

COMMENTARY

The first estimate of yields and harvest of basic cereals (except maize for grain and other cereals), early potatoes, rape, strawberries and early fruit species was performed as at 10 June 2017 on the basis of the Areas under Crops Survey as at 31 May 2017 results.

According to the first estimate, the harvest of basic cereals should account for 6 945 thous. tonnes of grain. It is by 785 thous. tonnes less (-10.1%) in comparison with 2016 final values. The estimated average yield of basic cereals reaching 5.50 t/ha is by 0.62 t/ha lower than the last year's final value (6.12 t/ha).

The harvest of the key cereal species – common winter wheat – is estimated to be 4 612 thous. tonnes; it is by 703 thous. tonnes less(-13.2%) than in 2016. Its estimated yield accounting for 5.87 t/ha is by 0.70 t/ha lower compared to 2016 results. The estimated harvest of spring barley is 1 162 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 46 thous. tonnes less (-3.8%) than in 2016. Its yield of 5.04 t/ha is by 0.41 t/ha (-7.5%) lower compared to 2016 finals.

The estimated harvest of early potatoes (ones expected to be harvested before 30 June) is 22 thous. tonnes with the yield of 20.03 t/ha. The harvest of rape is estimated to be 1 254 thous. tonnes and its yield 3.18 t/ha; it means a decrease by 105 thous. tonnes (-7.7%) compared with 2016 harvest.