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## Turkey

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### Turkish Livestock Support and Subsidies

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**Report Highlights:**

Turkish subsidies to the livestock sector have risen in recent years. This report details the specific policies, rules and subsidy amounts.

## **General Information:**

Turkish Livestock policies were initiated with the Agriculture Law No. 5488 published in 2006. Between the years of 2004-2012 the following agricultural regulations were published:

- Law No. 5200 on Agricultural Producers Associations (2004)
- Law No.5262 on Organic Agriculture (2004)
- Law No.5199 on Animal Protection (2004)
- Law No.5363 on Agriculture Insurances (2005)
- Law No.5648 on Establishing and Duties of Agriculture and Rural Development Support Institution (2007)
- Law No. 5977 on Biosafety
- Law No. 5996 on Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed (2010)
- Law No.4631 on Animal Improvement (Law No.5996 also covers some parts of this)

Other improvements relating to the sectors are: the Organic Farming Information System (OTBIS) (2005); apiculture, milk, breeding sheep and goat registration system (2009); Food Security Information System (2008); The Ministry's 174 Food Telephone Line for Consumers (2009); The Center of Animal Biotechnology (2010); Border Inspection Posts (currently 29 units) (2010); and the National Food Reference Laboratory (2010).

A project was initiated by Headquarter of GAP (Southeast Anatolia Project) with the funding of EU in order to popularize silkworm rearing in the Southeast region in Turkey and a fabric was established in this region. Another policy implemented in 2005 permits pasture land to be rented for 25 years if reclaimed.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs was reorganized in 2011, and it was renamed as the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MinFAL). The General Directorate of Livestock and the General Directorate of Food and Control were established for livestock affairs. The Ministry published the Agriculture Strategy Paper (2010-2014) and MinFAL Strategic Plan (2010-2014) within this period. The new Ministry also determined several main areas for policy focus: The Safety of Agricultural Production and Supply, Plant and Animal Health, Rural Development and Institutional Capacity.

## **Livestock Subsidies**

Turkey comprehensively amended livestock subsidies in 2008 and increased direct subsidy implementation for the animal per head. The most important changes during the years of 2007-2013 involved an increase in the share of livestock subsidies within the total agricultural subsidies as well as changing the types of subsidies, diversifying sub-production branches subjected to subsidies, setting up organizations on subsidy payments, and implementing harmonization rules.

The share of livestock eligible for subsidies in the agriculture sector was 24.4 percent in 2011 (up from 8 percent in 2004), 31.7 percent in 2013, 30.5 percent in 2014 and it will slightly be reduced to 29.5 percent in 2015. Subsidies have been given per head of animal since 2008 according to Decision No.2008/13489 dated April 15, 2008. The largest share of subsidies to the livestock sector in 2011 was

milk incentive pay with 26 percent, closely followed by a 20 percent incentive for cattle breeding and a 15 percent incentive for feed processing. From 2011 to 2014, the MinFAL gave subsidies to 690,359 producers for 4,471,128 head of animals. The amount of the subsidies was \$293 million (816 million TL). In this period, MinFAL initiated importation of beef and live bovine animals for breeding, slaughtering and fattening. Since the first announcement of tender on April 28, 2010, the Ministry has been revising the custom duties, reference prices, the importing countries, and technical specifications of the animals to be imported.

The specific rules for the subsidies are determined by the Communiqué on Implementing Rules Regarding Livestock Subsidies (Communiqué No: 2014/22) which is republished each year.

The specific rules and subsidies are detailed below:

**Breeding female cattle and buffalo subsidies:** The subsidies are given once a year to breeders who are members of breeders/producers associations and who have at least 5 head and a maximum of 500 head of cattle in their establishment. For buffalo, the limit is not applicable.

The establishments and breeding female cattle must be registered with TURKVET and e-improvement databases. The establishments and breeding buffaloes must be registered in TURKVET databases.

Breeding female cattle must be culture breeds or crossed culture breeds. Culture breeds are foreign cattle breeds which have higher milk and meat yields than native breeds. Cross-breeds are the crosses of native breeds with culture breeds. Breeding cattle must be artificially inseminated in Turkey between the dates of November 2013 and December 2014. The animals must be at least 14 months of age (420 days).

