

# How to Get Results from FBS data builder - A Quick Guide -

FBS data builder is a specialist interactive system for professionals and researchers. It allows direct interrogation of Farm Business Survey (FBS) data to construct user defined tables.

The statistics in FBS data builder are periodically updated in accordance with the latest revisions to the FBS calculated variables (currently version 52). The figures from some variables may thus be subject to revised calculations from time to time.

[Request data](#)   [User Guide](#)

If you are a new user, you are strongly urged to go first to the [User Guide](#) which allows you to browse through some pre-specified tables first to learn how the system works. Alternatively, go straight to [Request data](#), or see one of the 'Top Queries' (below).

Top Queries in	Links to Tables:	Query Reference	Vote
<b>FBS data builder*</b>			
	<a href="#">Farm Business Income (FBI): by Region</a>	5052	0
	<a href="#">Farm Business Income (FBI): by Farm Type</a>	5053	2
	<a href="#">Farm Business Income (FBI): by Region and Farm Type</a>	5054	0
	<a href="#">Labour productivity (agriculture): by Size of FBI and Tenure</a>	5056	0
	<a href="#">Labour productivity (agriculture) (Output/AgWorker/Equiv): by Farm Type</a>	5057	0
	<a href="#">Age of Farmer: by Farm Type</a>	5058	0
	<a href="#">Number of Farmers: by Farm Type and Age Band of Farmer</a>	5060	0
	<a href="#">Number of Farms: by Tenure and Farm Size</a>	5061	0
	<a href="#">Number of Farms: by Region and Farm Type</a>	5062	0
	<a href="#">Number of Farms: by Farm Type and Farm Size</a>	5063	0
	<a href="#">Total Area of Farm: by Farm Type</a>	5064	1
	<a href="#">FBI: by Farm Type and Performance</a>	5067	0

## Dimensions

Data builder calculates 'one-way' tables (eg income for each different 'Farm type') or 'two-way' tables (eg income for each 'Farm type' in each big 'Region' of England). Here 'Farm type' and 'FADN Region' are the 'dimensions' of, respectively, one and two-dimension tables.

For examples of the types of results see some of the most popular queries, which are listed at [FarmBusinessSurvey.co.uk/DataBuilder](http://FarmBusinessSurvey.co.uk/DataBuilder) (image above).

Other possible dimensions include 'Size category of farm' (eg part-time, or very-big), or 'Size Groups of wheat area' (eg farms with 0ha, or 0-10ha, or 10-20ha, or more than 250ha of wheat).

There are 16 possible standard dimensions offered in data builder, and over 500 possible 'size group' dimensions.

If you just want to know the figure for England, select 'None' as both 'Dimension 1' and 'Dimension 2'. If you want just a single row or column of results select 'None' for one of the 'Dimensions'.

## Years

The FBS year for which you wish to know a result can also be selected on the dimensions page. The years currently available are from harvest 96/97 to the present. However not all variables were collected in earlier years.

Year: 2011/12  
Country: England

Choose Rows and Columns (Dimensions).

To find a single figure for England choose 'None' for both rows and columns. To get single rows of values select 'None' for ROWS and something else as COLUMNS. For quicker results choose fewer categories.

Dimension 1 (ROWS): Farm Type  
None  
Size groups of...  
Government Office Region  
FADN region  
Farm Type  
Farm Size  
Tenure  
LFA status  
Rural classification  
River basin catchment area  
Legal form of business  
Accountancy office  
Duration in FBS (years)  
Age band of principal farmer  
Gender of principal farmer  
Education of principal farmer  
Performance - across all  
Performance - by farm type

Dimension 2 (COLUMNS): FADN region  
None  
Size groups of...  
Government Office Region  
FADN region  
Farm Type  
Farm Size  
Tenure  
LFA status  
Rural classification  
River basin catchment area  
Legal form of business  
Accountancy office  
Duration in FBS (years)  
Age band of principal farmer  
Gender of principal farmer  
Education of principal farmer  
Performance - across all  
Performance - by farm type

It is NOT RECOMMENDED that you select here!

