

COMMENTARY

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

The harvested **area of cereals** (including grain maize and other cereals) increased by one thous. ha (i.e. by 0.1%), year-on-year, to 1 345.8 thous. ha. The total harvest of cereals reached 8 227.1 thous. tonnes and went up by 100.4 thous. tonnes (i.e. by 1.2%) in comparison with 2020. The harvest of spring wheat, oats, grain maize, and other cereals was above the 2020 level. The harvest of spring wheat was 371.1 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 267.9 thous. tonnes (by 259.7%) more than in the previous year. The harvest of spring barley accounted for 1 097.5 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 20.8 thous. tonnes (by 1.9%) less than in 2020, and that of oats reached 194.7 thous. tonnes (by 11.4 thous. tonnes or by 6.2% more than in 2020). The harvest of basic cereals was lower than in the previous year. The harvest of wheat amounted to 4 960.9 thous. tonnes (by 58.5 thous. tonnes or by 1.2% more than in 2020). The harvest of barley was 1 749.1 thous. tonnes (by 67.0 thous. tonnes or by 3.7% less than in 2020). The harvest of grain maize accounted for 988.0 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 162.5 thous. tonnes (by 19.7%) more than in 2020.

The **per hectare yield of cereals** was 6.11 tonnes per hectare; it was by 0.07 t/ha (i.e. by 1.2%) higher compared to the previous year. The yields were 6.47 t/ha for winter wheat (6.20 t/ha in 2020), 4.93 t/ha for spring wheat (4.31 t/ha), 5.03 t/ha for rye (5.48 t/ha), 5.87 t/ha for winter barley (6.09 t/ha), 5.09 t/ha for spring barley (5.15 t/ha), 3.37 t/ha for oats (3.92 t/ha), 9.65 t/ha for grain maize (9.46 t/ha), and 4.73 t/ha for triticale (5.07 t/ha).

The production of **pulses** increased compared to 2020; in total 111.9 thous. tonnes of pulses were harvested. The harvest of field peas was 104.4 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 19.6 thous. tonnes (by 23.1%) more than in the previous year. The total production of **grain crops** (cereals and pulses) reached 8 339.0 thous. tonnes; it went up by 120.5 thous. tonnes (i.e. by 1.5%) in comparison with 2020.

The total harvest of **potatoes** including households' production was 812.1 thous. tonnes; it showed a decrease by 18.8 thous. tonnes (by 2.3%) compared to 2020. The yield of potatoes reached 28.15 t/ha and was by 0.42 t/ha higher than in 2020. The harvest of early potatoes reached 21.8 thous. tonnes. The average per hectare yield of other potatoes was 29.18 t/ha; it means by 0.16 t/ha more than in 2020. Their production reached 732.7 thous. tonnes and was by 13.6 tonnes higher than in the previous year. The harvest of **sugar beet** was 4 145.1 thous. tonnes (3 671.2 thous. tonnes in 2020) and its average yield reached 67.69 t/ha; its harvest rose by 12.9% in comparison with the previous year.

In 2020, the total area under **oil seed crops** decreased by 7.9 thous. ha (by 1.8%) to 442.3 thous. ha. Their production was 1 176.3 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 171.2 thous. tonnes less than in the previous year. The harvest of rape reached 1 024.9 thous. tonnes, while in 2020 it was 1 245.3 thous. tonnes; i.e. there was a decrease by 220.4 thous. tonnes. The rape seed yield was 2.99 t/ha; it went down by 0.39 t/ha. The production of poppy seed went up: in total 29.7 thous. tonnes of poppy seed were harvested from the area of 43.9 thous. ha, with its average yield of 0.68 t/ha (in 2020 there were 28.7 thous. tonnes of poppy seed harvested and its yield was 0.71 t/ha).

The production of annual **fodder crops** on arable land was 8 883.6 thous. tonnes of green forage; i.e. by 558.8 thous. tonnes less than in 2020. Out of this amount, 8 431.7 thous. tonnes of green and silage maize were harvested; i.e. by 400.5 thous. tonnes less in comparison with the previous year. The harvest of hay of perennial fodder crops was 1 488.3 thous. tonnes, of which the harvest of red clover hay reached 407.3 thous. tonnes.

Production of **vegetables** including households' estimates was higher than in 2020; in total 333.5 thous. tonnes of vegetables were harvested (310.7 thous. tonnes in 2020). The harvest of **fruits** (excluding raspberries; including households' production) reached 313.5 thous. tonnes and was lower than in the previous year (314.1 thousand tonnes in 2020).

In total 90.1 thous. tonnes of grapes were harvested from 16.4 thous. ha of **vineyards in production**, i.e. by 318 tonnes less than in 2020; their average yield was 5.51 t/ha (5.60 t/ha in 2020). The **hop** production reached 8 306 tonnes; it increased by 2 381 tonnes (i.e. by 40.2%) compared to 2020. The per hectare yield of hop, accounting for 1.67 t/ha, went up as well by 0.48 t/ha in comparison with the previous year.