whilst the corresponding NI population was down by 25% following a sharp decline in 1999.
- From 1997 to 2001, the total nominal value of crops, fruit and horticulture increased by 24% in the Republic of Ireland but fell by 1% in Northern Ireland. The proportionate contribution of mushrooms has decreased from 24% to 22% in the Republic of Ireland and has remained stable in Northern Ireland.
- A higher proportion of land under crops, fruit and horticulture is dedicated to fruit (3%) and potatoes (13%) in Northern Ireland than in the Republic of Ireland (fruit 0.3%; potatoes 4%).
- Between 1995 and 2001, agricultural employment as a proportion of total Republic of Ireland employment fell from 12% to 7%. In 2001, agriculture accounted for around 4% of all Northern Ireland employment.
- Between 1998 and 2000, the total volume of sea fish landed in the Republic of Ireland fell by 15% and the nominal value of the total catch decreased by 2%. In Northern Ireland, the same period saw a 5% fall in volume and a 12% fall in the nominal value.

Table 6.1 Estimated value of the agricultural output - livestock and livestock products

Output	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Republic of Ireland (€ millions)					
Livestock and livestock products					
Cattle	1,389.9	1,401.7	1,335.5	1,366.4	1,245.9
Pigs	338.4	284.4	253.3	294.8	349.7
Sheep and lambs	231.1	214.4	198.5	203.4	284.2
Poultry	161.1	156.0	151.2	144.4	151.2
Milk	1,414.5	1,431.2	1,408.4	1,446.0	1,564.0
Eggs	..	..	..	..	..
Other livestock and livestock products	145.1	164.2	180.5	203.3	184.2
Total	3,680.1	3,652.0	3,527.4	3,658.2	3,779.1
Northern Ireland (Stg£ millions)					
Livestock and livestock products					
Cattle	380.8	326.0	325.0	332.6	331.2
Pigs	102.7	68.8	59.5	52.3	62.0
Sheep and lambs	99.5	95.7	85.5	81.6	82.7
Poultry	111.2	107.3	98.4	97.8	105.2
Milk	319.3	297.0	301.5	302.7	352.5
Eggs	24.1	21.8	20.6	24.5	22.5
Other livestock and livestock products	8.0	7.6	7.7	8.5	8.9
Total	1,045.7	924.2	898.3	899.9	964.9

Sources Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office
Northern Ireland: Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Table 6.2 Estimated percentage distribution of the agricultural output - livestock and livestock products

	<i>Percentages</i>				
Output	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Republic of Ireland					
Livestock and livestock products					
Cattle	38	38	38	37	33
Pigs	9	8	7	8	9
Sheep and lambs	6	6	6	6	8
Poultry	4	4	4	4	4
Milk	38	39	40	40	41
Eggs	..	..	..	..	..
Other livestock and livestock products	4	4	5	6	5
Total	100	100	100	100	100
Northern Ireland					
Livestock and livestock products					
Cattle	36	35	36	37	34
Pigs	10	7	7	6	6
Sheep and lambs	10	10	10	9	9
Poultry	11	12	11	11	11
Milk	31	32	34	34	37
Eggs	2	2	2	3	2
Other livestock and livestock products	1	1	1	1	1
Total	100	100	100	100	100

Sources Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office
Northern Ireland: Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Figure 6.1 Estimated percentage distribution of the agricultural output - livestock and livestock products, 2001

