

# 18-AGRICULTURE

In 2005, agricultural produce sales amounted to 70 million Euros. In terms of domestic consumption New Caledonian production covered approximately half of local needs, the remainder being satisfied by imported product.

The 2002 agricultural census showed 5 574 agricultural operations, for a total Land area farmed (SAU) of 247 878 ha, or 13% of the total surface area of New Caledonia, a low proportion that can be explained by the topographical nature of the territory. In Metropolitan France the figure reached 51% in the 2000 agricultural census.

The agricultural family population has shown a downward trend : it accounted for 10% of the New Caledonian population in 2002, as opposed to 23% in 1991. The average age of farm managers has increased, from 48 years old in 1991 to 50 years in 2002.

Agriculture's contribution to gross domestic product in 2001 was less than 2%.

Over and above these weakness, agriculture plays a central role in New Caledonian society, by helping to contain the rural exodus and keep populations on the lands where they were born.

The agricultural sector receives significant assistance from the State, New Caledonia (via ERPA) and the provinces. As well as the quantifiable measures, there are a variety of protective measures for local production, such as the TSPA agricultural product support tax applicable to certain imported products, and import quotas. APICAN also intervenes in favour of agriculture. Within the framework of land reform, ADRAF undertakes all purchases and attributions in terms of agriculture and land, as well as improvement and economic development activities in the rural environment. Lastly, this assistance is complemented by an agricultural trades training programme, along with interventions from various research organisations present in New Caledonia.

► **Agricultural produce sales.** Estimated from information supplied by a variety of organisations : the chamber of agriculture, which manages the wholesale market, the Veterinary, foodstuffs and rural affairs department which carries out monthly surveys of producers, OCEF, ERPA and the provinces. These produce sales only represent a portion of total agricultural production, which is very difficult to evaluate due to family production (self-sufficiency consumption) and sales outside official circuits which remain unknown. It does not include the aquaculture industry.

► **General Agriculture Census, Agricultural operation, SAU.** See 18.2. Wholesale market, ERPA. See 18.3. OCEF. See 18.4. ADRAF. See 4.2.

► **Agricultural family population.** Comprises the farm manager, any co-managers and the members of their families living and/or working on the property.

► **APICAN.** Agency for the prevention and compensation of agricultural disasters, established under deliberation n°342 of December 30, 2002 by the Congress of New Caledonia.

► **Agricultural trades training.** Provided by a variety of initial and ongoing training organisations, being Lycée Agricole de Pouembout, Lycée d'Enseignement Professionnel Do Neva in Houailou, Groupement du Service Militaire Adapté de Nouvelle-Calédonie, Etablissement Territorial de Formation Professionnelle des Adultes de Bourail, Centre de Formation des Apprentis Agricoles de la Chambre d'Agriculture de Nouvelle-Calédonie, Centre Consulaire de Formation Agricole de la Chambre d'Agriculture de Nouvelle-Calédonie, Maisons Familiales Rurales and their Committee.

## SOURCES

[1] DAVAR, *L'agriculture calédonienne de 1994 à 2003*.

[2] DAVAR, *Mémento agricole 2005*.

[3] DAVAR-ISEE, *Recensement Général Agricole 2002/Principaux résultats*, Notes et Documents n°94, mai 2005.

ERPA, *Rapport d'Activité 2004*. Disponible en ligne sur : [www.isee.nc](http://www.isee.nc)

DAVAR-ISEE, *Recensement Général Agricole 2002/Inventaire communal*, Notes et Documents n°91, 92 et 93, novembre 2004. Disponible en ligne sur : [www.isee.nc](http://www.isee.nc)

Institut de la Statistique et des Études Économiques (ISEE), *Comptes économiques 2001*.

## SEE ALSO

DAVAR, *Annuaire des professionnels de l'agriculture et de l'agro-alimentaire 2005-2006*.

Chambre d'Agriculture de Nouvelle-Calédonie, *La Calédonie agricole*.

Chambre d'Agriculture de Nouvelle-Calédonie, *Marché de gros, Rapport d'activité 2005*.

