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Cereal harvest 2022 on average level

Soybean harvest volumes up significantly; fewer sugar beet and potatoes

Vienna, 2022-12-21 – According to Statistics Austria, 5.17 million tonnes of cereals were harvested in Austria this year. Although the harvest was slightly lower than in the previous year, it was in line with the ten-year average. The harvest of oilseeds and dry pulses was well above the ten-year average, while sugar beet and potatoes suffered yield losses.

Cereal harvest: more wheat, less grain maize

With a total of 5.17 million tonnes, this year's cereal harvest was 2 % lower than in the previous year, but in line with the ten-year average (+/-0%). The wheat harvest increased by 10 % to 1.69 million tonnes compared to 2021 and was 5 % above the long-term average. Of this, 1.57 million tonnes were common wheat including spelt (+9 % compared to 2021). In the case of rye, a good yield level and the expansion of cultivation area after the sharp reduction in the previous year led to an 11 % increase in production (167 600 tonnes). The harvest volume of grain maize this year amounted to 2.11 million tonnes. Although the area under maize remained stable at a high level of 215 300 hectares (ha) (-1% at 2021), yields fell dramatically compared to the previous year, especially in the eastern dry areas of Lower Austria and Burgenland. Overall, 13 % less maize was harvested than in 2021, which is 2 % less than the ten-year average. Barley production increased by 3 % to 758 300 tonnes on an almost constant area.

Oilseeds and dry pulses: soybean acreage at record level

In 2022, a total of 473 400 tonnes of oilseeds and dry pulses were harvested from an area 7 % larger than in 2021. The harvest volume is thus the same as in the previous year, but exceeds the ten-year average by 12 %. In the case of soybeans, the significant expansion of cultivation area led to a 4 % increase in production to 245 600 tonnes despite below-average yields.

One of the reasons for the 22 % increase in area over the previous year to 93 700 hectares is undoubtedly the fact that soybeans do not require nitrogen fertilizer, the price of which rose sharply in the previous year. The area under rapeseed and turnip rape remained more or less constant, although the good yield per hectare resulted in a 6 % increase in production over the previous year to 91 000 tonnes. Oil pumpkin production decreased by 5 %; the production volume of seeds amounted to 28 200 tonnes (+10 %).

Root crops: sugar beet harvest expected to be well below previous year's level

Production of root crops is expected to fall by 14 % to 3.28 million tonnes, which is also 10 % below the long-term average. The sugar beet harvest is expected to be 2.59 million tonnes, well below the previous year's figure (-14%). However, fewer potatoes were also grown. In addition, the drought led to increased wireworm infestation and a reduction in tuber formation, so yields were only average; the harvest volume fell to 686 200 tonnes (-11% compared to 2021).

For detailed results and further information please refer to [website](#).

Information on methodology, definitions: The survey on field crop harvest is based on the yield survey by Agrarmarkt Austria and on yield estimates by around 2 000 voluntary harvest consultants. As area basis for calculating production the cultivation areas from the evaluation of multiple applications from Agrarmarkt Austria, as of September 2022, were used.

If you have any questions on this topic, please contact:

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