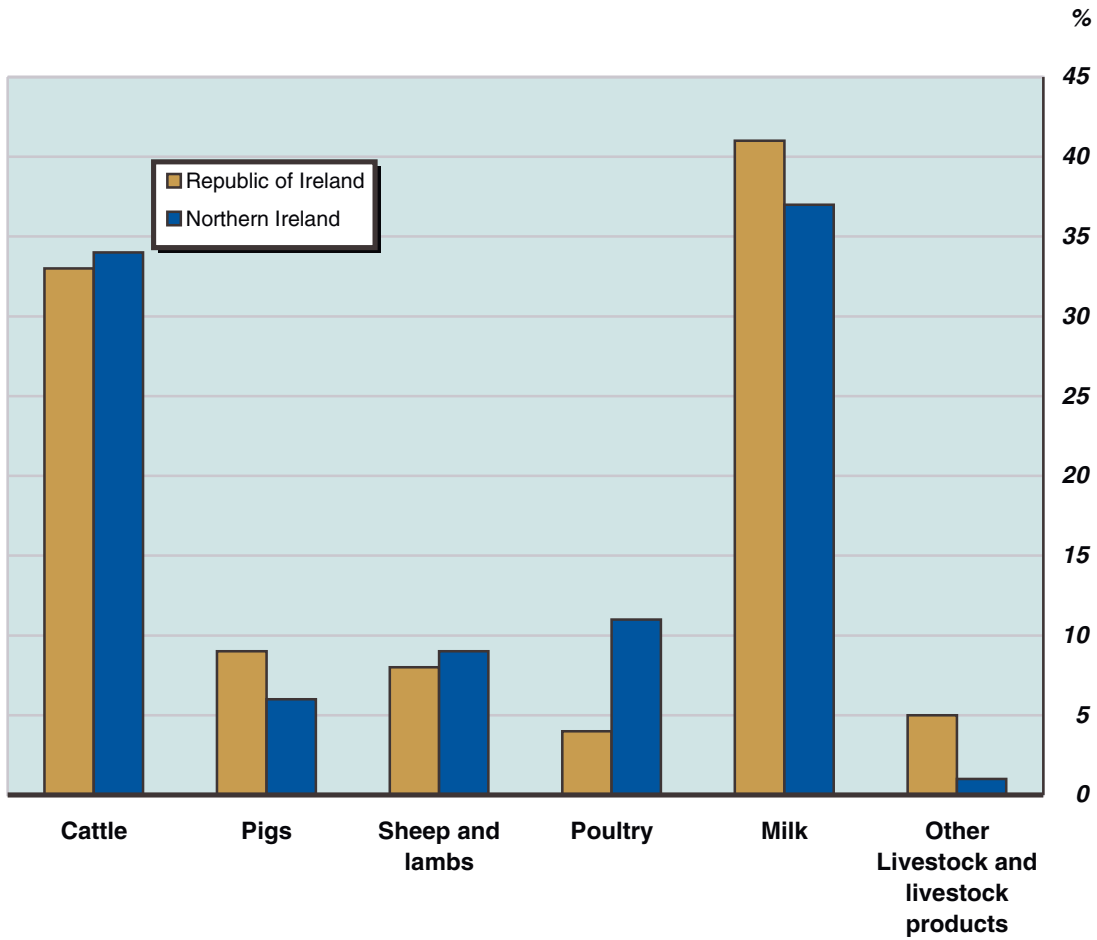


Table 6.3 Estimated value of the agricultural output - crops, fruit and horticulture

Output	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Republic of Ireland (€ millions)					
Crops¹					
Potatoes	53.6	105.1	120.2	64.4	87.3
Barley	92.7	84.3	106.8	114.2	105.3
Wheat	59.4	51.5	48.5	63.0	57.8
Oats	7.9	7.3	8.8	7.9	6.7
Other crops	36.9	39.4	50.4	52.6	48.6
Fruit	9.6	15.8	8.4	7.1	16.0
Vegetables	59.3	61.4	60.4	75.7	84.6
Mushrooms	101.9	106.7	111.4	114.8	115.6
Total	421.3	471.4	514.9	499.7	521.9
Northern Ireland (Stg£ millions)					
Crops					
Potatoes	16.7	25.4	33.0	18.5	21.5
Barley ²	22.8	19.2	20.9	19.8	19.2
Wheat ²	6.3	5.9	2.7	4.1	3.1
Oats ²	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.4
Other crops ²	4.8	7.2	8.1	8.0	9.2
Fruit	9.8	6.0	5.4	5.4	6.1
Vegetables	10.2	10.8	10.1	14.6	15.1
Mushrooms	30.4	30.5	30.0	27.6	27.6
Total	102.5	106.4	111.8	99.7	103.2

Sources Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office
Northern Ireland: Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

¹Including changes in stocks of crops.

