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Cows' milk production increased slightly in 2022

More ewes' milk, less goats' milk

Vienna, 2023-06-23 – 3 942 500 tonnes of cows' milk were produced in 2022 as Statistics Austria reports. Compared to the previous year, this corresponds to an increase of 2.9%. The raw milk production of ewes' milk rose by 8.1% to 11 700 tonnes, while the amount of raw goats' milk declined by 1.6% to 26 100 tonnes.

Cows' milk production increased by 2.9%

In Austria, 543 800 dairy cows (+2.9%) produced around 3 942 500 tonnes of raw milk (+2.9%) in 2022 with an average annual milk yield of 7 300 kg per animal ($\pm 0.0\%$).

Most of the produced raw milk (88.8% of the production) served dairy and processing companies (3 500 300 tonnes, +2.9%). Excluding a small loss, remnants of raw milk were used on farms: 260 500 tonnes (6.6%) served as feed for calves or other domestic animals while 142 300 tonnes (3.6% of the production) in either raw or processed form were used for human consumption on farms directly or for farm-gate sale.

Ewes' milk production rose by 8.1%

Compared to 2021, the amount of raw milk produced from ewes rose to 11 700 tonnes (+8.1%). In 2022, the average annual milk yield of the 28 600 ewes (-0.9%) kept in Austria was 408 kg per animal (+9.1%). Most of the production (10 200 tonnes, 87.1%) was used for human consumption, either directly or in processed form. 1 400 tonnes (11.9% of the production) were used for other purposes such as animal feed. The rest of the production (1.0%) was accounted as loss.

Goats' milk production declined by 1.6%

In 2022, 40 400 milk goats (+2.5%) with an average annual milk yield of 647 kg per animal (-4.0%) produced around 26 100 tonnes (-1.6%) of raw milk in Austria. 23 600 tonnes (90.4%) of the raw milk produced were used for human consumption. The remaining quantity was used for animal feed or other purposes (2 300 tonnes; 8.6% of the production) or was recorded as loss.

Table 1: Cows' milk production and usage

Category	2021	2022	Change in %
Milk cows in heads ¹	528 390	543 817	+2.9
Average production of raw milk per milk cow in kg ¹	7 249	7 250	0.0
Total production of raw cows' milk in t	3 830 137	3 942 501	+2.9
Use of raw cows' milk in t / delivered ²	3 402 778	3 500 266	+2.9
Use of raw cows' milk in t / utilised on the agricultural holding / for human consumption	125 725	142 307	+13.2
Use of raw cows' milk in t / utilised on the agricultural holding / for animal feed ³	263 332	260 503	-1.1
Loss of raw cows' milk in t ⁴	38 302	39 425	+2.9

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, milk statistics 2022, federal chambers of agriculture, AMA, VIS, Rinderzucht Austria. – Rounding differences not compensated.

1) Calculated average per year. – 2) The amount of raw cows' milk delivered to dairy enterprises and other processing units. – 3) Raw cows' milk fed to calves and other domestic or farm animals. – 4) One percent of the raw milk produced.

Table 2: Ewes' milk production and usage

Category	2021	2022	Change in %
Milk ewes in heads ¹	28 880	28 625	-0.9
Average production of raw milk per milk ewe in kg ¹	374	408	+9.1
Total production of raw ewes' milk in t	10 808	11 688	+8.1
Use of raw ewes' milk in t / for human consumption ²	9 253	10 178	+10.0
Use of raw ewes' milk in t / for animal feed and other purposes ³	1 448	1 393	-3.7
Loss of raw ewes' milk in t ⁴	108	117	+8.1

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, milk statistics 2022, federal chambers of agriculture, VIS, ÖBSZ. – Rounding differences not compensated.

1) Calculated average per year. – 2) Raw ewes' milk used directly at/from the agricultural holdings or delivered to dairy enterprises and other processing units. – 3) Raw ewes' milk fed to lambs and other domestic or farm animals. – 4) One percent of the raw milk produced.

Table 3: Goats' milk production and usage

Category	2021	2022	Change in %
Milk goats in heads ¹	39 406	40 372	+2.5
Average production of raw milk per milk goat in kg ¹	674	647	-4.0
Total production of raw goats' milk in t	26 540	26 105	-1.6
Use of raw goats' milk in t / for human consumption ²	23 704	23 589	-0.5
Use of raw goats' milk in t / for animal feed and other purposes ³	2 571	2 255	-12.3
Loss of raw goats' milk in t ⁴	265	261	-1.6

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, milk statistics 2022, federal chambers of agriculture, VIS, ÖBSZ. – Rounding differences not compensated.

1) Calculated average per year. – 2) Raw goats' milk used directly at/from the agricultural holdings or delivered to dairy enterprises and other processing units. – 3) Raw goats' milk fed to kids and other domestic or farm animals. – 4) One percent of the raw milk produced.

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

Information on methodology: The milk statistics determine the raw milk yield of the previous calendar year and provide results relating to the milk used for human consumption or as animal feed. The data also forms the basis for further calculations, for instance in conjunction with Supply Balance Sheets or the Economic Accounts for Agriculture.

The survey of the overall raw milk yield and its use for human consumption is conducted in accordance with the criteria and definitions of the European Commission Decision of 18 December 1996 laying down provisions for the implementation of Council Directive 96/16/EC. The statistics for milk production and use are provided annually by Statistics Austria in cooperation with the federal chambers of agriculture, the "Agrarmarkt Austria" (AMA – the Austrian paying agency for agriculture and rural development), the consumer health information system (VIS) and relevant professional associations (Rinderzucht Austria, ÖBSZ – Austrian Federal Association for Sheep and Goats).

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