

Press release: 13 483-249/24

# Vegetable harvest in 2024 up 3% on previous year despite difficult weather conditions

## More fruit and bulb vegetables; leafy and stalked vegetables including brassicas constant at a low level

Vienna, 2024-12-04 – According to Statistics Austria, 667 700 tonnes of vegetables were produced in 2024. This is 3% more than in the previous year and 2% more than the five-year average. At the same time, the cultivation area remained almost unchanged compared to 2023 ( $\pm 0\%$ ). The season was characterised by heat and drought, but at times also by severe weather events and heavy rainfall, which in some cases resulted in significant quality losses.

### Weather-related quality problems with onions, lettuce and cabbage

The harvest volume of root, tuber and bulb vegetables including pulses rose to 361 100 tonnes, up 3% on the previous year and 5% above the five-year average. Onions accounted for 175 100 tonnes thereof, making up over a quarter of total vegetable production. On an unchanged area, 10% more onions than in the previous year and 9% more than in the five-year average were harvested. However, the quality was below average due to the humidity, which meant that a lot had to be sorted out. For carrots, the area increased slightly (+1%) and a harvest of 120 600 tonnes was achieved ( $\pm 0\%$  compared to 2023). By contrast, the area under horseradish declined by 15% and production fell by 23% to 2 600 tonnes. The production volume of green peas also declined to 7 900 tonnes ( $-9\%$  compared with 2023) due to reduced yield and area.

At 137 300 tonnes, the harvest of leafy and stalked vegetables including brassicas was in line with the previous year ( $\pm 0\%$ ) and thus remained below the five-year average ( $-3\%$ ). Weather-related influences such as heat and drought damage in summer, as well as increased fungal and pest pressure and even flood damage, led to area and yield losses in field crops. Lettuce, which accounted for 35% of this product group, lost 5% of its area and resulted in a reduced production volume of 47 400 tonnes ( $-11\%$  compared to 2023), which was 5% below the five-year average. The area of cabbage decreased by 2% and the harvest volume fell to 35 900 tonnes ( $-8\%$  on 2023), partly due to insufficient quality.

### More tomatoes, record harvests of gourds and pumpkins as well as melons

The fruit vegetable harvest amounted to 169 300 tonnes, up 3% on the previous year's level with hardly any change in acreage. Production was also up 3% compared to the five-year average. 58 100 tonnes of these were tomatoes, which was 2% more than in 2023 despite a reduction in acreage. Significantly higher yields than in the previous year were also achieved for cucumbers, but due to the loss of acreage in protected cultivation, the harvest remained below the previous year's level ( $-1\%$ ) at 43 000 tonnes. The production of peppers also increased by 4% to 13 700 tonnes. Of this, 97% came from cultivation under glass or high accessible cover. After a slight decline in acreage in the previous year, gourds and pumpkins experienced an upswing again and, thanks in part to very good yields, achieved a new record production of 25 600 tonnes ( $+23\%$  compared to 2023). Strong gains in area were also recorded for melons ( $+11\%$  compared to 2023), which thus scored with a new record of 2 400 tonnes ( $+7\%$ ).

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

**Information on methodology, definitions:** The survey of vegetable production is based on the yield estimates of the vegetable consultants of the Chambers of Agriculture. As area basis for calculating the harvest quantities, the results of the last horticultural and field vegetable survey (2020), supplemented by estimates of the chamber consultants, were used.

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