

A smiling couple stands in a lush green field of beets. The woman on the left, with long brown hair, wears a red and white plaid shirt over a white top and blue jeans, holding a wooden crate filled with beets. The man on the right, wearing a straw hat, a blue denim jacket over a white t-shirt, and blue jeans, holds a bunch of beets. The background shows a vast green field under a bright, hazy sky.

Assessment of generational renewal strategies across EU Member States

Annex I
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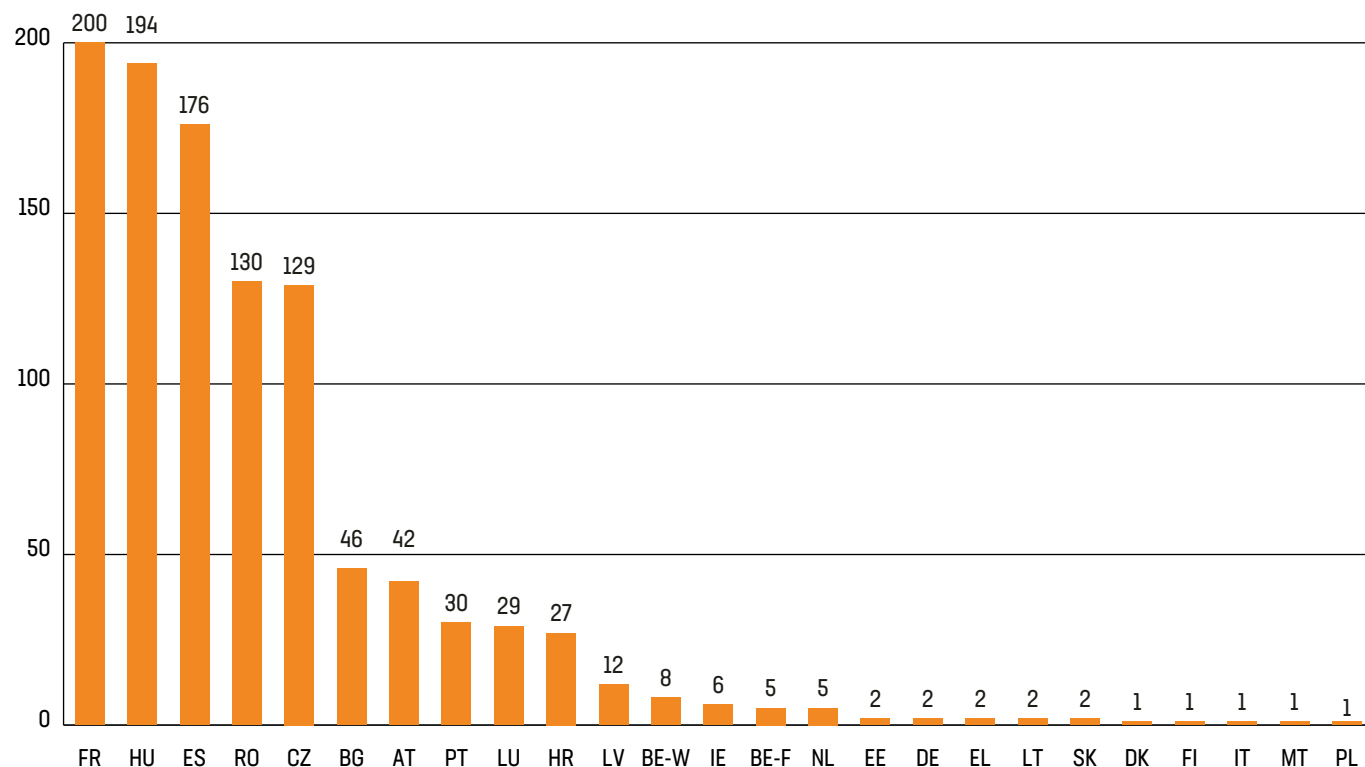
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Descriptive statistics of the survey of young farmers

