

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE: 2007-2008 Farm Business Survey (FBS) submission to UK Data Archive**

### **Introduction**

1. The submission for FBS year 2007-2008 includes the following files:
  - FAS24 2007-08.xls;
  - FAS23 2007-08.xls;
  - FBS2007.mdb;
  - 07FASData.txt (table from Access database available from UKDA as .tab file);
  - 07FASData\_Section\_Y.txt (available from UKDA as .tab file);
  - 07CalcData.txt (available from UKDA as .tab file); and,
  - 07CalcVars.txt (available from UKDA as .tab file).
2. This explanatory provides brief background information on each of these files. Please note that it is not intended to detail the operation of the Farm Business Survey here.

### **FAS24 2007-08.xls**

3. A Microsoft Excel version of the primary farm level recording form (FAS 24) that is the basis of the FBS. The FAS 24 is supplied by DEFRA to the University centres that are responsible for collecting FBS data in England and Wales. The form, which is completed for each farm in the FBS, consists of sections that record various physical and financial characteristics of the farm business. Data recorded on this form are submitted electronically by the University centres to Duchy College, Rural Business School for validation and entry onto the FBS database, on behalf of DEFRA.

### **FAS23 2007-08.xls**

4. A Microsoft Excel workbook, which contains lists of codes and descriptions that are used to complete some sections of the FAS 24. Examples include geographical codes used in Section A and codes for crops, which are used in Section C.

### **FBS2007.mdb**

5. A Microsoft Access database that contains the FBS data1 set for 2007-2008. Four tables are present:
  - FASData;
  - CalcData;
  - CalcLabels: and,
  - CalcVars.

## 5.1 FASData Table

**5.1.1** FASData contains data recorded in the FAS 24 for every farm in the survey. The table is structured in such a way that each row of data relates to an entry on the FAS 24 for a given farm.

Eight columns are present in the following order:

*FarmNumber* - Unique farm identifier assigned by the University centre.

*Section* - Section of FAS 24.

*Row* - Row of FAS 24. (For Sections C1 to C3, FBS crop codes are used as row numbers – see FAS24 2007-08 Code list.xls.)

*Column* - Column of FAS 24.

*Crop Type* - Applicable to Sections C1 to C3 (see FAS24 2007-08 Code list.xls).

*MDC* - Acronym for 'Missing Data Code'. These codes are entered when data cannot be provided (see FAS24 2007-08 Code list.xls).

*LoadNumber* - Load number onto the database (used for processing purposes).

*FieldValue* - The value entered in the FAS 24. Location of the item in FAS 24 is referenced by *Section*, *Row* and *Column* described above.

**5.1.2** The following example illustrates how this structure allows an entry in a specific field on the FAS 24 for a particular farm to be recorded.

<b>FarmNumber</b>	<b>Section</b>	<b>Row</b>	<b>Column</b>	<b>Crop Type</b>	<b>MDC</b>	<b>Load Number</b>	<b>Field Value</b>
<i>Unique farm identifier</i>	<i>Section of FAS 24</i>	<i>Row of FAS 24</i>	<i>Column of FAS 24</i>	<i>Relevant for sections C1-C3</i>		<i>Number of load onto database</i>	<i>Value entered in FAS 24</i>
(e.g.) 9999	B	1	2	0	0	12	1952

In this case we can say that for farm 9999 Section B Row 1 Column 2 (*Year of Birth of regular unpaid partner, director or manager other than the farmer*) the value entered in the FAS 24 is 1952.

### 5.1.3 Points to note:

- For many purposes it is not necessary to distinguish crop types. An “all crop types” total for each row/column cell has therefore been calculated and recorded on the database as crop type 10.
- Missing data codes are also recorded as column 50. For Section C2, the revenue code is stored as column 51.
- Each farm on the table has had the following Section ‘W’ items added after being entered onto the database:
  - Row 11 = Weight11 (Full sample weight).
  - Row 21 = Weight21 (Full sample calibrated weight).
  - Row 23 = FMD marker.
  - Row 99 = Performance Ratio.
  - Row 100 = Performance Percentile.
- There are two new sections as from the 2006/07 dataset. These are:
  - Energy Use (section L) (England only)
  - Business Practices (section O) (England only, Wales retained Environmental Management)

However, these will only be available in later versions of databases when Defra has conducted its own analysis beforehand.

## 5.2 CalcData Table

**5.2.1** At the end of each processing year FBS data is used to produce various aggregate outputs that contain variables calculated from combinations of FAS 24 items. These variables are required on a regular basis so have been calculated for each farm recorded in FASData and stored in this table.

**5.2.2** It is structured in a similar way to the FASData table in that each row relates to a particular farm and variable, as follows:

*FarmNumber* - Unique farm identifier.

*Sort Order* - Order in which variables are listed.

*LoadNumber* - Load number onto the database (used for processing purposes).

*FieldName* - Name of calculated variable.

*FieldValue* - Value of calculated variable.

## 5.3 CalcLabels Table

**5.3.1** All of the results of Calculated Variables are numeric but for some items it is easier to refer to a label rather than a number (e.g.) Region, Farm type etc. This table is a reference source for these types of Calculated Variables. During data extraction the FBS processing system uses this table to provide labels in those cases where it is required.

## 5.4 CalcVars Table

5.4.1 This table contains the definitions in terms of FAS24 items of the calculated variables stored in the CalcData table.

### **07FASData.txt, 07CalcData.txt & 07CalcVars.txt**

6. Tab-delimited text versions of the tables present in FBS2007.mdb (available from UKDA as .tab files).

### **Further Information**

7. For further information regarding the data format of the Farm Business Survey database please contact Keith Robbins on Tel: 01392 269328