

COMMENTARY

At the beginning of the 2nd half-year 2023, agricultural organizations showed the following stocks of crop products: 583 thous. tonnes of cereals, 12 thous. tonnes of field peas for grain, 5 thous. tonnes of potatoes, 32 thous. tonnes of sugar beet, 60 thous. tonnes of rape seed, 961 tonnes of poppy, and 3 thous. tonnes of sunflower seed. In total 7 979 thous. tonnes of cereals, total, 106 tonnes of field peas, 555 thous. tonnes of potatoes, 3 834 thous. tonnes of sugar beet, 1 309 thous. tonnes of rape seed, 18 thous. tonnes of poppy, and 49 thous. tonnes of sunflower seed were harvested in the 2nd half of 2023. During the 2nd half-year, 464 thous. tonnes of cereals, total (of which the largest amount – 289 thous. tonnes – of wheat), 10 thous. tonnes of field peas, 14 thous. tonnes of potatoes, total, 96 thous. tonnes of sugar beet, 61 thous. tonnes of rape seed, 1 thous. tonnes of poppy, and 5 thous. tonnes of sunflower seed were purchased by agricultural organisations.

Sales of crop products in the 2nd half-year comprised of 5 003 thous. tonnes of cereals, total (the largest share – 3 282 thous. tonnes – was recorded for wheat). Direct exports of cereals, total, reached 138 thous. tonnes. Further sales included 74 thous. tonnes of field peas, of which 2 thous. tonnes were directly exported. Sales of potatoes, total, were 452 thous. tonnes and their direct exports reached 6 thous. tonnes. Sugar beet sales were 3 591 thous. tonnes and their direct exports reached 26 thous. tonnes. The amount of rape seed sold during the 2nd half-year was 983 thous. tonnes, of which 20 thous. tonnes directly exported. Agricultural organisations sold 14 thous. tonnes of poppy. The amount of sunflower seed sold was 45 thous. tonnes, of which 3 thous. tonnes directly exported.

The consumption of cereals, total, in agricultural organizations during the 2nd half-year reached 782 thous. tonnes, with the largest share – 447 thous. tonnes – of wheat. Out of this amount, 573 thous. tonnes were used for feed purposes, 192 thous. tonnes as seeds, and 17 thous. tonnes for other use. The consumption of field peas reached 6 thous. tonnes, mainly for feed purposes. In total 13 thous. tonnes of potatoes, total, were consumed, of which 5 thous. tonnes for food purposes, 6 thous. tonnes for feed purposes, and 1 thous. tonnes for other use. The amount of rape seed consumed was 5 thous. tonnes: 3 thous. tonnes for feed purposes, 1 thous. tonnes as seeds, and 762 tonnes for other purposes. The poppy consumption reached 12 tonnes. Agricultural organizations consumed 135 tonnes of sunflower seed, prevalingly for feed purposes.

Losses during storage during the 2nd half-year 2023 amounted to 6 thous. tonnes of cereals, total, 87 tonnes of field peas, 1 000 tonnes of potatoes, total, 613 tonnes of rape seed, 29 tonnes of poppy, and 199 tonnes of sunflower seed.

Stocks at the end of 2023 were 3 235 thous. tonnes of cereals, total (of which the largest ones – 2 134 thous. tonnes – were those of wheat), 48 thous. tonnes of field peas, 108 thous. tonnes of potatoes, 370 thous tonnes of sugar beet, 441 thous. tonnes of rape seed, 6 thous. tonnes of poppy, and 12 thous. tonnes of sunflower seed.