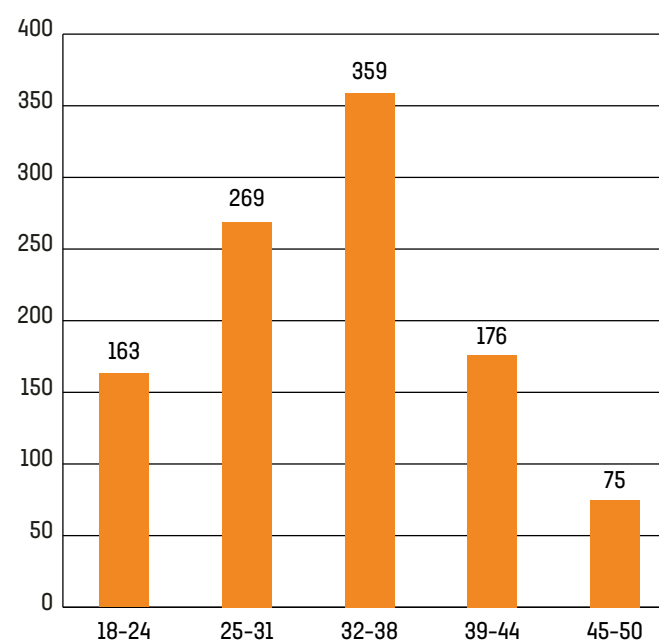
The survey has received participation from 1 103 respondents across most Member States. France, Hungary and Spain display the highest number of respondents (>170), but a good number of responses also came from Romania and Czechia. No survey participation from Cyprus, Sweden and Slovenia and very little participation from other Member States (with only one or two responses submitted in ten of them).

Figure 1. Distribution of survey responses across Member States



Source: EU CAP Network supported by the European Evaluation Helpdesk for the CAP (2025), elaboration of survey data, N°=1 054

Figure 2. Age distribution of respondents

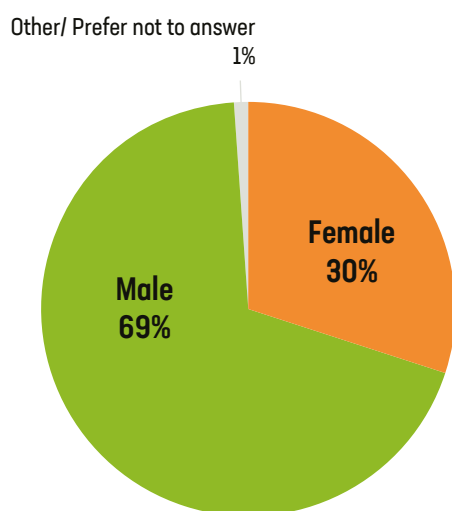


Excluding the 49 survey participants aged over 50 who were not included in the analysis, as outlined in the study's methodology, the age of the respondents ranges from 18 to 50. The average (mean) age of respondents is 32.8 years, while the median age is 32 years, indicating a highly balanced age distribution. When broken down into age groups, the 32-38 bracket is the most represented, followed by the 25-31 bracket.

Source: EU CAP Network supported by the European Evaluation Helpdesk for the CAP (2025), elaboration of survey data, N°=1 042 (excluding blank responses)



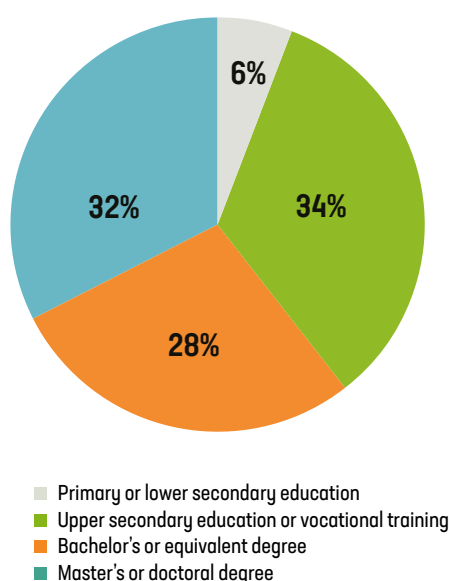
Figure 3. Gender distribution of respondents



Source: EU CAP Network supported by the European Evaluation Helpdesk for the CAP (2025), elaboration of survey data, N°=1 054

More than two out of three respondents (724) are male and the remaining third (322) are female. Five respondents stated they preferred not to answer, while three selected 'other'.