Click

## Variables

Variables are the measures for which you wish to know results. For example Farm Business Income (of 'Dairy Farms' in the 'West' of England). There are over 700 variables available in data builder. From the number of boars, to labour productivity of agriculture (ag output, in £, divided by the number of full time work equivalents). Others variables include crop, and livestock, yields, areas and production, and a whole host of financial measures.

Variables are grouped in hierarchical categories, and we recommend that you 'Accept' a variable at the lowest level of the hierarchy that is of interest to you (lowest on the web-page). For example you will mostly get much quicker results if you choose to accept 'Potatoes sale price', instead of accepting 'Crops' (which will not necessarily list every lower level variable).

## Statistics

### FBS data builder

Statistics are the type of result you want. For example the Sum of machinery purchases by Horticultural farms (farm type) in the East (FADN region) of England - which is aggregated so as to estimate the figure for that entire population. Alternatively you might want to know the Average Per Farm (the statistic) number of beef cattle (the variable) on Lowland livestock farms (farm type) in the West (region).

Statisticians may wish to know the Standard Error or the Proportional Standard Error - to know if a difference between results is likely to be 'significant' (ie it is probably not due just to chance variation). For example if they wished to compare the income (average per farm) of LFA farmers (LFA status - dimension 1) in the North and the West (regions - dimension 2).

Some statistics make no sense for particular variables. For example the 'sum' (the statistic) of farmers ages (the variable), or the sum of oilseed rape yields - which are meaningless numbers. On the other hand, the sum of combining peas and beans production by FADN region might be very interesting.

The screenshot shows a window titled 'Accept. Crop production (tonnes) ...'. It contains a list of variables: Cereals production (tonnes), Wheat production (tonnes), Barley production (tonnes), Oilseed rape production (tonnes), Peas and beans production (tonnes) (highlighted), Potatoes production (tonnes), Sugar beet production (tonnes), Horticulture production (tonnes), and Cash crops production (tonnes). Below this is a section titled 'My items: You have 2 items in your list.' which contains: Potatoes sale price [Average per farm] and Peas and beans production (tonnes) [Sum]. At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Remove', 'Remove All', 'OK', and 'Cancel'.

**Highlight:** 'hold down the mouse button and drag' - over the items you wish to copy

**Copy:** (to your 'clipboard') press 'Ctrl+C' (the control button and the character C at the same time).

**Paste:** click to choose the spot where you want the copy to go, and press 'Ctrl+V'. Alternatively, 'Right-Click' where you wish it to go and select 'Paste'. In Excel, if you then select 'Paste-Special' you can paste tabular data directly into a table of spreadsheet cells in one go by choosing 'Paste-Special' as 'Unicode text'

## SUMMARY:

The screenshot shows the 'Retrieve' step of the FBS data builder. It includes a text box for a reference number (006928) and a 'Retrieve' button. Below this, it says 'Follow these steps to create your own results:' with steps 1 (Select dimensions), 2 (Select variables), and 3 (Execute request). There is also a field for an email address (mar58@cam.ac.uk) and an 'Execute request' button. On the right, a preview shows the table layout: Year: 2011/12, Country: England, Dimension 1 as rows: None, and Dimension 2 as columns: FADN region. The variables listed are Potatoes sale price [Average per farm] and Peas and beans production (tonnes) [Sum]. A 'Clear selections' button is at the bottom right.

**STEP 1** Choose the YEAR, ROWS and COLUMNS in 'Dimensions', and click 'OK'. For example 'I want to see results for FARM TYPES (rows) by FADN REGIONS (columns) for 2005/6'

**STEP 2** Choose the VARIABLES, 'Accept' and click 'OK'. For example 'number of boars', or 'management and investment income'.

**STEP 3** Optionally enter your email address, and click 'Execute Request'.

If your results are not ready straight away, click 'View request specification', then 'Retrieve' the request, and click 'Execute request' again after a short pause.

If you put in your email address, the system will email you the spreadsheet, and a link to the html, as soon as your request is completed.

## FBS data builder

[FarmBusinessSurvey.co.uk/DataBuilder](http://FarmBusinessSurvey.co.uk/DataBuilder)

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