Establishments already taking subsidies under the “establishments free from disease,” buffalo breeders taking subsidies under “Buffalo Improvement hold by public,” and cattle breeders taking subsidies under “Feeder Material Production Support” in the provinces within the region of GAP (Adıyaman, Batman, Diyarbakır, Gaziantep, Kilis, Mardin, Siirt, Şanlıurfa and Şırnak), DAP (Ağrı, Ardahan, Bingöl, Bitlis, Erzincan, Erzurum, Elazığ, Hakkâri, Iğdır, Kars, Malatya, Muş, Tunceli and Van), DOKAP (Samsun, Ordu, Giresun, Trabzon, Rize, Artvin, Bayburt and Gümüşhane) and KOP (Konya, Karaman, Niğde and Aksaray) are eligible for this subsidy.

**Calf subsidy:** The calves must be born in 2014 and registered in the TURKVET database. The female calves must be vaccinated against Brucellosis, and the vaccine information must be registered in the TURKVET database. One subsidy payment is given for each calf as a one-time payment. The subsidy payment is also given for each calf born as a twin or triplet. The subsidy is not provided for the calves of the animals inseminated before the age of 14 months (420 days). The calves receiving subsidies under “Feeder Material Production Support” in the provinces within the region of GAP, DAP, DOKAP and KOP are eligible for this subsidy.

**Feeder material production subsidy:** This subsidy is provided for the animals in the provinces within the region of GAP, DAP, DOKAP and KOP. Breeding cattle must be artificially inseminated or naturally inseminated by the natural inseminating bulls approved by MinFAL in Turkey between the dates of November 2013 and December 2014. The animals must be at least 14 months of age (420

days).

Dual purpose breeds, beef breeds and their cross breed animals must be inseminated with the animals of their same breed. Dairy cross breeds and pure dairy cattle born in January 2009 or before and domestic cattle must be inseminated with the dual purpose or beef breeds. Establishments receiving subsidies under “the establishments free from disease” and breeding female cattle receiving subsidies under “Ruminant Protection Subsidy” are not eligible for this subsidy.

**Breeding female sheep/goat subsidies:** The sheep/ goat breeders who are members of the Breeding Sheep-Goat Breeders Associations and whose animals are registered to KKKS (Sheep/Goat Registration System) and KKBS (Sheep/Goat Information System) can benefit from this subsidy once a year for each breeding female animal. Breeding female animals must be born on September 2013 or before.

**The subsidy for the analyses carried out in provinces of Ankara, Izmir, Balikesir, Bursa and Tekirdag within the project on support of milk quality with purpose of improvement:** The subsidy is given to establishments located in Ankara, Izmir, Balikesir, Bursa and Tekirdag which have at least 10 head of pure breed cattle except feeder cattle registered into studbooks before October 2014 and are able to meet the laboratory analyses requirements within this subsidy. Milk analyses (fat, protein, somatic cells) shall be done at least three times for the cows that calved in June 2014 or at least two times for the cows that calved after June 2014. The animals shall be registered into the e-improvement database. To be eligible for the subsidy, fat and protein values of the milk must be 2.5-5.5 percent; somatic cell count must be maximum 400,000 cell/ml. Milk analyses must be carried out in the Ministry’s Provinces laboratories.

**Feeder male cattle subsidy:** The animals must be at least 12 months of age, and they must be at the owner’s establishment for at least 90 days at the time of slaughter. The subsidy is given to the producers per head of animal, including buffalo, who slaughter their male animals within a certain period at slaughterhouses approved under the Implementing Regulation on Register and Approval Procedures of Food Establishments. The carcass weight shall be at least 200 kg per head. The male cattle that are sent to obligatory slaughter according to the provisions of the Implementing Regulation on Compensation of Animal Diseases and the male cattle carcasses that were destroyed after slaughter are excluded from this subsidy. Producers that slaughter 6 or more animals per year must be a member of the Turkish Beef and Lamb Producers Association.

Feeder cattle subsidies were initiated in 2011. From 2011 through 2013, breeders were paid 300 TL per head of animal. In 2014, this amount was decreased to 200 TL per head. Approximately 816 million TL has reportedly been paid to the breeders since 2011 within the scope of the feeder cattle subsidies program.

The sector reports that there is uncertainty if this subsidy will be given to owners for the year 2015. The sector thinks that if the subsidy is not provided, illegal slaughter may increase, leading to the introduction of unhealthy meat into the market.

**The subsidies for animal diseases compensation:** According to the Implementing Regulation on Compensation of Animal Diseases, if an animal contracts a disease that requires it to be sent for obligatory slaughter (under the supervision of an official or accredited veterinarian), the owner is

compensated the value of the animal determined by the aforementioned legislation. The diseases under this compensation are Tuberculosis and Brucellosis in cattle, Glanders, Brucellosis in sheep and goats, African Horse Sickness, Rinderpest, Avian Influenza, Rabies, Lumpy Skin Disease, and Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD).