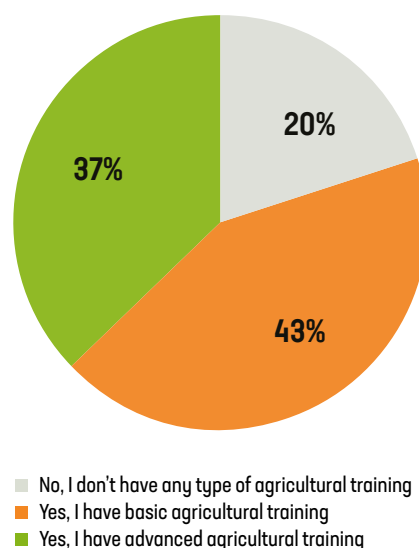
Figure 4. Distribution of respondents by educational level



Source: EU CAP Network supported by the European Evaluation Helpdesk for the CAP (2025), elaboration of survey data, N°=1 051 (excluding blank responses)

The graph above illustrates the distribution of respondents by educational level. The largest group (more than one in three respondents) completed upper secondary education or vocational training, followed closely by those holding a master's or doctoral degree. Bachelor's degree holders make up more than one in four of the respondents, while only a small fraction have primary or lower secondary education. This indicates that the surveyed population is generally well-educated (60% obtained a university degree) with a strong representation of individuals who have pursued higher education.

Figure 5. Agricultural training among respondents



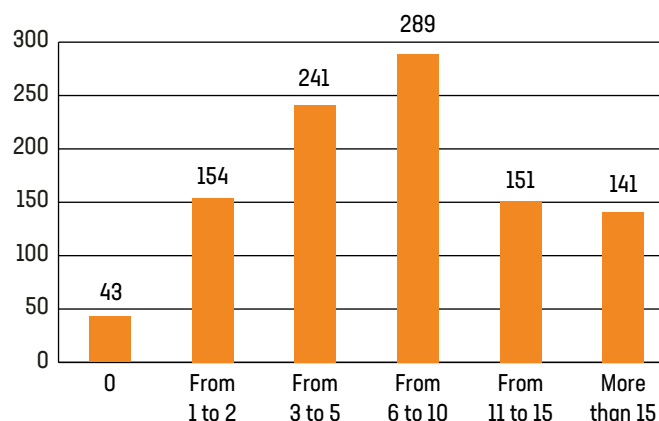
Source: EU CAP Network supported by the European Evaluation Helpdesk for the CAP (2025), elaboration of survey data, N°=1 047 (excluding blank responses)

The respondents were asked to indicate their level of agricultural training. For the purpose of this questionnaire, we referred to the Eurostat definitions: 'basic training' was defined as less than two years of full-time training, such as an agricultural apprenticeship or compulsory high school with a specialisation in agriculture. 'Advanced training' was defined as at least two years of full-time training beyond compulsory education, such as a specialised college or university programme.

The responses reveal that one in five respondents (204) has no agricultural training at all. More than one in three (391) have advanced agricultural training, while the largest proportion of respondents (452) have only basic training. Seven respondents gave no answer.



