



European Association representing the trade in cereals, rice, feedstuffs,
oilseeds, olive oil, oils and fats and agrosupply
Comité du commerce des céréales, aliments du bétail,
oléagineux, huile d'olive, huiles et graisses et agrofournitures

COCERAL Crop Forecast on Cereals and Oilseeds – September Update *Background Note*

COCERAL's September estimate for the EU's 2016 soft wheat crop stands at 134.0 mln t, which is significantly lower than the number of 148 mln t that has been released in the previous forecast published in June. Last year's crop had amounted to 152.0 mln t. The downward revision is mainly due to a significantly lower crop estimate for France where yield potential and quality, most notably the testweight, had been heavily affected by heavy rainfall and a lack of sunlight in late spring. Other downward revisions were mainly made for Germany, Poland and the Baltic countries.

The barley crop estimate is also slightly down to 59.1 mln t from 63.2 mln t, and 61.2 mln t seen in 2015. The corn crop, for which the harvest has just started in the south of the EU, is now forecasted at 60.8 mln t, down from 62.3 expected in June.

The forecast for corn in 2016 is only slightly higher than the drought-affected 2015 crop of 58.2 mln t. The major reason for the lower corn production outlook is the deterioration of the yield expectation in France when the wet spring has suddenly turned into hot and dry conditions during pollination. The Balkan countries, in contrast, will see average to above-average yields.

A significantly lower crop is now also estimated **for rapeseed**. EU-wide production is now seen at around 20.0 mln t, down from the June forecast of 22 mln t and compared to last year's 22.4 mln t. Most significant downward revisions were done for Germany, France, Poland and the UK.

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COCERAL is the European association of trade in cereals, rice, feedstuffs oilseeds, olive oil, oils and fats and agrosupply. It represents the interest of the European collectors, traders, importers, exporters and port silo storekeepers of the above mentioned agricultural products. **COCERAL's** full members are 26 national associations in 18 countries and 1 European association [Unistock]. With about 3500 companies as part of **COCERAL** national members, the sector trades agricultural raw materials destined to the supply of the food and feed chains, as well as for technical and energy uses. **COCERAL** has two associated members in Switzerland and Serbia and one extraordinary member Gafta.