**The subsidies for the establishments free from diseases:** This subsidy is paid per head of animal (except breeding bulls and the male animals aged up to 6 months) within dairy cow establishments that have the health certificate for establishments free from disease. The payment per head is made for up to 500 head of animals. For more than 500 heads, the payment is made per head for 50 percent of the herd. The cattle within the establishment are tested for Brucellosis and Tuberculosis according to Implementing Regulation of Combating against Brucellosis and Tuberculosis in Cattle. The health certificate for the establishment free from disease is issued by Province Directorates for both diseases.

Below are the values of the subsidies:

No	Decree of the Council of Ministers Art. 4- (1) Payment Per Head	Units for Support
1	Breeding female cattle of dairy and dual purpose breeds and their cross-breeds, cross-breeds of beef cattle	225 TL/head
2	Feeder breeds- female cattle	350 TL/ head
3	Breeding Female Buffalo	400 TL/ head
4	Dairy and Dual Purpose Breeds and their cross-breeds- female breeding cattle- <b>in addition with pedigree</b>	70 TL/ head
No	Decree of the Council of Ministers Art. 4- (2) Artificial Insemination	
1	Calf born as a result of Artificial insemination and from feeder breeds	75 TL/ head
2	Calf born as a result of artificial insemination within the progeny control project- additionally	35 TL/ head
3	Calf born as a result of artificial insemination by using semen of feeder bulls to domestic cattle or their cross-breed- additionally	75 TL/ head

Sıra No	Decree of the Council of Ministers Art. 4- (3) Support for Herd Manager Employment	
1	Began in 2014 for establishments with 500 head of animals or more.	The support for herd manager employment is 5000 TL per establishment and it is paid by the 2015 budget.

No	The following amounts are given for the animals registered into e-improvement database, (except pure-breed dairy cows birth date 1st January 2009 and after) to encourage breeders to encourage to have feeder cattle herds (under condition making vaccination with S-19 for Brucellosis to the females) insemination with feeder and combined breeds		
1	Feeder Material Production Subsidy (head)	Breeding	350TL/ head

		Female Animals	
		Calf	150TL/ head
<b>No</b>	<b>Decree of the Council of Ministers Art.4- (5) Sheep/Goat Subsidies</b>		
<b>1</b>	Sheep/Goat		20TL/ head
<b>No</b>	<b>Decree of the Council of Ministers Art.4- (6) Mohair Production</b>		
<b>1</b>	Mohair		20 TL/ head
<b>No</b>	<b>Decree of the Council of Ministers Art.4- (7) Milk Subsidies</b>		
<b>1</b>	Buffalo, sheep/goat milk		0.2 TL/lt
<b>No</b>	<b>Decree of the Council of Ministers Art.4- (8) For the analyses carried out in provinces of Ankara, Izmir, Balikesir, Bursa and Tekirdag within the project on support of milk quality with purpose of improvement</b>		
<b>1</b>	For each cow		50TL/ head
<b>No</b>	<b>Decree of the Council of Ministers Art. 4- (9) Silkworm</b>		
<b>1</b>	Seed		30 TL/unit
<b>2</b>	First grade of wet cocoon, breeding cocoon and others		30 TL/kg
<b>No</b>	<b>Decree of the Council of Ministers Art.4- (10) Apiculture</b>		
<b>1</b>	Hive with bee		10 TL/unit
<b>2</b>	Bumble bee		60 TL/colony
<b>No</b>	<b>Decree of the Council of Ministers Art.4- (11) Aquaculture animals</b>		
<b>1</b>	Trout		0.65 TL/kg
<b>2</b>	Sea bream- Sea bass		0.85 TL/kg
<b>3</b>	Novel Species		1 TL/kg
<b>4</b>	Mussels		0.05 TL/kg
<b>No</b>	<b>Decree of the Council of Ministers Art. 4- (12) Aquaculture Products</b>		
<b>1</b>	Ship Length (m) 10-20		10,000 (TL/m)
<b>2</b>	Ship Length (m) 21-30		15,000 (TL/m)
<b>3</b>	Ship Length (m) 31-35		20,000 (TL/m)
<b>4</b>	Ship Length (m) 35-45		30,000 (TL/m)
<b>5</b>	Ship Length (m) 46 and above		35,000 (TL/m)
<b>No</b>	<b>Decree of the Council of Ministers Art. 4- (13) Forages Crops</b>		
<b>1</b>	Alfalfa (succulent)		50 TL/decare/year
<b>2</b>	Alfalfa (dry)		30 TL/ decare / year
<b>3</b>	Trefoil		40 TL/ decare /

