

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY  
USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT  
POLICY

Voluntary  Public

**Date:** 4/7/2017

**GAIN Report Number:** BU1707

## Bulgaria

**Post:** Sofia

### Oilseeds and Products Annual Report

**Report Categories:**

Oilseeds and Products

**Approved By:**

Russ Nicely

**Prepared By:**

Mila Boshnakova

**Report Highlights:**

Bulgarian farmers are expanding the planted areas under oilseed crops in the new season MY2017/18 led by sunflower seeds. Following mixed results from oilseeds in MY2016/17 with excellent rapeseeds production, a lower than expected sunflower crop, and disappointing soybean crop, most producers expect a recovery in sunflower and soybean yields and a decline from the record high rapeseeds yields this year. Total oilseed area is forecast to increase by 2% - 3% and provided that the weather cooperates, to lead to 4% - 5% or higher growth in production to 2.4 MMT.

There have been new dynamics on the local market in MY2016/17. Traditionally high sunflower seeds exports slowed down in the first half of the season at the expense of local processing for crush and for de-hulling while imports skyrocketed. The rapeseed crop was quickly and almost fully exported soon after harvest, at the same time the demand for crush later in the season stimulated higher imports. Soybean imports remained stable to slightly higher to meet local crush demand at a time of a very short local crop. Due to increasing total feed consumption, soybean and rapeseed meals use is estimated to grow.

Please Note: This report is to be read in conjunction with the [Annual 2017 EU28 Consolidated Report on Oilseeds and Products](#) and provides further information on Bulgarian market of oilseeds.

## **General Information: Overview**

FAS/Sofia's first forecast for MY2017/18 is for growth in planted area under soybeans and sunflower. Planted area under rapeseeds also increased, however, due to winter losses and re-seeding, the final harvested area is estimated to be the same or possibly lower than in MY2016/17.

Despite disappointing results for soybeans in terms of average yields, a relatively good domestic market prospects for crush and protein crops subsidies are estimated to lead to a recovery in the planted area from record low levels in MY2016/17.

Fall planting of winter rapeseeds has progressed well due to favorable weather and excellent ex-farm prices. MY2016/17 crop's high profit margins led to higher planted area. Planting was reported on 173,000 HA, 3% more than in 2015. Dry and warm fall weather, especially in Southern Bulgaria, however, did not allow good preparation of the fields for the winter which came with record low temperatures and heavy snow in January. As a result, many farmers are re-seeding their rapeseed fields in the spring, mainly with sunflower. Harvested areas are estimated to decline to 155,000 HA-160,000 HA or below that in MY2016/17.

Sunflower, although negatively affected by the summer drought in 2016, has enjoyed better pricing and positive production margins. As a result, farmers indicate an interest to exceed the area from the last season. Planting seed traders indicated higher sales and the Ministry of Agriculture (MinAg) reported earlier planting and a growth in planted areas of 242% as of March 30, 2017. Derogation for the use of 3 neonicotinoid chemicals was obtained from the EC and issued in late March with a validity of 60 days. The derogation introduces limitations by crops (sunflower and corn), areas and regions of use. Rapeseed is not subject to the derogation.

### *Weather*

The summer weather in 2016 was unusually hot and dry for July and August. Despite very good soil moisture reserves until mid/end June, the scorching temperatures had a negative impact on soybean and sunflower yields. It also affected sunflower quality (oil content and the size of seeds).

Timely rains and moderate temperatures in early fall stimulated optimal planting of the MY2017/18 rapeseed crop in September. The weather remained dry and warm in southern parts of the country. The winter came in January with very low temperatures reaching -25 C, making the month the coldest in the last 40 years. Despite heavy snow cover, the underdeveloped rapeseed fields (due to fall drought) suffered from the low temperatures and winterkill was reported.

Soil moisture levels are currently favorable for spring planting of sunflower and soybeans. Despite warmer and dried weather in February, rainfall in March helped to secure the necessary soil moisture for an optimistic start of the planting.

