

COMMENTARY

The total production of individual crops is based on the size of their sowing areas surveyed in May and on changes of growing conditions during the vegetation period.

The production **area of cereals** (including grain maize and other cereals) increased by 13.8 thous. ha (i.e. by 1.0%), year-on-year, to 1 352.5 thous. ha. The total harvest of cereals reached 7 646.1 thous. tonnes and went up by 675.2 thous. tonnes (i.e. by 9.7%) in comparison with 2018. The harvest of spring wheat declined below the 2018 level to 95.7 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 94.8 thous. tonnes (by 49.8%) less than in the previous year. The harvest of spring barley, which accounted for 1 073.9 thous. tonnes, was also lower than in 2018 (by 21.5 thous. tonnes or by 2.0%) as well as that of oats, which was 134.4 thous. tonnes (by 18.2 thous. tonnes or by 12.0% less than in 2018). The harvest of basic cereals was higher than in the previous year. The harvest of wheat amounted to 4 812.2 thous. tonnes (by 394.3 thous. tonnes or by 8.9% more than in 2018). The harvest of barley was 1 718.1 thous. tonnes (by 112.0 thous. tonnes or by 7.0% more than in 2018). The harvest of grain maize accounted for 620.3 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 131.1 thous. tonnes (by 26.8%) more than in 2018.

The **per hectare yield of cereals** was 5.65 tonnes per hectare; it was by 0.45 t/ha (i.e. by 8.6%) higher compared to the previous year. The yields were 5.79 t/ha for winter wheat (5.46 t/ha in 2018), 3.84 t/ha for spring wheat (4.14 t/ha), 5.06 t/ha for rye (4.74 t/ha), 5.98 t/ha for winter barley (4.98 t/ha), 5.07 t/ha for spring barley (4.93 t/ha), 3.16 t/ha for oats (3.56 t/ha), 8.29 t/ha for grain maize (5.98 t/ha), and 4.93 t/ha for triticale (4.55 t/ha).

The production of **pulses** decreased compared to 2018: in total 74.2 thous. tonnes of pulses were harvested. The harvest of field peas was 67.3 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 3.2 thous. tonnes (by 4.6%) less than in the previous year. The total production of **grain crops** (cereals and pulses) reached 7 720.3 thous. tonnes; it went up by 669.9 thous. tonnes (i.e. by 9.5%) in comparison with 2018.

The total harvest of **potatoes** including households' production was 756.3 thous. tonnes; it showed an increase by 43.0 thous. tonnes (by 6.0%) compared to 2018. The yield of potatoes reached 26.20 t/ha and was by 1.51 t/ha higher than in 2018. The harvest of early potatoes reached 46.6 thous. tonnes. The average per hectare yield of other potatoes was 27.20 t/ha; it means by 1.83 t/ha more than in 2018. Their production reached 646.5 thous. tonnes and was by 37,5 tonnes down than in the previous year. The **sugar beet** harvest was 3 661.4 thous. tonnes (3 724.3 thous. tonnes in 2018) and its average yield reached 61.84 t/ha; its harvest decreased by 1.7% in comparison with the previous year.

In 2019 the total sowing area of **oil seed crops** decreased by 34.6 thous. ha (by 7.1%) to 454.8 thous. ha. Their production was 1 248.2 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 263.2 thous. tonnes lower than in the previous year. The harvest of rape reached 1 157.0 thous. tonnes, while in 2018 it was 1 410.8 thous. tonnes; i.e. there was a decrease by 253.8 thous. tonnes. The rape seed yield was 3.05 t/ha; it went down by 0.38 t/ha. The production of poppy seed went up: in total 23.6 thous. tonnes of poppy seed were harvested from the area of 35.8 thous. ha, with its average yield of 0.66 tonnes/ha (in 2018 there were 13.7 thous. tonnes of poppy seed harvested and its yield was 0.51 t/ha).

The production of annual **fodder crops** on arable land was 8 759.5 thous. tonnes of green forage; i.e. by 1 704.4 thous. tonnes more than in 2018. Out of this amount, 8 243.7 thous. tonnes of green and silage maize were harvested; i.e. by 1 556.7 thous. tonnes more in comparison with the previous year. Harvest of hay from perennial fodder crops was 1 234.7 thous. tonnes, of which red clover harvest reached 375.8 thous. tonnes.

Production of **vegetables** including households' estimates was higher than in 2018; in total 283.5 thous. tonnes of vegetables were harvested (254.5 thous. tonnes in 2018). The harvest of **fruits** (excluding raspberries; including households' production) reached 294.8 thous. tonnes and was lower than in the previous year (377.3 thousand tonnes in 2018).

In total 68.0 thous. tonnes of grapes were harvested from 16.1 thous. ha of **vineyards in production**, i.e. by 35.7 thous. tonnes less than in 2018; their average yield was 4.23 t/ha (6.51 t/ha in 2018). The **hop** production reached 7 145 tonnes; it increased by 2 018 tonnes (i.e. by 39.4%) compared to 2018. The per hectare yield of hop, accounting for 1.43 t/ha, went up by 0.41 t/ha in comparison with the previous year.