



Pro-Poor Livestock  
Policy Initiative (PPLPI)  
[www.fao.org/ag/pplpi.html](http://www.fao.org/ag/pplpi.html)

Dept. of Agriculture, Forestry,  
and Fishery Statistics General  
Statistics Office of Vietnam



## **Agricultural Atlas of Viet Nam A Depiction of the 2001 Rural Agriculture and Fisheries Census**

Livestock – Ruminant Livestock

### **Buffalo Density**

At the time of the 2001 census there were 2.8 million buffaloes nationwide, of which 1.2 million, 43%, were in the Northeast. Large numbers of buffaloes also occur in the North Central Coast with 700,000 head, accounting for 24% of the national total. The map shows the highest buffalo densities to occur in the North Central Coast and Northeast with many communes having densities greater than 25 head per km<sup>2</sup>. The lowest buffalo densities occur in the provinces from Da Nang to the southern tip of Ca Mau, which average less than 5 head per km<sup>2</sup>, with the exception of the provinces of Binh Phuoc and Tay Ninh in the Southeast region, where there is a localised area of high buffalo density.

In recent years, the national buffalo herd has decreased in numbers, due to reduced grazing land, decreasing demand for buffaloes to draw ploughs and the comparatively low economic efficiency of buffalo husbandry compared to cattle, poultry and pig-raising. Moreover, the total number of large buffalo farms is considerably smaller than those of cattle, pigs or poultry. These trends can even be observed in the Northwest, where there is a strong tradition of buffalo-rearing. The Red River Delta has experienced the most marked reduction in buffalo numbers over recent years.