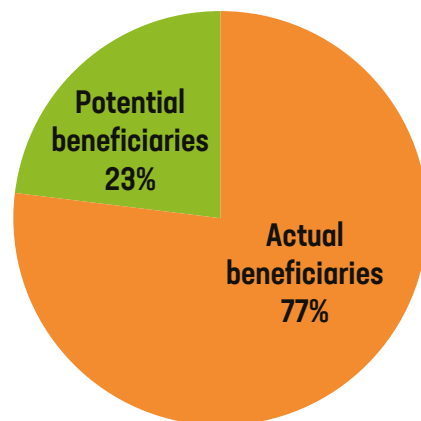
Figure 6. Years of experience in agriculture among respondents



Source: EU CAP Network supported by the European Evaluation Helpdesk for the CAP (2025), elaboration of survey data, N°=1 047 (excluding blank responses)

The distribution of responses shows a total of 1 019 individuals reporting their years of experience in agriculture. The mean stands at 8.6 years, while the median is slightly lower at seven years, indicating a right-skewed distribution. This suggests that although most respondents have under a decade of experience, a smaller number with significantly longer careers are raising the average.

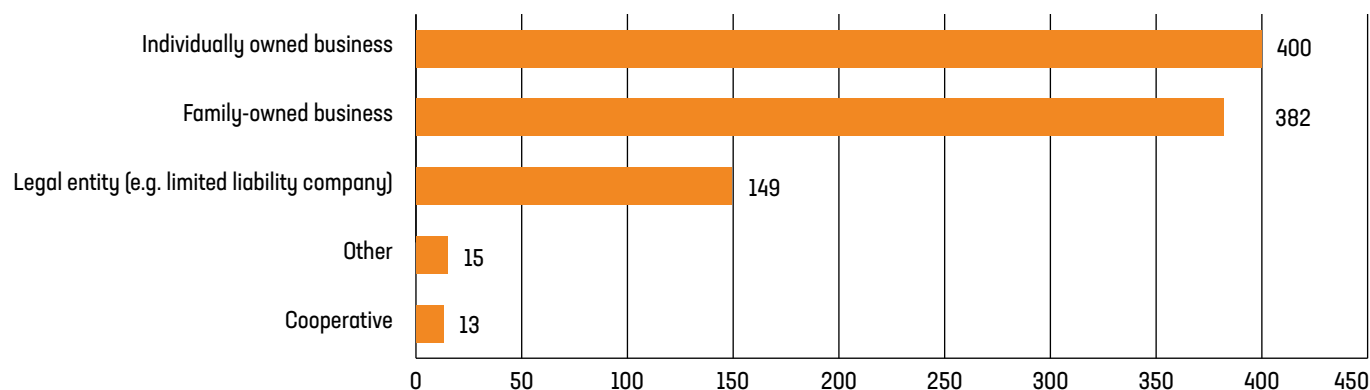
Figure 7. Distribution of respondents between actual and potential beneficiaries of GR support



Source: EU CAP Network supported by the European Evaluation Helpdesk for the CAP (2025), elaboration of survey data, N°=1 054

Survey respondents were asked to select the category that best described their entrepreneurial stance from a set of options, allowing us to classify them as either actual or potential beneficiaries of policy support favouring generational renewal (GR)¹. More than three-quarters of respondents (808) were classified as actual beneficiaries, while less than one-quarter of respondents were considered potential beneficiaries (246). The two groups of respondents answered different sets of survey questions related to their perception of relevant policy instruments in their respective Member States, which we processed for the analysis.

Figure 8. Distribution of respondents according to their farm legal form



Source: EU CAP Network supported by the European Evaluation Helpdesk for the CAP (2025), elaboration of survey data, N°=959 (excluding blank responses and respondents who could not answer the question due to filtering in the questionnaire)