## **Oilseeds Production and Supply**

### **Forecast MY2017/18**

#### *Soybeans*

Soybean area is forecast to recover compared to MY2016/17 to 20-25,000 HA due to relatively stable, although small, local crush demand and attractive protein subsidies. Planting began earlier due to favorable spring weather and as of the end of March, MinAg reported 61% higher planted areas than for the same period a year ago. Provided that the weather cooperates, soybean yields can improve so production may increase to 30,000 MT. Estimates for both areas and production vary widely with most optimistic ones reaching 53,000 MT (See Table 1).

#### *Rapeseed*

Rapeseed planting was reported higher than last year by 3% (173,353 HA planted in the fall, per the MinAg). Farmers made efforts to plant rapeseed earlier due to plans to expand areas. Harvested rapeseed area, however, will likely go down to 155,000 HA - 160,000 HA due to winterkill and re-seeding. Expectations for production are for average yields (See Table 1) and below the record of 2.93 MT/HA achieved in MY2016/17. Industry sources expectations vary widely from 400,000 MT to 480,000 MT due to uncertainty in harvested areas and uneven development of the crop between Northern and Southern regions. The FAS Sofia forecast is for 450,000 MT with an average yield of 2.8 MT/HA.

#### *Sunflower seeds*

Early reports from farmers and planting seed suppliers indicate that planted area is likely to increase to above 800,000 HA and close to 840,000 HA (FAS Sofia estimate). This is driven by good profitability of the crop, relatively good summer resilience to drought and heat, favorable demand both on the local market and for exports; and further diversification in the types of grown sunflower which secures better marketing of the crop.

Industry reports that demand for U.S. planting seeds has grown. In MY2017/18 local farmers intend to plant regular oil bearing, high-oleic, and confectionary sunflower. To date, early intentions are for higher area for both confectionary and high-oleic sunflower.

Farmers started planting earlier due to a favorable spring and as of March 30 planted areas have grown by 242% when compared to last year (source: MinAg weekly bulletins). Provided that the weather is favorable, yields are likely to improve and lead to 5%-6% higher production, close to 1.9 MMT. (See Table 1)

### **Table 1. MY2017/18 Forecast Oilseed Area and Production and MY2016/17 Current Production Estimates**

<b>Oilseed Crops</b>	<b>MY2016/17E</b>	<b>MY2017/18F</b>
<i>Soybeans</i> - Area - Production	14,000 HA 18,500 MT	25,000 HA-35,000 HA 26,000 MT-53,000 MT
<i>Rapeseed</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Area</li><li>• Production</li></ul>	168,000 HA 493,200 MT	173,400 HA planted 155,000 HA -161,000 HA estimated to be harvested 400,000 MT – 440,000 MT (up to 484,000 MT per industry estimates)
<i>Sunflower seeds</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Area</li><li>• Production</li></ul>	820,000 HA 1,800,000 MT	803,000 HA - 840,000 HA 1,850,000 MT – 1,900,000 MT
<i>Source: MY2016/17 official data as of early April (Bulgarian MinAg and Eurostat), MY2017/18 FAS/Sofia and industry estimates</i>		

## MY2016/17

### Total Oilseeds

In MY2016/17 total oilseed area declined by 1.2% compared to MY2015/16. Soybean area had a sharp decline of 60%. Rapeseed area was slightly lower by 1.2% and sunflower area increased by 1.2%.

Rapeseed average yields were record high at 2.93 MT/HA, due to favorable weather, and production grew by 17%. A hot and dry summer, however, resulted in lower than initially expected yields for soybeans and sunflower, but still better than in the previous season. As a result, the sunflower crop is estimated 2.4% higher. Total oilseed production increased by 6.5% compared to MY2015/16. (Please, see Tables 2 and 3).