Direction des Affaires Vétérinaires, Alimentaires et Rurales (DAVAR) : [www.davar.gouv.nc](http://www.davar.gouv.nc)

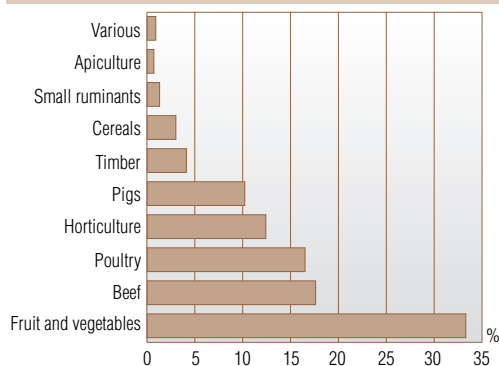
Institut de la Statistique et des Études Économiques (ISEE) : [www.isee.nc](http://www.isee.nc)

## Agricultural produce sales and imports of agricultural products [1 and 2]

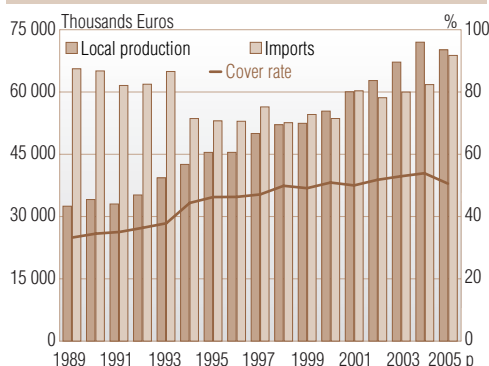
	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 p
Local agricultural produce	34 040	45 378	55 300	59 934	62 649	67 082	71 875	70 032
Agricultural product imports	64 962	52 953	53 523	60 168	58 518	59 875	61 677	68 691
<b>Agricultural industry cover rate</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>46.1</b>	<b>50.8</b>	<b>49.9</b>	<b>51.7</b>	<b>52.8</b>	<b>53.8</b>	<b>50.5</b>

Units : thousand Euros, %

### Breakdown of agricultural produce sales in 2005 [2]



### Agricultural sector development [1 and 2]



### Agricultural family populations by province (2002 General agricultural census) [3]

	Loyalty islands province		Northern province		Southern province		New Caledonia	
	1991	2002	1991	2002	1991	2002	1991	2002
<b>Agricultural family population</b>	<b>12 374</b>	<b>7 449</b>	<b>18 959</b>	<b>8 421</b>	<b>8 978</b>	<b>5 342</b>	<b>40 311</b>	<b>21 212</b>
Average age	25	29	27	32	28	36	27	32
<b>Agricultural workers (UTA) (a)</b>	<b>2 725</b>	<b>1 601</b>	<b>5 452</b>	<b>2 388</b>	<b>2 842</b>	<b>2 452</b>	<b>11 019</b>	<b>6 441</b>
incl. family workers	2 706	1 556	5 266	2 173	2 194	1 568	10 166	5 297
non-family member permanent workers	7	2	132	159	608	777	747	938
mutual aid and seasonal workers	13	43	54	56	40	107	107	206

(a) Annual work unit

Units : number, year, UTA

### Agricultural land area by province (2002 General agricultural census) [3]

	Loyalty islands province	Northern province	Southern province	New Caledonia
Forage fields	-	110	646	756
Improved pastures	6	8 453	26 364	34 823
Natural, maintained pastures	20	44 486	54 869	99 375
Plant production	498	2 308	3 089	5 895
<b>Maintained Agricultural Land Area (SAE)</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>55 357</b>	<b>84 968</b>	<b>140 849</b>
Low production pasture	579	65 758	38 895	105 232
Fallow and other arable lands	16	391	1 195	1 602
Various	46	141	8	195
<b>Land area farmed</b>	<b>1 164</b>	<b>121 647</b>	<b>125 066</b>	<b>247 878</b>
Non-productive fallow lands	165	8 350	8 719	17 235
Floors of buildings and yards	253	741	761	1 755
Replanted forest	24	258	351	632
Natural forest	59	4 700	13 214	17 974
Various	3	1 161	2 908	4 072
<b>Total farmed area</b>	<b>1 669</b>	<b>136 857</b>	<b>151 019</b>	<b>289 545</b>
<b>Total land area</b>	<b>198 090</b>	<b>958 260</b>	<b>701 200</b>	<b>1 857 550</b>

Unit : ha

### Major financial assistance for agriculture [1]

	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 p
Assistance from New Caledonia	7 031	6 788	9 394	8 573	8 925	13 618	10 793	8 313
incl. ERPA (a)	4 006	4 215	6 779	6 955	7 333	7 391	5 573	5 028
Assistance from Provinces	5 531	1 223	4 810	6 486	12 017	7 173	4 835	4 785
State assistance (b)	5 975	226	109	1 131	654	7 307	821	193

(a) ERPA also provides assistance to aquaculture and for the transport of marine products.

(b) Excluding assistance provided within the development contracts.

(c) Including 777 million compensation following cyclone Erica.

Unit : thousand Euros