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Slovakia

Grain and Feed

Crop Update

2004

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Report Highlights:

Slovakia's grain harvest turned out to be as strong as forecasted. Total grain production reached 3 million MT. The wheat harvest amounted to 1,810,000 MT, barley production reached 940,000 MT, and the rye crop totaled 120,000 MT. Production of other grains amounted to more than 100,000 MT. These numbers are the highest in recent years and contrast sharply with last year's total grain production at 1,885,000 MT.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
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Production

Slovakia's grain harvest turned out to be as strong as forecasted. Total grain production reached 3 million MT (with rapeseed production amounting to 270,000 MT). Wheat production amounted to 1,810,000 MT, the barley harvest reached 940,000 MT, the rye crop amounted to 120,000 MT, and production of other grains amounted to more than 100,000 MT. These numbers are the highest in the last couple of years. Total production could be only compared to that of 1997 or 1998 during the last decade. For comparison, last year's total grain production amounted to 1,885,000 MT (53,000 MT of rapeseed) because of extreme dry weather.

Yields

Hectare yields for individual crops included the following: wheat 4.9 MT/ha, barley 4.2 MT/ha, rye 3.7 MT/ha, oats 2.2 MT and rapeseed 2.95 MT/ha.

Prices

Due to the higher supply, grain prices are dropping. Food wheat is selling for approximately 4,000 SK/MT, feed wheat is selling for 3,500 SK/MT (1 US\$ = 32.59 SK), which is 15 to 20% less than expected by farmers.

According to the Research Institute of Agricultural and Food Economics, average production costs for 1 MT of wheat are 5,073 SK, meaning wheat is now selling below production costs.

Quality

According to the Slovak Agrarian and Food Chamber, the quality of the crops was a little lower, especially in the east, because of heavier rainfalls and flood