

## COMMENTARY

The total production of individual crops depends on size of 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 25.0 thous. ha (i.e. by 1.7%) year-on-year and reached 1 454.4 thous. ha. The total harvest of cereals was 6 595.5 thous. tonnes; compared to 2011 it decreased by 1 689.3 thous. tonnes (i.e. by 20.4%). The harvest of following crops increased since 2011: spring wheat harvest reached 284.0 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 31.2 tonnes more (by 12.3%); winter and spring rye harvest was 147.0 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 28.5 thous. tonnes more (by 24.1%); oats harvest was 172.0 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 7.7 thous. tonnes more (by 4.7%); and harvest of other cereals reached 22.7 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 8.0 thous. tonnes more (by 54.0%) than in 2011. The harvest of main cereals declined in comparison with the last year. The harvest of wheat was 3 518.9 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 1 394.2 thous. tonnes (by 28.4%) less than in 2011. The harvest of barley reached 1 616.5 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 197.2 thous. tonnes (by 10.9%) less than in 2011. The harvest of maize for grain reached 928.1 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 135.6 thous. tonnes (by 12.7%) less than in the previous year.

The **yield of cereals** was 4.53 tonnes per hectare; it is by 1.07 t/ha (i.e. by 19.0%) less in comparison with the previous year. The yields achieved in 2012 were 4.34 t/ha for winter wheat (5.78 t/ha in 2011), 4.09 t/ha for spring wheat (4.41 t/ha in 2011), 4.81 t/ha for rye (4.74 t/ha), 3.98 t/ha for winter barley (4.64 t/ha), 4.31 t/ha for spring barley (4.95 t/ha), 3.39 t/ha for oats (3.63 t/ha), 7.78 t/ha for grain maize (8.79 t/ha), and 4.31 t/ha for triticale (4.52 t/ha).

The production of **pulses** compared to the year 2011 decreased as well; in total 39.1 thous. tonnes of pulses were harvested. The field peas harvest was 30.7 thous. tonnes; in comparison with 2011 it showed a decline by 21.6 thous. tonnes. Total production of **grains** (cereals and pulses) reached 6 634.6 thous. tonnes; it went down by 1 713.7 thous. tonnes (i.e. by 20.5%) in comparison with the 2011 harvest.

The total harvest of **potatoes** including households' production was 805.0 thous. tonnes; it showed a decrease by 168.9 thous. tonnes (by 17.3%) in comparison with 2011. Yield of potatoes reached 26.77 t/ha and was by 2.23 t/ha lower than in 2011. Early potatoes harvest reached 43.2 thous. tonnes. The average yield of other potatoes was 28.28 t/ha, it means by 2.71 t/ha less than in 2011. The production of other potatoes reached 685.1 thous. tonnes and is by 151.7 thous. tonnes lower than in 2011. **Sugar beet** harvest was 3 868.8 thous. tonnes (3 898.9 thous. tonnes in 2011) and its average yield reached 63.26 t/ha; there was a decrease of the harvest by 0.8% in comparison with the previous year.

In 2012 the total sowing area of **oleaginous plants** increased by 6.4 thous. ha (by 1.4%) to 470.8 thous. ha. Their production was 1 210.7 thous. tonnes, i.e. by 27.0 thous. tonnes more than in the last year. The rape harvest was 1 109.1 thous. tonnes, while in 2011 it was 1 046.1 thous. tonnes; i.e. there was an increase by 63.1 thous. tonnes. The rape seed yield was 2.76 tonnes/ha and it decreased by 0.04 tonnes/ha. The production of poppy seed decreased as well; in total 12.8 thous. tonnes of poppy seed were harvested from the area of 18.4 thous. ha, with an average yield of 0.70 tonnes/ha (in 2011 there were 26.9 thous. tonnes of poppy seed harvested with their yield 0.85 tonnes/ha).

The production of **annual fodder crops** on arable land was 9 176.0 thous. tonnes of green forage; i.e. by 544.8 thous. tonnes more than in 2011. Out of them, 8 328.3 thous. tonnes of green maize and maize for silage were harvested; i.e. by 546.7 thous. tonnes more in comparison with 2011. Harvest of hay for perennial fodder crops was 1 113.2 thous. tonnes, of which red clover harvest reached 319.6 thousand tonnes.

Production of **vegetables** including households' estimates was lower than in 2011; in total 232.9 thous. tonnes of vegetables were harvested (277.6 thous. tonnes in 2011). The harvest of **fruit** (including households) reached 292.8 thous. tonnes and was higher than the last year's production (265.1 thousand tonnes in 2011).

In total 60.0 thous. tonnes of grapes were harvested from 15.7 thous. ha of **bearing vineyards** with their yield 3.83 t/ha (5.70 t/ha in 2011); the harvest declined by 31.3 thous. tonnes in comparison with 2011. **Hop production** reached 4 338 tonnes; it decreased by 1.8 thous. tonnes (i.e. by 28.7%) compared to 2011. Hop yield of 0.99 tonnes/ha decreased by 0.32 tonnes/ha in comparison with the previous year.