

AEI_ESQRS_A_CY_2020_0000

National Reference Metadata in ESS Standard for
Quality Reports Structure (ESQRS)
Compiling agency: Statistical Service of Cyprus
(CYSTAT)



Eurostat metadata

Reference metadata

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For any question on data and metadata, please contact: [EUROPEAN STATISTICAL DATA SUPPORT](#)

1. Contact

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1.1. Contact organisation	Statistical Service of Cyprus (CYSTAT)
1.2. Contact organisation unit	Agricultural Statistics Unit
1.5. Contact mail address	Michael Karaoli Street, 1444 Nicosia, Cyprus

2. Statistical presentation

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See sub-concepts below.

2.1. Data description

See sub-concepts below.

2.1.1. Main characteristics of statistics

A complete catalogue of suppliers of pesticides and a catalogue of the substances that are in the market is provided by the Department of Agriculture of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment for the purpose of the survey conducted. A questionnaire is prepared by the Agricultural Statistics Unit sent to all authorisation holders for collecting directly the data.

2.1.2. National legislation

Yes
2.1.2.1. Name of national legislation
<p>The Official Statistics Law of 2021 (Law No. 25(I)/2021) provides the legal basis for the development, production and dissemination of official statistics in Cyprus. This law specifies the tasks of the Statistical Service and defines its role and function as the agency responsible for the production of official statistics.</p> <p>The purpose of the new Law, which entered into force on the 18th March 2021, was to review and modernise the legislation governing the development, production and dissemination of official statistics in Cyprus. Its provisions are also in line with Regulation (EC) No. 223/2009 on European Statistics, with an emphasis on its latest amendment by Regulation (EU) 2015/759. The new law also attempted to include recommendations that were highlighted during the peer review process of the national statistical system, conducted in Cyprus in March 2015.</p>
2.1.2.2. Link to national legislation
https://www.cystat.gov.cy/en/StaticPage?id=1074
2.1.2.3. Responsible organisation for national legislation
CYSTAT
2.1.2.4. Year of entry into force of national legislation
2021
2.1.2.5. Coverage of variables required under EU regulation
All the variables required by the Regulation (EC) No. 1185/2009 of 25 November 2009 concerning statistics on pesticides are covered.
2.1.2.6. Divergence national definitions from EU regulation
No divergence between national and EU Regulation definitions.
2.1.2.7. Legal obligation for respondents
Yes
2.1.3. Unit of measure
The data are expressed in kilograms of active substances.
2.2. Classification system
The classification of the active substances in plant protection products is annexed (Annex III) to Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/269 of 16 February 2017 amending Regulation (EC) No 1185/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning statistics on pesticides. The active substances are classified according to chemical and functional similarity. Aggregation levels in descending order comprise: major groups, categories of products, chemical classes and active substances.
2.3. Coverage - sector
The survey covers all pesticides suppliers in Cyprus.
2.4. Statistical concepts and definitions
The active substances are classified according to the revised Annex III - Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/269 of 16 February 2017 and amending Regulation (EC) No 1185/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning statistics on pesticides.
2.5. Statistical unit
The authorised importers of pesticides who are also suppliers of pesticides.
2.6. Statistical population
All enterprises placing plant protection products on the market; authorisation holders and holders of parallel trade permits. In Cyprus there were only 17 suppliers of pesticides in 2020.

2.7. Reference area
See sub-concepts below.
2.7.1. Geographical area covered
Republic of Cyprus.
2.7.2. Inclusion of special territories
Not applicable.
2.8. Coverage - Time
Data are available as from 2011 on an annual basis.
2.9. Base period
Not applicable.