**Table 2. MY2016/17 and MY2015/16 Official and FAS Sofia Oilseed Crop Areas and Production Estimates**

<b>MY2016/17 vs. MY2015/16</b>	<b>Harvested Areas (000 HA)</b>		<b>Production (000 MT)</b>	
	MY2015/16	MY2016/17	MY2015/16	MY2016/17
<b>Soybeans</b>	34	14	40	19
<b>Rapeseed</b>	170	168	422	493
<b>Sunflower seeds</b>	810	820	1,708	1,750
<b>Total</b>	1,014	1,002	2,170	2,312

*Source: Final official data for MY2015/16 and current FAS/Sofia estimates for MY2016/17*

**Table 3. FAS/Sofia, Official and Industry Sources Estimates for MY2016/17 Oilseed Crops (as of April 2017)**

<b>MY2016/17 Major Oilseed Crops Estimates</b>			
<b>Crops</b>	<b>Harvested Areas (000 HA)</b>	<b>Average Yields (MT/HA)</b>	<b>Production (000 MT)</b>
<b>Soybeans</b>	14.5 planted and harvested (MinAg) 14.0 - Eurostat, FAS Sofia 35.0 - industry estimates	1.28 – 1.51	18.6 – MinAg, Eurostat 19.0 - FAS Sofia 53.0 - industry estimates
<b>Rapeseed</b>	173 - planted 168 - harvested (MinAg and Eurostat, FAS Sofia) 173 – industry estimates	2.93 – 3.16	493 – MinAg, Eurostat, FAS Sofia 548 – industry estimates
<b>Sunflower</b>	761 – planted and harvested (MinAg) 820- Eurostat, FAS Sofia 800 - industry estimates  7.9 harvested black and white striped sunflower (MinAg as of December 14)	2.19 – 2.23	1,708 - MinAg 1,800 – Eurostat 1,750 - industry estimates, FAS Sofia  14.5 black and white striped sunflower harvested (MinAg as of December 14)

*Source: MinAg Bulletin #49 December 14 2016, FAS Sofia and industry sources*

## **Soybeans**

The most interesting development trends in this sector in MY2016/17 are:

- Sharp decrease in planted areas due to disappointing results from the previous season;
- Increased demand for crush resulting in stable imports;
- Projected higher use (and imports) of soybean meal due to improving feed consumption;
- Stable use of soybean oil for biodiesel at higher level than in the past.

*Production:* Due to lower yields and challenging marketing issues, farmers sharply decreased their area under soybeans. The official estimate for planted area is at 14,000 HA, only 40% of the area in the previous season. The hot and dry summer negatively affected the crop and average yields turned low to 1.36 MT/HA although still better than 1.18 MT/HA in MY2015/16. FAS/Sofia estimate for production is currently at 19,000 MT, in line with the official and industry estimates and 53% lower than in the previous season.

*Crush:* A few full fat extruders and crushers crushed the local crop. Due to lower production, imports tend to increase, mainly from Romania, Serbia and Ukraine. FAS/Sofia estimates for crush use are at 35,000 MT, about 30% less than in the previous season. About 4,000 MT are estimated to be used for full-fat extrusion. Soybean meal is used locally and small quantities are being exported and soybean oil is used mainly for biodiesel.

*Trade:* Soybean imports in the first quarter of MY2016/17 are reported at 3,400 MT (source: WTA), almost all imported from Romania. Exports are at 4,400 MT to Greece (Table 4). Industry reports indicate continued imports from Serbia and Romania.

Imports of soybean meal are reported at 26,300 MT in the first quarter of the marketing year, mainly from Romania (usually imported U.S. or Latin American soybean meal delivered to the port of Constantza).

The industry indicates that starting from MY2015/16, the local consumption of soybean meal will grow. This is related to stabilization of the dairy sector, expansion of poultry production, and improving swine inventory. Total domestic feed consumption was estimated to increase by 5% in 2016 as compared to 2015. In addition, the local soybean crush has contributed to higher use. It is projected that soybean meal consumption exceeds the traditional level of 130,000 MT and is approaching 140-150,000 MT. Due to the lower local crush and supply in MY2016/17, it is expected that imports of soybean meal will grow in the current season despite higher incorporation of sunflower meal in feed due to its price attractiveness.

In the previous and current season, Bulgarian users had access to soybean meal produced from imported U.S. soybeans crushed in Romania. Per industry sources, the quality of this meal was very good and appreciated by local users which helped for a better market presence of the product.

