COMMENTARY

At the beginning of the 2^{nd} half-year 2020, agricultural organizations showed the following stocks of crop products: 358 thous. tonnes of cereals, 12 thous. tonnes of field peas for grain, 6 thous. tonnes of potatoes, 2 thous. tonnes of sugar beet, 17 thous. tonnes of rape, 477 tonnes of poppy, and 485 tonnes of sunflower seed. In total 8 119 thous. tonnes of cereals, total, 85 tonnes of field peas, 670 thous. tonnes of potatoes, 3 671 thous. tonnes of sugar beet, 1 245 thous. tonnes of rape, 29 thous. tonnes of poppy, and 29 thous. tonnes of sunflower seed were harvested in the 2^{nd} half of 2020. During the 2^{nd} half-year, 646 thous. tonnes of cereals, total (of which the largest amount – 392 thous. tonnes – of wheat), 8 thous. tonnes of field peas, 14 thous. tonnes of sunflower seed were purchased by agricultural organisations.

Sales of crop products in the 2nd half-year comprised of 5 413 thous. tonnes of cereals, total (the largest share – 3 406 thous. tonnes – was recorded for wheat). Direct exports of cereals, total, reached 110 thous. tonnes. Further sales included 59 thous. tonnes of field peas, of which 2 thous. tonnes were directly exported. Sales of potatoes, total, were 507 thous. tonnes and their direct exports reached 11 thous. tonnes. Sugar beet sales were 3 493 thous. tonnes. The amount of rape sold during the 2nd half-year was 1 060 thous. tonnes, of which 19 thous. tonnes directly exported. Agricultural organisations sold 21 thous. tonnes of poppy, of which 366 tonnes by direct exports. The amount of sunflower seed sold was 26 thous. tonnes, of which 2 thous. tonnes directly exported.

The consumption of cereals, total, in agricultural organizations during the 2nd half-year reached 758 thous. tonnes, with the largest share – 388 thous. tonnes – of wheat. Out of this amount, 545 thous. tonnes were used for feed purposes, 200 thous. tonnes as seeds, and 13 thous. tonnes for other use. The consumption of field peas reached 5 thous. tonnes, mainly for feed purposes. In total 14 thous. tonnes of potatoes, total, were consumed, of which 5 thous tonnes for food purposes, 6 thous. tonnes for feed purposes, and 3 thous. tonnes for other use. The consumption of sugar beet amounted to 1 000 tonnes, mostly for feed use. The amount of rape consumed was 6 thous. tonnes: 3 thous. tonnes for feed purposes, 1 000 tonnes as seeds, and 1 000 tonnes for other purposes. The poppy consumption reached 6 tonnes, mainly as seeds. Agricultural organizations consumed 55 tonnes of sunflower seed, prevailingly for feed purposes.

Losses during storage during the 2nd half-year 2020 amounted to 10 thous. tonnes of cereals, total, 100 tonnes of field peas, 1 000 tonnes of potatoes, total, 5 tonnes of sugar beet, 368 tonnes of rape, 25 tonnes of poppy, and 159 tonnes of sunflower seed.

Stocks at the end of 2020 were 2 942 thous. tonnes of cereals, total (of which the largest ones – 1 628 thous. tonnes – were those of wheat), 40 thous. tonnes of field peas, 168 thous. tonnes of potatoes, 282 thous tonnes of sugar beet, 257 thous. tonnes of rape, 11 thous. tonnes of poppy, and 5 thous. tonnes of sunflower seed.