²Includes Arable Area Payments but excludes set-aside payments, which are included in 'other subsidies'.

Table 6.4 Area of agricultural land under crops, fruit, horticulture and grass

Thousand hectares

Description	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Republic of Ireland						
Crops, fruit and horticulture						
Wheat	74.1	70.7	85.7	93.9	83.8	68.1
Oats	20.9	19.9	20.9	20.6	19.4	20.2
Barley	169.7	178.6	181.4	189.8	190.7	192.0
Vegetables for sale	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.7	5.1	4.5
Fruit	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.4
Potatoes	21.4	22.4	24.3	18.2	18.5	17.5
Other crops, fruit and horticulture	107.8	101.6	88.1	85.3	88.8	97.2
Total	400.3	399.4	406.3	414.3	408.1	401.0
Grass	3,528.8	3,529.7	3,506.0	3,543.3	3,560.4	3,552.9
Crops, fruit, horticulture and grass¹	3,929.1	3,929.0	3,912.4	3,957.6	3,968.4	3,953.9
Northern Ireland						
Crops, fruit and horticulture						
Wheat	7.2	6.6	6.9	6.9	7.1	3.3
Oats	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.8
Barley	34.3	33.5	34.2	36.4	34.8	35.7
Vegetables for sale	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5
Fruit	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7
Potatoes	8.7	9.0	8.8	7.8	7.5	7.5
Other crops, fruit and horticulture	3.8	3.7	3.0	3.2	4.0	4.0
Total	59.4	58.1	58.2	59.7	59.1	56.5
Grass	813.0	817.4	819.3	825.1	830.6	838.1
Crops, fruit, horticulture and grass²	872.4	875.5	877.5	884.8	889.8	894.6

Sources *Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office*
Northern Ireland: Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

¹ Includes set-aside land; excludes rough grazing

² Northern Ireland figures exclude set-aside land and rough grazing.

Figure 6.2 Percentage of area under selected crops, fruit and horticulture in 1999