3. Statistical processing	Top
See sub-concepts below.	
3.1. Source data	
See sub-concepts below.	
3.1.1. Type of source data	
Census	
3.1.2. Specification of type of source data	
Not applicable.	
3.1.3. Main characteristics of source data	
The data is collected via e-mail questionnaires, where the total amount of kilograms and/or litres sold of every product is provided by each supplier.	
3.2. Frequency of data collection	
Annually.	
3.3. Data collection	
<p>The data collection is undertaken by the Agricultural Statistics Unit of Cystat via e-mail questionnaires addressed to the suppliers. These e-mail questionnaires are not published on Cystat's website. There exists close co-operation with the data providers so as to ensure high response rate and quality of the data. There are many ways of trying to encourage response and minimise refusals, including reminders to the non responding units by various media (fax, telephone or e-mail); therefore the response rate is 100%. All data providers are contacted as many times as necessary in order to get the data on time.</p>	
3.4. Data validation	
<p>The Agricultural Statistics Unit of Cystat receives annual data from all pesticides suppliers regarding the quantity of the substances that are sold in Cyprus. Validations are preformed for possible coding errors and volume errors. Also manual checks are carried out and, where necessary, contacts with enterprises/suppliers are taking place for the verification of data.</p> <p>Data collected is compared with the data of previous years (to detect any outliers) and where inconsistencies are found, the enterprises/suppliers are contacted again for further verification of the data.</p>	
3.5. Data compilation	
The total amount of kilograms and/or litres sold of every product is collected. Then, the total amount of active substance sold of each product is compiled using the amount of each active substance contained in the specific product sold and the quantities in kilograms and/or litres sold. After all amounts of active	

substances are calculated, these are summed up into new variables by chemical classes, then by categories of products and finally by major groups.

No weights are used since it is a census. Also, no imputations are performed since the suppliers provide all information on their sales placed in the market.

3.6. Adjustment

No adjustments are made.

4. Quality management

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See sub-concepts below.

4.1. Quality assurance

Statistics are produced in accordance with the provisions of the European Statistics Code of Practice and in line with the principles governing its implementation.

4.2. Quality management - assessment

The quality of statistics is assessed according to the following quality criteria: relevance, accuracy, timeliness, punctuality, accessibility and clarity, coherence and comparability. The quality indicators are assessed taking into account Eurostat defined methodology and recommendations. On the basis of the above criteria, the indicator is assessed as being of good quality.

5. Relevance

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See sub-concepts below.

5.1. Relevance - User Needs

Statistics on sales of pesticides are requested by Eurostat, FAO, the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, individual users, researchers.

5.2. Relevance - User Satisfaction

No user satisfaction survey has been carried out on statistics of pesticides. However, a user satisfaction survey is carried out on an annual basis by Cystat, but it does not allow for adequate conclusions to be made since it is not specific to particular statistical products.

5.3. Completeness

The data are transmitted to Eurostat at the level of detail required by the Regulation (EC) No. 1185/2009 on statistics of pesticides.

5.3.1. Data completeness - rate

100%

6. Accuracy and reliability

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See sub-concepts below.

6.1. Accuracy - overall

The primary objective is the production of accurate and reliable data on pesticides. For this purpose, a multilevel checking system of the questionnaires is set up after the completion of the data collection. Results are evaluated after the data analysis and are compared with the statistics on pesticides use, where applicable. Therefore, the degree of accuracy is expected to be high.

6.2. Sampling error

As there are only 17 suppliers of pesticides in the country, the survey is exhaustive. Data are not subject to sampling error because they are based on a census.
6.2.1. Sampling error - indicators
Not applicable.
6.3. Non-sampling error
For the pesticides' sales data, non-sampling errors are not quantified. Cystat tries to reduce non-sampling errors through continuous process improvements which can help avoiding coding and typing errors. The personnel working is well experienced and properly guided in order to be able to deal with difficult cases. At the stage of coding, basic checks are being performed regarding the contents of the filled questionnaires received. The common errors are measurement errors or incomplete information. After the punching of the data, exhaustive checks are applied for quality purposes. Appropriate validation procedures are applied at micro level and the following actions are performed: monitoring and analyzing the data completeness, consulting with the reporting units to confirm data. Controls on aggregated data are also performed before the transmission to Eurostat and their release at Cystat website.
6.3.1. Coverage error
Full coverage is achieved.
6.3.1.1. Over-coverage - rate
Not applicable.
6.3.1.2. Common units - proportion
Not applicable.
6.3.2. Measurement error
Not applicable.
6.3.3. Non response error
Not applicable.
6.3.3.1. Unit non-response - rate
No non-response units.
6.3.3.2. Item non-response - rate
No non-response items.
6.3.4. Processing error
Appropriate validation procedures are applied at micro level and the following actions are performed: 1) monitoring and analyzing the data completeness, 2) consulting with the reporting units to confirm data. Controls on aggregated data are also performed before their release.
6.3.4.1. Imputation - rate
No imputation is applied.
6.3.5. Model assumption error
Not applicable.
6.4. Seasonal adjustment
Not applicable for pesticide sales statistics, because the reported data on plant protection products covers the whole year.
6.5. Data revision - policy
There is a formal revision policy at Cystat. Cystat publishes its Revision Policy on its website, describing the general rules and principles governing the procedure of revising data published by Cystat. The policy is based on the guidelines of the European Statistical System (ESS) regarding revision

policies for principal European economic indicators, also taking into account the Quality Assurance Framework of the ESS and the European Statistics Code of Practice.

