

COMMENTARY

At the beginning of the 2nd half-year 2018, agricultural organizations showed the following stocks of crop products: 437 thous. tonnes of cereals, 10 thous. tonnes of field peas, 6 thous. tonnes of potatoes, 21 thous. tonnes of sugar beet, 33 thous. tonnes of rape, 1 000 tonnes of poppy, and 6 thous. tonnes of sunflower seed. In total 6 919 thous. tonnes of cereals, total, 70 tonnes of field peas for grain, 563 thous. tonnes of potatoes, 3 724 thous. tonnes of sugar beet, 1 404 thous. tonnes of rape, 14 thous. tonnes of poppy, and 48 thous. tonnes of sunflower seed were harvested in the 2nd half of 2018. During the 2nd half-year, 655 thous. tonnes of cereals, total (of which the largest amount – 350 thous. tonnes – of wheat), 12 thous. tonnes of field peas, 16 thous. tonnes of potatoes, total, 142 thous. tonnes of sugar beet, 71 thous. tonnes of rape, 2 thous. tonnes of poppy, and 3 thous. tonnes of sunflower seed were purchased by agricultural organisations.

Sales of crop products in the 2nd half-year comprised 4 641 thous. tonnes of cereals, total (the largest share – 2 956 thous. tonnes – was recorded for wheat). Direct exports of cereals, total, reached 135 thous. tonnes. Further sales included 49 thous. tonnes of field peas, of which 835 tonnes were directly exported. Sales of potatoes, total, were 443 thous. tonnes and their direct exports reached 8 thous. tonnes. Sugar beet sales were 3 658 thous. tonnes. The amount of rape sold during the 2nd half-year was 1 145 thous. tonnes, of which 23 thous. tonnes directly exported. Agricultural organisations sold 14 thous. tonnes of poppy, of which 205 tonnes by direct exports. The amount of sunflower seed sold was 40 thous. tonnes, of which 1 000 tonnes directly exported.

The consumption of cereals, total, in agricultural organizations during the 2nd half-year reached 769 thous. tonnes, with the largest share – 422 thous. tonnes – of wheat. Out of this amount, 282 tonnes were used for food purposes, 551 thous. tonnes for feed purposes, 206 thous. tonnes as seeds, and 11 thous. tonnes for other use. The consumption of field peas reached 4 thous. tonnes, mainly for feed purposes. In total 17 thous. tonnes of potatoes, total, were consumed, of which 4 thous tonnes for food purposes. Agricultural organisations consumed 20 tonnes of sugar beet, mostly for other use. The amount of rape consumed was 5 thous. tonnes: 3 tonnes for feed purposes, 2 thous. tonnes for feed purposes, and 687 for other purposes. The poppy consumption was the lowest one: it reached 13 tonnes, mainly for feed purposes. Agricultural organizations consumed 69 tonnes of sunflower seed, prevalingly for feed purposes.

Losses during storage during the 2nd half-year 2018 amounted to 2 thous. tonnes of cereals, total, 59 tonnes of field peas, 3 thous. tonnes of potatoes, total, 790 tonnes of sugar beet, 404 tonnes of rape, 107 tonnes of poppy, and 60 tonnes of sunflower seed.

Stocks at the end of 2018 were 2 599 thous. tonnes of cereals, total (of which the largest ones – 1 547 thous. tonnes – were those of wheat), 38 thous. tonnes of field peas, 122 thous. tonnes of potatoes, 228 thous tonnes of sugar beet, 358 thous. tonnes of rape, 3 thous. tonnes of poppy, and 16 thous. tonnes of sunflower seed.