

COMMENTARY

As at 15 August 2021, the Czech Statistical Office processed yield and harvest estimates for grain maize, potatoes, sugar beet, sunflower seed, soya, green and silage maize, and improved production estimates for basic cereals (wheat, rye, barley, oats and triticale), field peas for grain, rape, and gherkins. Production estimations for particular crops are based on areas under particular crops and the course of weather during the vegetation period as well as during the harvest period.

According to these improved estimates, the harvest of basic cereals is awaited to reach 7 254 thous. tonnes with an average yield of 5.87 t/ha. It increased by 259 thous. tonnes (by 3.7%) compared to the July estimation and it decreased by 34 thous. tonnes (by 0.5%) in comparison with the final harvest figures for 2020.

The first harvest estimations in 2021 were carried out for grain maize, other potatoes, seed potatoes, sugar beet, sunflower seed, soya, and green and silage maize. The harvest of grain maize is expected to be 763 thous. tonnes with its supposed yield accounting for 8.39 t/ha; it means a decrease by 63 thous. tonnes (by 7.6%) compared to 2020. The harvest of potatoes (including the July estimation of early potatoes) should reach 660 thous. tonnes at an assumed average yield of 28.94 t/ha (29.16 t/ha in 2020); i.e. by 36 thous. tonnes (by 5.1%) less compared to the 2020 final harvest. The harvest of sugar beet is expected to reach 3 928 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 257 thous. tonnes (+7.0%) more than in 2020. Its supposed yield of 64.15 t/ha increased by 2.64 t/ha (by 4.3%) in comparison with 2020. The harvest of sunflower seed should be 47 thous. tonnes, which is by 17 thous. tonnes (by 59.9%) more than in 2020. Its yield is expected to be 2.59 t/ha (2.58 t/ha in 2020). The harvest estimate for soya is 49 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 16 thous. tonnes (by 48.5%) more than in 2020; its expected yield is 2.49 t/ha. The harvest of green and silage maize should decrease to 8 475 thous. tonnes; i.e. by 357 thous. tonnes (by 4.0%) less than in the previous year. Its supposed yield accounting for 37.09 t/ha is also lower by 1.96 t/ha (by 5.0%).

Rape production is estimated to be 1 036 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 16.8% less compared to 2020 results. Its yield is supposed to reach 3.03 t/ha.