The same practice is applied to data transmitted to Eurostat; when revised data are transmitted to Eurostat, these are accompanied by the necessary explanations. National users are also informed with the appropriate notes together with the summary tables uploaded at Cystat website.

6.6. Data revision - practice

Only finalised data are transmitted to Eurostat. There are no planned revisions as such. Nevertheless, if data are revised, an informative e-mail message is sent to the person responsible for pesticides statistics in Eurostat Unit E-1.

6.6.1. Data revision - average size

Following methodological changes for the list of active substances (Annex III revised in February 2017), Cystat has reclassified data from 2011 onwards and are thus comparable. The reclassified data has been transmitted to Eurostat.

Revisions have been backwards implemented for the complete time series. Data for 2011-2016 have been revised since underreporting for certain products sold by the data providers have been identified; therefore revisions have been performed with the goal of improving the quality of the data.

7. Timeliness and punctuality

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See sub-concepts below.

7.1. Timeliness

Data are transmitted to Eurostat 12 months after the end of the reference year.

7.1.1. Time lag - first result

t+12 months.

7.1.2. Time lag - final result

t+12 months.

7.2. Punctuality

Eurostat deadlines are respected.

7.2.1. Punctuality - delivery and publication

The transmission deadlines are respected (30 December of the year t+1 for data transmission; 31 March of the year t+2 for national quality reports transmission).

7.2.2. Data release according to schedule

Yes

7.2.3. Metadata release according to schedule

Yes

7.2.4. Reasons for delays

Deadlines are respected. No delays.

8. Coherence and comparability

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See sub-concepts below.

8.1. Comparability - geographical

Since Cyprus is a NUTS1 region, comparability is possible only with other European countries.

8.1.1. Asymmetry for mirror flow statistics - coefficient

Not applicable.
8.2. Comparability - over time
Data are comparable over time. Data have been released as from 2011.
8.2.1. Length of comparable time series
9
8.3. Coherence - cross domain
Comparisons are carried out with annual data on pesticides use, where applicable.
8.4. Coherence - sub annual and annual statistics
Not applicable.
8.5. Coherence - National Accounts
Not applicable.
8.6. Coherence - internal
The data are internally consistent.

9. Accessibility and clarity	Top
See sub-concepts below.	
9.1. Dissemination format - News release	
No news release accompanies the tables published.	
9.2. Dissemination format - Publications	
No publication is produced; however summary tables are published on CYSTAT's website (see section 9.3. Dissemination format - online database).	
9.3. Dissemination format - online database	
There is no online database available, instead a summary table 'Sales of pesticides, 2011-2020' is uploaded on the website of the Statistical Service of Cyprus with aggregated results of the substances of pesticides placed in the market. https://www.cystat.gov.cy/en/KeyFiguresList?s=28	
9.3.1. Data tables - consultations	
Not available.	
9.4. Dissemination format - microdata access	
There is no microdata access to outside users.	
9.5. Dissemination format - other	
No other dissemination format.	
9.6. Documentation on methodology	
Not available.	
9.7. Quality management - documentation	
Not available.	
9.7.1. Metadata completeness - rate	
Not applicable.	
9.7.2. Metadata - consultations	
Not applicable.	

10. Cost and Burden

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Overall the cost of the survey is estimated to be minimal. To minimise the respondent's burden as much as possible, the questionnaire is designed to be clear and simple. No cost and burden exercise has been recently performed.

11. Confidentiality

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See sub-concepts below.

11.1. Confidentiality - policy

Under the provisions of the Official Statistics Law, the information collected is treated as confidential and is used solely for statistical purposes. No data for any individual enterprise is published or disclosed to either public bodies or private individuals.

11.2. Confidentiality - data treatment

Restricted from publication

12. Comment

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The small number of pesticide suppliers and the specific substances that exist in the market guarantees to a large extent the accuracy of the collected data.

Related metadata

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Annexes

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