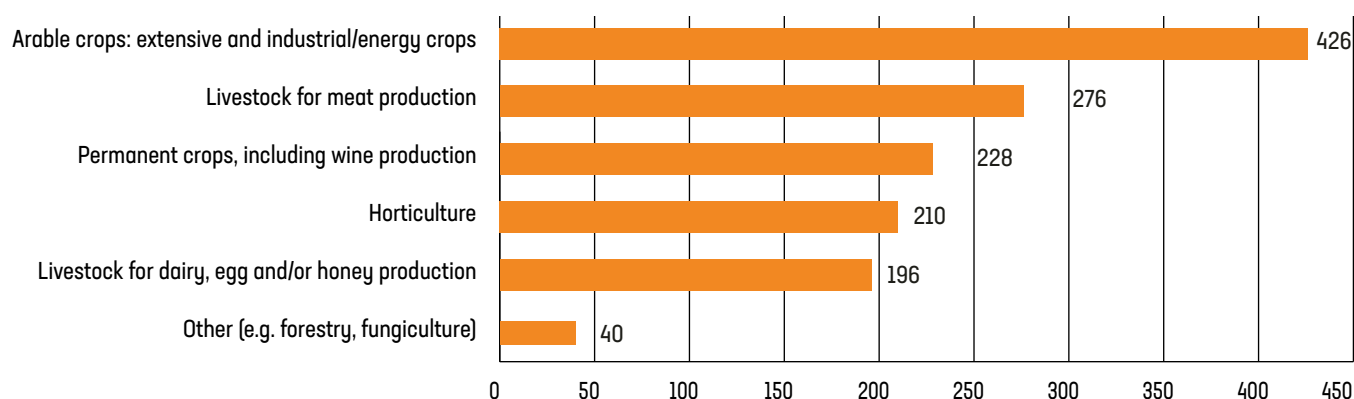
From the distribution of respondents according to the legal form of the farm, it is evident that the vast majority work in either family-owned businesses or individually owned businesses, which together account for 81% of the responses. A modest proportion falls under 'legal entities', while only a few belong to cooperatives or other types of legal forms. Notably, only 12 respondents did not provide an answer to this question, while another 83 respondents were not allowed to answer it.²

¹ In the classification the study considered that respondents answering 'I took over the farm and am formally the main farm manager or a co-manager' or 'I am not a farm manager yet, but I am actively moving towards taking over farm business management in the near future' could be categorised as 'actual beneficiaries' since they most probably receive or have received some form of support. For all other responses: 'I am working on a farm, and I may potentially be willing to take over a farm as farm manager', 'I am working on a farm, and I have not considered taking over a farm yet', 'I am not involved in farming, but I may potentially be willing to take over a farm as farm manager' and 'I am not involved in farming, and I have not considered taking over a farm yet', the respondents have been classified as 'potential beneficiaries', either because they are not (yet) involved in farming or they are but not as farm managers.

² Respondents who had previously selected either 'I am working on a farm, and I have not considered taking over a farm as a farm manager yet' or 'I am not involved in farming, and I have not considered taking over a farm as a farm manager yet' in the filter question of the questionnaire had this question hidden (branching).



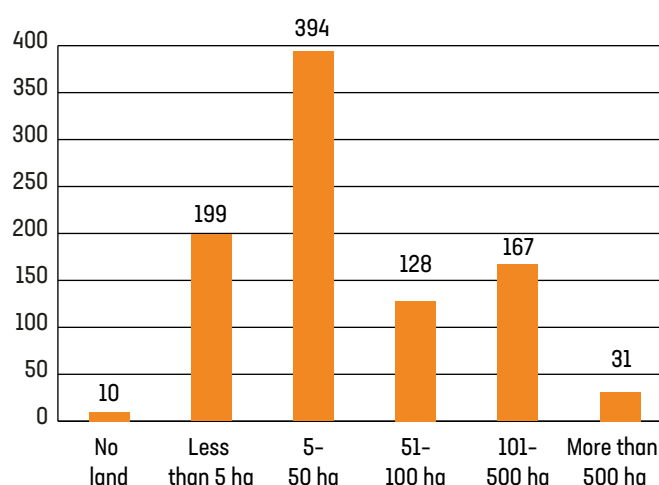
Figure 9. Distribution of respondents' farming types



Source: EU CAP Network supported by the European Evaluation Helpdesk for the CAP (2025), elaboration of survey data, N°=956 (excluding blank responses and respondents who could not answer the question due to filtering in the questionnaire), multiple choice allowed

Of those survey participants who could answer the question ³, 91% gave an answer. The graph above shows the distribution of farming types among survey respondents, with arable crops being the most common sector, selected by 44% of respondents. This is followed by livestock for meat production (29%), permanent crops (24%) and horticulture (22%). Less common types include livestock for dairy, egg and/or honey production (20%) and other activities like forestry or fungiculture (4%). The data suggests a predominance of crop-based farming (63% of respondents), particularly in arable crop production.