Final trade data for MY2015/16 and for the first quarter of MY2016/17 is shown in Table 4.

**Table 4. Soybeans, Soybean Meal and Soybean Oil Trade, MY2015/16**

<b>MY2015/16</b>		<b>MY2016/17</b>
<b>Soybean, Soybean Meal and Soybean Oil Trade</b>		<b>(October-December 2016)</b>
<b>Soybean Imports</b> (HS#1201)	26,765 MT Including: 24,597 MT – Romania 1,875 MT – Croatia 231 MT – Serbia	3,388 MT Including: 3,361 MT - Romania

<b>Soybeans Exports</b> (HS#1201)	7,391 MT Including: 3,763 MT - Turkey 3,623 MT – Greece	4,406 MT Including: 3,644 MT – Greece 761 MT - Romania
<b>Soybean Meal Imports</b> (HS#2304)	117,571 MT Including: 110,618 MT - Romania 4,163 MT - Greece 1,138 MT – Ukraine	26,290 MT* Including: 25,101 MT - Romania 741 MT – Greece
<b>Soybean Meal Exports</b> (HS#2304)	8,541 MT Including: 6,399 MT - Romania 990 MT - Greece 969 MT – Serbia	589 MT (Romania and Greece)
<b>Soybean Oil Imports, (HS#150710, 150790)</b>	19,578 MT Including: 9,667 MT – Romania 8,623 MT - Serbia 1,179 MT – Greece	3,060 MT* Including: 2,892 MT - Serbia 113 MT - Greece
<b>Soybean Oil Exports (HS#150710, 150790)</b>	2,035 MT Romania, Italy	0
Note*: EC/DG Agri reported imports of 11,075 MT of soybean meal and 7,286 MT of soybean oil from non-EU sources as of March 29, 2017.		

Source: World Trade Atlas/WTA

## Rapeseed

The most interesting development trends in this sector in MY2016/17 are:

- Stabilization in planted areas – only a slight 1.2% decline;
- Sharp increase in average yields (18%) and in production (17%) due to favorable weather;
- Higher production supported larger and faster exports soon after harvest;
- Unusually higher imports carried out to meet local crush demand;
- Crush had to compete with exports and is estimated to decline slightly;
- Higher imports of rapeseed oil to meet demand for biodiesel.

*Production:* Rapeseed yields and production were much higher when compared to the average yields for 2015. The official (and FAS Sofia) data is for 493,000 MT and industry estimates are as high as 548,000 MT.

*Crush:* Despite excellent local production, local crushers had to compete with exports and rely on imports of more price competitive rapeseed from Romania and Moldova. It is currently estimated that this may lead to some reduction in crush (8%-10%) compared to the previous season, and the output of

meal and oil will respectively decline. Crush expectations vary widely from 70,000 MT to 110,000 MT (industry sources) compared to estimated 92,000 MT in MY2015/16. The MinAg reported (source: MinAg weekly bulletins) that consumption for crush until the end of March (first 9 months) was at 60,000 MT. FAS/Sofia's current estimate for crush is for 85,000 MT.

Exports of rapeseed meal and oil are estimated to be stable to higher (Table 6). It is expected that imports of rapeseed oil will complement lower production to meet biodiesel demand.

Similar to the trend with soybean meal, there are industry reports on higher use of rapeseed meal. Rapeseed meal is not traditional for the country and was rarely included in feed ratios in the past. However, with the stabilization of the crush and meal supply in the last three years, and along with improving feed consumption, rapeseed meal use is growing. Current estimates for consumption are at over 20,000 MT, compared to 10-15,000 MT in the past.

*Trade:* Due to the EU and world rapeseed deficit and attractive prices, the local crop was quickly exported right after harvest. Exports in July and August reached 382,000 MT or 78% of the crop. Exports in the first half of the marketing year reached 490,000 MT or 99% of total production (Table 5). MinAg forecasts exports to exceed 500,000 MT, including some of last year's stocks.

