***COMMENTARY***

*The total production of individual crops is based on the size of areas under crops surveyed in May and on changes of growing conditions during the vegetation period.*

*The harvested* ***area of cereals*** *(including grain maize and other cereals) decreased by 9.6 thous. ha (i.e. by 0.7%), year-on-year, to 1 307.6 thous. ha. The total harvest of cereals reached 7 520.8* *thous. tonnes and went down by 474.7 thous. tonnes (i.e. by 5.9%) in comparison with 2023. The harvest of spring barley, oats and grain maize was above the 2023 level. The harvest of winter wheat was 4 507.6 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 599.3 thous. tonnes (by 11.7%) less than in the previous year. The harvest of rye was 105.6 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 19.3 thous. tonnes (i.e by 15.5%) less than in the previous year. The harvest of spring barley accounted for 1 029.4 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 79.0 thous. tonnes (by 8.3%) more than in 2023, and that of winter barley reached 642.1 thous tonnes (by 171.1 thous. tonnes or by 21.1% less than in 2023). The harvest of basic cereals was lower than in the previous year. The harvest of wheat amounted to 4 625.4 thous. tonnes (by 637.0 thous. tonnes or by 12.1% less than in 2023). The harvest of barley was 1 671.5 thous. tonnes (by 92.7 thous. tonnes or by 5.3% less than in 2023). The harvest of grain maize accounted for 712.2 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 204.7 thous. tonnes (by 40.3%) more than in 2023.*

*The* ***per hectare yield of cereals*** *was 5.75 tonnes; it was by 0.32 t/ha (i.e. by 5.2%) lower compared to the previous year. The yields were 6.03 t/ha for winter wheat (6.56 t/ha in 2023), 3.76 t/ha for spring wheat (3.86 t/ha), 4.35 t/ha for rye (5.07 t/ha), 5.05 t/ha for winter barley (6.32 t/ha), 5.42 t/ha for spring barley (4.94 t/ha), 3.81 t/ha for oats (2.76 t/ha), 8.14 t/ha for grain maize (7.88 t/ha), and 4.45 t/ha for triticale (4.98 t/ha).*

*The production of* ***pulses******and protein crops*** *decreased compared to 2023; in total 97.1 thous. tonnes of pulses were harvested. The harvest of field peas was 88.1 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 17.5 thous. tonnes (by 16.6%) less than in the previous year. The total production of* ***grain crops*** *(cereals and pulses) reached 7 617.9* *thous. tonnes; it went down by 489.3* *thous. tonnes (i.e. by 6.0%) in comparison with 2023.*

*The total harvest of* ***potatoes*** *including households’ production was 783.7 thous. tonnes; it showed an increase by 80.7 thous. tonnes (by 11.5%) compared to 2023. The yield of potatoes reached 27.28 t/ha and was by 1.26 t/ha higher than in 2023. The harvest of early potatoes reached 26.2 thous. tonnes. The average per hectare yield of other potatoes was 29.81 tonnes; it means by 1.16 t/ha higher than in 2023. Their production reached 563.7 thous. tonnes and was by 64.4 tonnes higher than in the previous year. The harvest of* ***sugar beet*** *was 4 584.7* *thous. tonnes (3 833.9 thous. tonnes in 2023) and its average yield reached 69.56 t/ha; its harvest increased by 19.6% in comparison with the previous year.*

*In 2024, the total area under* ***oil seed crops*** *decreased by 32.0 thous. ha (by 6.8%) to 438.4 thous. ha. Their production was 1 097.2 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 357.1 thous. tonnes less than in the previous year. The harvest of rape seed reached 946.9 thous. tonnes, while in 2023 it was 1 309.5 thous. tonnes; i.e. there was a decrease by 362.2 thous. tonnes. The rape seed yield was 2.76 t/ha; it went down by 0.69 t/ha. The production of poppy seed went up: in total 27.3 thous. tonnes of poppy seed were harvested from the area of 36.6 thous. ha, with its average yield of 0.74 t/ha (in 2023, there were 18.0 thous. tonnes of poppy seed harvested and its yield was 0.69 t/ha).*

*The production of* ***fodder crops*** *on arable land was 4 347.3* *thous. tonnes as hay; i.e. by 26.4 thous. tonnes more than in 2023. Out of this amount, 7 130.5 thous. tonnes of green maize were harvested; i.e. by 59.4 thous. tonnes less in comparison with the previous year. The harvest of clover hay reached 344.5 thous. tonnes and lucerne 427,2 thous. tonnes.*

*Production of* ***vegetables*** *including households’ estimates was lower than in 2023; in total 323.3 thous. tonnes of vegetables were harvested (344.0 thous. tonnes in 2023). The harvest of* ***fruits*** *(including households’ production)**reached**160.2 thous. tonnes and was lower than in the previous year (278.1 thous. tonnes in 2023).*

*In total 69.3 thous. tonnes of grapes were harvested from 16.0 thous. ha of* ***vineyards in production****, i.e. by 7.7 thous. tonnes less than in 2023; their average yield was 4.32 t/ha (4.73 t/ha in 2023). The* ***hop*** *production reached 6 494 tonnes; it decreased by 503 tonnes (i.e. by 7.2%) compared to 2023. The per hectare yield of hop, accounting for 1.34 t/ha, went down as well by 0.10 t/ha in comparison with the previous year.*