			year
4	Annual forage		35 TL/ decare
5	Annual forage for silage		50 TL/ decare
6	Corn for silage (succulent)		75 TL/ decare
7	Corn for silage (dry)		35 TL/ decare
8	Artificial meadow-pasture		100 TL/ decare
No	<b>Decree of the Council of Ministers Art. 4- (14) Animal Diseases Compensation</b>		
No	<b>Decree of the Council of Ministers Art. 4- (15) Payment for Animal per head</b>		
1	Cattle in the establishment free from disease		375 TL/ head
2	Subsidy for Approved Milk Establishment (additionally)		50 TL/ head
No	<b>Decree of the Council of Ministers Art. 4- (14) Vaccine Subsidy</b>		
1	FMD vaccine (ruminants)		0.75 TL/ head
2	FMD vaccine (small ruminants)		0.50 TL/ head
3	Brucellosis (ruminants)		1.50 TL/ head
4	Brucellosis (small ruminants)		0.50 TL/ head
No	<b>Decree of the Council of Ministers Art. 4- (15) Animal Genetic Resources</b>		
1	Ruminants Preservation		500 TL/ head
2	Small Ruminants Preservation		80 TL/ head
3	Bee Preservation		40 TL/hive
4	Buffalo Improvement hold by public		700 TL/ head
5	Small Ruminants Improvement hold by public-Elite Herd	Maternal	35 TL/ head
		Lamb	50 TL/ head
6	Small Ruminants Improvement hold by public-Normal Herd	Maternal	35 TL/ head
		Lamb	20 TL/ head
7	Subsidy for the calf of buffalo for the breeding purpose		100 TL/ head
No	<b>Decree of the Council of Ministers Art. 4- (19) Feeder male cattle subsidy</b>		
1	The payment to be determined by the Ministry is made to the breeders who slaughter their male cattle (including buffalo, registered on the Ministry`s database, born within the country and finished their feeder period) in the slaughterhouses complying with the legislation. (Up to 600 heads, the payment is made in total. If more than 600 heads, the payment is made per head but 50% of the herd)		

Besides the subsidies given above, MinFAL has started a project for the eastern and southern parts of Turkey in order to encourage the growth of the livestock sector and to increase productivity. The last revised legislation regarding implementing rules of the project for the years of 2015-2018 was published

by MinFAL (Communique No: 2015/4).

- Support of investment on purchasing rams-male goats and shed-corrals renovation/ construction for the modernization of existing cattle/sheep-goat establishments located in the Provinces of Ağrı, Ardahan, Bingöl, Bitlis, Erzincan, Erzurum, Elazığ, Hakkâri, Iğdır, Kars, Malatya, Muş, Tunceli and Van within the scope of the East Anatolia Project (DAP) and located in the Provinces of Adıyaman, Batman, Diyarbakır, Gaziantep, Kilis, Mardin, Siirt, Şanlıurfa and Şırnak within the scope of the Southeast Anatolia Project (GAP), located in the Provinces of Konya, Karaman, Niğde and Aksaray within the scope of the Konya Lowland Project (KOP), located in the Provinces of Samsun, Ordu, Giresun, Trabzon, Rize, Artvin, Bayburt and Gümüşhane within the scope of the East Blacksea Project (DOKAP).

Sheds and corrals to be established shall be closed or half-closed system in DAP and DOKAP regions; shall be open or half-open system in GAP and KOP regions.

- Support on investments for purchasing of breeding bulls from beef and combined breeds in order to support regional development and to increase productivity and quality on the beef production of existing establishments located in the provinces within scope of East Anatolia Project (DAP), Southeast Anatolia Project (GAP), East Black Sea Project (DOKAP).

<b>Investment Items</b>	<b>Grant Share (%)*</b>
Renovation or construction of the establishments	50
Purchasing of breeding bull, ram or male goat	80

\*The Grant Share is the share of the investment that the grant will cover.

The lower limit shall be 10 head of animals; the upper limit shall be 49 head of animals for the bovine establishments. The lower limit shall be 100 head of animals; the upper limit shall be 200 head of animals for the ovine/ caprine establishments. The animals must be insured with TARSIM Animal Life Insurance for at least one year.

