

## COMMENTARY

The first estimate of yields and harvest of main cereals (except maize for grain and other cereals), early potatoes, rape, strawberries and early fruit species was performed as at 20 June 2014 on the basis of the Areas under Crops survey as at 31 May 2014 results.

According to the first estimate the harvest of main cereals should account for 6 654 thous. tonnes of grain. It is by 170 thous. tonnes less (-2.5 %) in comparison with 2013 final values. The estimated average yield of basic cereals reaching 5.11 t/ha is by 0.11 t/ha lower than the last year's final value (5.22 t/ha).

The harvest of the key cereal species – winter wheat – is estimated to be 4 296 thous. tonnes; it is by 234 thous. tonnes (-5.2 %) less than in 2013. Its estimated yield accounting for 5.43 t/ha is by 0.32 t/ha lower compared to 2013 results. The estimated production of spring barley is 1 162 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 43 thous. tonnes (+3.8 %) more than in 2013. Its yield of 4.69 t/ha is by 0.08 t/ha (+1.7 %) higher compared to 2013 finals.

The estimated production of early potatoes (potatoes harvested before 30 June) is 30 thous. tonnes with the yield of 19.27 t/ha. The production of rape is expected to be 1 259 thous. tonnes with the yield of 3.23 t/ha, it means a decrease by 184 thous. tonnes (-12.8 %) compared with 2013 harvest.