# COMMENTARY

At the beginning of the 2nd half-year 2024, agricultural organizations showed the following stocks of crop products: 525 thous. tonnes of cereals, 13 thous. tonnes of field peas for grain, 3 thous. tonnes of potatoes, 13 tonnes of sugar beet, 38 thous. tonnes of rape seed, 681 tonnes of poppy, and 2 thous. tonnes of sunflower seed. In total 7 441 thous. tonnes of cereals, total, 88 tonnes of field peas, 631 thous. tonnes of potatoes, 4 585 thous. tonnes of sugar beet, 942 thous. tonnes of rape seed, 27 thous. tonnes of poppy, and 41 thous. tonnes of sunflower seed were harvested in the 2nd half of 2024. During the 2nd half-year, 457 thous. tonnes of cereals, total (of which the largest amount – 273 thous. tonnes – of wheat), 8 thous. tonnes of field peas, 8 thous. tonnes of potatoes, total, 124 thous. tonnes of sugar beet, 58 thous. tonnes of rape seed, 2 thous. tonnes of poppy, and 4 thous. tonnes of sunflower seed were purchased by agricultural organisations.

Sales of crop products in the 2nd half-year comprised of 4 908 thous. tonnes of cereals, total (the largest share – 3 131 thous. tonnes – was recorded for wheat). Direct exports of cereals, total, reached 130 thous. tonnes. Further sales included 61 thous. tonnes of field peas, of which 1 thous. tonnes were directly exported. Sales of potatoes, total, were 493 thous. tonnes and their direct exports reached 9 thous. tonnes. Sugar beet sales were 3 933 thous. tonnes. The amount of rape seed sold during the 2nd half-year was 789 thous. tonnes, of which 19 thous. tonnes directly exported. Agricultural organisations sold 21 thous. tonnes of poppy. The amount of sunflower seed sold was 39 thous. tonnes, of which 2 thous. tonnes directly exported.

The consumption of cereals, total, in agricultural organizations during the 2nd half-year reached 714 thous. tonnes, with the largest share – 405 thous. tonnes – of wheat. Out of this amount, 516 thous. tonnes were used for feed purposes, 186 thous. tonnes as seeds, and 12 thous. tonnes for other use. The consumption of field peas reached 6 thous. tonnes, mainly for feed purposes. In total 11 thous. tonnes of potatoes, total, were consumed, of which 4 thous. tonnes for food purposes, 6 thous. tonnes for feed purposes, and 1 thous. tonnes for other use. The amount of rape seed consumed was 5 thous. tonnes: 2 thous. tonnes for feed purposes, 2 thous. tonnes as seeds, and 715 tonnes for other purposes. The poppy consumption reached 11 tonnes. Agricultural organizations consumed 137 tonnes of sunflower seed, prevailingly for feed purposes.

Losses during storage during the 2nd half-year 2024 amounted to 6 thous. tonnes of cereals, total, 92 tonnes of field peas, 3 000 tonnes of potatoes, total, 496 tonnes of rape seed, 123 tonnes of poppy, and 126 tonnes of sunflower seed.

Stocks at the end of 2024 were 2 793 thous. tonnes of cereals, total (of which the largest ones – 1 591 thous. tonnes – were those of wheat), 42 thous. tonnes of field peas, 135 thous. tonnes of potatoes, 775 thous tonnes of sugar beet, 244 thous. tonnes of rape seed, 8 thous. tonnes of poppy, and 8 thous. tonnes of sunflower seed.