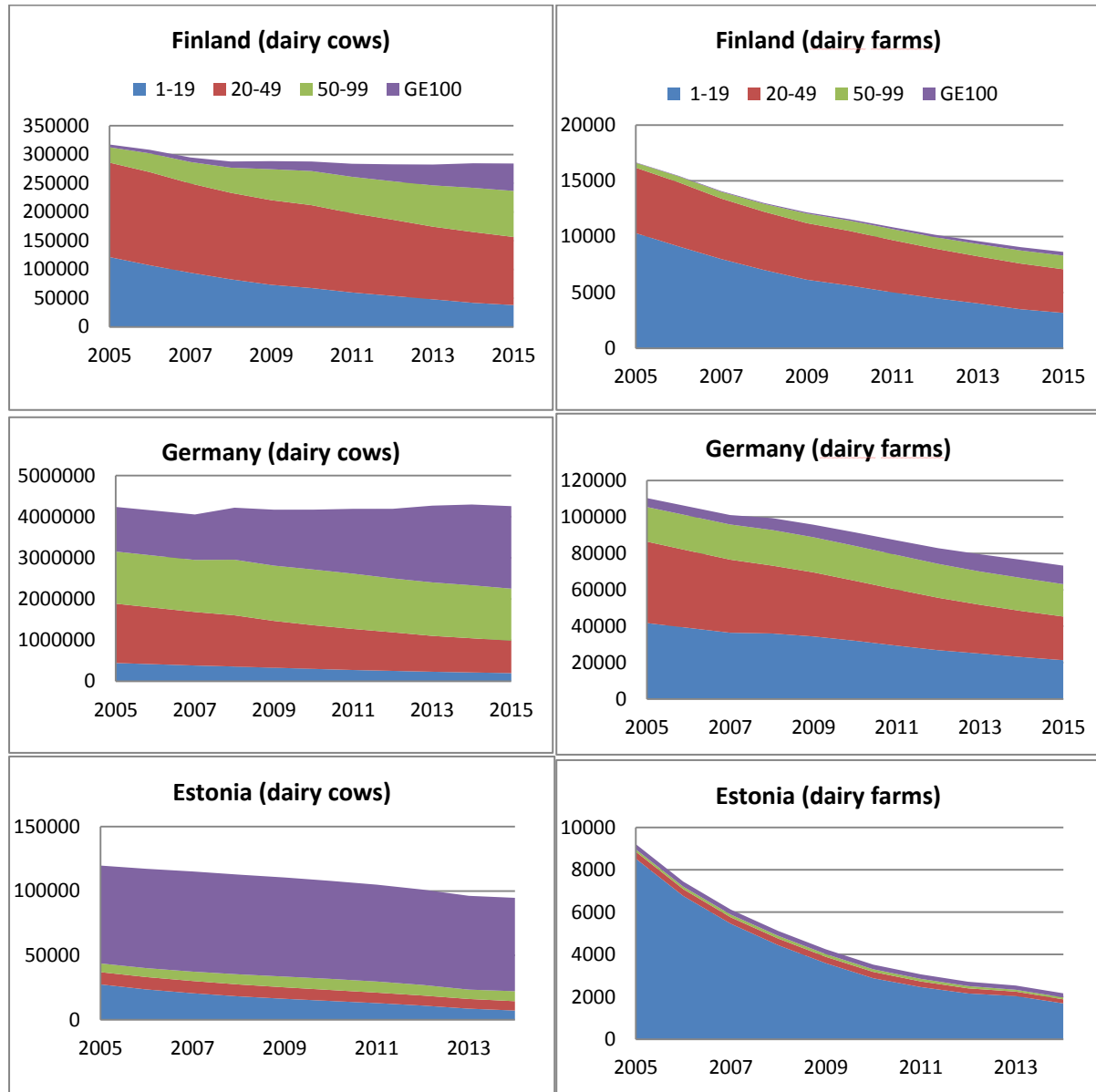
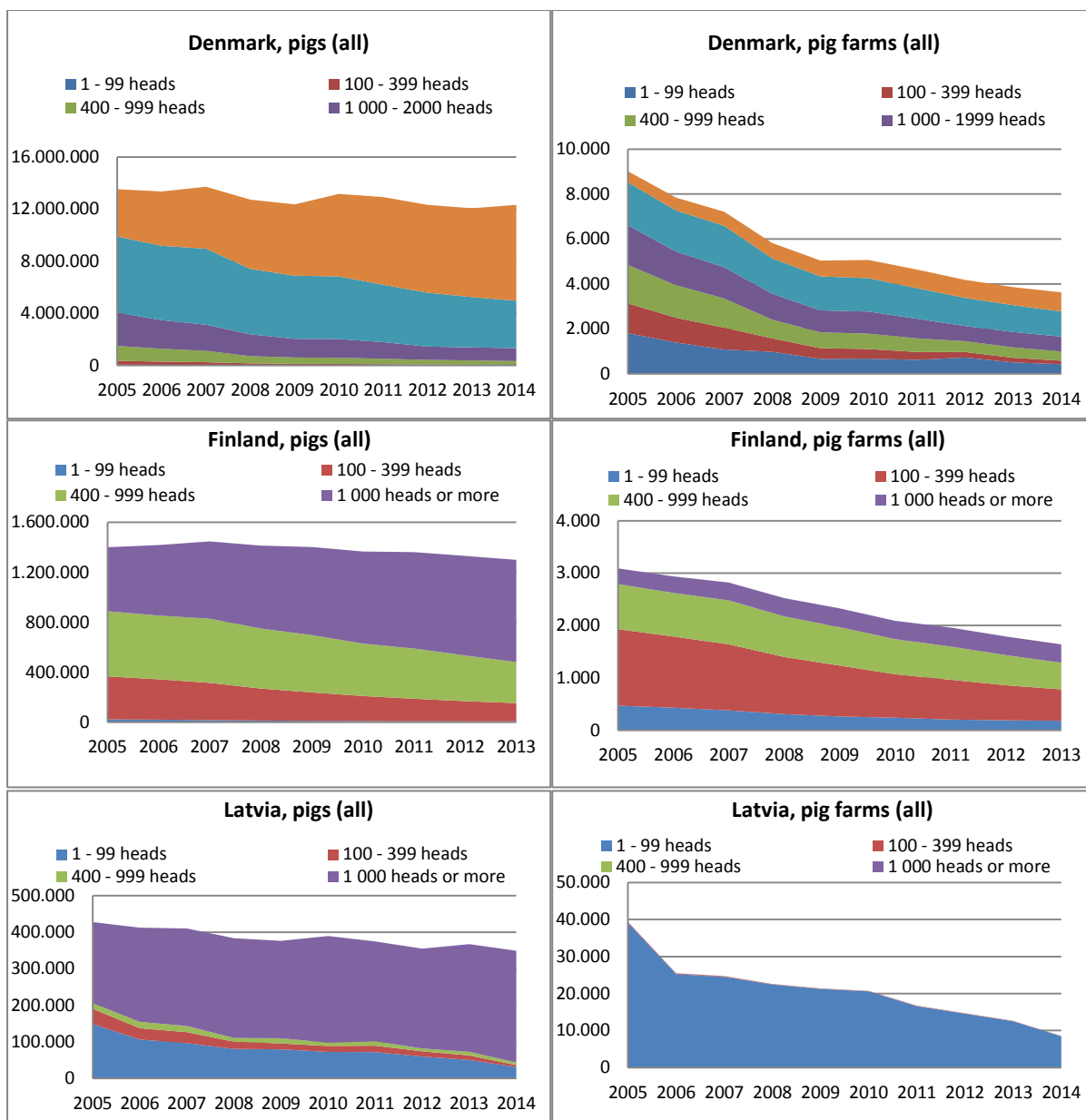


Structural development of Baltic Sea animal production

North European livestock production is undergoing a heavy structural change. Overall, there are fewer and larger livestock farms. Although the development seems to proceed to same direction in all countries, new member states have more polarized structure than old ones. With dairy farms, the development becomes visible when number of dairy cows within size classes is compared to number of farms in same classes:



In pig production, the structure is even more polarized than it is in dairy production. There is also huge variation between countries and size classes:



Overall, huge number of household farms with just a few animals has disappeared, and their production resources have moved to more competitive, mostly larger units. The development has not only advantages, but also some disadvantages. Production agglomeration is one of the topics discussed in Go4Baltic project.

Data sources: Eurostat Farm Structure Survey, national statistics