

COMMENTARY

Pursuant to the survey as at 15 September 2018, the Czech Statistical Office estimates the harvest of cereals to be 6 861 thous. tonnes with the average yield 5.15 t/ha. In comparison with the 2017 final data, their yield decreased by 0.37 t/ha and their production by 586 thous. tonnes. The harvest of grain maize is supposed to be 473 thous. tonnes; i.e. by 115 thous. tonnes lower (-19.6%) than in the previous year.

The total harvest of potatoes (including July estimates of early potatoes) shall reach 557 thous. tonnes (index 80.9%) with the estimated average yield 24.35 t/ha (29.42 t/ha in 2017). The harvest of other potatoes shall be 474 thous. tonnes with the yield 24.89 t/ha (30.81 t/ha in 2017). The production of sugar beet is awaited to be 3 306 thous. tonnes, which is by 1 094 thous. tonnes less (-24.9%) compared to 2017. Its supposed yield of 51.04 t/ha is by 15.51 t/ha lower in comparison with 2017.

The yield of rape is supposed to be 3.36 t/ha; i.e. it increased by 0.45 t/ha (+15.5%) in comparison with 2017. The total production of rape is expected to reach 1 383 thous. tonnes; i.e. by 237 thous. tonnes up (+20.7%) than in 2017.

The first assessments in 2018 were conducted for the production of fodder plants. The harvest of green and silage maize shall reach 6 670 thous. tonnes; it shall decrease by 1 107 thous. tonnes compared to the previous year. Its yield of 29.80 t/ha would be by 5.04 t/ha lower (-14.5%) than in 2017. Estimated production of perennial fodder plants decreased as well. The harvest of red clover is estimated to reach 305 thous. tonnes (index 76.6%) and the production of lucerne shall be 350 thous. tonnes (index 78.7%). The supposed yield of red clover is 5.08 t/ha (6.66 t/ha in 2017) and the yield of lucerne is estimated to 5.35 t/ha (7.12 t/ha in 2017).