

Commentary

The area of agricultural land as recorded in the Areas under Crops Survey 2013 accounts for 3 521 thous. ha; i.e. by 5 thous. ha less (-0.1%) than in 2012. The arable land area reaches 2 501 thous. ha in total; it went down by 13 thous. ha (-0,5%) compared to 2012. The share of arable land in the total agricultural land is 71.0%. Permanent grasslands cover 974 thousand ha, i.e. by 6 thous. ha (+0.6%) more than in the last year. The proportion of permanent grassland in the total agricultural area is 27.7%. Fallow land area accounts for 24 thous. ha. It decreased by 9 thous. ha (-27.6%) since 2012 and now shares 1.0% of the total arable land surveyed.

Cereals are grown on 57.7% of the total sowing area (57.1% of arable land) and the most widespread one – winter wheat – shares 31.8% of the sowing area. Root crops represent 3.5 % of the sowing area, oleaginous plants 19.7% (of which rape shares 86.0% of the total oleaginous plants), and plants harvested green on arable land 17.6% (of which annual ones share 60.7%) of the total sowing area.

The sowing areas planted with cereals cover 1 428 thous. ha, i.e. by 16 thous. ha (-1.1%) less than in 2012. Legumes are cultivated on 18 thous. ha, i.e. by 2 thous. ha less compared with 2012. Root crops share 86 thous. ha, i.e. by 402 ha more in comparison with 2012. Potatoes are planted on 23 thous. ha; households grow them on approximately 6 thous. ha. An increase was noted for oleaginous plants whose area is currently 487 thous. ha; it means it rose by 16 thous. ha since 2012. The sowing area of industrial plants increased as well since 2011, namely by 15 thous. ha to 495 thousand ha. Plants harvested green on arable land cover 436 thous. ha, i.e. by 127 thous. ha less than in 2012.