

Weather influenced yields, this year's harvest is below average

23 October 2026

Supplementary information to the news release on harvest estimates – September 2026

According to this year's last harvest estimate as at 30 September, lower production of most of agricultural crops is expected. Spring frosts, lack of precipitation, and high temperatures during the vegetation period decreased the per hectare yields. It was reflected in a decrease in production of cereals, rape seed, as well as crops with later harvest date. According to the estimate, potatoes were harvested in the amount by 20.8% lower, sugar beet production estimate is by 17.4% lower, soya one by 13.0%, green maize by 19.3%, and grain maize by 33.0%. The estimate at the same time confirmed a decrease in production of rape seed by 21.4%, basic cereals by 16.0%, and poppy by 13.5%. The total production of cereals including grain maize is by 17.6% lower, year-on-year. On the other hand, an increase in production is expected as for sunflower seed (+30.9%), namely thanks to the considerable expansion of the sown area.

Root crops

The estimated **potato** harvest in the amount of 582 thousand tonnes is by 20.8% lower, y-o-y, namely mainly due to a decrease in the per hectare yield by 18.6% to 24.73 tonnes per hectare (t/ha). The sown area decreased by 660 hectares to 24 thousand hectares (–2.7%). In comparison with a five-year average, this year's estimated production is by 11.6% lower (the sown area +4.6%; the per hectare yield –15.5%).

Harvest of **sugar beet** has just begun. The estimated production of 3.260 mil. tonnes is, for the time being, by 17.4% lower. The sown area of 53 thousand hectares is almost the same as last year (–0.9%) and the estimated per hectare yield of 61.72 t/ha is by 16.7% lower. Compared to the year 2017, when the system of production quotas for sugar finished, this year's sown area of sugar beet is by 13 thousand hectares smaller (–20.1%). The estimated harvest of sugar beet is by 20.7% lower than the five-year average (the sown area –11.2%; the per hectare yield –10.7%).

Oil seed crops

The September estimate confirmed a decrease in production of **rape seed** to 803 thousand tonnes. Compared to the last year, the estimated harvest is by 21.4% lower. The sown area decreased by 8.6% to 307 thousand hectares and the per hectare yield of 2.62 t/ha is by 14.0% lower. In comparison with the five-year average, this year's harvest estimate of rape seed is by 26.6% lower (the sown area –12.0%; the per hectare yield –16.5%) and it is the lowest since 2005.

The harvest estimate of **sunflower seed** in the amount of 77 thousand tonnes is by 30.9% higher, year-on-year, thanks to the increase of the sown area to 33 thousand hectares (+59.7%). The per hectare yield decreased by 18.0% to 2.34 t/ha. The estimated harvest of sunflower seed exceeded the five-year average by almost a fifth (the production +47.8%; the sown area +69.6%; the per hectare yield –12.8%).

According to the estimate, 70 thousand tonnes of **soya** was harvested, it is by 13.0% less than last year. The per hectare yield decreased by 13.1% to 2.04 t/ha and the sown area of 34 thousand hectares was almost on the same level as last year (+0.1%). Compared to the five-year average, the estimated soya production is by 4.3% higher thanks to an increase in its sown area by a quarter (the sown area +24.6%; the per hectare yield –16.3%).

The estimated **poppy** production in the amount of 25 thousand tonnes is by 13.5% lower, year-on-year. The sown area expanded by 6.4% to 40 thousand hectares, however, the per hectare yield decreased by 18.7% to 0.63 t/ha. This year's harvest estimate of poppy is comparable to the five-year average. An increase in the sown area compensated for the lower average per hectare yield (the production +0.3%; the sown area +18.3%; the per hectare yield –15.2%).

Cereals for grain

The September estimate confirmed a y-o-y decrease in production of **basic cereals** by 16.0% to 6.459 mil. tonnes. Basic cereals include wheat, barley, rye, oats, and triticale.

According to the estimate, 538 thousand tonnes of **grain maize** will be harvested, it is by 33.0% less than last year. The decrease is caused by a lower per hectare yield of 5.83 t/ha (–34.2%). The sown area has slightly increased to 92 thousand hectares (+1.8% compared to the last year's harvest area).

The estimated total **production of cereals including grain maize** thus reached the amount of 6.997 mil. tonnes and is lower in comparison with the last year's production (–17.6%) as well as with the five-year average (–13.4%). The estimated production of cereals is the second lowest in the last decade; it was lower only in 2018.

Fodder crops

The estimated **green maize** production in the amount of 6.447 mil. tonnes is by 19.3% lower, year-on-year, due to a decrease in the per hectare yield to 27.63 t/ha (–21.7%). The sown area expanded by 3.1% to 233 thousand hectares compared to the last year's harvest area. This year's estimated harvest of **green maize** is by 16.0% lower than the five-year average (the sown area +5.9%; the per hectare yield –20.6%).

According to the estimate, **lucerne** was harvested in the amount of 321 thousand tonnes (–17.3%) and **clover** in the amount of 237 thousand tonnes (–24.8%). The estimated production of these fodder crops is considerably lower than the five-year average; that of lucerne by 32.1% and that of clover by 33.4%.

Pulses and protein crops for grain

Production of **field peas for grain** is almost on the same level as last year and is estimated in the amount of 104 thousand tonnes (+0.8%). The sown area decreased by 1.9% to 44 thousand hectares, however, the per hectare yield increased by 2.8% to 2.33 t/ha. The estimated production of field peas for grain is comparable with the five-year average (the production +0.4%; the sown area –0.9%; the per hectare yield +1.3%).

The estimated production of **sweet lupins for grain** decreased by 28.7%, y-o-y, to 1 456 tonnes. Also **broad and field beans for grain** are estimated to have been harvested in a smaller amount, namely 3 365 tonnes. It is a decrease by 25.5%.

The Czech Statistical Office will publish final data on the 2026 harvest as for all surveyed agricultural crops on 26 February 2027.

Notes:

The harvest (production) is given in the standard humidity content and purity. For further information on the methodology of crop production statistics see: [Crop production statistics – Methodology | Statistics \(gov.cz\)](#)

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