At the same time imports have grown to meet local crush demand. Major origins were Romania and Moldova. As of the end of March, imports were reported by the MinAg at 34,000 MT and are estimated to reach over 50,000 MT until the end of the marketing year with some industry estimates going high to 67,000 MT.

*Stocks:* MinAg estimates beginning stocks at 70,000 MT, compared to industry estimates of 30,000 MT. As of the end of March 2017, available stocks in the country are reported at 47,000 MT. FAS/Sofia projects low ending stocks at less than 5,000 MT (2,000 MT per the MinAg estimate).

**Table 5. Rapeseed Trade, MY2015/16 and MY2016/17 to date (end-March 2017)**

<b>Rapeseed HS#1205</b>	<b>MY2015/16</b>	<b>MY2016/17 MinAg, WTA and Industry Sources (July - December)</b>
<b>Imports</b>	14,557 MT Including: 12,511 MT-Romania 1,500 MT- Hungary	30,783 MT* Including: 22,884 MT - Romania 6,313 MT - Moldova  33,743 MT (MinAg data as of March 31, 2017)
<b>Exports</b>	324,392 MT Including: 110,993 MT– France 69,686 MT– Belgium 86,805 MT – Turkey 23,534 MT -	489,707 MT Including: 233,632 MT - Belgium 89,309 MT - Germany 71,811 MT - France 54,732 MT - The Netherlands 31,500 MT - Iran

	Germany 20,158 MT - Romania 10,500 MT - Israel	6,548 MT - Romania  490,771 MT exports (MinAg data as of March 31, 2017)
Note*: EC/DG Agri reported imports of 7,783 MT of rapeseeds from non-EU sources as of March 29, 2017.		

Source: WTA

**Table 6. Rapeseed Meal and Oil Trade MY2015/16 and MY2016/17 (July-December 2016)**

<b>MY2015/16 Rapeseed Meal and Rapeseed Oil Trade</b>	<b>MY2016/17 (July-December 2016)</b>	
<b>Rapeseed Meal Imports</b> (HS#230641, 230649)	4,681 MT Including: 4,114 MT Romania	2,148 MT Including: 1,580 MT – Romania
<b>Rapeseed Meal Exports</b> (HS#230641, 230649)	18,179 MT Including: 4,915 MT - Greece 4,490 MT - Italy 4,102 MT - Spain 2,776 MT – Romania 1,027 MT - Austria	16,961 MT Including: 7,484 MT - Spain 4,926 MT - Turkey 2,658 MT - Romania 1,893 MT - Greece
<b>Rapeseed Oil Imports, HS#151411, 151491, 151499</b>	5,778 MT Including: 4,433 MT - Ukraine 745 MT – Romania	213 MT
<b>Rapeseed Oil Exports HS#151411, 151491, 151499</b>	20,592 MT Including: 14,205 MT - Italy 3,044 MT- Austria 2,396 MT - Romania	20,883 MT Including: 11,690 MT – Austria 2,749 MT - Italy 2,522 MT - Greece 1,172 MT – Slovenia

Source: WTA

## Sunflower

The most interesting trends in this sector in MY2016/17 are:

- Small increase in planted areas (1.2%) to 820,000 HA and slightly better yields (2.13 MT/HA compared to 2.11 MT/HA last season) which were lower than initial expectations due to summer drought and heat. Production is estimated to be still higher by 2.4% than in MY2015/16;
- Quality of the crop (oil content and seed size) suffered due to drought;
- Despite an improved local supply, the crush is depressed due to tough regional competition and trade policy issues. Meal and oil output will likely decline, respectively;
- Unusually high imports of sunflower seeds from Romania and Moldova driven by competitive prices and better quality of imported product;
- Depressed exports of seeds and meal due to heated competition in the Black Sea area;
- Continued dynamic non-crush use for de-hulled/shelled sunflower (bakery) and for confectionary type (snacks). Exports of these final products often perform better than that of crushed products;
- Domestic consumption of sunflower meal, especially hi-pro meal is stable to higher;
- Domestic consumption of sunflower oil has a tendency to grow.

