

Commentary

The agricultural area as recorded in the Areas under Crops Survey 2019 accounts for 3 524 thous. ha, i.e. by 443 ha more than in 2018. The arable land area reaches 2 486 thous. ha in total; it went down by 276 ha compared to the previous year. The share of arable land in the total agricultural area is 70.6% (i.e. the same as in 2018). Permanent grasslands cover 992 thous. ha, i.e. by 2 thous. ha more (+0.2%) than in the previous year. Their proportion in the total agricultural area is 28.1%. Fallow land area accounts for 25 thous. ha; it decreased by one thousand ha (-4.1%) since 2018 and now it shares 1.0% of the total arable land surveyed.

Cereals are grown on 55.0% of the total sowing area; 33.1% of the sowing area is devoted to winter wheat as the most widespread one. Root crops represent 3.4% of the sowing area, oil seed crops 18.5% (of which rape shares 83.5% of the oil seed crops total), and fodder crops harvested green on arable land cover 20.3% of the total sowing area (of which annual ones 11.8%).

The sowing area planted with cereals covers 1 354 thous. ha, i.e. by 14 thous. ha higher than in 2018. Pulses are sown on 34 thous. ha, i.e. by one thousand ha less compared to 2018. Root crops share 83 thous. ha, i.e. by 6 thous. ha less in comparison with 2018. Potatoes are planted on 23 thous. ha in the frame of agricultural sector while their estimated area for households' production is 6 thous. ha. A decrease was observed for oil seed crops whose current area is 455 thous. ha; it went down by 35 thous. ha since 2018. The sowing area of industrial plants decreased since 2018 as well: by 37 thous. ha to 461 thous. ha. Fodder crops harvested green on arable land cover 499 thous. ha, i.e. by 30 thous. ha more than in 2018.