

NEWS RELEASE

11 August 2023

Cereals production will be average; more rape to be harvested compared to the previous year**Supplementary information to the News Release on Harvest estimates – July 2023**

Based on the second estimate of this year's harvests as at 15 July, it is expected that the production of basic cereals will be 7 123 thousand tonnes; it is comparable to the five-year average of harvests (+0.1%). However, compared to the last year, which was above the average, it is by 446 thousand tonnes lower (-5.9%). Year-on-year (y-o-y), production will be lower in the following: wheat, rye, spring barley, oats, and triticale whereas production of winter barley will be higher. The production of rape will be in an amount of 1 215 thousand tonnes, by 48 thousand tonnes more, y-o-y (+4.1%). On the other hand, expected poppy harvest in an amount of 19 thousand tonnes is by 14.2% lower.

The second estimate of this year's harvests expects that production of **basic cereals** will be average. The estimated production of basic cereals (excluding grain maize) in an amount of 7 123 thousand tonnes is by 446 thousand tonnes lower, year-on-year (-5.9%) due to a decrease in both their sowing area to 1 249 thousand hectares (-3.9%) and the per hectare yield to 5.71 tonnes per hectare (t/ha; -2.1%). The estimated production of basic cereals is comparable to the average of harvests for the last five years (production +0.1%; the sowing area -1.0%; the per hectare yield +1.2%).

Compared to the first estimate from June, the per hectare yield of basic cereals increased from 5.57 t/ha to 5.71 t/ha and the expected production is thus by 168 thousand tonnes higher (+2.4%).

The most spread cereal in the Czech Republic, **winter common wheat**, contributes the most to the year-on-year decrease in production of basic cereals. According to the July estimate, 4 734 thousand tonnes will be harvested, by 205 thousand tonnes less than in the previous year (-4.2%). It is owing to both a decrease in its sowing areas, y-o-y, and a lower estimated per hectare yield of 6.08 t/ha (-1.4%).

Also expected production of other basic cereals, namely of spring common wheat, rye, spring barley, oats, and triticale is lower, year-on-year, due to a decrease in their per hectare yields. The only basic cereal with higher expected production is winter barley.

The harvest of **spring barley**, the second most spread cereal in the Czech Republic, is estimated to be 965 thousand tonnes, almost by 162 thousand tonnes less compared to the previous year (-14.3%). The per hectare yield of 5.01 t/ha is by 5.7% lower. The production of **triticale** will be in an amount of 205 thousand tonnes (-1.3%) with the yield of 4.88 t/ha (-4.7%), the harvest of **spring common wheat** in an amount of 153 thousand tonnes (-38.9%) with the yield of 4.32 t/ha (-8.6%), the production of **oats** in an amount of 148 thousand tonnes (-11.6%) with the yield of

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3.45 t/ha (–7.2%), and the harvest of **rye** in an amount of 120 thousand tonnes (–6.5%) with the yield of 4.86 t/ha (–8.5%). On the other hand, the harvest of **winter barley** will be higher thanks to an increase in its sowing area, namely 781 thousand tonnes (+4.0%) with the yield of 6.07 t/ha (–1.0%).

The **rape** production estimated to be in an amount of 1 215 thousand tonnes is by 48 thousand tonnes higher, y-o-y (+4.1%), thanks to an increase in its sowing area to 380 thousand hectares (+10.5%). Its per hectare yield of 3.20 t/ha is by 5.7% lower. When compared to the five-year average of harvests, the estimated rape production is by 1.2% higher (the sowing area +2.9%; the per hectare yield –1.7%). The up-to-date estimate of the rape production does not differ much from the first June estimate. Its per hectare yield has slightly decreased from 3.22 t/ha to 3.20 t/ha and the expected harvest thus decreased by almost 9 thousand tonnes (–0.7%).

The expected **poppy** production in an amount of 19 thousand tonnes is by 14.2% lower due to a decrease in its per hectare yield to 0.72 t/ha (–14.6%). Its sowing area of 26 thousand hectares remained almost unchanged, y-o-y (+0.5%). Compared to the average of harvests for the last five years, the poppy production is – due to a decrease in its sowing area by a quarter – by 19.9% lower (the sowing area –24.0%; the per hectare yield +5.4%).

More detailed information including estimated production of durum wheat, field peas for grain, early potatoes, winter rape seed, and spring rape seed in the Czech Republic as a whole and broken down by Region are given in the related publication: Harvest Estimates – Operative Report as at 15 July 2023. Refined (updated) estimates of production supplemented by an estimate of production of other crops (grain maize and green maize, potatoes, sugar beet, sunflower for seed, soya, and lucerne) will be published by the Czech Statistical Office on 6 September 2023.

Notes:

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