

15. AGRICULTURE

Methodological notes

Agriculture includes all reporting units (legal and natural persons) which are active in crop and livestock production, in related service activities and aquaculture.

The basic reporting unit for the purposes of the statistics on land resources and crop production is considered as:

- a) total of agricultural land with the area larger than 0.10 ha
- b) total of agricultural land with the area up to 0.10 ha, if
 - the products from this land are usually sold
 - the vineyard on the land with the area larger than 0.05 ha
- c) total of the forest land or ponds with the area larger than 0.10 ha if these cultures are not a part of the agricultural establishments under the point a).

Every breeder of farming animals who breeds them for sale or for next processing including agricultural enterprises and other breeders without agricultural land or with agricultural land area up to 0.10 ha is basic reporting unit for the purposes of the animal production statistics.

All recalculations concerning intensity of agricultural production take into account either agricultural or arable land being exclusively in possession of agricultural establishments.

Summary data on gross agricultural production (see part 1. Primary economic indicators) are for agriculture in total, i.e. including calculation for small enterprises and population. The structure of **gross agricultural production** is showed for incorporated entrepreneurial entities employing 20 and more employees.

Data on use of land for 2021 has been updated based on the large Integrated Farm Survey, which is carried out once for every 10 years. The update was mainly manifested in a non-standard decrease in the indicator other area, including kitchen gardens.

Root crops in the **structure of land use** include potatoes, sugar beet and feeding root crops. Industrial crops include oil seeds crops, fibre plants, tobacco, chicory root, medical and culinary plants. Other field crops area includes experimental plots, strawberries and nurseries on arable land. Seed and seedling area include seedling and saplings of root crops, sugar beet and vegetables planting stock.

In **crop production** data on sown area and data on crops production are showed for agriculture in total.

Production of agricultural crops represents by the Slovak Technical Standards a total yield of the given crop what was harvested under standard humidity and purity without harvest losses including species of minor quality used for feeding (background grain, small potatoes etc.) excluding seedlings and saplings. Sugar beet harvest is given without reduction for impurities. The crop of green fodders is recalculated to the value of hay according to conversion coefficients. The total crop of vegetables represents vegetable production also from repeated areas includes forced early species.

Harvested areas of particular sorts of vegetables include areas where vegetable has been sown or planted as a main crop as well as all resowings and reseeding including covered areas.

Production area of orchard is area where fruit trees and bushes are planted in determined space.

The survey on **balance of cereals** covers only the enterprises growing cereals. An increase of

cereals includes own crop, purchase, imports and other incomes. A decrease includes the consumption of own seeds, sales of perquisites to their own members and employees, sales to the trading and processing organizations, exports, fodder consumption and others.

Consumption of fertilizers is surveyed for the economic period, i.e. from the July, 1 of the current year to the June, 30 of the following year. Only data provided by reporting units are included in the calculation and are not recalculated for total agricultural land.

In the **livestock production** the categories of cows, sows and ewes include the breeding ones that at least once calved, farrowed (without sows excluded from breeding and included in fattening). Poultry includes hens, cocks, geese, ganders, ducks, drakes, turkey hens, turkeys including young ones of these species.

Meat production includes the total volume of sales of slaughtered cattle, pigs, sheep and goats in live weight delivered to slaughterhouse increased by self-supply. In addition to the total sales, milk production includes self-supply and milk that has been sucked or fed by calves. Production of sheep milk covers only milked sheep milk from incorporated agricultural enterprises and from selected private farmers with reporting duty.

Catches in inland waters include live freshwater fish intended for consumption and market purposes.

Data on **sale** cover sales of incorporated agricultural enterprises and selected private farmers with reporting duty. Data on sales of all products are surveyed for a calendar year.

The **level of agricultural production** is calculated per area of agricultural or arable land surveyed by census of sown areas. The level of agricultural production per capita is calculated on the mid-year population at the surveyed year.

Oil plants group includes all oil plants except for flax and hemp seed. Group of **slaughtered animals** in total includes the production of slaughtered cattle, calves, pigs, sheep and goats.

Definitions

Utilized agricultural land is the sum of independent kinds of lands, which were really exploited in growing season in agricultural production, for crop production. There are excluded unutilized and abandoned areas, previously used for agricultural activity, no longer cultivated due to social, economic, eventually other reasons and which are not used in crop rotation system, but it would be possible without extensive expenses cultivated them again.

Arable land is created by lands for growing cereals, root crops, industrial crops, vegetables and other horticultural crops according to the specified rotation of crops. There are included temporary grassland or parcels used for growing of perennial fodder crops as well as hotbeds and glasshouses if they are built up on arable land. Fallow land is arable land withdrawing from crop rotation and is left to recover on one growing season, during which time there was not seed and other crops or just crops for green manure, eventually there is spontaneous vegetation, which may be used as feed or ploughed in.

Gross agricultural production is the sum of sales out of enterprise, internal turnover and changes in stocks at the beginning and at the end of year (Gross Turnover Method). It is calculated at natural units and in financial terms – at constant prices 2020 (data were recalculated in 2024) and at current prices.

Sown area refers to a spring productive area of arable land expected to bear a crop in the surveyed year. The following kinds of areas belong here:

- a) areas of winter crop sown in autumn of the previous year and preserved until the completion of spring sowing in the surveyed year
- b) areas of spring crop sown in spring of surveyed year

- c) areas of perennial crops sown in past years and preserved until the completion of sowing in the surveyed year
- d) areas that were not sown due to unfavourable climatic conditions as well as fallow land.

Hectare yield refers to average yield from 1 hectare and it is calculated as a ratio of total yield of given crop and area on which the crop was harvested.

The average annual milk yield expresses the volume of milked and sucked milk per one cow. It is calculated for average number of cows per year excluding cows without market milk production (meat breed cows, cull cows).

An average egg laying per one hen expresses the number of totally annual laid eggs recalculated per one hen.

Rearing of calves, pigs and lambs expresses the difference between live birth and dead young (including whole cadavers) per an average number of cows, sows and ewes.

In agricultural organizations permanent **employees** are those, whose job is a sole or a major activity in an agricultural organization and who has an employment contract including working conditions concluded for this purpose.

Economic account for agriculture is the basic methodological instrument for performance rating on agricultural sector, or on agricultural primary production within the national economy. Following aggregates are the main part thereof:

- **output of the agricultural industry**, which expresses the value of agricultural products and agricultural services, produced by related units of that branches plus additional inseparable activities,
- **intermediate consumption** expresses the value of products, goods and services consumed in production process and serving as the one of the main indicators of production intensity of agricultural branch,
- **gross value added**, which expresses final effect of agricultural sector, is calculated by a subtraction of value of intermediate consumption from production of agricultural sector,
- **net value added** is value created by all agricultural units after deduction of fixed capital consumption.

Source

Published data are the result of the statistical surveys of the Statistical Office of the SR except data on meat production taken from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic. Data on the consumption of fertilizers, consumption of plant protection agents and on fruit production has been taken from the Central Control and Testing Agricultural Institute. Economic accounts of agriculture are elaborated in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the SR.

More detailed information can be obtained on the Statistical Office of the SR website in the section Statistics – Sectoral statistics – Agriculture, forestry, fisheries, in the public database of the Statistical Office of the SR DATAcube as well as in following publications: Animal Production, Sales of Farming Products from Primary Production and Balance of Crops; Census of Area Sown with Crops as of May 20; Final Data on Crops, Harvest of Fruit and Vegetables; Census of Farm Animals, Machines and Equipment in Agriculture as of Dec. 31, Gross Turnover – Economic Account – Selected Indicators on Agriculture.