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Oilseeds and Products

Crop Estimate Update for Rapeseed and Sunflower 2003

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Report Highlights:

The German Federal Office of Statistics (StBa) has released the 2003 preliminary final crop estimate for rapeseed (3.64 million MT) and a preliminary crop estimate for sunflower (64,000 MT).

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Berlin [GM1]
[GM]

The German Federal Office of Statistics (StBa) has released the 2003 preliminary final crop estimate for rapeseed (3.64 million MT) and a preliminary crop estimate for sunflower (64,000 MT). Final results for both crops are expected to be released in spring of 2004.

Rapeseed

The official estimate for the 2003 rapeseed crop was revised upwards to 3.641 million MT from 3.355 million MT in August (see GM3027), but is still below the 2002 crop, which amounted to 3.85 million MT. Apparently the effects of the summer drought were less severe than anticipated earlier. Revisions were made to yields, not to acreage. With 28.7 MT/ha, the revised average yield for 2003 is 3.4 percent lower than the average 2002 yield (29.7 MT/ha) and 14 percent lower than the five average of 1997-2002, which was 33.4 MT/ha. Detailed figures by States (Bundesland) are shown in tables 1 to 3. Compared to 2002, yields were higher in 2003, in the Northwestern part of Germany, while they were lower in the South, middle and East.

Table 1: Average Rapeseed Yield Estimates by State

State	2002 final (MT/ha)	2003 August Estimate (MT/ha)	2003 October estimate (MT/ha)	Change October/ August (in %)	Change 2003/ 2002 (in %)
Schleswig-Holstein	32.0	35.5	37.8	6.5	18.1
Mecklenburg-Western Pommerania	31.9	31.0	33.3	7.4	4.4
Lower Saxony	26.8	27.9	31.0	11.1	15.7
Northrhine-Westfalia	31.4	28.7	30.5	6.3	-2.9
Saxony-Anhalt	27.8	24.0	29.4	22.5	5.8
Hessia	32.4	25.3	28.7	13.4	-11.4
Thuringia	29.4	24.8	28.5	14.9	-3.1
Rhineland-Palatinate	31.3	24.7	26.9	8.9	-14.1
Baden-Wuerttemberg	31.7	26.9	26.2	-2.6	-17.4
Saxony	28.3	23.7	26.0	9.7	-8.1
Bavaria	29.6	23.9	23.7	-0.8	-19.9
Saarland	30.1	22.2	21.4	-3.6	-28.9
Brandenburg	25.8	18.3	19.9	8.7	-22.9
Total	29.7	26.4	28.7	8.7	-3.4

Source: German Federal Office of Statistics

Table 2: Rapeseed Production Estimate by State

State	2002 final (million MT)	2003 August estimate (million MT)	2003 October estimate (million MT)	Change October/ August (in %)	Change 2003/ 2002 (in %)
Mecklenburg-Western Pommerania	755.9	706.1	760.0	7.6	0.5
Bavaria	495.7	392.6	388.4	-1.1	-21.6
Schleswig-Holstein	334.6	357.1	380.0	6.4	13.6
Saxony-Anhalt	372.8	305.1	373.6	22.5	0.2
Thuringia	332.4	268.5	308.6	14.9	-7.2
Saxony	350.0	280.5	307.4	9.6	-12.2
Lower Saxony	259.2	259.4	288.3	11.1	11.2
Brandenburg	296.0	206.9	225.6	9.0	-23.8
Baden-Wuerttemberg	222.8	185.2	180.5	-2.5	-19.0
Northrhine-Westfalia	157.1	158.1	168.1	6.3	7.0
Hessia	173.6	146.4	165.6	13.1	-4.6
Rhineland-Palatinate	88.4	78.4	85.4	8.9	-3.4
Saarland	8.9	8.7	8.4	-3.4	-5.6
Total	3,848.7	3,354.5	3,641.4	8.6	-5.4

Source: German Federal Office of Statistics

Table 3: Rapeseed Area by State

State	2002 final (1000 ha)	2003 preliminary (1000 ha)	change (in %)
Mecklenburg-Western Pommerania	237.1	228.1	-3.8
Bavaria	167.3	164.0	-2.0
Saxony-Anhalt	134.2	127.2	-5.2
Saxony	123.5	118.2	-4.3
Brandenburg	114.7	113.2	-1.3
Thuringia	113.0	108.4	-4.1
Schleswig-Holstein	104.6	100.6	-3.8
Lower Saxony	96.6	92.9	-3.8
Baden-Wuerttemberg	70.4	68.8	-2.3
Hessia	53.5	57.8	8.0
Northrhine-Westfalia	50.0	55.1	10.2
Rhineland-Palatinate	28.3	31.8	12.4
Saarland	3.0	3.9	30.0
Total	1,296.6	1,270.5	-2.0

Source: German Federal Office of Statistics

Sunflower

The StBa estimates the 2003 sunflower crop at 64,000 MT compared to 51,800 MT in 2002. This is the first official estimate. FAS/Berlin had previously (GM3027) forecast 50,000 MT. Apparently the effects of the summer drought were less severe than anticipated, as sunflowers benefited from regional rainfalls. In Germany sunflowers are grown on a comparatively small area and production area is geographically spread out over the country.

Compared to 2002, the average yield decreased by 16 percent. This was more than offset by a 45 percent increase in area, resulting in a total crop increase of 24 percent.

Table 4: Sunflower Production Estimates by State

State	2002 final (million MT)	2003 preliminary (million MT)	change (in %)
Brandenburg	22.8	30.7	34.6
Bavaria	11.9	10.4	-12.6
Saxony-Anhalt	5.9	8.6	45.8
Thuringia	3.1	5.3	71.0
Saxony	1.8	4.3	138.9
Baden-Wuerttemberg	3.0	2.0	-33.3
Rhineland-Palatinate	2.7	2.0	-25.9
other states	0.6	0.7	16.7
Total	51.8	64.0	23.6

Source: German Federal Office of Statistics

Table 5: Average Sunflower Yield Estimates by State

State	2002 final (MT/ha)	2003 preliminary (MT/ha)	change (in %)
Rhineland-Palatinate	28.9	25.3	-12.5
Baden-Wuerttemberg	28.7	24.5	-14.6
Bavaria	27.7	21.8	-21.3
Thuringia	20.0	20.8	4.0
Saxony-Anhalt	21.6	16.6	-23.1
Saxony	14.7	16.3	10.9
Brandenburg	16.3	14.8	-9.2
other states	n/a	n/a	
Total	19.9	16.9	-15.1

Source: German Federal Office of Statistics

Table 6: Sunflower Area Estimates by State

State	2002 final (1000 ha)	2003 preliminary (1000 ha)	change (in %)
Brandenburg	14.0	20.8	48.6
Saxony-Anhalt	2.7	5.2	92.6
Saxony	1.2	2.7	125.0
Thuringia	1.5	2.6	73.3
Bavaria	1.1	0.9	-18.2
Baden-Wuerttemberg	1.1	0.9	-18.2
Rhineland-Palatinate	0.9	0.8	-11.1
other states	3.6	4.0	11.1
Total	26.1	37.9	45.2

Source: German Federal Office of Statistics