

COMMENTARY

The first estimate of yields and harvest of basic cereals (except grain maize and other cereals), early potatoes, rape, strawberries and early fruit species was performed as at 10 June 2017 on the basis of results of the Areas under Crops Survey as at 31 May 2018.

According to the first estimate, the harvest of basic cereals should account for 6 298 thous. tonnes of grain. It is by 561 thous. tonnes less (-8.2%) in comparison with 2017 final values. The estimated average yield of basic cereals reaching 5.04 t/ha is by 0.40 t/ha lower than the last year's final value (5.43 t/ha).

The harvest of the key cereal species –winter wheat – is estimated to be 4 150 thous. tonnes; it is by 380 thous. tonnes less (-8.4%) than in 2017. Its estimated yield accounting for 5.36 t/ha is by 0.40 t/ha lower compared to 2017 results. The estimated harvest of spring barley is 1 021 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 123 thous. tonnes less (-10.7%) than in 2017. Its yield of 4.60 t/ha is by 0.36 t/ha (-7.3%) lower compared to the 2017 final figures.

The estimated harvest of early potatoes (ones expected to be harvested before 30 June) is 23 thous. tonnes with their yield being 22.35 t/ha. The harvest of rape is estimated to be 1 221 thous. tonnes and its yield 2.96 t/ha; it means an increase by 75 thous. tonnes (+6.5%) compared with the 2017 harvest.