Figure 10. Distribution of respondents according to their farm size

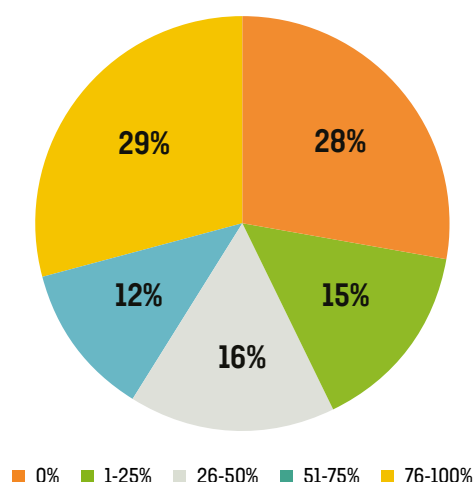


Source: EU CAP Network supported by the European Evaluation Helpdesk for the CAP (2025), elaboration of survey data, N°=929 (excluding blank responses and respondents who could not answer the question due to filtering in the questionnaire)

Of those survey participants who could answer the question ⁴, 96% reported the total number of hectares of the farm on which they operate. The mean of the sample is 161 hectares and the median is 25. The large gap between the mean and the median indicates a heavily right-skewed distribution, suggesting the presence of a small number of very high values that are pulling the mean upward; indeed, the highest value is 38 000. The responses were subsequently categorised by farm size. The results indicate a fairly representative distribution of farm size classes, with the

5-50 hectares category being the most prevalent, encompassing 42% of those who answered the question. This is followed by the category of farms smaller than five hectares, which accounts for 21%, and the 101-500 hectares category, representing 18%. The remaining categories received fewer responses.

Figure 11. Distribution of respondents according to the share of rented land out of the total hectares of their farm



Source: EU CAP Network supported by the European Evaluation Helpdesk for the CAP (2025), elaboration of survey data, N°=911 (excluding blank responses and respondents who could not answer the question due to filtering in the questionnaire).

NB: For clarity, the legend on the right displays the percentage ranges of rented land, while the percentages in the pie chart represent the share of respondents within each of these ranges.

³ Ibid.

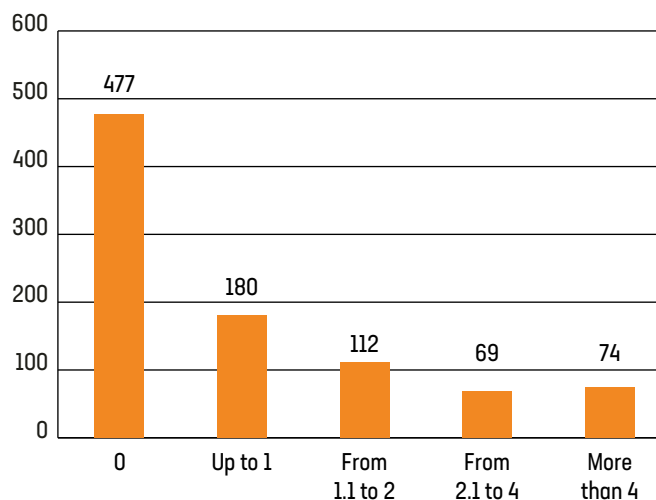
⁴ Ibid.



Of those survey participants who could answer the question ⁵, 94% indicated the percentage share of rented land, and, as in the previous case, we categorised the reported percentages into five groups. The mean is 44% and the median is 40%, indicating a fairly balanced distribution. The data indicate that nearly three out of

four respondents report renting at least a portion of their land, with the largest proportion falling within the 76-100% range. However, more than one in four respondents stated that they do not lease any portion of their land.

