

COMMENTARY

As at 15 July 2018 the Czech Statistical Office processed estimates of yield and harvest of field peas for grain, poppy, and selected fruit and vegetables; and improved estimates of production of basic cereals (wheat, rye, barley, oats and triticale), rape, early potatoes, strawberries, cherries and sour cherries.

According to these improved estimates, the production of basic cereals (including triticale but excluding maize for grain and other cereals) is awaited to be 6 345 thous. tonnes with their average yield of 5.07 t/ha. The estimated production of basic cereals increased by 47 thous. tonnes (+0.7%) compared with the June estimate. In comparison with 2017 final results it decreased by 515 thous. tonnes (-7.5%).

The wheat production is expected to reach 4 344 thous. tonnes (of which 4 146 thous. tonnes of winter wheat); it went down by 7.9 % in comparison with the 2017 harvest. The total barley harvest is supposed to decrease by 8.8 % and to amount to 1 561 thous. tonnes (of which spring barley harvest should be 1 045 thous. tonnes; i.e. by 8.6 % less than in 2017). The yield estimates account for 5.36 t/ha for winter wheat (5.77 t/ha in the previous year), 4.76 t/ha for rye (4.92 t/ha in 2017), and 4.71 t/ha for spring barley (4.96 t/ha in 2017).

The harvest of early potatoes (harvested before 30 June) should reach 26 thous. tonnes with its estimated average yield of 25.10 t/ha. The rape harvest should amount to 1 287 thous. tonnes; i.e. by 141 thous. tonnes more (+12.3%) than in the previous year. Its average yield is expected to be 3.13 t/ha (2.91 t/ha in 2017). The poppy harvest should be 15 thous. tonnes, i.e. less than in 2017 (20 thous. tonnes). Its estimated yield decreased to 0.56 t/ha (0.62 t/ha in 2017).