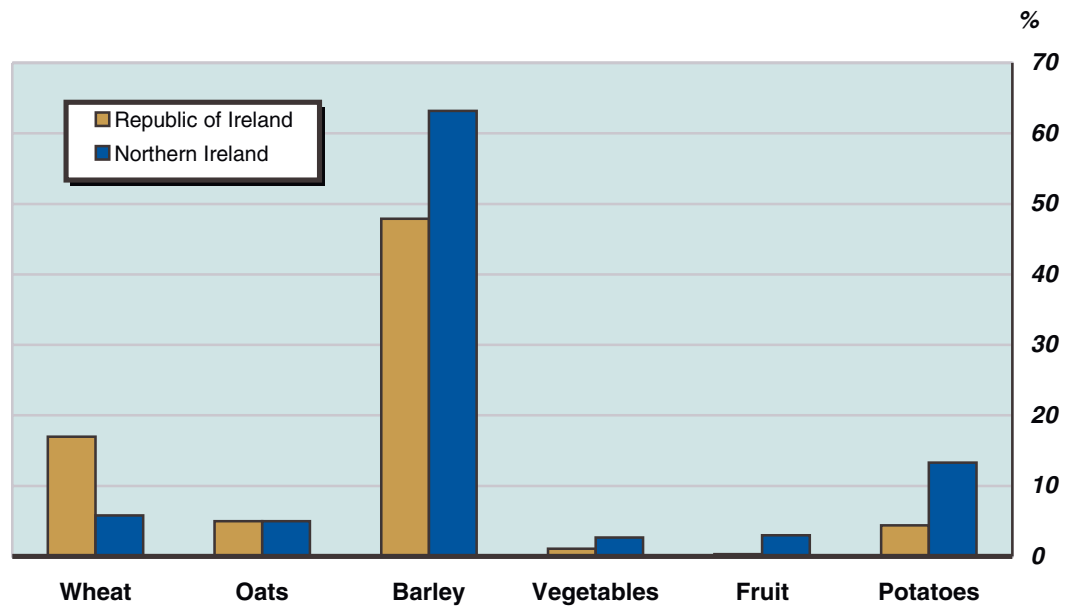


Figure 6.3 Value of gross agricultural output

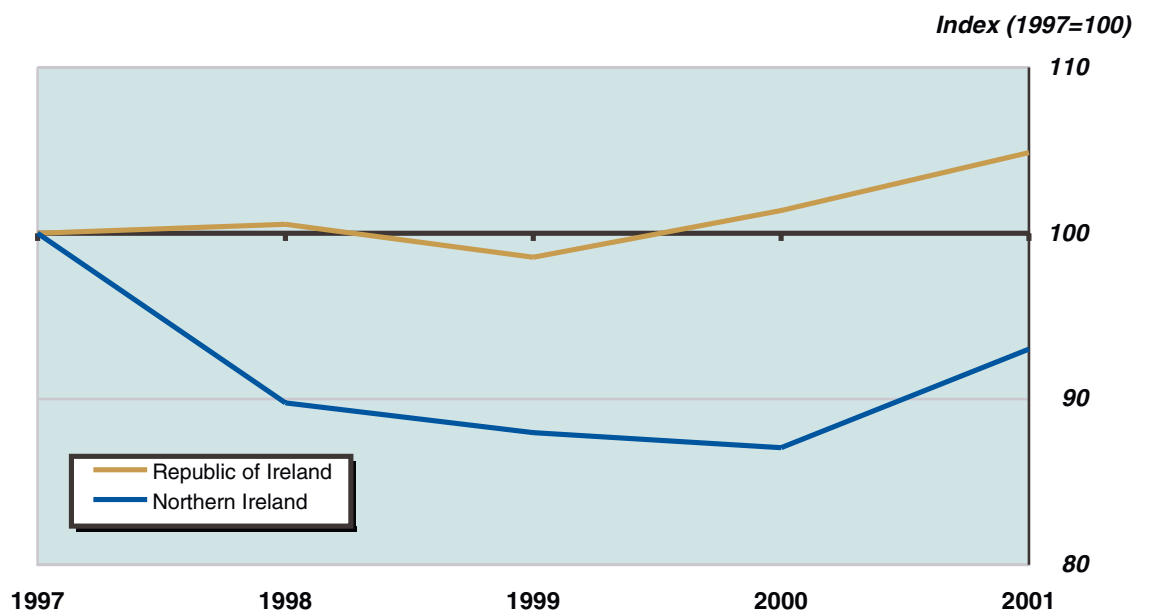


Table 6.5 Livestock numbers for selected categories

Description	<i>Thousands</i>					
	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Republic of Ireland						
Livestock						
Cattle	7,065	7,122	7,423	7,660	7,795	7,571
Sheep	8,433	8,370	7,934	8,185	8,374	7,998
Pigs	1,530	1,550	1,621	1,700	1,819	1,787
Poultry	13,726	12,898	13,171	13,433	13,147	12,697
Horses and ponies	67	68	70	72	73	76
Goats	16	16	15	15	15	14
Northern Ireland						
Livestock						
Cattle	1,688	1,699	1,759	1,731	1,767	1,719
Sheep	2,821	2,754	2,753	2,880	2,987	2,909
Pigs	653	637	638	697	653	490
Poultry	14,601	16,003	15,900	15,608	15,171	15,048
Horses and ponies	9	10	10	10	10	10
Goats	4	4	4	4	4	4

Sources *Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office
Northern Ireland: Department of Agriculture and Rural Development*

