## **COMMENTARY**

Pursuant to the survey as at 15 September 2014, the Czech Statistical Office estimates the harvest of cereals to be 8 733 thous. tonnes with the average yield 6.23 t/ha. In comparison with the 2013 final data, their yield increased by 0.89 t/ha and their production by 1 233 thous. tonnes. The harvest of grain maize is supposed to be 778 thous. tonnes; i.e. by 103 thous. tonnes more (+15.2 %) than in the previous year.

The total harvest of potatoes (including early potatoes estimated in July) shall reach 668 thous. tonnes (index 124.6 %) with estimated average yield 27.86 t/ha (23.12 t/ha in 2013). The harvest of other potatoes shall be 561 thous. tonnes with the yield 29.30 t/ha (24.14 t/ha in 2013). The production of industrial sugar beet is awaited to be 3 844 thous. tonnes, which is by 100 thous. tonnes more (+2.7 %) compared to 2013. The supposed yield of 61.05 t/ha is by 1.05 t/ha higher in comparison with 2013.

The yield of rape is supposed to be 3.94 t/ha; i.e. it increased by 0.49 t/ha (+14.2 %) in comparison with 2013. The total production of rape is expected to reach 1 532 thous. tonnes; i.e. by 89 thous. tonnes (+6.2 %) more than in 2013.

The first assessments in 2014 were conducted for the production of fodder plants. The harvest of fodder maize shall reach 9 018 thous. tonnes; it shall increase by 1 382 thous. tonnes compared to the previous year. Its yield of 38.29 t/ha would be by 5.63 t/ha higher (+17.2 %) than in 2013. The estimated production of perennial fodder plants would be higher as well. The harvest of red clover in hay is estimated to reach 322 thous. tonnes (index 100.8 %), the production of lucerne in hay shall be 446 thous. tonnes (index 104.5 %). The supposed yield of red clover is 7.40 t/ha (7.37 t/ha in 2013) and the yield of lucerne is estimated to 7.78 t/ha (7.64 t/ha in 2013).