Figure 12. Declared average number of full-time equivalent (FTE) hired workers per farm per year

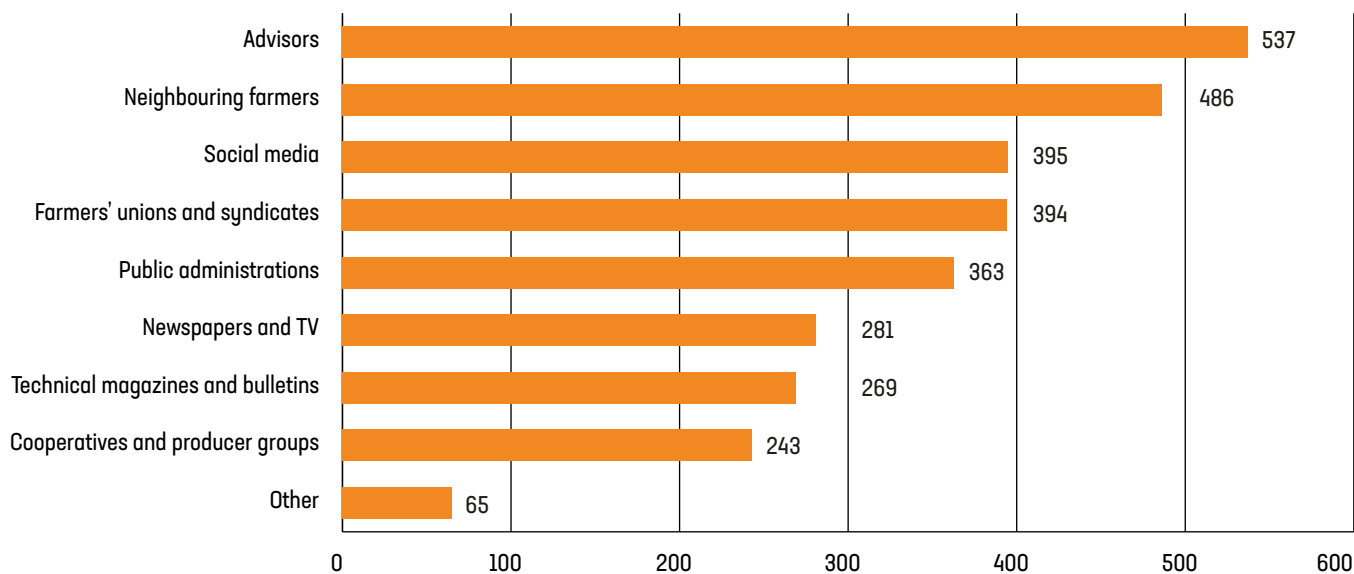


Of those survey respondents who could answer the question ⁶, 86% gave an answer. The graph shows that the vast majority of respondents' farms do not employ any hired workers in FTE terms over the course of a year, with 52% of respondents reporting zero FTEs. This is followed by a sharp drop, with 20% of farms employing up to one FTE, and progressively fewer farms employing more hired workers. Notably, only 8% of farms employ more than four FTEs, indicating that high levels of hired labour are relatively rare. Overall, the data suggest that most respondents' farms operate with minimal or no hired labour, highlighting a predominance of small-scale or family-run operations.

Source: EU CAP Network supported by the European Evaluation Helpdesk for the CAP (2025), elaboration of survey data, N°=912 (excluding blank responses and respondents who could not answer the question due to filtering in the questionnaire)

NB: 1 FTE = a full-time employee with 40 hours work per week; FTE = a part-time employee with 20 hours work per week.

Figure 13. Distribution of responses regarding information sources used by respondents to learn about existing policies for young/new farmers



Source: EU CAP Network supported by the European Evaluation Helpdesk for the CAP (2025), elaboration of survey data, N°=1 029 (excluding blank responses), multiple choice allowed

Finally, we present survey responses on how respondents reported becoming informed about policies for young and new farmers. Advisors and neighbouring farmers are the most commonly used sources, each cited by approximately half of the respondents. However, social media, trade unions and public administrations are also widely utilised channels of information.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.