Figure 6.4 Livestock numbers for selected categories, 1999

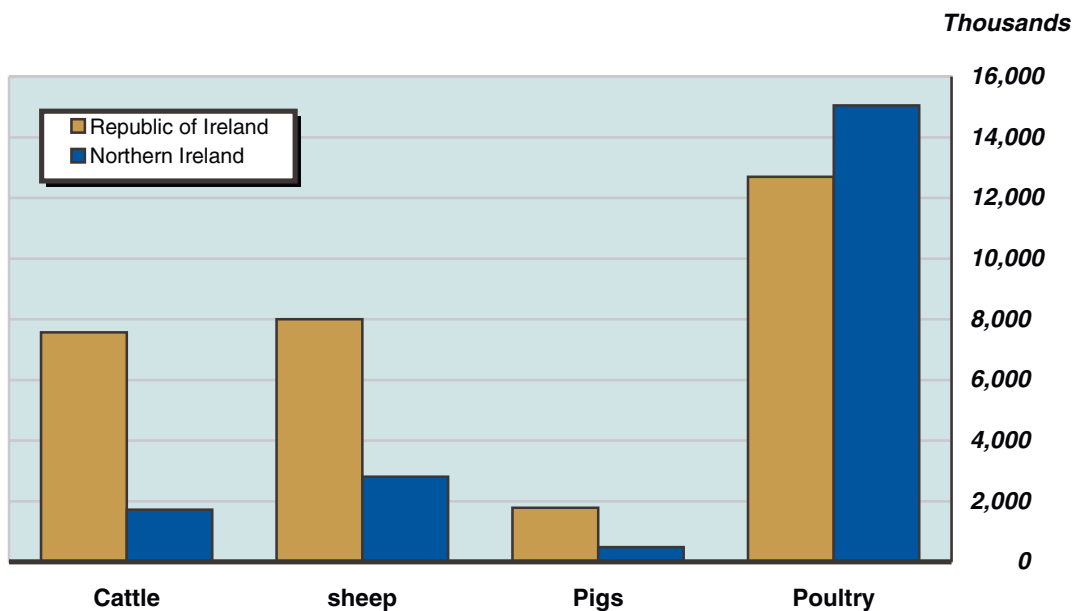


Table 6.6 Agriculture labour input (persons)

Thousands

Description	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Republic of Ireland						
Holder	153.0	153.0	149.3	147.6	146.2	143.7
Spouse	68.2	59.0	71.5	54.4	50.6	49.9
Other family workers	73.5	66.0	66.4	66.0	64.9	63.4
All Family workers	294.7	277.9	287.2	268.0	261.6	257.0
Regular non-family workers	15.6	15.5	13.8	13.9	13.5	12.9
Total agricultural labour input¹	310.2	293.3	301.0	281.9	275.1	270.0
Northern Ireland						
Farmers and partners						
Full time	24.6	23.5	22.7	22.4	22.5	21.5
Part time	16.5	16.3	17.2	16.8	16.3	16.1
All farmers and partners	41.1	39.8	39.9	39.2	38.8	37.6
Spouses of farmers	6.2	6.8	6.8	7.0	7.0	7.0
All other workers ²	15.8	16.3	15.8	15.6	15.2	14.6
Total agricultural labour input	63.1	63.0	62.5	61.9	61.1	59.3

Sources *Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office*
Northern Ireland: Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

¹ These figures do not include a number of casual/non-regular workers.

² These figures include casual/seasonal workers.

Table 6.7 Employment in agriculture¹ as a proportion of total employment

Description	Percentages						
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Republic of Ireland							
Agriculture as a proportion of total employment	11.6	10.6	10.3	9.0	8.5	7.8	7.0
Northern Ireland							
Agriculture as a proportion of total employment ²	5.6	4.7	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.6	3.8

Sources Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office
Northern Ireland: Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment

¹ Agriculture includes hunting, forestry and fishing.

² Excludes those persons who did not state the industrial classification of their employment.

