

Commentary

Acreage of agricultural land as recorded in Areas under Crops Survey in 2012 accounts for 3 526 thous. ha; i.e. by 22 thous. ha more (+0.6 %) than in 2011. Arable land acreage reaches 2 513 thous. ha; it went down by 3 thous. ha (-0,1 %) compared to 2011. The share of arable land in total agricultural land is 71.3%. Permanent grasslands cover 968 thousand ha; i.e. by 26 thous. ha (+2.8%) more than in the last year. The proportion of permanent grassland in total agricultural area is 27.4%. Acreage of set-aside arable land and fallow land accounts for 33 thous. ha. It increased by 5 thous. ha (+16.1%) since 2011 and now shares 1.3% of total arable land surveyed.

Cereals are grown on 58.2% of total sown area (57.5% of arable land) and the most widespread one – winter wheat – shares 30.1% of sown areas. Root crops represent 3.5% of sown areas, oleaginous plants 19.0% (of which rape shares 85.2% of the total oleaginous plants), and plants harvested green on arable land 17.6% (of which annual ones share 60.3%) of total sown areas.

Sown areas planted with cereals cover 1 445 thous. ha, i.e. by 23 thous. ha (-1.6%) less than in 2011. Legumes are cultivated on 20 thous. ha, i.e. by 2 thous. ha less compared with 2011. Root crops share 86 thous. ha, i.e. by 387 ha more in comparison with 2011. An increase of sown areas was reported for oleaginous plants whose acreage is 471 thous. ha; it means their acreage rose by 6 thous. ha since 2011. Also sown area of industrial plants increased since 2011 by 5 thous. ha to 480 thousand ha. Plants harvested green on arable land cover acreage of 436 thous. ha, i.e. by 13 thous. ha more than in 2011.