With regard to purchase of male breeding animals, the bovine establishments benefit from this subsidy only for one breeding bull; the ovine-caprine establishments benefit for the certain number of animals that is not exceeding five percent of the existing sheep-goat population in the establishment.

Breeding bulls must be Brown-Swiss, Simmental, Limousin, Montbeliarde, Angus, Hereford, and Charolais breeds and their yield records must be up to the normal yield of the breed.

The animals shall be registered into studbooks (for bulls) and be between 14-24 months old. They shall be healthy and be free from Tuberculosis and Brucellosis (for bulls and rams/male goats) and selected from the establishments free from those diseases (for bulls). The bulls must be tested for Campylobacter fetus, Tritrichomonas foetus, and bovine leucosis and found to be negative.

The breeding bulls are delivered to the farmers from the TIGEM (General Directorate of Agricultural Enterprises) or the establishments free from diseases. TIGEM supplies the animals by way of import or from the animals raised in the TIGEM establishments. Breeding rams/male goats are delivered to the

farmers from TIGEM and/or from the establishments within the scope of the project “Small Ruminants Improvement hold by public”.

The breeds of the rams/male goats vary by province and are as follows:

<b>Project Region</b>	<b>Breed</b>
DAP	Morkaraman, (sheep) Akkaraman, (sheep) Şavak Akkaraman, (sheep) Hemşin, (sheep) Karakaş, (sheep) Norduz(sheep)
GAP	İvesi, (sheep) Koçeri, (sheep) Karakaş, (sheep) Zom Koyunu, (sheep) Hair goat Angora goat
KOP	Akkaraman, (sheep) Middle Anatolian Merinos, (sheep) Hair goat Honamlı Keçisi( goat)
DOKAP	Hemşin, (sheep) Karakaya, (sheep) Akkaraman, (sheep) Bafra, (sheep) Hair goat

The selection of the breeding male animals within the scope of the grant is made by one zoo technician and one veterinarian assigned by the Directorate of Provincial Food, Agriculture and Livestock according to the technical and health specifications determined by MinFAL. The animals purchased within the scope of grant cannot be sold for three years and the establishment must be in operation for three years. The unit price of the animal to be granted is annually determined by MinFAL.

The other granted subsidy is given to the investments for breeding cattle establishments (for beef and combined breeds) within the region of DAP and Bayburt and Gumushane Provinces and for the dairy cattle holdings within the region of GAP established between the years of 2013-2015.

<b>Investment Items</b>	<b>Grant Share (%)*</b>
New Investments	30
Purchasing of breeding pregnant heifer	40
Purchasing of Machine (Milking Units and chilling tanks)	40

\*The Grant Share is the share of the investment that the grant will cover.

The limit for the investment is a minimum of 50 heads and maximum of 300 heads.

Turkish producers feel that subsidies should be increased. The input prices for Turkish livestock sector are quite high and increasing, and producers pay high costs to middlemen to market their products. Producers complain that they do not benefit enough from the subsidies, while analysts believe that the subsidies do not give any benefit to the consumers.

## **Organizations**

There are three different legally established structures in Turkey: cooperatives, associations of breeders, and associations of producers.

Recently, there has not been crucial development for organizations regarding basic and structural issues, and the producers feel that the cooperatives in particular should be supported. The organizations believe that the fluctuation of the prices could be controlled if the cooperatives have a strong structure, and feel that the farmers must be informed and supported.

In Turkey, the livestock associations receive a share of the subsidies. From the subsidies given to breeders who are members of the associations and/or cooperatives, 0.001% of the share is given to the Central Associations and 0.001% is given to the Regional Associations.

## **Livestock Insurance**

Notifiable diseases with the exception of anthrax and rabies, theft, losses due to genetic anomalies, biological and chemical intoxications, malnutrition diseases, and cases not in compliance with technical specifications are excluded from the insurance guarantee. Ruminants including sheep and goats should be registered to the studbooks and also to the TURKVET database in order to be included within scope of the insurance.

Acceptance age of the cattle that receive the insurance premium subsidy has been reduced to eight days, and for the sheep/goats to three months.

Since 2006, a 50 percent grant is provided to farmers for their livestock insurance payments as a means to increase the number of livestock covered by insurance. Feeder cattle and sheep/goats have been included within the scope of TARSIM (Agricultural Insurance Pool) since 2011. For this reason, officials expected that the percentage of breeders with insurance would increase over the next years.

In 2014, roughly 436,000 bovine animals were insured while 608,000 ovine/caprine animals were insured. The number of insured ovine/caprine animals increased 43 percent in 2014, from 424,000 head in 2013.