

COMMENTARY

As at 15 August 2012, the Czech Statistical Office processed estimates of yields and harvest of potatoes and industrial sugar beet, and improved harvest estimates of basic cereals (wheat, rye, barley, oats and triticale), rape, and gherkins. Production estimations for particular crops are based on their sowing areas 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 5 691 thous. tonnes with an average yield of 4.30 t/ha. It decreased by 26 thous. tonnes (-0.4%) compared to July estimation and by 1 516 thous. tonnes (-21.0%) in comparison with final harvest figures for 2011.

The first harvest estimations in 2012 were carried out for other potatoes, seed potatoes and industrial sugar beet. The harvest of potatoes (including July estimation of early potatoes) at an estimated average yield of 26.89 t/ha (30.45 t/ha in 2011) should reach 636 thous. tonnes; i.e. by 169 thous. tonnes less (-21.0%) compared to final harvest in 2011. The production of industrial sugar beet is expected to reach 3 373 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 526 thous. tonnes (-13.5%) less than in 2011. Supposed yield of 55.15 t/ha declined by 11.69 t/ha (-17.5%) in comparison with 2011.

Rape production is estimated to be 1 118 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 6.9% more compared to 2011 results. Its yield is supposed to reach 2.79 t/ha.