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# Cereal harvest 2023 at average level

## Oilseeds at record high, root crops below long-term average

Vienna, 2023-12-21 – According to Statistics Austria, 5.20 million tonnes of cereal were harvested in Austria this year. The cereal harvest was therefore slightly higher than in the previous year (+1%) and was in line with the ten-year average (+/-0%). The harvest volume of oilseeds and dry pulses rose to record levels. The production of root crops is expected to be significantly lower than in the previous year and the ten-year average.

### More wheat, average grain maize production

The wheat harvest amounted to 1.72 million tonnes (+2% compared to 2022), which was 5% above the long-term average. Of this, 1.58 million tonnes were common wheat including spelt (+1% compared to 2022). Rye cultivation increased, resulting in a 4% increase in production to 174 700 tonnes, despite lower yields. Although the area of grain maize was initially increased by 3% to a maximum of 222 000 hectares, part of the harvest had to be used as silage maize due to the drought. This resulted in a de facto decrease in area of 2% and the harvest volume remained at the previous year's level at 2.11 million tonnes (+/-0% compared to 2022), which was 1% below the ten-year average. For barley, the production amounted to 763 200 tonnes (+1% compared to 2022) on an almost constant area.

### Lots of soya, yield losses for oil pumpkin and root crops

The production of oilseeds and dry pulses increased (+3%), setting a new record and, despite a decline in area, yielded 488 300 tonnes, which exceeded the ten-year average by 12%. The area under soybean cultivation, which had increased massively in the previous year, fell by 6% to 88 500 hectares. However, thanks to the extremely good yield, production increased by 10% to 270 200 tonnes. The area under rapeseed also declined, but the yield per hectare was the same as in the previous year and the production volume was 85 700 tonnes (-6% compared to 2022). In the case of oil pumpkin, the area decreased by almost a quarter (-24%) and the yield was also lower due to weather conditions, so that only 15 500 tonnes of pumpkin seeds could be produced (-45% compared to 2022).

Root crop production, on the other hand, is expected to decline by 5% to 3.24 million tonnes, which is also 10% below the long-term average. At 2.65 million tonnes, the sugar beet harvest is expected to be 2% below the previous year's level. In the case of potatoes, the area fell to the second lowest level in the last ten years and the harvest fell sharply to 594 000 tonnes (-13% compared to 2022) due to low yields.

For detailed results and further information please refer to our [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 October 2023, were used.

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

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