

COMMENTARY

As at 15 August 2017, the Czech Statistical Office processed yield and harvest estimates for potatoes and sugar beet, and improved production estimates for basic cereals (common 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 6 742 thous. tonnes with an average yield of 5.34 t/ha. It increased by 32 thous. tonnes (+0.5%) compared to July estimation and decreased by 988 thous. tonnes (-12.8%) in comparison with final harvest figures for 2016.

The first harvest estimations in 2017 were carried out for other potatoes, seed potatoes and sugar beet. The harvest of potatoes (including July estimation of early potatoes) should reach 617 thous. tonnes at an assumed average yield of 26.33 t/ha (29.88 t/ha in 2016); i.e. by 83 thous. tonnes less (-11.9%) compared to the 2016 final harvest. The harvest of sugar beet is expected to reach 4 090 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 28 thous. tonnes (-0.7%) less than in 2016. Supposed yield of 61.88 t/ha decreased by 5.93 t/ha (-8.7%) in comparison with 2016.

Rape production is estimated to be 1 149 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 15.5% less compared to 2016 results. Its yield is supposed to reach 2.91 t/ha.