*Production:* Yields and quality were lower than initially expected due to the summer heatwave, producers reported smaller size seeds in some regions, and overall lower oil content.

The FAS/Sofia estimate for the total crop is at 1.75 MMT which includes oil bearing, high oleic and confectionary sunflower seeds. Industry estimates go as high as 1.8 MMT. There is no official data about the supply of various types of sunflower seeds.

*Crush:* Crushers have been very active in sourcing sunflower seeds and the competition with exporters has intensified. Crushers also had to compete with non-crushing processors (de-hulling and snack facilities) while farmers made efforts to keep more stocks. As a result, exports to date lagged behind the last season (Table 7) although some acceleration in exports are likely in the second part of the marketing year.

Crushers face strong competition over meal and oil prices and challenging lower and/or negative crushing margins. Some crushers have temporary stoppages and/or are switching from processing to exports of available stocks from March onward. The local crushing industry claims that the export duty on sunflower seeds in Ukraine secures cheaper raw materials than that on the EU market, while exports of Ukrainian meal and oil to the EU are duty free and compete unfairly with EU crushers, especially those in close proximity such as Bulgaria. This trade policy issue is reported to depress the crush, especially in the current season when Ukraine has a record high crop (and crush).

MinAg has not estimated annual crush use so far. It reported 480,000 MT of seeds for crush as of March 31 (MinAg weekly bulletins). The current FAS/Sofia estimate for the year is for 850,000 MT, as compared to 900,000 MT in MY2015/16. The lower crush is anticipated to lead to lower production and exports of sunflower meal and oil and/or possible accumulation of ending stocks of oil.

*Non-Crush Food Use:* Non-crush users (de-hulling of sunflower seeds for bakery purposes, processing of confectionary sunflower seeds for snacks and birdseed use) have increasingly important role on the

market. Demand for sunflower seeds for food has continued to be favorable although prices have dropped. The MinAg started to monitor this type of use and reported 300,000 MT of sunflower seeds used for non-crush as of March 31 compared to 482,000 MT used for crush.

It is estimated that this industry consumes annually about 450,000 MT of sunflower seeds sufficient for production of about 280-300,000 MT of ready product (shelled seeds). Most of the ready products are exported along with secondary products such as sunflower flour and sunflower pellets from hulls.

According to industry sources, due to higher production of hi-pro sunflower meal (over 85%) made after separation of hulls and de-hulling of bakery/confectionary sunflower, production of pellets from hulls have grown. Hulls are reported to account for 15%-17% of sunflower seeds and usually half of the hulls are used as an energy source at crushing plants and the other half is sold on the market and/or exported.

*Trade* – The abundant supply of sunflower seeds in the Black Sea region along with much lower prices and good quality stimulated unusually high imports of sunflower seeds (Table 7). According to MinAg data, imports for the first half of the marketing year as of March 31 were at 136,000 MT, 54% more than the annual imports of MY2015/16. Major origins are Romania and Moldova. Most of these imports are oil-bearing sunflower for crush.

Exports to date have been sluggish (Table 7) and reported at 267,000 MT as of the end of March (source: MinAg). Most of these exports, 79% or 210,000 MT are de-hulled sunflower under HS#12060091 exported mainly to the EU (160,000 MT).

Exports for the marketing year are currently forecast to exceed 700,000 MT including de-hulled and oil-bearing sunflower. Bulgaria keeps shifting its trade from exports to more domestic processing, and from exports of oil-bearing sunflower seeds to more diversified exports of value-added processed products.

In MY2015/16 (Table 8), exports of de-hulled sunflower under HS#12060091 were stable at 298,000 MT. The major markets were Germany, United Kingdom, Poland and the Netherlands. Export price was 10% higher than in the previous year.

In contrast, oil-bearing sunflower exports under HS#12060099 had a 18% decline for a second year. Thus, total sunflower exports under HS#1206 were 12% lower. If exports of bakery/shelled sunflower seeds are converted in in-shell basis, exports reach 870,000 MT. The average export price of sunflower seeds was U.S. \$588/MT, 12% higher than in the previous marketing year. About 80% of sunflower seeds were sold on the EU market with the major destination the Netherlands.