Figure 6.5 Employment in agriculture as a proportion of total employment

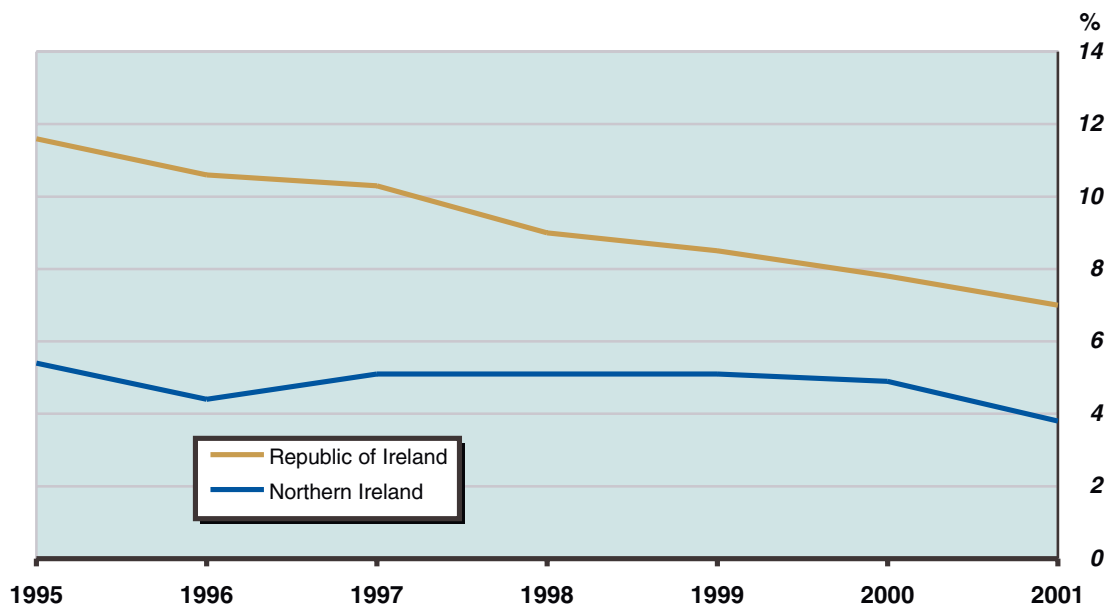


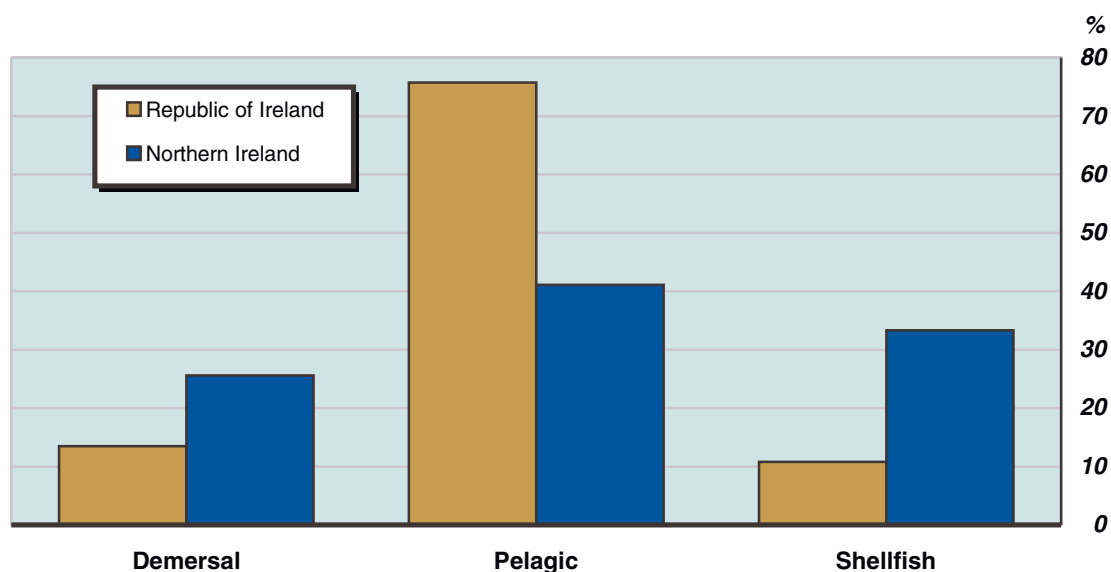
Table 6.8 Sea fish landings by species

Tonnes and thousands

Species	1998		1999		2000	
	Tonnes	Value	Tonnes	Value	Tonnes	Value
Republic of Ireland (€)						
Demersal	43,663	67,645	39,431	65,995	36,680	65,189
Pelagic	251,235	78,188	211,264	68,063	206,282	65,897
Shellfish	25,266	46,509	28,534	55,410	29,520	57,780
Total fish landed	320,163	192,342	279,230	189,467	272,482	188,866
Northern Ireland (Stg£)						
Demersal	8,513	8,238	8,932	9,528	6,041	6,360
Pelagic	9,182	1,443	8,002	955	9,721	1,502
Shellfish	7,261	10,563	7,499	12,118	7,881	9,990
Total fish landed	24,956	20,244	24,433	22,601	23,643	17,852

Sources Republic of Ireland: Central Statistics Office
Northern Ireland: Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Figure 6.6 Percentage of sea fish landings by species, 2001



Technical Notes

I.

In the Republic of Ireland gross agricultural output represents that part of total agricultural production which is sold off farms or consumed in producers' households (including produce given as gifts or as wages/benefits in kind) during the year of inquiry (i.e. the calendar year). Also included are changes in stocks of livestock and certain crops between the beginning and end of the year. It does not include any part of the produce used for further production whether used on the farm of origin or sold directly by one farmer to another; neither does it include indirect sales of livestock from one farmer to another through livestock marts.

Estimates are being prepared under the methodology currently in use in Northern Ireland.

In Northern Ireland, output represents the estimated value of home-produced sales including the value of inter-farm transfers and on-farm use. It includes the value of subsidies on products, the sale value of store animals imported from the Republic of Ireland and Great Britain and finished in Northern Ireland, and the value of produce used in farm households. Stock change estimates are included within the individual output and input items.

II.

Any comparisons in values across time do not take account of inflation.

III.

The Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland figures are based on the results of the June Agricultural Census, which is conducted as a sample survey representing active farm businesses.

IV.

The following definitions apply to NI livestock and livestock products output value:

- *Cattle* includes Suckler Cow Premium, Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance, Beef Special Premium, Beef Deseasonalisation Premium, Extensification Supplement, Beef Marketing payment Schemes (parts 1, 2, and 2a), Agrimoney Compensation, Flagged Suckler Herd Payments, BSE related supplements, receipts from the Over Thirty Months Scheme and Calf Processing Aid Scheme.
- *Pigs* include Pig Welfare Slaughter Scheme.
- *Sheep and lambs* include Sheep Annual Premium, Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance and Agrimoney Compensation.
- *Poultry* includes shipments and exports of non-breeding birds.
- *Eggs* include eggs for processing, duck eggs and shipments and exports of non-breeding hatching eggs.
- *Other* includes breeding livestock shipped and exported, horses, wool, deer and minor livestock products. (*Tables 6.1, 6.2*)

V.

NI "Other crops" output values include hay, straw, flax, linsed, oilseed rape, mixed corn, protein crops, lawn turf, associated arable area payments and flowers. (*Table 6.3*)

Technical Notes - continued

VI.

In Northern Ireland, two changes were made to the labour section of census forms in 1997 and 1998. Full-time work was more precisely defined as involving 30 hours per week or more and casual work as covering less than 20 weeks per year. Also, the categories of workers changed from 'family' and 'hired' to 'paid' and 'unpaid'. Consequently, trends in individual categories should be interpreted with care. For example, these changes are believed to have resulted in some workers previously returned as 'family' workers being recorded as partners in the new format. (*Table 6.6*)

VII.

NI agricultural manpower statistics (as used by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment in aggregate labour statistics) refer to the count of employees and self-employed workers in agriculture. The self-employed count includes farmers and partners who work full-time on their farms; the employee count includes all other workers except part-time farmers and partners and spouses. (*Table 6.7*)