

## COMMENTARY

The total production of individual crops depends on size of their sowing areas surveyed in May and on changes of growing conditions during the vegetation period.

The production **area of cereals** (including grain maize and other cereals) decreased by 41.3 thous. ha (i.e. by 2.8%), year-on-year, to 1 413.1 thous. ha. The total harvest of cereals reached 7 512.6 thous. tonnes and it increased in comparison with 2012 by 917.1 thous. tonnes (i.e. by 13.9%). The harvest of the following crops decreased compared to 2012: spring wheat went down by 114.1 thous. tonnes (by 40.2%) to 169.9 thous. tonnes; spring barley by 107.0 thous. tonnes (by 8.7%) to 1 119.1 thous. tonnes; oats by 32.9 thous. tonnes (by 19.1%) to 139.1 thous. tonnes; and other cereals by 9.5 thous. tonnes (by 41.9%) to 13.2 thous. tonnes. The harvest of main cereals grew in comparison with the last year. The harvest of wheat was 4 700.7 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 1 181.8 thous. tonnes (by 33.6%) more than in 2012. The harvest of barley reached 1 593.8 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 22.7 thous. tonnes (by 1.4%) less than in the previous year. The harvest of maize for grain reached 675.4 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 252.8 thous. tonnes (by 27.2%) less than in 2012.

The **yield of cereals** was 5.32 tonnes per hectare; it is by 0.78 t/ha (i.e. by 17.2%) higher compared to the previous year. The yields were 5.75 t/ha for winter wheat (4.34 t/ha in 2012), 4.15 t/ha for spring wheat (4.09 t/ha), 4.70 t/ha for rye (4.81 t/ha), 4.47 t/ha for winter barley (3.98 t/ha), 4.61 t/ha for spring barley (4.31 t/ha), 3.19 t/ha for oats (3.39 t/ha), 6.97 t/ha for grain maize (7.78 t/ha), and 4.58 t/ha for triticale (4.31 t/ha).

The production of **pulses** decreased compared to 2012; in total 38.3 thous. tonnes of pulses were harvested. The field peas harvest was 30.7 thous. tonnes; i.e. the same amount as in the previous year. Total production of **grains** (cereals and pulses) reached 7 550.9 thous. tonnes; it went up by 916.3 thous. tonnes (i.e. by 13.8%) in comparison with 2012.

The total harvest of **potatoes** including households' production was 646.9 thous. tonnes; it showed a decrease by 158.1 thous. tonnes (by 19.6%) compared to 2012. Yield of potatoes reached 22.08 t/ha and was by 4.69 t/ha lower than in 2012. Harvest of early potatoes reached 30.5 thous. tonnes. The average yield of other potatoes was 23.09 t/ha, it means by 5.19 t/ha less than in 2012. Their production reached 555.8 thous. tonnes and was by 129.4 thous. tonnes lower than in 2012. **Sugar beet** harvest was 3 743.8 thous. tonnes (3 868.8 thous. tonnes in 2012) and its average yield reached 60.0 t/ha; its harvest declined by 3.2% in comparison with the previous year.

In 2013 the total sowing area of **oleaginous plants** increased by 16.1 thous. ha (by 3.4%) to 486.9 thous. ha. Their production was 1 533.7 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 322.9 thous. tonnes more than in the previous year. The rape harvest was 1 443.2 thous. tonnes, while in 2012 it was 1 109.1 thous. tonnes; i.e. there was an increase by 334.1 thous. tonnes. The rape seed yield was 3.45 t/ha; it increased by 0.68 t/ha. The production of poppy seed grew as well; in total 13.9 thous. tonnes of poppy seed were harvested from the area of 20.3 thous. ha, with its average yield of 0.69 tonnes/ha (in 2012 there were 12.8 thous. tonnes of poppy seed harvested with its yield of 0.70 t/ha).

The production of **annual fodder crops** on arable land was 8 497.1 thous. tonnes of green forage; i.e. by 679.0 thous. tonnes less than in 2012. Out of this amount there were harvested 7 635.4 thous. tonnes of green maize and maize for silage; i.e. by 692.9 thous. tonnes less in comparison with 2012. Harvest of hay from perennial fodder crops was 1 157.8 thous. tonnes, of which red clover harvest reached 319.5 thousand tonnes.

Production of **vegetables** including households' estimates was higher than in 2012; in total 239.7 thous. tonnes of vegetables were harvested (232.9 thous. tonnes in 2012). The harvest of **fruit** (including households) reached 303,4 thous. tonnes and was higher than in the previous year (291.9 thousand tonnes in 2012).

In total 74.7 thous. tonnes of grapes were harvested from 15.7 thous. ha of **bearing vineyards**, i.e. by 14.7 thous. tonnes more than in 2012; their average yield was 4.77 t/ha (3.83 t/ha in 2012). **Hop** production reached 5 330 tonnes; it increased by 992 tonnes (i.e. by 22.9%) compared to 2012. Hop yield of 1.23 t/ha grew by 0.24 t/ha in comparison with the previous year.