Agriculture in Denmark

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Background

DAFC established in June 2009 through a merger of:

The Danish Agricultural Council
The Danish Bacon & Meat Council
Danish Pig Production
Danish Agriculture (including Media Service)
The Danish Agricultural Advisory Service
The Danish Dairy Federation (part)
The role of the Danish Agriculture and Food Council

- Political advocacy
- Global market access and promotion
- Advice for farmers and industry members
- Knowledge and innovation
Location of personnel
(1,100)

- Knowledge Centre for Agriculture
- AgroTech
- Kjellerup
- Vejen
- Bruxelles
- London
- Tokyo
- Beijing
- Kolle Kolle
- Axelborg
- Media
- Koldkærgård
An industry grouping equipped to meet the global challenges

(2011 turn overs)

Danish Crown: EUR 7,5 b
Arla: EUR 8,5 b (cooperatives)
Cimbria, Kongskilde and many other SME
Chr. Hansen: EUR 0,7 b
Novozymes: EUR 1,5 b

DLG: EUR 5,5 b
Danish Agro: EUR 2 b
The Danish Agriculture and Food Industry

Denmark's largest industry grouping, with 183,000 employed in agriculture and related industries

The industry's production accounted for 3% of GDP

Two-thirds of production is exported, with an annual value of DKK 148 billion (= 20b euro)

The industry accounts for 24% of exports from Denmark when agribusiness is included

61 percent of Denmark’s total area is cultivated
Danish Cattle Industry

Around 4,000 family owned dairy farms

Total milk production (quota) 4,705 million kg/year

50 – 2,000 cows per farm (mostly Holstein, some Jersey and a few VikingRed)

Exports (2012):
• 2/3 of the production (cooperatives, e.g. Arla)
• 2b euro in milk products
• 0,5b euro in cattle meat and live animals
Danish cattle farmers among the most efficient in the world

Milk yield per cow (kg ECM/yearcow)

Source: ZMB 2011 and Knowledge Centre for Agriculture
More for less – Danish agricultural production increases while the environmental impact decreases

Danish produced milk has the lowest CO₂ load in the EU - due to high efficiency and high utilization of N in the fields

Source: Animal Feed Science and Technology p. 166–167 (2011)
Unique Results Obtained by:

High level of know-how in the cattle farming cluster
  Unique cooperation among research, development, advisory service and farmers
  A unique value chain due to farmer owned companies such as Arla Foods
The Danish Counselling system

Implementation of
- Management
- Know how
- Etc.
Danish Agricultural Advisory Service

Knowledge Centre for Agriculture
App. 550 employees

30 Advisory Centres
(app. 2000 employees)

Milk Quality Adviser

Breeding Adviser
Growth potentials
There is a paradox

Long term possibilities, but tough short term challenges:

- Constant pressure from new business taxes, levies and extra regulations on fx. animal welfare and environment

- Credit crunch still hinders many new investments
The Danish economy has stopped growing

- Productivity in general is not increasing
- Wages are high
- Minimal growth perspectives for the big markets in the EU
- Global insecurity is difficult for such a small open economy as ours
Intensive sustainable food production is part of the solution

FAO: “Intensive production holds key to feeding growing cities, but improvements in natural resource use and environmental performance are crucial”
Demand is rising
Large potential for growth in the entire Danish sector

Kilde: Danmarks Statistik og OECD. 2013.