*Stocks:* The MinAg's supply and demand balance for sunflower seeds is on a marketing year starting from September 1. For MY2016/17, the MinAg shows high beginning stocks at 340,000 MT.

FAS/Sofia estimate for beginning stocks is at 140,000 MT. As of early April available stocks are reported by the authorities at 1.128 MMT.

**Table 7. Sunflower Seeds Trade, MY2015/16 and MY2016/17 to date (March 31, 2017)**

<b>Sunflower HS#1206</b>	<b>MY2015/16</b>	<b>MY2016/17 to date – MinAg, FAS/Sofia and Industry Sources</b>
<b>Imports</b>	88,462 MT Of which: 4,698 MT of planting seeds (HS#12060010) 13,048 MT shelled or in grey and white shell (HS#12060091) 70,716 MT oil bearing (HS#12060099)  By origins: 50,337 MT – Romania 12,108 MT - Ukraine 8,154 MT – Moldova	101,994 MT* (October -December, WTA) Of which: 5,171 MT shelled or in grey and white shell (HS#12060091) 96,083 MT oil bearing (HS#12060099)  136,380 MT (MinAg data as of March 31, 2017) By origin: 55,234 MT – Romania 39,563 MT – Moldova 3,578 MT - Ukraine
<b>Exports</b>	746,411 MT  Of which: 297,771 MT shelled or in grey and white shell (HS#12060091) 448,189 MT oil bearing (HS#12060099)  By destinations: 156,540 MT - The Netherlands 105,553 MT – France 83,168 MT - Germany 70,911 MT – Turkey 52,552 MT– Portugal 38,842 MT - United Kingdom 36,842 MT - Spain	179,374 MT (October - December, WTA) Of which: 96,705 MT shelled or in grey and white shell (HS#12060091) 82,670 MT oil bearing (HS#12060099)  266,639 MT exports (MinAg data as of March 31, 2017)  By destination: 58,074 MT – The Netherlands 26,389 MT – Germany 22,113 MT – South Africa 11,582 MT – United Kingdom
<i>*Note: EC/DG Agri reported imports of 73,657 MT of sunflower seeds and 3,738 MT of sunflower meal from non-EU origins as of March 29, 2017.</i>		

Source: WTA, Bulgarian MinAg

**Table 8. Sunflower Meal and Oil Trade, MY2015/16**

<b>Sunflower Meal and Oil Trade MY2015/16</b>		<b>MY2016/17 (October-December 2016)</b>
<b>Sunflower Meal Imports</b>	8,461 MT	3,717 MT

(HS#2306 30)	Including: 3,708 MT - France 2,643 MT - Romania	Including: 2,309 MT – Romania 1,364 MT - Ukraine
<b>Sunflower Meal Exports</b> (HS#230630)	231,414 MT Including: 52,849 MT - Turkey 48,085 MT- Greece 28,237 MT- Germany 27,393 MT- Italy 13,372 MT - Cyprus	72,113 MT Including: 20,550 MT – Greece 15,372 MT – Turkey 10,000 MT – Germany 7,500 MT – South Africa 5,373 MT - Morocco
<b>Sunflower Flour Exports</b> (HS#120890)	36,130 MT – Turkey	12,541 MT - Turkey
<b>Sunflower Oil Imports,</b> (HS#1512)	12,903 MT (EU, mainly Romania and Hungary)	5,805 MT (Romania and Hungary)
<b>Sunflower Oil Exports</b> (HS#1512)	236,478 MT Including: 66,418 MT – Greece 40,277 MT- South Africa 38,223 MT- Macedonia 22,542 MT - Romania 19,807 MT - Italy 10,302 MT - Morocco	82,492 MT Including: 24,174 MT – Greece 11,304 MT – Morocco 7,853 MT – Turkey 4,405 MT – The Netherlands 4,099 MT - Spain

Source: WTA

**End of Report**